



THE CHOATE NEWS

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SPRING TRIP TO MEXICO CANCELED

By **Katharine Li '17**
Associate Editor

After careful consideration of information available about the Zika virus and its presence in Mexico, Choate cancelled this year's Simply Smiles Trip to Oaxaca, Mexico, which would have run from March 5 to March 12. Oaxaca is the third most economically marginalized state in Mexico due to its lack of infrastructure in education; 80 percent of the state's municipalities do not meet federal minimums for housing and education. Last year, Choate students who participated in the trip built latrines to help combat intestinal worms and distributed food to nearly a thousand people.

The Zika virus has quickly become a major health concern in the Americas, as well as respond to increased reports of birth defects and the Guillain-Barré syndrome, a condition in which the immune system attacks the nerves and leads to the onset of muscle-weakening, in infected areas. On January 22, 2016, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to respond to outbreaks of Zika in the Americas. On February 1, 2016, the World Health

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Photo courtesy of Kyle Di Tieri

At the University of New Haven VEX Regional Competition, students from Choate's robotics team showcased their skills and outperformed several other schools to qualify for the Southern New England Tournament. For more, see page 2.

1984 CHOATE DRUG SCANDAL SUBJECT OF NEW MOVIE

By **Haley Chang '18**
Staff Reporter

Several Choate students have recently spurred discussion about a 32-year-old scandal when they took to social media to share the trailer of *The Preppie Connection*, a movie loosely based on a drug incident that took place at Choate. *The Preppie Connection*, made by Coalition Films, will be released in theaters and pay-per-view services on March 18.

The filmmakers of *The Preppie Connection* were inspired by events that happened at Choate in the spring of 1984. On April 23, sixth-

formers Derek Oatis and Catherine Cowan, two students coming back from Venezuela together, were found with 9.5 ounces of cocaine and arrested at John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK). Officials soon released Cowan, who did not have any cocaine in her possession. However, they charged Oatis with a felony of importing cocaine. Following Oatis's arrest, Choate conducted an internal investigation, in which 14 students involved with drug smuggling were dismissed. Soon after, the affair made national headlines in many reputable news sources, including *The New York*

Times.

The Preppie Connection follows Toby, a lower-class scholarship student at Sage Hall, who finds an "in" with a circle of snobby, rich kids by supplying them with cocaine and eventually cultivating a drug trafficking network.

The plot of *The Preppie Connection* is a far cry from reality. The film uses inaccurate information from published accounts, and consequently, the events that happen at Sage Hall are very different than the events that happened at Choate. However, as Director of Strategic Planning and Com-

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MENTORSHIP PROGRAM AIMS TO INTEGRATE

By **Varshini Kumar '17**
Associate Editor

If your first-year teacher is surprisingly knowledgeable about all things Choate, thank the New Faculty Meetings. Coordinated by Director of Faculty Development Mr. Tom White, New Faculty Meetings are a part of the broader new faculty development program that helps integrate new faculty into the Choate community and provides them with support. As part of the new faculty development program, new faculty members are also paired with more experienced faculty members on campus.

Prior to students' arrivals in the fall, new faculty members attend an orientation in August in order to familiarize themselves with their duties and with Choate. This orientation gives Mr. White a chance to "emphasize the culture of school, the residential and advising side, diversity and inclusion work, and academic technology." During the school year, new faculty members also attend the New Faculty Meetings every Tuesday during C block for their entire first school year.

"The meetings are really meant to provide them a forum on a regular basis to ask questions, to share experiences, and learn from each other." Mr. White shared, "They're meant to allow them to learn more about the school at a pace that is going to be fruitful. Talking about term

reports in August doesn't make much sense. The meetings allow them to meet different parts of the school at different times and to share their experiences both at Choate and outside." Often, new faculty members also use this free meeting block to arrange visits to other new faculty members' classes.

Another aspect of new faculty development is the mentor program. Mr. White stated, "Anybody who is new to Choate, including teaching faculty, admissions, as well as college counseling, and any other faculty positions, have a mentor in their department who helps them in their area. They are the go-to person for questions, information, and guidance."

First year faculty member and Director of the Library Ms. Jennifer Tuleja is very appreciative of her mentor, Ms. Amy Foster: "She helps me understand the idea of the Choate community and how it works. I can pass things by her. So those pairings are very useful." Reflecting on the program in general, Ms. Tuleja commented, "It creates a support structure. The people you come in with are who you get to know pretty quickly."

Prior to Mr. White's involvement in new faculty development, previous Dean of Faculty Mr. Stephen Farrell hosted weekly meetings with all new faculty members. Mr.

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LOCAL LIBRARY FACES BIG LOSS

By **Lucas Ferrer '17**
Associate Editor

The Wallingford Public Library faced a crisis that any library would fear when on Sunday, February 14, a water sprinkler burst in the children's section of the library, destroying 11,000 children's books. After temporarily closing the Children's Room, the library started reopening various portions on Friday, February 19. The impact of the ruptured water sprinkler has reverberated through the Choate community.

According to Ms. Sunnie Scarpa, Wallingford Public Library's Head of Children's Services, cold air had permeated through the ceiling's insulation and settled



Nearly 11,000 books were destroyed by a water sprinkler.

at the lowest point in the ceiling, covering the head of a fire sprinkler right above the picture book section in ice. Eventually, the ice build-up caused the sprinkler to malfunction, releasing a cascade of water onto the children's section.

The sprinkler set off an alarm, alerting both the Wallingford Fire Department and the Library's Director, Ms. Jane Fisher. However, by then, it was too late. By the time the fire department shut off the sprinkler, the water had already damaged a large portion of the children's section. Immediately following the sprinkler malfunction, the library had to remove the carpets, as well as parts of the ceiling and wall. Since any dampness could result in dangerous mold growth, the library also placed 15 dehumidifiers in the room. The most significant damage to the library, however, was the loss of around 11,000 children's books.

The loss of so many books and resources has had a powerful impact on the Wallingford community, since the library (known colloquially as WPL) is a popular source of programming and books for many families. Mrs. Kristen Liu, mother of three young

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NEWS Term-End Experiences

Because of several faculty concerns, "culminating experiences" has been renamed to "term-end experiences".

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OPINION: CAMPUS Letter From the Editors

The 109th Masthead of *The Choate News* gives a heartfelt farewell to the Choate community.

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OPINION: NATION/WORLD "Feeling Formation"

Despite doubting Beyoncé's intentions, Michelle Bolt '16 explains her support of Beyoncé's recent display of political activism.

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CULMINATING EXPERIENCES RENAMED

By **Grayce Gibbs '18**
Staff Reporter

Although the name change has not quite caught on among Choate students, "culminating experiences" have been officially renamed as "term-end experiences." The administration changed the name because "culminating experience" implied that the exam, project, or other academic activity needed to encompass all the information from the entire term.

The process for changing the name began earlier this term. On Monday, December 1, teachers gathered in breakout groups of 20 members to discuss the effectiveness of the fall term culminating experiences. These teachers took notes and then gave them to Dr. Katharine Jewett, Director of Curricular Initiatives.

According to Dr. Jewett, "Some faculty members felt that the experiences we are creating for students are not necessary, nor do they need to be a culmination per se of

previous learning, especially when they are done in the fall and winter of yearlong courses. So they asked us to find a name that didn't reduce them to only the sense of culmination." Having "culminating" experiences in the fall and spring terms of yearlong courses would not make sense for both students and faculty, since the experience would not be a true, final culmination.

Afterwards, the various department heads met to discuss the suggestions and concerns raised by these faculty breakout groups. At the meeting, Dr. Jewett presented a few alternative names, one of them being "term-end experiences." Another name Dr. Jewett proposed was "extended learning opportunities." However, everyone at the meeting agreed that "term-end experience" was the best descriptor. The new name describes the nature and intent behind the final week of the term more accurately than the old name. As Director of Studies Mr. Kevin

Rogers noted, "This idea of term-end experiences captures a broad range of activities, and can include everything from traditional exams to a presentation. For some of the courses, however, which actually do have what you might call an experience, it might mean doing some sort of encapsulated activity in those two hours at the end of term."

Students agreed that the new name is more accurate than the old one. Mirialie De Jesus '18 said, "I think that changing the name to term-end experience is a lot more fitting because when we called it culminating experiences, that term made it seem less scary, as if it wasn't just going to be another exam, another project, or another intense situation. So when you call it a 'term-end experience,' it seems a lot more truthful and honest to what it actually is."

An additional reason for the name change, though not the primary one, was concern over the potential inappro-

priate use of the word "culminate." In the days leading up to fall term culmination week, Choate students noted that some students used phrases such as "culminate my experience." Ananya Karanam '18 commented, "I heard a lot of jokes in the fall term that inappropriately used the word 'culminating.' I remember people saying things like 'culminate this.'"

HPRSS teacher Ms. Courtney DeStefano questioned the claim that "culminating experiences" has a sexual connotation. "I don't think it has a sexual connotation. I also think it is silly to switch the name; we should just stick with one, and not change it again."

However, many students are neutral about the name change. One such student, Dagny Belak '16, believed, "It doesn't make a difference, changing the name doesn't change what the week is."

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ZIKA RAISES CONCERN

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Organization declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern because of clusters of microcephaly and other neurological disorders in some areas that were caused by Zika. On February 8, 2016, the CDC elevated its EOC activation to Level 1, the highest level.

Ms. Sara Boisvert, Choate's Director of Global Programs, was in charge of the logistics behind the trip, including selecting trip participants and leaders, acting as a liaison with the Simply Smiles Organization as well as a travel agent, and planning pre-trip meetings. When Choate decided to withdraw from the service trip, Ms. Boisvert sent all the parents and students involved in the trip an email to notify them of the cancellation and apologizing for any disappointment or inconvenience caused for the students and families. She also informed them that all fees charged for the trip would be credited back to their Choate accounts.

As for potentially rescheduling the trip, Ms. Boisvert said, "We hope to run this trip next March, but we do not have the ability to reschedule it for this year."

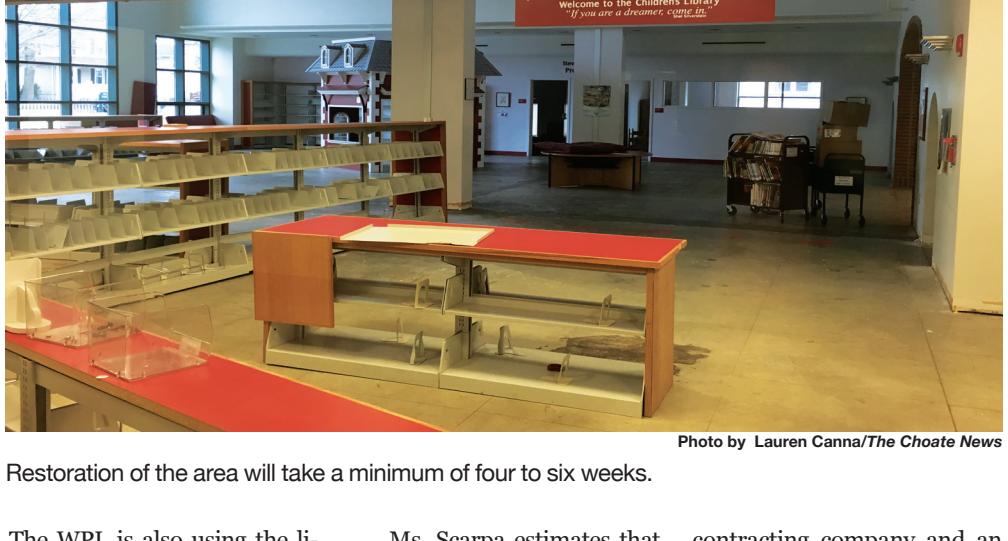
Although Ms. Boisvert was disappointed by the cancellation of the trip, she affirmed Choate's decision of maintaining the students' safety as the school's primary concern. She noted, "Overall, the safety and well-being of our students and faculty are of our utmost priority with all of the experiences we offer at Choate, and we are concerned that we could not ensure such to an appropriate level based on our current information."

Ms. Boisvert is confident that if similar safety concerns arose concerning other international Choate trips, the reaction of the administration would still be the same. She concluded, "As with any experience or program Choate offers, we consistently monitor world events to ensure the health and safety of our students. If need be, we will cancel or interrupt a program and bring students home if we do not feel we can adequately continue to keep them safe."

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11,000 BOOKS LOST DUE TO WATER SPRINKLER MALFUNCTION

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Restoration of the area will take a minimum of four to six weeks.

The WPL is also using the library database to create an inventory of lost books in an effort to find replacement books. However, according to Ms. Scarpa, "There are going to be some books that we've had for 30 years that are classics and are out of print now. I'm going to work with local librarians to crowd-source the replacement of these books to see if people have duplicates of these books, or if people can find these books at used book stores."

WPL wrote in a statement released on its website that it is currently working with Servpo, a water damage restoration company, in order to restore the children's section.

Ms. Scarpa estimates that the cost of the rebuilding process will be immense. The process to entirely replace the section will likely take a minimum of four to six weeks.

In order to help expedite this process, Choate's Community Service Director Ms. Mary Pashley reached out to WPL to ask how Choate can help. The WPL thanked Choate for its offers to help, but stated that it will wait to take action until a professional

contracting company and an insurance company assess the damage.

This week, WPL has reopened large portions of the Children's Room, except for the preschool and media areas. In the meantime, people can donate to the recovery process on the library's website, as the library continues to create plans moving forward.

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ROBOTICS TRIUMPHS AT REGIONAL COMPETITION

By **Jessica Shi '17**
Associate Editor

On Saturday, February 13, eleven students representing Choate's robotics team competed in the University of New Haven VEX Regional Competition. Though Choate has done well on both the regional and national levels in the past, this competition marked some extraordinary accomplishments for the team.

Founded in 2013, Choate's robotics program has been continuously expanding and improving. This year, coaches Mr. Andrew Murgio and Mr. Kyle Di Tieri, alongside captain Adham Meguid '16, headed the group of 25 active members. For competitions, students split into four individually competing squads, entitled 6106A, 6106B, 6106C, and 6106D, which also denote the names of the teams' robots.

According to Mr. Di Tieri, "The Choate robotics team had one of its best performing days during that tourna-

ment, going up against challenging competitors."

6106D was honored as the Robot Skills Champion during the remote-controlled portion of the tournament, while 6106A was honored as the Programming Skills Champion during the autonomous portion of the competition, in which the robot was pre-programmed to perform its operations during the tournament. 6106A also

won Choate's first ever Excellence Award for the best overall robot, which is VEX's highest award. Both 6106A and 6106D were finalists in the competition. According to Meguid, "6106D was the tournament champion, meaning that they were on an alliance team of three different robots from separate schools that defeated all the other alliances in the elimination round."

This superb performance is a result of months of commitment and dedication. As Katrina Gonzalez '17, the team

leader for 6106A, commented, "Robotics is a lifestyle. When you get deep into it, free time and robotics time start to blend together."

Gonzalez also noted that a crucial part of the team's success is the overall passion for robotics.

Returning members also foster a strong sense of community, seeking to make new members feel welcome. Kristen Andonie '17, who joined the team just this term and attended her first competition in New Haven, said, "I was thoroughly impressed by the sense of unity and support in the team. While I was expecting them to sigh and be frustrated at my inexperience, they were incredibly encouraging and thankful for the little help I could offer."

Mr. Murgio credits the teams' successes to having a core of experienced returning members, especially Adham, who really organizes the team's effort." All of the hard work, co-operation, and leadership

come together at tournaments. From early morning to mid-afternoon, members are constantly occupied in their various roles. For example, the "drive team" is comprised of three members: a coach to monitor the field and give advice, a feeder to load the objects, usually foam balls, into the robot, and a driver to actually drive the robot.

In spite of all of these successes however, the team has faced some difficulties this year. 6106B and 6106C both qualified in the first regional tournament at Daniel Hand High School, but in the other three tournaments until the New Haven tournament, these teams have experienced varied levels of success. As Mr. Di Tieri explained, "At past tournaments, squad A did not perform as well as the team originally expected. This squad worked tirelessly to make a great working robot, but lacked the practice and programming to make it have that full competitive edge." These losses helped

motivate 6106A to make the needed adjustments that allowed them to succeed at the New Haven competition.

Despite these challenges, all of the squads qualified for the Southern New England Regional tournament by placing as a finalist in at least one of the five regional competitions. This tournament is the qualifying event for the World Championships, which is a major goal for the team. Until then, another tournament is coming up on Saturday, February 27, in Middletown, CT, which will mark the first time all four robots will compete at a competition together.

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NEW ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR AIMS TO INCORPORATE BETTER TECHNOLOGY USE IN CLASSROOMS

By **Nathan Chang '17**
Circulation Manager

Students and faculty have witnessed tremendous changes in campus use of technology this year, such as the trial run of Microsoft Office 365 and the installation of a new firewall. Choate seeks to continue to improve its use and implementation of technology under the leadership of the Director of Academic Technology and HPRSS faculty member, Mr. Joel Backon, and the new Academic Technology Support Specialist, Mr. Morgan Harris, who will lead efforts to incorporate technology in classrooms. Mr. Harris, who worked to change the way Choate faculty members use technology in the classroom, has begun to investigate technological problems that have elicited complaints from the community.

Mr. Harris has helped implement one of the most influential changes in technology at Choate this year, which was the addition of Google Apps for Education and Dropbox Business to Microsoft Office 365. Mr. Harris noted that many members of the community have seamlessly made

the switch from Office 365 and that some people never even used Microsoft's cloud storage system, OneDrive. He added, "Some people really like Dropbox for certain things and some people really like Google Drive. I think there's definitely a world where the two can coexist. I'm excited that we get the opportunity to play around with the fully featured suites in that sense."

Mr. Harris has also played a role in investigating new programs and apps that can be used to improve Choate's educational experience. Director of ITS, Mr. Andrew Speyer, has helped Mr. Harris in testing out a collaborative version of the presentation app Explain Everything, called Explain Everything Collaborative Whiteboard. It has the collaborative features of Google apps combined with the normal version of Explain Everything. The creator of Explain Everything, Reshan Richards, was taught by Mr. Speyer in middle school, and asked if Choate could be one of the schools to test the collaborative version. So far, only a couple of classes have tried this unofficial beta version, but eventually more classes

will use it. Mr. Charles Long is currently using the program in his Spanish classes, and Mr. Georges Chahwan has also experimented with it in Arabic classes. Before winter break, these classes ran into considerable problems with the app, but after multiple updates, they have successfully begun collaborative projects.

Before winter break, the Choate faculty department received two iPad Pros to try out as well. Now, because some teachers have requested them, more iPad Pros will be arriving to Choate classrooms. Mr. Harris added "I think the Apple Pencil and iPad Pro will be a boon to the visual arts, but faculty across all disciplines have expressed interest." Also, Mr. Harris noted that teachers who like to use their devices and project them on the screen will be able to provide a better educational experience by using the iPad Pros.

Of course, this push for newer academic technology has experienced reluctance from faculty members who are wary of the changes. In light of this, Mr. Harris said, "The most important thing is letting people know that I truly understand any reason for

hesitation. In the past couple years, there has been such an onslaught of new apps and too many changes for people to easily incorporate into their teaching without taking huge time away from what is already the core of their job."

Mr. Harris further emphasized that the purpose of his job is to navigate through a myriad of options and select certain tools that could help faculty members teach students as best as they can. "I think having people understand that I come from a teaching background is also very important. I'm not just a rogue technologist just coming in and telling them what gizmos they have to use and that that's the only way their teaching is going to improve. There is a lot of nuance and subtlety when thinking through the best ways to optimize our teaching and learning. Sometimes that means no technology. It really depends on the context."

English teacher Mr. Trevor Peard agreed, saying that he does not feel that the administration imposes new technology upon him. Although the school helps faculty understand what technology is available, at the end of the day, teachers still have control over

Photo by Person Who Took It

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what to use: "ITS supports people's efforts to use the technology they want." Mr. Peard has taken advantage of the iPad program, for example, saying that he uses it to record speeches in his public speaking course, which is much more convenient than using a large video camera. Regarding the incorporation of technology, Mr. Peard commented that he doesn't use every new improvement that is available, simply because he prefers to use what he is accustomed to and what has worked well for him in the past.

Both Mr. Peard and Mr. Harris agreed that incorporating new technology in the

classroom is important in improving the educational experience. The fact that ITS addressed Wi-Fi problems across campus over Thanksgiving break has also helped the school implement better academic technology that requires Internet access, according to Mr. Harris. He concludes, "By mindfully integrating technology into the academic setting, we can send our graduates out into the world prepared to interface with the world as it exists outside of Choate."

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MOVIE INACCURATE, FACULTY SAYS

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munications Ms. Alison Cady commented, "There are some preconceived notions about schools like ours that we all know are not true. And I think it could be an unfortunate opportunity for people to assume that this negative portrayal is what we are."

One of the biggest inaccuracies in published accounts of the scandal depicts Oatis as a victim of "a random inspection of passengers," when in reality, Choate had called customs officials at JFK to notify them that a student had cocaine in his possession. A student had told the Dean on Duty that some Choate students would be bringing cocaine with them when they returned from break. After consulting with Choate's legal counsel and key members of the Board of Trustees, former Headmaster Mr. Charles F. Dey decided to inform the authorities. However, Headmaster Dey did not initially reveal that Choate told the authorities about the smuggling, so published accounts neglected to include that key fact.

HPRSS teacher Mr. James Davidson explained, "It was really the school trying to do the right thing—that is, to keep illegal and dangerous substances away from our campus, and also out of our country. Mr. Dey believed that the right thing to do was to stop that illegal action, even if it meant that there would be some negative publicity that came to the school. This information was not released to the public at that time—not even to the faculty—because Mr. Dey wanted to guarantee that there would be no negative repercussions to the student who came forward and did a pretty brave thing."

Published accounts also exaggerated the value of the smuggled cocaine, stating that it was worth \$300,000. This figure was based on how much the cocaine could have theoretically cost had it been sold by professionals, who would have diluted the drug.

In addition, television programs such as 60 Minutes tried to frame the narrative as a conflict between an ignorant school administration and wealthy, privileged teenagers.

While the storm of bad publicity raged on, the school investigated the scandal thoroughly, which led to the implementation of stricter drug and alcohol policies. After Oatis was dismissed from Choate, he testified that 40 to 50 Choate students had given him money. In addition, Oatis's testimony revealed that some of the standing Judicial Committee (JC) representatives had participated, which triggered questions concerning the integrity of the committee. Back in 1984, the JC had broader responsibilities and sometimes reviewed cases related to drugs and alcohol. Subsequently, as reported in the school newspaper, the JC was suspended indefinitely until "the students found a way to ensure that all the members are prepared to uphold their oaths of office."

Mr. John Ford, the faculty adviser to the Judicial Committee at the time of the incident, said, "Mr. Dey wanted there to be a Judicial Committee hearing for this case, but obviously not the Committee as it was then constituted. So Mr. Dey and other members of the administration created an ad hoc Judicial Committee, which then went on to hold hearings for several students who were thought to be somehow involved." The interim JC was composed of two Student Council representatives, six deans, and the four JC representatives who were uninvolved in the incident.

The school's ad hoc Judicial Committee questioned a total of 17 students regarding their involvement. Charges against four students were dropped because they did not participate in the plan to buy drugs. Of the remaining 13 students, 12 were dismissed from school and one was suspended. Due to the drug policy at the time, it was not the involvement with drugs that led to the dismissals, but rather,

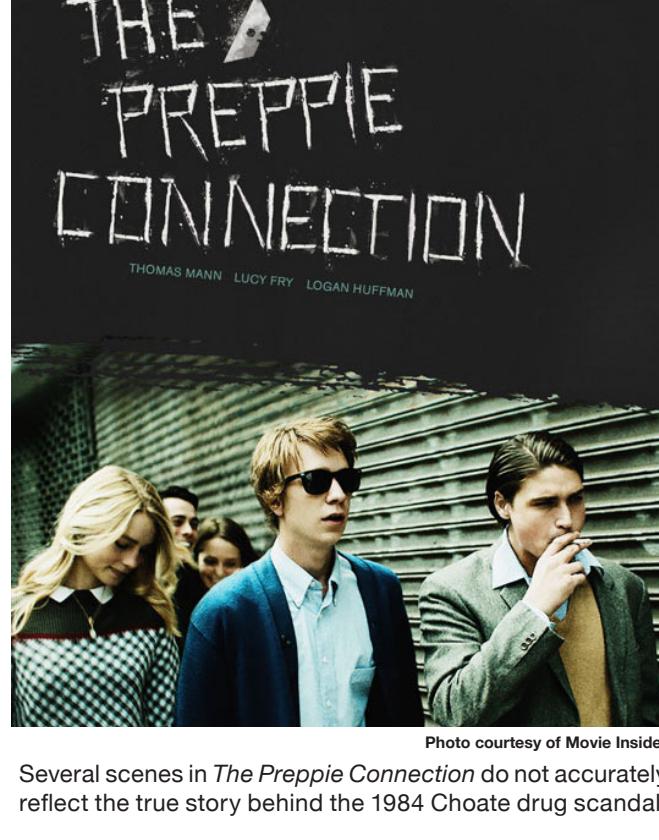


Photo courtesy of Movie Insider

Several scenes in *The Preppie Connection* do not accurately reflect the true story behind the 1984 Choate drug scandal.

the fact that the students had not told the truth to the ad hoc JC. All 12 dismissed students were ultimately determined to have lied about their involvement; the one who was not dismissed had confessed that he had given Oatis money.

The Oatis scandal also spurred change in school drug and alcohol policy. Previously, Choate drew a distinction between drug offenses. Although possessing illegal drugs was a serious matter, the punishment was only suspension; trafficking in drugs would result in dismissal. However, largely because of the Oatis affair, the school changed the "second chance" rule to make mere possession of drugs at school a dismissible offense.

On behalf of the Communications Office, Ms. Cady said that the biggest challenge regarding *The Preppie Connection* going forward is clarifying that this portrayal is reflective of neither the actual events nor the school today. She stated, "We are very proud of the way we handled that situation at the time. We did what was right not only for the school, but also for the safety and

well-being of our students."

Mr. Davidson agreed: "Certainly, looking back over time, that negative image of the school disappeared pretty quickly, in part, because of how the school responded. If anything, our school's reputation was that we had clearer and firmer responses to drug and alcohol use."

Mr. Davidson questioned the premise of the movie: "I haven't seen the trailer and I don't plan to watch the movie. I think that the movie is trying to take advantage of the foolish actions that some kids made and how the kids were caught—and I don't think that's a suitable movie topic."

Students regarded news about *The Preppie Connection* with humor. Ellie Latham '18 commented, "The movie is going to be about Choate in the 80s. Choate was less strict back then, and I don't think it's painting Choate in a negative light. I'm really excited for this movie. It's probably going to be a bad movie, but it's also going to be hilarious."

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GUIDANCE PROGRAM FOR NEW FACULTY

Mentorship from page 1

Farrell suspects that Mr. Ed Maddox, who served as the Dean of Faculty in the 1980s and 1990s, first created the new faculty orientation program. Mr. Maddox started the system of mentorship, pairing new faculty with returning mentors in the same department. Over the years, Mr. Farrell believes that support for the new faculty has improved:

"There are now three additional positions in the current Dean of Faculty's office compared to when I was in the position, and this increase in staffing undoubtedly ensures a more thorough and in-depth approach to the orientation of the new faculty."

Although he did not invent the program, Mr. White improved the new faculty development process along with Dean of Faculty Ms. Katie Levesque. Mr. White said,

"I coordinate the number of people who come in and speak on topics. I set the topics throughout the course of the year, and I generally lead a lot of the conversations on teaching and learning."

This past week, people from the Registrar's Office and Mr. Kevin Rogers, Director of Studies, came in to the New Faculty Meeting to speak about the course request process. Mr. White said, "The Registrar came in and spoke with the new faculty about course request process, some of the philosophies behind it, what they should expect in terms of some questions students might have, resources if students have questions they

can't answer, and where those students might turn to." Mr. White added, "A lot of times we will do an interactive exercise. We try to keep it engaging so that it is something they will find practically useful."

The new faculty program is required, but this doesn't make new faculty any less enthusiastic about it. Although there is a wide range of experience levels represented in new faculty, most people benefit from the program.

For French teacher Ms. Kathryn Rose-Noonan, who was new to Choate last year, the new faculty development program served as a helpful resource as she adjusted to Choate. She said, "I thought it was a great program. I've never worked at a boarding school before coming here, so the New Faculty Meetings were a good way to learn about Choate."

Ms. Tuleja thinks highly of the program. "For me, as a mid-career person, I have enjoyed having that because this place is so big when you're new here," She elaborated, "To have a smaller group of people that you see every week is very beneficial."

Ms. Tuleja concluded, "The academic programs that happen in the library are just as vital as in the classroom. For me, as a person who intersects with classroom teachers, it's powerful every time because it is an ongoing relationship. It benefits me greatly to interact and create partnership."

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THE CHOATE NEWS

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Now in its 109th year, *The Choate News* is written, edited, and published to cover events at the school and to offer a forum for opinions of significant interest to the Choate Rosemary Hall community. *The Choate News* is published weekly on most Fridays while school is in session. The paper's offices are located in the Library. Members of *The Choate News* editorial board can be contacted at thechoatenews@choate.edu or by telephone at (203) 697-2070.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEEDS TRANSPARENCY

By Baji Tumendemberel '18

Opinions Writer

Choate's Student Council has power, but it also has obligations. One of the Council's most important obligations is its responsibility to the student body to be clear in what it can do and what it has done in the past. In the shadow of the recent Student Council elections for the President and Vice President of the student body, there is still much debate on the topic of transparency, specifically, on how to make the Student Council more accessible.

The majority of the candidates advocated for more open discussions about the affairs of the Council. Although it is clear that the mindset is present, one question remains: will this debate actually amount to anything? As the Council represents the ideas and opinions of students, it is important that its actions are clear and present to the community.

Recently, the creation of a website has allowed for some insight into the affairs of the Council, but that attempt at transparency has not been effective. The site itself is difficult to locate and does not offer consistent updates. Further reform has to be made as we, as a society, become increasingly dependent on the Internet as our means of communication.

Furthermore, social media has become a powerful platform for the spread of information and ideas.

If the Council is truly dedicated to the ideals of transparency and public service, it should utilize networks such as Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram in order to reach out to the student body in a familiar and approachable way. One post on a social media site can be seen by hundreds of people and allows for a platform for discussion wherein students can voice their opinions.

Continuing on the theme of transparency, the Outlook email service could easily be utilized to send out monthly newsletters on the activities of the Council. On a more personal level, the Council has suggestion sessions during lunch blocks in order to talk with the rest of the student body.

Another sign of positive progress is that *The Choate News* has been invited to sit in on Student Council meetings and has reported its findings on issues such as the sexual amnesty policy. As the newspaper is the journalistic outlet of Choate, the inclusion of *The Choate News* shows confidence and transparency in the Council.

On future initiatives, fourth-form president Mpilo Norris '18 said, "Personally, I would like to see the school president talk about Student Council initiatives at every other school meeting." This setting allows for the president to address the entire student body and gives a platform to disseminate information and receive feedback.

However, we must also be aware that our Student Council representatives are people and, more importantly, Choate's students. They are striving to accommodate the desires of the student population. We must expect reform, but not criticize the representatives for circumstantial shortcomings.

The members of the Council should be afforded the highest level of respect for the work that they have achieved in the past. It is only right that the progress that they make for the future be clear and transparent to the people they represent.

Baji Tumendemberel is a fourth former from Milton, CT. He may be reached at btumendemberel18@choate.edu.

Write for The Choate News Mondays at 6:45 pm in the Lanphier i.d. Lab

SILENCE SURROUNDS WEALTH

By Kristen Altman '18
Opinions Writer

Weeks after Diversity Day, one lesson has remained in students' minds: Choate is a diverse community. On the surface, that fact seems undeniable. Choate students come from 46 countries and over 40 states.

Based on those numbers, our community is more diverse than most. But there's one statistic we never acknowledge when discussing diversity, and that is financial aid.

Choate is defined by its wealth, but petrified of talking about it.

Choate's tuition this year is \$54,450, and only 32 percent of our student body receives financial assistance. This means, conversely, that the majority of Choate students are able to pay \$54,450 per year on high school tuition and are exceptionally privileged in terms of family income, creating gaping holes in Choate's claim of diversity.

But that isn't something we address. Wealth is simultaneously the most conspicuous and most unheard topic on campus.

Despite the many conversations facilitated by the administration, discussions about wealth are virtually

nonexistent here. Even on Diversity Day, examinations of socioeconomic status were cursory at best.

Choate is an environment defined by wealth while also petrified of talking about it. We've created a culture of silence for an issue that should scream.

And yes, wealth does scream here. Despite our refusal to acknowledge socioeconomic privilege, it is one of the most visible aspects on campus.

Any Choate student knows that the question "What did you do over break?" really means "Which countries did you visit?" We know that Bean Boots and Hunters practically form the dress code. We know that spending upwards of \$800 on textbooks every year is unexceptional. These are the norms we've created at Choate.

All of these norms are united by money. We've created a culture of expectations that are impossible to fill unless you're exceptionally privileged financially. At Choate, the privileged are taught that their opportunities are the default. Everyone else is taught that they fall short.

Of course, that isn't intentional. But it is a byproduct of Choate's stunning tuition rate, as represented by the statistics. We are in an environment that claims diversity, yet has a staggering concentration of the rich.

A meritocracy populated by privilege. And the fact

that we haven't addressed this is disgraceful. Despite the efforts of our financial aid program, we're floundering—both in the number of students we assist and the aid we award. The failure isn't just the number of financial aid students, though: it's the messages we're sending to those students.

Beyond The Classroom is a system based on proving oneself worthy of opportunity.

We live in an environment which assumes open doors for everyone, and when students can't live up to those expectations, they suffer. Choate is a school where being denied opportunities because of wealth makes you a minority.

While there are efforts to bridge the opportunity gap, these efforts are largely ineffective. Programs like the Beyond the Classroom Fund operate on contradictory principles: first, that all students deserve equal opportunities, and second, that students must earn those opportunities.

Every Beyond the Classroom request—regardless of whether a student is applying for an \$80 team item or a \$4,000 service trip—requires the completion of an

application questioning why the student needs financial assistance and how it would benefit them.

Beyond the Classroom is a system based on proving oneself worthy for opportunity—a proof that the majority of Choate students will never have to complete. And in a process meant to uplift, the question of why a student deserves the same opportunities as their peers will always demeans.

Evidently, solving our tuition and financial aid crisis—both in terms of admission and opportunity—costs money. Money which, many would argue, Choate doesn't have. Perhaps that's true: Choate doesn't have money to increase its financial aid budget. Instead, we have \$40 million to build a new student center.

There are so many steps we could take to rectify our community's stance on wealth. We could allocate financial resources to a community that actually needs them. We could recognize that wealth is not—and should not—be the default at Choate. We could recover the "merit" in this meritocracy we value so highly.

But as Choate exists now, those won't happen. Because money isn't invisible at Choate. But it is inaudible.

Kristen Altman is a fourth former from Killingworth, CT. She may be reached at kaltman18@choate.edu.

SENIOR KISSES SHOULD INCLUDE, NOT EXCLUDE

By Nicole Sellew '17
Opinions Staff Writer

Every Valentine's Day at Choate, many students anticipate receiving a kiss on the cheek from a senior of their choice through UNICEF's senior kiss fundraiser. Typically, seniors opt into being included on the list of seniors eligible to give kisses and any student who pays can request that a specific senior bestow a kiss upon any student's cheek.

When these seniors encounter someone that they have been requested to kiss, they surprise them with an innocent kiss on the cheek. The club donates all proceeds from the fundraiser to the organization, which is dedicated to protecting children's rights and ending world hunger, and feel-good philanthropy ensues. Rather, it should. Instead, the fundraiser's practices have shifted the focus of senior kisses from charity to exclusivity.

Recently, controversy erupted over whether or not inclusion in this tradi-

tion is truly first come, first serve as the club leadership claimed senior kiss sign-ups would be. Despite dissenting claims from club leaders, students have asserted that they were unfairly denied the opportunity to give kisses and believe that they were picked according to their popularity—rather than simply how fast they signed up.

This is not the first time the club's senior kiss campaign has been criticized for failing to be inclusive. Many feel that the opportunity to participate in the senior kisses fundraiser has been restricted to certain social groups. Last year, many students echoed similar sentiments about the club's exclusionary practices regarding senior kisses and tension reached its height in the Class of 2015's Facebook group after many students who wished to be included were not.

We seem to have forgotten about the central tenet of senior kisses:

charity. Many students are angry that the campaign itself has been cancelled, instead of the fact that UNICEF will no longer receive the donations that the club planned to give. Throughout this whole ordeal, campus-wide focus has been on the social aspect rather than the philanthropic aspect of the event.

Senior kisses are supposed to be about charity and amusement. Instead, they've turned into a catalyst of drama and a way of asserting one's social status. There is nothing wrong with the central idea of the campaign; however, the problem lies with the way that it has been managed and made into something exclusive. The spirit of kindness must take precedent over popularity. Furthermore, no one should be denied participation in a fundraiser for charity. Anyone who wishes to give back through senior kisses should be welcomed with open arms.

At Choate, we're privileged enough to be in a position to help others, so we should try to help as many people as possible. If more seniors are eligible to give senior kisses, more students will participate in the event, and even more money will be raised for such an important cause.

Charity is about reaching out to as many people as possible. It's about opening doors, not closing them. As a community, it's clear that we embrace our duty to community service. We have a 30-hour community service requirement and a school-wide mandatory Community Service Day. Many students are involved in community service efforts in Wallingford, New Haven, and even abroad.

We believe in service to others and inclusivity. Let's reflect that spirit of kindness in our community service initiatives like Senior Kisses.

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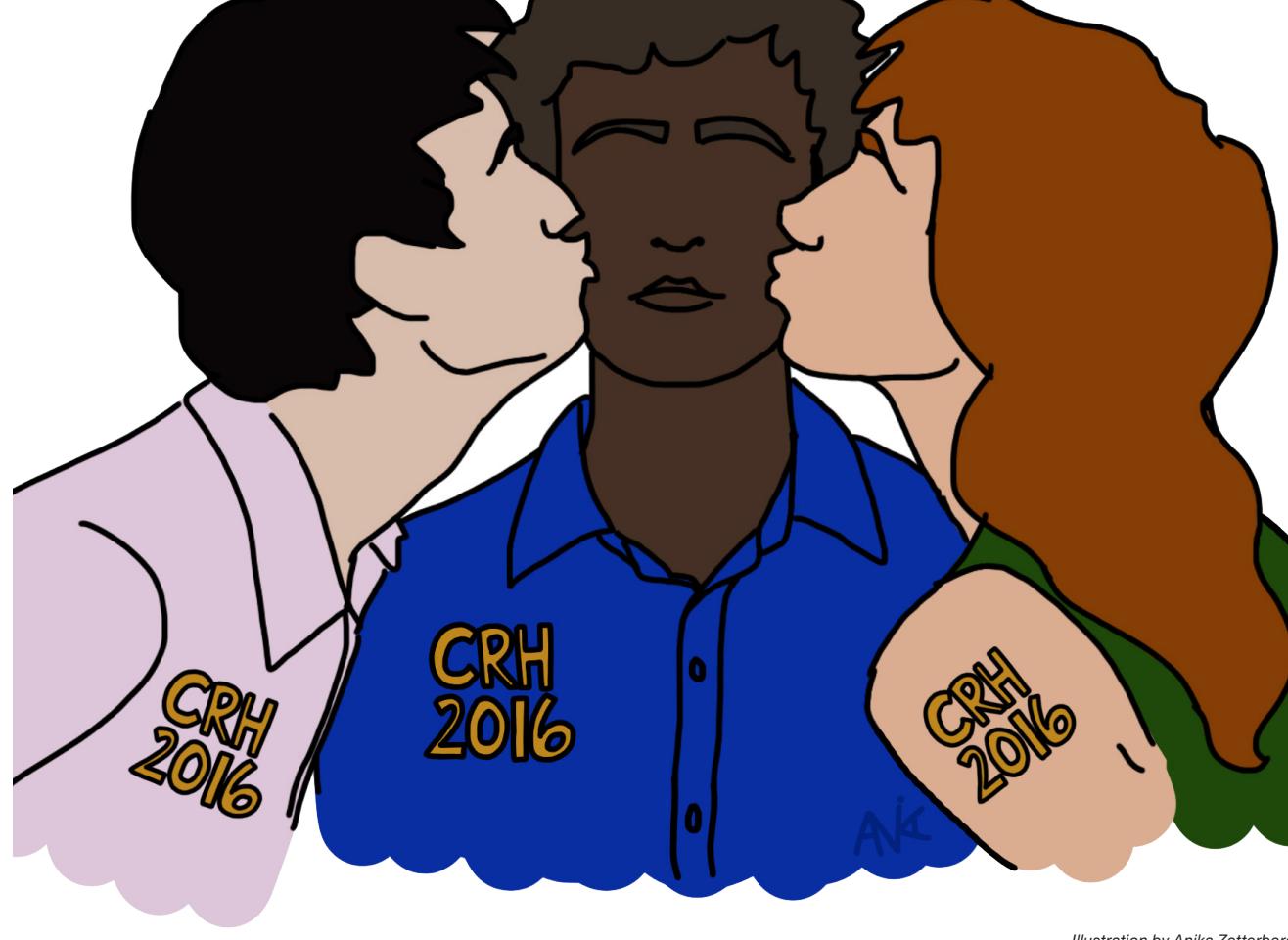


Illustration by Anika Zetterberg

TODAY IN HISTORY: ENGLISH PARLIAMENT DECLARES MASSACHUSETTS A COLONY IN REBELLION (1775)

FOREIGN DESK

Recently discovered John Paul II correspondence raises question about celibacy.

Before his election as Pope John Paul II, Cardinal Karol Wajtyla had a deep personal relationship with a Polish-American philosopher, Anna-Teresa Tymienieka. A letter correspondence between them has been recently publicized, and it displays a large amount of affection between the two. The Pope referred to Tymenieka as "a gift from god." The Pope, who became a Saint in 2014, was anti-gay and was publicly a strict conformist to the traditional Catholic doctrine of celibacy for the priesthood. It has yet to be determined whether his relationship with Tymenieka was sexual.

Saudi Arabia is accused of using illegal weapons against Yemeni rebels.

Human Rights Watch has reported that the Saudi Arabian military has fired an American-made cluster bomb into Yemeni civilian areas. This operation is a direct violation of an international treaty and, according to HRW, United States law. Saudi Arabia has been accused of using illegal cluster

weapons in their bombing campaign against Yemeni rebels before, and human rights groups have urged President Obama to pressure the Saudi government to stop using illegal weapons.

Afghanistan sees spike in civilian casualties.

According to the United Nations, in 2015 Afghanistan suffered the most civilian casualties since the figure began to be recorded. 3,545 civilians were killed by conflict and 7,457 were injured. Attacks have ranged from suicide bombings to combat-related causalities to losses inflicted by the battle between the Afghan government and the Taliban in the city of Kunduz. The casualty rate is 4% higher than it was in 2014.

Riots break out in Hong Kong.

Riots broke out in the Mong Kok district of Hong Kong during the first night of the Lunar New Year celebration. The confrontation was purported to be caused by police shutting down celebratory food stalls in the Mong Kok Night Market. However, anti-PRC tensions in Hong Kong have been high because of recent political kidnappings, credited to be the work of the Mainland Chinese Government.

The last riots in Hong Kong, in the fall of 2014, called for universal suffrage in the elections of the Hong Kong Chief Executive.

Indonesian government begins anti-gay campaign.

Indonesian officials have started a new wave of anti-gay actions. These include calls to ban gay- and lesbian-themed emojis from messaging apps, to work against gay student groups, and to stop pro-gay rights television programming.

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FAREWELL TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

By Jack O'Donnell '17
Associate Editor

Socialism is a dying concept in China. Gone are the days of Mao's green jacket and the People's Communes. Walk down Nanjing Road in modern day Shanghai and you'll see a new bourgeois spending more money than their grandparents could have fathomed. General Motors, Rolex, Gucci, and many other western brands have poured into China in the last 20 years. People have more disposable income than ever before, consumption is up, and the private sector is booming with foreign investment flowing through Shanghai and Hong Kong, especially with the new Shanghai-Hong Kong stock exchange. Capitalism has fully arrived in China, and it's there to stay. As the Chinese Communist Party's tenuous hold on power approaches its likely end, it is important to understand the history of the world's greatest 'socialist' ultra-conservative driven society.

Fifty years ago, the People's Republic of China was fighting through the worst period of its existence. The

Cultural Revolution was a time of untold horror throughout China. Offices and schools were closed, factories shut down, millions of people were executed and tortured, teachers were boiled alive and eaten – the economy was already reeling from the effects of the Great Leap Forward, and famine was rampant across the land. A small group of powerful figures in the Communist Party, led by Deng Xiaoping and known as 'the Pragmatists,' tried to check Mao's power and institute economic and land reforms to stop famine and encourage economic growth. Mao didn't like unrest in the party, and he had the 'Pragmatists' purged and exiled. Eleven years later, in 1976, Mao Zedong died, and the Cultural Revolution finally came to an end. Another two years later and Deng Xiaoping had replaced his rival as the leader of China, and – true to his 'Pragmatist' nickname – he started huge reforms throughout the PRC.

Deng quickly decentralized trade, and the Chinese Communist Party began to promote micro-economics and a dissipa-

tion of the massive people's communes. Many of the monstrous and largely inefficient State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) were broken into Town and Village Enterprises (TVEs), which were considered a first step in the transition from socialism and nationalized industry to capitalism and privatized industry. Furthermore, Deng tackled the problem of famine and illegal farming by instituting the Responsibility System of 1978, which allowed peasants to privately cultivate land that was leased to them under contract by the government. Though still a flawed and imperfect system, this allowed for food surpluses to be created throughout China, and it paved the way for economic growth. Throughout the 1980s and 90s, Deng and the CCP encouraged foreign investment in China. Even after Deng stepped down in 1992, the CCP continued to encourage growth in the economy, and it even passed the Tax Reform of 1994, granting more disposable income to the average person in China and creating the world's largest consumer market.

Finally, in 2001, China joined the World Trade Center. From 1978 to 2014, China's GDP grew, 168.5 billion USD annually to over 10,354.8 billion USD annually. In 2015 Shanghai and Hong Kong opened a joint stock channel, allowing investors from Mainland Chinese Stock Exchanges to invest in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, and vice versa. Xi Jinping, the current President of China, is known for prosecuting CCP members for corruption, largely in an effort to make China safer for foreign investment banks and private equity firms. Today, China is undeniably a capitalist nation.

*If China is
capitalistic,
why are people
living under
authoritarianism?*

This begs the question: If China is a capitalist society, why are its people still living under a brutal authoritarian regime? Shouldn't the CCP come toppling down any day now? Won't

it be a grand spectacle, with hundreds of thousands of people streaming down the avenues of Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong, singing about freedom and liberty? This simply won't be the case. The fall of the Chinese Communist Party will most likely be preceded by a lengthy buildup, a progressive weakening of the state until its final and rapid collapse. The outermost regions with the most minority unrest, Xinjiang, Tibet, and Inner Mongolia, will break off and form independent nations. There will undoubtedly be a period of instability, just as there was after the last dynasty fell in 1911. However, democracy is coming. The Hong Kong Umbrella Revolution two years ago proved that the horrors of the Tiananmen Square Massacre cannot be repeated, and the next time the people march for democracy, they will be successful in their mission. As Confucius said, "Only the wisest and stupidest of men never change."

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POLITICS AS USUAL FOR SCALIA'S SEAT

By Lucas Ferrer '17
Associate Editor

Senator Mitch McConnell is doing an excellent job of losing his position as majority leader in the Senate.

When Antonin Scalia died unexpectedly on Saturday in Marfa, Texas, the political world was thrown into disarray. As more and more major news networks began to pick up the story, all eyes shifted to Washington to see how the Senate leadership and the President would respond to the death of the man who was behind a conservative resurgence in the Supreme Court.

McConnell made the first move, rebuking President Obama's right to appointment, which is given to him by Article II of the Constitution, and saying that the next President should have the right to fill Scalia's vacancy.

The statement, which came one hour after Scalia's death was reported, was a powerful move meant to show strength in the Republican Senate leadership. McConnell, however, acted ignorantly, a grave mistake that could cost his party control of the Senate in the upcoming Presidential and Senate elections.

Scalia's untimely death is a disaster for Republicans. While a challenge on

the President's constitutional authority to appoint a justice would succeed in preventing Obama from having one final defining act for his eight-year tenure in the White House, it would put Senate Republicans in a difficult situation in the future. If Senate Republicans choose to confirm Obama's appointee, the court will swing liberal in a volatile time for social issues, climate change, and fiscal policy.

By refusing to confirm a nomination McConnell is putting his Senate majority in serious danger. The messaging arm of Senate Democrats, led by Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, has been scrambling for an effective election-year message.

Instead of the predicted disaster in the Senate under GOP control, McConnell has led the Senate to a productive term. This has left Schumer and Reid struggling to create a way to topple the Republican leadership.

McConnell, in his act of brash defiance to the Constitution, has handed Democrats the 2016 message for which they have been searching. Democrats will smear Republican Senators obstructions to Presidential authority violators of the Constitution.

Supreme Court appointments during election years are not unprecedented, as Republicans claim. Both Anthony Kennedy and Lewis Brandeis were confirmed as justices during an election year. It is also seen as tradition for the Senate to allow the President to nominate qualified individuals as he pleases. In 1986, Scalia was confirmed by a unanimous vote, even though he faced Democratic opposition.

Furthermore, by putting the nomination to the next President, McConnell runs the risk of having a Democrat President paired with a Democrat-controlled Senate, which is a per-

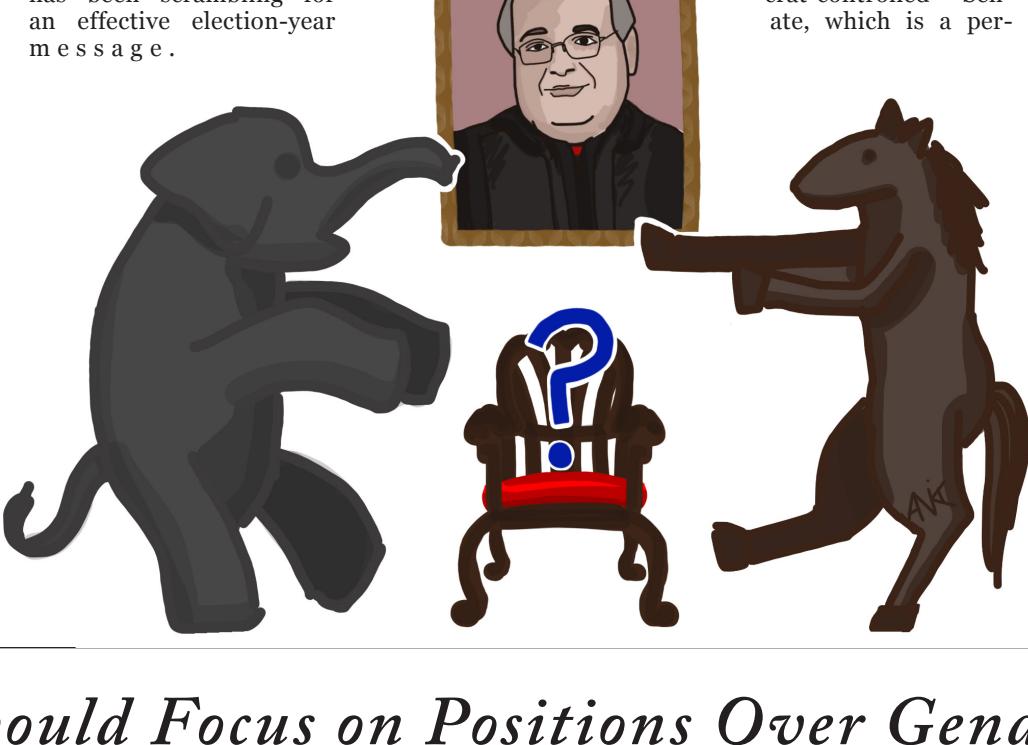
fectly reasonable, if not likely, possible outcome for this year's election. This would lead to the nomination of another Sotomayor or Ginsberg – liberal bulwarks on the bench.

If Senate Republicans disobey McConnell's order to deny the President his nomination and to fill the vacancy on the bench, Republicans will be left with a Supreme Court that will hand down liberal decisions, a stark shift from before Scalia's death.

However, by doing this, Republicans would protect their party in the long run and would ensure that a moderate justice is nominated to the bench. If McConnell had not had sworn to deny the President a nomination to the Supreme Court, he would have been able to lead the debate on a mild, appetizing justice that satisfies both sides of the aisle. Instead, Senate Republicans have gifted the Democrats an invaluable voter-mobilization tool for the 2016 election that will boost the chances of a Democratic President and Senate.

Lucas Ferrer is a fifth former from New York, NY. He may be reached at lferrer17@choate.edu.

Illustration by Anika Zetterberg



Media Should Focus on Positions Over Gender Politics

By Nicole Sellew '17
Staff Writer

In the midst of the close race between Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton, there has been a lot of discussion about gender and politics. Renowned feminist Gloria Steinem recently made a controversial comment about young women who support Bernie Sanders. She claimed that young women are thinking "where are the boys, the boys are with Bernie". This unpopular comment immediately created backlash.

However, this was Steinem's last line in a discussion in which she praised millennial women many times. She thought that today's young women were very activist and much more feminist than during her time. However,

her last line about the boys caused a lot of people to categorize Steinem as a 'washed-up old lady' who has no place in modern politics. This kind of attitude—an attitude that lets the media twist things—is exactly what is harming women in politics.

The media is quick to pounce on Clinton's forceful tone as bossy and her tear-filled eyes as too emotional.

Far from being an isolated incident, the way the media attacked Steinem is reflective of the way that the media portrays all women. Clinton is a prime example

of this. What she wears, her tone of voice, and the way she shows emotion, are all things that should not matter—but they do. The media is quick to pounce on Clinton's forceful tone and categorize her as bossy, or upon her tear-filled eyes and claim she is too emotional. The media is doing this to Clinton because of her gender, and this has to change.

Madeleine Albright, another famous feminist, also came under fire for her comment at a campaign event in New Hampshire. She delivered the same line she had said countless times before, that there is a special place in hell for women who do not help other women. Of course, her statement was taken out of context and interpreted as telling all women who don't support

Hillary that they should go to hell. Just like Steinem's comment, the media wanted to make this into a case of women versus men, instead of political candidate versus political candidate.

The reality of the situation is that Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders are both perfectly valid candidates for the presidency. It is perfectly okay for anyone to support either one of them, regardless of gender. No one should vote for Clinton because she is a woman, but no one should count her out because she is a woman. Most importantly, the media should stop portraying women as inferior because of their gender. Steinem, Albright, and Clinton—while by no means completely perfect—have all been victims of a culture that wants to see them fail.

"We cannot be complacent," Albright urged women everywhere after her comments in New Hampshire, and she is exactly right. We cannot stand by and watch the media portray women in a sexist or negative way, and we cannot let the political race become a war between the genders. Instead of focusing on the fact that Clinton is a woman and Sanders is a man, we should all make an active effort to judge them based on their political backgrounds and positions on important issues. And—most importantly—the media should start to think that way, too.

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Q&A AROUND CAMPUS: MR. DAN CRONIN

By Sophie Mackin '18
Reporter

Looking for the English book you need for class the next day? Perhaps Mr. you have run into Mr. Dan Cronin, who has managed Choate's school store for the past eight years. Originally from Massachusetts, Mr. Cronin now lives in New York and commutes to Choate five days a week. From ordering and organizing textbooks and other products to helping the staff members and costumers, Mr. Cronin is constantly working behind the scenes and handling all aspects of the school store.

Q: What is your system for ordering and organizing textbooks?

A: Before the beginning of each term, we get the course list from the registrar's office. Then, we send that list to each of the departments, so they can fill in the books they want. We try to get information about the upcoming fall before the end of the prior school year, so we know which books to "buy back" from students. We try to limit the number of new books we order from publishers due to price concerns. We want to have as many used books as possible.

Q: How does the school store handle textbook costs for students with financial aid and scholarships?

A: It depends. Some students have book accounts to charge their textbooks to. We also have a financial aid library. So, if a student who is eligible for financial aid comes down looking for a book, we can pull from there.

Q: What is the best part of your job? What's the hardest part?

A: It's a great environment to be in. We get to interact with the students, the families, and the teachers. We love seeing all the students come in with their parents at the beginning of the school year. The hardest part of the job is managing inventory and trying to keep costs down.

Q: If you had to give advice to a new school store employee, what would you tell them?

A: The largest part of working at the school store is interacting with people, so those first couple days, you have to understand that the students are arriving at a brand new school, sometimes far from home, and are under a lot of stress. You have to be as easygoing as possible and willing to answer their questions.

Q: How would you describe the Choate school store in one word or phrase?

A: Convenience.

Q: How many textbooks were ordered this year?

A: There have been 371 different textbook titles on the shelf so far this year.

Q: Which item of 'Choate' merchandise is most popular?

A: Typically, in the colder months, our Jansport brand sweatshirts are most popular. During the warmer months, the basic t-shirts are most popular.

Sophie Mackin may be reached at smackin18@choate.edu.

TWO CHOATE DELEGATES AWARDED "BEST" AT HARVARD MUN



Photo by Arianna Gonzalez-Wagner/The Choate News

Ethan Della Rocca '16 and Aiden Reiter '16 have been on Choate's Model United Nations team since their freshman year.

By Jessica Shi '17
Associate Editor

At the annual Harvard Model United Nations (HMUN) conference, two Choate students, partners Ethan Della Rocca '16 and Aiden Reiter '16, surpassed the rest. They were awarded "Best Delegate" for their work representing Iceland in the Disarmament and International Security Committee of the General Assembly (which happens to be the largest assembly at the conference).

For four days—from Thursday the 28th to Sunday the 31st—over 3,000 students gathered at the Prudential Center in Boston to discuss and propose resolutions to some of the biggest issues facing our world today, from human rights to security to trade.

Della Rocca and Reiter's award is the first "Best" award Choate has won at Harvard in four years. Given the magnitude of their accomplishment, what exactly is the secret behind their MUN-ing brilliance?

First, let's set the scene.

Both students joined MUN their freshman year, for somewhat contrasting reasons. Della Rocca derived inspiration from his older brother, who participated in MUN during his time at Choate. In addition, he liked the idea of "spending a weekend away, talking about issues, debating with people, but also trying to gather support."

On the other hand, Reiter sought to combine his longstanding passion for international relations with his abundant energy by participating in MUN. He also said that the Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen movie *Winning London*, which centers on an MUN conference, helped pique his interest. In their sophomore year, Della Rocca and Reiter started working together at conferences, and they discovered how effective the pairing was.

To fully appreciate how crucial it is to have a compatible team, one has to realize the broad range of skills MUN requires. As Della Rocca commented, "The goal of the commit-

tee is to pass a resolution to try and fix or answer some problem. Different countries come together to write a resolution and gather enough support to pass it." This requires students to not only be able to write and speak effectively, but also network, which involves constant talking and compromising with delegates from other countries.

The charm of the partnership lies in both students' ability to utilize unique strengths and also compensate for each other's weaknesses. Their personalities differ sharply: Della Rocca described Reiter as "energetic, spontaneous, and resolved," and Reiter described Della Rocca as "wise, articulate, and comforting." Thus, each student takes on a distinctive role. Della Rocca is in charge of constructing the more logical arguments and maintaining support on an individual basis, while Reiter utilizes his outgoing nature to run around behind the scenes and accumulate large-scale enthusiasm for their resolutions. Reiter summa-

rized, "Essentially, Ethan is the base, and I dart off in different directions." All in all, they balance out quite nicely and can also swap roles as necessary.

Over the years, the two have developed a close friendship and built some wonderful memories. For example, Della Rocca's birthday always takes place during a winter conference. Knowing this, Reiter takes great pains to get the entire committee—some four hundred students—to sing "Happy Birthday."

From falling asleep during committee sessions to learning that British accents can make people seem more intelligent, Della Rocca and Reiter have had countless opportunities through MUN to hypothetically save the world while having a jovial time. As Reiter put it, "We're really grateful that we had each other, because we wouldn't have had the same experience otherwise." Della Rocca whole-heartedly concurred.

Jessica Shi may be reached at jshi17@choate.edu.

THE VIEW FROM MY BEDROOM WINDOW

Wednesday, 7:44 a.m.

This week, the construction workers are moving rocks! It's so loud, I can't hear myself think about how much I like the cold.

Grace Tully '16
Bungalow 202



A TIMELINE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SENTIMENT AT CHOATE

By Rachel Hird '17
Associate Editor

From Columbus to the 1800s

Pre-Choate:
Most of Connecticut's trees are cut down for farmland. Environmentalism is barely a word, so nobody gives a hoot.

1881

The Choate campus is planned out. The land is basically a giant field.

1928

The Choate School has been running for almost 40 years. Head of Science Mr. John Wilfong and Headmaster George St. John spearhead the first movement to beautify the campus. While environmentalism is not a consideration at the time, Mr. Wilfong takes special care to plant native flora that could have grown before Connecticut's extensive agriculture.

1928-1953

The Wilfong Era:

At this point, the Choate boys are a bunch of litterbugs and campus is still the little house on the prairie. Mr. Wilfong starts a reforesting program and involves the Choate boys so they feel responsible for the preservation of their campus. Mr. Wilfong takes students on expeditions around New England to collect tree seeds and then germinate them in his nursery. The boys then transplant the baby trees in various spots around campus. Mr. Wilfong retires in the 1950's; Choate loses his passion and dedication.

1990

Even though the students are kind of lazy, they develop lots of environmental clubs, such as the publication *Enviro News*. Many of the associations overlap in goals, activities, etc. To get rid of the redundancy, students invent the Environmental Action Coalition: an umbrella term for all the clubs to work under.

1993

Choate "adopts a tropical rainforest." I'm not sure what this means, but it happened.

1984-

The Morris Era:
After the post-hurricane effort, Mr. Morris and some students tap sugar maples to make syrup and sell it to buy plants for campus.

The group plants about 1,000 trees, over 30,000 daffodils, and a couple hundred native shrubs. The old school dump, complete with piles of toilets, oil and gas tanks, etc., is cleaned and reforested to create Paddock Farm. Mr. Morris starts a recycling program. This is especially important because Choate starts to use computers and printers, and therefore creates more paper waste.

1983

Choate has very little organized environmental action going on. The tree program has mostly died out.

1984

Hurricane Gloria hits and Choate's Conservation Program rises from the rubble. Mr. Ian Morris leads in cleaning up the campus and replanting what was destroyed.

April 22, 1970

The first Earth Day celebration! Choate boys participate in classroom workshops and clean up the campus. Few people are concerned about climate change yet, but Congress is working on some environmental legislation.

1960's

Trees that the boys planted are growing all over campus. (In 2016, you can see them along the cross-country course, the track, the baseball fields, the Sally Heart lawn, etc.) However, Choate's environmental spirit is being weeded out year by year.

Around 2000

The Laziness Era Part II:
Wallingford launches a mandatory recycling program and some residents use Choate recycling dumpsters as their dump zone. Because of this, aesthetics, and other reasons, Choate moves recycling dumpsters into a gated compound by Facilities Services and hires a squad to pick up recycling in a truck. Most people don't feel responsible for recycling anymore; many dorms contaminate their recycling bins with dirty pizza boxes and food.

2001

Choate adds AP Environmental Science to the curriculum.

2007

Some other prep schools have been participating in the Green Cup Challenge, so Choate joins the bandwagon. The C-Proctors begin.

2012

The Kohler Environmental Center is completed and the Environmental Immersion Program begins. Choate offers more environmental classes on campus such as Greening of America and professional development funds are used to help incorporate sustainability into the curriculum.

2015

Choate adopts a formal Statement on Sustainability, found in the Student Handbook.

2016

Choate has lots of environmental clubs, the C-proctors are keeping us educated, and facilities works to make our utilities more sustainable. However, we still do things like increase our energy usage during Green Cup and run the school on nonrenewable sources of energy. What will we do next?

BEHIND THE SCENES WITH NELL SHAPER



By Nicole Yao '18
Staff Reporter

It's easy to applaud the hardworking performers of Choate productions such as Student Directed Scenes, Fringe Festival, or the spring musical, but unfortunately, it's just as easy to overlook the students who work behind the scenes to make everything on stage look effortless. One such student, Nell Shaper '17, plays an important role in many Choate productions through their work with Tech Theater.

"I work with pretty much every show and production on campus," Shaper said. "For example, last year, I was the production manager for Fringe Festival, so I ran tech and made sure everything went smoothly." Running tech for a show involves responsibilities such as coordinating sound and light cues, working with directors and actors, and taking care of behind-the-scenes work.

Shaper became interested in Tech Theater just before coming to Choate. They commented, "In eighth grade, my school had this big middle school musical. I did not want to act, so I asked to be the stage manager. Looking back, it was an absurd amount of responsibility, and I'm super surprised my school let me do it."

Shaper continued to pursue their interest at Choate, taking Tech Theater instead of a sport freshman year. They then decided to audition for Arts Concentration as a tech theater major. "I thought it sounded fun," they explained. "For the audition, I was given a play and I had to design it."

Because of their passion for Tech Theater, Shaper has had to prioritize, "I've only done two sports credits my entire time at Choate. I've also never been on a sports team at Choate, which has kind of affected my social life."

This year, Shaper has worked behind the scenes in Fringe Festival and Robin Hood. In addition, they have directed for Student Directed Scenes as part of their Directing 450 class. Shaper also does a variety of other tasks, such as recording school meetings for students in Getz.

Shaper's peers are in awe of their accomplishments. "Nell is very dedicated to what they do. It's very time-consuming and can be stressful, but they get it done, and they do it well." Kristina Schuler '17, a close friend of Shaper's, said. "When they leave the PMAC, it doesn't mean that they stop working." She added, "Being someone who focuses more on sports, I think that it's really cool to be able to live near someone like Nell, with different interests and talents, and learn and grow from that."

"Nell is one of the kindest people I know," stated Anna Ekholm '17, who has lived in the same dorm as Shaper for two years. "They are a creative spirit who shares their energy with everyone in the dorm, and I am so happy to have gotten to know them over these past few years."

I work with pretty much every show on campus.

Nell Shaper '17

Elena Turner '17, another friend of Nell's, agreed wholeheartedly, "Nell's very passionate about the things they love — directing and doodling."

In their free time, Shaper enjoys drawing and painting, which they refer to as "stress relief." They added, "I took some art classes my sophomore summer, and I had a good time." Shaper also enjoys computer science and reading, and is an active member of SPEC-TRUM and SAGE.

Given the large impact tech theater has on their life, Shaper is considering continuing it after graduating Choate. "I'm not set that I want to do this for the rest of my life, but continuing for awhile would be neat."

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From left to right: Maya Benson '17, Nicole Scruggs '17, Journee Brown '19, and Sophie Mars '19 perform in Mattie Drucker's '17 play "Jawblockerz," directed by Ben Wendel '17.

Photo by Lauren Canna/The Choate News

FRINGE FEATURES STUDENT WORK

By Namsai Sethpompong '17
Staff Reporter

Students and faculty members alike left the intimate setting of the Gelb Theater awestruck by the Fringe Festival, which was held last Thursday, Friday, and Sunday. Modeled after its namesake, a production in Edinburgh, Scotland, Choate's Fringe Festival has been an annual tradition for over 20 years. Fringe is unique because it features pieces written, directed, and performed by students. It serves as a venue for students to take full control of their art and see their ideas unfold.

This year's Fringe Festival was praised by the community for its vibrant energy. Ms. Katharine Doak, Fringe's faculty adviser, explained this sense of rawness and urgency: "I told the kids not to try to have their pieces be perfect, but rather have these pieces say something real."

This energy was captured perfectly in a rendition of Mattie Drucker's '17 play, "Jawblockerz" directed by Ben Wendel '17. The play features a group of adventure-loving kids, the Jawblockerz, who must race against their arch-nemeses to find highly coveted jawbreakers. To many people, the play evoked a sense of childhood longing for the TV shows of the late '80s and early '90s.

This feeling was exactly what Wendel aimed to create. "Even though we are in high school, we still have this desire for childhood nostalgia," he said. He also shared his source of inspiration: "I was in my dean's office and Ms. Marrinan had these Starbursts, and I took them and saw all of these bright colors. I had this moment of thinking, 'Oh my God, this is it.' Color. I thought about Scooby Doo and Ninja Turtles and all those other TV shows that have all of these different palettes. I wanted

to give that kind of excitement that I felt as a child watching Powerpuff Girls."

Students acting in Wendel's play were astounded by the energy he bought to the process. Lead actress Nicole Scruggs '17 commented, "Ben has approached the process with such enthusiasm and passion that it's infectious. He's phenomenal."

Another highlight of Fringe was the movie "Something Happened," written by Jack Hodgson '17 and Sydney Jones '17. Hodgson commented, "I initially submitted something that was essentially a movie script under the guise that we would have it on stage as a play, but the Fringe's student Board had the foresight to make it into a movie." He added, "There was a period when I didn't feel comfortable with the movie and wasn't sure if I wanted it performed, but Mrs. Doak talked me out of that, and I'm glad she did." Hodgson also wanted to thank Ms. Gloria

Baldelli and Mr. Andrew Melton for letting him use their workspaces to film.

The pieces featured in Fringe reminded some people of professional Fringe Festivals. Eli Blickford '16, a Fringe board member, commented, "That movie, those individual acts—they all blew me away. The Choate Fringe Festival reminds me so much of the real Fringe Festival in Scotland. You just feel this vibrancy, sitting in the audience. It's amazing. The choices that were made tonight worked so well together."

Bryce Wachtell '17, a lead in Abigail Strong's '19 "Mystery Guest," which was directed by Asher Zelson '17, shared, "Having never acted before, I've been so fortunate to meet two dozen people on campus who I would not have connected with otherwise. It was truly an amazing experience."

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COMING UP IN THE ARTS

Robin Hood

Thursday, February 18 - Saturday, February 20
7:30pm @ PMAC Main Stage

One Person Plays

Sunday, February 21 - Monday, February 22
7:00pm @ Gelb Theater

NEW BARBIE GOES FOR POSITIVE BODY IMAGE

By Simran Sachdeva '19
Reporter

Almost every little girl grows up playing with a toy that perfectly meets society's stringent beauty standards: a Barbie doll from Mattel. However, Mattel has recently given Barbie a makeover. In January, the company released a new line of Barbie dolls, "Fashionistas," with several different body types, seven different skin tones, and multiple eye colors. With these new dolls, Mattel is trying to promote positive body image—but how far is it truly willing to go?

Since its creation 56 years ago, Barbie has been an extremely popular doll for young girls. Many girls identify Barbie's big blue eyes, skinny legs, and flat stomach as ideal physical traits. However, Barbie's body proportions are extremely unhealthy and, in fact, physiologically impossible.

According to Rehabs.com, if Barbie were a human, she wouldn't be able to lift her head or walk on all fours. Additionally, she would only have room for half a liver and a few inches of intestine.

Although Barbie's new line aims to promote body positivity, the company is only taking baby steps. Even the curvy dolls in the line are still very thin. This introduces the question: how far can you stray away from Barbie's look without losing her image? Alexandra Petri from The Washington Post believed that, "The trouble with Barbie is that if you

start taking away her unrealistic elements, she disappears altogether."

The heads of Body Project, Choate's body positivity club, reacted strongly to the new Barbie dolls. Dagny Belak '16 stated of the company, "Although Mattel is finally starting to recognize that women don't have to idealize this super skinny, tall, white example, and they are using more realistic body proportions, I don't think that it goes quite far enough yet."

Michelle Lopez '16 commented, "My fear is that a lot of young girls will have that representation in the beginning, but then after a while, Mattel will return to producing dolls with the stereotypical blonde hair, blue eyes, and small waist."

Zara Harding '18 added, "It's definitely a step in the right direction." These new dolls with more natural body proportions represent a step forward, but with any hope, Mattel realizes that there is still progress to be made.



Photo Courtesy of CNN

Simran Sachdeva may be reached at ssachdeva19@choate.edu

TRACY: THEATER'S BACKBONE

By Camila Borjesson '17
Associate Editor

If you have attended any one of Choate's plays—whether it be Hairspray, Anne Frank, or Student Directed Scenes—and emerged overwhelmed by emotions, chances are acting teacher Ms. Tracy Ginder-Delventhal spurred them with her ubiquitous involvement in the theater department.

Ms. Ginder-Delventhal's interest in theater began when she was young; given her unhappiness with the social atmosphere of her school as a child, her parents encouraged her to pursue activities beyond the classroom. After years of trial and error with the clarinet, dancing, painting, weaving—"you name it, I did it!"—she finally discovered that she truly felt at home on stage. Despite her ongoing involvement in the theater, Ms. Ginder-Delventhal never considered a life of theater until her freshman year of high school, when she had an epiphany with her acting teacher.

"He pulled me aside and asked me if I had any thoughts about my future. 'If I were you' he said, 'I'd

think about being an actress.'" After that "aha moment," professional training in the field became Ms. Ginder-Delventhal's priority, a goal that lead her to Carnegie Mellon University. However, she grew increasingly frustrated with

the lack of artistic insight in show management, and instead, she found herself drawn towards a master's degree in directing. This allowed her to explore the flexibility of work outside of being an actress.

At Choate, Ms. Ginder-Delventhal is the overseer of the theater program. She aims to help students transform themselves through the arts and discover their unique

creative spirit. She notes Toby Nelson '15, who graduated last spring, as an example of a Choate student who had a life-altering experience in the arts program; last spring he participated in the musical Hairspray as Edna, a leading role, which was his first exposure to drama. "I'm really proud of the program we've built," Ms. Ginder-Delventhal commented. "There's something about creating a piece of art with other people and giving it away to an audience that's really special."

According to Ben Wendel '17, who has worked closely with Ms. Ginder-Delventhal in acting classes and school productions, Ms. Ginder-Delventhal is an artist in all aspects of the word. In any given show, she works until her vision is firmly grounded on stage. Wendel said that even her help with simple pieces for Acting 100 helped Wendel work through his own life experiences. "Working with her is extremely rewarding," he remarked. "She's really an intellectual artist and an artistic intellectual."

Camila Borjesson may be reached at cborjesson17@choate.edu



Photo by Lauren Canna/The Choate News

Ms. Ginder-Delventhal works to help students discover their hidden artistic abilities.

of teaching. Coming to Choate helped her carry out the mission of enabling people to freely explore the arts.

At Choate, Ms. Ginder-Delventhal is the overseer of the theater program. She aims to help students transform themselves through the arts and discover their unique

creative spirit. She notes Toby Nelson '15, who graduated last spring, as an example of a Choate student who had a life-altering experience in the arts program; last spring he participated in the musical Hairspray as Edna, a leading role, which was his first exposure to drama. "I'm really proud of the program we've built," Ms. Ginder-Delventhal commented. "There's something about creating a piece of art with other people and giving it away to an audience that's really special."

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BOAR PEN

GIRLS' VARSITY BASKETBALL

VS. TAFT

SATURDAY, 2/20 @ WJRC

SPORTS
The Choate News

"I don't want to be the next Michael Jordan, I only want to be Kobe Bryant."

-Kobe Bryant
Los Angeles Lakers

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2016

Boys' Ice Hockey

WILD BOARS FALL TO EXETER IN FINAL MINUTE



Photo courtesy of Ann Conrad Stewart

With help from Kate, Lucy, and A.J. Noel, the captains of Exeter and Choate participated in a ceremonial pregame puck-drop to honor the late Mr. Andy Noel, a beloved member of the Choate community, who passed away from cancer in early 2015.

By **Rachel Hird '17**
Associate Editor

Last Saturday, February 13, the Boys' Varsity Hockey team faced Phillips Exeter Academy at home in a white-out tribute game to the late Mr. Andy Noel. Remsen Arena was packed to the brim for an exciting night of hockey and to honor Mr. Noel, who, before his passing, coached hockey at Choate and served as the school's Associate Director of Admission and Director of Financial Aid.

Choate entered the tilt expecting some tough competition, and it definitely received the anticipated nail-biting match. Although Exeter held a 0-1 lead for the first two periods, Choate made an invigorating comeback in the third, electrifying spectators. Unfortunately, the tense game ended with an unfortunate last-minute goal by Exeter, and a final score of 1-2.

The evening began with the Whimawehs's impressive rendition of the national anthem,

which gave rise to an intense applause from the audience. Afterward, Coach Patrick Dennehy gathered the team's sixth formers to take photos with their families, as part of Senior Day.

Director of Admissions Mr. Raymond Diffley moved everyone in the bleachers with his pregame speech about the late Andy Noel, a beloved figure on Choate campus who passed away from cancer last winter. Mr. Noel coached Boys' Varsity Hockey as well as J.V. basketball. Mr. Diffley shared a quote from ESPN anchor Stuart Scott, who died from the same cancer as Mr. Noel. Scott's message was that dying of cancer is not losing the battle; death only highlights how you managed to live despite extraordinary challenges. After Mr. Diffley's words, the captains of the Choate and Exeter teams assisted in leading the game's honorary puck droppers onto the ice: Mr. Noel's wife, Kate, and two of his children, Lucy and A.J. Fans in the bleachers bore win-

ter white-out #NoelStrong T-shirts, a charitable effort spearheaded by team members Albie Austin '16 and Craig Uyeno '17.

The game opened with a goal from the Exonians on a speedy 2-on-1, silencing the energetic Choate fans. Surprisingly, the board would display that nerve-wracking "0-1" until the third period. For almost the entire game, Exeter's goalie appeared to be a brick wall, making several jaw-dropping stops.

Choate was relentlessly on the attack during the entire second period, taking a total of seven shots. Twice, an attempt at a goal for Choate ended with a pile up around Exeter's net. Soon after, fans rowdily advocated for a penalty on the Exeter player, who had made a questionable hit in the corner. The officials didn't call a penalty, but this only further pumped up Choate fans and players alike. Co-captain Brendan Murphy '16 commented on the game's environment, saying, "The atmosphere of this game was amazing. I think

anyone in there could feel the energy and the tension."

This emphatic drive carried into the third period, when Choate co-captain Henry Marshall '16 scored, tying the game, sending spectators up to the glass in a frenzy. Senior defenseman Albie Austin '16 said, "Exeter got ahead early and held us off for most of the game, but Marshall's goal really got us going and believing we had a chance to win it." Both teams led a fierce struggle to make one more goal and tip the scoreboard. Unfortunately, Exeter ripped a pick into the top left corner of Choate's net with just 60 seconds left on the clock. Choate ultimately was not victorious. However, its spectators kept their spirits high, and the boys of Choate relentlessly pursued the win until the end, embodying the energy of #NoelStrong, the initiative created to honor Mr. Noel's impenetrable spirit.

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Girls' Squash

CHOATE PLACES FIFTH AT NATIONALS

By **Jack Tenney '16**
and **Rachel Hird '17**
Sports Editor and
Associate Editor

The Girls' Varsity Squash team, sitting at a record of 14-3, ventured to Harriton High School in Philadelphia, PA, last weekend for the 2016 National High School Team Championships. The squad put on an admirable performance, beating several talented teams, but ultimately placed fifth in division II, a clear testament to the Choate program's strength. Varsity player Olivia Van den Born '17 commented on the weekend, "All around, it was a fantastic weekend. It was such a great bonding experience for the team, and we also got some excellent preparation for New England's in two weeks, which will, no doubt, hold tougher competition."

Despite their less than ideal final placement, the Wild Boars had a number of impressive accomplishments over the weekend. The girls,

entering the tournament as the top seed, swept their first match, 7-0, against the Agnes Irwin School from Rosemont, PA. Co-captain Engy El-Mandouh '16 was strong throughout the weekend and especially against Agnes Irwin. Van den Born said of her captain, "I would say I always admire Engy, our #1, for the game face she brings to every match. She always gets on the court and sets her heart on not only playing well, but also winning, no matter the opponent." Other bright spots for the two were freshmen phenoms Samantha Stevenson '19 and Hope Worcester '19, who were both undefeated throughout the weekend.

After a resounding sweep in their first match, Choate took on typical rival Phillips Andover Academy, a team it beat in the regular season by a score of 4-3. This tilt would prove equally close, with Choate falling this time by just one match. Van der Born said, "I would say Andover was the biggest nail biter. I don't think

I've ever been so stressed in my whole life! We ended up losing that match 3-4, which is so painfully close!"

This devastating loss propelled Choate into its next match with tenacity and focus; the Wild Boars conquered Roland Park Country School later that day, five matches to two.

Although Choate placed fifth in the end, this tournament was a great way for the team to compete at a high level

against tough opponents from all over the country and prepare themselves for the New England Championships; given that they beat the top two teams in their division earlier in the season, this squad knows their potential and will be a team to watch in the final weeks of the season.

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VARSITY OR JV, THE GRIND IS REAL

By **Emilia Furlo '17**
Staff Reporter

time spent on homework that allows the student to process and understand information.

Sports are a large part of Choate's culture and history. There is a certain glory and pride that one has as a decorated varsity athlete, knowing that he or she has a mark on the school's walls and in its trophy cases. Junior varsity and thirds athletes do not have the same type of competitions as varsity players, and will not win medals or present trophies to the headmaster to be showcased and immortalized. Non-varsity athletes often choose to stretch themselves into different extracurricular activities or take harder classes since they have the time that varsity players do not. However, the question seems to arise frequently when thinking about the impossible balance of athletics, school, extracurricular activities, and social life. Who has it harder: the varsity athlete or the non-varsity athlete?

Staying on top of homework can be challenging for student-athletes.

When talking with varsity athletes, their demanding sports schedules were immediately evident. Besides their scheduled practices at Choate after classes, there are additional times the team will meet on the weekends or early in the morning before school starts. Most student athletes also take the time to train on their own, and several students play on teams outside of school during the off-season. When you take into account the idea that some students at Choate are relying heavily on their sport to help them land a spot at some of America's best universities, sports becomes more than a hobby; it becomes a job. While non-varsity athletes spend hours in the library, varsity athletes spend their time training at the Winter Ex. Usually, their athletic commitments from outside of school will cause them to miss the fun and relaxing weekend activities, as college scouts are often found at games and tournaments outside of Choate. This fast-paced lifestyle is extremely physically demanding and it can be challenging to always maintain a healthy mindset about competitive recruiting when it has such an impact on one's future. Finally, when the student athletes are done with their sport, they are expected to complete a full night's worth of homework and excel at one of the most rigorous schools in the world.

Staying on top of homework can be challenging for athletes. Many admit to sometimes not completing their homework because of their athletic commitments. Although some feel that varsity athletes are not as smart as non-athletes, the difference might not be in intellect but

Non-varsity athletes are expected to spread their free time in many places.

Although both varsity and non-varsity student athletes on campus work very hard, there is no definitive way to conclude who has it tougher. The truth seems to revolve around the individual in questions. Some varsity athletes on campus are extremely bright and excel in classes and on the field. They do not experience the same difficulty completing homework assignments as some of their peer varsity athletes who struggle to get their work done. In contrast, there are some non-varsity athletes who do not feel the pressure to spread themselves across multiple extracurricular activities, harder classes, and leadership positions. All this seems to depend on the student's ability to stay focused and motivated, while also balancing work and play. Whether you're a decorated varsity athlete or a non-varsity athlete who excels in other aspects of Choate life, it's no secret that everyone here works extremely hard at whatever they do.

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VARSITY WEEKLY SCOREBOARD

Boys' Basketball		39
NMH		96
Exeter	2	
Girls' Hockey	1	
Loomis Chaffee	4	
Wrestling		2nd/13
Class 'A'		
Swimming (G/B)		90/99
Hopkins		94/76
Boys' Squash		4
Episcopal - VA		3
Girls' Squash		5
Roland Park		2
Boys' Basketball		39
NMH		96
Girls' Basketball		40
Roland Park		66