



PHOTO/TAI KERZNER

These aerial shots around campus was taken from Tai Kerzner's '16 DJI Inspire 1 drone. Kerzner flew his drone just days before the school announced a policy regulating the use of drones.

ADMINISTRATION LAUNCHES DRONE POLICY

BY STEPHANIE CHAN '16
News Editor

Last Saturday, March 28, Dean of Students Mr. James Stanley sent an e-mail to the students and faculty of Choate introducing a school policy regulating the use of drones. Effective immediately, and soon to be reflected in the Student Handbook, students may only use drones for “officially school sanctioned activities” and “with the permission and supervision of a faculty member.” Mr. Stanley wrote that drones are “a technology that brings with it significant upside potential as well as genuine privacy and safety concerns.”

Three days before the administration officially established the drone policy, Tai Kerzner '16 was flying his DJI Inspire 1 drone above Memorial House when a faculty member noticed the drone and ordered Kerzner to bring the drone down. According to Kerzner, the faculty member took out his cell phone and called the Dean on Duty.

Later that evening, Mr. Gordon Armour '76, the Dean on Duty, spoke casually with Kerzner about the use of drones on campus. However, as the rule hadn't yet been instated, no disciplinary action was taken, nor, according to Kerzner, did his conversation with Mr. Armour involve reprimanding.

Mr. Stanley insists that one isolated incident did not prompt the creation of the school's drone policy. The concerns of using drones are frequently publicized in the media, and that, Mr. Stanley explained to *The News*, convinced him to issue a concrete statement governing the nascent technology.

“There's no real story behind it,” said Mr. Stanley. “It's just technology, and people started

asking me about: ‘What's the deal with drones?’ That's what was behind my e-mail. We talked about it as an administration awhile ago.”

According to Mr. Stanley,

“The big issue is privacy.”

— Mr. James Stanley

the school is primarily concerned with the safety and privacy of students. In inexperienced hands, drones can do damage to buildings as well as those passing by. Furthermore, drones with photo and recording capabilities are potentially serious threats to students' privacy.

“The big issue is privacy. Just imagine for a second, a drone hovering outside of some student's window. We have no particular thing against drones, but if someone's going to use a drone, we want to make sure that they've had a conversation with a faculty member and it's being used for a reasonable purpose and that this being done within safe and appropriate parameters,” explained Mr. Stanley.

Drones have become a widely popular consumer product within the past few years. Even Amazon hopes to launch an initiative it calls “Prime Air,” utilizing drone-like aerial vehicles to deliver packages to customers. In response to the increasing interest in drones or other Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), the Federal Aviation Administration has set strict regulations on commercial drones, limiting the speed and altitude at which they can fly.

Kerzner's DJI Inspire 1 is a relatively new addition to the drone industry; the model hit the market in November 2014. Cost-

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Community Gathers for Lanphier Center Dedication

BY HANNAH LEMMONS '16
News Staff Reporter

On Friday, March 27, the Choate community officially celebrated the dedication of the Cameron and Edward Lanphier Center with programs designed to promote and foster innovation and creativity. Friday morning began with a school meeting that featured speaker Nicholas Negroponte '61, and in the afternoon, students and faculty participated in MakerFaire workshops. Built with a highly innovative lab space, an auditorium with modern video-conferencing capabilities, and a relaxing café and lounge, the Lanphier Center for Mathematics and Computer Science opened late winter term. These features and more have encouraged members of the Choate community to appreciate the Lanphier Center as much more than a simple math building—many have come to know it as a space promoting togetherness, forward thinking, and originality.

After listening to an hour-long presentation from Nicholas Negroponte '61, co-founder of the MIT Media Lab, investor, columnist for *Wired* magazine, and founder of the non-profit organization One Laptop per Child, students attended a workshop of their choice in one of two sessions at the end of the half day of classes.

In his talk, Negroponte discussed his role in the progress of computer sciences, and his quest to bring inexpensive laptops to children in developing countries. He elaborated on his mission of spreading connectivity throughout the developing world by including several anecdotes. Elaborating on the benefits that

the children experienced when given laptops, Negroponte discussed upward trends in learning and education. He finished by exploring the almost endless possibilities of bringing inexpensive laptops to the entire world, saying that the benefits of connecting everyone had no limits.

The Development and Alumni Relations Office began to consider the possibility of a Lanphier Center dedication event more than a year ago, in line with the celebrations of Choate's 125th anniversary. When the school started to discuss the curriculum for the courses that would be taught in the Lanphier Center, plans for the dedication began to take more concrete shape, with a focus on creating a hands-on experience for the students and faculty.

“The philosophy of the i.d.Lab and the Lanphier Center is that we want learning in the 21st century not to just be completely passive, but to be active and have students involved in creating their knowledge about the world. And to celebrate that, we wanted to just hold some workshops that are fun,” said Science Department head Mr. Ben Small, who was involved in the planning of the dedication.

Ms. Mari Jones, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, agreed. “We wanted to give students the chance to experience something that's a little outside their comfort zone, something that's new and different, something that would really excite them,” she said.

The logistical planning of the day began about two months prior to the event. The Lanphier Center Dedication Committee, which consisted of Math and Computer Science Department

Head Dr. Matthew Bardoe; Director of Strategic Planning and Communications Ms. Alison Cady; Associate Dean of Students Mr. Will Morris; Director of Studies and science teacher Mr. Kevin Rogers; English teacher Ms. Elizabeth Walbridge; Director of the Student Activities Center Mr. James Yanelli; Mr. Ben Small; and Ms. Mari Jones, met nearly every week to brainstorm ideas and discuss dates.

Eventually, the committee created and offered a set of Maker Faire-style workshops, programs specifically geared toward fostering creativity and engineering, as the central activity for students on the day of the dedication. In late December, the faculty participated in a Playfair event as a sort of test run for the hands-on sessions the dedication committee was considering; about 80 participants attended the faculty-led activities.

“That was a big success. But the challenge was that on the

“We wanted to give students the chance to experience something that's a little outside their comfort zone.”

— Ms. Mari Jones

actual dedication day, we would have the entire student body involved—we would have to adjust from 80 people to over 1,000. We initially thought could we do it ourselves, but it just seemed too big a feat,” explained Mr. Small.

In response to this challenge, the committee invited educators from the Eli Whitney Museum and Workshop in New Haven to come and help teach the workshops. Experts in experimental

learning as well as teaching design and invention, the educators from the museum collaborated with faculty on the dedication committee to determine which workshops would best fit the Choate community. In addition, some faculty also created and taught their own workshops, such as Ms. Walbridge and Mr. Small's Nerdy Derby workshop. With more than ten workshops to choose from, students were able to complete a wide variety of activities, from building a Rube Goldberg machine to learning about the design of a music box.

After some deliberation, the dedication committee decided to hold the Lanphier Center dedication on the first Friday

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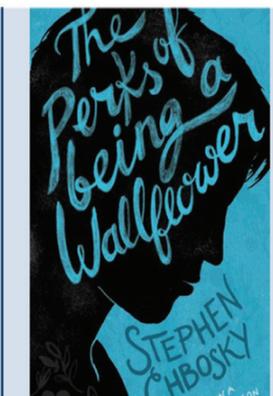


PHOTO/ELLE RINALDI

Students participated in hands-on education Maker Faire workshops as part of the Lanphier Dedication.

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PRATT PACKARD FINALISTS SEIZE THE DAY

BY DAGNY BELAK '16
News Reporter

February 25th marked the finals of the annual Pratt Packard Declamation Contest, a competition organized by Mr. Trevor Peard, in which students wrote their own speeches about topics or issues that they were most passionate about. Four students, Yoonjong Lee '16, Lauren Lamb '17, Dora Jarkowski '15, and Chris Moeckel '16, were selected to present their speeches to the greater Choate community as part of the final round of the contest. This year, topics of the speeches ranged from the use of the word "hate" to the meaning of individuality.

The competition, which is open to all students, started with a preliminary reading round in which judges sorted through approximately forty entries before picking ten entries to move forward into the second round. The second round required the ten contestants to speak at Getz in front of a new panel of judges, and from the ten prospective speakers, four were selected for the Pratt Packard finals, delivering their speeches in front of the Choate community at a school meeting.

First-place winner Yoonjong Lee '16 has always been interested in public speaking and credits his previous involvement in debate for helping him develop the confidence to speak in front of a crowd. His speech, titled "It Feels Good to Be Human," was inspired by a spring-break service trip he took to Mexico last year. The speech focused on the simple but critical human ability to "feel and think independently," a capacity that has

both prompted and hindered great progress in the world.

"My speech was to inspire people to take action. At Choate there are a lot of people who are going to go on to become influential people and leaders of the world in the next twenty, thirty years, and I wanted them to know we still have work to do," said Lee. "I wanted them to know this is something they should think about."

Second-place winner Lauren Lamb '17 was inspired by the Pratt Packard speeches presented last year and decided to write her own this year. Her speech, "The Rules of Hate," was about how many in society have come to view the word "hate" as irrational. However, Lamb argued that the use of "hate" is, in some cases, entirely reasonable and acceptable. She thought her biggest challenge in the finals was to remain calm in her delivery. "It was kind of tough not to sound too angry. I wanted to make sure the message got across in a good way," explained Lamb.

Dora Jarkowski '15, who placed third, presented her speech, "Crooked Teeth." It explained how breaking free of her chains—that is, the chains of her braces—during her freshman year at Choate helped her feel comfortable standing up and standing out. She urged each individual in the audience to acknowledge and embrace his or her eccentricities, as she did freshman year.

Fourth-place winner Christopher Moeckel '16 was the last to recite his speech, titled "Our Fickle Fates." The speech stressed the capricious nature of life, as Moeckel provided instances in which life had been

cruelly unfair to himself as well as others. He concluded his speech by advising students to live each day with a more positive outlook.

Mr. Peard hopes to see an increased level of interest from students next year. "I always worry there are people who are going to see the speeches and be afraid they can't compete with that, but this is Choate, and I know a certain percentage of the students are going to say, 'Hey wait, I want to try that,'" said Mr. Peard.

He also hopes that prospective Pratt Packard speakers will not be discouraged to write about a topic that he or she is passionate about. Moreover, although students may have significantly different styles of public speaking and contrasting personalities, each student has the capacity to deliver an excellent speech to the greater Choate community. For instance, Mr. Peard explained, "Dora had an interesting point of view; she was also very funny and you feel like as if you know her and like her. She's great up there. Lauren Lamb brought a wildly different persona, and came across very differently from Dora, but both of them were excellent."

Both Lee and Lamb echoed similar sentiments. Lee advised prospective speakers, "If there's something you really want to say and if you're really passionate about that idea, the delivery is going to come more naturally. You just have to find your own voice."

Lamb added, "I advise people not to wait until the last week to write their speech. Also don't be afraid that people won't like your speech or be uncomfortable. Don't be as nervous as I was; if you mess up, it's okay."



PHOTO/LUCAS FERRER

Lucas Ferrer '17 positions himself to capture an artistic photo of an archaeological site in Saudi Arabia.

STUDENTS TRAVERSE THE GLOBE ON SPRING BREAK

BY SOPHIE MACKIN '18
News Reporter

While some students spent their spring break at home, other dedicated Choate students and faculty members travelled to exotic locations, including Saudi Arabia, China, Ecuador, and Mexico in order to perform community service or to immerse themselves in a completely different culture. The excursions to Mexico and Ecuador were service-based trips, while the trips to Saudi Arabia and China were cultural excursions. According to Ms. Sara Boisvert, the Director of Global Programs, the goal of the service trips was for "students to be exposed to a different part of the world, and to give back to those communities and learn why they are in need of service."

For eight years, the Mexico trip has been an opportunity offered at Choate for students and faculty to consider for their spring breaks. This year, Choate students and faculty traveled to Oaxaca, a state in southwestern Mexico, and Santa Maria Tepexipana, a jungle village. Students and faculty spent their time during the trip building latrines to help combat intestinal worms and distributing food to nearly a thousand people. When asked about the trip, Katie Overstrum '16 said, "My favorite part was the people, both the people of Oaxaca and those from Choate who came. Everyone was so spirited and very good about keeping the vibe light and positive. Although it's going to be a while before I can fully understand what is going on down there and how I can truly help, I think for the short term, this trip definitely opened my eyes and helped me realize how lucky I am to have the lifestyle that I have."

The Ecuador trip was created by Choate students, and this was the second official year that Choate offered the trip. Choate

students traveled to a school of nearly 160 students near Camyambe, Ecuador. Students spent their time painting the walls of the school and teaching English to the Ecuadorean students. Choate students also brought musical instruments and initiated a music program at the school. When asked if she gained any new perspectives or learned any valuable skills during her time at Ecuador, Victoria Li '16 remarked, "The trip made me realize how fortunate we are to have running water every day. It was really interesting to be in South America, in a different culture, and it was interesting to learn about the general environment by being with the students there."

"I came back from China with an expanded view and a changed outlook on many levels."

—Ana Nenadic '16

The trip to China was an exchange program with the Fudan University Affiliated High School. Ana Nenadic '16 explained that the goal of the China trip was for "students from Choate to get a cultural experience and see what China is truly like by living with homestay families in Shanghai." The trip was packed with activities including a visit to the China Art Museum, the Oriental Pearl Tower, and Suzhou, a province about two hours away from Shanghai. Choate students were also taught the basic aspects of Chinese culture and language. "Being with the homestay families exposed me to a different way of life and way of thinking. Most of my knowledge about Asian culture came from Choate students of Asian descent and this trip gave me much more insight. I came back from the trip with an expanded view and a changed outlook on many levels," added Nenadic.

The Saudi Arabia trip was a unique opportunity offered this year by a Choate family. According to Ms. Boisvert, the purpose of the Saudi trip was for "students and faculty to see what Saudi Arabia is actually all about, and not what it is portrayed in the media." Lucas Ferrer '17, a participant in the trip and a student in Choate's Arabic and Middle Eastern Studies Program, said, "Saudi Arabia is not a country that is easily accessible by anyone who isn't a Muslim or a Saudi. I wanted to see something that I might not be able to see again for a long time and experience first hand a country with some of the richest history and culture."

Participants of the Saudi trip had a very busy schedule that consisted of a myriad of different activities. Students and faculty visited several art galleries and historical sites, including Jeddah, a highly populated urban city, and Mada'in Saleh, a pre-Islamic UNESCO World Heritage archaeological site. Students also spent a day on the Red Sea and in the Saudi desert, and even experienced a traditional Bedouin-style dinner. "The natural elements of Saudi Arabia are a lot more beautiful than many people might realize," noted Ferrer. When asked if he gained a new perspective, Ferrer said, "A huge thing that I took away from the trip was an appreciation for what life is like for a woman living in Saudi. The girls and women with us on the trip had to be covered head to toe for most of the time we were there. But I saw that while there are limitations as to what women can do such as driving, they still are able to find ways to do what they want."

Ms. Boisvert finally noted that regardless of other commitments students may have during spring break, such as preseason athletic camps, Choate students showed an overall increased level of interest in participating in the spring break trips.

In Memoriam: Robert "Bob" Williams

BY SALONI JAISWAL '16
News Editor

Mr. Robert H. Williams '49, known as "Bob" to the Choate community, passed away on February 16, 2015. Born and raised in New Haven, Mr. Williams dedicated a large part of his life studying, teaching, and mentoring students and faculty at Choate. Both of his parents worked as staff members at The Choate School, the all-boys preparatory school that would become Choate Rosemary Hall. Mr. Williams's father, Alphonse Williams, was a chef at The Choate School, while his mother, Jeanne, was a nurse who spent some of her time at the school's infirmary.

Mr. Williams began his education at The Choate School in 1942 as a first former, and graduated from the school in 1949. During his time at Choate, Mr. Williams became a seasoned athlete and a valuable asset to the football, hockey, and track teams. In his sixth-form year, he won the school's art prize, and at Yale University, he majored in fine arts and played football (until a knee injury forced him to leave the sport). Mr. Williams later continued his graduate studies at the Yale School of Architecture. While studying at Yale, Mr. Williams came back to The Choate School as a part-time faculty member to teach a mechanical drawing class.

In 1954, Mr. Williams returned to The Choate School as a full-time faculty member of the math department, teaching calculus and financial math courses. Additionally, Mr. Williams had a diverse set of interests and taught a variety of other courses, such as woodworking, architecture, metalworking, automobile repair, celestial navigation, and boat design. He served as head of the math department in the early 1970s and was also the head football coach for several years, coaching the team

alongside his close friend and assistant Mr. Tom Yankus '52. In 1993, after 40 years of teaching mathematics and inspiring students, Mr. Williams retired from Choate.

"He was a very intelligent and multitalented guy. He contributed to the school in many ways and had an incredible range of interests," said HPRSS faculty member Mr. Richard Stewart. Mr. Stewart noted that as a football coach, Mr. Williams was creative and efficient in running the practices and had a sense for how much each boy could handle. Mr. Williams knew that all of his athletes had potential and constantly encouraged them to reach new heights.

"Mr. Williams was a tremendous fount of knowledge about the school in all aspects, such as the administration, faculty, student body, activities. He was also aware of the mindset and mentality of the school, the attitudes of the kids, and the composition of the student body," noted Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Williams served as a great resource of knowledge and advice for the new, less-experienced faculty members. According to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Williams had not only the capability to assist many teachers in various projects but also the ability to understand an individual teacher's potential. Mr. Williams would often advise the younger generations of teachers on how to adapt to an evolving society. He was always eager to guide the younger faculty members, teaching them how to act and behave, how to respond to career setbacks, and how to pursue their career goals.

"Bob Williams was a link to the 30s, 40s, 50s, and 60s and helped the lower generations of teachers understand the past history of the school. The people he worked with were amazed at what he helped them realize what they could do," added Mr. Stewart.

"He guided a lot of people. He

taught a lot of people, whether they were students or faculty, and helped them learn and grow in many different ways," said Ms. Harriet Blanchard, wife of Mr. Williams.

According to Mr. Stewart, Mr. Williams was a creative individual who embraced ideas and living in world filled with them. Ms. Blanchard noted that her husband's love for ideas and his constant optimism allowed him to connect with his students.

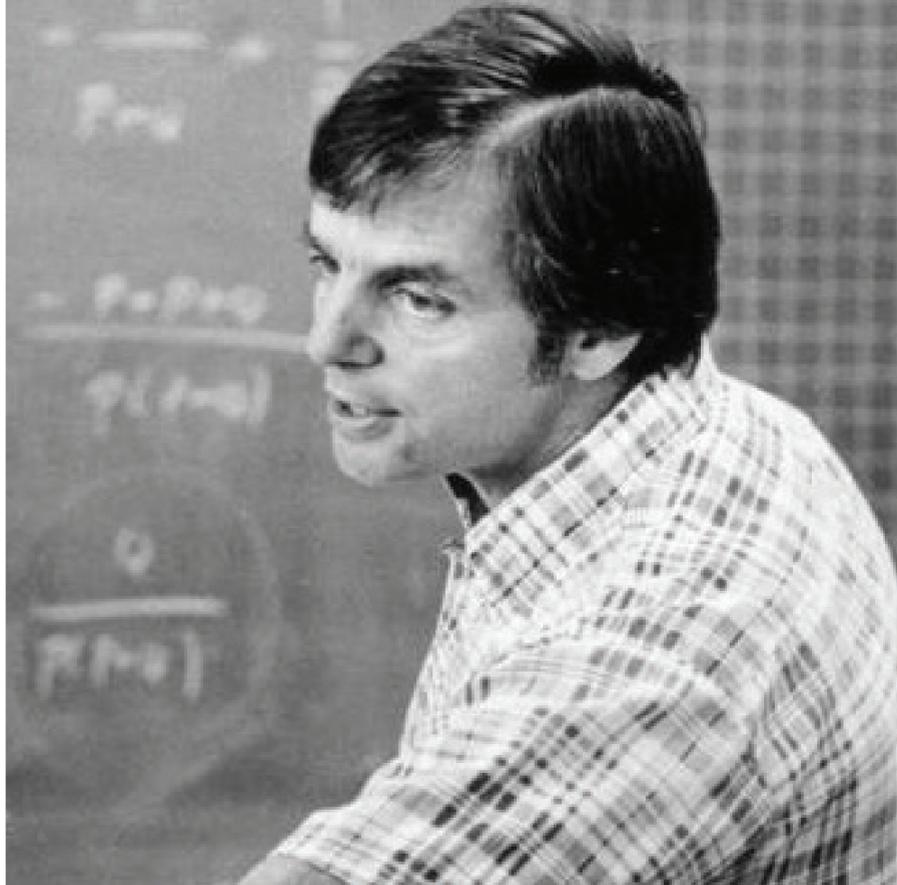
"He was a really smart and interesting guy and a man of great integrity. He loved thinking about thinking," added Ms. Blanchard.

Many members of the Choate community remember Mr. Williams as an intelligent, diligent, humble, and generous man who loved to learn. His passion for current events and his ability to initiate discussions with history teachers on current events amazed even the most well-informed teachers, noted Mr. Stewart.

"In latter years, he was sort of the repository of school history. He also knew so many things that he was the sort of person that you could ask any question that he knew the answer to, whether it was when to get your car tuned, how much water a boat displaced, how to do a math problem, or even how to fix your house. If he didn't know it, he would say, 'Well let's think about it,'" said Ms. Blanchard.

Mr. Williams loved his time at Choate, whether it was being a math teacher, football coach, or liaison for the students or faculty. Mr. Stewart noted that his chief satisfaction was working with young people of the school. "He was a mentor; he had been through the wars of a school and through all sorts of transitions," added Mr. Stewart.

"He helped people find things in themselves that they never knew they had, and I can say that that was certainly true for me as well," concluded Ms. Blanchard.



PHOTO/ARCHIVES

Bob Williams '49 returned to his alma mater in 1954 to teach math at former all-boys school, The Choate School.

STUDENTS ATTEND TALK ON HUMAN RIGHTS AT YALE

By VICTORIA LI '16
News Staff Reporter

On the night of Thursday, March, 26th, at 6:00 p.m., approximately thirty-five Choate students travelled to Yale University in New Haven to attend the College Freedom Forum (CFF), which featured talks by Serbian non-violence expert and educator Srdja Popovic, Iranian former political prisoner Marina Nemat, American journalist William Dobson and North Korean defector Yeonmi Park. Following the talks, a Q&A session was held in which students asked compelling questions about the talks given by the speakers.

In essence, the CFF, which was organized by Yale's North Korean human rights advocacy club (Yale ThiNK) and the Human Rights Foundation, a non-partisan, non-profit organization based in New York City, brought the Oslo Freedom Forum (OFF) to Yale University. The OFF summit is an annual gathering of activists, philanthropists, artists, journalists, and world leaders, who discuss ways to advance human rights across the globe. Recent topics have included human trafficking, authoritarian regimes, and propaganda tactics in the Internet age.

Mr. James Stanley, Dean of Students, received an invitation to the event and, in turn, invited the entire Choate student and faculty body.

"I received the invite at the end of spring break, and I was getting ready to ignore it," Stanley explained. "And then I

thought: this is close by, the hours are reasonable, and this sounds like an important panel. I suspect we have students who would be interested. It was a time of the day and a time of the term where it could work." He went on, "It's been really cool to see how many people read the invitation and said this sounds like a good event."

The first speaker of the night, Srdja Popovic, was a founding member of the civic youth movement that peacefully overturned Slobodan Milosevic's dictatorship in 2000. Popovic is also the author of *Blueprint for Revolution*, a guide for how to effectively and peacefully change the world. In his talk, Popovic focused on the factors that contribute to a successful and influential movement around the world.

Marina Nemat, on the other hand, shared her personal story of being tortured, interrogated, raped, and forcibly married in Iran's Evin Prison when she was only 16 years old. In his talk, William Dobson, the politics and foreign editor for Slate magazine and the author of *The Dictator's Learning Curve: Inside the Global Battle*, claimed that dictatorships are changing with the global community and argued that modern dictators are becoming more "savvy." Presenting the final speech of the night, Yeonmi Park recounted her personal story of escaping from North Korea when she was 13 years old.

"One of the messages that I took away is that you have to start very, very small. A lot of people in America have this vision about the grand scheme of things and

they want to wake up and tomorrow morning, change things and by night, have a utopia. But that's very naïve," observed Edith Nazhifah '16.

"In general it was very informative," said Keziah Clarke '16. "I thought it was really incredible how we were able to find out about the event and how easy it was for people to go. You got little snapshots into the works of each of these speakers, and they all had done incredible things when they were our age."

The speakers also acknowledged that although a few people may eventually start a movement, activism itself is a gradual process. "Activism doesn't necessarily mean going and spending 1000 dollars in another country. And that a lot of time you can't expect to start a march with a million people with just two people. It takes time, and it takes patience. And it takes choosing one small smart thing to do," said Cecilia Atkins '16.

Atkins was particularly impressed with Nemat's story and inspired by Nemat's insistence that student involvement and advocacy are necessary and powerful components of activism. "First of all, her experiences are amazing, and the fact that she comes from that tough background is incredible and it makes everyone understand her stance. I think a lot of the points are that it comes from students, and she was saying a lot of times, 'email me if you don't know how to get involved.' Basically, if you know you want to be a part of something, be a part of it, don't hesitate," said Atkins.

Another benefit of the Choate tour is the chance to meet Choate alumni throughout the trip. Students who visited Swarthmore, UPenn, Lehigh, Princeton, Columbia, or NYU were able to tour around the school with Choate alumni who graduated within the past four years. The alumni answered questions and gave personal insights about various topics related to the college process as well as college itself. According to Hannah Lemmons '16, another participant of this trip, "By having Choate alumni answer our questions and tell us about their transitioning at the schools, I was able to have a deeper insight of what it would be like to be a student at those places." Especially in places like New York where there were no official tours available, Choate alumni were the only people available to give the students a tour. According to Li, "It was interesting how we didn't get the same information from each college. I think the dynamics of each college depend on whether there was a formal information session or not. Having Choate alumni for some schools was less official, but more personal and beneficial in other ways."

Regarding the effectiveness of the trip, Michelle Lopez '16 said, "This trip gave me a general insight on what I want, what to look for in colleges, and what makes each school genuine. However, I think the college counseling office can improve this trip by covering a wider range of schools, so I can have a better understanding of what to look for in a college." To this, Hannah Lemmons '16 concluded, "The trip was certainly beneficial in the sense that it narrowed my idea of what I want for a college. I also got to learn more about schools that I might potentially apply to. On the other hand, I think this trip could be even more effective if it were a little more organized; due to weather and traffic, we missed a few information sessions in the way. Although planning ahead for unforeseen issues is a difficult process to master, I think that the college counseling office will be able to make this trip even better."

The group traveled to Philadelphia on Thursday, March 5th, and embarked on the schedule from Friday morning. At Philadelphia, the students visited a school of their choice among Swarthmore College, Drexel University, and the University of Pennsylvania. After the group assembled at noon, they drove to Lehigh University. On Saturday, the students visited Lafayette College and Princeton University. The group then drove to New York and enjoyed their downtime in the big apple. On Sunday, the students finished their tours by visiting either Columbia University and Barnard College or New York University.

Lanphier

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of the spring term. "We wanted the dedication to be somewhat similar to the 125th celebration community weekend in that we wanted the dedication to become a more fluid celebration. By holding it on a Friday, the dedication became an event for the whole campus," said Ms. Walbridge.

In addition, when planning the day, the committee did so with the idea in mind that the Lanphier Center would open at the beginning of the spring term. However, the primary goal was to hold the dedication without disrupting the already-busy spring term schedule.

"There was some reluctance to say 'we're going to give up another day of classes,' so we considered perhaps doing it for a Wednesday afternoon. However, Mr. Negroonte was already set to speak on Friday, so we decided to flip-flop the Wednesday and Friday class schedule so that we wouldn't interfere with class time, and we'd still have a pretty good chunk of time to do some-

Drones

Continued from Page 1

ing almost \$3,000, the drone features a lightweight carbon body and a 4K camera able to capture 360-degree photographs.

Kerzner explained that many friends and faculty members were aware and supportive of his drone-flying. In fact, Kerzner hoped to use his drone, which he acquired in late February, to collect aerial footage of the campus. He hoped that footage would provide a unique perspective of a sports game or be incorporated into an admissions video.

"I was going to make a video of the school. Ned [Gallagher] had asked me to take videos of

thing," said Mr. Small.

Students had a mixed response to the Lanphier Center dedication and workshops. Many students found the workshops very interesting and enjoyed having the opportunity to take a break from the normal full-day Friday schedule to do something perhaps more creative.

"We need a center that makes computer science and learning about technology a part of our everyday curriculum."

—Keziah Clarke '16

Joseph Squillaro '16 said, "It was really cool to take a break from the normal, fast-paced, nonstop classes routine and do something that allowed us to actually invent and develop instead of just reading from a textbook."

Others particularly appreciated how the workshops attempted to incorporate the ethos of the Lanphier Center. "I think the day was a really appropriate

way to celebrate the opening of the Lanphier Center, as now everyone kind of has an idea of what the building should be used for. Choate sees itself as an innovative school that's preparing us for the modern world, and we need a center that makes computer science and learning about technology a part of our everyday curriculum," said Keziah Clarke '16.

Some students, however, felt they could not enjoy the day fully due to the mixed-up schedule and length of the workshops. "Participating in the workshops was really fun but having the changed-up schedule was a little bit confusing for our first week back," remarked Danica Lee '16.

"I thought it was a really cool idea, and it was a fun way to do experiential learning, but I think it would have been more effective if the time period for each session was shorter, and we took that extra time to do several different things. I think that would have made the students appreciate the workshops more," explained Rebecca Bernstein '16.

was going to happen, so I'm not outraged by it. I'm just kind of disappointed that I won't be able to fly it around," said Kerzner.

Still, Kerzner hopes that the school will be able to modify the aspect of the drone policy that requires drones be flown only as part of a school-affiliated activity.

"I think if I looked at it from the school's perspective, it makes sense to fly a drone with a faculty member, but if it has to be for a specific student organization or school purpose—I think that's a little much because, as of now, there's no drone club and there's really nothing on campus that would need a drone," said Kerzner.



PHOTO/KATIE ANGEL

The University of Pennsylvania the day Katie Angel '16 visited.

Fifth Formers Explore Colleges

By HALEY CHANG '18
News Staff Reporter

From March 5 to March 8, several fifth formers participated in a college tour accompanied by college counselors Ms. Tara Dowling, Ms. Sharonda Dailey, Mr. Tim Eash, and Ms. Marcia Landesman.

This is the seventh year that the College Counseling office has sponsored this trip. "The main goal of this trip is to expose a variety of schools to students so that they can narrow down their search during the application process. We also tried to take note of the fact that as a boarding school, many of our students have to travel over spring break to be at home. Because this trip takes place during the first few days of spring break, it accommodates a group of students who would otherwise not be in the area," said Mrs. Dowling. Furthermore, this trip gives students an advantage by visiting potential schools with their college counselors. "I would say that the benefit of traveling with college counselors is that you have people who are experts in this field answering questions and giving their opinions during the tours," said Mrs. Dowling.



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WRITE FOR THE NEWS

Interested students should attend an Assignment Meeting, held on Mondays at 6:45 PM in Lanphier 106. To submit a letter to the Editor or opinion piece, please email or write us. Opinion pieces and cartoons on the Opinion page represent the opinions of their respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.

ABOUT THE NEWS

The News is published weekly on Fridays while school is in session. An electronic edition is available at thenews.choate.edu. The paper's offices are located in Hill House Basement. Members of The News Editorial Board and Staff can be contacted at thenews@choate.edu or by telephone at (203) 697-2345. To subscribe or advertise, please email or write us.

Mission Statement

BY THE 109TH EDITORIAL BOARD

The 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. While upholding the highest standards of integrity, quality, and character, The News will question accepted views, bring much of the outside world to campus, and encourage debate, discussion, and reflection. Our readership extends beyond the student body, faculty, and staff to include alumni, parents, and others not on campus.

Reporters and editors ensure that the paper's content reflects the values of the community at large. Simultaneously, we strive to be as much like a professional paper as possible. Thus, part of our mission is to give students an introduction to the profession of journalism.

The News will not print language that is obscene, crude, or otherwise offensive. Mean-spirited quotations and articles that are derogatory toward a specific person or program and that lack legitimate explanation or evidence are unsuitable for publication. The News respects the privacy of members of the Choate Rosemary Hall and broader community. We maintain confidentiality with respect to specific school disciplinary actions and decisions affecting particular students. The News publishes original pieces, and articles are expected to be written with the same standards of integrity as academic work.

The editors understand the journalistic practice of protecting those sources who wish to be quoted in articles without attribution. That practice is used only in our news coverage and only to advance the readership's knowledge of an issue or question of importance to the school. Quotations without attribution will not be used to protect someone offering an unsubstantiated opinion or attacking another individual. Anonymous quotations are generally discouraged, and editors recognize their obligations to try to persuade their sources to go "on the record."

All reporters who join the paper's staff receive a copy of The News Journalist's Handbook, which reinforces both the practices and principles set forth above and those explained by The News advisers and editors.

I AM A FEMINIST; YOU SHOULD BE TOO

BY LAUREN LAMB '17
News Staff Writer

I am a feminist. My mom is a feminist, my twin sister is a feminist, my younger brother is a feminist even though he won't admit it, and even my dad is a feminist despite the fact that he doesn't like labels.

Now I'm not a 'feminazi.' I'm not an overweight lady on the internet who screams at men who hold the door open for her, "because it's sexist, not courteous!" I don't think that bras are a symbol of oppression; and I certainly do not hate men or think they should rot in hell. I simply believe that men and women are equal and we should be entitled to equal rights, treatment, and opportunity. I have no problem calling someone out on their sexist comments or quickly shutting down a rape joke or "make me a sandwich" scenario, because I am a feminist and I don't mind identifying as one. But why are other people so hesitant to say, "Yes, I believe in equal rights for men and women. And yes, I am a feminist"?

Often times, when I ask someone if they are a feminist, they hesitate and ask what it means to be a feminist. A feminist is merely a person who believes in equality for men and women. Some people reply saying that they do want equality, but they're not feminists. Why? The stigma behind the word. For whatever reason, feminism comes along with negative connotations. When a boy admits he's a feminist he is usually praised. People say, "It's great that you care so much about women's rights." However, other times he is labeled as girly and weak.

Why would anyone want equality when men are already on top? And yes, men are on top. They don't have to worry about the wage gap or being asked what they were wearing when they were assaulted or having their opinions be disregarded because it's "that time of the month."

At Choate, we're surrounded by some of the brightest, most open-minded thinkers of our age. Yes, that's mostly true, and yes that is very cliché. But I think it's also valid for me to say that some of us are close-minded, stubborn, and form opinions based on bias without checking our privilege or making sure we know all the facts.

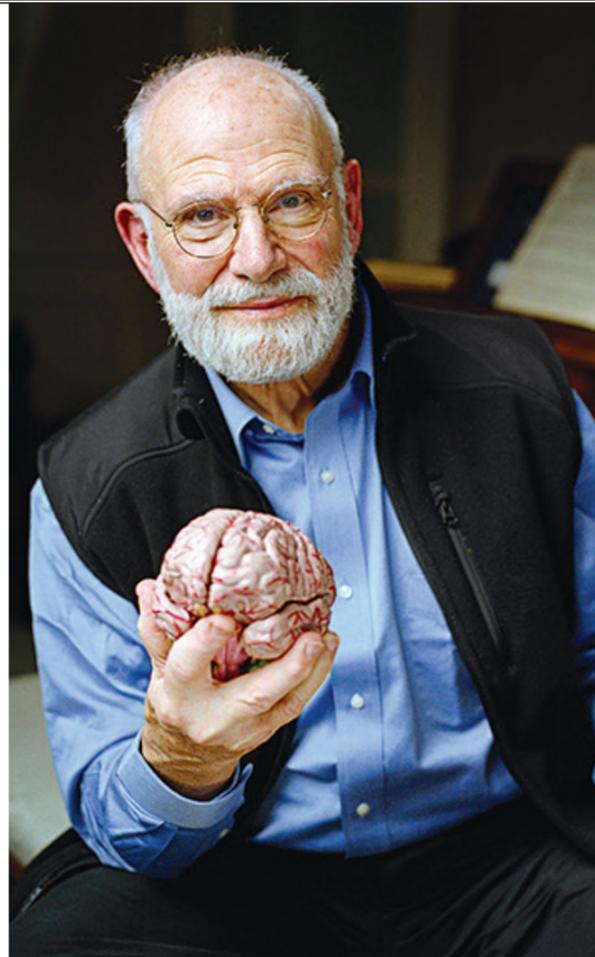
Maybe it's due to the pressure of our peers, but when asked, "Are you a feminist?" a lot of people say no. And when a sexist statement comes up in a conversation, most people don't say anything; they don't call anyone out for fear of being called a fanatic or a wimp.

During her Choate Talk Hannah Beebe '15 highlighted the stigma surrounding feminism, and in Choate's first gender equality club, perfectly timed with Emma Watson's UN speech, the issue of gender inequality at Choate and in the greater world is being addressed. And I'm addressing it again in this article despite many people complaining that it's over-addressed and arguing that people should stop talking about it.

But there is gender inequality in the world and America needs to address the issue in order to end it. Even here at Choate, there are issues. For one, the dress code at Choate: boys' dress code only asks that they look clean and formal by not wearing dirty or ripped clothes, while girls are told not to wear short skirts and low cut tops. Even shoulders and collarbones – non-sexual body parts – are suddenly sexual and distracting in the eyes of the dress code.

Some classes are predominantly male or female, and so are sports teams. The girls' cross-country team has 15 members while the boys' team has 50. Some people might say that girls just don't like running. But I find that this is also rooted in our society, which tells girls from a young age that they can't be faster than boys because boys won't like them back, that thunder thighs are unattractive, and yoga or gymnastics are the only acceptable sports for women. A greater emphasis and appreciation is placed on boys' sports. When the Deerfield basketball teams visited campus, the boys' team had a huge turnout of fans filling the stands; many felt such support was not present for the female counterpart team.

So girls should be encouraged to do "macho" sports like lacrosse and hockey, while boys shouldn't be called "girly" when they think that ballet or cooking is more their speed. By identifying as a feminist, people aren't oppressing men; we're just teaching women that they shouldn't be afraid to be multi-faceted individuals who aren't confined to gender roles.



PHOTO/WIKIPEDIA

Dr. Oliver Sacks, a longtime neurologist at the NYU School of Medicine, who examines how to navigate the complexities of everyday life.

What's Your Song?

BY RILEY CHOI '18
News Writer

Although the cold weather refuses to end, the spring term has started! Freshmen experience their first spring term; sophomores get ready for their junior year; juniors prepare for college applications; and seniors give their best to finish their last term. Students are always under some level of stress due to sports, academics, and extracurricular activities. We constantly push ourselves to work hard and miss having enough rest. We are told that resting is important, but we keep working anyway because that is what we are obliged to do as students, and we have to prepare for our future. Resting is important, though—as important as our work—and I will emphasize its importance by telling you a story from a book called *The Man Who Mistook His Wife For A Hat*.

Dr. Sacks is a neurologist who taught at the New York University School of Medicine for most of his career. He diagnosed patients with neurological disorders, and one day, according to his book, he met Dr. P, a musician and a teacher at the local music school. Dr. P cannot recognize objects properly; he mistakes his feet for his shoes and even mistakes his wife for a hat. Dr. Sacks realizes that Dr. P sees objects not by looking at the whole picture but by focusing on minute details; for example, he differentiates people not by their countenances but by their voices and unique attributes. When given a rose, Dr. P describes, "a convoluted red form with a linear green attachment ... It lacks the simple symmetry of the Platonic solids." Dr. Sacks comments, "[Dr. P is] lost in a world of lifeless abstractions... He [construes] the world as a computer construes it, by means of key features and schematic relationships." Clearly, Dr. P cannot function as a "normal" person; however, he functions perfectly well as a lively music

teacher. How is this possible? The answer is simple; Dr. P sings to himself on his daily basis. Mrs. P describes, "He sings all the time—eating songs, dressing songs, bathing songs, everything ... But if he is interrupted and loses the thread, he comes to a complete stop. He cannot do anything." With music, Dr. P gives himself a break from the confusing and perplexing world that he lives in, and it enables him to act "normally." Dr. Sacks concludes his diagnosis by giving Dr. P a "prescription": "Music has been the center, now make it the whole, of your life."

Is Dr. P similar to us in any way? We surely do not mistake our feet for our shoes, nor do we mistake our friends for hats. However, like Dr. P, we get lost and tired because of our hectic schedule and challenging amount of workload, and we forget to give ourselves enough rest. Like Dr. P, singing to himself to escape from the perplexity he faces, we should give ourselves rest and time to rejuvenate from stress; we will eventually "come to a complete stop" if we do not "sing" for ourselves. Dr. Sacks' recommendation is not only directed toward Dr. P but also toward us; we should wisely integrate our own "songs" in between our work.

What could be our "song" then? Take seven to ten-minute breaks after working for an hour. Such a break would refresh our minds and help us to think more clearly and be more productive. It is important to stay away from electronics; we tend to hold on to the devices longer than we expect to, and they tempt us to procrastinate. Instead, lie on the bed, doodle, stretch, or do other leisurely activities. Other "songs" could be the ones each of us find on our own, the ones that work best for us.

Once we find and integrate our "songs" onto our daily basis, we will never be lost but be more effective and livelier; Choate certainly could use a little bit more of that.

NEED FOR EQUALITY IN ELECTIONS

BY ESUL BURTON '16
News Writer

On February 11, 2015, the Class of 2016 gathered in the Paul Mellon Arts Center to hear the speeches of 13 candidates who were running for Student Council positions. A few days later, Tomi Lawal '16 and Yoonjong Lee '16 had been elected as President and Vice-President, respectively, and the other four representative positions, including Class President, had been chosen: only one female from the fifth-form class was elected to Student Council.

There are a lot of questions that can be asked, that must be asked about how the Student Council elections for the rising senior class turned out. Why is Cecilia Atkins '16 our only female representative, and why was she elected only by a very close margin? Is it simply a matter of qualifications? Or is it more complicated than that? Could it be that even within our own high school dynamic, we are inherently biased in our voting patterns?

From the onset, it's clear that the people we elected weren't elected because they were the most qualified. In fact, Lawal, James Gibson '16, and Atkins were the only candidates that had previously served on the Student Council. This should mean that the other six male candidates and

four female candidates should have had similar chances at being elected. But they didn't, and we now have a student government with only four female representatives out of 12. So what happened?

The easiest way to explain it is rather simplistic: most female voters vote for both male and female candidates while most male voters tend to vote for only male candidates. Obviously there are exceptions, but not many, or at least not enough. But more importantly, why do voting patterns differentiate between genders? Most likely because we are conditioned into believing that men do make better leaders, and why wouldn't we? Several of our peer schools have had female headmasters while Choate still has not. And looking at the bigger picture, women only hold 19.4% of the 535 seats in the 114th United States Congress. Only 26 CEOs on the Fortune 500 list were women. The list could go on and on, and it makes perfect sense that structural gender inequality could trickle down into Choate. The Class of 2016 has only ever seen a male President and a male Vice-President during our time here. And as for representatives, Atkins has been the only female we've ever elected to Student Council in the past three years.

But the thing is, why do we accept this situation as something

that is supposed to make sense? According to a study done by the Pew Research Center, of the seven traits identified to be the most necessary for good leaderships, four were traits possessed by most women. If we want to be logical and go strictly by the facts, our Student Council should be mostly female. So what makes us sit back and say little to almost nothing about what had just happened? What makes me so willing to stay silent when a classmate of mine said he didn't vote for one of the female candidates because she sounded "too cocky" when I could have said the same thing about several of the male candidates that were elected? Have the vast majority of us become so desensitized to the obvious gender inequality that permeates every aspect of our lives or do we as a grade simply not care?

Choate, undeniably, has a gender inequality problem. Only this year was Choate's first gender equality club founded—Students Advocating (Gender) Equality—and its membership is still mostly female. Many of us can talk on for hours about how problematic the hook-up culture at Choate is. Many of us can talk about the slut-shaming and sexual objectification that accompany the hook-up culture. I can talk about how frustrated I felt as a facilitator for a discussion on gender dur-

ing Diversity Day and how blind people are to the problems that affect those who were different from them or how unwilling people are to try to listen to the other side.

We try to flaunt our progressiveness as a means of making ourselves feel better. "Look how many female department heads there are!" "Our Chaplain is a female!" "Most of The News editors are females!" "We have Diversity Day every year!" But what really is getting better? I still have female friends who feel out-voiced in their political science courses. I have female friends who feel like anomalies for taking higher-level economic classes. I was one of two female students in my fall term International Relations class and I was usually the only one defending a woman's point of view, especially when a classmate dismissed the Feminist theory of International Relations as being nothing more than "silly."

You can say that I am playing the victim card. You can say that I am a man-hater. You can say that I am a femi-Nazi. But if you start saying that about every other female in my class, many of whom agree with me, maybe the problem isn't us. The problem was never us. It's time for you to wake up and finally see what's wrong. It's time for Choate to wake up.

If you scents something wrong in this sentence, we'd love to meet you.

We'll be in Lanphier 106 at 6:45 on Monday.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1860 CE United States Pony Express begins service ❁ 1948 CE The Marshall Plan is signed

GREEK LIFE HAS VALUE

By MAYA BIRNEY '17
News Staff Writer

Within the past month, multiple headlines swept the nation and threw colleges across the country into a frenzy of controversy after a few fraternity houses were caught acting inhumanely towards historically targeted groups. Without further insight, many Americans immediately speculated that such groups were not only incredibly detrimental because they victimize specific groups of people but also because they, simply, serve no purpose on thousands of college campuses across the country. Furthermore, it is quite simple to form these types of theories; I do not challenge the fact that Americans will now have biased opinions of Greek life because of what they have seen on the news. However, in this case, these biased opinions have no right to be formed, for the handful of fraternities making national headlines do not represent the majority of fraternities in the nation; these brotherhoods do indeed have redeeming qualities that should be exposed, and not be hidden by the stereotypes that are placed upon them.

It is no doubt that both fraternity and sorority societies hold the reputation of being party communities; these clichéd Greek lifestyles can be seen in popular movies like *Animal House* and *The House Bunny*. However, it is important to recognize that the objective of everyday fraternity brothers goes beyond the stereotypical sex and alcohol, "For Lambda, there are seven core values that are instilled in all of us. Those would be leadership, duty, respect, service & stewardship, honor, integrity, and personal courage," my friend, a junior at the University of New Hampshire, told me amidst the news of Sigma Alpha Epsilon's racist chant. "I've already learned so many important life lessons just from living in a fraternity house."

These principles range from something as minor as knowing how to wash the dishes to something as significant as social consciousness. When reminiscing upon his college years, my uncle informed me that members of his fraternity house came from different walks of life; thus each person's

differences required the members to open their eyes and embrace these distinctions. While all of this may sound no different than the lessons that students learn while boarding in dorms, the dissimilarity of the fraternity brothers is actually quite clear: boarders have roommates and bunk beds whilst brothers have living rooms, bathrooms, and kitchens. My uncle recalls, "We had to learn how to run a house; someone was in charge of buying the food, others had to pay the bills. It was as if we were running a small business. So not only were we responsible for ourselves, but we were accountable for everyone else in the house." Responsibility was, and still is, a vital part of Greek life.

Perhaps the most important and beneficial aspect of fraternity life is the strong brotherhood bonds formed throughout the college years. The friendships last forever, but it is the future that is most sculpted by the fellowships. Numerous fraternity members gain jobs through connections they've made with past brothers. My uncle was offered a job by a previous fraternity brother of his. After that, his career skyrocketed, as he is now the principal of the business that his brothers had started. And even after his graduation from the University of New Hampshire, in 1998, my uncle still vacations with members of his fraternity, which is just one example of the lifelong bonds of brotherhood.

Unfortunately, we do indeed live in a world full of imperfections. Just like anything else one can come into contact with, fraternities can absolutely find ways to improve. *TIME* recently published its three-step theory in fixing fraternities, claiming that the elimination of alcohol, the integration of both genders, and the addition of faculty adults can all aid in the prevention of stereotyped problems that could occur. However, it is imperative to understand that the national headlines of today's Greek life do not represent the majority of fraternities in the nation. There is still a glimmer of hope for these houses that were initially founded for the sole purpose of connecting those who shared common interests.



PHOTO/HUFFINGTON POST

Hillary Clinton, is an avid user of social media and other forms of media communication, such as email. Her use of personal accounts has been a point of concern for her presidential prospects.

Frenzy in the House of Clinton

By DYLAN STAFFORD '16
News Writer

It's now been nearly a month since the *New York Times* broke some controversial news: former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton used a personal e-mail account to conduct her official business while at the State Department. This revelation has shocked both the nation and political junkie circles alike, having led to a flurry of questions about its ramifications for her soon-to-be presidential campaign.

Recently, the conservative lobbying group Freedom Watch filed a racketeering lawsuit against Mrs. Clinton that accused her of failing to produce documents under the Freedom of Information Act. House of Representative Republicans have hopped on the bandwagon, promising to investigate every last bit of the scandal, and a number of Democrats have called for Clinton to be more transparent in handling the news.

Numbers from a *Reuters/Ipsos* poll released earlier this month, however, indicate that Hillary has less to worry about than some are making it seem. Only 14% of Democrats said they are less likely to vote for her in the primary after having found out about her use of a personal e-mail account. 51% of respondents said it has no impact on

the way they will vote, and 25% of Democrats said they are more likely to vote for Clinton in the primary. With a huge lead over any potential rivals — if they even decide to run — Clinton's favorability among Democrats remains very high.

A CBS News poll conducted last week reaffirmed the trivial nature of the news for most voters. It found that 65% of Americans' opinion of Clinton has remained unchanged since the

In all likelihood, Clinton will survive the e-mail scandal with minimal damage to her awaited campaign.

news broke.

What's more, the conversation about the e-mail fiasco is already fading out of the fleeting attention span of big media. This is a reflection of how quickly headlines change and American voters move on. After all the chatter that has taken place in recent weeks, it is important to remind ourselves of the fact that there is over a year and a half until the general election takes place. In politics and current events, the conversation changes very quickly and a candidate once doomed for failure can make a

comeback, and win the election.

In all likelihood, Clinton will survive the e-mail scandal with minimal damage to her awaited campaign; her backyard e-mail server will soon be a thing of the past, and bigger questions will arise. Her notoriously shaky relationship with the press will test new waters, and she is bound to face increased scrutiny over the Clinton Foundation's acceptance of large checks from foreign governments while she was Secretary of State.

The Democrats', and indeed Clinton's, largest problem is her perceived inevitability of winning and her utter lack of a formidable challenger in the primaries. What the e-mail debacle has highlighted most is the reality that political climates change very quickly. The Democrats must have a serious plan if Hillary's campaign were to take a turn for the worse, as it did back in 2008. More important, Democratic officials yearn for a competitive primary season to excite their base and rally voters. For Secretary Clinton to be at her prime during the general election, she must first prove to Democrats across the country that she is ready to take on all the challenges of being a presidential candidate.

Strong opposition from the left will give her the opportunity to lay out her vision for a presidency and defend her record. The only people to benefit from an uncontested primary are the Republicans.

The coming weeks are sure to bring about an onslaught of new campaign announcements — Hillary Clinton is expected to announce her intention to run in a matter of days. In the midst of the madness about her e-mail practices, it's time for leaders in the party to consider the long-term importance of a contested primary. As we say goodbye to hdr22@clintonemail.com, it is appropriate to call on qualified Democrats like Elizabeth Warren, Joe Biden, Martin O'Malley, and Michael Bennet to run for president alongside Mrs. Clinton.

This Week BY THE NUMBERS

12,000

The distance, in feet, that five cars fall when dropped from a plane in the *Fast and Furious 7*. All five cars landed safely.

7

The number of traits that parents of unsuccessful kids possess, according to a *Business Insider* study. The qualities include high expectations, high socioeconomic status, high education level, not forbidding junk food, and being over-sensitive to wants and needs.

6

The age (in months) of the target group of a new TV channel. BabyFirstTV hopes to engage and captivate its young viewers with vibrant colors, silly sounds, and calming graphics.

Live From The World

-U.S. & Iran slowly work towards a nuclear non-proliferation deal

-Indiana Governor signs into law anti-gay legislature

-Obama plans visit to Kenya

-Ted Cruz announces candidacy for 2016 G.O.P presidential nomination

-A building exploded in New York's East Village. Two bodies were found in the rubble

-Movement to raise the minimum wage gains support throughout all 50 states

-German wings Flight 9525 crashes over the French Alps. Mental illness suspected as motive

If you're ready for more News, check out Hakeem Angulu's article entitled "Let's Not Race Together" on our website at thenews.choate.edu.

THE REAL MARCH MADNESS

By SHRENİK AGRAWAL '17
News Writer

It is that magical time of year again: March Madness is in full swing. By this stretch, everyone's brackets have been ruined and memorable upsets have been completed. There is no other sporting event quite like the NCAA tournament. It is captivating, exciting, nerve-racking, some would even say sexy. Casual onlookers are transformed into avid fans. A team like Florida Gulf Coast can capture the hearts of a nation with big wins and bold play; something about winning against all odds resonates with America. It resonates so much and so deeply that most of the audience participates in the fun in spite of some troubling knowledge: the NCAA is really—I mean, really—messed is. Not only is the NCAA messed up, but also the schools are messed up, and the media is messed up. This last part somehow gets overlooked when people criticize college basketball. Hundreds of articles have already been written on how the NCAA rakes in billions of dollars per year, how the players get none, and how coaches, like Kentucky's John Calipari, will make more than 50 million dollars over the next seven years. Additionally, I will try to narrow in on the craziness that is the amount of pressure and scrutiny that these student-athletes (student being used in the loosest sense possible) have to deal with

on a daily basis.

Over these three weeks, these kids are being watched by millions of eyes and being recorded by thousands of cameras. Sometimes we forget that the athletes that we root for so passionately are for the most part, not more than four years older than you or I. The NCAA says it will not pay the students because they are amateurs, but they are amateur only by name. The students play as much basketball as professionals and are treated like professionals by the media. If an NBA player says something politically incorrect or unpopular, then a major media outlet such as ESPN will criticize him. Although the criticism may seem harsh, people rationalize it by saying, "That is why he gets paid the big bucks." By that logic, what is not justified is attacking college freshman making zero money with vitriol similar to what Kobe Bryant has to deal with. USA Today should feel sick about its story on West Virginia University freshman Dexter Miles, Jr. The newspaper was apparently so desperate for clicks that it painted him as a moron for saying that he thought his team was going to win against Kentucky. Instead of ridiculing the college freshman for answering the stupid question, why can we not fix the problem of media sharks preying on starlet, amateur athletes? This is not to say that the media should not be able

to interview students, but to illustrate how cutthroat the culture is.

While the NCAA may not feasibly be able to directly fix this issue there is so much else that they can do. One step in the right direction would be getting rid of the rule that these athletes cannot accept gifts from people or make money off their own signatures. One reason is that the NCAA is greedy and wants every cent of its multi billion-dollar industry. Another is that college sports will not be as fun to watch if players are playing for money. There are two problems with that. First, the stars that the fans love

the most and know the best are playing for money. Their future paychecks in the NBA depend on how they perform in college. Second, when someone utters those words, what they are actually saying is that they prefer to watch indentured servants shoot hoops as opposed to properly compensated workers.

In an ideal world, the NCAA does not exploit 19-year-olds, the media does not try to humiliate 19-year-olds, and the only thing we focus on is that gift of Willey Cauley-Stein dunking on Iowa State. But, much to our dismay, we don't live in an ideal world.

REFLECTIONS ON SERVICE

Spring Break service trips to Ecuador and Mexico

Hakeem Angulu '16

Mexico

Early on Saturday, March 7, I, along with 14 other students and two faculty members, traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico, to do community service. We traveled with the service organization Simply Smiles, whose headquarters is in Oaxaca City, and who have been working with the Oaxacan people for several years now. Sam and Alex, the Simply Smiles representatives, have dedicated their lives to helping these people. Oaxaca is the second poorest state in Mexico, with an average daily income of \$4.60. To give some perspective, the federal minimum wage in the United States is \$7.25 per hour. In Oaxaca, especially in the more rural areas, it is not a strange sight to see children with distended bellies from malnutrition and intestinal worms.

On the trip from the airport to the headquarters, the buildings and street conditions gradually got worse. As we got closer to where we would be working for the first few days, more stray dogs started to appear, along with street-side vendors, poorly drawn and spelled signs, and dilapidated homes. The first real impression I had of the situation was on the second day, when we visited Casa Hogar, an orphanage. I asked Sam where the bathroom was, and she had an eight-year-old boy named Victor show Shiva Sachdeva '16 and me. He happily brought us along, and we were shocked. They had no running water, the toilets were clogged with feces, the urinals were overflowing, and the odor was like nothing I'd ever experienced. Shiva and I exchanged a look of horror. I looked over to Victor, and he was smiling, waiting for us to come play.

Despite all of this, the people never stopped smiling. The smallest things made these kids laugh, smile, and be happy. These kids

have so little to smile about, yet they didn't stop smiling. The next day, I learned it was not only the kids who were optimistic. We visited the local dump, where 28 families live and work on land they own. After trekking up a hill of garbage, we met an elderly lady with a total of four teeth in her mouth, but with one of the biggest, brightest smiles I have ever seen. She was extremely confident, strong, and happy despite her situation. Right after talking to us, she went off and hauled a

This woman was half my size and about four times my age, but was still stronger than I could ever hope to be.

— Hakeem Angulu '16

bag of garbage that was larger than she was. This woman was half my size and about four times my age, but was still mentally, and maybe even physically, stronger than I could ever hope to be.

On the third day, we travelled to Santa María Tepexipana, a small rural village in the jungle, about eight hours from the city. The poverty there was like none I had ever seen before, and I had thought inner city Jamaica was bad. Before Simply Smiles arrived, the town had an 80 percent infection rate of intestinal worms. Today, the highest level of education available in that town is middle school, and even that is insufficient and under-enrolled. However, as always, the people seemed happy. As we got closer to the kids, they told us about the hardships they faced every day. They're frequently hungry, and thirsty, and only have good clothes and shoes to wear to school. There are no bathrooms in the community, so they have to go into the jungle where it is unsafe and unsanitary. Many times we had

to deny giving some of the children food or water, simply because we did not have enough for everyone. The feeling that accompanies denying an innocent child basic sustenance is devastating.

The kids we met, Yarezi, Alexander, Sangel, Giovanni, Cali, Nali, and Esperanza (Spanish for "hope"), definitely do not deserve the lives they have to lead. I have done nothing special to deserve living my life full of opportunity and support. Why isn't it the same for these kids? Why do they not get a chance to go to high school, or to stay healthy, or to know that they will have a next meal? These questions are not easy to answer. However, I and others in similar positions of privilege can dedicate a portion of our time and energy to helping these kids. A week building dorms and latrines and handing out food is great, but I know I can do more. Simply Smiles sells coffee to fund the de-worming clinics in those villages, to provide food dispensaries, and to send some of the kids to high school in the city. YJ Lee '16 and Tomi Lawal '16 are already working on getting Daily Grind to sell the coffee to support the effort. We can also raise awareness in the Choate community, and get more people to understand the hardships that people face every day, in the hope that Choate can continue to strengthen their support for Simply Smiles and organizations like it.

Victoria Li '16

Ecuador

Ecuador was a fascinating experience of showering in the rain, of being "unplugged" from the world, of history crash-courses, and of taking selfies with llamas. In some ways, we learned more from the trip than we taught to the small school in the mountains of Cayambe. It is of no doubt that the group of seventeen, ranging from twelve to whatever age Mr. Small may be, became a family. I am especially grateful for the participation and contribution made by Ms. Lopez on the trip. Not only would we have been completely lost abroad without a fluent Spanish speaker, but Ms. Lopez also brought unique insights into discussions about the Ecuadorian culture as a Colombian.

Despite this, however, there is still room for improvement. I, for one, am concerned with the effective impact of the substantial work we did at the school. While the purpose of the Ecuador Initiative Trip was to provide assistance for the school according to its expressed needs, I feel as though the school, Manuel Aguilar, worked harder to be flexible with its curriculum and schedule according to our needs than we did for it. For the benefit of future groups who will take part in the trip, I hope that the administration at Choate will take into account the feedback of students like myself and I am confident that the trip experience will only become better each year.

movement.

For a period of the evening he'd asked me to close my eyes—"Nicole, cierre tus ojos"—so that I could imagine what it was like to be blind. It was hard and I struggled to keep them closed, but at the end of the night I could open them again. Nacho couldn't. Nacho lived every day with his eyes closed, and I could barely deal with it for ten minutes.

Out of all the people I met during my time in Oaxaca, Nacho is the one I will remember and cherish the most. We were such different people, such polar opposites, but what he made me realize was that even though he couldn't see me, he could still hear me and listen to me and talk with me and laugh with me.

Shiva Sachdeva '16

Mexico

As I sat on the only running toilet feeling incredibly sick in the Simply Smiles Center of Operations on the first night of the trip, I looked around. "No person is above or below any task." "Have fun." "Always remain positive." These three phrases are just a fraction of the many "Commandments" Simply Smiles has for their volunteers posted in the bathroom stall. And it was the combination of the abundance of reminders, the daunting schedule presented for the week, and traveler's sickness that caused me to question my presence in Oaxaca. How much change could a group of eighteen Americans even make in one of the poorest states of Mexico?



Amy Lazarte '15 and Ms. Melva López pose with a student from the Escuela Manuel Aguilar, the public school they worked with in Cangahua, Ecuador.

Mr. Vincent Jones

Mexico

Delighted to have been selected to chaperone, I began my journey to Oaxaca with a Google image search that presented beaches, antiquated churches, food, islands of manicured cacti mazes, cobblestone roads lined with rainbows of balconied shops and dwellings, and ruins shrouded by unfettered vegetation. To my surprise, Google defaulted on said promises as our journey took us to regions that belied this utopia—to phantom regions far off the path of the tourist gaze and even the government.

One day we visited a landfill neighborhood: a slum of about 20 families who reside on grounds of toxic waste, decaying food, animal corpses and trash. They rummage through the dump all day in search of recyclables that they sell for the equivalent of 7 dollars per day. To further evince the extent of their labor, it takes a floor-to-ceiling bundle of recyclables to attain that quota. Simply Smiles built homes for all the families, and few families have been able to expand upon their dwellings. We were warmly welcomed into the home of a family considered to be thriving in the dump. The mother owned a successful delicatessen supported by the dumplings that catapulted her into the upper echelons. Her home featured a barn in the back that housed an immobile 700-pound boar and fowls, and multiple bedrooms with multiple beds laden with flies and waste residue, and a full-kitchen and dining nook also shared with insects. I bid the hostess goodbye

He'd asked me to close my eyes—"Nicole, cierre tus ojos"—so that I could imagine what it was like to be blind.

— Nicole Scruggs '17

in Spanish and reciprocated a loving smile. However, my smile betrayed my profound sadness.

Later on that sweltering day, we hosted a party for the dump residents at our center of opera-

This question was soon answered: a lot.

Perhaps one of the biggest results of our experiences in Mexico was the spark of my and many others' awareness of the need for positive, meaningful impact globally. Sure, as some may say, "charity starts at home—in your community," but, as a student in one of the most internationally prestigious secondary schools in the world, it has come to my attention that regions, states, and entire nations are in dire necessity of aid. It astonishes me that as we take thirty-minute, warm showers daily (sometimes, twice daily), there are families that live in their local city dump, hardly earning a dollar a day off of scavenging for recyclable products to sell, who may not even know when

their next shower will be. Further, I was deeply moved by the genuine optimism displayed by these people. Although their own government barely acknowledges their mere existence, they still remain loyal to their nation, declaring that they as Mexicans are "one people" and stand with their bureaucracy, even as they are continuing to be harmed by the toxins introduced to their land from attempting to condense the massive loads of trash introduced to the dump daily. Only by the randomness of fate do I study in Wallingford, embarking on the college process, while a sixteen-year-old boy in the jungles of Santa María Tepexipana has not attended school in three years because the nearest high school is a 90-minute walk away. How can we ignore this?

Aaliyah Ibrahim '15

Mexico

There's a great imbalance in the world. And to not notice this imbalance is to lie to ourselves about the reality for many other people. That was one of my first and most prominent realizations upon arriving in Oaxaca. The world has a history of dividing people of all nations into the have's and the have not's, the developing and the developed. With this in mind, it is clear that Oaxaca, a mountainous heaven, is very different, socially, culturally and economically from our tiny haven that is Wallingford.

My job on the last day in Santa María, this remote community of less than 1000 people, was to welcome people who came to the dispenser and to give them a smiley face on their hand to show that they had participated in the dispenser. The dispenser was a great effort to aid with the hunger rampant in the area by distributing basic necessities like beans, rice, pasta, salt and sugar. It was also a great avenue to provide medical aid by giving doses that combatted hookworms, which cause distended bellies and obstructed the growth process. So here I was, drawing simple smiley faces on the hands of individuals, welcoming them to the dispenser with dignity. I chose to draw the smiley faces on people's left hands; this was not a conscious decision, yet I assumed it made thing easy because most people use their right hand more and so the ink will last longer on the left hand. That was my mistake: assuming.

Then came a beautiful young boy; he offered me his right hand, and I shook my head in my limited Spanish and pointed to his left hand. But then I saw he had no left hand. At this moment I was ashamed of myself because I forgot the number one rule of preserving someone's dignity; take the hand they offer to you. And that's community service in some ways. It is our attempt to bridge the ever-widening gap between all people, lifting people to stand beside us, in comfort, because we realize that being human and having dreams and hope is all that really matters. And in doing so we have to hold hands united.

For more reflections, visit thenews.choate.edu.



PHOTO/SHIVA SACHDEVA

Aaliyah Ibrahim '15 plants new flowers at the Simply Smiles hostel in Oaxaca, Mexico, one of the many tasks students undertook.

Nicole Scruggs '17

Mexico

The first afternoon in Oaxaca, we drove to Casa Hogar, an orphanage for kids and young adults who are orphans, economic orphans, or who suffer from physical or mental disabilities. The conditions at the orphanage were awful—no water in the bathrooms, practically inedible food being served, dirty clothes thrown onto every child—yet when we arrived, amazingly, every single kid seemed happy. As soon as I stepped out of the van, I was surrounded by a constant sea of smiles, attacked by a troop of mini, hugging machines, engulfed in laughter from every direction. To see these (understatedly) less-than-fortunate kids so happy was truly inspiring. I spent most of the night with

a young man named Nacho. I never learned how old he was as he refused to tell me (an aggravatingly hilarious choice on his part), but what I did learn was that he had been blind since birth. That night, however, the combination of his blindness and my clumsy Spanish didn't prevent us from getting to know one another. We talked about everything and laughed at nothing (it's crazy how humor is so universal), and by the end of the night, we'd become quite close.

Nacho, easily and impressively, won every single thumb war of the night, and I accomplished the seemingly impossible task of teaching him how to play slide (a more complicated and fast-paced hand game) by patting the rhythm onto his chest so he could feel the

THE THREE MUSIC-TEERS

BY NAMSAI SETHPORNONG '17
News Staff Reporter

Winter term can be taxing: the moderate stress level of the fall finally picks up, the sun begins setting at only four in the afternoon, and many find themselves knee deep in work. This can have a toll on a Choate, exhausting him or her both mentally and physically.

Juniors Evan Robison, Max Kops, and Linds Cadwell found a way to make the best of this bleak term: by initiating an independent winter term project of their own design. The project: songwriting and composition. In lieu of a winter sport, the boys teamed up with music instructor Ms. Alysoun Kegel and together wrote multiple songs. Robison explained the process: "We realized that we didn't have a winter sport and that we liked each

other, and that we loved playing music together." The juniors abided by school protocol and gathered signatures from their deans and from Ms. Kalya Yannatos, Choate's director of the arts. Once their project was approved, the trio embarked on their journey of creating music.

The initial goal that ELM (the acronym that became the unofficial name of the group) had set was to successfully write five songs. These songs—"Elephant in The Room", "Broken", "Another Day", "On a Spider's Web", and "Resolution"—are posted on Cadwell's YouTube channel. When asked about their musical style, Kops explained, "We were experimenting with different genres. We have similar but different interests, and our songs reflect that."

The boys split the job evenly and all played to their individual strengths: Robison, whose voice

has captivated many during performances with campus-renowned a cappella group "Maiyeros," sang, as well as played piano, Kops played other instruments and assisted Robison with background singing, and Cadwell recorded and edited, using the amateur application "GarageBand". "We didn't have a sophisticated studio to work in, which was a challenge, but everything turned out alright because Linds is really good at editing," remarked Kops.

Ms. Kegel, ELM's faculty adviser, described the group as "super self-directed and motivated." Although she initially assisted them, the boys took the reins and working independently by the end of the term.

Ms. Kegel noted that one of the most common challenges songwriters face is that "it's easy to slip into a rut where all the songs start to sound the same." However, she went on to congratulate the juniors: "I tried to steer them away from this by having them start songs in different ways. Ultimately they were successful."

Both Kops and Robison explained that songs came to them in different ways. Sometimes they would have lyrics first, while other times they would have just a tune. "We actually had a song that we had a great rhythm for but no lyrics, so we ended up just coming up with random things and called the song 'Incoherent,'" chuckled Robison.

Overall, ELM's independent project was a success, and although not known campus-wide, their ultimate goal was achieved. Kops concluded, "We weren't looking to create music for the attention, or for others. We were looking to create music for ourselves, because that's what we all love: making music."

BJÖRK UNMASKED IN NEW MOMA EXHIBIT

BY CAMILA BORJESSON '17
News Reporter

On March 8, 2015, the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City inaugurated an exhibition on the multifaceted Icelandic artist, Björk, which will last until June 7. The art gallery aims to commemorate the decades of innovative work that Björk has completed, earning her a place among award-winning singers, performers, and musicians. However, despite the accurate representation of Björk's life as an artist, the alternative and exciting exhibit has proven to be very controversial in the art world.

If you are not familiar with Björk's style, her eclectic music encompasses a variety of genres, from electronic, dance, and hip hop, to classical, experimental, and avant-garde, all of which are illustrated in her groundbreaking music videos. However, it is her singular voice—described as the female David Bowie or the Lady Gaga of the eighties and nineties—that has made her fame widespread. With 30 singles topping global charts and 14 Grammy nominations at only 49 years of age, Björk's success is undeniable. But how has the MoMA managed to capture her alternative, ongoing music career?

The MoMA's retrospective on the artist draws on two decades of her career through the music industry and praises her eight full-length albums. Björk's music plays on repeat in the museum lobby, life-sized Björk mannequins stand in the midst of the exhibition, and even dresses Björk wore to award ceremonies make an appearance. Its intricate lighting, sound and organization have made this installation one of MoMA's most technically complex ever. The show functions as a guided tour through Björk's music career, and she is seemingly everywhere in the gallery space. Björk, who was involved in the setup, wanted it to be a textural, internal, and organic experience. She even blatantly asked: "Could you design me a room that feels like you're in somebody's intestine?"

Although the work put into this show promised success, several prominent art critics have condemned the marketing being done for the artist. Many disagree with the MoMA's choice to make propaganda for an artist with a successful, ongoing career. Others feel that it doesn't quite display Björk as an artist, though Björk has clearly stated her approval of the installation. Common complaints include long queues, cramped gallery spaces, confusing audio guides, and a complicated layout. Though the audio tour and layout are fixable, is it the museum's fault that so many visitors are interested in viewing this journey through the work of someone like Björk?

Although the individual pieces placed in the gallery may not appeal to all, the long lines to go inside are evidence that the exhibit is indeed something worth going to.

On the other hand, what critics do admire is the spectacular display of Björk's musical achievements and how well the show illustrates the degree to which she has explored different genres of music throughout her career. Despite the lack of organization and clear path through the exhibit, it is clear that the essence of what Björk is all about—highly developed, raw emotions—is present, and MoMA's attempt to capture this cannot be overlooked, regardless of criticism.



Björk's retrospective exhibit at MoMA highlights her unique style.

The Honey Project

BY ALICE XU '18
News Reporter

When you think of honey, you likely think of tea, cake, or Greek yogurt. Blake Little's award-winning photoseries "Preservation" aims to change this instant word association by introducing a new object to be covered in honey: people. In his most recent project, the award-winning LA-based photographer encased models in approximately 4,500 pounds of the sugary substance and snapped stunning pictures that are drawing global attention.

Little was first introduced to the idea of using honey when he was photographing a bear; he soon developed an idea and began advertising for models to appear in "Preservation". Although Little ordinarily works with celebrities such as Steve Carell, Gwyneth Paltrow, or Tom Cruise, for this project he scouted lesser-known models on Craigslist and contacted agencies representing professional dancers. Little was intrigued by the use of honey because he believes that it "has a way of diffusing the personal qualities of the subjects, often making them unrecognizable and democratizing their individual traits into something altogether different and universal."

"Preservation" was shot in a between 2012 and mid-2014 and portrays models of ages two through 85, even featuring a dog. The photos

depict models with honey soaked into their hair, dripping off of their skin, and falling to the ground. Due to the honey on the models' eyelids, their eyes were shut, so their bodies were responsible for conveying the energy of the photographs.

Little only used one type of honey, but skin color and lighting transformed it into a stunning, multi-layered substance varying in hue and tone. Surfaces such as skin and hair also allowed the honey to take on different textures, further adding on to its richness.

Critics praised Little for his ability to thoroughly express his subjects' different energies in the photographs as well as his capturing the true essence of "preservation". However, Little also received negative feedback, including accusations of bee abuse through gluttonous use of honey. Viewers believed that Little was "damaging the ecosystem" by wasting honey; thankfully, a professional beekeeper stepped in and clarified that "it's the contrary--by harvesting honey the beehive is actually more efficient."

Blake Little has created a series of photographs that perfectly represent the intrinsic nature of preservation. "Preservation" is a dynamic, multi-dimensional body of art that captures both the universal ability of honey to transform as well as the individual reactions and emotions behind each model.



PHOTO/ARIANNA GONZALEZ-WAGNER

The Student Art Exhibit displays work by Arts Concentration students as well as Choate's newer artists.

PMAC Displays Amalgam of Art

BY VERONICA SONG '17
News Reporter

On Friday, March 27, an exhibition of some of Choate's most talented artists opened in the gallery of the Paul Mellon Arts Center. The exhibition consisted of works from various art classes of the fall and winter terms and displayed numerous visual art mediums such as drawing, painting and photography. With our outstanding jazz band playing upbeat music in the background, visitors at the opening exhibition were able to enjoy both enlivening music and an amalgam of artwork.

Amy Freeman '15, a four-year artist at Choate, presented her drawings and paintings for the first time as an Arts Concentration senior. Her work is exhibited in both the PMAC gallery and the Science Center. When asked about the theme of her work, she explained, "In the Science Center, it's skulls and bones. I take anatomy, and I love science so much, so it's awesome that I get the opportunity to combine arts and science." In contrast, she has vivid and colorful oil paintings on display in the art center, to "lighten things up."

Elizabeth Schweizer '15 also has an exhibit within the show

titled "Continuity". Schweizer focuses on line density and contrast in her drawings and hanging sculptures, and her work features abstract lines drawn in black ink. On her inspiration, Schweizer said, "I'm very inspired by obsessional pieces and my need to produce art." She noted that she loved the art exhibit and was pleased with the turnout, though "We would always like more people to show up!"

The exhibition boasts the work of experienced Arts Concentration students such as Freeman and Schweizer, as well as some of Choate's newer artists, such as Victoria Song '18 and Tommy Ren '18. To Song and Ren, art is a way to express themselves in a beautiful manner. The two explained how art allows them to present their feelings without blatantly vocalizing them. "When I'm having a bad day, I make art. And then people will feel that I am having a bad day," said Song, describing how art, to her, is a means of emotional communication.

The exhibition this year is somewhat extraordinary in that the artwork is very densely packed. Ms. Jessica Cuni, a new arts teacher at Choate and one of the organizers of the event, com-

mented, "We were very worried about the layout, because we thought it would be very messy. But the density actually turned out to be exciting. You can see all kinds of different artwork at once." Bryce Wachtell '17 also enjoyed the exhibit's unique layout, sharing, "I really like that I can immerse myself in a huge variety of work. It's fun to jump from a 3-inch digital photograph to a giant etching." Looking around at the various works, he added, "You can appreciate different kinds of art, but you can also make social connections with the artists and see the different places on campus and the inspirations the artists had."

Ms. Cuni congratulates and praises all the student artists for their passionate attitudes in the arts. Coming to Choate after teaching college art students, she feels that Choate students are no less able than college students in their pursuit of the arts. Cuni concluded, "Willingness to take risks and open-mindedness are the two most important things in learning art. Because art is something that the students need to teach themselves, I am very happy that I see these qualities in Choate students."

ARE THERE ANY 'PERKS' TO BOOK BANNING?

BY NICOLE YAO '18
News Reporter

Recently in Wallingford, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, by Stephan Chbosky, was removed from the Sheehan High School 9th grade English curriculum after a parent complained about references to homosexuality, date rape, and masturbation.

This coming-of-age novel, first published in 1999, is narrated by Charlie, an unconventional and shy freshman boy. In a series of letters addressed to an anonymous character, he describes his experiences throughout the school year. Because of the novel's popularity, a film adaptation was released in 2012 starring Logan Lerman, Emma Watson, and Ezra Miller. The novel has become a modern classic and part of curriculum in schools across the country, a choice that Sheehan parent Jean Pierre Bolat evidently disagrees with.

Bolat filed the complaint in November of 2014 after his son, a freshman at Sheehan reading the novel as a part of his English class, showed him the book. According to Bolat, several passages dealt with homosexuality, sex, and a "glorification of alcohol use and drugs." After a teacher showed the movie to his son's class, Bolat met with the principal and asked her to remove the book from the required curriculum. After appealing to the School Superintendent, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* was excluded from the course syllabus.

This book is not strictly banned, however, as it is still available to students for independent reading.

Several people labeled this act as censorship, although Bolat disagreed. "I'm an American and I don't believe in censorship," he said. "I believe in appropriateness. This book is inappropriate for children." Bolat also stated that other pieces of literature "without the graphic material" could be used for teaching. When asked why he, in particular, took action, he said, "I was cut from a different cloth. If I don't believe something is right or is an injustice, I'm going to stand up to it."

Do bans protect readers, or do they limit their freedom to learn?

But can books really be an injustice? As you most likely know, Choate is a private institution, which means that we are not required to follow any banning rules, so discussions in English class often deal with controversial subject matter. This does not stop many Choate students, however, from having strong opinions on the topic of banned books.

There are many people who believe that prohibited books are a form of censorship. English teacher Mrs. Katherine Doak holds this belief, stating, "There should be no banned books." She did go on to say, however, that

there are some books that should be taught with guidance, such as *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, adding "If you teach this without talking about racism, there is a chance that a student will become racist." This addresses an important aspect of banned books. Since these books have mature and controversial themes, it is better for a student to have someone guide him or her through the story. Amy Hagan-Brown '18 agreed that books should not be prohibited. "Banned books just shouldn't be a thing," she said. "That stuff is important to read about. It's real life." Another student was on the fence. "There are very few cases where banned books should be allowed," he said. "I'm not saying that it should never happen in the future of humanity, but most times, when people do it, they look back and consider it a mistake."

"There are so many books that contain sex and violence," the student said, "It's like you're banning a whole genre. Where do you draw the line?"

It is understandable that some support banning 'inappropriate' books, however many recognize their inappropriateness yet still do not believe in their prohibition. Hopefully, in the future banning will not be an issue; however, as of right now, it sparks much controversy and begs the question: are bans a form of protection, or do they limit a person's freedom to read and learn?

Varsity Team Records

as of Monday, March 30, 2015

Boys' Track and Field	0-0	Boys' Golf	0-0
Girls' Track and Field	0-0	Girls' Golf	0-0
Girls' Water Polo	1-0	Boys' Tennis	0-0
Ultimate Frisbee	0-0	Girls' Tennis	0-0
Boys' Volleyball	0-0	Baseball	0-0
Boys' Lacrosse	1-0	Softball	0-0
Girls' Lacrosse	0-1	Crew	0-0

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BOYS' LACROSSE ROLLS PAST L'VILLE IN SEASON OPENER

By JACK SHULTZ '16
News Reporter

On Saturday, March 29, the boys' varsity lacrosse team made the long journey down to Lawrenceville, New Jersey, to face off against a traditionally strong Lawrenceville team, for their its regular season game. Long-stick Midfielder Jared Milazzo '16 said before the matchup, “Although it will be a long bus ride, we hope to continue the success that we had against them last year.” And continue the success they did. The Boars were able to defeat the Big Red 8-5 in an exciting matchup.

Despite the arduous trip, the boys were able to come out strong. The teams were pretty evenly matched, with back-to-back scoring throughout the 48 minutes of play. Faceoff wins by Michael Solazzo '16 and Jack Hutchinson '17 contributed to the offensive magic the Boars were able to make. Goals by Bobby Goggin '17, Andrew Manasia '15, Matt Picard '15, and Nick Katz '15 also aided to the win.

On the other side of the field, the Choate defense did not allow the Lawrenceville team to gain an edge at any point in the game. Captain Turner Uppgren '15 was a wall between the pipes, holding the powerful Big Red offense to only five goals. Part of his success in net was thanks to the boar's shut down defense, led by Uppgren's co-captain, Clay Hunt '15. Hunt was able to contain Lawrenceville's strongest attackman, who is committed to play Division I lacrosse

for Johns Hopkins University, one of the best lacrosse programs in the nation. The boar's defensive play was especially strong when the team was on “man down,” or when a Choate player got a penalty and had to leave the field to serve it. The man down unit was able to come away with huge stops in crucial parts of the game.

The defensive story wasn't entirely positive, however, as Will Sullivan '16 had to leave the game early with a knee injury. The team hopes that he will make a speedy recovery. Because of injuries, like that of Will and Liam O'Connell '16 (broken foot), many of the newer and younger players had to step up and contribute to the success of the team. These players were able to add to the victory just as much as the three- and four-year players.

The team's energy continued off the field as well, with the bench adding the motivation the team needed to pull away with the win. In the words of Jared Milazzo '16, “The sideline riot was off the chain.” Although not everyone got into the game, lots of noise and cheering from the sideline helped invigorate the Choate players and definitely contributed to the team's success.

This game was a great starting point for the boy's varsity lacrosse team. With this win and a commanding win in last week's Wednesday scrimmage, the season is off to a perfect start. If these first two games are any indication of what's to come, BVL is capable of achieving great thing this season.



PHOTO/WENDY LEONARD

Postgraduate Nicolas Katz '15 seals the Wild Boars' win with a left-handed goal in the fourth quarter.

GIRLS' LACROSSE FALLS TO EXETER

By EMILIA FURLO '17
News Reporter

Although the summer is still far off, the girls' varsity lacrosse game was a slip-and-slide this past Saturday on the turf. While most of campus was tucked away during this impromptu blizzard, the girls stomped out on the field ready to fight Exeter.

The game already posed a challenge to the team as five of their starters were still wrapping up their hockey season, along with Head Coach Nicole Stock, in Wisconsin. But that didn't stop the players from giving it their all. Choate got off to a hot start, but Exeter worked hard to tie it 5-5 at the end of the first half.

Exeter proved itself to be worthy competitors and kept Choate on their toes moving into the next half. Hard work and perseverance propelled the girls into an amazing comeback. Sophomore Claire Marshall '17 finished the game scoring three goals, Issy Hnat '16 put away her first goal this season, and senior captain Allie Williams '15 started off her final season strong scoring a humble six goals. William's sixth goal tied the game 10-10 in the last 15 seconds, pushing Choate into a six-minute overtime against Exeter. The team put forth its best

effort in the final minutes of the game. Exeter netted a final two goals to win the game, but the spirit of the team held the girls together in the final minutes. Alex Jarvis '17 laughed, “The captains really kept the team going even though it was really cold.”

Despite the inclement weather, the girls—quite literally and metaphorically—found their footing and played a solid first game together as a new team.

This past Saturday was Cameron Leonard's first game as the team's goalie, and her teammates were impressed by her numerous saves and hard work out on the field. Also, Claire Marshall endured a hard hit to the eye from the opponent's lacrosse stick, (one way of keeping your head in the game). Marshall said, of the team's morale, “Despite our low numbers, the team's effort was strong throughout. Even though it was a tough game, we had a lot of heart out there, and I think we're all excited for the season ahead.”

Off to a strong start, the girls' varsity lacrosse team is looking forward to an exciting season this spring, with a multitude of fun, talented, and dedicated players to lead it to victory.



PHOTO/LIBBY BOGHOSIAN

The girls' crew team glides across the water during its preseason trip in Miami Beach, Florida.

A New Season for Girls' Crew

By ALICE XU '18
News Reporter

Choate's Girls Crew, a team stacked with experienced rowers, has gained a host of eager if inexperienced rowers this spring. With the team's practice lake still frozen, the team is using its indoor erg machines [exercise machines that simulate rowing] to hone its rowing technique and bring its newcomers up to speed. The crew team, marketing itself as a rewarding and exciting spring activity, has attracted rowers of all ages and abilities.

Helena Yang '18, who joined the Crew team this spring, said, “At first I was a bit doubtful, but now I know crew is a sport that needs lots and lots of dedication. However, this sport helps you not only athletically but also in terms of being focused in whatever you do outside of rowing.” Yang and many others are putting in the work and diving head first into the crew season despite the dedication needed to succeed.

The rowers are training in a variety of ways as the season kicks off. Constantly hitting the

gym to build strength and running to work on endurance, the team trains rigorously, to say the least. Crew remains a dynamic, multi-dimensional sport that constantly encourages the rowers to push themselves harder every practice, and this positive energy creates a promising future for the team.

Another new team member, Tiffany Lin '18, also believes in the hard work that all the rowers put into the sport, describing crew as “extremely tiring... but you do get a really good workout.” She went on, saying, “At the end of each practice, I also feel super accomplished. I've only been part of the team for barely a week and I can already tell that it's a sport that requires a lot of energy and commitment. No pain, no gain describes crew perfectly.”

Apart from being a physically demanding sport, crew has also tested the endurance and persistence of the team members. The rowers are extremely close with each other, and the sport does depend a great deal on this chemistry and compatibility. The development of novice rowers and the continued improvement of

seasoned rowers depend a great deal on mental endurance as well as encouragement from other teammates.

Lin added that crew “is more than a full-body workout. You can't just rely on physical endurance when it comes to rowing; it's got to come from your mind.”

Riley Choi '18, who joined the girls crew team last fall, has also felt the mental persistence that crew requires, describing the sport as “extremely exhausting, but I personally think that it's fun. I admire those around me on the team who are able to constantly challenge themselves into breaking their own physical limits and to do better. Their physical strength and mental perseverance inspire me.” Choi will surely look up to the team's seasoned rowers, who took home the gold medal at the New England Championships last year. To guide her through the early and certainly difficult stages of spring crew. With any luck, the new Wild Boar rowers in combination with Choate's seasoned veterans will uphold and even surpass their high standard of rowing this spring.

CHOATE ATHLETES TRAVEL FOR PRESEASON TRIPS

By JONATHAN EISENSEN '16
News Reporter

As the final term of this year began, so did the final term of sports. As such, while most Choate students were enjoying a relaxing spring break, many serious athletes dedicated a significant portion of their vacations to athletic preseason trips. Over spring break, a total of six preseason trips occurred: Boys' Tennis, Baseball, Lacrosse, and Crew, as well as Girls' Lacrosse and Crew.

Choate Boys' Tennis and female 5th former, Coco Kulle, went to Punta Cana, in the Dominican Republic, for their spring preseason trip. Of the many athletes invited, only a total of nine students attended the tennis trip: 6th formers Brandon Rosenbluth and Rashad Saleh, 5th formers Ibrahim Mbaye, Scott Tian Ji, and Coco Kulle, 4th formers Max Fine and Charles Bellemare, and 3rd formers Matthew Kim and Krishan Hinzen. The trips are mostly attended by older, more experienced student-athletes, but they are generally open to people of all ages and abilities.

While the tennis team went to the Dominican Republic, Boys' Baseball went to Vera Beach, Florida with an assortment of all four forms. Everyone in attendance could attest to the rigorous and physical demanding nature of the trip. When asked about the team's daily schedule, 5th former Christopher “Topher” Brown commented, “Everyday during the baseball trip, we woke up at

about 7:00 to 7:30, went to the field, took some batting practice, threw, stretched, and then played a double header.” This type of practice-filled schedule was consistent throughout each of the six-preseason trips, with athletes rising early and practicing up to two, sometimes even three times per day.

Both the boys' and girls' crew teams held preseason in Miami Beach, Florida. As her second crew preseason trip, veteran rower 5th former Devon Bernsley commented on the daily schedule, saying, “We would have practice two times a day, once in the morning and once in the evening, and the boys and girls would switch earlier or later practices, and then in between practices, we would eat lunch, go to the pool or the beach, and then would return to have the second practice of the day.”

“Our team took preseason seriously. Everyone was clearly willing to put time in to get better.”

— Matt Kaye '16

The boys' lacrosse team headed to Kissimmee, Florida to prepare for the tough season ahead. When asked about the daily schedule, 5th former Owen Lord commented, “We had three sessions a day: a skills session, an afternoon session, which was a team practice in

which we would practice and go over plays, and an evening scrimmage.” During the trip, the boys' lacrosse team scrimmaged against teams from Missouri, Blair Academy, the Middlesex School, and the Gilman School.

The girls' Lacrosse team traveled to Clearwater, Florida. Describing the trip, 5th former Issy Hnat commented, “Most days, we would have three sessions a day: a two-hour practice in the morning, a beach workout in the middle of the day, which mostly consisted of sprints and leg workouts, and an evening scrimmage about an hour after the workout.” The girls' lacrosse team scrimmaged against teams on preseason trips, including The Pingry School, from New Jersey, and Thayer Academy, from Massachusetts.

While most athletes attend preseason trips with the intentions of preparing for the long season ahead, some, however, take part in preseason merely to have a good time with friends. When asked about this, 5th former Matt Kaye, who went on the boys' baseball trip, said, “Our team took preseason seriously. Everyone was clearly willing to put time in to get better, and all of the hours that we played clearly reaped benefits for the team. We came back feeling prepared for the season to begin.” Regardless of their intentions on the spring break preseason trips, any Choate athlete that devoted the long hours of practice and hard work over their supposedly leisurely break will be well-prepared for the upcoming season.

SOFTBALL WELCOMES INFLUX OF FRESH FACES

By JACKSON ELKINS '18
News Staff Reporter

After a successful 19-2 campaign last spring, the Choate Softball team looks to mimic their success in the coming season. However, after losing a big portion of their team to graduation, uncertainty hovers above the squad, and finding success will be a tall order. Discussing the unideal depth and new faces of her squad, captain Kelsey Hartsoe '15 said, “We have more new people than we do returners.” However, despite the number of new faces, Hartsoe remains positive. “Usually, we're pretty much undefeated so I'm pretty confident we're going to do the same this season.” she said. “In the past, our main competition has been Westminster, but I think they graduated a lot of people too, so we're going to be pretty evenly matched.”

When asked about the team's strengths and weaknesses, co-captain Christina Casazza '16 said, “I think it's hard to tell, but we have a really strong team dynamic, and everyone is super motivated in practice, and everything else is going to come together.” Like many of the teams here on campus, the players' chemistry is going to be key if they are going to win games.

Part of the reason it is hard to tell what the team's strengths and weaknesses are yet is that the winter snow has thus far refused to melt. “I'm game to shovel it if it means we get to play outside,” Kelsey said. Softball, like many of Choate's spring-season teams, has been practicing indoors and has had games cancelled due to the ever-stubborn snow. Despite the hindrances of weather, the Softball team has gotten in decent training thus far.

Regarding the new players, the captains are very optimistic for the newcomers, who have already exhibited great attitudes and eagerness to win and improve. Casazza told The News, “I'm really excited because they're all super energetic and ready to work hard, and I think it's going to be a very fun year. Last year, most of the players were four-year varsity players. We had a lot of seniors that could've played in college, and I think it's going to be a very different dynamic. I think everyone is going to be more scrappy, and we're going to pull together.”

This year will be a great test for not only the team as a whole, but the captains and coaches as well. They have to maintain their level of excellence on the softball diamond, and they have to do it with a big group of new players. The team appears to have bonded quickly which is a great first step to success. Once the team takes the field, they will have to depend on their leaders and team chemistry to guide them through prep school softball. However, with their seasoned captains and positive attitudes to light the way, the potential for this new team is huge. It will take every bit of chemistry and skill they have to match the success of last year's team, but the Wild Boars, young and old, are up to the challenge.