



Photo by Arianna Gonzalez-Wagner

Once the site of St. John Hall, a massive construction zone greeted students and faculty on their return to campus. Construction of the new, state-of-the-art Student Activities Center is slated to begin next month.

ONE DRIVE OR ONE PROBLEM?

Students and Faculty React to Microsoft's New Technology

By **Haley Chang '18**
Staff Reporter

Prepare to say goodbye to Dropbox. Beginning this fall term, Choate is encouraging students and faculty to use OneDrive, a cloud storage service by Microsoft that allows users to easily create, edit, and sync files.

The switch to OneDrive benefits the school in several ways. Last year, Choate moved its email service, Microsoft Exchange, from the servers on campus to cloud storage in Office 365. In order to integrate the school on a single, unified platform, the Information Technology Services (ITS) Department recommended the use of OneDrive. The platform boasts 1 terabyte of disk space — compared to the 2GB and 25GB disk space of its rivals, Dropbox and Google Drive, respectively — as well as a free package of OneDrive for all Choate faculty and staff. Mr. Andrew Speyer, Director of ITS, commented about the shift, “We thought that it was a necessary step to support the use of OneDrive, a platform ready for its time.”

The school has endorsed similar platforms in the past. “We’ve endorsed a file sharing and storage system called Socrates for years. While Socrates still functions, its disk space and loading time are in-

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RENOWNED EDUCATOR TALKS SOCIAL DYNAMICS

Rosalind Wiseman Urges Choate to Foster a Culture of Dignity

By **Hannah Lemmons '16**
Senior Reporter

Relationships are difficult to navigate. Add in a group of teenagers, and relationships seem nearly impossible. Renowned educator and expert on teen culture and relationships Ms. Rosalind Wiseman visited Choate last Tuesday, September 15 to speak to the community about a variety of topics, including hook-ups, teenage relationships, power dynamics, and friend zones. The next day,

on September 16, Wiseman also led a professional development workshop for faculty members.

Wiseman’s presence on campus was the culmination of a long period of administrative planning and scheduling. Mr. James Stanley, Dean of Students, explained that he first wanted to bring in Wiseman for a special program in 2011 when a parent suggested the idea. Last year, Mr. Stanley and Mrs. Charlotte Davidson, Director of Counseling Services, contacted Wiseman’s agent and

began making arrangements for her to speak to the Choate community.

“It’s a fairly phenomenal coincidence that this program came so quickly on the heels of [Owen Labrie’s trial], a very public national situation,” said Mr. Stanley. “I suspect that this coincidence brings a greater possibility of people taking seriously of what is being discussed.”

Members of the administration were grateful that the Wiseman’s talk and subsequent faculty workshop were able to help promote produc-

tive discussions among students and faculty.

“The topic of healthy relationships is a conversation that certainly should happen not only amongst the students, but also between students and faculty, and amongst the faculty themselves. So, the opportunity for students to engage with Ms. Wiseman, and faculty to engage with Ms. Wiseman hopefully helps facilitate these important conversations,” explained Mr. Tom White, HPRSS faculty member and Director of Faculty

Development.

Wiseman spent the majority of Tuesday in meetings with members of the community, getting a better sense of the Choate environment by speaking with students and faculty during lunch and dinner.

In her presentation, Wiseman highlighted issues in the complex dynamic of hookup culture, including the varied “expectations” among individuals, gender stereotypes, and cultural norms that affect

Construction Relocates Day Student Lounges

By **Michael Waters '16**
News Reporter

Fifth and sixth form day students may have been surprised when they returned to campus to find a hallway full of lockers and a sign posted on the door of their day student lounge (DSL) that read, “Emergency Egress.” Without warning, the fifth and sixth form DSL had been closed down, and fifth formers were expected to join what was formerly just the fourth form DSL. For the first two weeks of fall term, sixth formers did not have a DSL.

“We had a space for the last three years and now we don’t. We weren’t informed about it,” said Abigail Clarke ’16, with a sigh.

Lockers for fifth and sixth form day students were moved out of the old lounges and into the hallway. These changes cleared space for the upcoming construction of the new Student Activities Center, which will be built on the site of the old St. John Hall, which was demolished in July.

Dean of Students James Stanley was quick to apologize for the lack of warning. “We simply assumed that people understood that this project

would cause displacement,” he admitted. “We should have communicated better.”

This summer, the Wallingford Fire Marshall cleared the hallway as a safe space for the Choate community, but many day students were immediately concerned about the hallway, which, with the new lockers, is narrow and becomes congested easily.

Tulasi Kadiyala ’16 struggles to navigate the hallway, particularly right after classes. “People have shoved past me, and I’ve shoved past people,” she admitted.

“I’ve seen people blocked by me simply standing there

with my backpack,” added Alexander Paolozzi ’17.

Last week, a form of relief arrived: what used to be a faculty lounge in the basement of Hill House was converted into a new fifth and sixth-form lounge. Faculty mailboxes, which were previously in that space, have been moved into the room, down the hall and around a corner, which previously held the offices of The News. Those offices are now on the second floor of the Mellon Library.

Though most fifth and sixth form day students seem

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Photo by Arianna Gonzalez-Wagner

For many day students, the construction of the new Student Activities Center has introduced several inconveniences, including a row of blue lockers that lines a narrow hallway.

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AN INSPIRATION AND THE EPITOME OF GENEROSITY: REMEMBERING MR. JIM PARADISE



Photo courtesy of Archives

Many Choate students and faculty will not only miss Mr. Jim Paradise's enormous contributions to campus, but will also miss his calm demeanor, work ethic, and personality.

By **Nathan Chang '17**
Distribution Manager

After an industrious eighteen-year career in the Athletics Department as the Equipment Manager and Supervisor, Mr. Jim Paradise passed away in July after contracting an unexpected disease. In addition to his involvement at Choate, Mr. Paradise was dedicated to his family and had also coached

local football leagues in the nearby town of East Haven and several minor league teams in Connecticut.

During his time at Choate, Mr. Paradise contributed to the well-being and training of all athletes on campus. Mr. Ned Gallagher, Head of the Athletic Department, noted, "[Paradise] revolutionized our equipment room operation when he arrived at the school, modernizing inven-

tory and purchasing uniforms and equipment for all of our teams," in addition to supervising the Winter X. Ms. Paula Marcatti and Ms. Rose Camire, who work in the Athletic Office and knew Mr. Paradise for forty and fourteen years, respectively, described him as a reliable professional because of his efficient work ethic. His poise was evident in his calm demeanor, productive work ethic, and personal

mottos, such as "Don't tell me how rough the water is, just steer the boat." Besides his responsibilities of managing the athletic center, he also coached varsity and JV football, including last year's team that won the New England Championships.

For many, Mr. Paradise's personality made him the special man he was. According to Ms. Camire, he was not only a good worker and friend, but also just a good person who was welcoming to all. She added that "when meeting him, he made you feel as if you had known him forever. If he was your friend, you were his friend." Ms. Marcatti also noted his graciousness, saying, "He was my best friend: for forty years we were inseparable. He was the best friend anyone could ask for. He stood by me through thick and thin. He was there for everybody, just an all-around good guy." Ms. Camire and Ms. Marcatti concluded that even though Jim Paradise did so much for everyone else, he was the type of person who never asked for favors in return.

The dedication of Mr.

Paradise to the Choate community also set him apart from everyone else. He contributed to the school by not only doing his job well, but also interacting and connecting with each person that came to the Winter X. Mr. Gallagher added that while Mr. Paradise was working "at the equipment room window, fitting athletes with proper helmets, or teaching the game of football to newcomers, his warm, generous nature and his enthusiasm for Choate were always evident." It was clear that Jim Paradise loved the entire Choate community — the students, faculty, and staff. Despite his knee problems, "he was there for everybody, and then some," explained Ms. Marcatti.

For instance, a few years ago, Choate had an incident in which an alumnus was returning to campus and the admissions office wanted to give him a leather football jacket, except this jacket didn't even exist yet. Not only that, but the alum was arriving within two days. Nevertheless, after making several phone calls, Mr. Paradise had the jacket shipped

overnight and brought to campus a day before the alum's arrival. Ms. Camire noted his commitment, saying "he was the kind of guy that if you walked in and said 'Mr. Paradise, I need something,' and if it was a legitimate thing you needed, he had it. He always made an effort, and a hundred times out of a hundred, he made it work." Mr. Paradise's commitment to the school was recognized when he received the Booker Kilgore Equipment Manger of the Year award in 2009 for his efforts and achievements within his work and his community. His dedication also allowed him to organize a conference for athletic managers amongst Choate's fellow preparatory schools in 2013.

All within the Choate community — students, faculty, staff, and alumni — will miss Mr. Paradise dearly. The mark he made on Choate will forever remain with us in our memories of the past and our current and future endeavors.

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COLLEGE COUNSELING LAUNCHES NEW PROGRAM

By **Julie Tamura '16**
Senior Reporter

A stream of sixth-formers rushed into the Lanphier Center last Wednesday to participate in the first ever Action Plan Program.

The College Counseling Office held its first Action Plan Program, known as APP, for sixth-formers this past Wednesday. College counselors organized this special workshop to help students navigate the college application process. In addition, counselors wanted to gather students together before the end of the fall term to advise them on how to plan the next four months of the college process. Choate's peer schools around New England have established similar programs.

According to Ms. Marcia Landesman, Director of the College Counseling Office, "The goal of the program is to ensure that students are ready to proceed with the application process. The APP Event showed them the importance of checking nuances of different college application processes. For example, we reviewed different application programs, policies on interviewing, and how to submit standardized testing." At the program, students received a spreadsheet intended to help track pertinent information about the application process. The counselors hoped that those spreadsheets would help students understand where they stood in the process. "Students should be mindful of the different rules in the application process. They need to understand different policies regarding early action and early decision as well," Ms. Landesman remarked.

According to Abigail Clarke '16, a day student, "The spreadsheet will be helpful to organize the

schools."

Students were able to attend similar sessions in the past, but those sessions were shorter and were scheduled during conference periods, giving fewer opportunities for students to work through some of the intricacies of the Common Application together as a group. College counselors could not include as much information and felt that

The APP showed students the importance of checking nuances of different college application processes.

Ms. Marcia Landesman
Director of College Counseling Office

those sessions were not as thorough. The program this year encouraged students to move forward in their application process and to take initiative in this journey, by communicating with teachers and college counselors at appropriate times, and completing college essays and supplements. For example, in this session, students learned how to fill in the online Common Application. Ms. Landesman noted, "The Common Application is more nuanced than it seems."

The session also covered technical aspects of the application, such as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which is a federal law that allows high school students to protect their educational records, notably teacher recommendations. Students also spent time completing lengthy biographical forms, senior course lists, awards and honors, and extracurricular lists on the Common Application. "The college counselors showed seniors small steps to do now. Those

small steps add up over time! If students are aware of the tricky aspects early in the process, we can alleviate stress later on," Ms. Landesman commented.

Throughout the fall term, the office hosts help sessions known as Carington Conversations, which anyone, even underclassman, can attend. At these events, counselors advise students on different aspects of the college application process. Upcoming sessions will cover the financial aid process, the interview process, and application essays.

What's Ms. Landesman's advice to people who are just starting the application process? "My advice to seniors is to have good communication with your counselor. Try to steer clear of rumors and get your questions answered by talking to your counselor instead of your peers. Know that students before you have done this and students after you will do it, too. The application process can be manageable. If you are nervous or unsure, come visit your counselor. Be sure to stay organized and be mindful of the deadlines. And remember, the application is a vehicle to showcase your strengths," she added.

This first APP session served as a wake-up call for many sixth-formers, who suddenly realized that they need to organize their time wisely and prepare carefully for the process. "It was a good reminder for all seniors," Clarke said. "There were some points that were helpful, such as information about the waiver form for your recommendations. We received a packet with all the necessary dates, and I will definitely read through it multiple times."

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Wiseman

Continued from Page 1

people's interactions, and the lack of privacy at a school like Choate. However, she also emphasized the power students have to change school culture for the better.

"You are the ones who have control over this. Be mindful that the experiences you have matter, and that these moments effect change in a community," said Wiseman.

At the start of her talk, Wiseman acknowledged the shortcomings of her presentation, explaining that the audience's diversity made it hard to be completely inclusive.

"What's complicated about doing a speech here," she noted, "is that you need it to be inclusive to everyone in the room. There are people who don't care about hookup culture here, and there are people who feel rejected and left out of that world here. It's very difficult to be inclusive and at the same time be challenging to people about things they do."

At the faculty professional development workshop, Wiseman focused on the ways in which teachers have difficult conversations with students, with topics ranging from personal issues to rule violations. Faculty participated in a short activity and split into discussion groups based on tenure, highlighting how students' issues have changed and how the faculty deals with these issues must also evolve.

Although the responses

were somewhat mixed, some students had an overwhelmingly positive response to the special program.

For instance, Devin Reyes '16 appreciated the Wiseman's focus on guys' perspectives. "I was happy about the fact how Rosalind pointed out that males are often predisposed to think that masculinity has a lot to do with hiding emotions. I think it was good that she pointed out that that wasn't the case, and men shouldn't be afraid to share their emotions," he said.

In contrast, Will Raccio '18 noted, "We've heard many speeches about feminism at Choate. It was really cool thinking about it from the view of a typical guy. But I thought it was a little too focused on males; she could have talked more about females."

"One thing I think she [Rosalind Wiseman] really values is listening to both young people and adults about what they're experiencing, and then thinking and strategizing about how we respond to that. I thought she did a great job not saying, 'this is the only way to do it' but rather, 'based on my research, here are some concrete things you could try, but you're welcome to disagree with me if you have a different perspective,'" said Ms. Katie Levesque, Dean of Faculty and HPRSS teacher. Mika Shevchenko '16, who participated in the dinner, felt that the one-on-one opportunities were even more effective than the presentation. "I really en-

joyed having dinner with her, because I think she was much more open, and she went into detail. I loved her presentation; she mentioned some issues that are very relevant to Choate culture — but she never went into details. I would have much rather preferred her to mention fewer problems but to go into more detail."

Others felt that the presentation's adherence to heteronormativity and exclusion of people who fall outside the gender binary detracted from the presentation's benefit.

According to Hakeem Angulu '16, "What she said was good for the majority of the community. However, during the speech, I was surrounded by people who couldn't directly connect to the speech. If you're going to force people to be in that space during that time, you've got to make sure that they're comfortable, or even further, that it's useful."

Regardless of the students' opinions, Wiseman's talk has started conversation of hookup culture, respect, and power dynamics at Choate. "The real power of a good special program is starting conversations that continue beyond the program itself," said Ms. Levesque. "Her work provided us with some ideas about future conversations we can have that will be valuable and help to improve community life."

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Photo by Arianna Gonzalez-Wagner

Rosalind Wiseman spoke to Choate students and faculty on a variety of topics, ranging from teenage relationships to male-female dynamics, during last Tuesday's special program.

MEET CHOATE'S NEWEST FACULTY MEMBERS



Dr. Paul Jackson

The next time you see Dr. Paul Jackson, ask him to speak a word in any of the fourteen languages he knows. This new Chinese instructor is a language aficionado, and he is currently teaching Chinese 250, 300, and 350.

Born and raised in Gaeta, Italy, and Jacksonville, Florida, the polyglot is natively fluent in English, Italian,

and Neapolitan. Dr. Jackson can also speak French, Latin, Sogdian, Thai, Japanese, Classical Japanese, Daigi, Hakka, Chinese, Classical Chinese, and Spanish.

Dr. Jackson lives in Hall House with his wife and two children. He chose to work at Choate in part because of the welcoming community. "I loved Wallingford. The community is so nice. Everyone was just so warm. I thought, 'This is going to be a great place to raise the family.'" His first few weeks teaching at Choate exceeded his expectations. "My favorite part has been the students. Everyone has been so dedicated and respectful."

—Varshini Kumar '17



Mr. Zachary Kafoglis

Mr. Zachary Kafoglis, new to Choate's Math Department this year, teaches Geometry and Accelerated Algebra II. He will also help coach boys' varsity soccer team and, come spring, the baseball team.

After graduating from Yale, Mr. Kafoglis joined Teach for America (TFA), an organization that recruits college graduates to teach in low-income

communities for two years.

When asked about the similarities between TFA and Choate, Mr. Kafoglis said, "I'm here to teach kids, and even though I'm teaching different content, the similarity is that kids want to learn." He also plans to speak Spanish (he is fluent) with students. Mr. Kafoglis lives on campus with his partner, who teaches sixth and seventh grade social studies in Hartford.

Mr. Kafoglis's favorite thing about Choate so far is the people. As an adviser in Woodhouse, Mr. Kafoglis is excited to interact with his students beyond the typical class day. "I enjoy the fact that kids can come to me at 8:00 p.m. with questions," he said.

—Sarah Koljaka '19



Mr. Philip Clarke

French teacher Mr. Philip K. Clarke has recently made his debut in Steele Hall, teaching various French courses, including French 200, 250, and 400.

Mr. Clarke has an extensive background in French. He began learning French in middle school, when the language proved difficult for him and he took extra les-

sons. Having experienced the struggles of learning French first-hand, Clarke feels he connects with his students and loves helping those with the language. He noted, "I love the student energy and creativity, and I love the conversations I have with them."

Mr. Clarke appreciates what Choate has to offer, especially its diverse and accepting environment. Last spring, he visited Choate on the day of the school meeting where former Chinese teacher Mr. Will Minter discussed the wages of SAGE staff members. After hearing Mr. Minter's speech and Choate students' responses, Mr. Clarke decided that Choate was where he needed to be.

—Jun Jang '17

Ms. Madeleine Jacobs

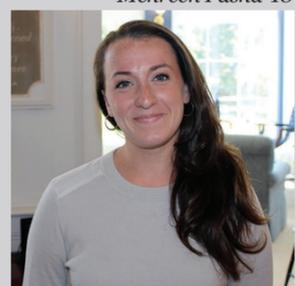
Ms. Madeleine Jacobs, a 2015 graduate of Kenyon College, is eager to start her work here at Choate in the admissions office and immerse herself in the school's culture.

The private preparatory school world has always intrigued Ms. Jacobs. Choate caught her attention with its academic rigor and strong sense of community. "It just had a really good vibe," she said.

Ms. Jacob's goal in the admissions office this year is threefold. She aspires to understand what makes Choate distinct from other peer

schools, why students succeed at Choate and beyond, and what makes the Choate experience for students and faculty unique. She added, "I want to become immersed in the Choate community and really start to love and identify with the school."

—Mehreen Pasha '18



Ms. Adriane Krul

A mathematician, Ms. Adriane Krul is thrilled to join Choate's mathematics and computer science department this year, as an Algebra II teacher.

Before coming to Choate, Ms. Krul was deciding between teaching math or coaching college softball. She chose Choate because it had "some really cool programs" and the kind of "academically rigorous but still supportive" atmosphere she was looking for. Ms. Krul is still pursuing her passion in athletics and is currently the assistant Varsity Girls' Field Hockey coach, and she plans

on helping out with the softball team in the spring. Ms. Krul is also a new adviser in Nichols.

Ms. Krul is excited to be a part of the boarding school life, and hopes to gain "a better understanding of how to live in the boarding school community."

—Grayce Gibbs '18



Mr. Kyle Di Tieri

A new face in the Math Department, Mr. Kyle Di Tieri, will be teaching pre-calculus and robotics to Choate students. When asked why he chose Choate, Mr. Di Tieri replied, "I knew that I would be teaching in a building that was brand-new and state of the art. Choate is also a place that is very supportive of many school activities, including new programs such as robotics."

Mr. Di Tieri was also drawn to Choate by the school's "warm and accepting community." In regards to his colleagues, Di Tieri observes, "I've never felt such warmth and

support from people whom I work closely with everyday."

Although he just arrived on campus, he hopes to make the field of STEM a bigger presence on Choate campus.

—Alyssa Shin '18

These are the first in a series of new-faculty profiles.



New Lounges

Continued from Page 1

Pleased by the new DSL, many doubt that it will become much more than a place to store their bags, clothes, or instruments. Unlike the other day-student lounges, the new fifth- and sixth-form DSL lacks a door. It sits directly across from the day student lockers, and a person sitting in the DSL can hear everything happening outside of it and vice versa. "I feel like it's not private. Because it's in the middle of the hallway, I can also hear people's conversations," noted Kadiyala '16.

Mr. Stanley pointed out that, unlike the other DSLs, the

new lounge has only one entry point. While students and faculty can easily walk through the other DSLs to get from one place to the next, making the lounge a more open space, the new DSL is secluded. "If it had a door it'd be very intimidating for someone to say, 'Okay, am I going to go through that door.' We want everybody to feel like it's okay to step in there," Mr. Stanley said.

Mr. Stanley stressed that all of these changes—including the lockers—are only temporary. When the new student center is completed, all day student lockers will be there. "One of our big hopes is that the new SAC is going to be home base

for the day students, and that it's going to draw the boarding students in." He also emphasized that the lifespans of the current DSLs are waning, as he expects that day students will find homes in the new student center.

"By the spring of 2017," he said, "all the current day student lounges will be gone."

With the upheaval caused by the construction of the new student center, "everyone's taking a hit," Mr. Stanley said. "But day students are taking a disproportionate hit."

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SCHOOL BEGINS REVIEW OF CURRICULUM AND SCHEDULE

By **Eduard Muñoz-Suñé '16**
Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Alex Curtis has been the headmaster at Choate for only five years. In that time, he has headed several advances to Choate Rosemary Hall and the school's community, and has steered the creation of the Choate's first Strategic Plan in more than 20 years. *The Choate News* had the opportunity to talk with Dr. Curtis about recent developments of the Strategic Plan, and how they relate to Choate's near future.

Dr. Curtis revealed the creation of two faculty committees to examine specific aspects of Choate.

One faculty group is tasked with reviewing Choate's daily schedule. Three years ago, another faculty body examined the same topic, and made several changes, including the introduction of conference and 45-minute classes. Discussing the results of that committee, Dr. Curtis remarked, "It was known at that time that the new schedule was essentially a tweak, and not the final so-

lution. We knew that it was going to be something that would give us a two or three-year period to think about what were the schedule's priorities, how did it work, and what were its strengths and weaknesses."

The current committee will look at the daily schedule as a clean slate, a process that Dr. Curtis said will be done with extraordinary thoroughness.

Now roughly midway through the process, the faculty group brought in a consultant last spring, who gathered data and information on the community, and ultimately reported her findings at the last faculty meeting of the year. The faculty group is now taking the consultant's recommendations, and is trying to construct a new schedule. The committee is looking at class periods with varying lengths, as well as supporting departments who want to meet more frequently and departments who would like larger gaps between classes.

The second committee focuses on reviewing Cho-

ate's curriculum. Dr. Curtis explained that re-evaluating the school's curriculum "is very healthy and has been part of the school's tradition on a regular basis." The last committee met ten years ago, and introduced the global studies graduation requirement and the option for students to study Arabic.

The curricular review committee is a centerpiece of Choate's Strategic Plan, and, as Dr. Curtis put it, looks at "what we are teaching, how we are teaching, and what are our requirements."

Both committees will assemble this fall, meet with faculty leadership during the winter term, and ultimately make recommendations to the faculty.

Dr. Curtis concluded, "It's obviously extraordinarily important when you look in such detail at something so fundamental to the school. The opportunity is there to do something exciting."

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OneDrive

Continued from Page 1

comparable with OneDrive, which operates on cloud storage. Socrates, on one hand, depends on servers here on campus while OneDrive operates on cloud storage. OneDrive offers a smoother experience, whether you're on campus, off campus, or on the other side of the world," explained Mr. Speyer.

In order to get students acquainted with the new platform, the ITS department organized multiple technology orientations at the start of the year. During those orientations, students learned about the fundamentals of OneDrive and Office 365, Choate's newest technological adoptions. Hoping to help students and faculty get used to OneDrive, Mr. Speyer also referenced numerous tutorials available on Lynda.com that will facilitate the use of the new system. The school also encouraged teachers to incorporate OneDrive in their classrooms. The faculty mem-

"If the school had to endorse a single system, I'd rather recommend Google Drive."

—Alan Luo '18

bers also learned about these new technological tools in information sessions during the spring term and emails over the summer.

Choate also intends for these new technology adoptions to be useful outside of the classroom. For example, club leaders have the ability to create groups on Office 365 to accommodate their club meetings and activities. The group function also comes with space on OneDrive, club e-mail accounts, and an online calendar.

So far, however, students and faculty around campus have mixed feelings about

OneDrive. Despite school's encouragement, many faculty members have not yet used OneDrive in the classroom. Mr. David Loeb, an English teacher and a member of the Academic Technology Committee, is one of them. "I haven't used OneDrive in any of my classes yet, because I was told by the school that everything I wanted wasn't necessarily ready. Although I am very supportive of the school's decision to endorse OneDrive, it's not quite where I need it to be at the moment. I gave up on it very quickly." He continued, "It was the night before classes were starting when OneDrive presented me with some obstacles that Dropbox did not, like the difficulty of sharing a document that was created on an iPad. Once the kinks are sorted out, I'd be more than happy to use it."

Alan Luo '18 pointed out, "I don't think it is really necessary for the school to encourage the sole use of OneDrive. I don't see a problem in letting teachers do their own thing, since most of them only use Google Drive or Dropbox. But if the school had to endorse a single system, I'd rather recommend Google Drive as a better alternative. The fact that the majority of Choate students use Macs but OneDrive isn't compatible is just ridiculous. There is no Finder integration for OneDrive."

Zev Nicolai-Scanio '18 offered a different perspective, "I think OneDrive, out of all the other potential platforms, is a very solid choice. But the more important thing than the specifics of a given

platform is the idea that the school is becoming unified on a sole platform. That's definitely going to be a huge plus, especially if you have students coming to class with all of the materials that they are saving, sharing, and on which they are collaborating, stored on a single platform."

Regarding these concerns about OneDrive, Mr. Speyer responded, "OneDrive and Office 365 is Microsoft's counter to Google Apps. Obviously, Google Apps is much more mature at this point, as it is a platform that has been out for much longer. So if you're comparing OneDrive and Google Apps today, then yes, I think Google Apps is further along with the development and ease of use."

He continued, "But will OneDrive catch up? Time will tell, but it's used heavily in high schools and universities all over the world. The real power of OneDrive is its connection to the Microsoft Office suites and Office 365. I believe in the near future, Office 365 will catch up, and even surpass the limitations of Google Apps or Dropbox. There still are some clunky pieces for Mac users, including the file-syncing app that is still in the beta version, but I'm hoping within six to eight months, Microsoft will make the changes they promised, and make the Mac user experience much smoother."

Maybe you won't have to say goodbye to Dropbox quite yet.

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WHY WE NEED POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

By **Esul Burton '16**
Senior Writer

At the recent special program on Tuesday, September 15, Rosalind Wiseman responded to a question about political correctness (PC) by saying we need to focus on the issues themselves, not the PC culture that determines how we talk about them. For the most part, I agree, but I am going to break this rule for moment: let's talk about political correctness.

We do have a choice in how we want to talk about our experiences and how we educate others on them.

Critics of political correctness believe PC culture to be a pressuring cultural force that aims to inhibit free speech and police free thought. But political correctness is, to put it simply, treating other people with the the dignity they deserve. It's about being aware of other people's experiences, respecting those experiences by using tolerant and understanding language, and creating a society that is welcoming to those that have often been at its fringes. In short, political correctness is all about being sensitive.

To many people, sensitivity is a problem that plaguing the new liberal generation. Certain people believe that the "oversensitivity" of the far left is dangerous and unreasonable because it relies on emotional reasoning, not logical deduction. These people argue that political correctness, which supposedly protects and defends this oversensitivity, is making debate harder and thus making society more conformist. Attempting to re-

main politically correct at all times certainly makes some debates harder to have. Political correctness makes it hard to debate whether black people are lazy or whether women are qualified to be leaders. But you have to wonder, are such debates necessary in the first place? These "debates" do nothing but solidify harmful stereotypes about the merits of certain groups of people.

In countless articles and op-eds, writers have tried to undermine sensitivity by claiming it to be unnecessary. In a recent *Atlantic Monthly* article, "The Coddling of the American Mind," there is a claim that oversensitivity — and political correctness in the college environment — can be prevented if one focuses on avoiding "fortune-telling," the prediction of negative outcomes or "negative filtering," which is focusing on the negative. I don't doubt that is the best tactic after an unpleasant first date or when contemplating a bad exam grade, but it is dangerous to imply that students asking for the empathy of their peers are making a big deal out of nothing. Their obstacles in the real world—because of their race, gender, sexual orientation, etc.—are not the consequences of "fortune-telling" and "negative filtering." They are the result of living in a society that has struggled with being honest about its history of oppression. It seems tactless to imply that if he practices, every young man of color can learn to ignore his habit of thinking about what might happen to him every time he passes a cop car or that if she just believes, a young woman can be paid an equal wage, even though there is documented evidence that this won't happen. We cannot merely ignore our realities.

Yet, whenever someone endorses politically correct language, in an effort to pro-

tect their dignity, he or she would be accused of hindering free speech by enforcing PC culture. The consensus is that all opinions must be heard, regardless of whether you agree with them or not. But the people who defend the humiliating and degrading conversations that PC culture seeks to eliminate rarely have to deal with the consequences of such talk and thus do not understand that what is being said has real-life impacts on how certain people are seen, treated, and heard. To them, such talk is harmless, the simple voicing of one's humble opinions. If someone is emotionally affected by what is said, he or she is being overly sensitive and must learn to think logically. Concerns about the language and ideas that are being presented aren't "reasonable" because they are often the result of an emotional reaction.

But discrimination of any sort is an emotional experience and it requires emotional reasoning. Discrimination is not something to be abstractly discussed as if there is a possibility that it doesn't exist. The people who can dare say that political correctness is the consequence of "oversensitivity" don't realize how it feels to undergo an experience of discrimination. It becomes easier to dismiss the language of political correctness because it's a little burdensome, regardless of the fact that political correctness is an attempt at fixing what's broken, not fixing what isn't necessary to fix. Political correctness is an attempt to correct reality, and the inability for many people to understand this sheds light on the troubling idea that it's possible for progress to go "too far."

I agree that PC culture sometimes seems to be overkill. It's ridiculous to refuse to read *The Great Gatsby* or *Uncle Tom's Cabin* because those works contain elements of mi-

sogyny and racism. If you are a person of color, a woman, or a GSRM [Gender, Sexual and Romantic Minorities] in this country, there is little you can do to escape those forces. People who criticize PC culture, especially PC culture in institutions of higher education, are right when they say we don't have a choice in what we experience — there is no escaping the fact the world is oftentimes an ugly, unwelcoming place and no number of trigger warnings is going to help. But we do have a choice

We are confronting those things everyday when we wake up, turn on the news, or walk down the street.

in how we want to talk about our experiences and how we can educate others on them. We are faced with a choice to condemn the types of ideas and language that only serve to harm us. Opponents of political correctness mistake this as something unsavory or even unnecessary. They think that political correctness is an inability to confront the things that we disagree with. Trust me, we are confronting those things. We confront them everyday when we wake up, turn on the news, or walk down the street. Our own tidily labeled terms like microaggressions and trigger warnings cannot blind us from the reality of our experiences. That doesn't mean we shouldn't try, however, and we try by asking the people around us to exercise sensitivity when speaking on delicate issues, or in other words, to be politically correct.

Esul Burton is a sixth former from Seoul, South Korea. She may be reached at eburton16@choate.edu.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the first issue of the one-hundred-and-ninth volume of Choate Rosemary Hall's newspaper. With this issue, the newspaper's editorial staff — those listed above in the masthead — present to you, the reader and the community, what we consider to be a significant redesign of the printed version of the newspaper.

We hope you like what you see. Our Editor-in-Chief, Eduard Muñoz-Suñé '16, along with Graphics Editor Sabrina Xie '17 and Copy Editor Truelian Lee '17, worked hard over the summer to develop a new layout design for the newspaper — one that we hope is elegant and easy to navigate.

The School's emphasis on its past, its tradition, and its history, which has clearly manifested as Choate now celebrates its one-hundred-and-twenty fifth year, inspired us to examine the history of this newspaper, as well as its future. In that light, we sought to redesign the newspaper and offer you something that would be new and original, but not entirely surprising.

To that end, we have made many alterations. We have changed the nameplate, the masthead, and the "what's inside" box, as well as the typefaces for our body text, titles, and photo captions. We have re-designed our bylines, pull-quotes, and continuations, and have introduced author descriptions, deckheads, and drop caps. We wanted our newspaper to have a design that was clean, crisp, and simple.

Another significant change, as you've probably already noticed, is our new name — or rather, our return to a name in the newspaper's past.

This year marks one-hundred-and-nine years since boys at The Choate School founded the school's newspaper, *The Chronicle*, in 1907 — nine years after the school had been founded. By 1913, the newspaper had been renamed *The Choate News*, and that name remained for more than 50 years. When The Choate School and Rosemary Hall merged in 1971, however, so did *The Choate News* and the *Wild Boar*, Rosemary Hall's newspaper. The name then became, as it has remained to this day, simply *The News*.

The newspaper's return to the name *The Choate News* is in no way an indication of any preference towards the Choate School, nor is it in any way an inclination away from Rosemary Hall. Though Choate Rosemary Hall is the official name of the school, the term Choate has become vernacular. It is commonly used on school apparel, jerseys, and other physical representations, and Choate serves in the school's cheer "Go Choate!" and as the name of the school's website, www.choate.edu. *The Choate News* will replace *The News* as Choate Rosemary Hall's official newspaper, and we sincerely hope that this shift in names does not exceed what it truly is: an attempt to reconnect with the school — and to our roots.

For one-hundred and nine years, the newspaper — through its various names — has consistently informed the Choate community since its establishment in 1907, and has helped to preserve the history of what has happened here. Our new print layout does not change the intrinsic ideas that this newspaper holds dear. We think this design better expresses them.

With all of that said, welcome to the new newspaper. We hope you like it.

About The Choate News

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

Write for The Choate News

Interested students should attend an assignment meeting, held on most Mondays, at 6:45 PM, in Lanphier i.d. Lab. To submit a letter to the editor or opinion piece, please email us at thenews@choate.edu. Opinion pieces represent the opinions of their respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial board. Unsigned masthead editorials represent the view of the majority of the members of the editorial board of *The Choate News*.

NEW VISITATION POLICY MARGINALIZES

QUEER STUDENTS UNFAIRLY AFFECTED BY NEW RULE

By **Pascale Huntsinger '17**
Opinions Writer

Choate is generally an accepting community, especially towards queer students. I have never felt discriminated against by a student, although I have been asked some ignorant, albeit innocent, questions. The only time I have ever felt targeted for my sexuality was by faculty members regarding the new visitation policy.

Often, particularly with older generations, people don't realize how their actions can be offensive or discriminatory towards a group of people. I do not believe that the administrators who created this new policy intended to make queer students feel uncomfortable or unsafe at Choate; however, I do not think they have fully considered the effect that such a policy will inevitably have on students that do not fit the heteronormative and cis-normative standards so deeply ingrained within people's minds.

My main issue with the new visitation policy is that it forces queer students to come out to others and to define their sexuality. Within a week of my return to school this year, two different advisers in my dorm, neither of whom I had spo-

ken to extensively, decided it was appropriate to confront me about my sexuality.

A common misconception among faculty at Choate is that just because a student is not hiding their sexuality, they are automatically comfortable talking about it with anyone and everyone. The best way for advisers to address sexuality is just to wait until their advisees bring it up with them. If they choose not to, it is probably because they feel uncomfortable discussing their sexuality with their adviser, and their adviser needs to respect students' levels of comfort.

Asking about a student's sexuality forces the student to adopt a label, which is something that they may not feel comfortable doing, now or ever. Sexuality is fluid and susceptible to change, so one label may not fit a person all the time, and that's okay. Imposing a label on someone forces that person into an identity that they may not be comfortable with.

I do not have first hand experience with the discrimination and oppression felt by the transgender and non-binary community, but it seems to me that basing the visitation policy on gender instead of sex is a step in the right direction, if only because it acknowledges

that gender and sex are not the same thing. However, it also forces trans students to come out to everybody, not just their advisers.

Since Choate, and the world in general, is far less accepting of trans people than of queer people, this could be more problematic

Imposing a label on people forces them into an identity that they may not feel comfortable with.

than it is for queer students. Additionally, this policy assumes that students are either trans or cis and excludes the entire gender-fluid and agender communities.

I have heard different interpretations of the new visitation policy from every faculty member I have spoken to about it, but one thing that they all agreed on was that the policy is based on the integrity of the students. Framing it in this way is problematic, in that it suggests that if a student does not feel comfortable coming out to their adviser, they are compromising their integrity.

I understand that the school needs to have a coed policy for liability reasons but I do not see why it is

necessary for same-sex couples. Having a coed policy, in large part, was able to prevent pregnancy, which is a concern the school does not have for same-sex couples. Although the previous coed rule and our current visitation policy both aim to prevent intimacy, they simply add to the stigmatization of adolescent sexuality that already pervades society. We need to dismantle the idea that teenage sexual exploration is something that should be prevented, and instead implement sex education programs that teach students about healthy relationships, safe sex, and consent.

Choate's new visitation policy, although a good effort, ultimately fails to be as inclusive as it aims to be. Recognizing transgender students is definitely an improvement, but a lot of work still needs to be done to include the non-binary community in school policies. Requiring same-sex couples to get visitation only creates an uncomfortable environment for queer students in the dorm and demonizes sex instead of teaching students about safe practices.

Pascale Huntsinger is a fifth former from Herndon, VA. She may be reached at phuntsinger17@choate.edu.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY: THE BILL OF RIGHTS WAS PASSED BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION (1789)

When a Billionaire Muddies Politics

By **Ryan Dant '16**
News Writer

Rand Paul is ugly. Columba Bush is a “lovely woman” with a Macbethian control over her husband’s views on immigration. Megyn Kelly has blood coming from her “wherever.” I am not going to waste time talking about my plans to move to Canada if Donald Trump were elected president (the overwhelming majority of this school understands why). Living in Choate’s liberal bubble, we have no trouble seeing through Donald Trump’s repeated publicity stunts. They are nothing more than a circus. Yet too much of rest of the country is falling prey to his ridiculousness.

Granted, there is a certain appeal to a candidate who speaks without a filter. Surrounded by overwhelming political correctness, Trump seems to be a welcome change of scenery. Offensive and repulsive as his comments may be, there is no denying, in the minds of many Americans, that Trump unequivocally believes in what he says at the podium. Whether he’s a passionate populist or a demanding demagogue, this is up for debate. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about the rest of the candidates on both sides of the aisle, most of whom are already considered demagogues. If Hilary Clinton and Ted Cruz seem untrustworthy or disingenuous, it’s hard to say that Donald Trump does not truly believe in building a wall on our southern border. His brand of honesty resonates with voters with a general mistrust of anything to do with Washington politics. Though his plans are detached from reality, Trump’s rhetoric on the campaign trail is powerful.

Nevertheless, Trump is dragging the Republicans

through the mud. The Grand Old Party, increasingly in recent months, has developed into the “out of touch party.” What better way to prove that than nominate a man whose border security platform is more akin to 1960s Berlin or Ming Dynasty China than to 21st century America?

Trump represents the crisis of leadership within the Republican party. Marco Rubio, Jeb Bush, and Scott Walker, the expected front-runners just a few months ago, have problems with stubborn idealism or an unfortunate last name. This field of politicians is the reason that two non-politicians command more than 50% of the polls. It is this lack of leadership that misconstrues Republican ideology as more extremist than it is. Radical views on taxation and income inequality in a primarily fiscally oriented election draw attention from pragmatic conservative fiscal thought. Any Republican nominee will struggle to convince the country to overturn every Supreme Court decision in the last year.

It is as clear to me that Trump’s true impact on this race won’t involve him sitting in the Oval Office in 2016. The Republican Party grows weaker every day that Trump claims that an entire ethnicity of people loves him. Every day that he turns a debate into a reality show, the Republican candidates look worse. And every day that he and an inexperienced surgeon continue to command the polls, Hilary Clinton looks better and better. Donald Trump will not be the next president of the United States, and, so far, he is ensuring that no other Republican will either.

Ryan Dant is a sixth former from Madison, CT. He may be reached at rdant16@choate.edu.



Photo courtesy of the NY Daily News

The Don, The Trumpster, The Donald, The King of the Deal. Presidential Candidate Donald J. Trump has made a name—or several—for himself over the past several months.

WHEN A BILLIONAIRE CONNECTS

By **Lucas Ferrer '17**
Copy Editor

Donald Trump has surprised just about every political pundit. In the past months, he has rocketed past once-favorites Jeb Bush and Scott Walker. Although Trump is the most inappropriate and reckless member of the GOP’s field of candidates (currently 16 strong), his candidacy is of great value, providing a necessary wake-up call for the political establishment, a wake up call that should not be ignored: the establishment is out of touch with its voters who have grown fatigued of the scripted remarks of career politicians.

Trump’s remarks in debates, on the campaign trail, and throughout his business dealings are inexcusable—not that he tries to excuse them. His comments on women are sexist, his comments on Mexicans are racist, and his overall persona is crude. Many public figures have been insulted by Trump, including Arizona Senator John McCain, Fox News’s Megyn Kelly, and his fellow candidate Carly Fiorina.

On top of all this, Trump lacks any substantial policy positions. The only policy that he seems to discuss regularly is his extreme vision of immigration reform that consists of

mass deportations, the end of birthright citizenship, and the construction of a massive wall along the U.S.-Mexico Border, paid for by Mexico. Trump’s plan to deal with the Islamic State, involving “bombing the hell out of those oil fields” in Iraq, has been criticized by many experts in military operations. And when asked to describe his plans to create jobs in America on “The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon,” Trump said that he would “just do it.”

Even though Trump lacks substance and respect as a candidate, he has great value in the Republican primary, as he may finally teach the GOP, and maybe even the Democratic establishment, a lesson. Trump has tapped into something real that is beginning to take hold of American politics: political apathy. People don’t care about politics. In the 2012 presidential election, voter turnout was at 57.5%. In the 2014 midterm elections, voter turnout was at 36.3%, the lowest since 1972. The American electorate is sick and tired of classic, scripted establishment politics and is hungry for a candidate who will throw away the established political norms. People are angry at the current state of stagnation in Washington and want a candi-

date that is a “doer.”

The desire for entertainment over intellectual seriousness is prevalent elsewhere in contemporary America life. People would much rather tune into reality television or watch football on Sunday night than read the news. All of this anger and dissatisfaction with the current political system has been channeled into one candidate: Donald Trump. Trump has schooled the political establishment by, against all odds, successfully harnessing underlying discontent within the Republican Party.

The establishment should stop criticizing and start taking notes. Trump has ignited a base of voters that were once apathetic towards politics before “Make America Great Again” became a phrase. As society consumes ever more empty entertainment, like those reality shows, the political world must try to make itself more appealing to average Americans. While Trump is an extreme version of this, his success reminds both sides of the need to reignite apathetic voters.

Lucas Ferrer is a fifth former from New York, NY and a Copy Editor for The Choate News. He may be reached at lferrer17@choate.edu.

From the Foreign Desk

Six Hostages Freed in Yemen

Two Americans were among the six hostages released by the Houthis rebels in Yemen last Sunday. The other former hostages include three Saudi Arabians and one British national. The release of these individuals surprised many, as the United States and Britain are rarely able to guarantee their citizens’ freedom because of a no negotiation policy.

Over 100 Killed in Nigeria by Boko Haram Bombing

On Sunday evening, Islamist extremist group Boko Haram executed a series of four bombings in Northern Nigeria. These attacks targeted civilians in the region of Maiduguri in a mosque, a video center, a sheep market, and a railroad crossing. Although the Nigerian government claimed that Boko Haram had been severely debilitated, the recent bombings prove that the group is still incredibly dangerous and remains a threat.

Pope Francis Vists the United States

Pope Francis arrived at a Washington, D.C. area military base and was greeted by President Obama. The Pontiff came to the U.S. immediately after visiting Cuba. On Thursday, he made history by being the first Pope to address a joint meeting of Congress.

Over Eleven Die in Chilean Earthquake

On September 16, an 8.3 magnitude earthquake hit Chile, forcing more than one million to evacuate and killing at least eleven individuals. Although the earthquake struck Illapel, a city 177 miles north of the country’s capital, its tremors were felt over 2,100 miles away, in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Geopolitics, Cold War Foes, and a Warring Nation

By **Alfredo Brillembourg '16**
Senior Writer

At the core of the conflict in Syria, geopolitics comes down to a chess-like game; a game that has now come to dominate the framework of the US-Russian relationship. To be more concrete, the two superpowers have maintained clashing interests with regard to the proxy conflict in Syria. This is a conflict not over tangible gains or losses, but rather, as political realists in the sphere of international politics would suggest, for strategic power in the influencing in the Middle East. Briefly, the realist theory is based in realpolitik and Machiavelli-esque power policies; it claims that a nation’s platform is determined by nationalism, unipolarity, and force. To understand how these two major players have developed their roles in Syria,

we must look at the domestic background in Syria that is at the root of this larger clash. As a part of the 2011 Arab Spring, Syrian freedom fighters actively protested the dictatorial regime of Bashar-al-Assad, who inherited his position of power from his father. The protests grew increasingly violent and reached the point of a civil war between the government and seven major militant organizations, the most



Photo courtesy of NBC News

Since 2011 and the eruption of the Arab Spring, Syrian rebels have been engaged in fierce combat with government forces. Now America and Russia are becoming involved too.

established of these being the Free Syrian Army (FSA). Thus, the U.S., assuming its traditional role of a global police force, had to choose between offensive and passive action. However, America had major reservations for taking the former approach as opposed to the latter, the most important of these reservations being that the U.S. could not decide whom it should support, because the revolution had been

organized by non-state actors. Likewise, in further contradiction to the realist theory on state objectivity, the U.S. was unsure if to act in favor of the FSA because the power vacuum that exists could lead to a violent take over of jihadists—as was the result of Operation Cyclone in Afghanistan. Moreover, the U.S. did not want more retribution from the media after having been heavily criticized for creating a

“no fly zone” in Libya through NATO. Finally, learning from previous mistakes in Iraq, the U.S. realized it had no follow up plan. In other words, the United States was in fear of getting stuck in the Middle East, having no stabilizing, interim government to follow the war. To this day, the U.S. continues to be indecisive on how to involve itself in the Syrian conflict. Russia, however, has put pressure on American

action by backing Assad with weapons and aid.

Now, the Syrian conflict has become a power game between the U.S. and Russia. Putin is asserting himself as a Middle Eastern power where the U.S. is absent — in an attempt to match America’s control of the world. It has left America with two conceivable options: to make an offensive move into Syria and challenge the Kremlin or to not get in-

involved and allow Russia to take away United States power by establishing a sphere of influence in the Middle East.

I suggest a more realistic solution for the U.S. Since Russia is most concerned with military strength and responds better to force—as depicted by the Cuban Missile Crisis and the proxy war in Afghanistan—the U.S. should engage tactics that resemble a game of chicken. I posit that America should either increase its support in Ukraine, consequently threatening Russia dramatically and forcing them to a negotiation table, or to move troops into Turkey to give Putin the option of mutual deterrence by putting him in a Prisoner’s Dilemma. Here, the US would not only threaten Russia’s sphere of influence, but also threaten its homeland. Nonetheless, in line with the realist opinion on the balance of power, pressing Russia this way would be less conducive to war than actually moving into Syria. In the words of a notable political scientist named Hans Morgenthau, “international politics, like all politics, is a struggle for power.”

Alfredo Brillembourg is a sixth former from New York, NY. He may be reached at abrillembourg16@choate.edu.

WALLINGFORD'S LATEST SHOP: THE INSIDE SCOOP

By **Sophia Esquibies '17**
News Reporter

Dining hall ice cream not cutting it? Desiring a flavor other than vanilla or chocolate? Recently opened on Center Street next to Vinny's Deli, Sweet Cream's Ice Cream has a wide variety of flavors from Salted Caramel to their most frequently requested flavor, Nutella Chocolate Chip.

The owner, Raul Hernandez, opened his dream ice cream shop this year on August 1, after 19 years of working at corporate ice cream companies. Hernandez is originally from Mexico, but now lives with his wife, Rocio, and daughter, Alyssa, in Meriden, CT. Hernandez's wife works at the store while he continues his day job until business picks up, but he still plans on pursuing his dream of running his own parlor.

Sweet Cream's sells ice cream from Ashley's Ice Cream, a Connecticut creamery that began in New Haven. Sweet Cream's offers a lot of flavors I personally don't see at every shop. My friends and I picked some of the most unusual and interesting flavors they had to offer and tried them out. I got Nutella Chocolate Chip, the flavor that Rocio recommended to me, saying, "It's a store favorite. A lot of people really like it." It had a rich Nutella flavor, creamy texture, and chocolate crunch. It quickly became my favorite flavor. Another flavor that caught my eye was Caramel Apple Crumb, so I'll definitely go back to try it.



Photo by Sophia Esquibies

Customers enjoy ice cream flavors ranging from Nutella Chocolate Chip to Tamarind.

One of the more unique flavors Sweet Cream's offers is Tamarind sorbet. For those who don't know, tamarind is an acidic fruit normally used in Asian cooking. Though the color was slightly off putting, Sarina Sun '17 described the flavor as "sour, but refreshing," and thoroughly enjoyed the icy dessert.

Sweet Cream's is a 15-minute walk from Choate campus.

Jamie Hemstock '17 also commented, "I don't like when my ice cream has freezer burn. I'm a big fan of ice cream that's creamy and silky smooth. And it was. I give it an 11 out of 10." Of course, it's hard to please everyone. After visiting the store, Rachel Hird '17 added, "Normally,

ice creams shops fill the kiddie cups to the top, but mine seemed kind of empty. I also would have liked to add another flavor if I could."

Sweet Cream's is about a 15-minute walk from Choate campus and is very easy to get to. The shop is open from 12 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the weekends. The seats and tables inside and outside would be great for having a cool treat on a warm day.

Inside the store, the flavors and prices are written out on a large chalkboard along the wall, and the ice creams are on display below it. The prices start at \$2.12 for a kiddie size and can go up to \$9.50 for a quart of your favorite ice cream. Toppings like sprinkles, Oreos, and strawberries are also available to customize your ice cream

the way you want. The shop also offers ice cream cakes and pies available to order. If someone in your dorm is having a birthday, this is another accessible place where you can order a cake.

The business seems to have hit the ground running, especially for one that opened less than two months ago. Cammi Chester '17 said, "It's really great to see something new in Wallingford. I think their business is on the right path and will be successful in the long run." Overall, I think Sweet Cream's has a bright future ahead of it. The small shop offers a welcoming environment where kids and adults can go and spend time relaxing and socializing while enjoying a tasty treat.

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A Rousing Song

By **Jessica Shi '17**
News Staff Reporter

"Duh duh duh, duh-duh-duh duh duh duh, duh-duh-duh DAH, duh duh duh..."

As some may recognize, the Choate School Song begins with the above intro line (which unfortunately loses some of its charm in writing...). Anyone who has been at Choate for more than a few months probably already has the School Song ingrained into his or her brain. From the majestic lyrics to the upbeat tune to the perfectly timed fist pump, the song is a bundle of optimism that re-energizes students and faculty after the end of a long and tedious (er, I mean delightful) all-school event.

The School Song was written and composed by former Choate faculty member Mr. Guy E. Moulton. During his time at Choate (1910-28), he taught Latin and French, coached golf, and played in the Choate Orchestra. The chorus of the School Song (starting with "Cheer, then, for Choate!") first appeared in the 1913 issue of The Brief as a poem written by Mr. Moulton entitled "To Choate." Also that year, he wrote the rest of the lyrics and the tune, and the song was published in 1916.

Naturally, when Rosemary Hall joined the Choate School in 1971, debate arose over which school's song they would use. Rosemary Hall's seemed out of the question, as it was written entirely in Latin and pertained specifically to the Rosemary Hall girls. They briefly contemplated creating a new song altogether that would more accurately represent the culture of the combined school, but they were unable to find one that everyone would agree on. As a result of these discussions, during the 1970s and 80s, the School Song was not sung. When it was revived in the 90s, the song was almost exactly the same as the original song written by Mr. Moulton, with two lyrical changes. In the line "Far thro' the land her sons shall bear

her great fame," "her sons" was changed to "we all," and likewise for "Ever thy sons sing to thee."

Regarding the lyrics, perhaps the most iconic phrase is in the opening line: "To our school upon the hillside." As any student who has to trek up and down the campus will know, Choate is indeed very hilly. However, when Mr. Moulton wrote these words in 1913, they had an even more exact meaning. At the time, the only non-residential building on Choate's campus was Hill House, which, as the name implies, is directly atop the hill. Thus, at the time, Choate was literally a "school upon the hillside." Another Choate-specific line, "Forever true to Gold and Blue," references the two Choate school colors, which were already established at the time the song was written.

Rosemary Hall's song was written almost entirely in Latin.

History aside, current students and faculty have mixed feelings about the song. On one hand, it serves its general purpose well. Ms. Courtney DeStefano says, "[The song] is a big part of being at Choate, whether you are a student or faculty." She added, "I like the feeling it creates—it's energetic and up-tempo." Others echo this sentiment. However, positivity can often be overdone: as Kristen Andonie '17 put it, "While the melody and the act of singing conveys a sense of unity, the lyrics don't seem to accurately reflect the Choate culture." Perhaps the next you sing the song, try and ask yourself, what do those words really mean to you?

**Thank you to Ms. Judy Donald, the school's architect, for helping to collect information for this article.*

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THE VIEW FROM MY BEDROOM WINDOW

Sunday, 11:30 p.m.

Dirt. Mud. Hole. No change. Looking forward to construction noise when I'm trying to nap. Remind me to invest in a good pair of headphones.

Grace Tully '16
Bungalow 202



Photo by Grace Tully

The construction site at St. John Hall.

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

By **Cammryn Chester '17** and **Abigail Strong '19**
News Reporters

When you step foot on Choate campus you become a member of the Choate community—a Choatie—but each and every one of us carries a little bit of our hometown within us. Each town is different, and holds memories that will follow us no matter where we are. Here are some student's perspectives on their own cities and towns away from Wallingford, CT.

Name: Bryce Wachtell '17
Hometown: Boise, Idaho

City or town: It is the biggest city in Idaho, but has maintained a quaint small town feeling to it. It's small, so you know a lot of people, but big enough to have some great places to go out.

Favorite food: Well, as most Americans know, we grow a lot of potatoes, and subsequently eat a lot of potatoes, in many different forms. Something everyone should know about is the potato ice cream. It's ice cream shaped like a potato, covered in cocoa powder and a bunch of toppings. Sounds disgusting, looks amazing, tastes delicious.

Best hangout spots: Oh, definitely BoDo (Boise Downtown). There are a bunch of shops, a movie theatre, and a lot of interesting restaurants; it's where everyone drives and bikes to when they want to hang out.

Social Norms: People in Idaho are much more relaxed when it comes to clothes. People wear jeans and sweatshirts to work, unlike the people who live on the East Coast. Also, people are way more likely to say hi to strangers than they are here. People are much more outdoorsy in my town than here as well.

What you miss: I miss biking everywhere. Boise is called the city of trees and there are tons of pathways and trails to bike on. Especially in the spring and fall, when the trees are changing, the scenery is absolutely beautiful. I love Boise, and coming from there to a place like Choate has really given me a new perspective on where I live. I don't like either place better; they are both my homes.

Name: Joey Hong '19

Hometown: Seoul, South Korea

Best activities: There are big shopping streets and a lot of good food in Seoul.

Sightseeing: There are many traditional Korean palaces to visit, and Namsan, a huge tower.

Climate: The temperatures are warmer and more humid than Connecticut in the summer, but it also gets very cold in the winter.

School: My school had a much smaller campus than the Choate campus, and was K-12 instead of beginning in ninth grade. There was also not as much variety and electives available in the course selection as there are here.

What you miss: The food there was better, because it's a lot less fattening. I miss foods like rice and kimchi.

Name: Nadia Hayatu-Deen '17

Hometown: Lagos, Nigeria

City or town: Lagos is a city, but it's very different than the cities here. Every piece of property is gated: every house, every bank, everything. I think it's just for security reasons, but the gates don't block the loud and chaotic atmosphere of the city.

Favorite food: One of my favorites from back home is Shawarma. It's insanely good and is made with several different meats. It is a Lebanese meal.

Best hangout spots: My friends and I almost always just hang out at each other's houses or the Lagoon, one of the best restaurants I know. Also, if you're looking for a good way to pass time, go to a wedding. They are always amazing. It is the only time you can stay out until 4 a.m. without your parents' permission.

Social norms: Although people in the city dress a little less conservatively than other places, there is a lot of traditional dress. The older women wear head ties, and every woman wears one to special events. There are also some Western styles in the city. The people in Lagos are not necessarily overly friendly to outsiders, but once you have become friends with one of the locals, they tend to be very loyal.

What you miss: My family, of course, and definitely the

food. Western food can be flavorless compared to the food in Nigeria. In Nigeria, we use lots of spices when we cook. Choate's food could definitely use some more spices.

Name: Nell Shaper '17

Hometown: Houston, TX

City or town: Houston is very different from northern cities. Besides downtown, there are mostly just private neighborhoods. Everyone has a lawn and some of them are the size of a huge field!

Best hangout spots: Almost everyone our age hangs out at strip centers scattered about the city. In Houston, you have to drive everywhere, so unless you have your license, it can be very annoying to get around.

Favorite food: The best food around is Tex-Mex (Texan-Mexican cuisine)! If you think Chipotle is good, then you haven't had Tex-Mex yet. People like it so much better down there than when a Chipotle opened near by, it went out of business.

Social norms: For one thing, people don't say hi or smile at everyone they pass. Also, people are much more conservative in Texas than at Choate; not in a worse way, but just different.

What you miss: Definitely the air conditioning. Even though it is much hotter there, every building is well air conditioned. I also miss the late summers there because there are always amazing thunder storms. I don't miss too much else because Choate is starting to feel more like home than Houston.

Name: Elaine Shen '18

Hometown: Shanghai, China

Climate: Shanghai is much hotter than Connecticut in the summer, and warm in the winter. However, there are still four distinct seasons.

Best activities: The food is great there. I like to go out to eat with my friends, and there are a lot of shopping malls.

School: My school was much smaller than Choate. We had the same 50 classmates all year, and just one teacher. School was also longer: it ended at 4:00 in the afternoon, and there was not as much homework.

Food: Portions are much smaller than the ones in America!

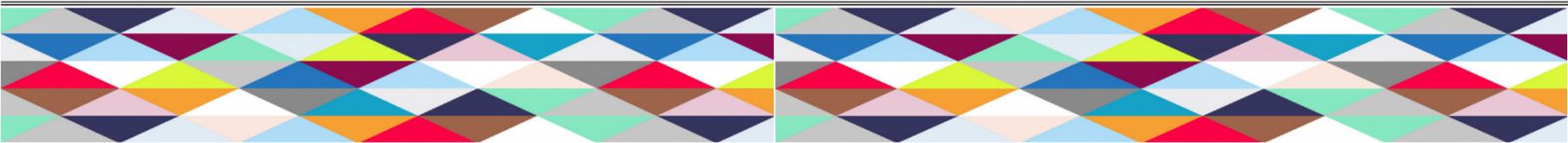


Photo by Arianna Gonzalez-Wagner

Evan Robison '16, one of Choate's most talented musicians, fills the chapel with the sound of self-composed music.

ROBISON '16: PIANO PARAGON

By **Namsai Sethpornpong '17**
Staff Writer

Evan Robison '16 and Celina Lin '16 captivated the community during last week's all-school meeting when they premiered Robison's newly composed classical piece for two, titled *A Perfect Breeze*. Not surprisingly, the crowd was enthralled, and Robison and Lin both received standing ovations for their performance. However, it was the comments made by Ms. Alysoun Kegel, Choate's choral director and Robison's mentor, following their performance that held the most awe; the piece was performed, composed and managed by Robison himself.

Since his freshman year, Robison has been a musical force on campus: he plays the piano, sings in chorus, embarked on an independent composition project with his friends during the winter term of his junior year, and is the current president of the all-male a cappella group *The Maiyeros*. When asked

about his interest in music, Robison explained that he came from a musically oriented family: "I probably owe it to my family and my genes," he laughs. "My grandfather is a very good jazz pianist, and my dad is always playing music in our house."

I gravitate toward classical music.

Evan Robison '16

In fact, Robison grew up with music: "As I was growing up, I found out that I had good pitch, so I joined chorus," he explains. He began to discover his love for music, so he picked up the piano at age 4, started writing songs at age 6, began trombone in the 4th grade, and started guitar in 7th.

In terms of songwriting, Robison explains that as a child, he, his father, and his sister would write fun, whacky songs, and because of this, he started to fall in love with songwriting. This deep-seeded interest in composition followed him to Choate; last year, Robison

and two friends, Linds Cadwell '16 and Maxwell Kops '16, embarked on a winter term independent composition project. The trio—called ELM after their first initials—wrote alternative and rock songs, which they recorded and posted onto their YouTube channel. Robison reflects on the experience, "We all compromised a little bit during that process. I gravitated towards classical, but because of the instruments we had (my voice and keyboard, Linds' guitar and bass, and Max's drums), we couldn't go classical."

After seeing Robison's dedication to the arts, Ms. Kegel recommended that he attend the Walden School, a five-week summer program for young musicians. The program is dedicated to songwriting, and there Robison was able to explore his interest in classical music, as professional musicians who specialized in classical instruments would visit to play the students' pieces. "We had a world class trumpeter play one of my pieces. It was amazing," says Robison.

Near the end of the five-week period, Robison was given the daunting project of taking on the piano parts of several pieces composed over the summer. He explains, "There was a great pianist who was there for the first two weeks, but she had to go do an exhibition in Israel. So the burden of playing the newly composed piano pieces had to be divvied up among the students. I ended up playing in twelve different pieces that students wrote." Because of this, Robison won the camp's most prestigious award, the Walden Player's Award.

Ms. Kegel shared that she was especially moved by the caring way Robison interacted with much younger musicians, as well as by the leadership he showed in a large and diverse musical community. Keep an eye out for this musical wonder and inspiring Choate student—at this rate, he'll go on to do big things.

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BOLD CLOTHING RISKS AT NYFW

Simran Sachdeva '19
News Reporter

New York City is one of the fashion capitals of the world, and as such hosts an annual—and highly anticipated—fashion week. This year, from September 10 to September 17, in multiple locations throughout Manhattan, New York Fashion Week (NYFW) held fashion shows featuring the collections of some of the most internationally acclaimed designers, including sneak peeks into their Spring 2016 collections.

This year there were runway shows by designers such as Betsey Johnson, Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren, J. Mendel, Marc Jacobs, Lacoste, Rachel Zoe, Victoria Beckham, Rag & Bone, Tory Burch, Vera Wang, Mara Hoffman, Rebecca Minkoff, and many more.

Technology had a large influence in NYFW this year. For the first time since 2007, Mercedes-Benz stepped down as the sponsor, and Intel stepped up to take their place, a shift in power that prompted many new technology-inspired trends. Drones were used to capture new perspective of the shows, and designers used technology in some of their pieces. In the line *Zac Zac Posen*, for example, the classic little black dress had a twist: it boasted LED lights. Ralph Lauren was also a participant in the use of technology, as they live-streamed their fashion show to London.

Traditionally, NYFW takes place in the Lincoln Center, but this year numerous locations across Manhattan were used as sites for this year's shows, such as Milk Studios,

The Gallery at Skylight Clarkson Square, 59 Chelsea Piers, The Dock, and Skylight at Moynihan Station.

Fashion is characterized by risk, and this year in New York many designers upheld this expectation. Marc Jacobs drew beauty inspiration from the looks boasted the morning after a party; the makeup was very edgy, and surprisingly they did not use any concealer or foundation, instead sweeping Vaseline and eye shadow under the eyes. Betsey Johnson was another designer that took an untraditional route, as the makeup used in her show was extremely edgy and posed stark contrast to the girly vibes of her pieces.

In *Moda Presidents* Kate Newhouse '18 and Haley Williams '18 shared their opinions on New York Fashion Week. When asked about her opinion on Marc Jacobs' inspiration, Newhouse gushed, "I thought it looked good, personally! Even though it was morning after a party, it was almost ready to wear. I thought they did very innovative things this year. They used simple silhouettes, but it was simple with an edge."

On the topic of breaking rules in fashion, Williams said, "That's my favorite thing about fashion. Even at Choate, I like standing out! I don't want to blend in, ever. If you can do that on a really large scale, like in fashion week, that is a lot of respect."

NYFW was an eventful, exciting week that broke boundaries, strayed from the norm, raised eyebrows, and put on quite an alluring show.

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CHECK IT OUT

The Opposite of Loneliness by Marina Keegan

One week after her graduation from Yale in 2012, talented aspiring writer Marina Keegan tragically died in a car accident. *The Opposite of Loneliness* is her legacy. A beautiful, inspiring collection of fiction and nonfiction pieces written during her high school and college years, it is proof of Keegan's phenomenal talent.



PICASSO STUNS WITH MoMA SCULPTURES

By **Camila Borjesson '17**
Staff Writer

Pablo Picasso — renowned painter, inventor of the collage, and founder of the Cubist movement—has been finally featured at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in Manhattan. However, it is not his eccentric paintings that hang on the museum's walls, but a range of intricate sculptures that had remained hidden for the larger part of the 20th century. Although not widely recognized, these sculptures represent Picasso's style and artistic ability just as much as his most famous painted works do. For this reason, on this past Monday the MoMA opened its doors for viewers to witness an entire floor devoted to Picasso's eclectic three-dimensional pieces.

Picasso was a painter by training; however, it seems as though he was a sculptor by nature. Aside from the 4,300 paintings he created over the course of his lifetime, he also put together another 700 sculptures, made in phases and often with yearly time lapses in between. Because he was self-taught, he possessed the freedom to experiment with different ma-

terials, techniques, and styles, reinventing himself along the way without any pressure from the art world. However, Picasso mostly kept these sculptures to himself.

Nevertheless, thanks to the collaboration of the MoMA and the Musée National Picasso in Paris,



Photo courtesy of HypoAllergenic

Picasso's sculptures boldly explore three-dimensional space.

this hidden collection has made its way to the prestigious New York gallery. The exhibition illustrates a chronological passage through the different eras in Picasso's career as a sculptor, starting with a reflection of his twenty-year-old self. Critics find especially attractive about this col-

lection the diversity of styles Picasso explored: from African, Oceanic, and Cycladic, to his own Cubism.

Among the most notable sculptures displayed stands the compilation of the six "Glass of Absinthe" sculptures of 1914, bronze-painted charmers of an intricate configu-

ration that depict the profiles of drunken people. The wide array of materials he used to create this work incorporate a silver spoon and a sugar cube. "Guitar" is also groundbreaking because it establishes space itself as a primary material to provide volume and weight-

Slam Poem Presents Pertinent Social Issue

Sophie Mackin '18
News Reporter

In the past few years, art has increasingly become a means by which to comment on social norms. Through her slam poem titled "Gentry-Phi-Cation," Saroya Marsh, a 26-year-old preschool teacher and youth mentor from the Bronx, NY, has received wide praise for her array of slam poems. Recently, Marsh performed a slam poem entitled "Gentry-Phi-Cation" at the 2015 Women of the World Poetry Slam and won second place, a win that not only garnered attention within the world of slam poetry, but also raised pertinent social issues with the general public.

By definition, gentrification is the renovation of urban neighborhoods involving substantially raising the cost of rent, increasing property values, and ultimately forcing low-income families out of their homes. In addition, overpriced cooperative chains replace small family businesses, taking away the authenticity and uniqueness of these communities.

The Gentrification Reader by Loretta Lees describes gentrification as the "forced disenfranchisement of poor and working class people from the spaces and places in which they have legitimate social and historical claims." In particular, historically black neighborhoods have been experiencing negative effects of gentrification, which is why Marsh, an African-American woman, felt it

necessary to express her anger about it through her poem.

Marsh's performance at the World of Woman poetry slam included lines such as: "You move me in, stigmatize me, raise rent, kick me out, then whitewash my hood with some hipsters and coke bottle glasses and chewed up converse that will clutch their purse when I walk by tighter than a church mother holds their Bible," and "My people are leaving! Call it reverse migration, institutionalization, incarceration or just plain murder, in any case, something dies."

The president of Choate's Slam Poetry Club, Kwabena Ayim-Aboagye '16, noted of the poem, "I didn't expect it. From the beginning, it engaged me." He added that he felt that Marsh had very strong language and delivery, extremely important qualities in a slam poem.

"Slam poetry is fun. It's loud. It captures people's attention because it's unique," Ayim-Aboagye shared. In a recent interview, Marsh explained that she uses poetry to "fight against the injustices of the present day." She added, "It pains me that classism and racism are still major struggles."

Through people like Marsh, art has the power to promote and even create change in our world by educating and empowering audiences.

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LONDON'S NEW "HEARTBEAT"

Jeanne Malle '19
News Reporter

Charles Pétillon, a French artist, is widely known for photographing balloons in different locations and positions. Though his pieces typically sit in lifeless clusters, on August 27, he brought his work to life in London's Covent Garden Market Building, in a massive piece called "Heartbeat."

The juxtaposition of this modern piece resting in the Market Building, a 19th century monument, seems almost surreal: a giant cloud, created with 100,000 balloons, floating from the ceiling. "This space is huge. There were 300 kg of balloons—1000 cubic

meters," said the artist in a CNN interview, "We needed 20 people to inflate them over five days, and four nights to hang them."

A common question answered by Pétillon regarded the name of the piece — "Heartbeat." During a CNN interview, he explained that the name is the product of his desire to represent the Market Building, a central location in London, as "the beating heart of this area." His intention was to remind the public of that and to create a link between the past and the present of the space. He concluded, "Creating a huge heart was the best way to show that."

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lessness. The particular traits of Marie-Thérèse Walter, Picasso's muse and source of inspiration, are once again portrayed in several different sculptures, with the addition of the materials themselves as muse-like elements.

The exhibition raises the question of whether Picasso was a better sculptor or painter. Even in his paintings, Picasso's longing to differ from the norm and explore within the limitations of the canvas can be observed. Picasso could easily exhibit this quality by working in three-dimensional space. Some believe he was a magician because of his ability to use common objects and transform them into representations of deeper concepts. Picasso's development as an artist was more of a roller-coaster through self-exploration than a linear trend of growth, and the MoMA's installation effectively illustrates his path. Specialists say that Picasso's sculpting has a force field around it, so it is worth the effort to visit the gallery and discover if that claim is true.

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GAME OF THE WEEK
BOAR PEN
 BOYS' VARSITY SOCCER V KENT
 AT HOME, SATURDAY 2:30 PM

SPORTS

The Choate News

SPORTS QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I don't really care how we do it, we do it."
 - Jaromir Jagr
 NHL Legend

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2015

FOOTBALL ICES CUSHING PENGUINS, 45-12

By **Jackson Elkins '18**
 News Staff Reporter



Before their 2015 opener in Ashburnham, postgraduate Abu Daramy '16, above, and the Wild Boars travelled to Kent for a "friendly" scrimmage. Photo courtesy of Fenton Films

The Choate Rosemary Hall Varsity Football Team had big cleats to fill following a record-breaking 2014 season. After a 10-0 New England Championship-winning season, the Wild Boars were looking to prove that last year's historic run was no fluke. With only 13 returning players this year, Coach LJ Spinnato lined up yet another impressive recruiting class to bolster the Choate roster. Key new players include postgraduate wide receiver Abu Daramy '16, postgraduate cornerback Michael Gordon '16, and postgraduate quarterback Steven Genova '16. However, despite the influx of unfamiliar talent, the team has had no issues with chemistry, and on-field play runs smoothly and seamlessly. Obviously the leadership of captains Zach Kastenhuber '16, Rory Tait '16, and Tyler Burns '16 have been impactful on maintaining the winning culture of the team.

Last Saturday, Choate football faced its first test, as the squad traveled to Ashburnham, Massachusetts to take on the Cushing Academy Penguins. Abu "Honey" Daramy provided some analysis of the game, saying, "Overall, it was a pretty decent game; the first half was a little shaky. It was our first game of the season, and most of the guys are new, so we had to get used

to playing with each other. We got the first half jitters out, and the score was 17-12 [at half], which was a very low scoring game." Clearly, something clicked within the Wild Boars at halftime, as the floodgates opened wide in the final stretch. "We cleaned it up in the locker room, talked it out," Daramy continued. "We knew what our assignments were now. So then the second

half, we came out balling, offense scored lots of points, and defense held them up to zero points." At one point in the game, Choate put their entire JV defense in against all of Cushing's starters, utterly shutting the Penguins down in the squad's 45-12 victory. Yet all was not perfect in this tilt, as co-captain and linebacker Zach Kastenhuber commented on the team's weaknesses during the course of the game. "I'd say the weaknesses were having not played together. I think over the first half we started to come together and worked out the little issues like penalties, things like that." However, Daramy was quick to comment on the team's strengths, saying, "I'd say our strength is that we have skilled guys at every position. Overall, even guys

that are backups, we have skill everywhere." Co-captain and offensive lineman Rory Tait echoed Daramy's message, saying, "There's talent individually, but also as a team. We looked good [once we figured out our weaknesses]."

This Saturday, the Wild Boars take on Lawrenceville at home. However, when asked about how the trio see the team going from here, Daramy commented, "What we usually say in the locker room, one of our players Michael Gordon told us, is that we got to take every game week by week, day by day; we can't look two weeks ahead, right now we're focused on Lawrenceville." The Wild Boars will be looking to smash Lawrenceville, who suffered a tough loss to rival Loomis Chaffee, 48-28, on September 19th. A big win in their home opener would put Choate football another day closer to replicating the perfection they displayed last fall.

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On the Field with Gabby Dyrek '16

By **Arjun Katechia '19**
 News Reporter



Postgraduate soccer player Gabby Dyrek '16 shows off her blazing speed, sliding the ball past the goaltender with ease. Photo courtesy of Gabby Dyrek

Even though she's been on campus for less than a month, Gabby Dyrek '16, a post-graduate soccer player from Santa Monica, California, has already enhanced the Choate community. She is known as a hard-working and determined person, and this talent is perhaps best showcased on the soccer field. As captain, she led her last team to the semifinals of the California Southern Section playoffs.

Reporter Arjun Katechia '19 spoke with Gabriella about her favorite sport, her new school, and more.

Arjun Katechia '19: How and when did you start playing soccer?

Gabby Dyrek '16: I started when I was ten, for a youth soccer team. I only started because my parents forced me to.

AK: Why do you like playing soccer?

GD: I love the feeling of scoring a goal and being a part of a team; the team is my best friend and my family. I love the game.

AK: Why did you come to Choate to play soccer?

GD: I came to Choate because the Yale Soccer coach who saw me at a camp in my hometown recommended me to come to develop my game.

AK: How does Choate feel compared to your last school? What's the longest amount of time you've ever spent away from home before this?

GD: I hadn't spent much time away from home before this, actually. Choate is very different; people are more mature here. Everyone at Choate wants to

be here, whereas at public school, kids don't have the same drive.

AK: Do you have any pre-game traditions that you follow every time?

GD: I have a handshake with my partner, Zoe. We do it every single time.

AK: Is there anything from the field that you can apply to your life?

GD: Yes, on the soccer field, you can't cheat. Honesty applies to life in many different settings.

AK: Do you play any other sports? If yes, does soccer help you in your other sports?

GD: No. Soccer is life.

AK: Has soccer always been a passion of yours?

GD: No, ever since my parents forced me, it has been a passion of mine.

AK: Who is your soccer "role model"?

GD: Ali Krieger, a member of the U.S. women's national team.

AK: Do you plan on playing soccer in college? If yes, beyond college?

GD: Yes, I would love to

play in college, but I don't think it will go beyond that.

AK: Do you have any tips for people just starting out in soccer?

GD: Be mentally strong and confident in what you do.

AK: What is your favorite animal, and why?

GD: My favorite animal is a giraffe because they are gentle, yet fierce and strong.

Gabby emanates an aura of positivity and determination, lifting her teammates up while pushing them forward. The Choate Girls' Varsity Soccer team has only lost three games in the last two seasons, but even one loss is utterly unsatisfactory for this squad of driven winners. Dyrek's ferocity and spirit, on the field and in the classroom, will likely be her greatest contributions to Choate and GVS this year.

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SENIOR SOCCER: SERIOUSLY SAVAGE

By **Emilia Furlo '17**
 News Staff Reporter

It's 5:00 p.m. on a Tuesday, and I am shocked to find Josie Lee '16 crying in the back corner of the girls' locker room. She is too distraught to tell me what's wrong, but I already know what this is about: senior soccer.

No other sport on campus pushes athletes like senior soccer, which requires a certain type of person with extreme physical and emotional strength to even try to join this team. If you thought your varsity sport was demanding, try being on a team that practices for hours on end every day and seldom has a water break or a rest throughout practice. These seniors have been training for years to be on this team, and the slots this year were harder than ever to fill. Taking the smallest team they've had in years, senior soccer has a meager group of 40 students, each with a burning passion for the game and a competitive glimmer in their eyes. Sitting down with extreme athletes Ben Wishnie-Edwards '16 and Josie Lee '16, I gained insight into what senior soccer really entails.

"It's hard for me to even talk about practice sometimes," murmured Wishnie-Edwards '16. "You might think that senior soccer is just a joke, that it's all fun and games," he sniffled and waited a moment to compose himself. "But it's not like that at all." Wishnie-Edwards then told me how the team dynamic is anything but friendly and laid-back. "We know the coaches are looking for their starting players, so it's a dog-eat-dog world out there."

To see if Wishnie-Edwards was embellishing, I stopped by practice to see senior soccer in action. Finding the field wasn't hard, and once I got there, my eyes widened with fear, wondering if it was even safe for me to be there. Players were sprinting, screaming, yelling—some even attempting to throw the benches at each other. It was hard to see exactly who punched whom first, but O'Neil Brown '16 and Patrick O'Leary '16 seemed to be fighting over who would get to start as forward.

On the other side of the field, Alexa Paladino '16 and Cecilia Katzenstein '16 were grabbing Anna Diffley '16 by the wrists and ankles to roll her down the hill after what they deemed to be "the worst pass they've ever seen in their lives." On the sidelines, Matt Kaye '16 was asking Coach Cobb if he could DJ during practice instead of doing hill sprints, to which Cobb replied with a laugh and had Kaye run wind-sprints for questioning authority. Lee was standing in the corner of the field, plotting her next plan of attack with Cecilia Atkins '16 while they watch the commotion unravel. Coach Warren blows his whistle to signal that warm-ups are over, and as the players gather around in a circle.

Normally, in this part of the article, I would begin to explain the conversation between the coaches and the players as they discuss the agenda for practice. However, the sheer amount of expletives used in this five-minute powwow encouraged me not to take direct quotes

from both the players and the coaches. Rather, I will just say that, once practice starts, senior soccer means business.

When I asked Wishnie-Edwards how they conduct a practice, he commented, "Yeah, we just get out there and rip some shots." No stretching, no butt-kicks, they just go out there and "rip some shots." The team dynamic seems to settle a little as the drills start, and taking a moment with Lee on the sidelines, I ask, "What's your favorite part about se-

It's a dog-eat-dog world out there.

Ben Wishnie-Edwards '16

nior soccer?" Lee gives me a disdainful look and asks Miss Shea to immediately escort me off of the premises. Along with Anna Diffley, I am rolled down the hill by my wrists and ankles and removed from the scene, with only a wild memory of this maniac team.

My experience of senior soccer this past week has been anything but expectable. I've seen blood, tears, and a surprisingly strong Alexa Paladino take out Ben Wishnie-Edwards with one swing, but that's not the point. The point is, this is a seriously underestimated team on campus! They have ambition, definitely "friendly" competition, and a sense of team and togetherness, which, if you asked me, is what will and does make a great fall season for these wild Wild Boars.

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VARSITY WEEKLY SCOREBOARD

Boys' Soccer
Hopkins 2
 2

Girls' Soccer
Exeter 5
 0

Football
Cushing 45
 12

Boys' Water Polo
Deerfield 5
 9