



Choate athletes competed against Lawrenceville last Saturday, September 22. Highlights were Varsity Football's 34-0 victory and Boys' Varsity Soccer's 1-0 win. To read about football standout North Peters '19 (Left), see **PAGE 8**.

HP PARK '21 COMPETING IN GLOBAL SCIENCE VIDEO COMPETITION

By **Siri Palreddy '20**
Copy Editor

From April 1 to July 1, thousands of ambitious kids from around the world entered their names in the Breakthrough Junior Challenge (BJC), which, according to the competition's website, is "an annual global competition for students to inspire creative thinking about science." The BJC is affiliated with the Breakthrough Prize, which rewards nominees with outstanding scientific research. While participants of the BJC are not required to make a revolutionary discovery, they do have to create an inventive video of three minutes or less about a complex topic in physics, life sciences, or math. Past winners have discussed a

wide range of topics, from relativity and the equivalence of reference frames to quantum entanglement. Choate's own HP Park '21, a new sophomore, entered the challenge and was recently chosen by the competition's judges as one of the final 16 competitors. Park found out about the contest through a family friend who thought he would be interested. In fact, Park entered the contest last year as well. "I got into the top 40 last year, but there was a voting process on Facebook which I, unfortunately, did not get through," Park said. Park's topic last year was about the tidal locking between the Earth and the moon. Tidal locking explains why we see only one side of the moon, whereas the other side is always hidden.

"Even though I did not become a finalist last time, the experience made me excited to participate again this year," Park stated.

New sophomore is one of 16 finalists in elite competition whose grand prize includes a \$250,000 college scholarship.

For this year's video, Park decided to focus on the Mpemba effect. "I wanted to research something that had not been explored as much. My previous video was essentially explaining a concept that was widely known. When I came across the Mpemba

effect and looked it up, I found there was a lot of speculation as to whether it was even real," Park elaborated. The principle is named after Erasto Batholomeo Mpemba, who in 1963 accidentally discovered the phenomenon as a student in cooking class when his hot ice cream mix froze before the cold mix. If you've ever seen videos of people throw pots of boiling water into a frigid atmosphere and the water freezes instantly, that's because of the Mpemba effect. "Even today, scientists don't have a full explanation, and a lot of people think this would be a violation of thermodynamics," Park continued. "The even more bizarre thing is that if you threw a bucket of cold water into the same chilly atmosphere, it would remain a liquid."

Curious about why the Mpemba effect occurred, Park set up a lab in his previous school, Fay School, in Southborough, Massachusetts. "I brought a mini-fridge into the dorm for the experiment. By constantly putting different combinations of cold water and hot water in the fridge, sometimes by themselves, I made multiple logs of the waters' temperatures as they froze. Eventually, I recognized something called supercooling," Park reported. Supercooling happens when the temperature of the cold water goes below the freezing point and later rises to the freezing point of 0° C. However, the cold water stays a liquid during this time. Hot water, on the other hand, goes on its regular course to 0° C, without any detours to the neg-

ative celsius. In his video, Park illustrated supercooling through the analogy of a race. Cold water is given a head start to reach the finish line of 0° C. While cold water reaches the end first, it doesn't notice this and keeps running. In the meantime, hot water arrives at the destination and stays there, starting latent heat, a process necessary for a phase change, first. Cold water, realizing its mistake, hurries back to the freezing point. The hot water does not defy thermodynamics by miraculously getting to the freezing point first. Instead, it stays at the freezing point, unlike cold water, which dips down and returns again. "I'm not sure if this is completely true, but I thought it would be in-

See **PARK**, Page 2

Services Held on Campus for Jewish Holidays

By **Brandon Zhang '20**
Staff Reporter

September brings with it the kick-off to the school year, the beginning of autumn, and the start of the Jewish High Holidays. The two largest holidays of the year in Judaism occur within ten days of each other each year, with Rosh Hashanah stretching from sundown on September 9 to sundown on September 11 and Yom Kippur taking place from sundown on September 18 to sundown the next day this year. Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year and directly translates to "Head of the year." A week after Rosh Hashanah is Yom Kippur, the day of atonement and the holiest day of the year in Judaism.

At Choate, the holiday services are organized by Choate's Rabbi Barbara Paris, with the help of Hillel, the Jewish organization on campus. For Rosh Hashanah, the group organized



Photo by Brent Valentine/The Choate News

The Sukkah is one way Choate connects Jewish members of the Community to their religion.

a dinner that featured the traditional Rosh Hashanah foods of apples and honey. On the significance of these two foods, Rabbi Paris said, "The apple

signifies the start of a new year as well as the time of harvest; the honey represents the sweetness to wish everyone a sweet new year."

Following the dinner, the group had a service in the chapel where the traditional shofar,

See **HOLIDAYS**, Page 2

Choate Students Attend New York Maker Faire

By **Chris Lin '21**
Reporter

This past Sunday, September 23, Choate students travelled to Flushing, Queens for Maker Faire NYC. Maker Faire is an event started by Make Magazine to "celebrate arts, crafts, engineering, science projects, and the Do-It-Yourself (DIY) mindset" as stated in Make Magazine. According to Dr. Travis Feldman, who has been attending Maker Faire for over ten years, "Maker Faire is a carnival mixed with a circus, mixed with tech faire. The purpose of Maker Faire is to showcase what people make, whether it be arts, crafts, tech, or computer science."

Maker Faire was started by Make Magazine in 2005 in

the San Francisco Bay Area. It was a massive success and locations for Maker Faire began popping up internationally, including New York City in 2010. 50,000 people attended the first Maker Faire in New York City, and it now boasts over 120,000 attendees, according to Dr. Feldman. The event brings together several large technology companies, such as Intel and Microsoft, to showcase their newest and most innovative products which include supercomputer chips and holograms. However, the purpose of the event is not just to show off a company's newest innovations, but to allow people to share their creations and passions. An integral part of

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HUBCAP Helps
HUBCAP aids new businesses and makes employment there accessible to high schoolers.
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Representation or Appropriation?
A student voices her concerns about SAGE's international section.
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Students debate over delaying Kavanaugh's confirmation hearings.
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Antique kitchen found during the renovation of Edsall House.
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Read it then recycle it.

Visuals by HUBCAP Wallingford, Pinn Chirathivat, The New Republic, and James Ferranti



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SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW WELLNESS DIRECTORS

By **Brandon Zhang '20**
Staff Reporter

This summer, there was a complete overhaul in the wellness positions on campus. The Administration made two new hires with Dr. Miriam Cohen as the new Health Center Director and Dr. Francisco Lopez as the new Director of Counseling. Another key change was the new position taken by Ms. Libby Peard, previous Director of Parent Relations; Ms. Peard will now serve as the Director of Health and Wellness Services. Dr. Lopez described the relation between the three new colleagues with a sports analogy. He said, “This is very similar to a triple threat position. Dr. Cohen covers the medical side, I cover the mental health side, and Ms. Peard helps with the overall planning and administration.”

The first point on the triple threat is Ms. Peard, who has been a member of the Choate community for the past 13 years, serving as the Director of Parent Relations and International Students. Now, Ms. Peard will continue her role as Director of International Students but will take on the additional role of Director of Health and Wellness Services. This new title and position results in part from an external assessment by a team of consultants. Ms. Peard stated, “Among a number of recommendations, the consultants encouraged a reconfigured organization that involves separating some of the administrative functions from the clinical responsibilities.”

The position is intended to ensure that the school is well-positioned administratively to provide the best possible health and wellness services while also



Photo by Pinn Chirathivat/The Choate News

Ms. Libby Peard is the new Director of Health and Wellness Services, a part of the new wellness initiative.

freeing up the medical providers, namely the workers at the Health Center and Counseling Office, to focus on clinical care. Ms. Peard hopes that her past experience working as a consultant and her deep desire to promote student health and wellness will translate to a productive partnership with those already providing health services at Choate.

New Director of Counseling Dr. Francisco Lopez spent his early years in Puerto Rico but the majority of his life living throughout New York State. Dr. Lopez entered his adolescence in Lower East Manhattan before a major change in scenery, with his family moving to “a small town called Fredonia on the shores of Lake Erie,” for his teenage years. Dr. Lopez then worked in the Buffalo, New York for around ten years. Dr. Francisco Lopez finally became a member of the Wallingford community seven years ago and has always looked to Choate as a potential future workplace. Even before joining as a member of the faculty this

year, Dr. Lopez got a glimpse of the Choate community by developing friendships with some faculty members and attending some performances put on at the PMAC. Dr. Lopez previously worked as a consultant with other academic institutions and a large part of what he was doing was forensic psychology, helping research the impact mental health has on the youth and adults that go to court in our country and if there is a better option than incarceration to help them.

A main principle that Dr. Lopez believes in for the future of Choate’s counseling office is adapting to the students of today. Dr. Lopez has two goals for the counseling office on campus. First, he wishes to make conversations about emotional and behavioral health normal, allowing anyone to feel comfortable talking about their mental health as a whole. Secondly, he wants the department to be a bit more encompassing, providing students help not only if they have a mental health concern,

but a concern about growth, career development, or personal development.

Dr. Cohen, the new Health Center Director and Wallingford resident, is excited to be working in an academic environment again. After attending a municipal high school in her hometown, Dr. Cohen is already accustomed to working in diverse, academic environments. Dr. Cohen initially heard about Choate when she attended university in New York and was really exposed to Choate when she moved to Wallingford and opened her own pediatric firm. When it comes to her goals as Medical Director, she stated, “Obviously, our first priority is to provide the best healthcare possible to the students.” Dr. Cohen later added that she also wants to provide more directed wellness education for the community.

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The High Holy Days Recognized at Choate

Continued from Page 1

the blowing of a ram’s horn, was performed. Rabbi Barbara explained, “The shofar is meant to be a wakeup call to the people for them to reflect on the year that’s passed and their relationship with others.” Hillel officer Stella Dubin ’21 felt the event was a great way to begin the year. She said, “Before our abbreviated Torah service, we had a very nice meal that a good amount of people came to. At the service itself, there was a lot of student participation, which was lovely. It was a good start of the year.”

There was a lot of student participation, which was lovely.

Stella Dubin '21

The coalition also managed services for Yom Kippur, which Rabbi Barbara described as “a more serious day of true reflection and true repentance.” The day involves fasting for all adult members of the Jewish community, unless they are sick or otherwise unable. Interestingly, leather items are also prohibited, as observers want to distance themselves from the killing of animals. There is a belief in the Book of Life, opened on Rosh Hashanah and sealed on Yom Kippur, where Jewish people ask for a good inscription for the following year. The group did not have services on Yom Kippur but had an event the previous evening called Kol Nidre. “The Kol Nidre is actually a musical piece,” stated Rabbi

Barbara. “We were lucky to have Caroline Saltzman ’19 play it for us on the cello at the event.” The service helped set the solemn mood for Yom Kippur the next day, preparing the attendees for the day of atonement.

Although the services are not like the large synagogues many of us come from, they are personal and very special to many of us spiritually.

India Lacey '21

Another event was the construction of the Sukkah, located between the Andrew Mellon Library and Hill House. The Sukkah is a piece of the Jewish holiday Sukkot, which is not one of the high holidays but occurs around the same time. The Sukkah is a temporary structure meant to be a reminder for Jewish people of the time their ancestors spent wandering in the deserts of Egypt. The Sukkah contains a laminated description of this time, and Rabbi Barbara strongly encourages people to go inside to learn more about the culture. India Lacey ’21 said, “The Jewish community at Choate is a very small, tight-knit group, and although the services are not like the large synagogues many of us come from, they are personal and very special to many of us spiritually.”

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SCHOOL WINS EDUCATIONAL FUNDRAISING AWARD

By **Carolina Vargas '21**
Reporter

As Choate students sit at their desks writing essays, solving equations, or polishing lab reports, they can sometimes forget about the school’s incredible resources. So many of its special programs, study abroad opportunities, new buildings and other facilities are made possible by Choate’s financial supporters, an ever-growing group of alumni and friends of the school who believe deeply in the institution’s mission. In recent years, donations have been so robust that the international Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) recently awarded Choate an Educational Fundraising Award, honoring schools that, over three years, demonstrate substantial and continuous growth in financial gifts. Between July of 2014 and June of 2017, Choate raised nearly \$70 million.

This is the highest award you can get in the nonprofit fundraising world.

Mr. Dan Courcey
Executive Director of
Development and Alumni
Relations

“This is the highest award you can get in the nonprofit fundraising world,” explained Mr. Dan Courcey, Choate’s Executive Director of Development and Alumni Relations. “It’s based purely on data that is reported to the I.R.S. and to CASE.”

As it happens, the three-year stretch that won Choate its award — officially known as, simply, an “Award for Excellence” — excludes the single largest fundraising year in the school’s

history: 2017-2018, which saw more than \$38 million in donations. This includes gifts in support of Choate’s latest construction project, Ann and George Colony Hall, which is scheduled to open next fall and will improve facilities for the school’s dance, orchestra, and chorus programs and provide a single gathering space for the entire student body.

In the span of only a few years, Choate has seen the opening of a succession of cutting-edge, donor-supported buildings: the Kohler Environmental Center (which opened in 2012); the Cameron and Edward Lanphier Center for Mathematics and Computer Science (2015); and the St. John Hall student center (2017). Ms. KeriAnne Tisdale, who works with Mr. Courcey as the school’s Director of Development Communications, said that, although these buildings are awe-inspiring, “it’s not really about the facilities but more about creating a framework for our community.”

Head of School Dr. Alex Curtis said that the CASE award speaks to “the families and alumni that support and step up for the school; the dedication and professionalism of the development staff; and, third, the faculty, staff, and students.” By way of example, he added, “George Colony and his wife, Ann, didn’t give because they wanted a building, they gave because they know how important our school meetings are and how they bring the school together.”

Choate won a similar award from CASE in 2012, after raising \$69 million between June 2008 and July 2011.

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MAKER FAIRE: A PLACE TO TEACH AND LEARN



Photo courtesy of Travis Feldman

Choate students Kevin Xie '19 and Ollin Mendoza '19 help inspire young creators.

Continued from Page 1

Maker Faire is the DIY projects started by students in college and high school. Aside from art-work and engineering projects, cosplay is also prevalent at Maker Faire, with elaborate costuming made from scratch. Great food and band performances also make this event popular.

Maker Faire acted as an opportunity to be both a

teacher and student. Choate students had a table at the event where they taught on-lookers how to build structures and shapes out of popsicle sticks. The goal for Choate students was to teach others how to create something out of seemingly mundane objects. The Choate attendees also spent time learning how to make things from others at the faire.

The mission of Maker Faire is very similar to the goal of the i.d. Lab here at Choate. The i.d. Lab provides a space where anybody can make anything and can have the confidence to try something new and learn freely. The i.d. Lab also offers Choate attendees a space to see their inspirations from Maker Faire come to fruition on campus.

Dr. Feldman’s favorite memories of Maker Faire include marching bands made of propane tanks and a person playing the bagpipes while wielding a flamethrower. He hopes that the students come back with creative confidence as well as inspiration and confidence in themselves as creators and makers.

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Park '21 Participates in Elite Science Video Competition

Continued from Page 1

interesting to share what I learned, especially since there’s not that much information about it,” Park explained.

His video shows the time and effort put into the project. One of his favorite aspects of making his video, other than the research, was producing the graphics. “My dream is to be an architect,” Park revealed, “Because it’s a job where you combine engineering with the arts. Both by themselves

are exciting, but the real fun comes when you figure out how to incorporate these two. It’s the same with the video; it has to be visually pleasing and easy to understand. That was the joy for me in making this video.”

Throughout the process, Park had to ensure that his information was getting through to a non-scientist audience. He tested his video on family and friends, revising until they could understand every bit. Park emphasized, “You might

have a brilliant idea or a discovery no one’s ever made before, but if you can’t explain it, it’s basically nothing.”

Park recently found out his video had enough views to move through to the final round. His is one of 16 videos still in the competition. His video will now be reviewed by a selection committee which will choose the top five videos, after which the competition sponsor will choose the winner. If Park is chosen, he would become the Breakthrough

Junior Challenge Winner. His prizes would include a \$250,000 scholarship, a \$50,000 prize for Mr. Eric Lane, the teacher who helped him at Fay School, and \$100,000 for Choate to build a science lab. Park encourages that more people apply next year: “Anyone can make this video. You don’t need any special effects, just a good, simple explanation and some creativity.”

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WALLINGFORD THRIFT STORE GIVES BACK



St. Paul's Thrift Shop sells clothing, home decor, appliances, and more from behind the local Episcopal church.

By **Amanda Li '21**
Staff Reporter

Hidden in the lot behind the ornate edifice of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is a small, white brick building with a simple sign identifying it as St. Paul's Thrift Shop. Once inside, one can easily navigate the small, but organized interior, filled with a multitude of items, from pajamas to dolls to picture frames to a panini press. Open Thursday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., this thrift shop is supported by volunteers from the church who dedicate their time each week to this small business.

Around 1986, then Assistant Director of the church Ms. Josephine Taylor came up with the idea for a thrift shop after

working with another church that had one. After securing a loan, making plans, and organizing volunteers, the shop became a reality, located in the basement of the church where accessibility and opportunities for expansion were relatively limited. Ten years later, the church was able to purchase the land on which the current storefront is situated. After renovations by the local Habitat for Humanity, St. Paul's Thrift Shop officially became its own building. For more than 30 years, the store has provided economic support to the church and has been a great way to connect the church with the Wallingford community.

Prices are more than reasonable, ranging from 25-cent mugs and greeting cards to ten

dollar full suits. Occasionally, a really nice item may warrant a \$20 tag, but it is rare that any item exceeds ten dollars. Donations are brought in by both members of the parish and other residents of Wallingford. When switching out seasonal clothes, the store often has a bag sale, where, for the low price of six dollars, customers are given a bag to fill with anything they would like. The store aims not to maximize profit, but to aid the community, so the prices are lower than other local thrift and consignment stores such as Salvation Army and Goodwill, making it the ideal location for anyone from families struggling to make ends meet to students looking for an easy bargain.

For the volunteers, it's a



Photos by Jenny Guo / The Choate News

joy to see both new and returning customers alike and to be able to form close bonds with members of the community. "There used to be a lady who would come in with her little kids and now, although she's no longer a regular, whenever she visits, I always ask about them, even though they're now in college and beyond," said Ms. Jane Smith, the Director of Scheduling for the thrift shop who has been volunteering since the store's inception. St Paul's Thrift Shop also opens up to those in need, offering all items in the store to families undergoing especially tough times for no charge. "That's what keeps me here, seeing and getting to know the customers, and knowing that I'm helping the church I grew up in," said Ms. Smith.

But it all comes down to the people, both customers and volunteers alike. "It's a labor of love for the people who [volunteer]," stated Ms. Smith. Mrs. Kim Nardi, who has been volunteering for more than two years, voiced her agreement, saying, "Oftentimes, customers will come knowing a certain volunteer or community member is going to be there."

St. Paul's Thrift Shop is really a family business, passed down through each generation of parishioners, with each one creating better relations with the store's visitors. Volunteer Mr. Ralph Nardi explained, "Every time we're here, we know that we're serving a good purpose for this community."

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Community Calendar

SEP. 28-SEP. 29

Durham Fair

Sample the many foods, try your luck at games, and enjoy the many rides at this annual fair.

Open Fri. 9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
Sat. 9:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.,
Sun. 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
SAC transportation departs at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.

SEP. 29, 7:00 p.m.

Trail of Terror Opening

Brave this local spin on a haunted house.

60 N Plains Highway
Tickets start at \$15;
\$12 car ride

SEP. 30, 9:30 a.m.

Day Trip tp Boston

Experience the sites, sounds, and flavors of this historic city.

Shuttle departs from St. John Hall
\$25 transportation fee

OCT. 6-OCT. 7

Celebrate Wallingford

Explore the town's many offerings, from cupcakes to candles to jewelry and more, at this annual festival.

N Main Street and South Main Street



By **Peter DiNatale '21**
Columnist

Located just off of Route 5 in Wallingford, Dad's is a traditional American restaurant offering breakfast and lunch throughout the week. They are known for great dining and takeout and now have a newly remodeled delivery and catering service. The restaurant has been open for 15 years and is a family business, run with the intention of serving the community great food in a welcoming and friendly environment.

Ms. Christine Barton, the owner of Dad's restaurant, has been in the restaurant industry since the age of 15. "My family was in the restaurant business for several years," said Ms. Barton. "When opening Dad's, we wanted to serve our customers with quality food and very friendly service." Ms. Barton shared that all the same waitresses have been working at Dad's for the entirety of its existence.

Serving breakfast until 1:00 p.m. on weekends, Dad's restaurant offers a wide selection of American breakfast fare. The restaurant serves a plethora of egg and cheese

breakfast sandwiches with options for bacon, sausage, and ham. Raisin and regular French toast as well as pancakes with various fruit and nut toppings are also available. Dad's serves many kinds of eggs, including what they call "The Bird's Nest," a meal consisting of two eggs cooked inside the customer's choice

Dad's Restaurant
740 N. Colony Road

Open for breakfast and lunch Mon.-Fri.; weekends for breakfast only

of toast. According to Ms. Barton, the pancakes and corned beef hash are the most popular items on the menu. The specials, posted on a whiteboard in the restaurant's dining area as well as on their Facebook page, also tend to be in high demand, often featuring seasonally inspired items. All of

the food prepared at Dad's restaurant is homemade. Dad's also serves lunch on weekdays, offering a selection of sandwiches, salads, and soups. Some popular items are the turkey favorite sandwich, the roast beef favorite sandwich, and the Cobb salad.

With Dad's open for fifteen years, Ms. Barton has begun to look for ways she can make an even more comfortable and family-friendly environment. "We were just in the middle of a big remodel that lasted a good six months or so," said Ms. Barton. "We received new booths and tables and just finished up repainting the walls." Dad's has long been a family-oriented restaurant with quality homemade food. They have now enhanced their already successful enterprise with an updated interior and additional food delivery options. The Dad's website expresses that the restaurant's staff functions as a family, then opens its arms to the public, saying, "We would love for you to join our family as well."

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Photo courtesy of Dad's Restaurant's Uber Eats profile

Dad's offers classic American breakfast and lunch fare, with everything from burgers to Belgian waffles.

HUBCAP Incubates New Businesses



Photo courtesy of HUBCAP Wallingford

HUBCAP cultivates new businesses and helped local high-school students create a pop-up restaurant.

By **Will Zhu '20**
Copy Editor

On the block between Knuckleheads and Alyssa's Bakery lies an unassuming building with a sign that reads "HUBCAP Wallingford: Community, Business, Education." At first glance, most students would be confused by the vague sign. However, HUBCAP's purpose is actually quite simple: to provide opportunities for new businesses to grow and high school students to gain real world work experience. The organization accomplishes these goals by providing rental spaces for new businesses and helping high school students work at these businesses. The name "HUBCAP" is a portmanteau of these two ideas: the organization is the business hub of Wallingford, and it assists high school students with Capstone projects.

HUBCAP first began to take root in 2013 when co-founder Mr. Vincenzo M. Landino met with Wallingford Center executive director Ms. Liz Landow to discuss ways to support local businesses. "We started talking, and then, I just happened to say, 'I've heard of these new incubator businesses.' And his eyes lit up, and he said, 'That's what I wanna do here,'" said Ms. Landow of the meeting. After reviewing the idea with Wallingford's Head of Economic Development, HUBCAP was established in February 2014 with the support of the Wallingford Center.

HUBCAP's incubator model specifically supports small busi-

ness owners who are intimidated by the high costs of brick-and-mortar stores. To guide these business owners, HUBCAP provides "incubator suites," cheap rental spaces with free internet and access to printers, scanners, and photocopiers. The design of some incubator suites also facilitates interactions between business owners so they can bounce ideas off each other during lunch or share business plans in a conference room. HUBCAP also offers a mentoring program that helps entrepreneurs develop their business ideas.

Since its establishment, HUBCAP has helped a number of small businesses. Most of these success stories begin as pop-up businesses in a HUBCAP incubator suite and grow to become fully fledged businesses. One example is the Wallingford store "We Are Micro." This store began when a college graduate and former Wallingford public high school student worked with HUBCAP to create a graphic T-shirt store. Following a very successful launch, the business was eventually able to afford a storefront elsewhere in Wallingford.

In addition, HUBCAP connects these businesses to local high schools, such as Lyman Hall High School and Mark T. Sheehan High School. Students can obtain real-life work experience by working at a HUBCAP-sponsored business. In fact, beginning with the class of 2020, a new Connecticut state law will require all public high school students to complete a Capstone project that demonstrates their ability to use

the knowledge and skills they have acquired for some kind of real-world application. Some of these projects take the form of temporary restaurants. In 2017, as part of the Wallingford Public Schools Culinary and Hospitality Program, HUBCAP helped students create self-run, fully functioning pop-up restaurants, including an Asian fusion restaurant and a bakery café. Another Capstone project made possible by HUBCAP was an art auction held in the HUBCAP building by a local high school student. The student auctioned 34 pieces of artwork and donated all the proceeds to charity.

HUBCAP also provides an educational program named the Credit for Life program. During this one-day program, all 500 sophomores from Lyman Hall and Mark T. Sheehan participate in a "Game of Life" where they learn how to pay taxes, pay student loans, and buy a house in addition to many other important life skills. At the end of the program, students talk to financial advisors and discuss their monthly financial plan.

HUBCAP is focused on helping young innovators in Wallingford bring their ideas to life while stimulating economic growth in the local Wallingford community. According to Mr. Landino, "To me it's really about the next generation of entrepreneurs. It's about those upcoming, the future of our towns."

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Apple Classroom Is Harming, Not Helping

By **CC Gulbrandsen '20**
Opinions Writer

The introduction of the iPad Pro across campus has prompted many teachers to incorporate Apple Classroom, a function that allows teachers to, from their own iPads, view student screens, open apps on student iPads, share screens with one another, and lock student iPads without warning. On the surface, it seems that this function facilitates the learning process, offering teachers a convenient way to track their students' progress in class.

Despite the seeming convenience Apple Classroom provides, however, the app harms the classroom more than it helps.

It shouldn't fall upon the teacher to patrol a student's every move in class.

When one matriculates at Choate, she pledges to live by Choate's core values — including the stringent Honor Code. Each student's status at Choate already entails living with integrity. Because of this pledge, teachers should trust students enough to not use an application that monitors them. Whether or not teachers do use the function to track students' activities is beside the point; that the teachers can choose any student's iPad at any given moment and display their screen to the whole class is an intrusion of privacy.

I understand that paying attention in class can sometimes be difficult, especially when maximal focus is expected over the entire seventy minute block.

However, a student holds her own responsibility to do well in class. If a student chooses to game or shop in class instead of focusing, it is her fault — not the teacher's. Whether or not the student fulfills this responsibility should be of her own discretion. It shouldn't fall upon the teacher to patrol a student's every move in class, even if it's just checking a student's screen at a given moment. Apple Classroom really doesn't belong in the classroom.

With Apple Classroom, teachers can connect to any student and monitor her iPad activity anywhere within Bluetooth range — much farther than the periphery of a classroom. While it is true that the status bar on a student's iPad will turn blue when the teacher is watching, it is nonetheless concerning that teachers can view student screens outside of the classroom. In honesty, the thought of anyone being able to access my iPad screen as long we are within range makes me very uncomfortable. While many wouldn't do such a thing, the fact that it *could* happen is a breach of privacy in itself.

Apple Classroom provides teachers a convenient way to track students' progress in class. However, this benefit is coupled with an unhealthy amount of control teachers have over students' iPads. Even if teachers don't go to such extents to monitor students' productivity, they shouldn't have the option of doing so. Instead, teachers should rest assured knowing that students are staying on task during class and aren't abusing the privilege of an iPad.

CC Gulbrandsen is a fifth former from Lebanon, NJ. She may be reached at cgulbrandsen20@choate.edu



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CORRECTION

School News

A school news article last week inadvertently identified Rick Saltz as Choate's Chief Financial Officer. On July 1, Walt Schaeffler became Choate's new CFO.

The Choate News regrets this error.
To submit a correction, email thechoatenews@choate.edu

REEXAMINE SAGE'S INTERNATIONAL FOOD SECTION



Photo by Pinn Chirathivat/The Choate News

By **Naina Sharma '21**
Opinions Writer

The international section: the dining hall's source of Asian cuisine, a place where international students can find tastes of home away from home. It represents, according to the SAGE website, "the culinary traditions of nations bordering the eastern Pacific Ocean," spanning places "from China, Japan and Korea in the North, to Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Indonesia in the South."

At least, that was the supposed intention of the station. Unfortunately, some — international students in particular — have spoken out against the station's warped representations of Asian culture, claiming that the station does more harm than good.

First, let's examine the food itself. Hailing from Singapore and having travelled about Southeast Asia, I would say that I have a good sense of how real Asian cuisine tastes. To me, the international section's Asian food does not taste like authentic Asian food. The "Chinese" meal options — Szechuan-style Cauliflower Stir-Fry, Lo Mein Noodles, and

General Tso's Pork, to name a few — are inauthentic versions of American-Chinese food (which is, in itself, a poor representation of Chinese food anyway). Dumping generous amounts of soy sauce into a dish simply does not suffice. International students at Choate already have to invest double the effort to help others truly understand their culture, and SAGE's misrepresentation of Asian culture only exacerbates this task.

To clarify, the food itself doesn't necessarily taste bad. Sometimes, it's even better than the options in the servery. But that's the problem — the international food section is perceived as a place for extra food. If everything else that day sucks, why not try the international station? It isn't a surprise that Meatless Mondays are accompanied by long lines of hungry students at the international food section, crowding the station not for an appreciation of the dishes but instead as a loophole from the lack of meat. A place supposedly representing a range of cultural traditions is relegated to nothing but a source of cooked meat.

I'm not the only one who holds these views about the international food section. Choate students

have taken it upon themselves to come up with creative nicknames for this section of the dining hall such as the "Cultural Appropriation Station" or the "Asian Station." While these names sound harsh, they aren't without reason. SAGE advertises the station, named Pacific Thyme, as a cultural experience, but by misrepresenting these cultures, SAGE inadvertently appropriates them. Sadly, these nicknames represent the student body's perspective on the international station as somewhat of a joke. The food itself may taste quite good, but the ridicule of the international section's purpose is an issue that must be addressed.

SAGE also offers Latin cuisine at the station. As someone who grew up on dumplings and noodles, I am not well-versed in the realm of tamales or ropa vieja. However, while I can't comment on the authenticity of SAGE's rendition of these dishes, it is important to note that SAGE advertises the Latin section as having "turquoise tiles and colorful spoons," thus "broaden[ing] our understanding of Latin food and culture" — problematic, as the description relegates an entire culture to a singular aspect.

So what's the solution to all this? For starters, SAGE must edit their website; their descriptions misrepresent culture for very obvious reasons. Ideally, SAGE would also hire chefs familiar with Asian and Latin cuisine. If not, however, SAGE could at least reach out to students who know about international cuisines and get their input, suggestions, and recipes.

In honesty, I really appreciate some aspects of the international food station. I welcome the endless supply of white rice; I value the source of meat on Monday afternoons; I actually enjoy eating some of the "Asian" food that is made, whether or not it tastes like the food I know from home. However, I don't appreciate the weak representation of international culture — especially in an environment comprised of so many international students. The station should only exist if SAGE commits itself fully to serving food truly expressive of Asian cuisine.

Naina Sharma is a fourth former from Hanoi, Vietnam. She may be reached at nsharma21@choate.edu

CHOATE NEEDS AFFINITY GROUPS



Photo courtesy of Ross Mortensen

By **Kiki Kim '20**
Opinions Staff Writer

How do we socially organize ourselves at Choate? Dorms, clubs, and ensembles are all ways that we connect with each other while exploring common interests, but there is one type of organization missing from the list: affinity groups.

Affinity groups are organizations comprised solely of people who identify with a certain demographic, whether race, gender, sexual orientation, or other cultural identifier. Many other institutions have specialized groups only for black, queer, or differently abled students and employees; yet, Choate does not officially condone the formation of exclusive student groups.

Choate clubs are required to allow admission to anybody who demonstrates interest. Selective musical ensembles are exceptions to this rule, but even so, anyone can audition. These rules likely exist in order

to create an inclusive environment for all, which I believe to be a worthy cause, especially when an organization's goal is to spread awareness of issues to the greater school community.

Inclusivity, however, has its shortcomings.

All-inclusive clubs cannot service certain demographics the same way affinity groups do. Affinity groups provide valuable space for members of marginalized communities to gather, empower one another, and understand how to navigate the world together as members of the same marginalized community. These exclusive groups provide a platform for members to hold discussions with the common ground of their shared cultural identifier, not needing to water down conversations or rephrase their ideas to cater to those not of their identity.

An affinity group can also be a community, a family to turn to for those that find it difficult transitioning to Cho-

ate. Here, many people face problems they have never experienced before and could use guidance to get through these problems. In some cases, shared experience from students who identify similarly can facilitate this guidance and self-awareness.

Despite the rules, some existing clubs at Choate function essentially as affinity groups. While these clubs' memberships are technically open to all, efforts to recruit new members are geared towards the target demographic rather than the entire student body. This is no fault of the students. Rather, it is a fault of the School's approach to club life. Clearly, students who are attempting to create pseudo-affinity groups from clubs would benefit significantly from official, school-sanctioned affinity groups.

One could argue that affinity groups simply cannot replace certain clubs. Because of the limitation of their membership, affinity groups can't reach the broader school pop-

ulation in the same way that clubs can — and I would fully agree with this point.

Affinity groups and clubs are complementary to each other, not exclusive of one another. The presence of affinity groups would help clubs better serve their function of bringing together people of different experiences. With affinity groups fulfilling the need to to occasionally unite people with similar cultural identifiers, clubs can freely admit allies.

At Choate, we are a conglomerate of countless identities, all trying to find a place in the mass. Affinity groups would provide us direction by giving students the space to build a stronger sense of our own identities. In gaining greater self-awareness, we would, over time, begin to better understand the identities of others and become a stronger, more compassionate community.

Kiki Kim is a fifth former from San Francisco. She may be reached at kkim20@choate.edu



The Choate News presents...



The Great Debate

Should the Confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh be Delayed Until the 116th Congress?

By **Edie Conekin-Tooze '19**
Opinions Writer

Even before accusations of sexual misconduct were leveled against Brett Kavanaugh, there were legitimate reasons for the confirmation hearing of a Supreme Court Justice nominee with only 34% of public support to be delayed until after November's midterm elections. Republicans should be expected to follow the precedents that they themselves established, and the logistical difficulties of producing so many documents so quickly has resulted in a frighteningly corrupt system.

In 2016, during Obama's last nine months in office, he put forward Merrick Garland to replace the late Antonin Scalia on the Supreme Court. This selection was a completely typical use of presidential power, and in his announcement of Garland's nomination, Obama defended the tradition of non-political confirmation processes. He said, "At a time when our politics are so polarized ... this is precisely the time when we should play it straight and treat the process of appointing a Supreme Court justice with the seriousness and care it deserves." Mitch McConnell, the Senate majority leader, disregarded the President's words and attempted to steal the seat from the Democratic Party, by refusing to even meet with Garland and not allowing the Senate to hold any confirmation hearings. McConnell claimed that the Supreme Court nomination should wait nine months until a new president was elected so that "the American people [could] have a say in the court's direction."

By doing so, McConnell eroded political norms and set a precedent that confirmation hearings should be held after elections. Hypocrite that he is, McConnell, in a July 9, 2018 tweet after Brett Kavanaugh's nomination, asked liberals to "evaluate [Trump's] nominee fairly, based on their qualifications."

What he was actually asking was for liberals to let him change the rules that he created to try to push through a Supreme Court nominee who would likely serve for at least thirty years, a mere four months before an election that could flip Congress blue. Not only is this action hypocritical, but it also hasn't allowed for adequate time for Kavanaugh's documents to be processed appropriately.

As a Supreme Court Justice nominees with one of the longest paper trails, a Kavanaugh nomination should take longer than normal. Due to the sheer speed at which the National Archives is being asked to produce documents, the typical process has been degraded. In addition, Former President George W. Bush's personal lawyer has taken over the process of producing documents for the confirmation hearings, which is overtly corrupt and partisan. Having a lawyer hired by a Republican president decide what information the Senate views regarding a

Supreme Court nominee who is hugely unpopular, quite young, and able to push the highest court in the land to overturn rulings as important to the American people as *Roe v. Wade* leaves many fearing for the American democratic system.

Anyone who cares about the future of our nation should be watching right now and calling on the Senate to pause the confirmation hearings and allow the people to vote before a decision of this caliber is made in haste. For the second time in three years, Mitch McConnell and the Republican Party are making a partisan decision about a Supreme Court seat without a fair and democratic confirmation process. This time, the American people must make it known that they do not consent.

Edie Conekin-Tooze is a sixth former from New York City. She may be reached at econekintooze19@choate.edu

By **Charlie Yockey '19**
Opinions Writer

In recent weeks, the confirmation hearings of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court have dominated the news cycle. At the center of the debate over his confirmation lies the question of whether the Senate should delay the proceedings until after the 2018 midterm elections have been held and the next session of Congress has been sworn in. To delay the hearings until after the election would be a mistake because it would weaken judicial independence, and there is no compelling procedural reason to do so.

The founding fathers conceived of a United States with an independent judiciary — insulated from the volatile leanings of popular opinion and partisan interests of politics. To delay the confirma-

tion of any Supreme Court Justice until after an election so that the public may weigh in betrays this ideal. Calls to delay any confirmation hearing until after an election are part of a larger politicization of the judiciary in our society. *Roe v. Wade*, in 1973, changed the game. After that contentious case, politicians have, more than ever, valued outcomes over qualifications when selecting judges. To allow the confirmation to be delayed until after the midterm elections would only worsen this trend, as it would create a perverse incentive for lawmakers to appoint justices who will deliver outcomes the public desires.

Courts should be apolitical bodies; to allow the public to choose a new set of lawmakers based on how they would vote on a Supreme Court nominee is a scary prospect. If justice is to be protected

in this country, judicial independence must be preserved. To dictate the composition of the courts based on public opinion would be the end of judicial independence and, consequently, the death of the American legal system.

Judicial independence aside, many feel that precedent for a delay has already been set. Such proponents are, rightfully, still angry over the events of early 2016, but the Senate must deviate from the obstructionist model set by Senator Mitch McConnell when he refused to consider the nomination of Merrick Garland. What happened to Judge Garland is an inexcusable failure of the greatest magnitude; however, this injustice should not serve as the basis for more injustices. Senate rules do not stipulate that the President or Congress elected after a Justice's departure from the bench are responsible for appointing his or her successor—the rules stipulate that the acting President or acting Congress are responsible for that appointment. In order to remain impartial, judges must not become subjective to the public through democratic elections, and Senator McConnell's precedent must be ignored.

The Senate must refrain from vengeful action to atone for wrongdoing against President Obama's Supreme Court nominee. If judicial independence is to be preserved, the Senate must not create a norm of waiting until after elections to appoint Justices. If the Kavanaugh hearing is to be delayed, it should not be on procedural grounds or to take away the sitting Congress's authority to confirm him.

Charlie Yockey is a sixth former from Springfield, IL. He may be reached at cystick19@choate.edu



A vote on the confirmation to the Supreme Court of Judge Brett Kavanaugh may come as soon as today.

Photo courtesy of The New York Times

Michael Bloomberg: A Moderate Candidate in Times of Partisanship

By **Kate Bailey '21**
Opinions Writer

Last week, speculation began to circle that billionaire and former New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg is considering running for president in the 2020 election. At first glance, these rumors seemed to be nothing new; in several past presidential elections, similar gossip has spread about Bloomberg's possible candidacy, and every time, he has chosen not to run. However, there's a major difference in store for the 2020 campaign: Bloomberg is supposedly planning on running as a Democrat, despite serving as a Republican mayor and later an independent. His decision to run as a Democrat is a good thing. Because of his relatively centrist views and his love for the people, Michael Bloomberg could become the fair, capable president America needs.

Having Bloomberg in the Oval Office would benefit the country primarily because it might counteract the current trend of extreme polarization in US politics. Right now, many Democrats are veering toward socialist ideas, while many Republicans are moving toward the far right. These shifts are creating a larger and larger divide between the two parties with both sides constantly villainizing the other; this polarization makes progress difficult.

However, having Bloomberg as president could potentially alleviate this toxic situation. While current Democrats and Republicans drift away from each other, Bloomberg would be waiting in the middle with his socially progressive yet fiscally conservative values. The right would be pleased with his conservative approach to taxes and foreign relations, while the left would appreciate his genuine concern for climate change and gun violence. Bloomberg brings something to the table for everyone.

Bloomberg's past political experience also shows his true love for the people he serves. He spent much of his time as mayor passing legislation to improve education in New York City, particularly in low-income areas. During his tenure, the city saw an overall increase in student test scores and graduation rate, and teacher salaries rose by 15 percent. Additionally, Bloomberg supports gun control and co-founded Mayors Against Illegal Guns. Bloomberg clearly effected lasting, positive change while in office, which is not something every presidential candidate can claim.

Because of his relatively centrist views, Michael Bloomberg could become the fair, capable president America needs.

This change didn't stop once Bloomberg left office, however. Throughout the current political cycle, he has donated more than 80 million dollars to Democratic candidates in an effort to flip control of the Republican-controlled Congress. These efforts show how much Bloomberg genuinely cares about his country, a redeemable presidential character trait.

Bloomberg is a fair politician and a fair man. Though he isn't the perfect candidate — he supports stop-and-frisk policies in New York and has openly criticized the #MeToo movement — he certainly checks a lot of boxes. In order to finally unite its broken pieces, America needs a moderate president like Michael Bloomberg.

Kate Bailey is a fourth former from Charlotte, NC. She may be reached at kbailey21@choate.edu

ON MINORITY REPRESENTATION, HOLLYWOOD MUST DO BETTER



Crazy Rich Asians made history this summer as one of very few movies to feature an all-Asian cast.

By **Alex Alkhayer '20**
Copy Editor

In 2017, University of Southern California (USC) Annenberg published a report on diversity in Hollywood, finding that "exclusion is the norm rather than the exception in Hollywood." It's possible to argue that minority representation in the film and television industries exists, in reference to recent movies such as *Black Panther* and *Crazy Rich Asians*. And while minority representation is improving, to say Hollywood truly supports minorities is inaccurate. Hollywood must first recognize its ignorance and its implicit — sometimes explicit — bias against minorities before working toward representing them.

It's important to realize that in using the phrase "minority representation," what is implied is accurate minority representation. To continue to perpetrate false and offensive stereotypes in movies or TV shows does not constitute minority representation.

Mass media can be a powerful influence on how minorities are viewed. As a result, the me-

dia often "teaches" the public about both ethnic and societal minorities, but too often it does so unfairly and inaccurately. According to a 2011 study by The Opportunity Agenda, these limited portrayals of minorities result in "less attention from doctors to harsher sentencing by judges, lower likelihood of being hired for a job or admitted to school, lower odds of getting loans, and a higher likelihood of being shot by police." Minority representation has the power to influence many aspects of minorities' lives.

Crude portrayals and lack of representation also influence how minorities view themselves by reducing self-esteem and reinforcing inaccurate stereotypes. The constant barrage of stereotypes can deceive minorities on how they should act. Casting white actors for non-white roles ("whitewashing") is especially prevalent in Hollywood, encouraging actors to perpetuate and to reinforce stereotypes "accurately" portraying a minority. Recent examples include films *Death Note* and *Ghost in the Shell*, in which a white lead was

cast for an Asian character. On the other hand, minority actors find themselves in a catch-22: they must take on roles to earn a living, but many of these roles contribute to stereotyping. For example, Ice Cube's character in *Fist Fight* amounts to nothing more than the stereotypical angry and violent black man.

Films and TV shows must work toward better representing minorities, subsequently giving minorities role models to look up to. The public should not be taught to idolize the white hero and scorn the minority villain but to accept people of all backgrounds as equal. The public should not be taught that a woman can achieve anything she puts her mind to. The public should not be taught that a gay person is your "gay best friend" but a person who cannot belong to anyone nor be confined to the status of "sidekick."

All too often, if minorities are not falsely depicted in a film or TV show, they are not depicted at all. 70.7% of characters

in 2017 films were white, while 4.8% were Asian; 6.2% were Hispanic; and 12.1% were black. Less than 1% belonged to the LGBTQ+ community.

In addition to featuring minority leads, the film and television industries must work to hire diverse talent behind the camera. Many directors, writers, and executives that belong to a minority group do not receive the recognition and opportunities they deserve. Another USC Annenberg study found that, from a pool of 1,233 directors in the span of 11 years, only 4.3% were women; 5.2% were black; and 3.2% were Asian.

Today, minority representation rests in the audience's hands. Supporting films that feature minority leads and movies that are written or produced by minority filmmakers will advocate for greater representation in Hollywood. When the public demands more inclusiveness, Hollywood will have to deliver.

Alex Alkhayer is a fifth former from South Windsor, CT. She may be reached at aalkhayer20@choate.edu

Photo courtesy of The Washington Post

Edsall House Renovation Uncovers Antique Kitchen



Photo courtesy of Jim Ferranti

Workers renovating Edsall House last summer took down a wall and discovered a stove and sink that they believe dates to the late-19th century.

By **Camille Grant '21**
Reporter

One day last summer, as Choate was in the middle of an extensive renovation of Edsall House, Project Manager Mr. James Ferranti uncovered an antique kitchen while moving walls from a first-floor bedroom. Mrs. Alison Cady, Director of Strategic Planning and Communications, described the discovery as “buried treasure.” What hid behind the wall, for several years, was a partial kitchen, including a cast-iron skillet, a coal stove (likely an original), a sink, and possibly a water-heating system.

Mr. Ferranti was overseeing renovations this past summer on the senior boys’

dorm when his team stumbled across this unexpected kitchen. “It was kind of confusing because there was just a large void in the wall,” said Mr. Ferranti. Regarding the date of the kitchen, he explained, “We don’t have a specific date, but we believe that it was built in the late 1800s.”

Edsall’s renovation was part of an ongoing renovation process: each summer, one or two dorms are renovated while students are away. Miraculously, it seems, Choate dormitories transform almost overnight. In Edsall, none of the rising seniors knew about the renovations until they arrived on campus. “Whatever the needs are, we’re trying to update them as perfectly as we can,” said Mr. Ferranti.

Mr. Ferranti worked alongside Mr. Mark Cappello, Director of Facilities, to carefully plan the Edsall renovation. They discovered the scope of the project, created estimates, met with an architect, and bid the project out to contractors.

According to Mr. Ferranti, they try to get contractors out by the Monday after students return home. Mr. Ferranti was instrumental during the construction itself; he was regularly answering questions, guiding contractors, and keeping the project on track. This is crucial because there can be anywhere from three to fifteen Choate staff working on a single renovation. Last summer, they renovated East Cottage and Archbold; before that,

Quantrell and Clinton Knight; and even further back, Spencer and McCook. Regarding different dorm renovations, Mr. Ferranti said, “They’re all interesting in their own respects because you’re renovating an existing building. You never know what you’re going to find when you open up a wall.”

The Edsall kitchen “took several full-grown people to remove that — it was not a light piece of equipment,” said Mr. Ferranti. Mrs. Cady and Mr. Ferranti have theorized that the kitchen was the result of some physical shortcoming. It’s possible, they think, that Edsall’s original renovator wasn’t strong enough to move the stove, so they just left it there. Mr. Ferranti ap-

proached several longtime facilities employees, some of whom had worked at Choate for multiple decades; nothing had rivaled this discovery. Unfortunately, the equipment was beyond repair — it was immediately disposed of.

You never know what you’re going to find when you open up a wall.

Mr. James Ferranti
Project Manager

In terms of the future, Mr. Ferranti and his team have a longer-term plan to regularly

renovate the dormitories. It’s almost a never-ending cycle — by the time that they’ve exhausted every dormitory, a new problem will arise. “Even if everything worked perfectly, they still might need to be refreshed,” said Mrs. Cady. She called the renovation cycle a “living project.” They can’t always get to every problem, so they must attempt to address these withstanding issues during another summer, Mr. Ferranti explained. “After you go through five or six years of renovating all the dorms,” Mr. Cappello said, “you double-back to paint all the doors, or change the door hardware.”

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Question of the Week: Is Senior Fall Harder than Junior Spring?

By **Lizzie Quinn '20**
Staff Reporter

Junior spring and senior fall: arguably the two most challenging terms of one’s high school career at Choate. Both terms come with the added stress of the college application process added on to more academically demanding courses. Can it be determined which term is more difficult, or does it vary overall, from person to person? I addressed this question to the class of 2019:

Amisha Iyer '19:

“Yes. Well, there’s the added stress of college applications. Junior spring: it wasn’t that intense in terms of college, because we didn’t actually have to apply at that point in time, whereas now it’s a lot of essay writing, essay revision — all of that stuff. I’m also taking harder classes this term, so that’s also a lot harder. I guess in junior spring, there were a lot of applications to leadership programs, but now that those are already decided, I feel like there’s less stress in terms of that.”

Arsh Sekhon '19:

“Personally, there is a lot of stress from classes, and obviously junior year is harder than freshman or sophomore year, but the stress doesn’t even compare to senior fall. Not to scare you, but it doesn’t compare. Over the past three weeks, I’ve never felt this way before. I would also say that I think prefecting adds a little stress to it, especially prefecting freshmen.”

Reeve Sobol '19:

“I would say senior fall is a lot harder than junior spring. First of all, because you’re taking harder classes than you were as a junior. The hardest classes you take as a junior are the ones that are like senior-level classes, so as a senior, you’re taking that plus a year, usually. And you also usually have time to specialize more in your courses. For example, I’m taking two science courses, which is a lot harder than if I was spread across all of the disciplines. And then, also, even if your workload for senior year isn’t worse than it was junior spring, it’s definitely not going

to be easier, and you also have a ton of stuff to write for colleges — you have to go through that whole process. So, it doesn’t really end in the sense where in junior spring, like if you finish homework, you get a break. Senior fall, you don’t get that break time.”

Tyler Redlitz '19:

“I think academically, senior fall is easier. The problem is that I play a varsity sport in the fall (boys’ varsity soccer — come out to our games). The varsity sport takes up a lot more time, and the other thing is applications. Junior spring was when I got all of my work done, which was like ‘great, got the work done, I can do some extracurricular stuff if I wanted.’ But, now, it’s like, ‘get all the work done, and suddenly there’s a whole new set of work to do.’ And it’s all long-term work. It’s not like you’re done, ever.”

Blake Migden '19:

“Socially, nutritionally, mentally, physically, spiritually, I’m drained. They’re [junior spring and senior fall] both hard and add up to hell. I’ve learned that perseverance is a lie.”

Aaron Xing '19:

“I think senior fall can be both difficult and easy depending on your course load. I personally took more challenging and time-consuming classes during my junior spring, so my transition to senior fall has been relatively stress-free. The college process does take up a lot of time, however, so get your stuff done early so that senior fall isn’t horrible.”

The polls are in: senior fall proves to be the more difficult term compared to junior spring. Nonetheless, the two terms are strenuous in their own ways. Redlitz emphasized the importance of keeping a good mindset during these stressful times. There’s a broad range of advice for the junior class as they trek through their fall term, from Sekhon’s recommendation of “making lists” to Shraya Poetti ’19’s straightforward “Good luck, Charlie.”

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CHOATE STUDENTS FIND CREATIVE OUTLETS IN PERSONAL WEBSITES



Photo courtesy of “dereksfault”

Image from Derek Ng ’20’s website “dereksfault.”

By **Deanna Tan '20**
Staff Reporter

We all have valuable memories and creations. For Ethan Luk ’20 and Derek Ng ’20, their valuable creations are in the forms of personalized websites, reflecting their journey and emotions.

Luk runs an online gallery called “The Waiting Room” that displays his photography and words. “The Waiting Room” serves two purposes: one is to provide an online portfolio of the work he did over the summer, and the second is to show people what it means to be a teenager in this day and age. Luk created his website at a summer program at Brown University. “I have always wanted to create a full body of work, so I took advantage of the whole creative environment of Brown and pushed myself to complete this project over the course of one week,” said Luk.

Luk’s inspiration for the

website came from hearing his friends’ discussions about not knowing what to do in life and the frustration of having to live up to all the expectations of being the “perfect teenager.” He wanted to create a project that documented where he is as an artist right now and to shed light on the complex emotions of the teenage experience. Luk shared, “I thought that it was so important of me to create a complete project that could mark as an important milestone in my growth as an artist.”

Luk hopes kids his age will find it relatable and realize that the most important thing about their teenage years is to be willing to feel confused and to think freely. Luk explained, “This sentiment of feeling confused and not having it all together is reflected in the ‘shower thoughts’ segment of my piece — the shower thoughts are tiny segments of words that represent my thoughts.”

People have been very supportive of Luk’s work, and many have reached out to him on Instagram and Snapchat, saying that they find his pieces to be meaningful and relatable. To Luk, this is the ultimate praise. “I want people to have their own take on my work and to start an inner conversation with my pieces,” Luk said.

Ng, like Luk, runs a website of his own. His website, named “dereksfault,” is a home for everything he does, ranging from writing to taking photos. There are blog posts detailing whatever has been new in his life. Ng explained, “It’s an important part of me because it’s sort of a journal on who I am, at least as a writer and an artist. I guess it documents how my thoughts, my style, my ideas have changed as time passes. Also, when I read the words I write from my different experiences, it’s like I’m thrown back in time and reliving them again, and it always makes me feel nostalgic about all my his-

tory. It’s a bittersweet feeling, but that’s the cool thing about writing and photos: it has the power to make you relive moments long ago.”

For various reasons, Ng would grow frustrated with every journal he wrote, and never ended up writing to the end of them. He hoped that creating a website would eliminate this frustration.

Ng does a lot of writing in his free time, mainly because it is something that really speaks to who he is. Ng shared, “Not long ago, I wrote an essay named ‘Letting Go,’ a reflection on how my grandmother’s passing affected our family, as well as looking into some of the themes that, well, make us who we are: human. I talked a little about my family’s history, about our values, about our beliefs. I guess putting the essay on the website means sharing it with the world.”

Deanna Tan may be reached at dtan20@choate.edu

PMAC Welcomes New Arts Concentration Students

By **Yolanda Wang '20**
Reporter

Every year, Choate's Arts Concentration Program brings together new, aspiring artists to share their passions and cultivate their skills. Since the start of the school year, the PMAC has been bustling with new students busy with innovative projects in a variety of disciplines. Several new members of Arts Con shared their thoughts as they begin their journeys.

Alex Denhart '20, Visual Arts

"I thought there would be a lot more guided work, but it's a lot of free time instead for you to explore your creativity. It was really daunting at first because you don't have any ideas when someone just tells you to make something. Although there's a lot of pressure while working with very talented people, it's also a good thing because they inspire and help me. I think it's about learning not to compare yourself to others around you and to learn from them instead. In the future, I want to explore bigger concepts in relation to myself and my experiences."

Mark Ma '20, Music

"The difference between chamber music and playing concertos is that you actually have to cooperate and listen to each other without a conductor to guide you. I'd like to have a good relationship with other string players and become a better person through Arts Con."

Vidhya Pathy '20, Music

"I wanted to join Arts Con since the moment I applied [to Choate]. I want to expand my repertoire exponentially and play Baroque quartet music."

Derek Ng '20, Visual Arts

"Arts Con is a place where I can truly devote myself to being an artist and craft art that I can call my own. The people are so great here, and we are like a tightly-knit family."

Matt Lee '20, Visual Arts

"The whole process of making a movie takes a long time, and I hope that having two hours every day to work in Arts Con will be super helpful. I think being surrounded by other artists will inspire me to make art. I'm also trying to branch out from making just movies, and I've been getting into photography and mixed media. I hope Arts Con will give me the opportunity, materials, and guidance to do that. Making movies isn't a traditional art form and is new to Arts Con. There isn't a lot of previous knowledge to guide me, and we're still in the experimental stage, so we'll have to work around that."

Yuting Wang '20, Visual Arts

"I used to think art was about colors and canvases. However, as I did more art, I realized that art can literally be anything. Even a bottle of paint spilled on the carpet."

ArtPod: Where Visual Art Meets Community Service

By **Simran Sachdeva '19**
Reporter

It is no secret that Choate is both an artistic and giving community. At this year's Club Fair, students could sign up for long-time clubs Teach Music and Teach Wallingford, as well as ArtPod, an entirely new community service club created by sixth-formers Jeanne Malle '19 and Josephine Hong '19. (Malle is the Arts Editor of *The Choate News*.) ArtPod will focus on teaching the basics of art to elementary students from the Spanish Community of Wallingford, also known as SCOW.

Hong, co-president of ArtPod, highlights the importance of simple participation in the club. She said, "You don't need to have a certain set of skills and you don't need to be an artist, as long as you are willing to have fun with these kids and share a little art with them that they may not get otherwise."

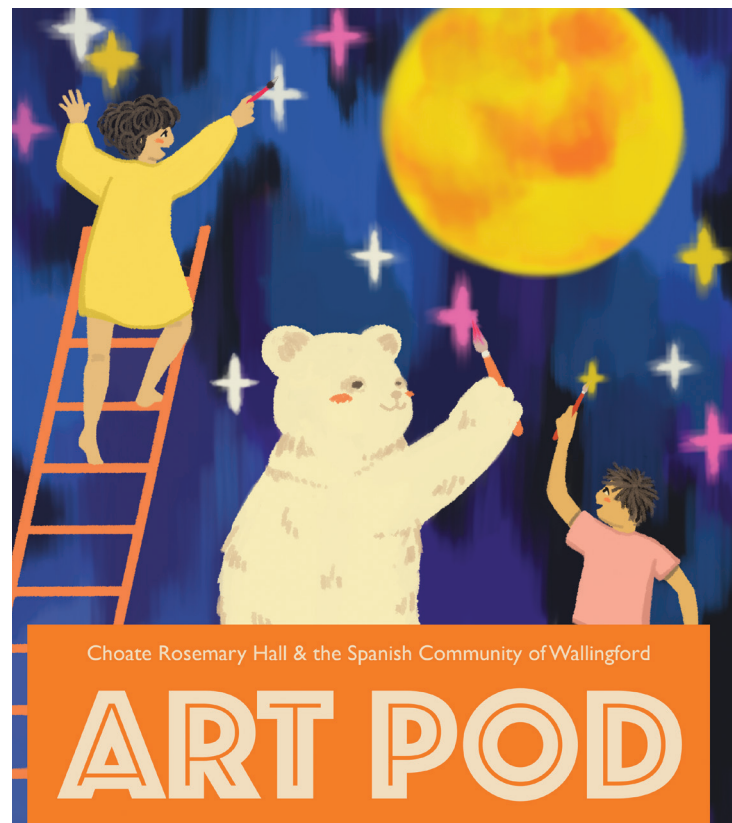
The club's members will lead activities that are both fun and instructive. Some future plans include a Halloween candy wrapper project, a pasta project for National Pasta Day

(on Wednesday, October 17), and card-making for the end-of-year holidays. Hong and Malle will also be teaching more difficult artistic concepts, such as abstractionism and pointillism, though admittedly in simplified forms. For instance, they will be painting pointillism style dots with Q-tips.

According to Hong, this club is purely a "passion project—a love project." She stresses the importance of art in one's life and the importance of art exposure at a young age. "It's good for the mind and the spirit," she says, "and we get to have some fun while we are at it."

According to ArtPod's founders, the success of their club will depend more on joy and enthusiasm than any technical skill. "We are not trying to get super technical with these kids," Hong said. "I am just trying to share a piece of what's important to me, and share the deeper appreciation that I had for the world as I started art, and share the beauty that can be in the human mind. I just want these kids to have fun!"

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Graphic by **Josephine Hong**/*The Choate News*

Josephine Hong '19, co-president of this new club, designed this flyer.

Introducing New Full-Time Music Faculty Matt McLean

By **Eliana Kim '20**
Reporter

In late August, Mr. Matt McLean arrived at Choate. As a full-time faculty member of the Arts Department, he teaches music theory and jazz history. He also directs Wind Ensemble, previously led by Marshal Brownford, now departed part-time music instructor, and Jazz Ensemble, previously led by Phil Ventre.

Since childhood, Mr. McLean has been surrounded by music, and he has always had opportunities to expand his connections with other musicians. Before starting his career as a jazz saxophonist, he spent years studying composition, and he played music with his family. Mr. McLean lived in Brooklyn for twenty years, where he met, in his words, "countless wonderful musicians and teachers"

McLean always knew he wanted to share his musical knowledge with others. For two decades, he worked as a full-time teacher at TREI in New York City. He said, "I have been in many different types of music classrooms and worked with ensembles of every kind. At Choate, my main goal is to bring a progressive, student-centered approach to my teaching that

leads to outstanding results for my students, both in classrooms and in rehearsals."

Mr. McLean added, "With the instrumental ensembles, I want my students to feel a part of something special, and inspired to make strong contributions to the group." Mr. McLean believes that music performances are about personal discovery, and that when the ensembles have a strong sense of community and purpose, their members get more out of the experience. "With my music elective classes, I seek to help each student cultivate his or her own personal connection to music. My philosophy is that students learn best when they are given the experience of creating something unique," he said.

Kicking off the year in a new school with new people, Mr. McLean and his family members are excited to be part of Choate and "have found everyone to be warm and welcoming." Students and faculty, as well as the smaller PMAC community, are thrilled to have Mr. McLean as a full-time music faculty member. Some have speculated that he may eventually fill more positions in the music department.

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Going Brogue: How Student-Actors Do Accents



Photo by **Ross Mortensen**/*The Choate News*

Blue Stockings (winter 2017-18) was the latest production in which students learned foreign accents.

By **Tony Lee '21**
Staff Reporter

You've been cast in this year's fall production. You're over the moon. You call your mom to tell her about the role you'll be playing. But, wait. Your character has an Irish name. Will she talk with a brogue? You grew up in Georgia! Curtain is in two months. What to do?

Students often find themselves in such situations when preparing for plays. Because accents can communicate so much about a show and its themes, they are often the behavioral trait that students aim to perfect. An accent also has the power to shape a role and bring a character to life. Examples of past Choate productions in which students used accents include *Blue Stockings* (winter 2017-2018) and *Brundibár* (fall 2017-2018). This fall, Choate will stage Michael Frayn's *Noises Off*, which includes different regional accents of England.

While the prospect of

learning an entirely new accent may seem daunting, many students offer helpful tricks and tips to master the art. For Ethan Luk '20, the best tools for learning were movies and exercises. "In preparation [for *Blue Stockings*], I watched *Harry Potter* movies because it was the first kind of movie that I saw with British accents. I think a lot of how I try to learn is through watching people speak. Also, Thom, the husband of Tracy [Ginder-Delventhal, a Choate acting teacher], did a lot of tricks with us, like giving us a sentence to repeat over and over in our accent."

Sophie Mars '19 also starred in *Blue Stockings*, but, unlike Luk, who acted as a British man, Mars played the role of an Irish student. On learning accents, she said, "I just run my lines and try different ways until I hear something that sounds right. It's usually just perfecting a few vowels or a few consonants." She continued, "For the Irish accent I had to

do for *Blue Stockings*, it was just the R's, the O's, and the A's. Once I got those down, I basically had created the entire accent."

As Luk did, students learning new accents receive the help of outside campus theatre teacher Thom Delventhal. He works with Ginder-Delventhal, who said: "Accents are a school of study and require diligence to get them right. Thom transposes lines from the script for the students, helping them identify differences from standard American speech. He then teaches them how changing the position of the muscles within and around the mouth, nose, and throat impacts the sound achieved. Every dialect uses a different musculature. After that it is all about drilling, getting notes and making adjustments."

Sabrina Carlier '21, who has been cast as Dotty Otley and Mrs. Clackett in *Noises Off*, has already begun working on her required accent. She said, "For the

upcoming fall production, I have to learn two accents. I'm working on an upper-middle-class English accent and a cockney accent. I like listening and following along with tutorials of how to pronounce certain words and sounds. It's also really helpful to write out my lines in the accent. Finally, what really helps is listening and watching films and television with the accents I plan on learning."

Although actors share techniques, learning accents is a different process for everyone. Mars advises students to find a personalized method: "Find your own way of picking up an accent. Don't be afraid to sound stupid for a while, because you will. But once you realize that you have something that will work, just stick with that and work with it. It will kind of hit you and someone will say, 'Oh! That sounds good.'"

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FIELD REPORT

Saturday Varsity Games

Boys' XC (1-1)
loses to Lawrenceville, 38-20

Girls' XC (1-0)
beats Lawrenceville, 27-30

Field Hockey (0-4)
falls to Lawrenceville, 0-6

Football (2-0)
beats Lawrenceville, 34-0

Boys' Soccer (3-1-1)
beats Lawrenceville, 1-0

Girls' Soccer (3-0-1)
ties Lawrenceville, 2-2

Water Polo (2-3)
falls to Lawrenceville, 11-16

Saturday J.V. Games

Boys' XC (1-1)
loses to Lawrenceville, 37-20

Field Hockey (0-2)
falls to Lawrenceville, 0-4

Boys' Soccer (1-1-1)
falls to Lawrenceville, 0-1

Girls' Soccer (0-1-1)
ties Lawrenceville, 1-1

Volleyball (2-0)
beats Miss Porter's, 3-0

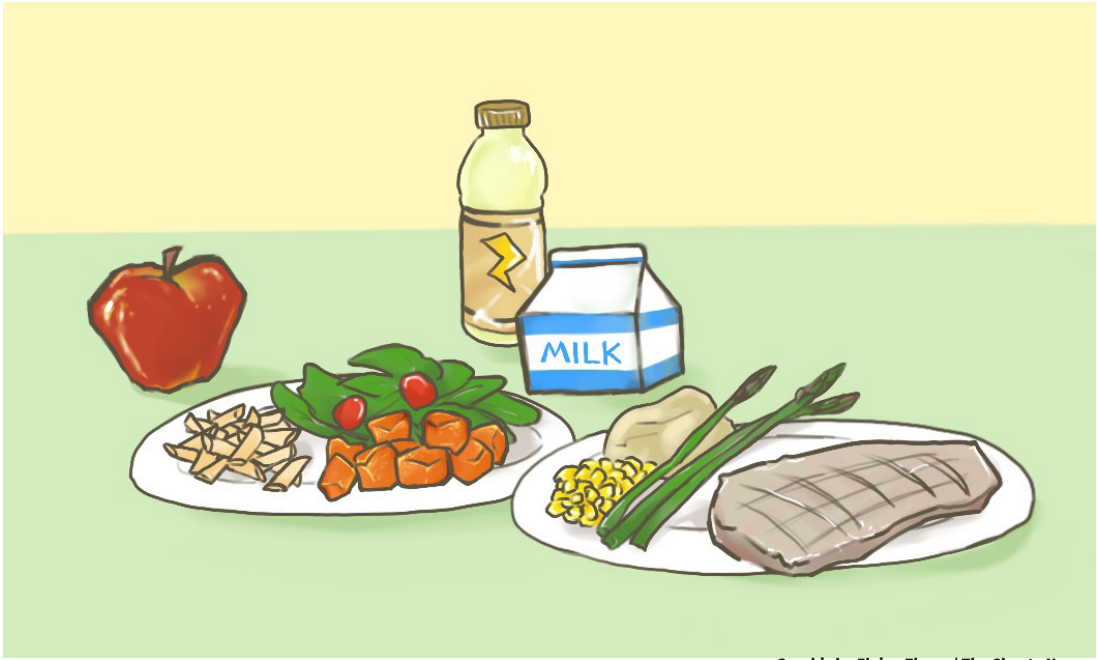
SAGE TO BEGIN “PERFORMANCE SPOTLIGHT” PROGRAM

By George McCabe '20
Staff Reporter

Choate student-athletes will now have the option to eat special pregame and postgame meals at the dining hall. This new food option will be available at the cultural food station for lunch and dinner on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The station will include food that is beneficial to eat before competing in a game or match, and will also feature recovery food to eat after a game at dinner. Athletics Director Mr. Roney Eford explained, “Basically every Wednesday and Saturday for lunch and dinner, the dining hall will have additional food that tends to help before and after competition.”

SAGE Dining Services will provide the food based off a program that they have established at other high schools. The program, called Performance Spotlight, focuses on providing student-athletes with proper nutrition for athletic competition. The SAGE website states, “The program, which draws upon guidelines laid out by the United States Olympic Committee, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and other major sports nutrition associations, provides educational material to guide student-athletes’ food choices at lunch, offers team meals and snacks, and incorporates house-made, clean label sports drinks and bars.”

In creating the station at Choate, SAGE and the athletic office have collaborated to improve nutrition for student-athletes. Mr.



Graphic by Elaine Zhang / The Choate News

Eford said, “The dining staff has been terrific. They have been really awesome in terms of just trying to get a competitive edge for all of our student-athletes from the thirds, JV, and varsity, and I think they understand how important food is to accommodate us for games.”

Since SAGE already started the program at other schools, it should be easy to implement at Choate. The program comes with certain recipes and other snacks that are beneficial to eat before and after competitions. For example, a recipe that SAGE will likely feature before a game could include barbecue chicken breasts, barbecue tofu, potato salad with vinegar dressing, steamed brown rice, seasoned vegetables, sliced strawberries, and watermelon wedges.

In addition to the pre-game meals served during Wednesday and Saturday lunch, the performance foods station will likely feature small snacks such as pretzels, trail mix, granola bars, and fig bars that will be easy for student-athletes to take on the go. Hilal Zoberi '20 said of the food at the station, “Nuts, protein bars, and maybe some granola that would not upset your stomach would be great to have at the dining hall on game days.”

The athletic foods station will be available not only to student-athletes but to anyone in the Choate community for lunch and dinner on Wednesdays and Saturdays. On this topic, Mr. Eford expressed, “Some schools will actually only have this only for one team or five teams called a training table. But we want to give an equitable and

uniform experience for everyone.”

A long-term goal of the performance spotlight program is nutritional education. Having an idea of the right types of foods to eat before and after athletics helps performance during the competition and recovery afterwards. On the topic of nutritional education, Mr. Eford said, “I think the next step is really having student-athletes understand how important nutrition is in the process. Just getting to understand that having soda before you go play a game is probably not the best thing for your body because you want your body to respond to all the hard work you’ve done.”

Providing healthy and unprocessed food at the station will be important for student-athletes. Girls’ and Boys’ Varsity Water Polo coach Ms. Brooke Fichera

said, “Having the right balance of protein, carbs, and fat is really important. Also, having a mix of carbs that are just not empty carbs but are like sweet potatoes and things that have energy in them.”

Most Choate student-athletes and coaches have responded positively to the addition to the dining hall. Chris Guyette '19 said of the station, “The addition of the pregame food station is something I have been pushing for over the last four years. As an athlete at Choate, I am always in search of the least processed, most nutritionally sufficient foods in the dining hall every day.” He continued, “Thus, although I wish this station could be in place every single day because proper nutrition is an everyday necessity, I am excited for its use on game days – when the types of food consumed throughout the day means the most to athletes.”

Further down the road, the program could be expanded to include the meals that teams bring to away games. On the topic of the pre-packed meals, Derek Son '20 said, “It would be nice if SAGE could provide other food options for away games instead of the same sandwiches every week.”

Overall, the new pregame and postgame food station aims to improve Choate student-athletes’ performances on the field, rink, court, or pool. Be on the lookout for athletic performance foods at the cultural food station during lunch and dinner on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

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ON THE FIELD WITH NORTH PETERS '19

By Allen Zheng '21
Reporter

North Peters '19 is a key member of the Choate football team’s defensive line, starting at the defensive end for the Wild Boars. Originally from Mystic, Connecticut, Peters has developed into one of prep school football’s elite players, committing to Harvard University over the summer. Recently, Peters sat down with reporter Allen Zheng '21 to discuss how he got into football, the success of Choate’s football program, and his future in the sport.

Allen Zheng: What started your football career?

North Peters: I have been playing football ever since I was a kid. My parent just signed me up for flag football, so I started playing that, and I’ve been playing ever since.

AZ: What are some of your favorite things about playing for the Choate football team?

NP: I like winning every weekend, and also the friends that I have made. I think some of them will be lifelong friends. Football has opened up so many doors for me and given me lots of great opportunities.

AZ: What has been your most memorable moment from Choate football?

NP: My favorite memory was the championship game last year against Avon Old Farms. We were losing at halftime and had to come back, so that was pretty memorable.

AZ: What do you think are the main reasons for the team’s success?

NP: Other teams have a lot of individual talent, but we come together. Every game, we play for the people next to us and for each other.

AZ: Do you have any future goals regarding football?

NP: I want to get some playing time early in college. I want to get on the field and get some solid reps. First, I’ll see where college football at Harvard takes me, and depending on that, maybe my goals will shift.

AZ: What made you choose Harvard to continue your football and academic careers?

NP: At first, I didn’t really want to go to the Ivy League. I was actually going to commit to Syracuse a couple of weeks before I committed to Harvard, but then I wanted to check out what it was really like at Harvard. I visited and went to camp there, and ended up really liking it. The coaches and the opportunities that come with attending Harvard are awesome.

AZ: What sort of advice would you give to new players coming into the Choate football program?

NP: Just give it everything you got. Make sure to grind in the off-season, work hard, and trust the coaches. They know what they’re doing, and if you trust them, a lot of good things can happen.

AZ: Who is your favorite professional football player?

NP: Aaron Donald (Defensive Tackle for the L.A. Rams).

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Photo by Ryan Kim/The Choate News

Senior Soccer: More Fun, Less Stress



Photo courtesy of Pau Alvarado

Abi Rivas '19 runs upfield with the ball to escape her fellow seniors.

By Camila Gonzalez Koo '21
Reporter

One of the many programs unique to Choate is the fall sport known as Senior Soccer. While most schools allow seniors to continue to play on the JV or thirds level, for this particular sport, they must try out for varsity or play on a separate team. Seeing as soccer is such a popular sport, Senior Soccer was created in order to make space for younger players on the JV and thirds’ rosters.

Everyone is supportive of each other and we all know it’s not a super competitive thing. We are just there to be with friends and hang out.

Joaquin Antunez

Although seniors have the option to try out for varsity, many choose not to. Joaquin Antunez '19, a three-year Boys’ JV Soccer veteran, said, “I had a bunch of reasons for mak-

ing the switch. I didn’t think I would get much playing time on varsity and a bunch of my friends wanted to do Senior Soccer.”

Senior Soccer is not only open to people who have played competitive soccer before, but also to everyone in the senior class, regardless of prior experience.

“The difference in skill level is very apparent between people who have never played to those who could have played varsity. For me, since I’ve played before, the most fun part is when I go against another kid who has played soccer. It’s more of a challenge,” Antunez said.

Although Senior Soccer is definitely different compared to JV and thirds in terms of intensity, it is not any less fun. “It is so much fun! It’s fun to watch. You can just chill and joke around on the field and have a good time,” said Anika Chiang-Boeckmann '19, a three-year Girls’ JV Soccer veteran.

Although everyone likes Senior Soccer for their own reason, the most popular answer is definitely the atmosphere. Antunez stated, “Everyone is supportive of each other and we all know it’s not a super competitive thing. We are just there to be with friends and hang out”.

Boeckmann agreed, “Senior soccer is a place where you leave it all behind. You go there and you don’t talk about college, you don’t talk about school, you don’t talk about what’s stressing you out. You go there to have fun and play soccer.”

Because of the varying skill levels in Senior Soccer, this sport is more about the experience than the competition. This allows the team members to focus more on enjoying themselves and the sport rather than the stress of performing at a high level for varsity or JV.

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