



Photo courtesy of Deron Chang

On the night of Sunday, September 27, students and faculty left their dorms to witness the spectacular view of a supermoon lunar eclipse. Scientists predict that the next supermoon lunar eclipse will not occur until 2033. For more about the supermoon lunar eclipse, see page six.

CAMPUS DOCTOR BEGINS TENURE

By Varshini Kumar '17
Copy Editor

With a wave of sickness circulating campus, it may not be long until you make a visit to the Health Center; when you're there, you might meet Dr. Christopher Diamond, the new Director of the Health Center. Dr. Diamond, who was welcomed to the school at the September 16 all-school meeting, started his new job as Director of the Health Center on Monday, September 21.

Dr. Diamond is no stranger when it comes to working with high school students. After majoring in anthropology at Wesleyan University, Dr. Diamond moved to Washington, D.C., to work for an environmental consulting firm. Three years later, he began teaching chemistry and math and coaching varsity soccer at a local private high school.

"I was inspired by my students to find the courage to apply to medical school," Dr. Diamond fondly recalled. He then explained, "What I found was that I wanted to be more useful. When a kid had an injury, I didn't want to just patch him up and send him somewhere else; I wanted to do more." He graduated in the class of 1994 from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and subsequently did his residency at University of Vermont for three years as a family physician. A Board Certified Family

See Dr. Diamond, Page 3

Headmaster Curtis Unveils Student Center Plans

New St. John Hall to debut in spring of 2017 with larger, more integrated meeting and hang-out spaces

By Nathan Chang '17
Circulation Manager

Get ready, students! Ping-pong tables, foosball, large HD flat-screens, and a new Tuck Shop with an even larger collection of smoothies, burgers, and fries are coming your way.

At last week's school meeting, Headmaster Dr. Curtis unveiled the layout plans for the new Student Activities Center (SAC), to be called St. John Hall. The addition to the Choate campus will fit in with Hill House and the Library with its brick exterior and white steeple. St. John will be located in the same general area where the old math building, the former St. John Hall, used to be.

The new building will have many features that the SAC currently lacks. The comparatively larger building will serve as an area for student life, containing an area for school dances, places to hang out, a new Tuck Shop, and a large entry hall. Unlike the SAC now, the new building will have a game room fully equipped with not only a pool table, table tennis, and foosball, but also console games such as a Wii and an Xbox. The proposed media room will also be useful for watching movies. As Dr. Curtis noted, there will be many social areas, such as in front of the sunlit bay room on the first floor, in addition to day student lockers,

more lounges, deans' offices, and the School Store on the second floor. The third floor will be an area for the School's publications, as well as some student study rooms and a kitchen.

St. John will directly benefit Choate's clubs and student organizations. Before the new Lanphier Center, student club meetings were held in classrooms all throughout campus, from the Humanities Building to the Science Center. With the new St. John Hall, Dr. Curtis noted that "there should be plenty of space for clubs to meet, from small rooms to large, so that small clubs with just a few people have good-sized spaces, and the really big clubs can have good

areas to be in." Dr. Curtis explained that the small meeting rooms will also double as study rooms, and he also added that "given that we want those rooms to be used a lot, there'll be some kind of online registration system, so if you want to reserve it for group study as well as for clubs, you can do that."

He also mentioned that St. John will not only have places to meet, but also places for students to make things for fairs or club events. "Hopefully it will be a central point, which will make it easier for student clubs and organizations as well. I think we have a very vibrant club life, and I think it has a chance to become even

better because of St. John Hall," added Dr. Curtis.

Construction on the new features of the 37,000 square-foot St. John Student Center, designed by Bowie Gridley Architects of Washington, D.C., will last at least eighteen months, so ideally the building will be open to students by the spring of 2017.

So far, Choate has dealt with all of the foreseeable construction obstacles. Much of this has to do with the fact that the new building will be on the site of the old St. John Hall, so the School has a fairly good idea of what is underground at the site. Also, as of this point, the admin-

See New St. John, Page 2

Deans Revise Absence Policy

By Haley Chang '18
Staff Reporter

The start of a new school year brings with it some changes in Choate's discipline policy. Choate has revised its absence policy in order to address the ineffectiveness of the previous years' system. Students absent from any commitment, regardless of whether the commitment is academic or non-academic, will now be penalized in an escalation of punishments. Additionally, Sunday detention (Sunday D) has been replaced

by Thursday detentions, which are held during the students' Thursday sleep-in, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. "What hasn't changed is the notion that you're responsible for going to class. What has changed is the nature of the response in missing classes," clarified Mr. Sam Doak, the sixth-form boys' dean.

The recent changes in Choate's absence policy have placed greater emphasis on attendance to all commitments. Absences from sports practices, music lessons, school meet-

ings, or academic class are weighed equally now, and the punishment for each absence intensifies very quickly.

The idea of revising the policy was brought up at the deans' retreat during spring term last year. Mrs. Nancy Miller, the fourth-form girls' dean, explained the new absence policy in further detail: "The first time a student misses a commitment, the student meets with his or her adviser to talk about the absence. The

See New Policy, Page 3

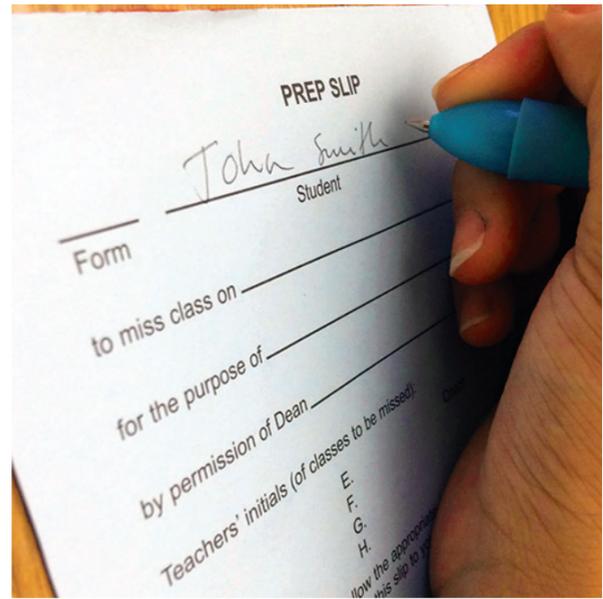


Photo by Arianna Gonzalez Wagner/The Choate News

The revisions to Choate's absence policy places a greater emphasis on student attendance to all commitments.

NEWS

Turning Tides

Oh, laundry, laundry! Wherefore art thou in New Hampshire, oh laundry?

PAGE 2



Office 365 Takeover

Move aside, Facebook and Instagram! Office 365 groups are now on the scene.

PAGE 2



OPINIONS

Victorious Viola

Viola Davis becomes first African-American woman to win the Emmy for best actress in drama.

PAGE 5

Stafford on Syria

Stafford '16 asserts that the world should increase its assistance to Syrian refugees.

PAGE 5

FEATURES

Munchkin Match

Can you pair these new campus babies with their parents?

PAGE 6

Go Big or Go Home

Normal pumpkins weigh 15-20 lbs. This one weighs 1,706 lbs.

PAGE 6

ARTS & LEISURE

Blind Artist Prevails

Bramblitt creates beautiful work despite lack of sight.

PAGE 7

Join Acapella Auditions

Inside the acapella audition room.

PAGE 7



Annett Ho '18

A new musical force on campus.

PAGE 7

SPORTS

New Face

Choate community happily welcomes new soccer coach, teacher, and adviser, Charlie Fuentes.

PAGE 8

Lofty Goals

Amanda Reisman '16 leads GVFFH to victory over Ethel Walker with a stunning two-goal performance.

PAGE 8

What's Inside

News	1-3
Opinions	4
Nation/World	5
Features	6
Arts and Leisure	7
Sports	8

/choatenews

@choatenews

@choatenews

Contact Us

Phone: (203) 697-2070
Email: thenews@choate.edu
Online: thenews.choate.edu

CAMPUS LAUNDRY SERVICE WASHES STUDENTS' CLOTHES IN NEW HAMPSHIRE FACILITY

By **Truelian Lee '17**
Copy Editor

We've all seen the white trucks of E&R Campus Laundry and Dry Cleaners driving across the Choate campus and stopping in front of various dorms. Every week, our laundry bags are whisked away by truck drivers to the E&R headquarters located in Manchester, New Hampshire.

According to Mr. Patrick Caveny, the Director of Sales at E&R, the company takes Choate students' laundry to New Hampshire to be washed and dried. However, he also noted that E&R is environmentally conscious. "It's not like we're constantly driving from New Hampshire to Choate. We actually have a depot right in Hamden, which five trucks work out of. These five trucks go around local schools to pick up the laundry, and then we consolidate it all on a tractor-trailer to transfer to New Hampshire." He continued, "Because of our size, we've been able to embrace things that are more efficient and environmentally-friendly."

The company's focus on sustainability coincided with

its recent consolidation. In 2006, E&R Cleaners consolidated its various laundry and dry-cleaning facilities into one enormous, 80,000 square foot building. "Before, we were washing the clothes in one building and hampering them across to another building to dry them. It was very inefficient," stated Mr. Caveny.

2006 was also the year that E&R enhanced its machinery. A new washing machine was bought in an effort to become more environmentally-friendly. "When we put this machine in place, it saved us ten million gallons of water usage in the first year. We were already running very powerful machines compared to the laundry machines in campus dorms," commented Mr. Caveny. Moreover, the new machinery was so much more efficient that "we were able to turn down the dryer temperature by twelve degrees and decrease the time for the drying cycle by ten minutes," he said.

The new E&R headquarters is a far cry from the more humble roots of the company. The owner of a local laundromat in Manchester founded E&R Cleaners in the 1960s. Phillips Exeter Academy was

the first customer, and in 1986, the Botnick family bought the business and started to expand its operations. "Preparatory schools have really been a niche this company has found, a niche it's been able to grow," remarked Mr. Caveny. In the past, E&R also used to be a uniform rental company and a retail dry-cleaning company, but those two divisions were soon dwarfed by the campus laundry division. In the 1990s, E&R started servicing colleges and universities, including Yale University and Dartmouth College, and as of now, ninety-five percent of the company's business serves educational institutions.

"We're servicing over 110 schools throughout New England, and we'll have about 13,000 students using our services this school year," Mr. Caveny estimated. The services E&R offers are unique compared to its peer companies. "We have a lot of competitors since every town has a laundromat and a dry cleaner. But so far, no one has been able to do everything to the scale we do it," explained Mr. Caveny. E&R has about 200 employees, including route representatives, office

staff, and production people. The employees work together to ensure that every school's laundry is washed, dried, folded, and delivered on time.

So, how exactly does the process of washing our school's laundry work? The truck drivers, who are background-checked and drug-tested, are up at four in the morning. "We tell each school that their bags have to be out by 8 a.m., and, typically, these route representatives are doing deliveries before pick-ups," Mr. Caveny explained. "There are very strict regulations about how many hours a person can drive, and we follow them. By noontime or so, these people are heading back to the company."

Once the laundry bags arrive in the factory, workers check in each load. Then, they separate the laundry into two nets – one for dark-colored clothes and one for light-colored clothes. The checkers also take out any clothes that should be dry-cleaned and place them on another conveyor belt. "A person in this job will check-in somewhere around twelve to thirteen bundles an hour," Mr. Caveny remarked. To keep track of the clothes in every load, the com-

pany has installed video cameras in the building.

The workers' schedules fluctuate from week to week. "Right now, they're probably going to average between nine to twelve hours each day, because school just started and we get a lot more work in the beginning of the year. Once we're past the beginning of the school year, all these departments will be working eight-to-ten-hour days." Though the workers have varying work hours week to week, Mr. Caveny stated that lay-offs rarely occur at E&R.

"It's tough to orient the company around the school calendar. The labor forces constantly have to go through times in which people who want to count on forty hours will only get ten a week because schools are all on break." Mr. Caveny admitted, "If you're in that job, and you're making ten to fifteen dollars an hour, then you have to find another job that doesn't have those weeks. So we do have some turnover that's related to the fluctuating schedules." However, Mr. Caveny also noted that many workers enjoy the work schedule, as they are able to spend more time with

their kids, who are often home on breaks themselves.

So far, E&R has been able to juggle all their orders successfully. "We're able to predict our growth every year, so we can try to set up reasonable schedules for everyone," Mr. Caveny explained. "Still, we don't know how much work we're going to have tomorrow until the end of the day today after pick-ups. All we know is that we have to get all the work done, because the students are expecting their laundry at a given time," he admitted.

In the future, E&R hopes to continue expanding. This year, about 400 Choate students signed up for E&R services, up from around 350.

E&R also hopes to continue exploring ways to improve its operations. "It gets harder as you go on to find more meaningful things to do," Mr. Caveny stated. For example, "switching the whole fleet to biodiesel: there's not enough biodiesel stations for us to do that efficiently. We're pushing our vendor to set up more biodiesel stations so we could maybe do that."

Truelian Lee may be reached at tlee17@choate.edu.

Office 365 Group Spaces Met With Mixed Reviews

By **Dagny Belak '16**
Senior Reporter

As another year rolls around, returning students have started to notice changes around Choate's campus. The most glaring physical change on campus may be the demolishing of St. John Hall, but many students have also noticed the launch of Office 365 Groups for clubs and organizations. The initiative was introduced at the first club leadership meeting at the beginning of fall term with the intent of replacing club social media pages with a Microsoft central group system. The change was also meant to facilitate better communication between the clubs and the Choate administration. At the meeting, student leaders were advised to use the Office 365 groups as their sole platform for their clubs, or to turn over their social media passwords to the Communications Office. This recent change has been received with mixed reviews. Some students call the change an act of censorship, and others praise it for helping their club

become more organized and creating a central page for all members of a club.

One of the factors prompting the change was the need to uphold Choate's image and reputation online. Ms. Sarah Gordon, Assistant Director of Communications for Web and Social Media, remarked, "All clubs should keep in mind that whether in name or not, they are representing Choate to the outside world through their pages and sites. It is important that we are all thoughtful about how to best promote the Choate experience in that space."

According to Devon Bernsley '16, co-editor-in-chief of *The Brief*, "I feel that the new Office 365 groups are a great program to use for clubs. There are a lot of issues with managing the program though, and I feel that the Communications Department should be more communicative with students about the opportunities this program provides and the accessibility club leaders can gain from it."

Keziah Clarke '16, also a co-editor-in-chief of *The Brief*, noted, "There are many groups

at Choate that have social media accounts at varying levels of activity and impact. Choate has an image to uphold, and it is a lot easier on everyone to have streamlined content."

While not willing to call it an outright form of censorship, Julie Tamura '16, president of the Japanese Club, pointed out, "I definitely understand where the administration is coming from because these social media accounts do represent Choate to the public, but I think that having some liberty to present ourselves to the public, and not just the Choate community, is not a bad idea." Zemina Edmondson '16, a president of SAGE, agreed, saying, "I don't think it's a form of censorship, but I do think the group pages are a way for the school to hold onto anything that could potentially be seen as controversial before the outside world sees it."

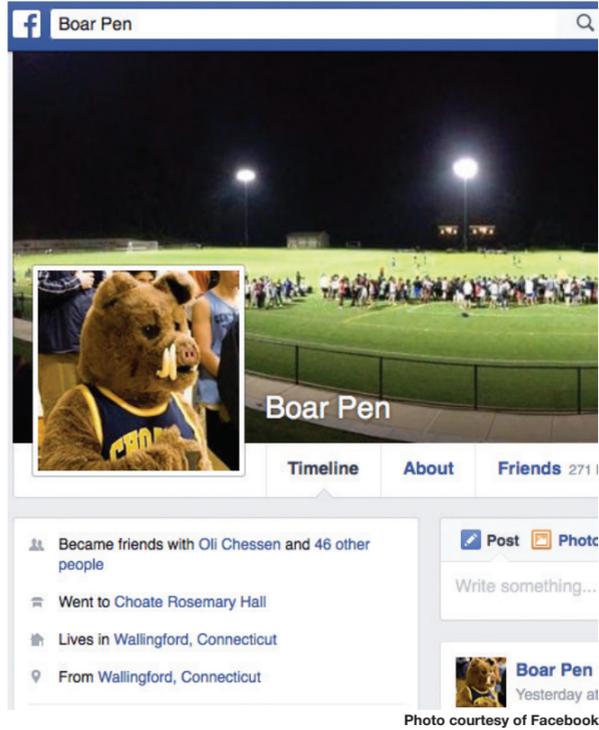
Other students have expressed their concerns that the Office 365 groups are not designed to reach out to alumni, and they worry that by switching from social media to group pages, they will

lose a valuable connection to the outside world.

Although some students feel that handing in their clubs' social media accounts is a violation of privacy, many feel that the change will not have an impact on the overall function of clubs. Olivia Finemore '16, president of Classics League, remarked, "Until the administration starts using these group pages to police students' words, it is not a form of censorship. Students are still free to discuss any topic of their choice without any negative backlash."

Ms. Gordon also reiterated that clubs may request approval of their social media accounts: "We would only edit a problematic post if the adviser and or club leaders were unavailable to address it. This is some of the information we share with clubs when they request approval of a social media account."

Now that clubs have started to meet regularly, some club leaders are reporting concerns with the new system. According to Clarke, "Our Office 365 group seems



Social media profiles, such as Boar Pen's Facebook account, will now need to be affiliated with the Communications Department.

like it could be effective, but I have had a few issues with it. Not everyone knew it was there apparently, so they did not know that I sent the group a message on Office 365." Edmondson remarked that Choate programs are less user-friendly than time-tested social media megasites like Tumblr, Facebook, and Instagram.

For many, the new group space has been inconvenient, whereas for others, the new program has provided a unifying platform for club members. Going forward, students hope to rely more on and take advantage of these new group spaces.

Dagny Belak may be reached at dbelak16@choate.edu.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Alex Curtis

The new St. John Hall will be a home for both day and boarding students, and will house several deans' offices, day student lounges, a new Tuck Shop, and various study rooms.

New St. John

Continued from Page 1

istration has dealt with all the permits and the zoning issues. Dr. Curtis admitted that weather and supply are certainly possible obstacles, saying "Obviously it's going to be a big building, so there's not just the brick and the steel that's being used. There's the concrete that's going to be in there, and there's the glass. All those things have to be ordered, and there's always an unknown with that. There are always some things that they could proceed in another part of the building—you know if the glass is delayed, we could always work somewhere else—but if the steel is delayed, there's nothing you can do."

Despite some minor disturbances caused by the de-

molition this summer, the greater Wallingford community has been fairly supportive of the construction. "We've worked very closely and have formed a good communication line with our neighbors through the process. We have had meetings, listened to concerns, and tried to address those concerns," said Dr. Curtis. So far, the school has hoped to minimize disturbance, and it has done a fairly good job. Dr. Curtis added that "As with any building project, there's always going to be some disruption in the short run, but I think that our neighbors know that we were doing everything that we can to make it manageable." Mrs. Lorraine Connelly, the Associate Director of Communications for Marketing and Media, added that "Our neighbors have been very appreciative

of the school's efforts to include neighbors in ongoing conversations. It was very telling at the last planning and zoning meeting when one of our neighbors commented that this building was going to be a real asset to the community."

Therefore, although the groundbreaking will begin on Friday, October 9, the new building to come will have many different aspects that the current SAC does not have. Dr. Curtis noted that this is mostly due to the efforts of Mr. James Yanelli, Director of Student Activities, saying "His thoughtfulness and his ideas and the way he has been able to reflect student input have been nothing short of inspirational."

Nathan Chang may be reached at nchang17@choate.edu.

SAY HELLO TO CHOATE'S FIRST-YEAR FACULTY



Mr. Yaser Robles

Born and raised in Honduras, Dr. Yaser Robles joins the HPRSS department and teaches World History, United States History, and Contemporary Global Issues. Outside of the classroom, he also coaches the boys' thirds soccer team. He is an adjunct adviser in Quantrell and currently lives in Richardson house with his wife. In addition, Mr. Robles

loves to write. In fact, he noted, "one of the reasons I came to Choate was not the quality that Choate represents, but it's because here you can wear a lot of different hats at the same time. I can now write at my own pace without having any pressure."

Mr. Robles offered one word of advice to the community: "Just be open-minded. Choate is a very diverse community, and when you're open-minded, you allow yourself to learn more about a lot of different cultures, and at the same time you learn more about yourself".

"Overall I am very happy, and I think that Choate is a unique, embracing, and family-oriented place," Mr. Robles added.

—Victoria Li '16



Mrs. Cynthia Stahura

Although many students and faculty have seen her already, Mrs. Cynthia J. Stahura officially joined the Choate faculty this year as an admissions officer. Choate is not new for Mrs. Stahura, and she has spent eight years on campus living in Homestead with Mr. Eric Stahura, a college counselor, and their two children.

Originally a teacher, she began to actively participate at Choate by working part-time in the Admission Office after a few years. According to Mrs. Stahura, "It was fascinating meeting different students who wanted to have this Choate experience." She also added that she finds the process of seeking students who fit Choate very motivating, but also difficult.

Mrs. Stahura finds welcoming students to campus, discovering their interests, and leading them to the opportunities Choate offers very rewarding. She remarked that, "It is going to be a great experience being part of the school community where we are proud of the institution and welcome new students and families every year."

—Jun Jang '17



Mr. Travis Feldman

Hailing from Portland, Oregon, the school's new i.d. Lab facilitator Mr. Travis Feldman has joined the Choate community to promote utilization of the new i.d. Lab in the Lanphier Center.

At Choate, Feldman pointed out that a main highlight of his experience was during a STEM Club meeting, when he "heard students express their

excitement for the first time when they realized they could come to the i.d. Lab at any time and work on any project that they want to try out."

To spark interest in the i.d. Lab, Mr. Feldman has ordered new tools, machines, and technology, and hopes to "bring all sorts of student projects to life and make rapid prototyping easy and fun, such as solder stations for creating personal electronics, sewing machines, and 3D imaging cameras for iPads."

For Feldman, a goal that he hopes to accomplish is, "to help students and faculty bring projects they're working on into life through the facilities and supplies we have in the i.d. Lab."

—Alex Needham

Ms. Jennifer Tuleja

The Andrew Mellon Library has a new director: Ms. Jennifer Tuleja. Ms. Tuleja comes to Choate from an extensive background in library work, ranging from running renowned research libraries to providing revitalization for libraries at other schools. After starting her career off at the Massachusetts Historical Society, she continued on to work at many other libraries at universities and private schools. However, Ms. Tuleja recently decided that she wanted to work with high school students again. Ms. Tuleja hopes to make the extensive resources

of the Andrew Mellon Library more visible to the Choate community by fostering interconnectedness between the school's curriculum, students, faculty, and the library. She also hopes to update the library's program with the rapidly evolving times.

—Lucas Ferrer '17



Ms. Kayla Cloud

Ms. Kayla Cloud, a new addition to Choate's English department and a native of Idaho, graduated in 2014 from Wesleyan University with a degree in English. At Wesleyan, Cloud was also a dedicated member of the crew team.

At Choate, Ms. Cloud teaches Introduction to Literature, American Literature, and one section of Sophomore Seminar. In the fall, she coaches the intramural crew program, and in the spring she will coach the novice boys' crew team. Ms. Cloud is an adjunct adviser in Bernhard House and lives on campus in faculty housing.

Ms. Cloud closed by saying, "A community was really what I was looking for. I was looking for a place that would allow me to explore both teaching and coaching crew at the same time because that is what I feel passionate about."

—Victoria Li '16



Mr. Charlie Fuentes

A teacher both in the classroom and on the soccer field, Mr. Charlie Fuentes joins the Choate community as a new Spanish teacher and the boys' head varsity soccer coach.

Mr. Fuentes graduated from Trinity College in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in economics and Hispanic studies. He previously taught Spanish at Worcester Academy for four years before attending graduate school at the University of Connecticut, earning his master in International Studies and concentrating in Latin American and Latin Studies. Mr. Fuentes is currently teaching

Spanish 250 and 400. In the future, Mr. Fuentes hopes to teach his students more about Latino culture. "The students should take what they learned in the classroom outside and be able to apply that in life, not just in Spanish," said Mr. Fuentes.

—Julie Tamura '16



New Policy

Continued from Page 1

second time, the student is assigned a Thursday morning detention, and we also notify the student's parents. The third time, the student is assigned two weeks on Bounds, which is different from the way the Bounds used to work. Bounds in this context means that a student is confined to his or her room on Friday and Saturday nights, for two weeks. The fourth absence, the student receives two weeks of Absence Restriction as well as a Saturday detention for each week. The fifth time, the Absence Restriction is extended, and we begin to discuss the possibility of absence probation."

Before, the first unexcused academic absence required students to attend Sunday D. From there, the repercussions accumulated. In general, the second academic absence led to two weeks On Bounds; the third absence led to a meeting with the student's form dean and adviser, as well as two weeks on Absence Restriction; the fourth academic absence led to another meeting and a two-week extension of Absence Restriction; and the fifth academic absence warranted a final meeting, another 2 weeks of Absence Restriction, and 10 weeks on Absence Probation. However, absences from non-academic commitments, including athletic practices and school meetings, were treated similarly, but in a more lenient approach. On the student's second non-academic absence, he or she would only have another Sunday D and would not be put on Bounds.

After the policy was amended over the summer, all students and parents were notified of this change. Prior to the students' return, both stu-

dents and parents had to sign the Statement of Understanding, in which the new policy was listed and explained. Moreover, during form meetings at the start of the year, form deans went over the new responses to unexcused absences and the redefined definitions of Bounds and Restriction. Regarding the student reaction to this change, Mrs. Miller responded, "I think students were singularly sanguine about it after the form meeting. But I think the ramifications will become more obvious when push comes to shove, especially during winter term, when kids begin to cut class. But Sunday D clearly was ineffective, and certainly not a deterrent for kids to miss their commitments."

Esul Burton '16 shared her perspective on the new policy: "At first I was a little sad that Sunday D was gone, but I understand why the school decided to go in the direction that it did; the changed policy is much

"This policy is also coming from an angle of respect for others."

Zev Nicolai-Scanio '18

more effective. I also really appreciate the fact that the first time you miss a commitment, you're not penalized for it. I think everyone, at some point in their Choate career, is going to miss a class, and it shouldn't be treated as a big deal. I think it's very reasonable that the punishments get stricter after the first few strikes." She also pointed out a potential downside to this change: "Most people sleep in not because they want to, but because they're really tired, and I think taking away a sleep-in sometimes hurts the students. It might just

have an even more detrimental effect where it adds to the exhaustion that the students face everyday."

In general, students—however reluctantly—seem to understand the changes in the absence policy. Zev Nicolai-Scanio '18 observed, "In the end, I think the escalation of punishments will make it less stressful for the students because, if absences are discouraged, students won't be under the pressure of having no idea what's going on in a class. You can almost think of it as trying to help students help themselves stay away from the habit of missing things, as the academic consequences of that are going to be far more damaging than having a detention."

He continued, "This policy is also coming from an angle of respect for others, as there are certain extracurricular activities, like crew or scenes in plays, where you really need each and every member present. I think a part of the reason behind the new absence policy is valuing non-academic things more highly, but part of it is also saying that it's not just an obligation to a commitment: it's also an obligation to other people in the commitment."

The new absence policy is clearly trying to enforce the importance of individual responsibility and commitment. Mpilo Norris '18 commented, "I think the new policy is trying to instill this idea that you have to be responsible, not just with academics, but with everything that you commit yourself to. It's important for the real world, where you have to make sure that you're living up to the expectations of your commitments, where there would be no such thing as safety nets like Sunday D's."

"For the simplicity of it," said Mrs. Miller, "just go to class."

Haley Chang may be reached at hchang18@choate.edu.

Dr. Diamond

Continued from Page 1

Doctor, Dr. Diamond worked at a community health center in Clinton, CT. Before coming to Choate, Dr. Diamond spent six years as the Director of Student Wellness Services at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU).

Choate's "truly integrated approach to health care" drew Dr. Diamond here. He appreciates that the Health Center can work so closely with dorm advisers and academic departments when determining treatment options for students. Dr. Diamond added, "My older child really benefited from all the support she got at Westover, so it started really making me think about the difference one can make at a boarding school."

His new job at Choate differs from his previous jobs, but Dr. Diamond seems to have transitioned smoothly and enjoyed his first week. He reflected, "There is so much to learn. I'm learning the systems and where things are. However, the students have been wonderful. They have been great to work with. I've met so many students from different places with different interests. It's been great."

Ms. Karen Klein, Associate Director of the Health Cen-

ter, was the interim Director of the Health Center for one month prior to Dr. Diamond's arrival. Ms. Klein was crucial in the process of transitioning to a new doctor. Dr. Diamond praised Ms. Klein's dedication: "Karen has done an amazing job since Dr. Gardner left. She has been the only prescribing provider. She has been available 24 hours a day for one month now."

Dr. Diamond experienced a warm welcome to campus from his colleagues. He observed, "the staff here is amazing." He and Ms. Klein share several similarities. Ms. Klein noted that, "We have complementary roles. We both are really interested in education—that's why we wanted to work at a school. I worked at a high school, and he worked at a college."

Dr. Diamond and the trainers in the Athletic Center will be working closely to send kids back and forth between the Health Center and the trainers. "We are excited to be working with him!" expressed Emily Osterhout, an athletic trainer. "He is very experienced, nice, and knowledgeable," added Matt Pendleton, another athletic trainer. Dr. Diamond remarked, "I have gotten the nicest reception from students, staff, and faculty that I could ever imagine."

I have just felt so welcome."

With Dr. Diamond in charge, the Health Center is considering changing some of its methods. "First I want to learn how the place works. I am already so impressed with the dedication on all levels. I'll look into using the electronic health records a little more. I do believe that we need to get feedback and regular satisfaction assessments. What we will probably do is some sort of post-visit assessment surveys and try to get as much feedback from as many people as we can," shared Dr. Diamond. He hopes to attract "students who don't know how to access the Health Center's services" or who are otherwise reluctant to go to the Health Center.

Dr. Diamond concluded, "My goal in student health is that I like to see students be and remain healthy, and then be ready to learn. We are here so you are able to stay in class and do as well as possible. I feel really fortunate to be a physician. It is a privilege, and it is even a bigger privilege to be a physician at Choate. I really get the sense of what an honor it is to be at Choate, and I feel very lucky."

Varshini Kumar may be reached at vkumar17@choate.edu.



Photo by Alex Ejimofor

Dr. Christopher Diamond joins the Choate community as the new Director of the Health Center, and he hopes to play an active role in the lives of both students and faculty.

THE CHOATE NEWS

SINCE 1907

109TH EDITORIAL BOARDEduard Muñoz-Suñé '16
EDITOR-IN-CHIEFVOL. CIX
NO. II

NEWS

Stephanie Chan '16
Saloni Jaiswal '16PHOTOGRAPHY
Arianna Gonzalez-
Wagner '16GRAPHICS
Sabrina Xie '17
Ariel Zhang '18COPY
Lucas Ferrer '17
Truelian Lee '17
Varshini Kumar '17OPINIONS
Michelle Bolt '16
Ryan Musto '16SOCIAL MEDIA
Bryce Wachtell '17ARTS
Alexandra Brunjes '16CIRCULATION
Nathan Chang '17
Victoria Song '17ONLINE
Alan Luo '18
Rory Tait '16FEATURES
Liv Elmore '16ADVISERS
Mr. Austin Davis
Mr. Mike PeedSPORTS
Jack Tenney '16

SENIOR REPORTERS

Hakeem Angulu '16
Daggy Belak '16
Alfredo Brilembourg '16Esul Burton '16
Hannah Lemmons '16
Victoria Li '16Julie Tamura '16
Jared Milazzo '16
Jack Shultz '16

STAFF

Shrenik Agrawal '17
Maya Birney '17
Camila Borjesson '17
Emilia Furlo '17
Rachel Hird '17Jun Jang '17
Lauren Lamb '17
Gabby LaTorre '17
Catherine Moore '17
Nicole Sellow '17Namsai Sethpormpong '17
Jessica Shi '17
Haley Chang '18
Eben Cook '18
Jackson Elkins '18

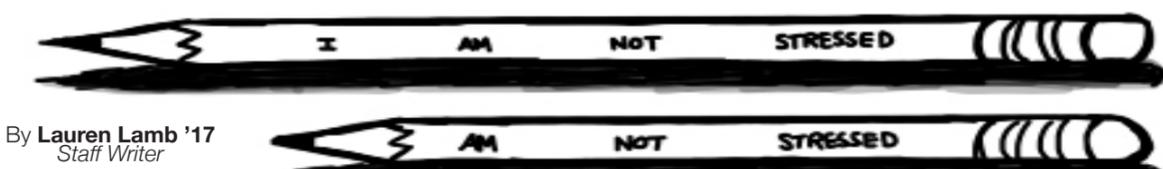
f /choateneews

@choateneews

@choateneews

Email us at: thenews@choate.edu || Call us at: (203) 697-2070 || Find us at: thenews.choate.edu

WORN TO THE NUB: THE CHALLENGES OF MENTAL ILLNESS

By Lauren Lamb '17
Staff Writer

I am too anxious to eat in class. I've held on to a piece of trash for a whole meeting because I was too nervous to get up and throw it out. When I walk through the Dining Hall, my bones feel weak, my heart pounds in my chest, and butterflies flutter in my stomach. I can't hold a conversation without over-analyzing the situation—I constantly speculate on whether or not the person wants to be there, talking to me. When I see someone I might have to say hi to on a path, I take a longer, side-stepping route, even if I will be late to class, to avoid any uncomfortable interaction. I am always too afraid to ask for help at a store. If I've already placed my order at a restaurant, I can never go back to ask for anything more, regardless if I change my mind. I worry over the most miniscule things. I am overly conscious of myself. Every time someone disregards what I have to say, I feel like a hole has been ripped through my chest. I have said sorry more times in the past week than I can count.

When I consider all these traits, I can never decide if I'm merely shy or if I'm stuck with deep-seated anxieties. I do know that I wish I could find more help in my search for answers. The world, it seems, is always letting me down.

A mental illness is a real illness. It is not a fad, it is not a punch line, and it is not something to be ignored. But

I feel that the Choate community and the wider world can regard mental illness as a mere phase that teenagers endure.

One problem with dealing with mental illnesses is that they are often hard to detect. We can be ignorant to these disorders. Let's say a student breaks her leg. We see the cast, and we sympathize. She discusses the problem with her coaches and they, of course, give her time to heal.

On the other hand, when someone with depression feels so overcome with stress that she needs a reprieve, the symptoms and pain inflicted is not always as readily obvious. This can lead society to brush off her concerns. A student may appear as happy as ever, but, internally, that student may be breaking under the pressure. In my experience, Choate does not acknowledge mental illnesses as much as it should. In health class, I was taught to learn the signs of a concussion after taking the IMPACT test, but no one told me how to watch for anxiety. Teachers explained what an eating disorder is, but I never heard them emphasize ways to seek relief.

When a girl starves herself then binges then purges, trying to reach some impossibly ideal body, too many of us fail to inquire about a disorder: we have all been taught that this "model

look" is normal. Frequently, when we see students slump into periods of depression, few of us consider that they might actually have a mental illness. We overlook the possibility that chemicals in our brains might be causing these long periods of despair. "Just get passed that exam," we might say. "Ups and downs are a part of the crazy, stressed-out life here."

We at Choate can sometimes fall into the habit of using names of disorders as adjectives, undermining the severity of the illnesses. "You look so anorexic today," someone will tell a girl with a flat stomach. Anorexia, a serious mental condition that affects millions of Americans each year, can cause fatal health problems. Moreover, a person suffering from anorexia doesn't have to be extremely thin to have the disorder.

Choate students have a tendency to exaggerate their woes. "I've been feeling depressed all week," a student might say after one bad moment. He ignores the fact that someone at his lunch table might actually be depressed. This depressed person now feels unable to



Illustration by Anika Zetterberg

come out about this illness—it no longer seems valid. "Other people have it worse off," our depressed friend says to himself.

Mental illnesses are diseases, not weaknesses. They are no one's fault, but it is our fault as a society and as a school community that people suffering from these disorders feel like they have to suffer alone. Mental illnesses are treatable, but if we remain ignorant about them, we postpone the solution.

People at Choate should never feel uncomfortable asking to speak with someone about issues they're facing, whether that be a friend, teacher, stranger, or counselor at the Health Center. We can't simply tell people to snap out of it. People don't deserve to suffer in silence.

To everyone out there suffering with a mental illness, whether publicly or privately—remember, you can fight it, and you can beat it.

Lauren Lamb is a fifth former from Weston, CT. She may be reached at llamb17@choate.edu.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

Last spring, around the time of my graduation from Choate, I couldn't help but ask myself, "What is it, exactly, that makes this place so great?" Soon enough, I landed on an answer: the constant encouragement from faculty and fellow students alike to consider a situation from all sides before thoughtfully and confidently expressing one's views, regardless of their popularity and without fear of humiliation or retaliation. A recent event at my college, Wesleyan University, reminded me what a gift that is in today's often close-minded, dogmatic world.

Lately, there has been significant controversy at Wesleyan over a recently published opinion piece in The Argus, our student newspaper. The piece, titled "Why Black Lives Matter Isn't What You Think," questioned the legitimacy of the B.L.M. movement because of its connection to recent civil disruptions and outbreaks of violence around the country. The author cited some statistics that were later proved to be misleading and, in some cases, simply wrong.

Since the article's publication, much of the campus has been up in arms over. There have been calls for students to trash all the copies of the paper they can find. Some people have demanded that The Argus apologize and even retract the article.

In my opinion, the anger and consternation felt by many of my fellow students is unwarranted. It is never right to publish misleading or incorrect facts, yet the Wesleyan student body seems to be upset for little reason other than its most prominent student publication publicized a minority, controversial opinion.

Two days after the piece was published, The Argus ran a front-page apology, as well as articles countering the views of the original piece. For many students, these actions were not enough. Lately, a petition to defund the newspaper has been circulating, and the Student Assembly will soon consider whether or not to act on that request. The petitioners vow to keep removing copies of the paper unless The Argus meets certain ridiculous demands—nothing short of intellectual blackmail.

Essentially, much of the student body has been upset by an opinion piece from a student with an unfavorable (and, on the Wesleyan campus, minority) point of view, and is demanding that the paper do everything it can to repress his words. In my opinion, the demanding of an apology from the newspaper—and the article's retraction—only reinforces the idea that political correctness threatens civil liberty.

Whether you add a "more diverse" contingent of writers to the newspaper's staff or throw away all copies of the paper, you are serving the same purpose: to censor the unpopular opinion expressed in the original op-ed. As a classmate pointed out, a diverse group of writers (based on a variety of traits, including race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation) does not guarantee a diverse set of opinions.

I echo the sentiments that Michael Roth, Wesleyan's president, wrote in an open letter about the incident: "Censorship diminishes true diversity of thinking; vigorous debate enlivens and instructs."

Not only is there nothing wrong with a student putting forth his opinion, but, indeed, such a simple act is a vital component to intellectual honesty. Recently, President Obama called college students "coddled," and he seems to be correct. My classmates and I must understand that even if something is offensive, we do not have the right to drown it out, especially in a newspaper that is supposed to represent the wide range of views that make up any diverse institution.

The United States was founded upon principles of freedom, including free speech. Whenever we try to silence opinions, we are silencing someone's liberty. We cannot allow this.

Choaties, please listen: Each of you has the responsibility to stand up for the freedom of speech, including that of the press. I encourage you to speak up anytime you notice someone's opinion being silenced. And never silence your own; you never know how powerful your voice can be.

—Elliot Polur '15

About The Choate News

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

Write for The Choate News

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

POLITICAL CORRECTNESS CAN INHIBIT TACKLING GENDER ISSUES

By Saloni Jaiswal '16
News Editor

When I arrived at Choate, I not only learned the roots of the Spanish-American war, the advantages and disadvantages of free trade, and the conjugation of Arabic verbs, but also the importance of creating and sustaining conversations. I'm not referring to conversations with your best friend about the new PGs on campus or about good T.V. shows. I'm referring to more substantial, more candid, and more profound conversations.

But here's the thing: it seems to me that when such conversations occur (and they do, frequently), they're initiated by the same group of students. Do you know who I'm talking about? Walk into any SAGE, SMASS, or CDSA meeting, and you'll see a familiar set of faces sharing opinions. These are the same people who initiate conversations about gender equality in the Dining Hall. This group comprises only a small portion of the Choate community. The rest of us, students and faculty alike, remain on the periphery. It might be true that the larger Choate community is aware that it is important to talk about issues related to gender (we spend hours talking about diversity at the annual Diversity Day and listen to nationally renowned scholars and activists such as Rosalind Wiseman). But the entire Cho-

ate community does not regularly engage in serious conversations. Oh, how much easier it is to keep one's head down.

One hindrance seems to be the fear of offending others. Those who aren't as involved in these conversations—people such as myself, I admit—worry that they might offend a particular body of people, especially those in the LGBTQ community. Ask anyone around Choate's campus about the difference between the terms "transsexual" and "transgender"—chances are, 8 out of 10 people won't know the answer. The education we receive at Choate is, to a certain extent, the problem. Perhaps we are trained to be too sensitive. However, the greater problem is that these people who aren't as knowledgeable about gender are too scared to be "politically incorrect."

Political correctness (P.C.) has found its way into the lives of Choate students, and its culture engenders fear and frustration to those who want to actively participate in conversations about these issues. Students find themselves unable to participate in discussions because they fear offending those who identify with a certain gender or sexuality.

Let's take a look at my own knowledge of gender and sexuality, which, to be candid, is rather thin. Before Choate, I had a vague idea of what the acronym LGBTQ stood for; all I knew was the difference be-

tween gay and lesbian. When I came to Choate, I was determined to know more. I went out of my way to ask people who were more educated in those areas, even if it meant I was asking simple questions, such as, "What does queer mean exactly?" or "Um, so what does bisexual mean?"

P.C. culture can silence people who want to have an active role in conversations

Though asking those questions made me seem ignorant, I forced myself to stretch my comfort zone and ask them. I also forced myself to voice my opinions to friends, even if it meant unintentionally using incorrect terminology. I wasn't focused on the criticisms I would receive by not using the proper terminology. Forgetting P.C. culture for a moment, I tried to use my weakness as a strength, as an avenue to engage in an important dialogue.

I'm not decrying P.C. culture—in many ways, it's a positive force. Last week, for instance, Esul Burton '16 used this space to examine today's war on political correctness. According to Burton, political correctness is "treating other people with the dignity they deserve. It's about being aware of other people's experiences, respecting those experiences by using tolerant and understanding language, and creat-

ing a society that is welcoming to those that have often been at its fringes. In short, political correctness is all about being sensitive." I agree that Choate students should be sensitive towards others, regardless of their race, socio-economic status, gender, and other distinguishing traits. However, P.C. culture can be intimidating to those who aren't as educated about certain issues but want to be involved. The prevalence of P.C. culture can effectively silence the majority of people who want to take on an active role in these conversations.

What is my solution? Have good intentions, speak your mind, and don't be afraid to use incorrect terminology. Play an active role in these conversations, even if you fear judgment from others or if you fear offending a close friend. It's possible to be sensitive without using always using the correct terminology. Those who are always at the forefront of these conversations, especially at Choate, seek the support of the periphery. And these people will open their arms to educate you.

Those who reside on the edges must lean into the discussion. Be sensitive; you'll become much more educated in these issues that are very pertinent today.

Saloni Jaiswal is a sixth former from Gadsden, AL and is a News Editor for *The Choate News*. She may be reached at sjaiswal16@choate.edu.

TODAY IN HISTORY: POLISH FORCES SURRENDER TO GERMAN ARMY, ENDING THE WARSAW UPRISING (1944)

U.S. REACTS TO IMMIGRANT CRISIS

By **Jack Bergantino '18**
Opinions Writer

The United States of America is a nation that was founded by immigrants. There is not a single belief or religion that unified its people; rather, diversity is at the very foundation of American culture. As the 2016 presidential election draws nearer, candidates are discussing the issue of immigration thoroughly. The estimated number of undocumented immigrants within the United States is roughly 11.4 million people, which is approximately four times the population of Connecticut. The immigration situation is a looming problem, but few have devised an effective plan to address it.

Republican candidate Donald Trump has been very vocal on his stance on immigration. Mr. Trump specifically objects to birthright citizenship, which states that once illegal immigrants give birth on U.S. soil, their child automatically gains the rights of a United States citizen. Trump believes a system should be implemented to deport all illegal immigrants. He proposes the construction of a wall between the United States and Mexico to deter undocumented immigrants from attempting to enter the United States. His plan is to make Mexico pay for the wall's installation as compensation for Mexico sending their "criminals, drug dealers, and rapists" over the border. Carly Fiorina, another Republican candidate, disagrees with many of Donald Trump's ideas. She is in favor of birth-right citizenship because she believes that children should not be punished for the choices of their parents. Moreover, Fiorina thinks that a wall would be largely ineffective and instead emphasizes the importance of increased border security. She advocates for the use of technology to control the numbers of immigrants coming into the country.

Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton has had multiple positions on the issue over the past several decades. Her most recent belief is that everyone deserves the right to citizenship. She

criticizes candidates like Donald Trump for their rigid stance. Clinton repudiates the deportation of immigrants; she supports President Barack Obama, who has implemented programs that protect unauthorized individual's rights. Hillary Clinton has stated that "not one" Republican candidate supports a path to citizenship. In response, Republican candidate Jeb Bush has called Clinton out for flip-flopping between stances. He mentioned that Clinton had initially supported sending "unaccompanied minors" back to their home countries and voted for an amendment that stopped immigration reform while she was a senator. Thus, it is clear that the candidates' stances on immigration vary, suggesting that it is not a partisan issue.

As a member of a country created by immigrants and governed by immigrants, I profoundly object to those who discourage immigration to the United States. The creation of a wall is one of the worst symbols a politician could use, closing a country's doors on the rest of the world. The United States would disavow a message that it once wholeheartedly embraced: that every person, no matter creed, race, nor religion, has the right to become a United States citizen. However, I do think that it is unfair to people who have worked hard to earn citizenship to allow illegal immigrants to have an automatic right to citizenship. Children should not be held accountable for their parents' actions, but I believe that increased border patrol would largely prevent these occurrences from happening. At the same time, the federal government needs to design a more comprehensive way for immigrants to gain citizenship. The United States, long defined by its approach to immigration, should continue to offer a route to citizenship so that it will remain, to paraphrase the 18th-century, French-American writer Crèvecoeur, the world's great asylum.

Jack Bergantino is a fourth former from Cromwell, CT. He may be reached at jbergantino18@choate.edu.



Photo courtesy of The New York Times

Migrants aboard a crowded raft arrive in Lesbos, Greece.

WORLD MUST AID REFUGEES

By **Dylan Stafford '16**
Opinions Writer

After months of apathy, we are finally paying attention to the ongoing refugee crisis that has been taking place in Europe this year. Media outlets are giving Syrian refugees and desperate migrants the focus they deserve, and we are finally beginning to talk about our collective responsibility to ensure that the world's refugees are out of harm's way.

A few weeks ago many were heartbroken by the photographs of three-year-old Aylan Kurdi washed ashore on a Turkish beach. A picture of his young, lifeless body on the white sands was a poignant reminder of the horror experienced by those simply seeking better lives. In response to his photo, many retweeted, ranted, and raged. Many Americans condemned the European Union for its failure to act, and lamented the state of our world.

Now, with each passing day, we hear of another outrage. We've seen Italy turn away inflatable rafts packed full of migrants. We've witnessed Hungary close its borders to stop the flow of hopeless refugees. We've watched as the nation put up barbed wire fences, much like those used to keep prisoners in jail or to prevent zoo animals from escaping. We've observed a journalist, in pursuit of great footage and an eye-catching headline, repeatedly tripping families crossing the border into Hungary.

This month, seventy-one migrants were found dead in an abandoned truck near Vi-

enna. On August 24, citizens set fire to a house in Germany that was prepared to temporarily house refugees. These are only a couple of examples of the several such tragedies to occur in recent months.

Frankly, it's hard not to wonder where our humanity has gone. When did we decide that refugees weren't as worthy of life as the rest of us are? Why do we value notions of citizenship and nationality over the livelihoods of people faced with insurmountable odds?

2.5 million

There were 2.5 million Syrian refugees around the world in 2013. The U.S. took in just 36 of them.

Our politicians tell us that the U.S. has done more than anyone else has on this matter. Carly Fiorina said, "The Europeans need to continue to step up," and that "they have not done as much as the United States has done on that front." Bobby Jindal reminded us that, "We are already the most compassionate and generous country in the world." And Donald Trump declared that he'd "love to help, but we have our own problems."

The facts, however, point to a very different story. According to the United Nations High Commissioners for Refugees, there are more displaced people around the world than any other time since World War II. Yet, the United States has done very little to help. There were 2.5 million Syrian refugees around the world in 2013. The U.S. took in just 36 of them. Now, there are four million refugees, and we

have only allowed 1,500 of them into the country. Germany, by contrast, received 154,000 refugee applications in the first half of this year alone. Turkey houses 1.9 million Syrian refugees, and Lebanon, with only four million residents, has over 1.1 million refugees.

We have made important steps forward, but they simply aren't enough. Last week, the Obama administration announced that it would aim to give entrance to 10,000 Syrians in the next year. Secretary of State John Kerry said the United States would raise its refugee admission limit to 100,000 in 2017. However, we can't continue to sit by as thousands of people drown in the Mediterranean, perish along the Hungarian border, and are denied their dignity in port cities.

We can't blame a single country for its faulty actions or its inaction. Instead, we must acknowledge the issue and recognize our role in creating it. Europe must cooperate to more equitably share the burden of incoming refugees, and countries that are well-equipped to accept more migrants, like the U.S., must accept more migrants.

This isn't some sort of utopian dream. We can accept more refugees if we have the will to do it. We are a nation of immigrants — an amalgamation of peoples who, at one point or another, simply wanted better lives. These refugees wish for the same.

Dylan Stafford is a sixth former from Albuquerque, NM. He may be reached at dstafford16@choate.edu.

From the Foreign Desk

Catalonian Succession Standstill

Catalonia, one of the most prosperous regions in Spain, has been battling the central Spanish government for the past three years over its right to secede from the nation. On September 26, Catalonian separatists won a narrow majority of parliamentary seats in the regional election; however, they did not win the majority vote, and will continue in their battle for succession.

Hundreds of Inmates Escape Central African Republican Jail

On September 28th, at least 500 inmates escaped a Central African Republic jail. At least 42 were killed following the prison break. Over 60 high-level convicts from both the ex-Seleka rebellion and the anti-Balaka group escaped.

Nepal Suffers Fuel Shortage

On Monday, Nepal began rationing fuel to consumers. Trucks attempting to carry fuel from India to Nepal have been blocked from doing so since last week. While Nepalese officials say that India has caused the shortage by blocking trucks attempting to cross the border, Indian officials blame protests in Nepal for the issue.

NASA Discovers Flowing Water on Mars

NASA researchers have found flowing water on the surface of Mars by examining light waves from dark streaks on the planet's surface. Many believe that the discovery of liquid water on the planet could mean that microbes or other forms of life may exist on Mars's surface.

At Least One Killed in Peruvian Protests

At least one person was killed, and 13 people were wounded, in a protest in central Peru. The conflict in Challhuahuacho, a small mining town, started when locals demanded that MMG Ltd. hire more regional workers.

NEED FOR DIVERSITY IN MEDIA REPRESENTATION

By **Ellen O'Rourke '19**
Opinions Writer

On September 20th, 2015, acclaimed actress Viola Davis made history; at the 67th Emmy Awards, Davis became the first African-American actress to win the Emmy for leading actress in a drama.

We need to have a more comprehensive idea of beauty.

Viola Davis called for more diversity in the media in her Emmy acceptance speech. She began the speech with a quote from Harriet Tubman, "In my mind, I see a line, and over that line I see green fields and lovely flowers and beautiful white women with their arms stretched out to me to get over that line but I can't seem to get there no how. I

can't seem to get over that line." In her speech, Davis highlighted a major flaw in media by noting that it is impossible for women of color to win awards for roles that do not exist. TV shows and movies rarely depict a diverse group of people, and thus do not provide equal opportunities for actors and actresses of different demographics.

We are all influenced by what surrounds us, and this includes the media. TV shows, movies, magazines, and other forms of media all seek to show us some sort of ideal. If we only see a certain group of people being showcased as the lead roles, we will believe that those people represent a norm. However, people of diverse backgrounds should be shown as the norm. In real life, there is much more diversity than there is represented on our television screens. We need to recognize people of different



Photo courtesy of Vibe

Viola Davis proudly holds her award after giving her speech.

different races, religions, sexual orientations, economic backgrounds, and other forms of diversity.

Media, particularly the fashion industry, influences the way that we see beauty. If thin, white women are always depicted as the beau-

tiful people, then we begin to believe that they are the only beautiful people. It isn't an assumption we outwardly make; it is an idea we internalize after years of exposure to the media's exclusive ideals of beauty.

People of diverse backgrounds should be shown as the norm.

We need to have a more comprehensive idea of beauty, one that recognizes and promotes all types of beauty, regardless of race, sexual orientation, ability status, and other social identifiers.

The Harriet Tubman quote which Viola Davis used during her speech is from the 1800s, yet it is still very relevant today. We still undervalue excellence and beauty when it comes from anyone outside of what the

media depicts as the norm, although many of us have hoped that this wouldn't be the case. During the Emmys, the host, Andy Samberg, repeatedly joked about the issue of diversity in the media. Since this year's Emmys had the most diverse group of nominees in Emmy history, Samberg joked, "Racism is over!" However, he then said, "Don't fact check that." Samberg's joke highlights the fact that although diversity has been represented more, there is a long way to go before different people are all represented equally. There is still much that needs to be done to end prejudice in the media, but at least we have begun to recognize the need for diversity in media representation.

Ellen O'Rourke is a third former from Boston, MA. She may be reached at eorourke19@choate.edu.

LET'S TALK STUDY SPOTS

By Rachel Hird '17
Staff Reporter

How easy is it to find a good study space in 458 acres of land? We're here to help.

Best Places

1. Library study rooms, where the only sound is the juniors hitting their heads on the wall.
2. Library personal desks. Nothing's personal about twenty other people monitoring each other's bathroom activity.
3. Lanphy study rooms. You know you can't screw around because students and faculty are constantly peering in. Plus, there's access to frappes and chocolate croissants.
4. Outside. If you feel like roughing it, you can do your AP Robotics homework on one of Choate's benches.

Worst Places

1. Lanphy Café. Even if you get lucky and there's no hyper mass of students watching TV, conversations will always break your train of thought. You'll leave with a lot of info on the people around you, but no homework done.
2. For day students, the ride home with a blasting radio. Kanye: 1. Homework: 0.
3. The infamous Humanities basement. You won't encounter anyone else down there, but no quiet is worth running into the creatures that lurk.
4. In the PMAC during school meeting. It just never works.

IT'S A BIRD... IT'S A PLANE... IT'S SUPER BLOOD MOON!

By Zev Nicolai-Scanio '18
Reporter

On Sunday night the 27th of September, students and faculty headed out to observe the lunar eclipse. For nearly three hours, over 30 students participated in a viewing hosted by Mr. Doug Wolff, Choate astronomy and physics teacher. Mr. Wolff and his wife, Mrs. Lynn Wolff, aimed two portable telescopes and the main observatory telescope at the moon for the viewing of this astronomical event.

The clear sky made for excellent viewing conditions. Many students took advantage of the opportunity to

The only sunlight that reaches the moon has traveled through Earth's atmosphere.

photograph the relatively rare event either through the telescopes or with tripod mounted cameras. Several students expressed their excitement at seeing the moon through a telescope for the first time.

In addition to being a pleasant viewing experience, lunar eclipses demonstrate important scientific principles. A total lunar eclipse occurs when there is complete alignment of the sun,



Photo courtesy of Kathryn Cooke

Bernhard and Tenney students marked the once-every-18-years occurrence by howling from their dorms.

the earth, and the moon such that the moon is enveloped by the earth's full shadow. The only sunlight that reaches the moon in this configuration has traveled through the Earth's atmosphere. Because atmospheric scattering and absorption remove or disperse the light with shorter wavelengths, the light's composition is skewed toward the red end of the visible spectrum, thus giving lunar eclipses their characteristic color. If one of the students at Sunday's viewing had been standing on the moon and looking back towards Earth during the totality of the eclipse, they would have seen a glow-

ing reddish ring of light encircling the disc of the darkened side of the Earth.

Even among lunar eclipses, Sunday's astronomical event takes prominence because it occurred during a perigee full moon—when a moon is both full and closest to the earth in its orbit. That this event occurred within a few hours of the totality of the eclipse made the moon appear larger and brighter in the night sky. Such a unique study break will not be available again for Choate students until 2033.

Zev Nicolai-Scanio may be reached at znicolaiscanio18@choate.edu.



THE VIEW FROM MY BEDROOM WINDOW

Friday, 7:00 a.m.

Four guys. One tractor. Still a lot of dirt.

One guy: "If you dig too far, you'll hit the building!"

Another guy: "I know what I'm doing, Tom! I've been doing this for 25 goddamn years!"

Grace Tully '16
Bungalow 202

Pounds and Pounds of Pumpkin

Growers hoped to squash the competition at Durham Fair's giant pumpkin contest

By Kristen Altman '18
Reporter

Held annually during the last weekend of September, the Durham Fair, also known as Connecticut's largest agricultural fair, has remained a hub of entertainment for residents of the Durham area and beyond. Attractions range from roller coasters to fried dough to Craig Morgan concerts, giving Choatians an opportunity to sample a wide variety of experiences not usually found in the Student Activities Center. But the fair's most striking display isn't any of these popular student attractions: it is the giant pumpkin competition.

Enclosed in a small building on the outskirts of the fair lies some of nature's most fascinating squash. Through the Durham-sponsored competition, farmers from Connecticut and beyond are challenged to grow the heaviest pumpkin, the majority of which weigh over 1,000 pounds. These pumpkins are weighed, judged, and displayed in Durham during the four days of the fair.

"All of the pumpkins were bigger than I am!" exclaimed Maya Scandinaro '18, who went to the fair

specifically for the exhibit, adding "They're almost as big as the cows." Indeed, the pumpkins were indisputably large; David Parente's prizewinning pumpkin was measured at 1,706 pounds, making it one of the largest pumpkins in Connecticut. Compared to normal pumpkins, which weigh a measly 15 to 20 pounds, that number seems particularly astounding. Parente's pumpkin is about 700 pounds heavier than a large horse, and about the same weight as a smart car.

The prizewinning pumpkin weighed 1,706 pounds.

With those impressive numbers in mind, let's examine a question pertinent to Choatians everywhere: how can we grow similar pumpkins at Choate? According to Team Pumpkin, a team of farming enthusiasts dedicated to encouraging the growth of giant pumpkins, there is no secret fertilizer or growing technique that cultivates large pumpkins; instead, the main factor affecting pumpkin growth is the seed type. "There are lots of free seeds to grow [giant pumpkins]," Team Pumpkin

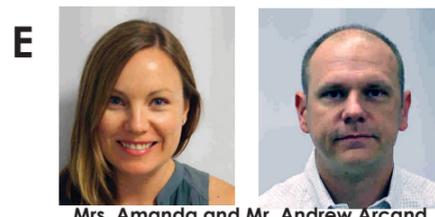
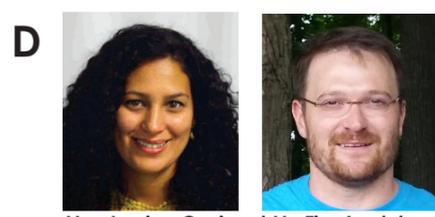
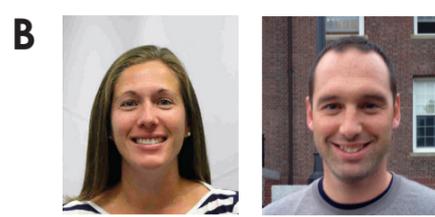
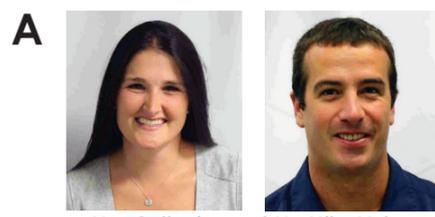
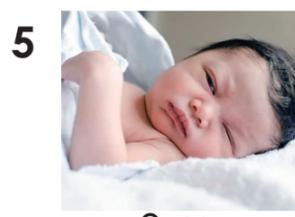
published on their website, www.team-pumpkin.org. The article continued, "and... we also have seedlings ready to plant for all. Not just any old seed, but prize winning seeds." Team Pumpkin elaborated, "Several of our new growers have been very successful and harvested the bounty of their hard work." The seeds that Team Pumpkin writes of are called Dill's Atlantic Giant seeds. They are distributed at no cost at every major pumpkin weighing event, such as the Durham Fair, where pumpkin enthusiasts are able to then plant and garden to their heart's desire.

While planting pumpkins may prove to be a challenge on Choate campus, where garden space is limited to specific areas such as the Kohler Environmental Center, it might be worth the effort. Competitions such as the Durham Fair's weigh-off offer a total of \$7,400 in prize money alone. Of course, money isn't everything. As Team Pumpkin sagely states, "There is only one 'first place,' but a giant pumpkin of any size is something to be proud of."

Kristen Altman may be reached at kaltman18@choate.edu.

CONNECTING THE TOTS

Babies, babies, babies! In recent months, a host of Choate faculty members could only wonder what their newborns would look like. Can you match the adorable results with their lucky parents?



TRY A NEW TASTE IN TOWN

By Gabby LaTorre '17
Staff Reporter

Tired of your same old weekend restaurant rotation? Want to change it up, but are unsure of other options? Well, look no further! Here are two options—one sweet and one savory—to explore the next time you're out and about.

Sweet: Alyssa's Cakery

The What: Asking someone to Garden Party? Trying to find a birthday cake for your friend? Check out Alyssa's Cakery for custom cakes or cupcakes. The bakery also has a standing menu chockablock with delectable treats. An adorable bakery filled with pastel hues and over 45 flavors of cupcakes, it's the perfect place to go when cupcakes at Mr. D's just aren't cutting it for you. There are even two featured seasonal flavors each month (October flavors are classic fall: Apple Cider and Pumpkin Spice). Alyssa's also sells mochi, a Japanese dessert of pounded sticky rice and ice cream filling. Shaped into a ball, this bite-sized sweet is not to be missed. Opened in 2012 by its namesake Alyssa, this bakery is cozy and cute.

The Where: A bit of a hike, Alyssa's has relocated from its previous location next to Vinny's Deli and is now on Center Street just past the Flower Shoppe near Knuckleheads. Make a right after you pass Half Moon, the Tavern, and TD Bank.

The Verdict: Totally worth the hike to satisfy your sweet tooth. Or, to put it another way, should Alyssa's be nominated for the Food Network's Cupcake Wars? I vote yes. The one downside is the shop's slightly inconvenient hours. The bakery is closed on Sundays and Mondays. Tuesdays through Thursdays it closes at 3:30 p.m.—smack in the middle of our afternoon activities. Weekends are your best bet: Alyssa's keeps the oven on until 6:00 p.m. on Fridays and until 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Never miss a sweet fix again.

Savory: The Library

The What: Serving an interesting mix of American, Mediterranean, and Portuguese dishes, The Library is the place to be if you're in the mood for tapas. Tapas range from five to twelve dollars. Entrees are a little more than double that. Pricier than Archie's but less expensive than J. Christian's, The Library is a happy medium. The venue is definitely a little fancier than the usual Wallingford hangouts, but there's no need to dress up. Perfect for a Parent's Weekend dinner or a break from the dining hall, The Library offers customers the pick of a more formal or casual dining area. Located in what used to be Wallingford's public library, the self-proclaimed classic bistro prides itself on incorporating the atmosphere of the 1899 building. Completely renovated, the restaurant retains the feeling of antiquity. Almost like traveling back in time, The Library fuses a modern twist and a glimpse of historical Wallingford.

The Where: Yes, you've probably seen it—that building next to Mr. D's that seemed to take ages to get redone. The closest eating establishment in relation to Choate: distance is no excuse not to come!

The Verdict: If you're willing to switch up the usual routine and shell out a little more cash, it's nearby and a refreshing twist. Check it out with your parents in a couple of weeks—or why wait? Check it out tonight.

Gabby LaTorre may be reached at glatorre17@choate.edu

INSTAGRAM MOVEMENT INSPIRES

New accounts use the photo platform to document under-represented communities

By **Simran Sachdeva '19**
Reporter

Instagram, an app that a large portion of the Choate student body uses, usually consists of feeds with selfies, snapshots of delicious desserts, and artistic photographs of the beach. Though Instagram was created for amateur photographers to upload their photographs and share them with a community, recently, a group of photographers decided to change what is considered the norm and begin a movement. Instead of sharing meals and vacation photos, they used Instagram to document under-represented communities. Their accounts are filled with photographs of people in these communities, along with their pets, their homes, and their families.

"Photography holds certain risk."

Ibrahima Mbaye '16

These accounts aim to showcase people usually forgotten and highlight the diversity of the world's communities. In order to raise awareness about these accounts, Getty Images teamed up with Instagram to give photographers a \$10,000 grant and the opportunity to learn from notable photographers. More than 1,200 entries from photographers in 190 different countries applied, and the winners were Ismail Ferdous of Bangladesh, Adriana Zehbrauskas of Brazil, and Dmitry Markov of Russia. You can find their work through their Instagram accounts, which are @afterranaplaza, @dcim.ru, and @adrianazehbrauskas.

On campus there were a variety of reactions to these photographs. Ibrahima Mbaye '16, one of the heads of Choate Photography Club, had a mixed reaction. "The ideas

and intentions behind the movement are good," he said, adding, "Photography always holds a certain risk of portraying things in a different light than what is true in reality. The very concept of photography is that you take a picture and in that very picture you are showing the audience what you want them to see, and in doing that you are excluding parts of the bigger picture. This makes me worry about the ability to photograph these people without inaccurately portraying communities."

Namsai Sethpornpong '17, another head of the Choate Photography Club, liked the idea. "It is so cool that there are photographers who use social media as a tool to raise social awareness."

The use of photography with the intention to make a difference is not a foreign concept to Rebecca Bernstein '16, the third head of Choate Photography Club and someone who has also made an impact through photography. Bernstein was first introduced to service through photography during her sophomore year on Choate Community Service day, when, instead of packing meals, she took pictures. Inspired by that event, she paired up with Ms. Pashley, Choate's Director of Community Service, and photographed community service events in Wallingford.

Bernstein said, "Through my project, I think people saw that Choate and Wallingford have a mutually beneficial relationship, and that there are a lot of people in town and a lot of ways to get involved."

The use of photography in order to benefit the community is remarkable, and photographers—both at Choate and in the world—are taking a step in the right direction.

Simran Sachdeva may be reached at ssachdeva19@choate.edu.



Photo by Choate Flickr

Anna Hackett '16 sings with her female acapella group, Lilith, during Choate's annual Club Fair in early September.

ACAPELLA HOLDS JOINT AUDITIONS

By **Namsai Sethpornpong '17**
Staff Reporter

Acapella. Choate acapella. It's always been a thrill for those of us cheering offstage as the Whimawehs, Liliths, Maiyeros, Bella Cantos, or Kaprophones dazzle the crowd with their charisma and lyrical energy. The week of September 3 marked annual acapella auditions, when students from every form sing their hearts out, hoping to become a part of Choate's acapella community.

This year, the groups joined forces and held auditions together. Maiyeros President Evan Robison '16 explains, "This year we've done a really good job at working together during auditions. All the female groups did their auditions together and all the male groups did their auditions together. We saved a lot of stress for those auditioning."

Ibrahima Mbaye '16, a three-year senior in the Maiyeros, outlines the male audition process in detail: "We start off with a range test, where we play up the octave to see how high or low you can go." This range test is followed by a test in which returners play different chords to see if the student can identify the three different notes within the chord.

"After the chord test, [the returners] play some really weird sounding chord progressions that the student has to sing to test how comfortable he is with different sounds," explains Mbaye.

The student then performs his solo. After this, he is challenged with the Scream Test: "We play a note on the piano, and we tell them to memorize that note. We make a ton of noise by banging the drums and screaming. We then ask them to give us back the note the way we gave it to them,"

chuckles Mbaye. "It's probably the hardest test there is."

During callbacks, the students are taught a song. "After we taught them the song, we asked them to practice it. We then walked around and listened to who was flat. It's actually kind of funny: we put our ears really close to their mouths and make them a little uncomfortable," Mbaye laughs. "Then, we make our decisions."

Maya Iyer '16, the president of the only coeducational acapella group on campus, the Bella Cantos, explains the negotiating process: "The girls who audition get preferences for what groups they'd like to be in, and we took that into consideration when we made our decisions."

"It already feels like I'm part of a family."

Kay Ingulli '18

Robison adds, "We negotiated to make sure so that everything was fair. However, when we couldn't make a decision on a person, we let him choose between the groups."

Kay Ingulli '18, a newly accepted member of the Whimawehs, says, "I'm really excited to be a part of the Whims. We haven't had too many practices yet because it's the beginning of the year, but it already feels like I'm a part of a family."

Jaiveer Khanna '17, a Kaprophone, says "There was a lot of great talent at auditions and I'm really excited to see how everything turns out. We've got a great year ahead of us."

Iyer remarks on the beauty of joint auditions: "It shows that we're not separate groups, but we are just a group of people who really love to sing. It's an acapella community."

Namsai Sethpornpong may be reached at nsethpornpong17@choate.edu.

**COMING UP
IN THE ARTS**
Friday, October 2nd

Artists' Reception | Mirrors and Windows
5:30 to 7:30 PM @ Arts Center Gallery

Sandbox Percussion | Alumni in the Arts
7:30 PM @ PMAC

BLIND ARTIST SEES PAINT

By **Camila Borjesson '17**
Staff Reporter

People often dismiss with incredulity the famous story of music composer Ludwig van Beethoven, who lost his hearing yet continued listening to his own productions by feeling the vibrations of the instruments. It can be hard to believe that anyone could transcend the senses like this, but parallel stories suggest that artists will find a way. Painter John Bramblitt, for instance, has proved against all odds that if one's dream to paint is big enough not even blindness can preclude success.

From afar, Bramblitt's paintings depict mundane scenery with vibrancy yet unexplored. However, what makes them more remarkable is the fact that Bramblitt is blind. Although he had not previously wished to pursue art as a career, after his disability set in it became his dream as he regained inspiration and his other work options rapidly closed.

But how does he manage to obtain such vivid color combinations without seeing the results? Although he can-

not visualize color itself, he still possesses an intact light perception, which strengthens his ability to recognize light sources and thus paint scenes more accurately. In addition, Bramblitt has discovered that his sense of touch allows him to recognize the texture of the different oil paints.

Bramblitt possesses synesthesia, a condition in which music, a main source for inspiration for the artist, reminds him of colors. For Bramblitt, listening to Mark Ronson and Bruno Mars's "Uptown Funk" produces a little orange and a little blue at the beginning of the song, followed by purple mixed with yellow when the vocals start. The contrast he hears between the voice and the base can be equated to contrast between color tones that he paints.

Bramblitt is the epitome of overcoming the odds and pursuing a path not expected or even thought possible, and serves as an inspiration to all.

Camila Borjesson may be reached at cborjesson18@choate.edu.



Photo by DiggerTech

Bramblitt can determine color by the textures of his oil paints.

ANNETT HO '18: NEW AND NOTE-WORTHY

Using her violin, new 4th former Ho has is already making a musical mark

By **Nicole Yao '18**
Reporter

Only three weeks into the school year, Annett Ho '18 has already left her musical mark on the Choate Arts program. Ho, a new sophomore from Taipei, Taiwan, is a violinist with talent far beyond the normal high school student, an ability that is evident in her playing for the Choate Symphony Orchestra and Arts Concentration Orchestra.

Ho has always had a passion for music. At three years old, she began taking piano lessons after hearing her older sister play. When she was six, she was inspired by Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" to learn how to play the violin. A year later, she started playing the flute.

When she was younger, Ho would often play in charity concerts. "I raised money for Save Thailand and the Children's Heart Foundation," she recalled, "and for several dog shelters." This past summer, Ho



went busking, or playing in the streets, with her violin. "It was really fun!" she shared. "I made \$150."

Although Ho first learned how to play the piano, her focus is now directed solely on the violin. At Choate, Ho is one of the principle violinists in the symphony orchestra. She also participates in the Arts Concentration chamber orchestra and a Mendelssohn trio.

"She's a violinist," Mr. Phil Ventre, conductor of the Choate Symphony Orchestra, said in regards to Ho. "She has a great deal of musical ability, instinct, and aptitude." He added that Ho, who is also the concertmaster of the Choate orchestra, "plays with precision and

is doing an outstanding job leading the orchestra."

While other students may be playing sports, Ho spends much of her time after school practicing the violin. "It's taught me a lot about time management," she said. "It's taught me to concentrate better. I've learned to set my goals straight and not to procrastinate, especially before competitions." Ho also attends Julliard pre-college on the weekends. "On Fridays, I take the train to New York," she explained, describing her weekly routine. "I get there, rehearse, take lessons, and then come back on Sundays."

"Music is an escape for me."

Annett Ho '18

Although this can be admittedly stressful, especially on top of academic work, Ho sees music as a soothing endeavor. "Right now, I feel like music is an escape for me," she said. "When I need to be alone, I can express my feel-

ings through music." Mr. Ventre agreed: "Music is a release, if you will, from the stress of doing academic work."

In Ho's free time, she likes to play with her toy poodle and watch Thai dramas. She also enjoys shopping for clothes and going out with friends.

Ho is looking forward to several musical endeavors, such as competing in a concerto competition. Though she is not sure what she wants to do with her musical ability in the future, Mr. Ventre believes that she "could very easily become a concert violinist and play in a major symphony orchestra." Though her future may take her to larger concert halls, for now the Choate community should look for Annett playing First Violin in the Choate Symphony Orchestra as well as in the Arts Concentration Orchestra — she'll undoubtedly leave a lasting impression.

Nicole Yao may be reached at nyao18@choate.edu.



"I should be a postage stamp. That's the only way I'll ever get licked."

- Muhammad Ali

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2015

ON THE SIDELINES WITH CHARLIE FUENTES

By **Jackson Elkins '18**
Staff Reporter

With no losses to his name this year, and a hard-working, enthusiastic squad at his hand, Coach Charlie Fuentes couldn't ask for much more from his new environment at Choate. The new Boys' Varsity Soccer coach has already established a great level of respect among not only his players, but also his faculty peers and students as well. One player sang his praises: "Coach Fuentes has done an outstanding job coaching the guys, and we're all looking forward to a great season with him as our head coach."

Charlie Fuentes was born in Uruguay. He has two siblings, a sister and a brother, both of whom have children of their own. Coach Fuentes moved to the United States at the age of 7, yet the move proved challenging to his soccer career. "Being from Uruguay, everybody plays soccer; it's one of those things that you're born and they put a ball in your crib. I always played a little bit, but after moving here to the States, I never played organized soccer. I played when I was 6 and 7 in Uruguay, but then after coming here my parents just didn't know the language, didn't have the resources to find out where they could sign me up, so I didn't actually start playing organized soccer until I was 12."

"I'm big on making sure they learn something off of the soccer field."

Mr. Charlie Fuentes
Head Boys Soccer Coach

Despite these setbacks, Coach Fuentes quickly found himself advancing through the ranks, starting with local teams, moving on to premier level squads, to high school, prep school, and finally to the Trinity College Bantams. Today, many of his players are often gush about how "insanely" or "absurdly" talented Mr. Fuentes is on the soccer field.

Before Choate, Mr. Fuentes coached and taught Spanish for four years at Worcester Academy, in Worcester, Massachusetts, after graduating from Trinity College with a degree in economics and Hispanic studies. After he finished at Worcester, he took some time off and went to graduate school at the University of Connecticut, earning his Master's Degree in International Studies. Then he reached a crossroad in his life. He said, "After teaching at Worcester Academy

for four years, I thought I wanted to get away from teaching for a while, and then I was asked if I wanted to do this graduate program. As the program was winding down, I was looking for work, specifically to do some diversity work at the higher ed. level." However, things changed for Mr. Fuentes when he received an email from the Worcester Academy coach, saying that there was an opening at Choate. "Even though I wasn't sure I wanted to get back into teaching, I know what a great school Choate is, and I knew what a great opportunity it would be, and also there was a chance to run my own soccer program, so that was really attractive to me."

As much as soccer may be a part of Mr. Fuentes' personality, he aims to benefit the Choate community in ways that transcend the soccer field. Coach Fuentes looks to bring his students and players into situations that are much bigger than what he teaches them in the classroom and on the pitch. He talked about his desire to give more than the basic lessons and skills, saying, "Personally, I think that apart from what can be done on the soccer field, I can bring a connection to a lot in the outside world, with my background being so diverse. I've had a lot of training in diversity and ethnic studies and identity issues." Also, Coach Fuentes wants his students and players to learn more than Spanish and soccer, saying, "I'm really big on respect, and teaching through actions and making sure they're learning something outside of the soccer field. And in the classroom, if a student comes out of the class with another lesson, like a life lesson, I think that's much more important than whether or not they can conjugate a verb." For Coach Fuentes, character trumps all else.

As for the rest of the soccer season, Coach Fuentes will look for great success for his team, saying that if the squad can work together, and make each other accountable for their responsibility on the pitch, then Varsity Soccer will have a memorable season. Leading the team to its first win in many years over Worcester Academy, his former employer, and eagerly tackling his duties as an adviser in Memorial House, Mr. Fuentes has quickly established himself as a positive and impactful force on Choate campus.

Jackson Elkins may be reached at jelkins18@choate.edu.

Field Hockey Scrapes Past Ethel Walker, 4-3



Photo courtesy of Choate

Co-captain Amanda Reisman '16, right, led the Wild Boars to victory with two goals.

By **Lexy Cook '17**
Reporter

On Saturday, Girls' Varsity Field Hockey opened up their season against a traditional rival, Ethel Walker. The team didn't expect particularly strong competition from the girls in purple and gold, but this game goes to show the danger of underestimating your enemy. Still, after a tough battle, Choate persevered: as time expired, the Wild Boars squeezed out a 4-3 win, with goals from captain Co-captain Claire Mar-

shall '17, Co-captain Amanda Reisman '16, and Nicole McGuigan '18.

Early attempts to win the game on talent alone plagued Choate, but once team chemistry and selflessness kicked in, the Wild Boars pulled it together. Specifically, Co-captain Meade Avery '16 described one Ethel Walker forward that was continuing to break down the defense, saying, "We eventually united as a team and were able to contain the threat and, in the end, take down the whole team."

From the opening whistle, this was a back and forth tilt, as both sides exchanged scores throughout. Reisman was a particularly bright star in the game, burying two goals in the win. Also stellar was goalkeeper Lauren Canna '18, who came up absolutely lights out when the Wild Boars needed it most. Marshall provided solid play and leadership, as per usual, something that can be expected from her consistently in the season ahead.

A big factor in this high-intensity game and for the

season is being able to connect and come together as a cohesive Wild Boar unit to overcome adversity. Marshall said, "Coming off week of a lot of sicknesses and injuries, we had to work really hard as individuals and come together as a team in order to play together to keep putting goals in the net."

This game tested the team's resilience, but they succeeded in the face of solid competition. Top team performer Alex Jarvis '17 explained some of the obstacles they will have to deal with in the season to come: "We lost a lot of seniors last year, and it is going to take a lot of practice to fill their spots on the field; but, as we continue to unite together as a team, especially with Fran [O'Donoghue] as our coach, we will only improve this fall."

The next few weeks are riddled with challenging rivals for Choate Field Hockey. Westminster, Andover, and Loomis Chaffee will test this team, which is attempting to balance veteran leadership and raw, young talent.

Lexy Cook may be reached at lcook17@choate.edu.

VOLLEYBALL SWEEPS DOUBLE HEADER, ADVANCES TO 3-0 RECORD



Photo courtesy of Choate

Stephanie Chan '16 and Anabel de Montebello '18 form a wall to block the spike of a Sacred Heart player.

By **Arjun Katechia '18**
Staff Reporter

Girls' Varsity Volleyball is off to a great start so far this season. With two consecutive New England champion titles in 2012 and 2013 and a 15-1 record in 2014, the team has set a demanding precedent. However, with the hard work and lead of respected Coach David Loeb, this team of winners is determined to continue its momentum into the wood-floored depths of the 2015 season.

So far, the team is up to its usual standard of excellence. To commence the season, on Thursday, September 24th, the team defeated Miss Porter's School three sets to zero.

On this past Saturday, September 26th, the team defeated Pomfret School 3-0, and Sacred Heart Academy 3-2. Coach Loeb has been known to dominate; his team is always in close running for

the New England Championship.

The match against Pomfret was a good demonstration of the teams cohesive effort. Riding off of the energy of a rowdy Boar Pen crowd, Choate dominated the court, taking the first set 25-11 and setting the tone for the long day ahead. The second set embarked with Pomfret leading, but Choate finished the set off with a win of 25-23. The last set concluded with a win of 25-12. Overall, the girls won 3-0.

However, their next game was a far closer match at three sets to two in favor of Choate, with the Wild Boars depleted from a lack of fans and a game already under their belt.

Martha Zhang '16 told *The Choate News*, "Coach Loeb is trying to build depth in the team. We are all trying to build on our skills and harness them as a team in each match. Additionally,

we haven't had as many returners as in previous years (many players graduated) so we have added several hard-working players from the junior varsity program."

She attributed the teams' victory to the hard work they have been putting in for the past few weeks. She also stated that "because Pomfret was not as competitive of a team, we had the opportunity to put in all of our players. These not-so-competitive games will help everyone gain the experience and playtime for when the games do become more competitive towards the end of the season."

The players also were able to gain some experience during the first two scrimmages, the first of which was a "play day" (in which many different teams meet up and play), at Darien High School on September 5, and the second at Cheshire High School on September 9.

Following a home match

against the Hopkins School on the 30th of September, the girls will start their away agenda on Saturday October 3, at Phillips Exeter Academy, to whom they were defeated in last year's New England Championship game; but road competition has proved to be no crutch for these girls.

This team's best assets come in the form of Captain Anna Hackett '16 and Coach Loeb. Hackett has been in the New England Championship game for each of her first three years at Choate, under the prudent coaching of Loeb.

For this squad, wins are nice, but they will not rest until the New England Championship banner graces the walls of the Winter X for the third time in the past four years.

Arjun Katechia may be reached at akatechia19@choate.edu.

VARSITY WEEKLY SCOREBOARD

Girls' Soccer	3	Boys' Soccer	2	Field Hockey	3	Girls' Volleyball	3	Boys' Water Polo	14	Football	51
Sacred Heart	0	Kent	2	Greenwich Acad.	0	Sacred Heart	2	Hotchkiss	9	Lawrenceville	0