

CN THE CHOATE NEWS

100 YEARS OF RIVALRY 1922-2022



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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: ALEXIS LIEN '23

MANAGING EDITOR: TIFFANY XIAO '23

GRAPHICS EDITOR: YUJIN KIM '23

LAYOUT EDITOR: AUSTIN ZHAO '23

Mr. F. R. Kellogg (Choate's Football Manager) writes a letter to Frank Boyden (Deerfield's Headmaster) responding to his request to set up a football game between the two schools. Within *The Choate News* Issue CXI: Vol 5, Deerfield's archivist Anne Lozier said, "In 1922, Deerfield was on shaky ground trying to establish itself as a private institution, and Headmaster Frank Boyden was starting to reach out to schools everywhere in order to form strong professional and personal ties."



Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

January 10, 1922:

Deerfield Game.

(Continued from first page)

The tentative line-up is as follows:	
DEERFIELD.	CHOATE.
Thorne	Norris
	Right End.
Clark	Kenyon
	Right Tackle.
Cook	Pollock
	Right Guard.
Donnelly	Webber
	Center.
Arnstein	V. Babcock
	Left Guard.
Atkinson (Capt.)	Charles
	Left Tackle.
Burnett	Brown
	Left End.
Butterfield	Jack (Capt.)
	Quarterback.
W. Parker	Buck, Mullaney
	Right Halfback.
L. Parker	Peplaw
	Left Halfback.
Hilliard	Hayes
	Fullback.

October 7, 1922:

The rivalry between the two schools officially starts with a football game on October 7, 1922 in Wallingford, Connecticut. Choate wins 28-6.

CHOATE ELEVEN DOWNS DEERFIELD 28-6.

Team Shows Marked Improvement in Tackling and Punting.

PEPLAW AND BROWN STAR.

Deerfield's Line Strong—Offense Weak.

On Saturday, October 7th, the football team met its first real opposition of the season, defeating the Deerfield Academy eleven by the score of 28-6. The score might make one think the game was one-sided, but such was far from being the case. Deerfield, a new addition to our schedule, proved to have a good, hard-playing, hard-fighting team, though lighter than ours. During the first half the teams fought on nearly even terms, the whistle blowing soon after Choate had scored her first touchdown on an end run by Peplaw, and the period ending with victory by no means certain.

During the second half Deerfield seemed to lose her defensive power, and allowed the Blue and Gold to cross her goal line three times, once after a sixteen-yard run around left end by Brown, once on a forward pass to Norris, and once when George caught a difficult forward pass from behind the Deerfield goal line.

Photos courtesy of Choate Archives

October 27, 1928:

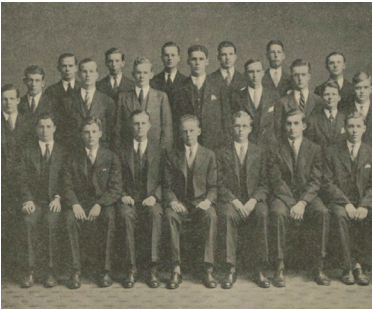
Deerfield beats Choate in football for the first time ever (16-0) on Saturday, October 27, 1928 at Deerfield, marking a sweeping victory.



Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

May 30, 1929:

The first time that the Deerfield *Scroll* collaborates with *The Choate News*



INTERESTING NEWS OF NEIGHBORING SCHOOLS

Photos courtesy of Deerfield Archives

Headline of collaboration (top) 1928-1929 *Scroll* board (left)

September 8, 1989:

Deerfield returns to co-education. The school welcomes its first co-ed class since 1948.



Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

September 1995:

A new athletic mascot, the wild boar, is proposed to replace the previous name for athletic teams: the "Judges." The wild boar later becomes symbolic of Choate's dedication to athletics.



Commencement 1978:

Although Choate first introduced the Rosemary girls to the Wallingford campus in 1971, the first co-ed commencement ceremony is not held until 1978.



Photo courtesy of Choate Archives

Yvonne Chaplain '80 and Kenny Tung '80 carry the flags.



Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

Girls get a chance to compete in soccer and field hockey games.

Girls to partake in Choate Day games. Girls' soccer and field hockey are added to the list of contests for the first time. William Conrad writes in a 1989 *Scroll* article, "Although the day will change, the presence of girls will only make the day better."

November 10, 1989:

November 11, 1972:

Choate-Deerfield: 50 Years of Rivalry



Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

Players fight for the ball in the soccer match.

Choate holds the edge on the football field with 25 wins, 19 losses, and 10 ties due to Choate's supremacy in early years and despite Deerfield's success following World War II (when two games were played per year from 1945 to 1947). The entire student body celebrate the golden anniversary by traveling to Choate to witness the two foes clash on the football gridiron, soccer field, and cross-country course.

1995:

Tom Mathews '96 self-appoints himself as the first Captain Deerfield in a DIY costume. In the 2016 *Scroll* article "Reflections from the First Captain Deerfield: Tom Mathews '96" he says, "It came about from being frustrated that the school crowd during sporting events just didn't seem into it as much as I was."



September 1998:



Girls' Varsity Volleyball first plays Choate, and a volleyball league is established for the first time. Ali Roche '99 said she hopes "to beat Choate, since this is the first time we will be playing them" in a "Fall Preview" of Girls' Varsity Volleyball published in the *Scroll*.

January 2001:



After years of limited support for sports teams, six Choate students decide to change the game by cheering on their peers and heckling their rivals during one fateful basketball game. Hence, Boar Pen is born.

November 2016:

Deerfield's Choate Week Tuesday Bacon Grilling tradition is established.



2018:

Deerfield's first female co-captain Deerfield is appointed, Bailey Cheetham '19.

November 17, 1930:

First soccer game between Deerfield and Choate is played in Wallingford, and Deerfield wins with a score of 3-0.



Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

Three Deerfield players prepare for their match.

October 20, 1934:




Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

The entire student body of Choate travels to Deerfield, establishing a precedent for alternating Choate days. Previously, Deerfield had always traveled to Choate. Choate wins the game 39-6.

November 1948:

Choate Cross Country Team Outruns Inexperienced Deerfield Harriers, 19-36

Andrews Captures First For Blue And Gold As Caplan, Little, Aschenbrener, And Hallock Place In Easy Win

With Captain Sherman Andrews setting the pace throughout the entire meet, Choate's Cross Country team ran to a handy 19 to 36 win over Deerfield Academy last Saturday, between the halves of the annual Choate-Deerfield Fall football classic. The Green harriers made a commendable showing, however, in view of the fact that this is their first season of competition; as Len Johnson of Deerfield took second place, 8 seconds back of Andrews, Sperm's time was 10:35, while Johnson's was 10:53. The next six places were all taken by Choate men, as Caplan, Little, Aschenbrener, Hallock, Trapnell, and Lawton Smith streaked across the finish line within a half-minute. Caplan's time for third place was 10:54 with Little just three seconds in back of him. Tom Aschenbrener took fifth in 11:08 and Peter Hallock followed him in sixth place with a time of 11:11. Trapnell with 11:14 and Lawton Smith with 11:24 took seventh and eighth places respectively.

Walker Takes Ninth

Captain Dong Walker of Deerfield took ninth place with an elapsed time of 11:28. He was followed by teammates Britton, Haswell, and Bunooff.

The times for the race were comparatively good despite the fact that the course was made slippery and treacherous by Friday night's rain.

Although there were a few falls, most of the runners made their way over the

Photos courtesy of Choate Archives

Deerfield's cross-country team is handed a 19-36 defeat in its first ever meet against Choate. Cross-country, as a sport, was introduced earlier in October 1948. This meet is also the first mention of Deerfield Cheerleaders bolstering school spirit at the race.

Deerfield (4) (Choate (0))

Sheehan.....G.....	Howard
Winston.....R.F.....	Warner
Desloge.....L.F.....	Wyckoff
Higgins.....R.H.....	Waterman
Smead.....C.H.....	McMahon
Abercrombie.....L.H.....	Kuhl
Chiba.....O.R.....	Loomis
Turner.....I.R.....	Caesar
Neilson.....C.....	Lewis
Smith.....I.L.....	McKenna
Mahony.....O.L.....	Johansen

Goals—Neilson (2), Chiba, Turner. Substitutions—Deerfield: Steever for Abercrombie, Hulick for Smith, Walbridge for Higgins, Atwood for Smead, Howard for Chiba. Choate: Williams for McKenna.

Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

Roster for the first soccer match.

February 1936:

Debating Council Splits With Choate

Recent Neutrality Bill Argued In Home And Home Debate; Affirmative Taken Here

Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

Up until this point, Choate and Deerfield compete in almost every extracurricular activity; however, this is the first time they meet in debate. The two schools tie in a discussion about the recently passed Neutrality Bill.

November 17, 1956:



Photos courtesy of Deerfield Archives

The entire student body travels to Choate by "special" train. When they get to Wallingford, the Deerfield boys line up after the marching band and march from the railway station to Choate's campus.







Photos courtesy of Choate Archives


Rosemary Girls explore the Wallingford campus, enjoying the dining, study, and relaxation spaces.

1971-1972:

Rosemary Hall girls arrive on Wallingford campus circa 1971, beginning Choate's efforts to become co-ed.

April 22, 1956:

The Deerfield Varsity Track Team wins against Choate for the first time in its 30 years history with a score of 71-46. Deerfield defeats Choate Track and Field, upsetting their 12-year winning streak.



Photos courtesy of Deerfield Archives

Deerfield student competes in a long jump event.

Varsity Track Team Decisively Trounces Choate

Photos courtesy of Deerfield Archives

Deerfield rejoices over their win against Choate.

2018:

Hannah Deringer '20 is Deerfield's first solo female Captain Deerfield.



November 2020:

For one of the first times since 1922, Deerfield/Choate Day does not take place due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Both schools hold no interscholastic contests during the fall of 2020.



November 12, 2022:



The Deerfield/Choate Rivalry enters its 100th year. The games are to be played at Choate.

November 9, 2019:

For the first time in a decade, Deerfield defeats Choate in football, winning 20-14.

CHOATE

THE TOP TEN REASONS WHY CHOATE CRUSHES DEERFIELD

1. John F. Kennedy ’35.

2. George Washington had tea in Squire Stanley

3. Daily performances by SAGE cook Antonio in the servery

4. We can get dressed without our headmaster telling us how to ... We have style beyond Barbours and Blazers

5. We can make friends without being assigned to dining hall tables

6. A mascot with sentience

7. References in *Gilmore Girls*, *Family Guy*, and *The Summer I Turned Pretty*

7. Signs of civilization within a two mile radius

8. Our Platinum certified LEED building is saving the world

9. Our campus stays above water when it rains. No flooding in Wallingford!

10. We can use our phones all day, every day, whenever we want to.

DEERFIELD

THE TOP TEN REASONS WHY DEERFIELD DOMINATES CHOATE

1. Taylor Swift wrote a song about a former Deerfield student (Conor Kennedy ’14, “Begin Again” *Red*)

2. “Bigger, better, faster, stronger, we’ve been here a century longer.” (Deerfield Est. 1797 and Choate Est. 1890)

3. The King of Jordan ’80 (actual royalty!) gave us a private talk on Middle Eastern security

4. We know how to set a table and we have table manners

5. We burn a bonfire, not a fire pit meant for roasting marshmallows...

6. “There’s actually a theme to the architecture on our campus.” (circa *Scroll* 2004)

7. “Choaties haven’t learned that when you try to dye your hair blue and yellow, you get green.” (circa *Scroll* 2004)

8. The Rock and The Riv

9. A Boogie

10. We’re not screenagers; we know how to have an actual conversation, ever heard of it?

WHAT DOES DEERFIELD DAY MEAN TO YOU?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE DEERFIELD DAY MEMORY?

Will Ji ’23

I played thirds soccer my freshman year. My favorite Deerfield Day memory was the crowds coming to support the team. I thought that the crowds would only be at varsity football and soccer games, but they were cheering for every team.

Katrina Miao ’20

My favorite Deerfield Day memory was probably when I was a junior, I think. There was a really close varsity girls volleyball game that we won, and everyone rushed in to the court after we won. It was pretty lit, and when football won every year, it was always fun to celebrate after.

Max Su ’21

My favorite memory was being on the sidelines during the football game and getting to rush the field after our victory.

WHAT DOES CHOATE DAY MEAN TO YOU?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CHOATE DAY MEMORY?

Tom Bracken ’82

To prepare for our game, we would practice soccer in the hallway of our dorm, Wells.

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE DEERFIELD DAY TRADITIONS?

David Hallal ’23

I’m a big fan of the pep rally before Deerfield Day too, not just because I’m in charge of it this year, but because the energy is just awesome. Colony is decked out in posters made by the community, and all the teams put on great performances. Deerfield Day is really unlike anything I’ve been a part of. Seeing the sidelines of football covered by blue and gold always gets me going. It’s all just super hype.

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE CHOATE DAY TRADITIONS?

Sean Keller ’86

I remember people made banners and put them up around campus. Pink Floyd had come out with an album called “The Wall” and the art class made a version of that album cover as a poster. It had Exeter, Andover, and some other schools, and the heading was “Choate, you’re just another brick in the wall.”

Peter Shea ’23 (Captain Deerfield)

The hike to the Rock in the morning. Stopping at Frank Boyden’s grave on the hike up and talking about how he gave his whole life to this school really shaped my time here.

Anna Gonzales ’12

I liked the bonfire a lot. It was a little intense, but it was a nice moment of everyone participating in this community event.

Hadley Newton ’12

I enjoyed the fresh, barbecued bacon. Regardless of win or lose, it tasted good!

Adaugo Nwaokoro ’24 (Cheerleader)

Storytime during sitdown with the robes and the pig that runs around.

HOW WAS CULTURE DIFFERENT DEERFIELD WEEK?

Michael Zack ’23

Playing against Deerfield this year is something that everyone on the team is looking forward to this year. We have a lot of new kids that have never experienced this kind of environment before, so it is something that we are all looking forward to, especially since it is the 100th year anniversary of the Deerfield Day football rivalry.

HOW WAS CULTURE DIFFERENT CHOATE WEEK?

Al Sawyers ’78

The teachers were into Choate Day as well, which resulted in a slightly less tense session during class. I remember one day when a teacher said to a student who had been called on and had fumbled a question, “Surely you can do better than that . . . remember, you attend Deerfield, not Choate.”

WHAT WAS THE NATURE OF THE RIVALRY?

Member of Class of ’93

“After graduating into one of the most heated in-state rivalries for college (Carolina-Duke), high school rivalries felt cute and quaint in comparison, but, at the time, it felt very meaningful! I loved the hype and planning around it and getting on the team buses for years and chattering away as we drove up. Fun times!”

Herbert Lai ’90

I remember one of the teachers at the time saying Deerfield is our rival, and not our enemy, which I thought was nice.

WHAT WAS THE NATURE OF THE RIVALRY?

Elena Lu ’22

By senior year, I enjoyed being around everyone else at Deerfield and having a common goal to work towards, so it wasn’t necessarily even related to Choate anymore.

Al Sawyers ’78

To be honest, we really did not like Choate. We looked down upon them, although I don’t really know why. I did not know a single person who attended Choate, and I suspect that they were no different than me, but the feeling of disrespect was mutual, so it all worked out.

CHEERS

2022 NEW CHEER

C-C-C-H-O
A-A-A-T-E
C-H-O
A-T-E
Fight, Choate, Fight!

Boars Knock Down Doors

Who’s House? C House!

When the Boars Come Rolling In

(Oh when the boars)
Oh when the boars (Come rolling in)
Come rolling in
Oh when the boars come rolling in
Oh I’d love to be on the C train
When the boars come rolling in

CHEERS

God made the rivers!
God made the lakes!
God made Choate!
We all make mistakes!

AGA CHI, AGA CHA, AGA CHI
CHI CHA CHA CHA,
BOOMALAGA, BOOMALAGA, SIS
KUM BA- DEERFIELD
DEERFIELD RA RA

Cheerleaders: “HAIL DEERFIELD!”
Fans: “HAIL DEERFIELD!”
Cheerleaders: “HAIL DEERFIELD!”
Fans: “HAIL DEERFIELD!”
Cheerleaders: “HAIL CHOATE!”
Fans: “HELL NO!”

BIGGER, BETTER, FASTER, STRONGER, WE’VE BEEN HERE A CENTURY LONGER!

SWEATERS: SWAG OR DRAG?

By **Jacqueline Yan '24**
Copy Editor

At Choate, the conclusion of the fall term is often marked by the sight of seniors walking around proudly in their creamy sweaters decorated with a giant “C.” Unknown to many, however, this century-long tradition owes its roots to Choate’s most dedicated athletes.

Before these sweaters came to be known as senior sweaters, they were “varsity sweaters” that were gifted to athletes for their athletic honor. Only those who had achieved six varsity letters throughout their Choate career or three varsity letters during their senior year were eligible to receive one. Starting in the 1910s, The Choate School awarded their athletes with navy or white crewneck

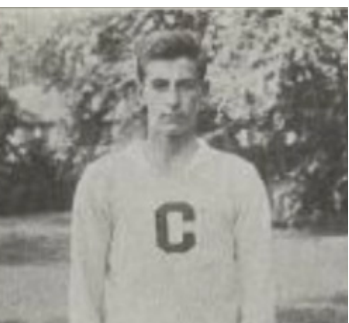


Photo courtesy of Choate Archives

Tennis player A. Y. P. Garnett, who won his fall tournament, wears his varsity sweater.

sweaters with a gold or blue “C” emblazoned on top. At Rosemary Hall, the design featured a white blazer with the school seal on the front pocket and sleeves marked with the number of varsity teams each student participated in.

Although budget cuts put a stop to the practice shortly after, the senior class of 2013 brought the tradition back to life under the name of “senior sweaters.” They decided on the now-familiar design of a cream-colored sweater. These senior sweaters not only serve as fashion statements but have also come to be mementoes purchased by graduates as a way to remember their time at Choate.

Jacqueline Yan '24 may be reached at jjyan24@choate.edu



Photo by **Tiffany Xiao '23**/*The Choate News*

Chiara Vessicchio '22, Jessica Wu '22, and Angela Deng '22 rep their senior sweaters on Deerfield Day.



Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

Deerfield Cheerleaders show off their sweaters in 1966-1967.

By **Clara Chae '23**
Newsroom Managing Editor

At Deerfield, knit cream-colored sweaters sporting a green “D” are awarded to cheerleaders, a group of 22 juniors and seniors exemplifying Deerfield spirit. They are selected based on cheerleader “tryouts,” an annual fall tradition where groups of students perform cheers to the student body to prove their ability to pump up the crowd. At a pep rally a few weeks after tryouts, the newly inducted cheerleaders are called up one by one and are presented with their own coveted sweater. Since the sweaters are only available to the cheerleaders and, thus, not up for purchase, they serve as an

exclusive item of apparel to be worn only by those who truly bleed green. The sweaters can be spotted on the sidelines of any Deerfield home game as cheerleaders lead spectators in deafening chants and cheers.

The sweaters displayed a design containing a megaphone and the Deerfield “D” in 1962 and from 1965 to 1977. These symbols of spirit have been integral in Deerfield’s history, as the earliest version of the Deerfield sweater is depicted in a photo from 1927. Cheerleaders have been wearing the sweaters ever since, the green knit “D” offering a beacon of school pride to everyone around them.

Clara Chae '23 may be reached at cchae23@deerfield.edu

A WAR OF WITS: DEBATES

By **Isabella Casillas '24 & McKenzie Goltermann '25**
Associate Editor & Staff Writer

Choate and Deerfield’s rivalry has flourished not only on the athletic field, but also on the debate pulpit. Deerfield offered students extracurricular opportunities to engage in interscholastic debate as early as 1932, and a 1969 *Scroll* issue outlining debate opportunities mentioned, “The Senior Council is the school’s principal debating society, engaging in debates and tournaments with such schools as Taft and Choate. Within the school itself, there are the Senate and Forum, who debate each other during the year.”

Debate topics have ranged from government spending and balloting laws to the use

of armed forces in international negotiations. Victories have swayed both ways, with Deerfield and Choate teams enjoying their respective moments of success. A *Scroll* issue from 1936 reported how Choate defeated Deerfield in the annual home-and-home debate, saying, “The [Deerfield] senior debating council won the affirmative of a home-and-home debate with Choate School last night... The subject was unusually timely in that it discussed the Neutrality Bill which was passed by Congress recently.”

In contrast, a *Scroll* issue from 1943 highlighted Deerfield’s triumph, emphasizing, “The senior debating council scored a sweeping victory over Choate on Friday evening... winning both ends of a home-

and-home debate...the resolve, ‘that this house approve the lowering of the voting age from 21 to 18 years’ was an extremely timely one.”

Deerfield Academy not only hosted debates within the secure walls of New England, but also managed to schedule debates outside of the country. For example, a *Scroll* issue from 1984 described Deerfield’s participation in an international debate competition hosted in Toronto, Canada: “Each team participated in three of the competition’s nine events. The Deerfield team chose impromptu speaking, parliamentary debate, and after dinner speaking... The parliamentary debate was modeled after actual debates in the British Parliament. In this

event, the debaters again had no preparation.”

Deerfield students took many lessons away from their international experience of debating. Stuart Salomon, a Deerfield teacher in 1984, explained the exposure to new forms of debate in international competition. “I am now aware of what other types of tournaments are available to students,” he said. “It was a valuable experience, and I hope that the trip will continue in years to come.” Deerfield and Choate’s rich history in speech and debate sets a precedent for lively competition to continue and evolve far into future years.

Isabella Casillas '24 & McKenzie Goltermann '25 may be reached at icasillas24@deerfield.edu & mgoltermann25@deerfield.edu

THE GLEEFUL DAYS OF GLORY

By **Julia Zhao '24 & Ginger Bernstein '25**
Associate Editor & Staff Writer

From singing the Deerfield Evensong every Sunday to yelling the Deerfield Cheering Song (colloquially known as the Fight Song or the Victory Song) after athletic competitions, music has played a significant role in elevating the Deerfield spirit. Deerfield students started placing importance on their musical traditions when Mr. Ralph H. Oatley organized the Glee Club in 1924. Since its inception, the Glee Club had played an active role in the Deerfield community with students participating in interscholastic singing competitions, joint programs with other schools, and spring concerts.

The Glee Club immediately found success in interscholastic singing competitions after its establishment. In 1925, it placed fourth (10 points below the winner) in the Preparatory School Sing held at the Town Hall in New York. In 1926, it won the competition, and in 1927, it placed second by three-fifths of a point behind the winner: Choate. On February 4th, 1928, the Glee Club, under the leadership of Mr. Oatley, presented the judges of the Sixth Annual Inter-Preparatory School Glee Club Contest with songs such as “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” by Praetorius, “Briar Rose” by Debois, and “Sons of Deerfield,” and won the competition with the highest score hitherto: 270.4 points out of

300. In 1928, the Deerfield Glee Club again was victorious, placing first in the competition, which secured Deerfield as the permanent hold of the cup. The cup is bestowed to the winner of the competition every year, but the victors must return the cup after a new winner is crowned. The trophy is bestowed permanently if the team wins three times.

Glee Club enhanced the relationship between Deerfield and other prep schools, with light lunches after each interscholastic Glee Club concert fostering friendships between the attendees. Deerfield’s Glee Club frequently connected with the Loomis Club, including the returning concert performed jointly in 1927 at Loomis. The same concert was held again at Deerfield in 1928 and in May of 1929 at Windsor, Connecticut. The Deerfield Glee Club also performed jointly with other schools, such as in the 1930 concert with the Hotchkiss Club and another in the same year with the Worcester and Williston Glee Club. More collective concerts included the Annual Hartford Glee Club Sing with Choate, Hotchkiss, Loomis, and Taft in the Horace Bushnell Memorial Hall.

At its peak, Mr. Oatly organized an offshoot of the Deerfield Glee Club, the Junior Glee Club, in the spring of 1930. 40 students showed up to the first rehearsal. While the Senior Glee Club rehearsal rehearsed twice a week, the junior club rehearsed once a week and fo-



Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives

The Glee Club poses for a photo in the 1928 Deerfield *Scroll*.

cused more on the fundamentals of singing, providing the opportunity for beginners to get involved in singing.

Throughout the early 1900s, the Glee Club, directed by founder Mr. Oately, found great success in performing at the spring concert, joint concerts with other preparatory schools, and concerts for local communities. In 1960, Dr. J. Clement Schuler, the current Deerfield Academy Band Director, succeeded Mr. Oatley’s role as director of the Glee Club and ensured its future success along with Mr. William T. Dargan, who took over Glee Club in 1974.

Glee Club still faced many adversities and eventually lost its former glory. The retirement of Mr. Dragon in 1977 reduced the communal enthusiasm of Glee Club, which —along with the acapella group the Mel-

low-Ds — lacked participation. Fortunately, Mr. Dalton Winslow, Mr. Dragon’s successor, was able to restore some of the energy back to the Glee Club. In 1978, the Glee Club welcomed 46 new members, an unprecedented number, making it the biggest group in the club’s history. In the same year, the group managed to raise their concert number from zero to 10. However, the singing group couldn’t compare with varsity sports teams, and while the Glee Club still held concerts, it never regained its former popularity. When Mr. Riley, the current conductor, left Deerfield in 1984, he left a tremendous impact on Glee Club and Mellow-D’s.

Julia Zhao '24 & Ginger Bernstein '25 may be reached at szhao24@deerfield.edu & vbernstein25@deerfield.edu

Bleed Green and Forever True: Deerfield/Choate 2022 Spirit Week

Friday, Week Prior



Photo courtesy of @dacameraroll

Deerfield: It Begins!

Students create colorful banners making jabs at Choate. Some notable banners from this and last year include: “Choate did not get A Boogie,” “Chuck the Boar through the Door,” and “I like my bacon crispy.” Friday also marks the beginning of Battle Cry-ing season. Students yell out “(student name), (student name), don’t be shy, do the Deerfield Battle Cry,” and the other student must yell out “V-I-C-T-O-R-Y.”

Saturday

Choate: Poster-Making

Students prepare for the big day in St. John Hall, where they paint signs in blue and gold on massive white sheets. Some of the most memorable slogans that have graced the stands include “Deerfield Eats Pizza With a Fork,” “Deerfield Punts in Madden,” and “Deerfield Bites Their Ice Cream.”



Photo courtesy of Cassatt Boatwright '24

Monday

CRH: Adam Sandler Day

For the first time ever, students on this day dress up as Dean of Students Mr. Mike Velez ’oo’s doppelganger Adam Sandler.

DA: Spy Day

Monday’s theme usually varies; this year’s is Spy Day, with students decking out in black and sporting sunglasses.

Tuesday

CRH: Twin Day

One of Choate’s favorite themes, Twin Day is repeated almost every year!

DA: Twin Day

Students find a friend to match outfits with. Cheerleaders grill bacon and offer it to passing students all day.

Wednesday

CRH: Minion Mayhem

Students give thanks to Gru’s beloved Minions franchise by rocking their bright gold and blue minion costumes, including yellow tops and overalls.

DA: Co-curricular Day

Students decide on a theme with their co-curricular, like a medieval theme in 2021 where varsity volleyball dressed as kings, knights, and jesters.

Thursday



Photo courtesy of @beyondthevalley

DA: Grade Competition

The entire school comes up with a theme and assigns each grade a part. In 2021, the seniors were senior citizens, juniors were parents, sophomores were teenagers, and freshmen were babies.

During Thursday sit-down dinner, the dining hall lights are suddenly shut off, and Cheerleaders appear in dark hooded robes holding candles. As Captain Deerfield recounts the ominous origin story of the rivalry, the Cheerleaders chase a student dressed as a pig through the dining hall and out to the foyer, vanquishing the evil beast.

CRH: Decades Day

Another student body favorite; students dress up as their favorite decade to celebrate 100 years of rivalry.

Friday



Photo by **Tiffany Xiao '23**/*The Choate News*



Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives



Photo by **Tiffany Xiao '23**/*The Choate News*

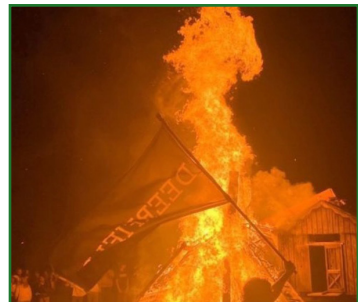


Photo courtesy of Kami Meier '22

CRH: Color Wars

Different forms rock their different colors: yellow, blue, black, and white. In the evening, students gather to cheer on Step Squad, Hip Hop, and the varsity sports’ teams in the pep rally before knocking down and burning Deerfield’s mascot: an unthreatening green door.

DA: Green & White Day

Friday is green and white day in class dress. That night, Cheerleaders lead the student body in the iconic Deerfield cheers during a pep rally, then students travel down to the Lower Fields to light the bonfire. Cheers ring through the valley as a wooden “C” crumbles under the heat.

A Note from the Editors:
DEAR WILD BOARS &
DEERFIELD DOORS,

This year, 2022, we recognize the centennial of the cherished, distinguished, and occasionally boisterous rivalry of Deerfield Academy and Choate Rosemary Hall. Originally a friendly exchange of letters and a joint football game in 1922, the Choate-Deerfield rivalry has now burgeoned into an annual festivity — a week of spirit-filled fun and a long day of matches, with crowds of students, faculty, alumni, families, and friends alike decked out in green, white, blue, and gold.

To commemorate the rivalry, the *Deerfield Scroll* and *The Choate News* have collaborated on this joint issue reflecting on the past 100 years. This special project features pieces ranging from historic letter correspondence, school cheers, the evolution of football scores through the years, comparisons of annual spirit weeks, previous interdisciplinary events between the two schools, and a creative crossword.

Through this issue, the *Deerfield Scroll* and *The Choate News* hope to highlight the heart of the rivalry — a bright celebration of cordial competition and collaboration between two schools filled with diversely talented, dedicated, and passionate students. As you flip through these pages, we hope that you enjoy comparing traditions amongst the two schools, learn a new fact about the rivalry, or share a smile.

Forever true to gold and blue, Bleed green,
The Choate News *The Deerfield Scroll*



The following collection of letters from 1922 to 1937 document correspondence between Deerfield Headmaster Frank Boyden, Choate Football Manager Mr. F. R. Kellogg, and Choate Headmaster George St. John. The letters coordinate the schools' first football game as well as enthusiastic reception to the blooming rivalry by the two headmasters thereafter.

January 10, 1922

January 10, 1922

Dear Sir:

Our athletic association has been carefully considering the matter of the foot ball game which you offered us for October 7, 1922, and we would be very glad to play you in Wallingford on that date. It is understood that we shall receive half the expense for eighteen men.

Wishing you a very successful season, I am,

Yours very truly,

Mr. F. R. Kellogg,
Manager of Football,
Choate School Athletic Association,
Wallingford, Connecticut

Mr. Boyden and Mr. F. R. Kellogg first discussed a football game between the two schools.

October 30, 1922

October 30, 1922.

Mr. George C. St. John,
The Choate School,
Wallingford, Conn.

My dear Mr. St. John:

This is a very tardy acknowledgment of our appreciation of your great courtesy and kindness to us the other day when we were at Choate.

I am very glad that we have started athletic relations and hope that they will continue for many years. Our boys thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and I hope sometime to have the pleasure of entertaining you here.

Sincerely yours,

P.S. I would appreciate a copy of your school paper giving the account of our game, if you have an extra one available.

Mr. Boyden thanks Mr. St. John for kindly hosting the first football game at Choate's Wallingford campus.

December 7, 1922

December 7, 1922.

Mr. George C. St. John,
The Choate School,
Wallingford, Conn.

Dear Mr. St. John:

Our basketball and baseball managers have just been to see me with regard to their schedules, and the football manager has also spoken to me. We enjoyed our game and the relationship with your team so much that we would like to continue athletic relations if it be a mutual feeling.

I understand that we go to Wallingford on the 14th of February for a game of basketball, and that our manager has agreed to go to Wallingford on the 28th of April for baseball. I am writing this in the hope that either we may arrange two games of baseball, as is the case with Loomis, or that, if not, the baseball game may be played here inasmuch as otherwise we will have made three trips to Wallingford, and I would like very much to have your boys come here. I am sure they would find Deerfield a delightful and interesting old town, full of historic interest, and that a trip here in the Spring would be well worth while.

I am also wondering if it would be possible for us to alternate on the football schedule; that is, play here one year and one year at Wallingford. If that is not possible, and we go to you for the football and basketball, I wonder if it would not be reasonable to ask for the baseball game here.

Our football team ended the season very satisfactorily, winning the last three games by large scores. Our final victory was over the Amherst Freshmen, whom we beat by a score of 24-6.

I hope everything is running smoothly with you, and I am looking forward to seeing you on the 14th of February.

Cordially yours,

December 16, 1922

HEADMASTER'S STUDY

THE CHOATE SCHOOL
WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

December 16th, 1922

Mr. Frank L. Boyden
Deerfield Academy
Deerfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Boyden:

Your suggestion is more than reasonable - it leaves no argument! And may I say further that for every reason of splendid clean sportsmanship, and mutual spirit of friendliness, we have never had any team here at Choate with whom our boys have enjoyed playing more than with the one from Deerfield.

It's all the old question of adding to our number of outside games. And for the reasons we all know so well I don't dare do it, at all regularly. Mr. Olcott tells me - he regrets this obstacle as much as I - that year after next our present system of interchange will allow of our coming to you in Football, without adding to our regular number - two, I believe - of outside games. And there's not a boy on any of our teams, I assure you, who would not cherish such a trip to Deerfield.

But such an offer, I realize, is meager on any basis of fair interchange, and does not at all measure our honest wishes. I simply mention it as an evidence of good faith. We could not blame you even a little if under the

December 1922

THE CHOATE SCHOOL

circumstances you should decide that you could not, in fairness to your own boys, continue to let your teams come to Choate to play. But we do want you to know, whatever your decision, how highly we all of us regard the kind of teams that you turn out - and the boys who play on them.

Won't you feel wholly free, Sir, without fear of hurting the friendliest of feelings between the two schools, to make whatever decision you think you rightly ought. Our own relations of interchange have become so firmly established that at present I see no right way of changing them. At the same time we do want you to know that - wherever our schedule permits; I wish it might be reasonably oftener - there is no school that we would rather visit than your own.

Faithfully yours,
George C. St. John

Mr. Boyden and Mr. St. John discuss the matter of Deerfield hosting a baseball game that season and potentially a football game for the next year.

October 27, 1928

October 27, 1928.

Mr. St. John
The Choate School
Wallingford, Connecticut

My dear Mr. St. John:

I want to write you just a note to tell you what a very favorable impression your boys made both in the school and in the town. The game was one of the finest and cleanest I have ever seen. All our boys were most enthusiastic about your team.

Cordially yours,

October 28, 1932

HEADMASTER'S STUDY

THE CHOATE SCHOOL
WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

October 28th, 1932

My dear Boyden:

Bless you for all the nice things you say.

Our fellows would rather be beaten by Deerfield than to win most other games. It would have done you good to hear them telling us of how you and the Deerfield fellows treated them - of the good sportsmanship, the hospitality, their swim, the apples in every car.

We thank you, every man of us.

Yours,
George St. John

And many thanks for the School song.

June 16, 1937

THE CHOATE SCHOOL
WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

HEADMASTER'S STUDY

June 16th, 1937

Dear Frank:

You helped me as you always do. Someday I should like to tell you about what we're doing down here. It gives me a big lift, and I know it would affect you in the same way. We're all one school.

Yours,
George St. John

Mr. Boyden and Mr. St. John write letters expressing gratitude for each other and their schools' conduct.

Bonfires, Banners, Belligerence: Unhealthy Choate Week Competition



Photo courtesy of Deerfield Archives



Photo courtesy of Choate Archives

By **Justin Ahn '24**
& **Kabir Sheth '25**
Associate Editor & Staff Writer

Deerfield's rivalry with Choate is a quintessential aspect of its identity. However, throughout the Academy's history, some have questioned whether school spirit ever crossed the line from healthy competition to purely negative sentiments. From the 1950s to today, there have been a multitude of controversies and perspectives surrounding the rivalry.

Until the early 2000s, students would dress a scarecrow as a Choate student and burn it in the Choate Day bonfire, according to a *Scroll* article published on November 6, 2002. The scarecrow was eventually replaced by the large "C" that is burned at Choate Day bonfires today.

In 2005, Philosophy and Religion teacher Jan Flaska wrote a letter to the *Scroll* editor condemning a similar tradition that entailed "parad[ing] around an effigy of a Choate football player through-

out the campus, mocking and jostling this seemingly helpless—and dead?—Choatie."

In the 2005 article, Mr. Flaska expressed that this celebration made him uncomfortable, even if intended to be in a joking manner, as "human life and imprisonment [were] presented as inconsequential in order to generate laughs."

In light of such expressions of spirit, opinion pieces in past *Scroll* issues have likened Choate Day traditions to broader instances of hate. In 2000, Adam Voiland '01 took particular issue with the saying "Kill Choate" (a chant used at the time) and compared a Deerfield pep rally to a scene in George Orwell's 1984, categorizing both as instances of "institutionalized hate." Additionally, in 2001, then-student Alex Platt compared Deerfield's belligerence toward Choate to American hostility toward Islam.

However, Choate may not have always been on the receiving end of competition gone awry. For example, in 1979, to criticize Deerfield's choice to remain an all-boys school,

Choate students wrote "Deerfield Gay" on their posters, a play on "Deerfield Day." According to the article, Choate students also personally confronted Deerfield spectators to insult them over the issue.

Photos also depict Choate students burning an effigy of a Deerfield football player in 1966. Another image from 1952 shows an effigy hung below a sign reading "Crush Deerfield."

More recently, according to Girls Varsity Soccer goalkeeper Ellie Schiller '25, on Choate Day last year, she was heckled by Choate students, parents, and alumni. She said, "I had about 15 Choate people right behind my net, and [after I convinced the referee to reverse an unfavorable call,] they made jokes about me and the ref [having sex], and they were body-shaming me, asking me what I was eating, and they made fun of my red hair and where I'm from after they looked me up on line ... I just think it went too far."

Over the years, some community members have urged Deerfield

to better apply its values to its rivalry with Choate. In 1984, a *Scroll* board editorial asked students to refrain from using Choate's earlier cocaine scandal to their advantage: "As members of a school which prides itself on sportsmanship and fair play, [they] should use restraint and judgment when faced with the situation at Choate Day."

Additionally, on November 11, 2009, the *Scroll* published an article titled "Why We'd Rather Be Here Than Choate" listing insults toward Choate. In a letter to the editor, former Health Center Family Nurse Practitioner Susan LaScala P '03, responded to the article, "Diminishing their rivals by listing the reasons they 'hate' them makes the Deerfield commentators look small-minded and mean."

Referring to the same article, Robert L. Merriam '43 also wrote in a letter to the editor, "Disrespect for others and schools is not a part of the Deerfield tradition built over a period of years."

Despite a somewhat rocky past, Deerfield has worked to change the tone of the rivalry. Captain Deerfield Peter Shea '23 expressed: "In the past few years, it's become less about the negatives of Choate and more about what makes Deerfield great." He added that it was important to "be positive and uplift each other."

Assistant Head of School for Student Life Amie Creagh echoed Shea's sentiment. Referring to examples of hateful behavior in the early 2000s, she said, "Lots of things were different back then." She said that in 2022, she would like to "look ahead with optimism."

However, even today, some students are discontented about the nature of Deerfield's rivalry. Will Sussbauer '23, for instance, wrote in an email interview that "Choate Week seems to showcase Deerfield in an over-competitive, over-tribalistic light," and "reflects the campus' worst elements."

Deerfield continues to strive for a constructive culture surrounding

Choate Day. According to Dean of Students Sam Bicknell, cheerleaders this year will encourage Deerfield students to be "kind, inclusive, and respectful," and cheer "for Deerfield and not against Choate." Mr. Bicknell also said that Choate and Deerfield employees met on Zoom to keep Choate Day "light and fun" in order to create opportunities for students to form meaningful connections with each other.

Mr. Bicknell's sentiments are not new; in fact, his wishes echo those of nearly a century ago. In 1932, former Choate Headmaster George St. John wrote in a letter to former Deerfield Headmaster Frank Boyden, "Our fellows would rather be beaten by Deerfield than win most other games" due to the team's "good sportsmanship" and "the hospitality." Let us hold ourselves to the same standards this Choate Day.

Justin Ahn '24 & Kabir Sheth '25
may be reached at
jahn24@deerfield.edu &
ksbeth25@deerfield.edu

CHOATE/
DEERFIELD
FOOTBALL SERIES

QUICK FACTS

SERIES RECORD

CHOATE: 48
DEERFIELD: 42
TIE: 10

10 MOST GAMES WON IN A ROW

BY CHOATE 2009-2018

BREAKDOWN OF GAME POINTS THROUGH THE DECADES

100 YEARS: CUMULATIVE GAME POINTS

CHOATE: 1567
DEERFIELD: 1402

Graphic by Sabrina Wang '23/The Choate News

To see the complete breakdown of scores from 1922-2019, scan this QR code!

Choate/Deerfield Fall 2022

- ACROSS

1

Brain parts

6

Bad Bunny and Rosalia's "La ___ de anoche"

11

Compete

14

"Star Trek" extra, perhaps

15

"___ Burr, Sir" ("Hamilton" song)

16

Meditative sounds

17

Host city for Choate/Deerfield contests in November 2022

19

Part of U.C.L.A.

20

Lions and Tigers and Bears org.

21

Turn down

22

Penne ___ vodka

23

Egyptian snake found in "banana split"

24

Choate prankster who, despite his later fame as an orator, never earned higher than a C+ in public speaking

26

"Good one!"

29

Winning tic-tac-toe line

32

Award for "Fun Home" and "Jersey Boys"

33

Bellicose god

34

Air bag?

36

Buffalo hockey player

39

Michele of "Glee"

40

Deerfield's battle cry

42

"You've Got Mail" company

43

Soup server

45

Golf course feature

46

Sorts

47

Countenance

49

File format for a 13-Down, perhaps

50

With 35-Down, Choate's colors

51

Choate's pep squad

54

"___ Woman" (Emmy Meli song)

56

Bear, in constellation names

57

Home of a UMass campus on the Merrimack River

60

Antlered beast related to 71-Across

63

Rodent in an Elizabeth Acevedo ode

64

Choate Day chant

66

Road map abbr.

67

Snowman's eyes, perhaps

68

Loosen, as cleats

69

"___ the land of the free..."

70

Where @DSPN and @51-Across can be found, for short

71

Animal whose taxidermied head is displayed in the Choate dining hall

DOWN

1

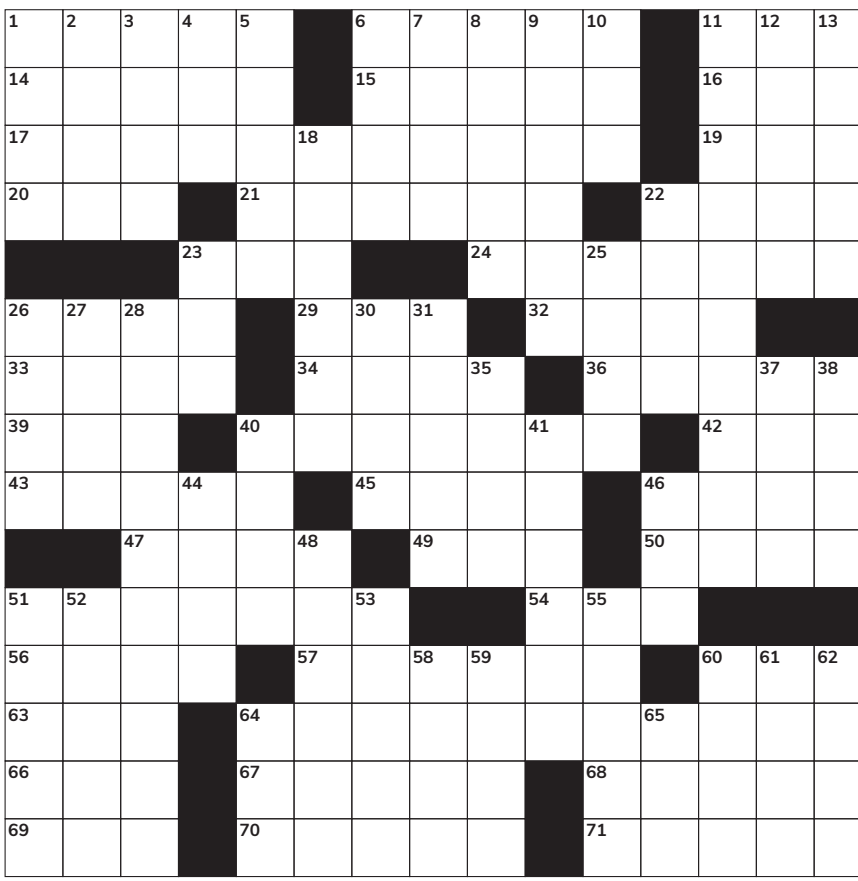
Grassy expanse

2

"Frozen" snowman

3

Josh Allen, for one



Matt Westman | November 2022

- 4

Elongated swimmer
- 5

Trims
- 6

Pesters
- 7

Clumsy ones
- 8

Dishonest person
- 9

Stinging insect
- 10

___ zone (spot to score 6)
- 11

Sport for setters and liberos
- 12

"___ enough to be your..."
- 13

English assignment
- 18

Setting for Elena Ferrante's "L'amica geniale"
- 22

Tolstoy's "___ Karenina"
- 23

Batteries for TV remotes
- 25

Overly curious

26

Choate Rosemary ___

27

Geometry calculation

28

George St. John or Frank Boyden

30

Cry of pain

31

Winning

35

See 50-Across

37

Apple TV competitor

38

"What ___ can I say?"

40

Kamala Harris, informally

41

Seconds from the soda fountain

44

Old Italian bread?

46

Apple competitor

48

Nobel laureate Mandela

51

Grand Canyon pack animal

52

Speak like Frederick Douglass

53

"Enough!" in Spanish class

55

"Midnights" or "Folklore" for Taylor Swift

58

Result of getting hit with a field hockey ball, perhaps

59

"Frozen" princess voiced by Idina Menzel

60

Prefix meaning "outer"

61

"Daily Planet" reporter Lane

62

Place for a pad, perhaps

64

"Here" in French class

65

Pitch ___-hitter

Submit a picture of the completed crossword below to @choatenews and @deerfieldscroll on Instagram (in one shared message, please) to be entered into a raffle for a \$20 doordash gift card. NOTE: You must be following both accounts. Good luck!



The Deerfield Scroll

100 YEARS OF RIVALRY 1922-2022



TIMELINE (2,3)

CHOATE VS DEERFIELD (4)

ARTS & CULTURE (5)

LETTERS (6)

FEATURES (7)

DEERFIELD COVER (8)

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: SUNSHINE CHEN '23

NEWSROOM MANAGING EDITOR: CLARA CHAE '23

DIGITAL MANAGING EDITOR: JERRY HUANG '23

GRAPHICS EDITOR: LILY LIN '23