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DEERFIELD DAY ENDS IN VARSITY SWEEP FOR BOARS

Choate hosts Deerfield Day, welcomes thousands of students and alumni to campus, garners widespread wins



Photo courtesy of Ross Mortensen

Will Field '17, a head of Boar Pen, leads cheers during the Girls' Varsity Volleyball game.



Photo courtesy of Emilia Furlo '17

After a resounding win, the football team is joined by fans to sing the school song on Maher Field.

VARSITY FOOTBALL

Wild Boars Make Comeback, Annihilate Deerfield, 44-20

By Jackson Elkins '18
Staff Reporter

With the rest of the varsity sweep intact on this past Deerfield Day, Varsity Football looked to finish off the Green and White with a victory out on the gridiron. Although Deerfield had been defeated in all other varsity sports, their fans came out hard and loud, creating an electric atmosphere for Choate football on the November afternoon. And while Choate came into this game with an undefeated three-year record of 28-0, strange things tend to happen when Choate plays its rivals from the Emerald City.

The game started out with an early 7-0 lead by Deerfield after a long drive and a Choate turnover on downs.

The Wild Boars evened things out on their next drive, making the game a tied affair, only to have DA score again to lead at 14-7.

I wouldn't have wanted my last Deerfield Day to go any other way.

Matt Albino '17
Football Co-captain

Like before, Choate evened the score, but this time they did not let Deerfield back in. The Boars emerged from halftime with a tightened defense.

Co-captain Matt Albino '17 commented on his team's resilience, saying, "We were down early, but our team knows what we're capable of. We've gotten off to slow starts before and have always gotten our chem-

istry going." Albino added, "We remained focused because we refused to lose to Deerfield, and we definitely weren't going to lose an opportunity to play in the championship." That focus was reflected in big plays from team members like Shane Sweitzer '18, Hunter Reynolds '17, Kevin Nusdeo '17, Hunter Burns '19, and particularly in some clutch kicking from John Tessitore '18 under the intense pressure brought on by a hostile Deerfield Academy crowd. Walker Lott '17 also did a tremendous job handling the spotlight of the big day, helping to lead his offense to 44 points on the day and no interceptions. Players like Jeremy Lucien '18 and Clay Zachary '19

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Photo courtesy of Ross Mortensen

The Big Green tries to capitalize on their early lead as the Boars defend their turf.

BIG BOAR SPIRIT: MY FIRST EXPOSURE

By Isabelle So '20
Reporter

My first Deerfield Day experience was vigorous. By 9:00 in the morning, every member of Choate volleyball was preparing for her 10:00 game against the Big Green. As I competed on thirds, I noticed the crowd of fans on the bleachers getting denser. As the viewers increased, both schools started getting riled up -- cheering on their peers or booing the other team. At the end of the matches, all three of Choate's teams swept away Deerfield with final scores of 3-0.

Right afterwards, I headed down to Wilken Field to catch the junior varsity football game. When I arrived, the Boars were down by one touchdown, and Head Coach Jesse Minneman was yelling some inspiration at his team. "Do what you are good at doing, and remember to do your part like always!" he shouted. Listening to him cheer for Choate's junior varsity team made me

smile, suddenly proud to call Choate my school.

At 11:30, it was time for the Girls' Varsity Soccer to take on the Emerald City and, hopefully, shine like always. As I watched from the edge of the soccer field, I was surrounded by energized members of the Choate community. At one point, as we launched into a new cheer, Deerfieldian voices rang out: "Get a different cheer! Get a different cheer!" Right as they said that, one of their players got fouled within the box, granting the Boars a penalty kick. Kristina Schuler '17 made an outstanding shot to win Choate a point. Shortly after, my fellow classmate Erin Martin '20 netted an incredible side shot. At that point, I headed off to see Boys' Varsity Soccer, but it came as no surprise when I later heard that GVS had won 5-2.

Boys' Varsity Soccer played a captivating game at noon. I was stunned by the amount of Choate students that came to root on the sidelines. Over 150 students

formed a travelling crowd of blue and gold, blowing horns and waving posters to cheer on the Boars. Ultimately, the team earned a score of 1-0.

Last but not least, I headed for the varsity football game. As always, Choate's defense and offense were amazing, tallying a total of 44 points to Deerfield's 20. I found that attending this game was actually the most comical part of my day -- the way the two schools yelled out inventive cheers and disses was hilarious. One major factor in Choate's spirit it was the members of Boar Pen feeding cheers to the crowd while waving and jumping around to boost our energy.

My first Deerfield Day was certainly one to remember. It was the first time I had seen so many students, parents, alumni, and faculty bonding over a mutual love for Choate.

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SPORTSMANSHIP STRUGGLES

By Cecilia Curran '20
Staff Reporter

This Deerfield Day, as fans from both schools got rowdy to support their teams, many students were forced to confront the ugly side of the rivalry between Choate Rosemary Hall and Deerfield Academy. Problems arose in boys' thirds soccer, boys' varsity soccer, and varsity football.

Boys' thirds soccer had to stop its game early because Head Coach Craig Johnson felt that the aggressive behavior of several Deerfield players was endangering the safety of the Choate team. Player Henry Susser '20 said, "Deerfield players were all hyped up, trying to get into our heads, but were playing a clean game, for the most part, in the first half. They were throwing elbows and getting a couple of kicks in here and there. One or two small punches." He explained that although their play was a bit dirty in the first half, the aggression wasn't completely one-sided. Susser continued, "To be fair, some of us, myself included, retaliated. Not by the same degree, but we weren't going to get shoved around." The game soon began to go downhill.

Player Tommy Murillo '19 said, "During the second half of the game, illegal physical contact by the other team became increasingly noticeable, yet the referee refused to acknowledge it. Our coach called for the game to be over after the third or fourth incident in which one of our players was blatantly attacked."

Despite being ahead, Choate players were in agreement with Coach Johnson's decision to end the game and take the loss.

Last Saturday's sportsmanship issues also took the form of verbal taunts. Tyler Redlitz '19 commented on sportsmanship issues that occurred during the boys' varsity soccer game. He said that fans from Deerfield "were very aggressive with picking out particular players." Choate students, however, made similar remarks about Deerfield's players, taunting them and calling out names. Redlitz said, "Sometimes you can figure out a name from players talking on the field or from a coach yelling from the sideline. The only other way for fans to know the names of players is by searching up the roster and then individual Facebook accounts." "Personally, I think Deerfield Day is more en-

joyable for us because of Choate's dominance. Whereas for Deerfield students, the day is more serious, so some students look for any way to gain an advantage -- either by challenging the refs on the field or by targeting and demoralizing athletes from the sidelines," said Redlitz.

The most significant battleground for rude cheering this year was Maher football field. Kaleah Haddock '19 mentioned that, from the Deerfield crowd, she heard some students cheering "Choate girls are easy." Likewise, some Choate students shouted sexually-charged taunts at Deerfield, as well as cheers such as "daddy's money," which angered Deerfield students last year during the events.

Fortunately, the majority of chants coming from both student bodies were innocent, such as Choate's "scoreboard" and Deerfield's response, "College Board." While the Deerfield Day spirit made for a positive atmosphere overall, there was room for improvement on sportsmanship to help the annual tradition become more inclusive and festive.

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RUNNERS REFLECT ON MISSING DEERFIELD DAY YEAR AFTER YEAR

By Joseph Coyne '19
Staff Reporter

Every year, a group of about 40 runners from the girls' and boys' cross country teams run in the NEPSTA Division I Cross Country Championships, better known as New Englands. Competing in this race is the culmination of the hours of hard work, blood, sweat, and tears they have put into the sport this season. But running in this race comes with a sacrifice: missing Deerfield Day. Cross Country New Englands is regularly scheduled on the same date as Deerfield Day, forcing Choate runners to miss the annual tradition.

While all runners would love to attend Deerfield Day, they realize that their team is counting on them to run their best race at the Championship. Graham Keating '19, in his first year going to New Englands, summed up

this sentiment well: "Although I don't like the fact that I have to miss Deerfield Day, there is a feeling of accomplishment. It feels good to put in a season of hard work and have it pay off by qualifying for and running in New Englands." Maya Birney '17 said, "It's a bit sad to think that I've been here for four years and never have been to Deerfield Day. At the same time, I'm okay with missing out on it because cross country does its own thing." Arjun Katechia '18 said on the matter, "Yes, I wish I could go to Deerfield Day, but I would rather run for my cross country team and not go to Deerfield Day than bail on the team and attend Deerfield Day."

One thing that most runners wish for is that New Englands could be moved so that they could experience the excitement and spirit of Deerfield Day. Mr. James Davidson, head coach of

Girls' Cross Country, said that the prospect of moving New Englands is discussed frequently among coaches and athletic directors, but it is not something that is possible. He continued, "I would acknowledge that it is hard to miss Deerfield Day, and I know some runners each year express that feeling, but I feel the end-of-season Cross Country Championship is really important for our teams. It has been this way since the 1960's -- and it is the same experience for all the schools in our league who participate in cross country."

While most Choate runners wish they could go to Deerfield Day, they understand that they are a part of a team, and they have a duty to support their team in the biggest race of the season.

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ELECTION



See pages 3, 4, and 5 for post-election coverage and opinions.

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SCHOOL CULTURE CONSULTANTS CONTINUE SURVEY ANALYSIS

By **Mehreen Pasha '18**
Staff Reporter

One could hear gasps and laughter ripple throughout the audience at school meeting on Tuesday, October 18 when Ms. Rosalind Wiseman and Mr. Charlie Kuhn revealed the surprising results of a survey about hook-up culture.

The survey was intended to prevent assumptions about student culture. According to Ms. Wiseman, "We wanted to do something that was organic, meaning that we would explore the culture at Choate in partnership with students and faculty. The survey was really about the integrity of the process." She continued, "If a school is going to bring someone from the outside, we can't have assumptions about things that are going on at Choate." A committee comprised of students and faculty worked tirelessly when creating the survey to pose questions that encapsulated the thoughts of many different students at Choate in an attempt to implement design thinking — approaching a subject with curiosity from which questions stem.

In addition to eliminating any assumptions about hook-up culture, the goals of the survey, as identified by Dean of Students

Mr. James Stanley, were to understand "the nature of campus culture and try to use that to figure out what policies, if any, need to be adjusted." In addition, the survey was made "to help faculty feel more comfortable having important yet challenging conversations" with the students and with each other. Changing the current new student orientations, as well as the health and wellness education, were also major goals.

While the data is still being processed, Ms. Wiseman and Mr. Kuhn were able to identify preliminary trends, some of which they shared during an all-school meeting. Ms. Wiseman noted that there were things that faculty wanted to learn more about, such as the school's hook-up culture, in order to better understand and help students. The perception of hook-ups at Choate among fourth and fifth form students was greater than the reality, while that of sixth formers was more accurate. Another trend was that students rely on one another for advice about their personal lives more than they do with faculty.

The survey asked two distinct types of questions: those that contained a rubric with a drop-down menu or slide scale and those that were open-ended. Regarding open-ended questions, Ms. Wiseman noted

that it was "really tough to get thorough and reliable answers because you could pick and choose quotes that are particularly interesting to you or make your point — which is not what we're trying to do." Instead, a team of properly trained and qualified individuals will go through every response, which is both time-consuming and labor-intensive. Ms. Wiseman estimates that it will take hundreds of hours to codify the responses and analyze them. Analysts still have much work to do before they are finished with the open-ended questions.

If a school is going to bring someone from the outside, we can't have assumptions about things that are going on at Choate.

Ms. Rosalind Wiseman
Founder, Cultures of Dignity

The presentation of the data itself is not clear as of right now. Mr. Stanley stated, "After the coding is done, the data will be analyzed, and we are expecting to receive a summary report from Rosalind and Charlie. That summary report will be shared in

some manner, but the raw data will not be shared." Ms. Wiseman and Mr. Kuhn recognize that some of the information is relevant and important to various student groups. The data is also integral to reforming the current Sophomore Seminar curriculum, an initiative that the Student Council is pushing. The plan for the final presentation of the data will be more clear in the coming weeks. In addition, there is also the question of whether the information will be shared outside of the Choate community. According to Mr. Stanley, "We are very comfortable sharing it within the community. The question is whether it will be shared beyond the community and that is still being discussed."

In regards to students who are less enthusiastic about her message, Ms. Wiseman hopes that students approach the subject with an open mind. She said, "When I go to campus, I am very purposefully meeting with all different kinds of students. We are doing our best to deliberately work with people who may or may not feel as though they are invited to participate in this process. I genuinely am concerned about this feeling of taking a fixed position and feeling that if you change your mind, it means

that somehow your argument or your intellectual rigor was not as strong. In that dichotomy, there is no room for listening to each other."

If given the opportunity to send the survey again, there are many amendments that Ms. Wiseman and her team would like to make, especially in regards to the various glitches in the survey. A glitch occurred in the question "Have you hooked up?" Final changes made to the order of questions on the day before the survey was released accidentally altered the logic of the survey. According to Mr. Kuhn, "When we moved some of these questions, the logic that we had set up wasn't sound. The program said, 'I'm not sure what to do here; I am going to show everybody everything.'" Both students who answered yes and no to whether they have hooked up were asked questions that were only applicable to students who had hooked up. Ms. Wiseman elaborated, "When I heard about the glitch, I went from complete elation to abject horror and frustration, especially because of where the glitch occurred. It looked like we were assuming that everybody at Choate had hooked up. That is the last thing that we wanted to articulate." Grayce Gibbs '18 said, "I think it was really disappointing

that there was a technical glitch in the survey because it really turned students off to her message and they were less likely to listen." HPRSS teacher Mr. James Davidson added, "It was unusual having everyone logged on to the system doing the same thing at the same time." As a result, students were more likely to encounter issues such as the page not loading or the page taking a while to load.

Ms. Wiseman wants people who are passionate about changing the hook-up culture at Choate to feel as though they are having an impact. She also wants to reach out to students who "feel that this doesn't matter to them, or that this is blown out of proportion, or that only one kind of group is listened to." Moreover, she said she can make them "feel that they are welcome into this conversation, that their participation in this effort is valuable, and that they can freely speak their mind." She said, "Choate is not a community of small groups of people who affiliate with each other. Choate should be about a larger group that is able to have robust conversations and be proud of the fact that this community can do that."

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Student Committee to Serve as Liaison to Health Center



Photo courtesy of Lauren Cannata

Dr. Diamond, Director of Health Services, talks to SHAC in the Spears Common Room.

By **Pinn Chirathivat '19**
Staff Reporter

From long wait times to inefficient practices, many students have complaints about the health center. To address these concerns, student leaders Elena Turner '17 and Audrey Sze '17 spearheaded an initiative to create a health center committee, Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC), to address student concerns with the health center.

SHAC aims to bridge the student body and health center. Elizabeth Wilson '18, a member of SHAC, explained, "SHAC will deal with student concerns about the health center. Their concerns or interests will be brought to attention so that we can appropriately deal with them and any other conflicts."

Director of Health Services Dr. Christopher Diamond had pictured this committee before coming to Choate, and he had a key role in organizing its creation. He wanted to bring to Choate the concept of a Health Center Committee, which existed at Central State Connecticut University, where he previously worked. The concept of the Student Health Advisory Council at Central State Connecticut University is to make sure that what is done in the health center fits students' needs. Dr. Diamond said, "One of the first things I wanted to try to put together was not only the idea of figuring out how to get input from students both on how we are doing and whether what we are doing is meeting students' needs, but also how to better communicate to students what we are doing. So the idea was to create a process where there was back-and-forth communication."

Dr. Diamond believes that it is important for members of the Health Center Committee to be able to review some of the changes to the health service policies or regulations in order to get some perspective from students. He said, "We still have legal and

medical obligations that we have to follow, but there is still a lot of room to get input from students on how things are handling and should be changed or improved. It is important to have student voices and language involved."

Several members of the committee had the idea that students with ongoing chronic medical conditions might find it beneficial to have a support group. Turner said, "I know from experience how emotionally exhausting it must have been to watch someone so close to you go through a difficult time." She continued, "Two years ago, my best friend struggled with suicidal thoughts, but no one gave him the support he needed."

Dr. Diamond said, "We continue to work on providing what we think is high quality care. The Student Health Committee can't change how we practice because that is medical expertise or counseling expertise, but they can change the setting or help us provide that care in a more student-centered way."

This committee is for interested and active students. Turner estimates that around 30 students are current members of the committee. Zachary Mothner '18, a member of SHAC, said, "We're hoping to hear even more student input about experiences with health services. I think it's really important to have a group connecting the students with the health services available on campus. After all, we're the ones living with it, so if we have problems or even suggestions, we should be able to voice those."

Wilson said, "I think this committee has been needed for a long time. There have been many concerns—not stigmas, but false impressions of the health center and the way they actually handle certain cases, and I think this committee will help to lessen the false impressions and make the health center seem like a more vi-

able option for students on campus." Turner also believes that the committee will help improve the health center's reputation among students.

SHAC hosted two meetings this term, during which it discussed the areas in which the health center could see improvements and the issues of how the health center approaches giving health care relating to mental and sexual health on campus. Wilson elaborated, "A lot of what we have been talking about is having a sleep room or a model in which if you had a lot of work and couldn't get enough sleep the night before, you can come in three times a term and get an hour of sleep." Wilson added, "We also talked about having more people and more diversity on the counseling staff, since those are the two things the student body has really been pushing for."

The selectiveness of this committee will be determined as the committee progresses. Dr. Diamond explained, "If it ends up being a much more intensive kind of group where they will be working with other students, then it will require some selective training. If it is going to be a more informal council or guidance group, then not every aspect of it will be required. And I would like to see a stirring committee, active membership, and how it develops."

The committee is intended to serve as a liaison that will improve transparency and communication between students and the health center. "The Student Health Committee is looking at improving the quality of experience for our student body," said Dr. Diamond. Turner said, "I think that this committee can have a lot of potential, and I am really excited to make a difference."

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ELECTION SPARKS OPPOSING, HEATED REACTIONS ON CAMPUS

By **Nina Hastings '18**
Copy Editor

The outcome of the recent and deeply controversial presidential election, which named Donald Trump President-elect of the United States, has left the Choate community in a state of conflict on multiple fronts. On campus, reactions ranged from the formation of support groups to club outreach through emails. However, while this event has caused certain groups to rally together, it has also created divisions and disagreements amongst various others. As Liza Mackeen-Shapiro '18, a member of the club Young Democrats, explained, "I have never felt closer to some Choate people this week, but never felt further from others."

One of the first public responses on campus addressing Trump's election came from Young Democrats in the form of an email publicizing a vigil to "come together after this devastating loss and show our solidarity against Donald Trump." Mackeen-Shapiro commented, "A lot more people came than I expected. People stood around, talked, and hugged. It was a really nice, sweet, and supportive atmosphere that definitely helped me feel better."

Communication within the Young Republicans group seemed to criticize the vigil held by the other club. Mackeen-Shapiro said that the club's critique of the vigil "felt like a slap in the face to the pain a lot of us have been feeling."

Another Young Democrat, Larisa Owusu '17, added that the Young Republicans were acting in a way that was "unnecessarily inflammatory." She continued, "The vigil wasn't an attack on the election results; it was about standing in solidarity with each other. At this point, it's surpassed just being Young Repubs against Young Dems. It's more of an issue of human decency and how you're going to treat others, especially on the Choate campus."

While this conflict affected and involved many members of the community, certain students on the other end of the spectrum found the entire conflict futile. Joshua Gonzalez '17 said, "I think this shows how childish many people in our community are. Honestly, if Trump had lost, we wouldn't have a vigil. Come on! Are you serious? Many people don't like Trump because they hate him personally, and I hate him personally, too, but it's the policies that matter."

The divergence between the two clubs continued when a group of Young Democrats attended a post-election Young Republicans meeting. Gonzalez explained, "Basically, at 6:15, everyone came. Then all of a sudden, I saw a bunch of Democrats walking in, and they didn't look happy."

Owusu said that Young Democrats intended only "to be respectful, sit down, and genuinely listen to what was said."

With miscommunication be-

tween the clubs and their members at something of an all-time high, Dean of Fifth Form Girls Ms. Nancy Miller stressed the importance of listening to each other during a decidedly stressful time. "People are really passionate on both sides of this election, and if there's one thing to be salvaged from all this, it's that please, God, let us talk to each other. Let us be out front and open with each other; let us not be snarky and mean to each other. It doesn't do anyone any good. This is a hard thing, and it's going to be hard for awhile."

Besides disagreements between Young Republicans and Young Democrats, several other episodes of discord and protest have occurred on campus since election night.

In an unsigned open letter distributed across campus on Tuesday, November 15, a "group of concerned students" detailed what they see as post-election grievances of marginalized groups. "Our tears, frustration, and anger respond not to partisan defeat but to a deep fear for our own humanity and that of our loved ones," the students wrote. The letter demanded that students and faculty more vigorously promote respect and inclusion in the aftermath of a divisive election. The next day, at School Meeting, twenty students identified themselves as the letter's co-authors. (The letter can be found at thechoatenews.choate.edu.)

As it happened, the day after the election had been named Represent Your Country Day, a part of Spirit Week leading up to Deerfield Day. While many students proudly dressed in their country's colors, several American students chose to wear all black, as a statement of mourning.

Ellie Feltovic '19, who wore red, white, and blue that day, commented, "Everyone looked at me negatively. It felt like if you weren't wearing all black, you were just automatically bad, and I shouldn't have to be afraid to wear American flag leggings when it's Rep Your Country Day. When you say that you're happy about the election or that you're a Republican, people look at you like you don't have morals, when that's not true."

Other Republicans at Choate shared similar sentiments regarding the community's reaction to their political preferences post-election. "Recently I've been targeted for openly supporting Trump, both pre- and post-election. Now more than ever, I feel like I can't express my happiness and gratitude for Trump winning because Conservatives are silenced every single day here," said Nicole McGuigan '18.

Jack Bergantino '18 continued, "This election has caused intense discord on our campus and throughout America. It has been disheartening to see people reduced to tears following the outcome of the election, and I can certainly understand why so many fervently dislike the idea

of Mr. Trump as America's next president. However, it angers me to see violence or blatant attacks on other people's character because of their support for Trump. Even if I take the stance of supporting some of his economic policies, I subject myself to harsh criticism and accusations from fellow peers. There really is only one way for our campus to heal: we need to move on and give our president a chance to succeed because his success is our success."

Both clubs and faculty have reached out to the community, particularly those members who may feel targeted and suppressed by their peers. In an email to the student body, Director of Equity and Inclusion Dr. Keith Hinderlie suggested that students turn to deans, advisers, counselors, chaplains, and other trusted adults on campus for support.

Even with this form of outreach, some students still felt alone. Feltovic elaborated, "A lot of the emails sent by the faculty said that there were support groups for those sad about the election, but I felt like people who were happy about the election needed support groups, too. Even though we were happy, we couldn't express it."

Choate's international students have also been affected by the election. Alyssa Shin '18 explained, "As a dual citizen, I think I could give insight into how people are reacting to the election of Donald Trump. I believe the election was pertinent to the world at large, but I think many people back at home in Seoul, like friends my age, were able to put distance between themselves and the results and even laugh and joke. Although I have been keeping up with the election personally and was very affected by it, I think even those who are not American citizens on campus were affected by the election as well because of the amount of student-led discussion on campus. I think it's great that students are not only willing but eager to have challenging discussions about complex topics like modern politics."

Since Trump's victory, Headmaster Dr. Alex Curtis, Dr. Hinderlie, and other administrators have addressed both students and faculty on several occasions. Three days after the election, Dr. Curtis, who was traveling on behalf of the School in China on November 8, sent an email to the community. "Whatever your feelings about the results of the presidential election, I ask you to live out our school's values of integrity, respect, and compassion—individually, as a community, and in the realm of U.S. politics and policy." He went on, "If you are happy about the results of the election, please do not gloat. And if you are angry, don't lash out at others. Whoever you are, and whatever your politics, care for those around you."

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SENIORS AND MAYOR DISCUSS LOCAL SEXIST, RACIST HARRASSMENT

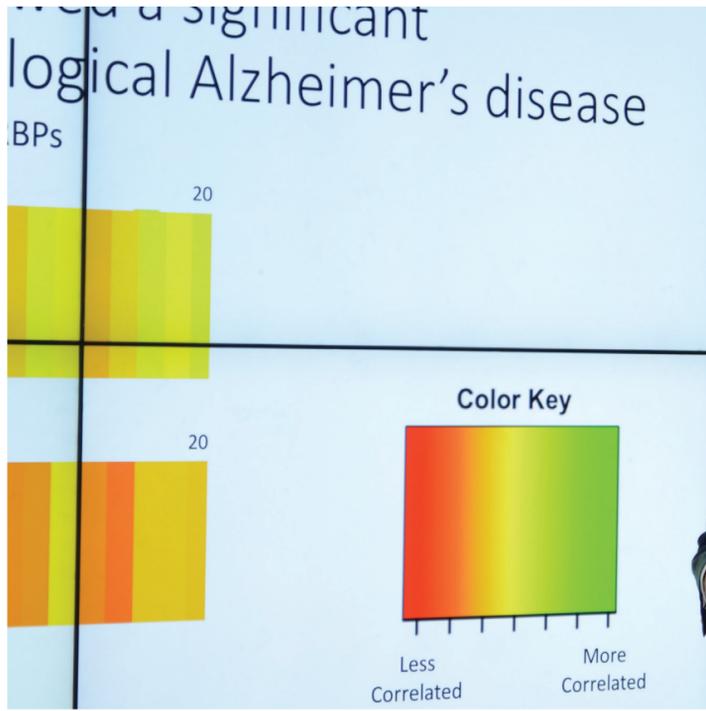
By **Haley Chang '18**
Copy Editor

Student Body President Cecilia Zhou '17, CALSA President Blair Cox '17, and long-time local resident Jake Mackenzie '17 spoke to the Mayor of Wallingford on the issue of street harassment in town yesterday, November 17. Although there have been isolated reports of street harassment in previous years, this is the first time when students have taken the initiative to address this ongoing issue with local authorities. During the meeting, the three students presented anecdotes from Choate students who have experienced harassment in Wallingford streets. Zhou stressed, "We thought it may be more effective to have students themselves talk to the mayor. We wanted to emphasize the human impact of these occurrences and really have him comprehend that we're not just these uppity, conceited, privileged teenagers, but rather kids that may or may not feel safe crossing the street at night." She added, "There are 13- and 14-year-olds in our campus who are being hurled abuse at in the streets and being called awful racial slurs." Mackenzie commented, "Having grown up in Wallingford, I've witnessed this tension between townies and Choate students for a long time. I think it is imperative for this relationship to be strengthened and improved because both groups need to coexist peacefully in Wallingford." Zhou delved into some more specific goals. She said, "One of the more amorphous goals of this meeting is to hopefully just establish more of an understanding between us and the town of Wallingford. More specifically, pertaining to safety on the roads at night, I wanted to see if there is anything the town and the school can collectively do to curtail street harassment — yelling, throwing things from cars — perhaps by stationing crossing guards at our crosswalks and having more street-lights to make the crosswalks more illuminated." According to Zhou, the idea was engendered during a meet-

ing with Headmaster Dr. Alex Curtis, after students began to express concerns about the school's response to the KKK incident. Members of CALSA had drafted a letter to the administration outlining the issue and offering suggestions about what they believed the school would do to ensure the safety of the community. After agreeing that three would be an ideal number of students to meet with the Mayor, Dr. Curtis asked Zhou to select the members of the group as she saw fit. "As president of CALSA and a driving force behind the initial protests, I thought Blair Cox would be a natural fit. I also thought we'd need a more local voice in the mix, and I thought Jake Mackenzie would be a good candidate as well," she said. Regarding the specific choice of the mayor as the person to which they plan on addressing these concerns, Zhou said, "Because we already have a longstanding relationship with him, it would be most effective to go through him. Also, the mayor is someone who has been in office for a very long time, so he is quite familiar to the people who live in Wallingford, and if we were able to have him, say, formally support us, then I think that'll be all the more powerful." Zhou remarked on the gravity of the situation. "Until recently, I had never really thought about it outside of the Choate bubble that we live in. Whenever someone faces street harassment here, it's very much annoying for maybe for an hour, but then you forget about it by the end of the day. In any other situation, if somebody in the outside world was facing as many street harassments that people in our community do, that would be awful; that would be cause for outcry. Whereas here, we've faced it so frequently, we're almost numb to it." She continued, "If you look at it from an outsider's perspective, it's shocking that this is something that has become so normalized in our community and our lives here."

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SRP LECTURES SIMPLIFY COMPLEX SUMMER RESEARCH FOR



Jaiveer Khanna '17 discusses RNA binding proteins involved in Alzheimer's disease.

By **Arjun Katechia '19**
Reporter

For the very first time, the two sections of the Science Research Program (SRP) were integrated in the Student Lecture Series in order to encourage students to listen to a variety of research. On Tuesday, November 8, and Thursday, November 10, 16 seniors presented on topics ranging from mechanical engineering to cancer biology, distilling their research projects in language easy to understand for everyone. Students enjoyed the new format of the lecture series. Pinn Chirathivat '19 said, "I think it gives the audience a wider spectrum of the Science Research Program. It allows the audience to get the feel of the two very different topics in the same period of time. Especially for students who are considering taking SRP next year, I think the integrated talks are beneficial towards them because they will get a better sense of both sections of the SRP." William Wildridge '19 added, "I thought it was nice because

there's a clear difference between the two sections, it's good to have variety, and it keeps my interest better than having all the same." Though seemingly daunting and complicated, SRP students aim to simplify their topics for their presentations. Many students had to rack their brains for useful analogies; for instance, Daniel Stempel '17 compared antibodies to policemen, antigens to robbers, and adjuvants to guns so that he could better explain a way the immune system worked. Just like how if a robber has a gun, the police response would be more intense, the presence of adjuvants can increase the intensity of antibody response to antigens. In addition, George Wildridge '17 connected the process of machine learning to playing a game of Plinko, in which the goal is to get balls through a field of pegs and into buckets. He compared playing the game multiple times and adjusting the strategy according to the result of the previous games to the process he was trying to program into his robots to help them learn.

Students have spent the whole term thinking of these analogies and explanations of their research. Amir Idris '17 explained, "We started preparing for presentation the first day of SRP in senior fall. We jumped right into practice run-throughs, trying to get all of the important data down into a 10-12 minute presentation. Then we worked on some final touches, such as improving our public speaking skills and formatting our data so that it was more easily understood." SRP is a Signature Program at Choate created 14 years ago to provide students with the unique opportunity to study scientific research at the Ph.D. level. There are two sections of the program: biology and quantitative. Dr. Allison Nishitani directs the former, while Dr. Christopher Hogue the latter. SRP lasts from junior fall to senior fall, preparing students for lab internships over the summer. During senior fall, after students return from their internships, they prepare a poster, presentation, and manuscript

that summarize what they have learned over the summer. Dr. Hogue commented on the transformations he sees students undergo through the program, "In the beginning, I treat the kids as students, giving them tips and pointers to help their research, but by the end I treat them as my fellow peers; rightfully so, as by then they have completed research that most people can only do in graduate school." Nathan Chang '17 elaborated on the challenges he experienced during the program: "I thought the major challenges I faced were learning how to concisely write and how to gain meaningful data." Idris agreed. "Learning how to present your findings is important. As a scientist in the real world you are dealing with really complex stuff, and to be successful, it is crucial to be able to distill data so that it is accessible to people."

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Students Share Tumultuous Term-End Experiences

By **Lauren Dorsey '18**
Reporter

Students were both excited and disappointed that fall term came to a close with a two-week Protected Period rather than a typical Term-End Experience. From interviews with the administration, a number of logistical factors influenced the final decision to not have Term-End Experiences this fall term. For one, classes began after Labor Day, which was later than usual. Additionally, Parents' Weekend fell much closer to the end of the term this year. If Choate had held traditional Term-End Experiences, it would have been separated from Parents' Weekend by only a week and a half. Finally, Thanksgiving Break is both starting and ending earlier than last year, making the term even shorter. There are mixed opinions floating around campus about the implications of no Term-End Experiences. According to Calvin Carmichael '18, the workload during Protected Period is worse than it would have been otherwise. He said, "I think it's horrible because teachers assign 'quests,' and in the last ten minutes of class they will try to squeeze in new material. Assigning a quest every other day and giving a test during the protected period is not helping my grade, it's only making it worse." Caroline Soper '17 commented, "Having no Term-End Experiences is good for the stress level of the students, but as someone who is going to college next year, it's going to leave me a little unpre-

pared for what I'm going to find there. In college you end the term with a major assessment." However, Olivia van den Born '17 said, "I would much rather just write an essay or take a quick test than take an entire exam." In the past, Protected Period fell on the week before the Term-End Experiences each term. This year, Protected Period started two weeks before the end of term. Designed to prevent teachers from piling on major assessments at the end of the term, Protected Period only works when both teachers and students adhere to its guidelines. Gabby LaTorre '17 said, "Protected Period is hard because a lot of teachers don't stick to it or give assessments that they don't think are 'major,' and it becomes hard to juggle all of the work." While Term-End Experiences mean students only attend a maximum of two classes a day, Protected Period is simply an extension of a typical week of classes, with limits placed on when certain departments can give assessments. However, extending class- until the end of the term means that most students wouldn't have the extra time to study for assessments that they would have had if there were Term-End Experiences, which is problematic because they still have to do homework for other classes, in addition to preparing for a few assessments every day. Angelina Heyler '18 said, "I thought Term-End Experiences were nice, because I had a lot of assessments but I also had a lot of free time. It's tough hav-

ing a lot of assessments but also having a lot of other classes and homework to keep up with." Jeanne Malle '19 added, "I was happy when I first heard about it. However, in practice it's similar to Term-End Experiences except that during the week of Term-End Experiences, we only had to concentrate on one or two classes per day, whereas now all our classes are mixed together." Protected Period doesn't prevent students from having more than one assessment in a day, especially if students take two classes in the same department. Heyler said, "Teachers should keep in mind that I might have two classes in the same discipline. My chemistry teacher was nice enough that to move our test because she knew that many people taking that class were also taking a different science class." HPRSS teacher Mr. James Davidson said, "I think the intention of Protected Period is not so much limiting volume but pacing and spacing. It becomes a little intricate because not each class meets each day, so then sometimes a teacher's assignments will, by structure, be forced into the day that follows or the day ahead." He added, "It appears that students are less burdened than they were in previous years, and I think it's a noble experiment provided it doesn't put an added burden on students."

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AFTER DEERFIELD, FOOTBALL BOASTS 29TH CONSECUTIVE WIN



The football team ends Deerfield Day with their three-season winning streak intact.

Continued from Page 1

also came to play and brought intensity of their own to the game. In his own words, Albino summarized the whole game by saying, "We gave everything we could, and so did Deerfield. I wouldn't have wanted my last Deerfield Day to go any other way." With the regular season now behind them and a week until the championship, Albino pointed out a few key things that the Blue and Gold needs to work on going into this Saturday, "Our defense did a good job but could improve on containing the QB in the pocket and making sure we have our assignments." Albino couldn't be more on point; Deerfield's quarterback was slippery and managed to somehow find some space and get the ball up field after avoiding hits from the Choate defense. Addition-

ally, Albino said, "If we can get our passing and running games clicking at the same time, then we will be unstoppable to anyone in our path." That kind of confidence is so important going into a huge game against Trinity Pawling this Saturday for what could possibly be Choate's third consecutive New England Championship. On the possibility of a three-peat, Albino said, "The feeling of having the opportunity to three-peat is indescribable. It's crazy to think that

we're doing something that no one else has ever done before, and it's a great feeling to be rewarded for the hard work we put in all year long." If anyone is going to be on campus, or even nearby, this Saturday, get to the Varsity Football field to witness history in the making from the boys in Blue and Gold. The championship game starts at 1:30 p.m.

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We Have Become Our Worst Selves Post-Election

By **Alan Luo '18**
Opinions Writer

Wednesday, September 9 — the day the dining hall became the battleground of the school.

On that day, Donald Trump was elected President of the United States, and our own campus could not have been more visibly lurid and torn. Somehow even students with allegiance to the same candidate found ground to fight on. Even today, most reactions still range from feelings of intense unsafety to laughter at the failure of our system. I have neither of these feelings — instead, only a disappointment in our student body.

Normally, I endeavor to stay out of politics. However, the magnitude of the issue we face now transcends anything simply political. Quite frankly, I could not care less about who lives in the White House. I'd be saying all the same things if Hillary Clinton were elected. To me, the importance of this election lies not in its influence on our lives and families, though I do not deny that effect. It lies in the way in which it has brought the worst out of us — out of me, and out of you. Yes, you. None of us are any less complicit in this.

You who propose death threats of Donald Trump and his family, you who unequivocally despise those who voted for him, you who maintain in binary truth, you who unambiguously maintain his inadequacy as a candidate, you who insist on the inevitable collapse of the economy: you are all a part of the problem.

I am not talking about the discord that has bred over the course of the last year. While this is an issue, President Obama and Donald Trump have both pushed for national unity in the face of the election results. I speak of the immutability of our opinions. When's the last time you convinced someone or was convinced by

someone in a heated political argument? The issue lies in our belief in absolute right and wrong and the idea that morals can be derived from objective axioms. It lies in that there is a "them" and an "us." It lies in our fundamental tribalism as human beings.

These behaviors essentially declare war on bigotry using bigotry. Chauvinistic jingoism has become the norm of mental paradigms. Such attitudes of Trump, Clinton, and independent supporters, foes, friends, and family alike, are manifestations of the same fatal hubris; of the same tendency to categorize, stereotype, take sides, and overreact.

The issue lies in our fundamental tribalism as human beings.

These habits lay dormant with the absence of divisive ideas on the world stage, but they have been brought out in their worst forms with the election. In the spring of my freshman year, I would sit in the dining hall for sometimes up to two hours just ruminating on life with my friends. After the election, I have hardly been able sit there for two minutes in the dining hall without fighting — or embracing — the urge to just stand up and remove myself from the situation.

I challenge myself and us all to persevere past the discomfort around us, and remain respectfully engaged. I know that opinions do not easily waver. But to those of you who felt even a slight figment of uncertainty waver within you: you are the future of this world, and of our school. Let us all work to be as such.

Alan Luo is a fifth former from Hong Kong. He may be reached at aluo18@choate.edu

CORRECTIONS

NEWS
A front-page photo credit failed to recognize Hannah Price, who took the top crew photo.

FEATURES
A photo caption misstated Liv McCulloch's year. She is a senior, not junior.

The Choate News regrets these errors. To submit a correction, email thechoatenews@choate.edu

We're Conservatives, and We Care About You

By **Charlotte Beebe '17**
Opinions Writer

I recognize how hard these past two weeks have been for many people, especially on our own campus. As a conservative, I care about you — and I doubt that I'm the only one. The election results made me uneasy as well. I refused to vote for Hillary, but I couldn't bring myself to vote for Trump either. It is crucial to understand that just because someone is a proud conservative doesn't mean they actively endorse Donald Trump. That man to me is just as iniquitous as he is to many of you, I promise.

The way I see it, the election was just about picking the lesser of two evils, and to be honest, I would rather have Trump as president than Hillary. However, this should not

automatically make me a disgusting human being or a disgrace to the female population.

We need to allow those who are hurt to feel hurt, but then unite together and stop the hate.

I have observed eye rolls and whispering when a conservative speaks up in class, and that needs to stop. As a School, we should try to unite despite our differences. I don't actively support Trump, but I want those who do to feel like they are able to say that in conversations with students and faculty alike. We all come from differ-

ent backgrounds and have contrasting beliefs, but how lucky is that? Although this sounds cliché, we should celebrate our differences instead of putting each other down for them. I am graduating this year, and all I want before then is to know that everybody on this campus is allowed to speak their mind and not face repercussions for it.

Do I think the vigil held last Wednesday by the Young Democrats was a little excessive? Yes. But do I understand why they did it? Yes. Just as the Democrats should try and accept other beliefs, the Republicans on this campus need to recognize that those who are upset about Trump have a complete right to be and that just because they cried doesn't make them "soft." I know fully well that there are reasons behind those tears, and those

reasons consist of legitimate concerns and fears.

So what now? We need to allow those who are hurt to feel hurt, but then unite together and stop the hate between people.

Not everybody on campus has the same values, and I don't think it's either party's job to tell the opposing side that they are fundamentally wrong. Believe what you believe and stick to that instead of putting others down for not agreeing with you. Nobody has to be best friends with everybody, but if we could all just try to understand each other by really listening, rather than immediately taking sides, then maybe we can find a way through this presidency, together.

Charlotte Beebe is a sixth former from New Haven, Conn. She may be reached at cbeebe17@choate.edu



Photo courtesy of Reuters



Photo courtesy of Justin Sullivan

President-elect Donald Trump met with President Barack Obama in the Oval Office on November 10, a day after Hillary Clinton delivered an unexpected concession speech in New York, standing in front of her husband, Bill Clinton, and running mate, Tim Kaine.

TRUMP'S AMERICA, BUT NOT TRUMP'S CAMPUS

By **Anselm Kizza-Besigye '17**
Opinions Staff Writer

Last Sunday, President-elect Donald Trump announced his selection of Stephen Bannon, head of the alt-right media source Breitbart News, as his chief White House strategist. The appointment of Bannon, whom Republican strategist Ana Navarro has called "a white supremacist, bigoted, and spiteful, bigoted rhetoric is sinking deep roots in this country. Breitbart News has featured racist, misogynistic, anti-Semitic, and anti-LGBT rhetoric. Example headlines: "Hoist It High and Proud: The Confederate Flag Proclaims a Glorious Heritage," and "Would You Rather Your Child Had Feminism or Cancer?" Feeling good about America?

Trump's election has emboldened a subset of this country that advocates for the repression of marginalized groups. It is no wonder that the FBI has reported a 7% increase in hate crimes over the past year and a 67% increase in attacks on Muslim Americans and mosques.

We cannot let this trend toward hateful division permeate the Choate community. While I'm certain that most of

us agree with this premise, I still worry that a sentiment is growing on our campus that rejects principles of respect and understanding. This sentiment, I fear will germinate in quiet hovels if we perceive this election as a defeat of common decency. To secure against this threat we must refuse to accept the narrative fed to the rest of the nation that claims progressivism and sensitivity has overstepped. Looking inward we must acknowledge that, however numerous, progressives at Choate have continued to face attacks for their advocacy. Change is hard, and those who advocate for it almost always fight social stigmas. Often, they fight simply to be heard.

If you suppose that liberals dominate our campus, and that political correctness frequently suppresses a range of student viewpoints, I ask that you examine closely the progressive issues that both faculty and students have recently advanced. Initiatives like Diversity Day and conversations centered on consent were aimed at providing counsel to many students who have asked — even, in some cases, pleaded — for these measures.

If these causes have made those who oppose them feel uncomfortable, I ask: why should this discomfort outweigh the welfare of other students? When a student is bullied or physically victimized, our school intervenes swiftly to safeguard that student. But intellectual discomfort is different than victimization. Victimization is a reality for some Choate students, solely because of where and to whom they were born. Why would the school react differently when a group of students has been targeted by societal imbalances that expose them to higher rates of police violence or sexual assault? And these students deserve to advocate for their own safety.

I have been fortunate during my time at Choate. I have not feared walking up Christian Street at night, venturing to town alone, or wearing revealing clothes at a dance or other public place. However, in the wake of this election, I have been quick to fright. The road to Mr. D's, lined with Blue Lives Matter flags, has seemed suddenly treacherous. The screams from cars that drive through campus have seemed

less playful, more chilling. Are these feelings justified? Honestly, I'm not sure. I know of no violent episodes between townies and Choaties. But when I examine national statistics, my concerns feel not wholly unjustified.

I know that I will not be able to avoid this fear as long as I live in Trump's America. Yet I have decided: I refuse to walk this campus — my home — with fear that my peers and neighbors share a flippant disregard for the humane measures that make me feel included and enfranchised.

In order to begin to make our community safe in a country in which so many are now fearful, we must resist the nation's growing support for overt discrimination and disdain for empathy. We must, now more than ever, exercise caution over the words we use and the actions we take. Only then, will we embody the principles of unity, which we all hope the rest of the country would then emulate.

Anselm Kizza-Besigye is a sixth former from Oxford, England. He may be reached at akizzabesigye17@choate.edu

AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY: WHY I'M CRYING OVER CLINTON

By **Jessica Shi '17**
Features Editor

I have a confession to make. I have yet to watch Hillary Clinton's concession speech, and I don't think I will be able to anytime soon. I know, or can guess, what she said, having read excerpts here and there. Love and accept one another; thank you for supporting me; we are stronger together. But what hurts me are the words she didn't say — the words she couldn't say: what the hell were you thinking, America?

Because we didn't just elect one of the worst candidates in our nation's history, we also failed to elect one of the best.

To understand what we have now, we must first understand what we lost. Again and again,

Clinton fought to make this a better America for all Americans — not just those who looked or thought like her: we lost a champion for social and economic progress. Again and again, Clinton countered baseless attacks with grace and grit: we lost a model for profound character.

We didn't just elect one of the worst candidates in our nation's history; we also failed to elect one of the best.

The sad thing is that the woman who made me start loving America lost to the man who fosters a hatred of the things that make America, America. And that broke my heart.

I am in favor of moving forward from this election. Undoubtedly, we need to come together and heal the wounds that divide us. But we also need to remember this failure, because regret fuels action.

In our attempt to fight against the racist, sexist, xenophobic legacy of Trump's campaign, we must not forget the warm, hopeful, inclusive message Clinton emanated. In our attempt to prevent our worst fears for a Trump presidency from becoming reality, we must not forget that Clinton fought for our greatest dreams. I'm (still) with her.

Jessica Shi is a sixth former from Andover, Mass. She may be reached at jsi17@choate.edu

Stop Partisan Bickering, Let's Work Together

By James Rose '18
Opinions Writer

Early last Wednesday morning, the United States entered a new era under President-elect Donald Trump. Across campus, one population cheered and celebrated, while another mourned and wept. Across the nation, people rallied and rioted. Amid all the opinions thrown around in the last few days, only one thing is absolutely certain: the nation has never been more divided. On both sides, emotions have eclipsed reason, and empathy has become altogether absent. Tearful reactions and rallying shouts of #NotMyPresident and #P=

you, then regardless of what you may hear from the other side, you are warranted in your statements. Donald Trump is not your President because he does not fight for your interests. Conversely, if you mean #NotMyPresident to mean that Trump is not actually the President-elect, or has not fairly won the presidency, you have altogether missed the point of this election. The foundation of democracy is the paramount value of the will of the people, and to reject the results of an election outright is to reject democracy altogether.

Trump's 100-Day Plan policies are initial positions to be haggled down.

If your opinions on the Electoral College or the fairness of our democracy would have changed were Hillary Clinton elected, then you inherently forsake your own credibility. With Republican control of all three branches of government, grassroots Democratic involvement in the system is needed more than ever before. Realistic change cannot be effected without engaging the existing avenues of power, and sitting in groups to belittle your pro-Trump peers only exacerbates the environment that led to Trump's election.

Most of Trump's 100-Day Plan policies are initial positions to be haggled down to something passable, and it is our duty to go out there and do so. Denial of reality is an immature and useless reaction, and it is a dangerous one, too. Though it pains many to admit it, even if Clinton ultimately wins the popular vote by some two million votes (which seems likely), by the rules that have governed this nation from its establishment, Trump has claimed victory. Sitting around disputing the incontrovertible results of a fair election wastes valuable time and resources that could be used to build interparty dialogue, increase political awareness, and

develop organized opposition — all the necessary steps to minimize the damage of four years of a Trump presidency, and the only way to retake the legislature in 2018.

Across the aisle, the reaction of Trump's supporters was split twofold. Trump's victory represented to some a return to small government, a reduction in establishment corruption, and the return of the American worker, but to others, the support given to a candidate who openly expressed unequivocally misogynistic, xenophobic, and often racist viewpoints evolved metaphorically into a vindication of their own most hateful and bigoted opinions. For the first group of Trump supporters, a Trump victory is something worth celebrating; after eight years of policies benefitting groups that were not their own, they now have the chance to "drain the swamp" and make Washington remember their own issues and goals. However, even if they personally constitute the former of the two groupings, it is arguably ignorant and shortsighted to pretend as though the latter does not exist as well.

Since last Wednesday, reports of hate crimes have increased exponentially: gay men being violently assaulted in public, the black male portion of the freshman class at the University of Pennsylvania being invited to a Facebook group called "N-r Lynchings" and a GroupMe called "MudMen," students of color at Wellesley College being told "Go back to Africa!" by young white men in a vehicle screaming "Make America great again!" — the list goes on. Fearful for their safety, Muslim mothers who have never shown their hair in public are telling their daughters to stop wearing their hijabs. As Hakeem Angulu '16 wrote on Facebook, in regards to the killing of an American Saudi student, "We are not crying 'liberal tears.' We are mourning the loss of people like Hussain, and assaults of countless others in just three days."

Regardless of the reasons for tears, policing the emotions of

your peers — of whom certain rights are often in real, tangible danger under a Trump-Pence executive branch — is hypocritical and simply disrespectful. When Trump's team offered Ohio Governor John Kasich the position of Vice President on the Republican ticket, it reportedly told him he would be in charge of domestic, foreign, and economic policy while Trump would be out "making America great again." Given the likelihood of a similar proposition to Mike Pence, a candidate known for his support of electroshock homosexual conversion therapy, his unrelenting stance against abortion and birth control providers, and his opposition to same-sex marriage, the fears espoused by many peers gain a lot of credibility. Even placing that aspect aside, if fans of a sport team can mourn, cry, and riot for days after the loss of a championship game without facing dehumanization and ridicule, why is that privilege not extended to those with whom we disagree on politics?

It's on our generation to return the tenets of unity, progress, and mutual respect to our nation.

In addition, to the argument that the election is over and that "we accepted Obama without protest, now you accept Trump," we overlook the reality that, throughout Obama's presidency, he was assaulted by a constant barrage of dehumanizing and often fictitious protests from the right. Death threats, birther conspiracies, and racist characterizations followed Obama throughout his presidency. If #NotMyPresident bothers you, but #GoBackToKenya does not, you either have conflicting principles or none at all. Though we all have a right to celebrate our candidate's vic-

tory, there remains an expectation of mutual respect. Even if that respect is broken by some on the opposite side, that does not give us the right to deride our fellow citizens and classmates. "Political correctness," for all the bad press it receives, is no more than a rephrasing of the values of mutual kindness, care, and respect. Choosing to pick fights for the sole purpose of eschewing "PC Culture" is not only immature but rude, in any context.

So now, to those of you who spent last Wednesday ridiculing and rebuking your peers for crying in the wake of this election's results: learn from this. Learn that invalidating the uncontrollable, visceral reactions people have when the most basic rights of the people they love are put in danger is deplorable. Learn that ignoring your privilege and refusing to care for your vulnerable brothers and sisters is shameful. And learn that it is not alright to let your politics eclipse your human ability to empathize.

And to those who screamed and threatened their peers with violence because of their candidate's victory: learn from this, too. Learn that dehumanizing your fellow students for their beliefs is hypocritical. Learn that your actions constitute sinking to the same level you so criticized before last Tuesday night. And, most importantly, learn that it takes much more than belittling your peers to prove that love trumps hate.

With an increasingly polarized electorate, it's on our generation to return the tenets of unity, progress, and mutual respect to our nation. That duty requires strength, wisdom, and maturity, and with the constant bickering and gossiping that has taken hold of this campus, we cannot pretend to espouse even one of those virtues. For everyone on this campus calling themselves "woke," it's time to finally wake up.

James Rose is a fifth former from Locust Valley, N.Y. He may be reached at jrose18@choate.edu



In a live broadcast on Election Night, Stephen Colbert seemed stunned by Trump's unexpected victory.



"To all the little girls watching...never doubt that you are valuable and powerful & deserving of every chance & opportunity in the world."



Hillary Clinton held fast to dreams and made history. Thank you for including my family and me on this incredible journey.



Just had a very open and successful presidential election. Now professional protesters, incited by the media, are protesting. Very unfair!



Thank you, America, for the trust that you placed in my father. He will never let you down!



Ahead of Trump Presidency, Global Investors Sell Bonds and Grab Stocks

Hillary Clinton delivered her concession speech in New York on November ninth. In days following, Donald Trump released a slurry of tweets about the progress of his presidential transition and dislike of *The New York Times*.



Democratic losses have jolted the party to a conclusion: Its emphasis on cultural issues has all but crippled it.

DEALING WITH GRIEF AND THIS ELECTION



State of the Nation
Liza Mackeen-Shapiro '18
Columnist

Last Tuesday night, when I found out that Donald Trump had defeated Hillary Clinton, I cried. I cried for the future of our nation — for the integrity of our democratic institutions, for the safety of our country's oppressed, and for our reputation in the international community. I cried in a way that I've never cried before. My sorrow felt — and still feels — absolutely primal and visceral.

Call me over-sensitive or a sheltered liberal, but this election has left me numb. Ever since Trump was declared the winner, I've experienced debilitating sensations of fear, confusion, and anger. Don't get me wrong — my anguish is not because my preferred political party lost. If a fundamentally decent Republican (such as Mitt Romney) had won, I would be able to accept the results and move on. Indeed, my anger does not come from the fact that our next president is a Republican but rather that he is a bigot. The fact that we are appointing such a prejudiced, deplorable man to the highest office in the land cuts me to the core and hurts me unimaginably.

What kind of message does electing Donald Trump send to future generations? Are we saying that it's okay to brag about sexually assaulting women? To spread racist rumors about the birthplace of an African-American president? To mock the disabled?

Those ecstatic over Trump's victory do not and cannot understand the despondency many of us are feeling right now. For them, his triumph represents a revolution against the Washington elite and "political correctness." However, for gender, sexual, racial, religious, and other minorities, Trump's election stands as an existential threat.

No matter how desolate many of us may feel about a Trump presidency, we can't give up now.

As a woman, I feel terrified to have my rights in the hands of a man who once said "you have to treat" my gender "like shit." Rape survivors now have to live under a president who has been accused of sexual as-

sault by 17 women and who, on tape, bragged that his celebrity allowed him to forcibly grab women's genitals. Muslims have to live under a president who plans to ban all members of their religion from entering this country. Latinos have to live under a president who called them "rapists" and "drug dealers," and wants to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. LGBTQ+ individuals have to live under a president whose chosen vice president supports conversion therapy and once jailed a woman for having an abortion. The President is supposed to be a voice for all Americans — now, he is the voice oppressing a large faction of them.

And yet no matter how desolate many of us may feel about a Trump presidency, we can't give up now. I understand that, as Hillary Clinton said, "This is painful, and it will be for a long time." Still, no progress has ever been made, no justice has ever been earned, and no hardship has ever been overcome without

the presence of hope. The worst choice we can make at this time is to lose faith in our nation. Despite what Trump's victory may suggest, racism, sexism, and xenophobia are not American values. This country can't forget the well-known line from the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal." To my fellow women, to Latinos, to Muslims, to the disabled, and to every group feeling marginalized and threatened by Trump's victory: bigotry does not represent this country. You do.

Please keep fighting the good fight, to ensure that our identities and those of future generations will be protected. We may have lost this battle, but I am confident we will win the war. Goodness always prevails. Progress always wins out. Love always trumps hate.

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WHITE WOMEN, WE MUST UNITE TO OPPOSE TRUMP

By Caitlin Lawrence '17
Opinions Writer

The fight for equity has intertwined the struggles of women and minorities for hundreds of years. In the 1830's, thousands of women were involved in the abolitionist movement, and in the latter half of the century, minorities greatly aided the women's suffrage effort even after being shunned by the National American Woman Suffrage Association. For decades, minority men and women courageously battled discrimination from inside the suffrage movement itself in order to improve the quality of life for American women. Given that fights for justice have reached fruition for only some women in this country, white form of compensation for minority contributions must be presented.

In the past century, white women as a group have seen numerous successes. We have obtained suffrage and other

legal freedoms, we have thrust ourselves into governmental positions of power, and we have garnered respect for ourselves and our initiatives. However, we as a privileged sector of society have failed to acknowledge and support those of marginalized groups who have aided us in our storied fight for gender equality. We have been consumed by our own agendas and have forgotten that we actually possess enormous privilege in this world. We need to use this privilege of ours to extend our ongoing fight for social justice to them. We must benefit subjugated groups who are silenced before they speak by bigots who are unwilling to overlook their appearance.



We, as women, are rightfully challenging the 77 cents to a dollar wage gap between white men and white women, but also must acknowledge the fact that black women earn 64 cents and Latinas earn 55 cents compared to the earnings of white men. We need to be talking about racially charged police brutality, and recognizing that the hundreds of hate crimes committed each day against people of color did not start on the night of November 8; contrarily, they have affected minority groups since the birth of this nation. We need to be talking about systematic oppression and the ways in which minority groups are stereotyped, marginalized, and oppressed, as well as what we can do to

prevent the dehumanization of these individuals.

We are allowed, as women, to be frightened of the fact that our president-elect has condoned sexist rhetoric and normalized sexual assault; however, we must not ignore that while lifetime rate of sexual assault hovers around 17.5% for white women, it is 19% for black women, 24.4% for mixed raced women, and 34% for American Indian women. Our society is unwilling to recognize the pressing dangers that women of color face and continues to offer protection only for white women. This behavior is entirely unacceptable and, frankly, bereft of all empathy, integrity, and justice.

Unfortunately, we must now accept the harsh truth that 53% on white women voted for intolerance and hatred this November. We must question how we, as a sector of society, have developed to value our whiteness over our compassion. We must not dwell on

our personal fears about this presidential election; we must instead mobilize and strive to effect change. We have seen historically the magic that passionate women can create, so it is imperative now more than ever that we unite under sentiments of respect and love. As white women, we are inherently protected by our white privilege. Therefore, we must look out for our friends and peers who are unsafe at this time by striving to combat racism and bigotry, while still recognizing that the prejudices we are fighting against exist within us as well.

The exclusion of people of color in today's fight for social equality parallels that which occurred in the suffrage movement, as we white women concern ourselves with white-washed, homogenous views of feminism and social equality. We see the same oppression of minority groups today that was demonstrated in the women's suffrage movement as we white

women concern ourselves with whitewashed, homogenous views of feminism and social justice. Racism is not a "black people" problem; it is a humanitarian problem. White women must be prepared to sympathize with the anger and frustration of people of color, but we must not pretend to understand their experiences just because we are women. The struggles that we face in the 21st century pale in comparison to the discrimination people of color face every day in our systemically racist society. Regardless of the political climate, we have a civic and moral duty to relentlessly work to protect basic human rights in this nation, even if the fight does not immediately benefit ourselves. Minorities have supported us in our fight for freedom the whole time, and our turn to support them is long overdue.

Caitlin Lawrence is a sixth former from Killingworth, Conn. She may be reached at clawrence17@choate.edu

UBER HITS SPEED BUMP ON CAMPUS

By **Riley Choi '18**
Staff Reporter

You want to go to Chick-fil-A, but it is too far away to walk. Hopeful, you check the WKND email, but there is no SAC shuttle. A few years ago, you might have had to choose a closer (and less satisfying) restaurant. Now, however, you know that you have an alternative: Uber, a simple app that calls nearby drivers to bring you wherever you want to go.

We all need to think long and hard before we make a decision to call Uber.

Mr. James Stanley
Dean of Students

Upon its founding, Uber initially served primarily the San Francisco Bay Area but has long since expanded to cover locations worldwide. According to the Uber company, the app “represents a flexible new way to earn money” and “[helps] strengthen local economies, [improves] access to transportation, and [makes] streets safer.”

Uber is, indeed, convenient. First, users enter a pickup location and destination and choose one of four ride options, which vary in size and luxury. Based on their input, they are given a wait time and price, and can even track where their ride is geographically in relation to their current location. They also have access to the driver’s contact information and vehicle details, such as the make and model of car or its license plate number. The app automatically charges the credit card in a user’s profile, though passengers have an option of splitting the fare.

This flexibility and accessibility has made Uber a popular option for students on campus. Eniitan Tejuoso '17 said, “Transportation options are quite limited in Wallingford, and there is no public transport nearby. If there is no Choate shuttle and you have to go somewhere kind of far urgently, then I think Uber is one of few options.”

Edward Rakphongphairaj '17 is a frequent Uber customer. He said, “I’ve personally been on too many Ubers to count, and all of those experiences have been well above adequate.”

Perhaps the most heavily discussed concerns with companies like Uber is safety. The app has a few features, including the rating system, meant to help customers make informed decisions. In addition to being able to see the drivers’ existing average rating, Katrina Gonzalez '17 added, “Passengers give the drivers ratings, and I don’t think that the app gives a passenger the driver whom

he or she rated low.”

There are also some advantages to being able to reach out to drivers directly: for example, when passengers leaves something behind, they can contact the drivers to get it back, whereas in a taxi, the passengers would rarely be able to do so.

Despite Uber’s safety features, members of Choate’s administration appear wary of students’ use of Uber. In fact, in a section added just last summer, the Student Handbook now states, “The School discourages the use of Uber and other ridesharing firms and advises families to check their terms of agreement before arranging rides or allowing their children to use such services.”

Dean of Students Mr. James Stanley explained that there are several reasons for this addition. For one, Uber policy prohibits passengers under 18 from riding in the absence of an Uber account holder who is older than 18. The School has a responsibility to uphold the corporate policy.

The second reason is safety. “During a meeting last year, boarding schools talked about whether there needs to be an Uber policy because use of the service was becoming an issue at peer schools. The responses ranged from ‘We do not allow it for anybody’ to ‘Uber? What’s Uber?’ Some schools have decided to prohibit all Uber use, others have banned use by students under 18, and others have chosen to discourage Uber use because students do not always know what the experience is going to be like. There are some high-profile national cases in which Uber drivers have been inappropriate.”

Fifth Form Dean Ms. Nancy Miller reiterated Mr. Stanley’s worries. The service “makes me feel very uncomfortable,” she explained. “I have been discouraging students from using Uber.”

Students may wonder, “if not Uber, then what?” A few faculty members suggested taking SAC shuttles, calling taxis, or getting a ride from advisers. Other options are walking or choosing to go to restaurants closer to campus. The school prohibits students hitching rides in a day student’s car.

Mr. Stanley understands why students want to use Uber. “Faculty members are aware that taxi services around here are unpredictable,” he said. “As an adviser and a Dean on Duty, I have driven down the movie theater to pick up students who have been abandoned by taxis. But students need to realize that they don’t always know what the Uber driver is going to be like. We all need to think long and hard before we make a decision to call Uber.”

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SIXTH FORM STUDENT COUNCIL: LAST 100 DAYS

By **Haley Chang '18**
Copy Editor

With only a term left in their tenures, the sixth form incumbents of the Student Council are busier than ever, making sure that they fulfill their promises and responsibilities to the best of their abilities before they pass their batons to the next generation of students in the spring. Here, they share the goals they hope to accomplish in the upcoming months.

Student Body President Cecilia Zhou '17

Zhou seeks to find ways in which the Council can better represent diversity on campus, especially with regards to gender diversity and voicing the opinions of freshmen and day students. Within the Council, Zhou hopes to continue making more gender-neutral and gender-expansive policies.

The Council is also discussing possible ways to ensure voices from various student groups are being heard, as well as inspecting the current election process in order to see if there are any improvements that can be made for this coming Student Council election.

Student Body Vice President Namsai Sethpornpong '17

Sethpornpong is currently working to improve Daily Grind’s sales, which have recently declined due to the popularity of the Lanphier Center café and the extension of the dining hall’s operating hours. The impending opening of the St. John Hall Student Center, as well as the possible removal of Community Lunch next year, may further deter customers from coming to the Daily Grind.

Sethpornpong plans to bring Daily Grind to large-scale events — such as sports games and plays — as opposed to relying solely on Friday’s Conference block. Also, Sethpornpong is looking to broaden the range of foods offered at the Daily Grind by including, for example, vegetarian sandwiches and donuts from Neil’s.

Sixth Form President Amir Idris '17

In addition to having class committee meetings with his



Photo courtesy of Trewin Copplestone

Elected Sixth Form Student Council members and appointed Secretary Audrey Sze '17 (front row, second from the right) pose for a photo after their meeting.

form, Idris plans to meet with third formers. “James Gibson, the sixth form president last year, noted that the third formers are sort of an untapped resource,” Idris said. “They’re so fresh into the Choate system that they have ideas that most of us upperclassmen don’t consider since we’ve been here for so long. I believe that having class committee meetings with the third formers and getting some of their ideas will be beneficial to both them and the school at large.”

Sixth Form Representative Leland Ben '17

Ben wishes to change the grading system for new students during their first term. He explained, “I came here as a new junior, and to be honest, it wasn’t easy. For at least some people, the focus is immediately and solely on getting good grades, which I believe is not what the school aims to promote. So I think making the first term a pass/fail, or even just the grades up to the first midterm pass/fail, will be beneficial to the community.”

Sixth Form Representative Jack Hutchinson '17

“The utmost priority to me is to leave a lasting legacy of the Class of 2017,” said Hutchinson. “This is important to me because I truly love my class. It’s a great group of individuals, and hearing from the seniors of the past, they’ve waited too long to come together, meet some new friends, and unify as a group.” He plans to get their ideas as much as possible in the remaining terms, and try to organize events to promote form-bonding.

Sixth Form Representative Larisa Owusu '17

Owusu, along with Idris and the sixth-form deans, aims to fully integrate post-graduate students into the Choate community. “Usually, I think people have this idea that they’re just this label. A football P.G. A lacrosse P.G. In most cases, they don’t have any other identity,” she said. “I want to help the P.G.s not be afraid to talk to different people, to try new things.”

Owusu is also working to provide standardized testing tutoring for students from low-income backgrounds, an idea that stemmed from her own struggles to find resources she could afford. Her next step is to talk to the Student Council advisers, Dr. Lauren Martini and Mr. Oliver Morris, to explore the possibility of joining forces with the Financial Aid Office and the College Counseling Office to bring tutors to campus.

Day Student Representative Jack Hodgson '17

“Being the day student representative and seeing how former day student representatives were unable to get issues specific to day students addressed,” Hodgson explained, he realized day students are underrepresented. As such, Hodgson identified that his priority is to “work toward increasing day student representation on the Student Council,” potentially by adding more Day Student Representatives.

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- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Where does afternoon come before morning?

What three words can answer any question?

What travels around the world but always stays in a corner?

Solutions: 1. In a dictionary 2. I don't know 3. A stamp

Treasured Toasters? Temporarily Toast

By **Alyssa Shin '18**
Copy Editor

Perhaps our beloved toasters took a play out of Anna Kendrick’s book in Pitch Perfect, “You’re gonna miss me when I’m gone.”

Last week, students were surprised to find that conventional spring toasters in the dining hall replaced the conveyor-style toasters. The old toasters were a popular choice for students in a rush to grab an on-the-go breakfast or looking for a quick meal in between classes. Several students complained about the uneven toasting and slower speed of the replacement toasters.

“I really miss the revolving toasters. I just think they were a lot more efficient, and you could put so many things in at once,” said Elyse Cornwall '18.

Besides slowness, students have encountered other issues with the replacement toasters as well. Anselm Kizza-Besigye '17 recounted, “The new toasters don’t indicate when they’re on or off. So the other day, I stared at my toast for five minutes before I realized the toaster wasn’t even on. And then I just had to eat cold toast because I had class.”

Mr. Joy Goodmaster, the Production Manager of SAGE Dining Services at Choate, reassured students, “They are strictly backup toasters. They’re not ideal, and we don’t plan to use them on a regular basis.”

The spring toasters were temporary stand-ins for the two conveyor toasters provided by the dining hall, both of which were sent out for repair. One was found broken four days before Parents’ Weekend and the other

a week or so later. The source of the damage was in the heating elements of the toasters.

Mr. Goodmaster explained, “We didn’t see anyone break them but we do have peanut butter being sent through the toasters. Oil can get on those elements. Bread or butter knives hitting them can also cause them to break down.”

When this article went to press, one of the two toasters had been repaired and reinstalled in its original station.

This recent issue could be highlighting a bigger problem: a dearth of appliances that can be used by students to cater foods to their preferences. For example, many students find that the cookies taste better when heated; however, the only available options are to toast them (which is discouraged) or press them in the Panini maker.

“I went to a college campus, and I frequently used it to cook meals. I think the underlying problem is that the dining hall needs a microwave, an asset that would be highly valuable to our overall dining hall experience,” said Abby Blair '17.

This idea of allowing students to access additional appliances such as microwaves in the dining hall has been previously proposed, although it has not been implemented due to safety concerns and technical issues.

To the relief of students across campus, the conveyor-style toasters have been returned to their rightful spot in the dining hall. As Cornwall put it, “We definitely took the old toasters for granted.”

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MASTER’S MANNA ENTERS NEW ERA AFTER FOUNDING DIRECTOR TRZCINSKI RESIGNS

By **Anjali Mangla '20**
Reporter

On September 30, 2016, the Founder and Executive Director of Master’s Manna, Inc., Ms. Cheryl Trzcinski, gave in her letter of resignation and retired. Master’s Manna, a non-profit organization aimed to better the lives of individuals who are homeless or are from low-income backgrounds in the Meriden-Wallingford area and surrounding communities, works with Choate to run a volunteer program for Choate students to participate in and help those in need.

Ms. Trzcinski founded Master’s Manna in 2006, and this month marks its tenth-year anniversary. During this time, the organization grew considerably under Ms. Trzcinski’s care. She started it in the basement of a small church, then expanded to a small storefront, then to only half of the building where Master’s Manna is situated today, and finally to the full building space it occupies today.

Matt Aguiar '18, who has been volunteering at Master’s Manna since his freshman year and currently serves as a student member to the Board of Directors, recalls his interactions with Ms. Trzcinski fondly. “She came up to me the first day I volunteered and struck me as an amazing devout person who truly believes in assisting



Photo courtesy of The Record Journal

At Master’s Manna, Ms. Cheryl Trzcinski (right) helps prepare for the next day’s chicken soup meal.

the marginalized in the Greater Wallingford area,” Aguiar said.

Indeed, as Ms. Gail Powell, another Board member, remembered, “Cheryl always claimed that it was a calling from her Lord that told her to feed his sheep, so she said, ‘Well, if that’s what he wants me to do, I’ve got to find a way to do it.’”

However, Ms. Powell went on, “She felt it was time for her to move on to other opportunities.” Since Ms. Trzcinski’s resignation, the organization has not had an Executive Director. The Board has been dealing with the organization’s policies, and the staff has been running the actual program. Each person from the Board

of Directors deals with everything that fits in their skillsets and interests, so the members of the Board can work with the area they love. Ms. Powell thinks this will help build a stronger organization.

Ms. Powell confirmed that Master’s Manna does not anticipate any change in the relationship between the organization and Choate. In fact, the Board looks to keep all the relationships that Ms. Trzcinski developed open and ongoing. “That’s really part of what makes the program as strong as it is and helps fulfill the slogan of Master’s Manna, ‘Building a Stronger Community,’” Ms. Powell said.

The volunteer program at Choate gives students the opportunity to do anything at Master’s Manna that needs to be done. As Ms. Powell described it, students are able to find whatever “feeds that part of your soul.” Their responsibilities may include working in the clothing area, in the food area, or with people with disabilities. Every Saturday morning, the volunteers also help clean the premises and make sure the facility is ready for opening on Monday morning.

Aguiar commented, “I plan to continue to stay involved with the organization even after Ms. Trzcinski’s resignation. The services have made a difference in so many people’s lives in the community, and I want to continue to be a part of such a great cause.”

Everything done at Master’s Manna is a “labor of love.” Ms. Powell mentioned the word “hope” many times in the interview as an integral part of the organization. Ms. Powell explained, “There’s something about being hungry and not knowing where your next meal is coming from — it diminishes your spirit and your hope for the future. When you have food and are nourished, and you know you don’t have to forage for food, then you can approach life differently.”

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IWAZARU IMPROV SHOW MET BY PRAISE, LAUGHTER IN THE GELB



Photo courtesy of Ross Mortensen

The cast of Iwazaru performs a skit about the presidents of the United States.

By **Inc Thongthai '19**
Staff Reporter

For most people, going up on stage with a script, let alone making everything up on the spot, is challenging. The cast of Iwazaru, a student-directed and student-acted improvisation show that was performed on November 4 and 5 in Gelb Theatre, faced this challenge head-on.

Although the show was centered on improvisation, a lot of work and effort was put into perfecting the performance. Cooperation among the cast members was crucial to bring the audience the best experience possible. Connor Barnes '19 said, "A lot of work went into the end product of Iwazaru. The cast met every Monday through Friday for a month and a half for two hour-long rehearsals. We did a lot of experimentation for our skits and games. We also did many bonding activities." Christian Hakim '17, another cast member, added, "As we grew closer, the show grew closer. It was more intimate, more in sync. We also wrote all of the non-im-

provisational material such as the recorded commercials and the AA News Sketch. We worked hard to refine every aspect of the show."

The performance featured many controversial themes such as cultural appropriation, parental control, racial tension, misconceptions of boarding school, as well as male supremacy. The cast presented these themes through discussions and more unconventionally, carefully selected methods and games. Barnes said, "When deciding on the games, it had to be taken into account what the audience would enjoy. We needed the games to translate well. We played with themes that was close to home, like the presidential election and cultural appropriation." The cast made their own commentaries on disputable topics and lightened the tone by adding a satirical spin. Hakim added, "The AA News section and characters like Rita Foster portrayed by Polina Ermoshkina '19, were continuations inspired by the previous year's show."

However, the audience members were not the only ones that

Iwazaru made an impact on. The cast members themselves had many things to say in terms of unforgettable memories. McKynzie Romer '17 said, "Roasting my mom when she was in the audience during my stand up role was the most memorable part of the show for me. It was something I usually would not do in front of so many people." Christian Hakim '17 added, "I will never forget the Saturday Night show. I have never had such an incredible performing experience before, and I got to share it with the most amazing cast. It was a rush."

According to Barnes, "The most difficult part of improvisation is improvisation. It's difficult to be quick on your feet, and to realize that not everything will be a witty one-liner. Sometimes the audience will not laugh. But I love it. Improvisation is different every time. Each performance is challenging, and making people laugh is even harder. When I land a successful joke, I feel accomplished." Christian Hakim enumerated another challenge of improvisation, "When you are doing

improvisational comedy, you can always depend on yourself to do and present what you want. But the problem is you never know what your cast members are going to do."

Though unpredictable, the performance was enjoyable. Hakim said, "I love getting a reaction from the audience. I don't care what the reaction is, because the 'I can't believe he just said that!' reaction from the audience is just as good as laughter. I want to know that they are listening to what I have to say." Romer added, "I was physically dragged to an Improvisation Club meeting and ended up sticking with it because I realized how fun it was. I liked that I was able to laugh at myself and act without judgment or fear."

The cast of Iwazaru lit up the Gelb Theatre with their satire and quirky personalities, and a new cast will do so again next year in their own unique way, allowing their personalities and dynamic to shine through improvisation.

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Kari Cholokny '06: Rising Visual Arts Star

By **Neve Scott '18**
Staff Reporter

Kari Cholokny '06, who hails from Darien, Conn., is not a typical alumni artist. At 28 years old, she has had a large amount of exposure in the field thanks to her visual arts education at Choate and beyond, her own work in the visual arts arena, and her collaboration with other artists and their work.

During her time at Choate, Cholokny's peers and teachers greatly influenced her. She took many fine art classes, but did not complete a senior project. However, this did not hinder her from pursuing a comprehensive arts education. She took advantage of her skills and advanced her opportunities through extended artistic coursework.

She explained, "I remember that Figure Drawing with Reggie Bradford was an important event in my development as a student and an artist and a person. I was a sophomore taking a class that was supposed to be for upper level, and I remember knowing that it was uncommon for high school students to be working with nude models in a figure drawing class. It was empowering to be trusted by a teacher to take responsibility with the material and treat the class with respect and seriousness. It was empowering, it greatly advanced my rendering ability, and it made clear to me how important art was to my life. It wasn't as simple as me being good at drawing, it was that the class was hugely fulfilling in a soulful way, and that my mind grew tremendously during a semester of attempting to transfer the impression of seeing a person to a two dimensional image."

Not only was her arts education a substantial part of her Choate experience, but also it helped her stay grounded in Choate's hectic environment. Cholokny said that the studio was her personal haven away from the insanity of Choate's daily life. However, despite the saety of that space for her, she believed that there were some drawbacks to her intense Choate arts education.

She said, "In a way, the school kind of passively showed me that art was to be considered a hobby or a non-serious pursuit. I understand that, as a prep school, the school is under the burden of giving students a course load that will make them impressive applicants to top liberal arts colleges and universities. It would have been nice to simply have some more flexibility in terms of modifying course paths according to students' natural interests and abilities. I would have loved to have taken more art courses at Choate, but things may have become more flexible since I graduated."

After Choate, Cholokny went to Dartmouth College, where she double majored in Environmental Science and Studio Art. Initially, she con-

sidered becoming a surgeon, but could not imagine spending four years in a New Hampshire lab. Instead, while she was attending Dartmouth, she became certified in Outdoor Emergency Care and worked as a ski patroller. She said, "I've always had a foot in science and a foot in the arts — much of what I read and what inspires me comes from the scientific world."

After she graduated, Cholokny worked and painted for a few years, then attended graduate school for painting at Cranbrook Academy of Art, outside of Detroit, where she lived for two years. She later moved to New York, where she has been living and working ever since.

Today, she is a studio assistant for two artists and also paints for herself. In her job as studio assistant, she helps the artists with various tasks, from mixing paint to building canvas, moving artwork around the city in trucks, coordinating with their galleries, and talking about the broader art world, in general. In her own studio, she works on paintings, sculptures, and drawings, showing them in exhibitions locally in Brooklyn and Manhattan as well as nationally in places like Los Angeles and Detroit.

I've always had a foot in science and a foot in the arts; much of what I read and what inspires me comes from the science world.

Kari Cholokny '06

"I will probably be in New York for a long time," Cholokny says. "I'd like to get to a point where I could make a living off of the sale of my paintings, but that's quite rare. To be honest, I have a pretty good gig right now. I have great bosses, and I'm devoted to making my paintings. I'll always be fighting for more time in my own studio instead of theirs. I'd like my future to include a gigantic concrete-floored studio for me to work in, a steady stream of coffee available at all times, and the time necessary to make the work I want to make."

Cholokny's advice to young Choate artists is concise, spunky, and insightful: "For anyone lucky enough to attend a school as fantastic as Choate, there are many forces at work giving him or her a boost in life. I have always felt that the best way to honor that leg up that Choate affords moving forward is with being an informed, careful and positive force in the world. Remembering my time at Choate, I'm always propelled forward to do the absolute best work that I can, and to be aware that education doesn't end at graduation — it is a lifelong process."

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Gifted Students Heard Loud and Clear at Music Recital

By **Eben Cook '18**
Staff Reporter

This past Sunday, several Choate musicians had the opportunity to perform in an instrumental recital at the Paul Mellon Arts Center. An hour and a half-long affair, the recital featured several string instruments, including the violin, viola, cello, and double bass, as well as piano, flute, and a few vocalists. There was even a piece performed by Ziyang Lei '20 that featured the yangqin, a trapezoid-shaped instrument with hundreds of strings to be struck by a pair of hammer-like beaters.

The recital got off to a good start with a captivating piano performance of "Fantasie Impromptu" from Ethan Luk '20, a pianist who also performed later in the concert the second movement of "Violin Concerto No. 1 in G Minor" on the — you guessed it — violin. The first half of the recital was comprised of both solos and duets, while the second half was comprised of mainly string quartets and quintets. The music performed in this recital ranged from as early as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (b. 1756) to as late as Sergei Rachmaninoff (b. 1873).

Putting in endless amounts of time and effort, the performers spent the entire fall term with their music lesson teachers mastering their pieces and perfecting their crafts. Each student spent one period a week working with their teachers on technique, focusing primarily on their pieces for this recital. The music teachers who helped these performers in preparation for the recital are all local musicians with reputed backgrounds in their fields. Two piano teachers, Susan Cheng and Sarah Kohane, assisted in the accompaniment necessary for many of these works performed.

Most importantly, the instrumental recitals put up once a term allow students to see their peers in a professional environment performing a piece so meticulously and masterfully that the fact that the musician is a high school student is forgotten. Seeing a peer in the classroom, on the athletic field, or in the dining hall is a much different experience from seeing a peer perform in a recital. Kevin Auman '17, a pianist who performed a solo piece as well as a duet with pianist Silas Walker '19, commented, "I love how recitals give us a chance to hear each other perform, as we don't often get to hear each other truly perform a perfected piece. Performing is an opportunity to show what we have put so much energy and effort into for a while and to allow everyone to escape into that world of beauty and emotion that comes with the music."

Similarly, violinist Annett Ho '18, who played in a string quintet as well as a solo of Mendelssohn's "Violin Concerto in E Minor," added, "I think of performing music in general as a way of sharing and communicating with others. I like watching and listening to other students perform because I can see and learn from the progress my peers have made."

Term-end recitals at Choate are incredibly rewarding to both the performers and the members of the audience. A recital is an entirely different environment that most students are not used to in their everyday lives. Next time an email pops up from Mr. Yanelli regarding an upcoming recital, take a break from the seemingly interminable workload and support your classmates who have spent countless hours preparing for the performance.

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Photo by Charlotte Beebe/The Choate News

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Illustration by Julian Yau/The Choate News

By **Jeanne Malle '19**
Staff Reporter

On Tuesday, November 8, the first day of Spirit Week, some of Choate students' hidden love for past decades became apparent to the rest of the student body. Many students did not dress differently because they lacked clothing representative of their assigned time period. However,

of those who felt like they could follow the theme, many achieved it well, encouraging people walking by to take a second to admire or smile at the daring student. Stewart Egan '18 executed her grade's theme, the 80s, very skillfully. Many new aspects of fashion developed during the 80s, and Egan chose to represent one of these themes, the fitness craze.

The 80s were a decade in which fitness flooded pop culture: a few examples include Jane Fonda, Nike's "Just Do IT" advertisement campaign, and Olivia Newton-John's "Physical" music video.

Egan's outfit was one of my favorites, and learning where it came from made it even more remarkable. She told me, "My jacket and leg warmers are actually from my mom's time at the Ethel Walker School. The jacket is her varsity-riding jacket, which I promptly stole when we went through some boxes in my grandmother's house." Egan did not simply go to the nearest Party City to get

her costume for the day, which makes her effort to dress to impress a lot more noteworthy. "Being the youngest in a family of hoarders, I frequently receive hand-me-downs, so I've always incorporated pieces of older styles into my outfits. The 80s are bomb 'cause they made such bold, unapologetic fashion statements (which doesn't mean they were always good statements) but I love the attitude of that time. Some of my favorite bands, such as Fleetwood Mac, had their greatest hits during that time. The 80s get a bad reputation for fashion and music atrocities, but it's the most fun time period to dress up for. It's not as extreme and out there as people think; look at their actual fashion — a lot of it carried into the 90s and inspires fashion today."

In the world of style, it irritates me when people claim to know everything about a theme but fail to dress appropriately for it. However, when beautiful humans such as Egan go above and beyond to perfectly

achieve what they are trying to represent, it is impossible for me not to enjoy watching them do it. Not only did her shiny gold tights, varsity jacket, and hoop earrings fit the theme, but also the colors of her outfit matched, making it seem fun all while being realistic. Yes, Stewart, yes!

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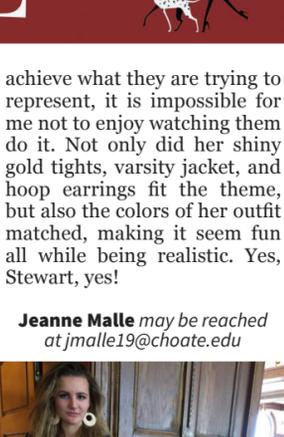


Photo by Jeanne Malle/The Choate News

DEERFIELD DAY

FIELD REPORT

Varsity

Junior Varsity

Field Hockey (10-5-0)
beats Deerfield, 1-0

Field Hockey (1-9-2)
falls to Deerfield, 1-8

Football (8-0-0)
beats Deerfield, 44-20

Football (5-1-0)
beats Deerfield, 31-20

Boys' Soccer (10-5-3)
beats Deerfield, 1-0

Boys' Soccer (5-3-6)
falls to Deerfield, 0-1

Girls' Soccer (16-1-1)
beats Deerfield, 5-2

Girls' Soccer (8-3-4)
beats Deerfield, 2-1

Girls' Volleyball (15-3)
beats Deerfield, 3-0

Girls' Volleyball (10-4-0)
beats Deerfield, 3-0

Boys' Water Polo (14-5-0)
beats Deerfield, 10-7

BIRNEY '18 SETS CHOATE CROSS COUNTRY RECORD

By Daniel Brockett '19
Staff Reporter

For the first time since 2010, ten prep school teams arrived on the Choate cross country course for the annual Founders League Cross Country Championships. The Wild Boars' energy before the race was unparalleled, since every runner expects to do exceptionally well on their home course and Founders is an important race.

The previous race record for Choate Boys' Cross Country, a time of 16:33 on the school's five-kilometer course, was set by Bo Peard '11 in October 2010. The record stood for over six years until it was broken by Griffin Birney '18 on November 5, with a time of 16:29.

Birney had an incredible performance, reaching the half-way point of the race within a group of five other runners, including fellow Choate runner Joe Berrafati '17. As Birney



Photo courtesy of Ross Mortensen

The Boars receive a pep talk from Assistant Coach William Nowak.

neared the home stretch, several team members looked at the clock and realized he was about to break the record. Birney sat down with Daniel Brockett '19 to discuss his performance.

Daniel Brockett '19: What was your goal going into that Founders League race?

Griffin Birney '18: I want-

ed to beat the second runner on Loomis, which would have solidified our points and gave us a better chance to win.

DB: Did your goal change over the course of the race? Did you realize you had an opportunity to break the record?

GB: No, the goal never changed. When I crossed the fin-

ish line, somebody walked up to me and said, "Congrats, you did it!" I had no idea what they were talking about. I was just focused on running my own race and doing my best, so time was not on my mind.

DB: Was this your goal coming into the season?

GB: No. My goal was to break the junior record, which was 17:01, run by Riley O'Connell '14. In fact, I always thought of the guys atop the Choate leaderboard as untouchable, so it is weird to be among them. They are the legends of Choate cross country. So I was surprised when I discovered that I had run the fastest time on the course for a Choate runner.

Hopefully, this is just the beginning of Birney's prosperous cross country career. Choate has a new legend looming over its leaderboard.

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WHAT COACHES LOVE AND LOATHE

By Daniel Brockett '19
Staff Reporter

At Choate, sports are an integral part of life on campus for both faculty and students. Faculty members often coach sports, and they have their preferences as to how they would like their players to act. There is always something that pleases a coach, just like there is always something that disappoints a coach. Daniel Brockett '19 asked four coaches to share their perspectives on what makes a winning player.

Daniel Brockett '19: What pleases you as a coach?

Jesse Minneman (*Junior Varsity and Varsity Football*): I think the biggest thing is focus and effort. Mistakes happen. I've never seen a team play a perfect game. I think the key is how they respond to mistakes – whether they compound or they rebound.

Zachary Kafoglis (*Boys' Varsity Soccer*): As a coach, it is always rewarding to engage with students who are willing to work hard in the mission of improving as a player, teammate, and per-

son. I have been passionate about sports for as long as I can remember, and a lot of what I learned about dedication, commitment, teamwork, and overcoming adversity came from lessons on the playing field.

Deron Chang (*Girls' Thirds Soccer*): Seeing my girls connect and become a close-knit family over the course of the season. They are incredibly patient with each other and realize that being on this team is less about winning and more about learning how to be a part of a team. It's damn cool, actually.

Daniel Brockett: What disappoints you as a coach?

William Nowak (*Boys' Junior Varsity and Varsity Cross Country*): When students see sports as an obligation to avoid and/or resent. Also, a lack of sportsmanship is always distressing to see. Sports are games we play to make us better people. They teach us values like diligence and teamwork.

Jesse Minneman: The biggest thing is seeing players fall short of their potential because

of their inattentiveness – when players aren't putting in the work, and they aren't doing the best that they can. It's not putting in the effort in practice like it is a game, which is a really difficult skill to master. But it's just as frustrating to see players who work hard and are doing everything right, then not seeing the improvements.

Deron Chang: How sad they get when we lose. Something that, unfortunately, happens a lot.

Zachary Kafoglis: Many people do not take advantage of the chances in front of them because they are hesitant to put in the effort. I think this applies to the realm of athletics as well. Winning is glamorous, but the work required to get there isn't.

Daniel Brockett: What is your favorite thing to see as a player do?

Deron Chang: When a player on the opposing team falls down and my players stop to help her up instead of playing. It's a combination of great sportsmanship and a complete lack of awareness of what they should be doing in the competition. Hilarious.

William Nowak: Sports are a wonderful arena in which to view the payoff of hard work. When Girls' Junior Varsity Hockey won our first game of the winter of '14-'15, the elation experienced by all was amazing. They had put in so much physical and emotional work prior to that game, and a "W" on the scoreboard was a really nice way to congratulate them all on their fine efforts.

Jesse Minneman: In general, it's seeing something we worked on in practice. Offensively, in both lacrosse and hockey, when players see spaces and get there when they wouldn't have seen that before. In football, the most rewarding thing is that there's a couple of junior varsity guys in their second year on the team and they have made some really effective plays to help us out. It's great to see when they make a play they wouldn't have been able to make at the start of the season because of the hard work they put in during practice.

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THE POSTGRAD EXPERIENCE



Photos courtesy of Choate Rosemary Hall

By Jackson Elkins '18
Staff Reporter

From freshmen to postgraduates (PGs), each student on campus has a unique story to tell as to how they arrived at Choate and why they considered this the best place to further themselves academically and athletically. Postgraduates Ellen Arena '17 and Walker Lott '17 are no exception. Both were recruited to play at Choate, but their stories are unique in how they chose to don the Blue and Gold.

Arena is originally from Mount Hermon, Massachusetts, where she attended Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH) before coming to Choate. At NMH, Arena was a tri-varsity athlete, competing in soccer, hockey, and lacrosse, while experiencing both boarding and day life as a faculty child. While most in her class at NMH were looking at colleges come senior year, Arena took a different path: looking at prep schools to take a postgrad year.

For her, the decision to take a PG year was a no-brainer. Arena tore her ACL during her junior year, forcing her to sit out that lacrosse season. "I'm going to play lacrosse in college, and in terms of getting recruited, junior year is the most important year, so my decision was based a lot on that," Arena said. And for Arena, choosing Choate for a postgraduate year made all the sense in the world: "I chose Choate because it was the best transition school for me – it's bigger than NMH, it's far from home, and Alex Jarvis '17 really made me love the school when I came on revisit day." But just like any school, coming in as a PG can have its difficulties, especially when your main sport is not in the first term of school, like in Arena's case. She said, "It was a little hard in terms of finding a group of people, but coming from boarding school helped a lot with the transition." And while lacrosse is one of Arena's main focuses here at school, she

also wants to "grow as a person" from her experiences at Choate and "make connections" that will stay with her after she graduates this spring.

Another PG on campus this year, who many know from his astounding performances on the football field, is Walker Lott '17. Lott has been a key player for the Blue and Gold on the gridiron this season. A native of Alabama, Lott previously attended a private high school, then transferred to Thompson High School for his senior year. Lott said, "It was great to meet new people and learn new things from them at Thompson. I also played football there and had a blast getting to know a new team, just like I am this year."

In terms of why Walker chose to take a PG year, he said, "I was actually unaware that I could spend a year as a postgraduate student. But when I did tour Choate, I was impressed by the coaches, students and campus." Choate was also convenient for Lott to attend because he plans to continue his football career down the road at Yale.

Regarding the classroom, Lott said that Choate is "a lot more rigorous" than his previous high schools. But he added, "I feel I have adapted well. The teachers are all extremely helpful, and they actively encourage me on a daily basis. I feel that they're interested in me and my future." Lott has also made impressions off of the football field, saying, "I have really enjoyed meeting new friends and all of the teachers that are at Choate. I found that everyone here was very welcoming towards me and incredibly friendly." Walker and the rest of the football team will play in the New England Championship on Saturday, November 19 as Choate looks to go for the three-peat.

Being a post-graduate comes with a unique and challenging set of circumstances, but Arena and Lott seem to have integrated well into the Choate community.

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COACH PROFILE

Off the Field with LJ Spinnato

By Laila Hawkins '19
Reporter

Head Coach of the Choate Football program, Mr. Lawrence Spinnato, spends countless hours offering insight and support to his players, both as football team members and as young men. His experience and coaching method have brought a fresh perspective to the team. I had the privilege of sitting down with him to talk about his experience coaching and what makes the Choate football team so successful.

Laila Hawkins '19: How long have you been coaching football? Have you always coached high school prep?

Lawrence Spinnato: I began my career at Northfield Mount Hermon, as soon as I graduated from Amherst. I was an assistant coach there for two years. And now, this is my ninth year at Choate, so I have always coached prep school.

For six of my years here, I worked under some great coaches. Tony Martone and Eric Cooper both did a great job. Tony Martone was the head coach for my first two years. Then I served as Associate Head Coach under Eric Cooper, who was Head Coach for four very successful years. Then, I was named Head Coach for the

2014 season, so this is my third season with that position.

LH: What are you most proud of in regard to your team?

LS: For the coaching staff and players alike, I am most proud of their commitment, their love for each other, and their work ethic. We have a lot of fun. We work hard, but we have fun.

LH: What are your hopes for the team, and what do you think they can work on?

LS: I think, like with any team, we are constantly pursuing perfection – not a perfect record, just perfect execution. And that's really all we should be aiming for. I think looking for anything else is probably a mistake. But, still, we never do anything perfectly. So we are always hungry for something. Yeah, it's fun to win, but if we are constantly pursuing something greater than just a score, we'll always want to improve.

LH: So you kind of have a philosophy where you don't worry about the long run, but the here-and-now.

LS: Don't worry about anything other than doing what you are supposed to do for six seconds at a time. Then, things usually work out. Focus on each individual play or defensive call and do your best to execute what was called. Then move on to the next.

So we don't talk about winning, and we don't set goals for championships. We just do our job. This was new to Choate, but in my opinion, it makes perfect sense at the end of the day.

LH: Based on what I have heard from athletes in general, coaches can be like family. How does it feel to have that role in student's lives?

LS: I think they have the same impact on me. One thing that I love about coaching at Choate is that the kids here are so special. They are smart and mature, and we can coach them harder than the average high school athlete. It's an incredible honor to work with these 55 kids, plus managers. It's tough, but it's awesome.

I think life is about relationships, and football is all about relationships. The ability to build relationships in a football program is so easy, so fluid, so natural, because you're all going through, honestly, hell together. You start to bond and forge lifelong relationships.

LH: How have you seen the team dynamic change from year to year?

LS: Oh, it's so weird. Every year, there's the same group of coaches, but you never know what the dynamic is going to be within the team. When we took over the

program as a group of coaches in 2014, we weren't expected to do well, because we had just come off of a losing season. But the whole season played out like a Disney movie. They just kept winning and winning. The kids focused on the right things – what they needed to do each and every play, the decisions they made off the field, and the relationships that they had with each other. We had three excellent captains, incredible figureheads, who really set the tone for our program's future. After 2014, there was a target on our backs because we had shocked the league. The 2015 and 2016 teams had to deal with being the teams that everyone wanted to beat.

The dynamic has been really neat this year because we have kids from all over the world and three day students as captains. Those three, Matt Albino '17, Sam Blank '17, and Jake Kastenhuber '17, along with the other seniors, have been able to connect the team really well and set a good example. They can get along with and motivate anyone. So within this group of kids that come from everywhere, even the first-time players feel loved and valued because of our senior leadership.

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