The Choate News

100 Years of Rivalry
1922-2022

Timeline (2,3)
Choate vs Deerfield (4)
Arts & Culture (5)
Letters (6)
Features (7)
Deerfield Cover (8)
Mr. F. R. Kellogg (Choate's Football Manager) writes a letter to Frank Boyden (Deerfield's Headmaster) responding to his request to set up a football game between the two schools. Within The Choate News Issue CXI: Vol 5, Deerfield's archivist Anne Lozier said, “In 1922, Deerfield was on shaky ground trying to establish itself as a private institution, and Headmaster Frank Boyden was starting to reach out to schools everywhere in order to form strong professional and personal ties.”

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

November 11, 1972:
Choate-Deerfield: 50 Years of Rivalry

November 2016:
Deerfield’s first female co-captain Deerfield is appointed, Bailey Cheetham ’19.

October 27, 1928:
Deerfield beats Choate in football for the first time ever (0-28) on Saturday, October 27, 1928 at Deerfield, marking a sweeping victory.

May 30, 1929:
The first time that the Deerfield Scroll collaborates with The Choate News Headlines of collaboration (top) 1928-1929 Scroll board (left) 1928-1929 Scroll board (left)
November 17, 1930: First soccer game between Deerfield and Choate is played in Wallingford, and Deerfield wins with a score of 3-0.

October 20, 1934: The entire student body of Choate travels to Deerfield, establishing a precedent for alternating Choate days. Previously, Deerfield had always traveled to Choate. Choate wins the game 36-6.

February 1936: The entire student body of Choate travels to Deerfield by “special” train. When they get to Wallingford, the Deerfield boys line up after the marching band and march from the railway station to Choate’s campus.

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1971-1972: Rosemary Hall girls arrive on Wallingford campus circa 1971, beginning Choate’s efforts to become co-ed.

November 2016: Deerfield’s Choate Week Tuesday Bacon Grilling tradition is established.

2018: Hannah Deringer ’20 is Deerfield’s first female co-captain.

November 9, 2019: For the first time in a decade, Deerfield defeats Choate in football, winning 20-14.

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

November 12, 2022: The Deerfield/Choate Rivalry enters its 100th year. The games are to be played at Choate.

November 2018: Deerfield’s first female co-captain.

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

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What is Your Favorite Choate Day Memory?

Will Ji '23
I played thirds soccer my freshman year. My favorite Choate Day memory was the crowds coming to support the team. I thought that the crowds would only be at varsity football and soccer games, but they were cheering for every team.

Katrina Miao '20
My favorite Choate Day memory was probably when I was a junior. I think there was a really close victory girls volleyball game that we won, and everyone rushed to the court after we won. It was pretty lit, and when football won every year, it was always fun to celebrate after.

Max Su '21
My favorite memory was being on the sidelines during the football game and getting to rush the field after our victory.

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What are Your Favorite Deerfield Day Traditions?

Sean Keller '86
I remember people made banners and put them up around campus. Pink Floyd had come out with an album called "The Wall" and the art class made a version of that album cover up as a poster. It had Exeter, Andover, and some other schools, and the heading was "Choate, you're just another brick in the wall."

Anna Gonzales '12
I liked the bonfires a lot. It was a little intense, but it was a nice moment of everyone participating in this community event.

Hayley Newton '12
I enjoyed the fresh, barbecued bacon. Regardless of win or lose, it tasted good!

How was Culture Different Deerfield Week?

Michael Zack '23
Playing against Deerfield this year is something that everyone on the team is looking forward to this year. We have a lot of new kids that have never experienced this kind of environment before, so it is something that we are all looking forward to, especially since it is the 100th year anniversary of the Deerfield Day football rivalry.

What is the Nature of the Rivalry?

Member of Class of '93
"After graduating into one of the most heated in-state rivalries for college (Carolina-Duke), high school rivalries felt cute and quaint in comparison, but, at the same time, it felt very meaningful! I loved the hype and planning around it and getting on the team buses for years and chattering away as we drew away. Fun times!"

Herbert Lai '90
I remember one of the teachers at the time saying Deerfield is our rival, and not our enemy, which I thought was nice.

What does Your Favorite Choate Day Memory Mean to You?

Tom Bracken '82
To prepare for our game, we would practice soccer in the hallway of our dorm. Wells.

What are Your Favorite Choate Day Traditions?

Peter Shea '23
(Captain Deerfield)
The hike to the Rock in the morning. Stopping at Frank Boyden's grave on the hike up and talking about how he gave his whole life to this school really shaped my time here.

Aduago Nwoakor '24 (Cheerleader)
Storytime during shutdown with the robes and the pig that runs around.

How was Culture Different Choate Week?

Al Sawyere '78
The teachers were into Choate Day as well, which resulted in a slightly less tense session during class. I remember one day when a teacher said to a student who had been called on and had fumbled a question, "Surely you can do better than that . . . remember, you attend Deerfield, not Choate."

What is the Nature of the Rivalry?

Elena Lu '22
By senior year, I enjoyed being around everyone else at Deerfield and having a common goal to work towards, so it wasn't necessarily even related to Choate anymore.

Al Sawyere '78
To be honest, we really didn't like Choate. We looked down upon them, although I don't really know who. I did not know a single person who attended Choate, and I suspect that they were no different than me, but the feeling of disrespect was mutual, so it all worked out.

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

Cheerleaders: "HAIL DEERFIELD!" Fans: "HAIL DEERFIELD!" Cheerleaders: "HAIL DEERFIELD!" Fans: "HAIL DEERFIELD!" "HAIL, Choate!" Fans: "HELLO!"

2022 NEW CHEER
When the Boars Come Rolling In
(Oh when the boars)
Oh when the boars
(Come rolling in)

Cheerleaders: "HAIL DEERFIELD!" Fans: "HAIL DEERFIELD!" "HAIL DEERFIELD!" Fans: "HAIL DEERFIELD!" "HAIL, Choate!" Fans: "HELLO!"

Co-CHIEF-TEAMS
C-CHIEF-TEAMS
A-CHIEF-TEAMS
T-CHIEF-TEAMS

Boars Knock Down Doors
Who's House? C House!
**Deerfield/Choate 2022 Spirit Week**

**Monday**

**Isabella Casillas '24 & McKelton Gollustern '15**

**A War of Wits: Debates**

At Deerfield, almost any opportunity is an opportunity to compete. From singing the Deerfield Cheering Song with enthusiasm, to participating in the Deerfield School Debating Council, students can find opportunities to debate. From singing the Deerfield Cheering Song at athletic competitions, music competitions, and balloting laws to the use of armed forces in international relations, debates are a way to stay well informed and keep up with current events. The Glee Club poses for a photo in the 1928 Deerfield Scroll.

**Tuesday**

**Cathryn McKeown '25 & McKenzie Goltermann '25**

**Cheer Labrador Retrievers**

The sweaters displayed a design containing a megaphone symbolizing the lively competition to continue as the cheers to the student body to lower the voting age from 21 to 18. The sweaters displayed a design containing a megaphone symbolizing the lively competition to continue as the cheers to the student body to lower the voting age from 21 to 18.

**Wednesday**

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**Thursday**

**Julia Zhao '24 & Ginger Bernsten '25**

**Deerfield’s Golden Years**

The Glee Club follows a photo in the 1920 Deerfield Scroll.

**Friday**

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**Saturday**

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

**Deerfield/Choate**

Students create colorful handmade bannersaths to proudly display. Some notable banners from this last year included: “Judy still got A Breeze,” “Chuck the Boar through this and last year include: “Choate did not give up a point!” “They’re going to offer a good time!” “We are being swayed both ways,” and “The Senior Council is making debate opportunities more available to students.”

**Sunday**

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January 10, 1922

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

December 7, 1922

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

December 16, 1922

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

October 30, 1922

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

October 27, 1928

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

October 28, 1932

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

June 16, 1937

The following collection of letters from 1922 to 1937 document correspondence between Deerfield Headmaster Frank Boyden, Choate Football Manager Mr. F. R. Kellogg, and Choate Headmaster George St. John. The letters coordinate the schools’ first football game as well as enthusiastic reception to the blooming rivalry by the two headmasters thereafter.
Deerfield's rivalry with Choate is a quintessential aspect of its identity. However, throughout the Academy's history, some have experienced whether school spirit ever crossed the line from healthy competition to purely negative behavior. From the 1930s to today, there have been a multitude of instances and perspectives surrounding the rivalry.

Until the early 2000s, students would dress up as an effigy of a student in the Choate student and hang it in the Choate Day bonfires today. The large “C” that is burned at Deerfield Day on November 6, 2002. The scarecrow image was a quintessential aspect of the competition gone awry. For example, a newspaper article published on November 16, 2009, described an instance when the Deerfield commentators to insult them over the issue. In a letter to the editor, former Health Teacher Susan LaScala P ’03, referenced an example of hateful behavior in 2002. In a letter to the editor, former Health Teacher Susan LaScala P ’03, referenced an example of hateful behavior in 2002. In that letter, she said that in 2002, she would rather be beaten by Deerfield than her own worst enemy. She went on to say that the nature of Deerfield’s rivalry. Still, she said in 2002, she would rather be beaten by Deerfield than her own worst enemy. She went on to say that the nature of Deerfield’s rivalry. Still, she said in 2002, she would rather be beaten by Deerfield than her own worst enemy. She went on to say that the nature of Deerfield’s rivalry.

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

Adjoint Head of School Student Life, Kris Ruff, wrote in a letter to the editor that Deerfield's Headmaster, Fred Boyden, “I would rather be beaten by Deerfield than my own worst enemy because the team's over-tribalistic light,” and “reflects the nature of Deerfield’s rivalry. Still, she said in 2002, she would rather be beaten by Deerfield than her own worst enemy. She went on to say that the nature of Deerfield’s rivalry.

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