

PERSPECTIVE

Building prosthetic limbs in Central America

WYATT FRENCH '13

When I first met Julio, I wanted to shake his hand, but I couldn't. Both of his arms were missing. Despite his unfortunate physical condition, Julio gave off a sense of self-worth: in his calmly held stout figure and in his smile, bright against his rough olive skin. Julio embodied resilience and fortitude: he had been searching for proper, affordable prosthetic care for two years, and today his painful quest would end with a free treatment. Two doctors greeted him and proceeded in examining his short limbs to diagnose the type of device required.

This October, I spent a week in Guatemala with my godfather and a team of prosthetists who were volunteers for the Range of Motion Project. The ROMP's mission is to "provide artificial limbs and orthotic braces to those who do not have access to these services."

Two Northwestern graduates, Eric Neufeld and David Krupa, founded ROMP in 2005. The ROMP provides care throughout the developing world in places such as Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Pakistan. The developing world has an abundance of amputees; in fact, 80 percent of amputees live in the developing world and only two percent of this population has access to proper care.

Only two days before I met Julio, I saw Central America for the first time. Flying over Guatemala, I watched small rural roads winding through lush green valleys trans-

GUATEMALA, PAGE 3



This October, Wyatt French '13 helped build prosthetic limbs in Guatemala.

Campus master plan is completed

BY NINA SAYLES '12
Staff Writer

Over the course of the next decade, the Loomis Chaffee campus will be undergoing a number of changes. The latest campus master plan, a 50-year plan completed by Sasaki Associates last spring, specifies the details and methods of implementing these changes, which will include the addition of new and improved social spaces, accommodations meant to increase the capacity of dormitories, and multiple other refurbishments.

Two of the plan's most prominent features are its proposed new dining hall / student center and additional dormitory spaces.

Plans for a new student center and a restructuring of the current dining complex will lead to the replacement of the SNUG as Loomis Chaffee's student union. The new building, which could be attached to the side of the existing dining hall and connected to the library, would be integrated into the center of the campus and the existing dining hall complex. A new student center would not only provide spaces for socializing and a café, as the SNUG currently does, but would also include room for

SNOW IN FALL



The Grubbs quad was hit hard by the snowstorm and was roped off for more than a week following it.



The main cause of damage was the weight of snow on trees that had not yet lost their leaves.

PERSPECTIVE

Without power, and missing it, sorely

CHRISTIAN BERMEL '12

Once, as a ten-year-old, I walked into my sister's bedroom. At 3 PM with the shades down, the room was pitch black. Lacking such effective shades, I envied the darkness

of my sister's room.

Well, I don't envy it anymore. I write this hunched over my internet-less computer, hands frozen at the keyboard, in a house about 40 degrees Fahrenheit at its warmest. Running water, electricity, and happiness are nowhere to be found. We've been without power since Saturday (it's Wednesday), and we shouldn't have power back for a few more days.

The Great Blizzard of 2011 (as it will henceforth be known) occurred on October 29, and it was a doozy. Snow began to dump from the sky in the early afternoon and continued for

hours. It was heavy and wet, the kind that makes your back ache and throb all day when you shovel it the next morning. Tree limbs, still furnished with leaves, bore much more weight than during a typical snowstorm. Like dunk tank platforms, the branches unexpectedly gave way, falling on to lawns, roads, and power lines below.

My Saturday night was spent listening to this wood snap. My Sunday morning was spent listening to my parents lamenting this snapped wood and all other storm-related misfortunes. Broken branches lined (and

New disciplinary system goes into effect

Last year's StuCo proposal becomes reality

BY GRACE FOSTER '13
Staff Writer

The 2011-2012 school year marks the first time that Loomis Chaffee will implement a three-level disciplinary system. Last spring, the Student Council voted to modify the former two-level system in order to provide a more clear, equitable system of discipline that would, proponents claim, ideally ensure a fitting punishment for major violations of school rules.

A student would be placed on Level III status when substantial lying accompanies a Level II offense or when multiple major school rules are violated at one time. As there is no set list of Level III offenses, it is up to the judgment and discretion of the deans to decide when an offense warrants a Level III.

If a student's behavior is deemed worthy of a Level III, he or she is given the right to appeal the decision. The student would meet with a three-student panel made up of members of the Disciplinary Committee, his or her class dean, his or her adviser and a student witness of his or her choosing to speak on their behalf. The panel would hear the student's case and vote to decide if placement on Level III status is fitting for the offense. If the panel disagrees with the decision made by the deans, the entire Disciplinary Committee would meet to come to a consensus on fair consequences for the

student's actions. After a person has been placed on Level III status, the consequences are the same as those of a Level II: the student would complete 16 hours of work for the community, remain on Level III status for the remainder of the year and at the end of the school year, and have place at the school reviewed for the coming academic year. The real difference between the Level II and Level III status consequences is that, "a student placed on Level III [status] is in greater jeopardy for the rest of their Loomis career," said Woody Hess, associate head of school and dean of senior boys. If a student who has been placed on Level III status at any point in career at Loomis violates a major school rule, regardless if it is the same rule he or she has broken in the past, or develops a pattern of poor behavior, in other words accumulating multiple Level I offenses, he or she would face a hearing by the Disciplinary Committee.

Under the previous system, after violating any major school rule a student would be placed on Level II status. If the student were to violate any major rule during his or her time on Level II status or if at any time during the remainder of the student's time at Loomis he or she violated the same major rule, he or she would face a hearing of the Disciplinary Committee.

Ironically, one of the greatest

DISCIPLINARY SYSTEM, PAGE 2

still line) our yard. My mother's boxwoods and pear trees were a little worse for wear. Our street's power lines were a lot worse for wear. Downed trees blocked just about every street in town.

Have I not yet mentioned that most early college applications were due Tuesday? And did I forget to say that most if not all homes were out of power, making it impossible to submit these applications? I won't mention that.

Some fun sights I saw on Sunday morning: a car swerving through six inches of unplowed snow only to come to a com-

plete halt, narrowly avoiding a downed tree. A man in his car, apparently oblivious to the cataclysmic weather catastrophe that everyone else had endured, asking me if he could "squeeze by that tree in the street right there to get to yoga." My father, disobeying all of his most basic common sense, prodding a power line with (thankfully) no ill consequences.

Basically, the storm was a disaster. Before this fateful weekend, the most snow Connecticut had ever seen in October was a measly two inches. The havoc-wreaking Great Blizzard

SNOWSTORM, PAGE 3

Construction of a new environmental center at Choate embodies a major trend

Environmentalism a top selling point for leading boarding schools

BY IZZY KORNBLATT '12
Editor in Chief

"Everyone was in good spirits despite the raw weather and snow flurries," blogged Michael Kearns, senior project manager for Choate Rosemary Hall's new Kohler Environmental Center, about the center's April groundbreaking.

For Choate, the center is the long-awaited product of years of meticulous planning and a hefty donation from wealthy alum Herbert Kohler. Costing a grand total of \$25 million, the center is a prominent example of a growing trend among New England boarding schools: a renewed focus on the environment and sustainability.

Located on 268 acres of undeveloped land to the east of Choate's campus, the center will function similarly to a school year abroad program: a select 15-20 Choate students will live there for their junior year, along with two faculty members. All of the students' classes will be held at the center, taught by its three faculty members, and focus on the environment. Courses such

as environmental literature, philosophy and politics are planned.

Students will need to interview and apply for the opportunity to spend a year the center. The school says it will seek a wide variety of students for the program, not just those with an interest in environmentalism.

The center, designed by the well-known architectural firm of Robert A. M. Stern Architects, is currently under construction and is scheduled to open at the start of the 2012-13 school year. The school and architects placed significant emphasis on constructing an environmentally friendly building: the center is expected to earn the highest possible environmental grade of LEED Platinum and have the capacity to be energy-neutral if students are prudent in their consumption. The center will also make use of plumbing technology made by Kohler, Inc., the company whose founder is the center's chief financier.

Kearns's blog, featured prominently on Choate's web site, focuses on the 'green' features of the building and its



The Kohler Center at Choate under construction

Increasingly, seniors at LC and around the country take refuge in gap years

BY LINDSAY GABOW '12
Managing Editor

The past few years have seen a notable increase in the number of high school seniors around the nation choosing to take gap years, with Loomis Chaffee's own seniors following this trend. While the exact number of students taking gap years is not recorded, a survey conducted in December 2010 by the Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California, Los Angeles reported that 1.2 percent of the surveyed population, 300,000 freshmen at four-year colleges and universities, waited a year to start college.

In 2008, David Hawkins, director of public policy and research at the National Association for College Admission Counseling, said, "Counselors are recognizing that there are many pathways to college. They see that, if prop-

erly vetted, these opportunities could actually help students succeed in college." Most colleges, such as Princeton University, Harvard University, and Amherst College, allow students to defer admission.

Students decide to take gap years for a variety of reasons, such as exploring particular areas of study, finding one's passion, obtaining more academic credits, seeing exotic places, and participating in community service. Kate Timko '12 is contemplating taking a gap year for a combination of these reasons. When asked of her ideal gap year plan, she said "Originally, my plan for the first part of the year was to work, and the second part was to visit the village of Kissehman, Ghana and teach there for around four months. I've been involved with the Global Ghana Youth Network...since I was in fifth grade. It is a local-global organization working to

educate, empower, and inspire youth in the United States and West Africa. We provide desperately needed resources and educational opportunities."

Kate was also asked about things she hoped to gain from a taking a gap year that could not be gleaned from directly enrolling in college. "I think just the experience of being in a completely different culture is a different experience [from] any American college or university," she said. "The opportunity to teach, work with, live with, and get to know these amazing kids is more than any school could offer me."

Julia Russell '11, a Loomis alumna who deferred her acceptance to Tufts University, and will consequently become a part of the class of 2016, is also currently taking a gap year. When asked about her decision to take a gap year instead of entering the class of 2015 like most of her classmates, she

said, "I decided to take a year out mainly because I had no clue what I wanted to study in college...I wanted to be able to put as much academic effort into it as I did at Loomis, and I honestly didn't think I could do that without having a clearer focus about my future."

Like many other gap year students, Russell is participating in community service, at a school in Thailand. Of community service, she said, "I believe that there is more to an education than pure academics...while most LC students graduate as impressive intellectuals, we lose a bit of real world perspective when we live on a fairly isolated campus for four years." Russell expressed much enthusiasm about her experience in Thailand, as well as the opportunity to "see the big picture": something, she feels, she would not have come across had she directly gone to college from Loomis.

Disciplinary system

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

issues this simpler disciplinary policy faces is that students are confused and uninformed about it. A popular rumor said that any student placed on Level III status would go immediately to a hearing by the Disciplinary Committee and would likely be required to withdraw. The actual policy nearly eliminates cases of students going to Disciplinary Committee for a first offense: before the addition of the Level III, certain egregious behavior or the breaking of multiple rules could warrant a hearing on the first offense. Many others said that they did not understand the significance or benefit to adding a new level to our disciplinary system.

"It is, quite frankly, a much more equitable system," said Student Council President Lindsay Gabow '12, "and the ambiguity ensures that students are not treated unfairly. For example, it would seem that getting six "deeps" is not tantamount to plagiarizing an en-

tire paper or viciously harassing another student." Lindsay spearheaded the Level III proposal last year with Alexander Lafrance '12. The two drafted the proposal and brought it in front of the Student Council, keeping the movement largely student-driven. "When this proposal was in the negotiation process, a number of students were concerned that this new Level system would have a negative effect on the student body because it would impose stricter rules and punishments. We made sure that this would not be the case," Lafrance said. Although this new Level system is officially a part of the Student Handbook, it remains a work in progress. "[There is] a very strong foundation in place right now, but [the Student Council] hopes to continue building on it over time, making alterations to the system where necessary," said Lafrance. The Student Council and Rules Committee encourage any students and faculty with ideas or input on how to improve the system.

Environmental center at Choate embodies a trend towards a greater focus on the environment

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construction.

This summer, Dr. Howard R. Ernst, an author and educator, was appointed director of the center. He sees his primary goal as building a research-based curriculum that takes advantage of its unique setting. "Choate's new environmental center is designed to be a place where students live what they learn. The students are both the researchers and the subjects," he told Log editors.

The center "challenges students to apply their own research findings and lessons to their daily lives," he said.

The school, along with Ernst, is focused on making the center more than just a small program that affects just 15 students per year. "We hope that every student's life is going to be affected by that center. It's not just the 20 students who are going to live out there," said former Choate headmaster Ed Shanahan, who retired this summer, just after construction began on the new environmental center.

"The environmental Center's labs and outdoor research spaces will be integrated into the existing curriculum and new outdoor education programs will be available to all Choate students. The lessons learned from building the Center are being applied to future projects on campus and are inspiring innovation throughout the curriculum," said Ernst.

The center has, however, come under fire from some students who see it as a waste of valuable resources, reported The Choate News, Choate's student newspaper. Even some conservation proctors, Choate's equivalent to LC's environmental proctors, have criticized the building.

"I would say that the money would have been better invested in a different kind of environmental program, maybe one in the wilderness in Vermont so it's more comparable to the study abroad program, so you would live in a cabin rather than a very expensive environmental center," Max Fuller, a Choate senior and c-proctor, told The News.

Justin Chu, a junior c-proctor,



Last April's groundbreaking of Choate's new Kohler Environmental Center

PHOTO COURTESY THE CHOATE NEWS

told The News that he appreciates the center's goals but believes that "the resources that went into the center could have perhaps been allocated into improve the already working facilities of Choate."

On October 21, Ernst published an op-ed in The News entitled "The Kohler Center in dollars and sense," in which he argued that it's easy to calculate the exact costs of constructing and maintaining the center, it's difficult to quantify its far-ranging benefits. In the op-ed he does acknowledge the question of whether the funds spent on the center would have been better utilized elsewhere, but argues that "the fact that there are other worthy projects on campus should not take away from the value of this project."

Though Choate maintains that the \$20 million it was given by Kohler were to be exclusively used for the construction of the center, a News report found that Kohler, a longtime golf enthusiast, originally intended the gift be used for the construction of a destination golf course. Ironically, the idea for an environmental center came

only after the golf course project ran into trouble with environmental regulations.

A GROWING TREND

The Kohler Center at Choate is just one instance of a much larger trend among New England boarding schools: that of a growing focus on the environment. A number of schools (including Loomis Chaffee) have gone tray-less in their dining halls, created environmental proctor (or equivalent) student positions and joined the annual Green Cup Challenge, an energy-saving competition, among other initiatives. Almost all have incorporated awareness of the environment into the construction of new buildings.

Schools have taken a number of directions in their approach to the environment and sustainability. Phillips Academy Andover has launched environmental film and speaker series; The Hotchkiss School has launched an Environmental Initiative to expand its institutional environmental focus;

Avon Old Farms has constructed a large solar panel array with an online component that allows anyone to track energy the array produces in real time; Choate is building its Kohler Center.

Loomis Chaffee has also significantly expanded its focus on the environment in recent years. In 2004, the school installed a highly efficient co-generation power plant that it says saves 125,000 gallons of oil per year and powers the school during power outages like the one following the rare snowstorm last week. This year, new environmental courses not entirely unlike those to be offered at Choate's Kohler Center were introduced to the curriculum: Energy and Sustainability at Loomis Chaffee; Human Population and Impact; Ecology; Water, A Limited Resource; Sustainable Agriculture; and Oil in Water: Topics in Environmental Law.

The school has also hosted a number of environmentally focused speakers in the past few years. A convocation last year given by a speaker from the Alliance for Climate Education (ACE)

included a multi-media presentation on the negative effects of man-made global warming, a phenomenon accepted by more than 95 percent of scientists, as well as a section on projects students can undertake to help protect the environment.

Jeff Dyreson, a science instructor appointed this year to the new position of sustainability coordinator, has big plans for the future. "Hopefully we'll be rolling out this year a sustainable agricultural plot, so we're going to develop more of what you see behind Clark - the compost and the garden - we're going to develop more of that," he said. The current proposal includes plans for a chicken coop as well as for expanded gardens and a hoop house, a type of greenhouse that is warmed by the sun and would allow for plants like tomatoes, which are sensitive to temperate, to have an extended growing season.

Mr. Dyreson is also working on a revamped Green Cup challenge competition. Instead of an interdorm competition to reduce energy usage, the entire school

community would work together to reduce usage throughout the entire campus.

A SELLING POINT

For many boarding schools, particularly those that competitively vie for applicants, focusing on the environment has become a major selling point. On its web site, Choate pulls out all the stops in advertising the Kohler Center, calling it "leading-edge" and the "first teaching, research and residential environmental center in U.S. secondary education."

The center has also brought in over \$4 million in additional gifts to assist with its operation.

Mr. Dyreson said that the Kohler Center will put Choate "on the map, internationally." And it isn't just Choate: "Some of the initiatives that Exeter's doing, and some at our other peer schools, like a solar kilowatt array; that's, for lack of a better word, sexy. It goes on a web site," he said.

Indeed, on almost every leading boarding school's web site, including Loomis Chaffee's, a sustainability page advertising each school's respective environmental programs appears prominently.

The LC Communications Office has published a number of online stories about sustainability programs here at LC, and last spring's alumni magazine featured a 10-page cover story by Becky Purdy entitled "From the ground up: cultivating a sustainable campus."

Mr. Dyreson prefers to see the Kohler Center and other boarding school environmental programs not as efforts for schools to sell themselves but as very legitimate initiatives to address a serious issue. "I wouldn't call it a ploy," he said. "I would just call it being smart."

Ernst agrees. "We hold that boarding schools have a responsibility, not just to educate young men and women and to prepare them for the future, but to shape the future," he said. "Toward this end, impressive environmental innovations are underway at leading boarding schools throughout the country."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dress Code Committee holds second meeting

Sitting down for its second meeting of the year, the dress code committee focused on creating a general philosophy the dress code should embody and agreed that the dress code should include a preamble clearly stating this philosophy. Although no formal verbiage has been set in stone for the preamble, a general outline was established. It was agreed upon that the dress code should foster neatness and orderliness, represent the community values, reflect the mission and purpose of an educational institution and take into account changes in fashions and

trends. Along with discussing the overarching philosophy of the dress code, the committee also broached some finer details such as the difference between being sexually provocative vs. being sloppy, allowing personal expression as opposed to a cookie cutter dress code, as well as methods of enforcement.

At the committee's first meeting, it was presented with a set of guidelines for reforming the dress code from Head of School Sheila Culbert. The committee is made up of six students and four faculty members.

Kent Day spirit week

The Student Council voted on a variety of spirit days to enliven the week leading up to Kent Day. Monday (Halloween day) was an opportunity for students to dress up in their Halloween costumes. This tradition was postponed until this time because of last week's snowstorm. Tuesday was twin day. Wednesday was pajama day, a highlight of the week given the administration's consistent rejection of the popular idea in years past. Several new StuCo members, Jamol Lettman '12 and Harrison Richmond Schulman '13 came up with Thursday's international suit-up day, an idea in which students wear

formal attire (most notably suits) to school and that was derived from the television sitcom *How I Met Your Mother*. Today, Friday, is Kent spirit day, when students are clad in blue to acknowledge respectful competition, just as they have for years in the past. Finally, tomorrow (Kent Day itself) will see students dolled up in maroon for Loomis spirit day.

After a number of students used the week as an excuse to get out of dress code, on Tuesday afternoon Dean of Freshmen Fred Seebeck sent an e-mail to all students reminding them of the week's purpose.

Master plan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

student organizations like the Log, as well as offices for the deans of students. This building would be large enough to provide students, faculty and visitors with a shared space, and ideally would facilitate communication between these groups as well as instill a sense of community on campus.

The current dining complex would be converted into another student lounge, though this one is expected to be smaller than the aforementioned student union, and without club spaces or administrative offices, is intended to serve only as a locale for student recreation, much like the SNUG. In lieu of the current dining hall, which is split into two separate dining halls, a new dining hall large enough to accommodate all students eating in the same room would be built. The impetus for these changes stems from an effort to reduce the divide between underclassman and upperclassman, as well as to instill a sense of connectedness between students and faculty during meals, especially during family style dinners.

Another goal of the campus master plan is to expand the boarding population, and consequently to decrease the day student population, in an overarching effort to reduce the total number of students at the school. Because the Loomis Chaffee campus offers limited space for construction, the idea of converting the current dining hall's third floor into a new dormitory has been considered, especially since the third floor

is already laid out like a dorm hall.

One alternative to this plan is building an entirely new dormitory, though the project would require more time and money than refurbishing the third floor would. This dormitory, which could be located in the current location of the NEO (the NEO would be moved across the Ratte Quad), would be capable of housing approximately forty-five students. In any given year, it could potentially function as either a boys' or girls' dormitory, and may even be used as a co-ed dorm (the sexes would be separated by faculty apartments located at the dormitory's center).

While the campus master plan focuses primarily on building construction and reorganization, it also involves fundraising options to cover maintenance expenditures (many of the older buildings, such as some of the original dorms, the old dining hall and Founders Hall, require renovations). Fundraising also ensures that all the technology and academic programs on campus are sufficiently up-to-date. The master plan also includes strategies to continue increases in financial aid resources, a staple of the founding mission of the Loomis Institute.

Associate Head for External Relations Nat Follansbee and Head of School Sheila Culbert are both very active in the strategic planning process, along with other faculty and alumni. The specific locations for the placement of the dorm, new student center and new dining hall are still under consideration.

Snowstorm

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of 2011, however, deposited 30 inches (30 inches!!) in some parts of the state. For the first time in my life, we had a White Halloween.

That reminds me. For obvious reasons, Halloween as a joyous, candy-filled, sugar-fueled holiday couldn't go on. In towns across the state, it was "rescheduled," disappointing children everywhere.

Thank God for Loomis, though. Despite suffering severe damage to trees (I think we all shed a collective tear when we saw pictures of the poor, dismembered trees on the upperclassman quad), the campus, through miracles and the use of generators, retained power. Heat, internet, and, best of all, warm showers (the phrase "You don't know what you've got till it's gone" perfectly describes my feelings towards a nice, hot shower right now) could all be found at Loomis. The dining hall even remained open for three meals a day.

Because of the conditions in Windsor and the danger inherent in almost all transportation, the administration opted to not hold classes Tuesday or Wednesday. So, even if our weekends were extra-cold, they

were at least extra-long, too. However, with conditions having improved exponentially, the school chose to resume classes Thursday.

And so, life goes on. While many day students (including myself!) still lack power, some have had it restored. Hundreds of downed trees have been cleared, making our streets look almost back to normal. Connecticut Light and Power has promised 99% of households will have power by Sunday, November 6, at midnight.

Last year, I researched the Great Blizzard of 1888, another disastrous New England storm that caught the public unawares. That storm, like this year's Great Blizzard, brought widespread outages, shut down businesses (the New York Stock Exchange even shut down during the 1888 wintry tempest) and generally wreaked havoc. The 1888 Blizzard caused major changes: power lines were placed underground throughout the state, and the Blizzard eventually gave rise to the New York Subway System. Mom and Dad, I'm not saying we need underground power lines or anything, but for the next storm, could we please get a generator?

Guatemala

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

form into massive highways. As a newcomer to Central America, I marveled at the landscape's immense scale and vibrant colors. Once I landed in Guatemala City, however, my perspective changed.

I boarded a bus headed for Zacapa, a city in eastern Guatemala, and encountered a crowd of sweaty passengers suffering from Guatemala's 'winter' heat. Driving through Guatemala City shocked me, for the air was shrouded with a heavy, grey smog. Never having visited a developing country, I cringed at the squalor festering just feet away from me. Disheartening spectacles transformed my eagerness into a melancholy sense of guilt. As we departed Guatemala City and entered the countryside, the air cleared. Bumping along an uneven highway, we commenced our journey through the mysterious Guatemalan mountains.

Two hours into our mountainous trek, traffic thickened and our bus was forced to stop. Up ahead, I caught sight of a gushing flood of mud: this was what had ceased all movement along the roadway. Five hours later, we finally arrived in Zacapa, the location of the ROMP (Range of Motion Project) clinic.

In a small workshop in Zacapa, we created prosthetic limbs for Guatemalan citizens, who otherwise would not have access to high quality treatment. Although I did miss six days of classes, my experience proved without a doubt, worthwhile.

We treated a woman named Lydia. She had gone to the Red Cross several times, requesting treatment for her missing left leg, but she had been denied. The Red Cross claimed she was untreatable. Lydia was a trans-femoral amputee whose femur was cut very short, and the Red Cross told her a prosthetic leg couldn't help her. They were right, but



The deans meet with StuCo officers.

JAEHWAN KIM '13



The deans meet with StuCo officers.

PHOTO COURTESY WYATT FRENCH '13

ROMP found a way around this obstacle. Treating Lydia like she had a hip disarticulation, we modeled a plastic cast for her hip and femur. It is often difficult for amputees to walk at first, because they are required to use muscles that have often been neglected for years. But after hours of hard work and dedication, Lydia

walked out of the ROMP clinic in just two days.

Three days after he first came, Julio returned to the ROMP clinic: he had come to receive his prosthetic arm. As soon as the doctors fastened the device to Julio, he began to move it, exploring his new limb. The doctors taught Julio how to correctly move his

prosthetic arm and how to open and close the hook. After just a few minutes of diligent practice, Julio picked up a trail mix bar and, with the help of his teeth, opened it. He took a big bite, and, as a tear fell from his eye, I realized that this was the first time he had fed himself in two years.

CORRECTIONS

September 30 Issue

A photograph on page eight of a boys' varsity soccer game attributed to Jaehwan Kim '13 was actually taken by Chloe Anderson '12.

October 21 Issue

A photograph on page five of new Head Librarian Eric Styles attributed to Jaehwan Kim '13 was actually taken by John Patrick '14.

Ever notice a factual error in the Log? Tell us about it! E-mail log@loomis.org. You can also find corrections at www.lclog.org/corrections.



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CAMPUS LENS



Visiting artist Paul Lewing works with students in the RAC.

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KENT DAY 2011

Once upon a time there was a spoon...

A brief history of Kent Day

BY ASHLEE BURRIS '12
Staff Writer

Roaring excitement, heightened school spirit, and healthy rivalry mark the commencement of Kent Day, Loomis Chaffee's annual game day against the Kent School. Loomis designates a full week towards the preparation of Kent Day. Not only is the day a testament to the long-standing school tradition, but it also allows generations of Loomis Chaffee alumni to reunite with old friends and to be rejuvenated by the Loomis school spirit. Kent Day has become ingrained into the timeless traditions of Loomis, a tradition infused with oddities and eccentrics unique to Loomis Chaffee, a tradition complete with a fetish for silverware and fighting pelicans. So how did such an unusual day become a defining tradition in the history of Loomis Chaffee?

The rivalry began on November 11, 1921, when the Loomis football team played Kent on the Island. Un-

fortunately, after four intense quarters of excellent ball play, the mighty pelicans lost to Kent 14 to 7. After the game, both the Loomis and Kent football players sat down for tea at the Loomis headmaster's house. Once the Kent boys returned to their school, the Batchelders realized a silver spoon was missing from their collection. Furious and shocked at Kent's lack of integrity, Mr. Batchelder wrote to Father Sill, the headmaster of Kent, inquiring after his misplaced spoon. However, each headmaster accused the other's students of stealing the spoon.

The matter was eventually dropped until June of 1922, when a Kent football player confessed to Father Sill about stealing the spoon. Legend has it that Father Sill withheld the information in hope of sparing Loomis the pain of opening an old wound. Some even speculate that Father Sill gave the spoon to a Kent prefect. However, most people

believe the spoon was hidden in a locked metal box, whose location was known only to select Kent students and faculty. At a dinner some years later, Kent's new headmaster offered to return the spoon to Loomis, but Mr. Batchelder declined. Instead, he insisted that Kent keep the spoon as a reminder of their deception. As a compromise, Father Chalmers suggested that a large spoon serve as a permanent football trophy for the winning team of each year's final game.

From there the rest is history. Not surprisingly, Kent tells this story a little differently.

Loomis and Kent now have a devout rivalry spanning nine decades. This year, Kent Day occurs on Saturday, November, 12th, marking the 90th anniversary of the tradition. Both schools will put forward all of their fall sports teams to compete for the coveted spoon and bowl. The spoon goes to the winner of

the football game, and the bowl is awarded to the winner of the most athletic contests, excluding football, on that particular day. Due to our vast breadth of athletic ability across each sports team, Loomis looks to repeat its success in winning the bowl; however, in the past, the football team has had a more difficult time taking home the spoon. This year tells a different story. Our football team holds an impressive record of 6-1, and will return the spoon to its rightful owners!

THE PELICAN

WON THE SPOON 23 TIMES

Best known for its commitment to both academic and athletic excellence as well as its general attractiveness



KENT DAY GRAPHICS BY JAEHWAN KIM '13

The adventures of Runnin' Hood

BY BECKY PURDY
Girls' Cross Country Coach

In Merry New England in the time of old, when good Queen Culbert ruled the land, there lived within the green glades of Loomwood Forest, near Windsor Town, a famous outlaw whose name was Runnin' Hood. At her side stood brave Friar Robbins, Little Betsy, good Martha Scarlet and a band of merry women.

No Harriers ever lived that would catch a Wild Boar or Bearcat with skill and cunning as theirs, nor were there ever such yeowomen as the twoscore and three merry women that roamed with Runnin' Hood through greenwood shades. Right merrily they ran within the depths of Loomwood Forest, suffering neither care nor want, but passing the time in merry games of progression runs or bouts of blend intervals.

Not only Runnin' herself but all the band were outlaws and dwelled apart from other citizens, yet they were beloved by the country people round about, for no one ever came to jolly Runnin' for help in time of short breath and went away again with weak lungs.

And now I shall tell how it came about that Runnin' Hood and her merry harriers fell afoul of the law.

It all began when the Sheriff of

Hotchkingham proclaimed a cross country match and offered a prize of a bronze plaque to whosoever should run the best race in Founders County.

It was at the dawn of day in the merry autumn time, when hedges are golden and colorful trees bedeck the meadows; when pumpkins ripen and sweet geese honk; when lads and lasses look upon their school books with sweet thoughts. Crisp was the air as they ran along the Loomwood paths, and bright the golden and rustling leaves, amid which the little squirrels scurried to gather acorns: and blithely the merry women whistled as they jaunted along. As their leaders ran Brianna the Bold and Rachel the Brave, and with them, each as courageous as the next, stepped a retinue of swift harriers, the oldest and wisest of whom were called Jaclinda, Megandria, Lindsarrow, Helena, Monique, Medeashia, Olivia, Raquel, Siobhannia, Francesca, and Selasia.

As thus they moved along with a brisk step and a merry whistle, they came suddenly upon some coaches and captains seated beneath a great oak tree. Each coach and captain was clad in bold colors, yellow and navy, red and white, kelly green, gold and black, blue and powder

blue, and a fine show they made, seated upon the bench beneath that fair tree. Then one of them, with his mouth full, called out to Runnin', "Hulloa, where goest thou, little waif, with thy one-penny shoes and thy tattered t-shirt?"

Then Runnin' grew angry, for no harrier likes to be taunted. "Now," quoth she, "our shoes and our calf muscles are as good as thine; and moreover, we go to the cross country match at Lakeville, which same has been proclaimed by our good Sheriff of Hotchkingham; there we will run with other swift harriers, for a prize has been offered of a fine bronze plaque."

Then one who held a horn of Gatorade in his hand said, "Ho! Listen to the lass! Why, girl, thy team's muscles scarce compare to ours, and yet they plan to stand up with good stout harriers at Hotchkingham's starting line, thou who art scarce able to do a single sit-up."

"I'll hold the best of you 10 points," quoth Runnin', "that my harriers hit the finish line before yours." At this the boldly clad coaches and captains laughed aloud, and one said, "Well boasted, thou fair infant, well boasted! And well thou knowest that no tall hill is nigh to make good thy wager."

At this Runnin' grew right mad.

"Hark ye," said she, "yonder, at the glade's end, I see a white line traveling over the hills. I'll hold you twenty marks that my harriers scale that hill with temperance and skill, and stride beyond with gathering speed."

Runnin' Hood turned to the sneering, boldly clad coaches and captains under the oak tree who laid out their wagers on the grass. "Keep your wagers in your pockets," she cried. "We are still journeying on to Hotchkingham and will see you there."

On the dangerous Shores of Irene, the wind howled, tearing limbs from trees, and skies opened up, soaking the earth underfoot. Nevertheless, the merry band ran on.

In the Wickham Hills, the band was beset by aches and shortness of breath and self-doubts. Yet on they ran.

On the Pelican Tract, the sun beat down upon them, mosquitoes swarmed and a pestilence known as Blood Intervals wore them down. And the merry band ran on.

In the final stages of their journey, the air turned suddenly frigid and the skies opened up again, this time with ice and blinding snow. And the merry band ran on, their smiles widening as their strength

and speed grew.

Until they reached Hotchkingham amazingly fresh-faced and serene. From the surrounding forest, Wild Boars and Bearcats, Wyverns and Fighting Daisies, Rhinos and Lions strode to the course and growled their greetings. Their coaches and captains crossed their mighty arms across their chests and declared, "Now, we shall see what we shall see."

Runnin' Hood's merry band gaily placed their spikes on their feet, twisted their fine hair into braids, and donned their own proud colors — Loomis red and gray. They nodded to the beasts, whom they respected but did not fear. All leaned forward at the starting line, and a great blast split the air. Off they all sped.

Surely, you must guess what happened next. Or perhaps you've heard the legend told. But I shall not spoil it for you by telling the tale in these meager words. See it for yourself.

And so, the Loomis Chaffee girls' cross country completes its successful season with an even more successful end. However, this fairytale will never end, because once a harrier, always a harrier and Runnin' Hood will always lead a pack of merry women.

Boys' water polo expected to crush Kent this year

BY RYAN SHELBY '13
Staff Writer

The Loomis Chaffee boys' water polo's success against the Kent School has enjoyed a long and glorious history. Although never quite as hyped as varsity football, Loomis boy's water polo has a 106-0 record against Kent, one of the most prolific and powerful records in New England preparatory school athletic history.

Dating back to 1904, the rivalry between the two schools is over a century strong and still as competitive as ever. Last year's excitingly close match, Loomis 42, Kent 0, was one of the closest games the rivalry has ever seen. Although the mercy rule was enforced by the end of the first quarter, with the score already 42-0,

the rest of the game proved to give the entirely-Loomis crowd a fun spectacle as the Pelicans dominated yet another game.

The pelican, a graceful and elegant animal, can perform in the water just as well as it can anywhere else. This statement, however, is not true for lions. Kent's water polo players always appear weak in the pool compared to the dominating Loomis players. In the past, Loomis water polo teams have out scored the opposing Kent teams with such ease that Loomis started to pull out its players one by one, giving Kent more and more of a chance to score. Despite this extreme handicap advantage, every single Loomis vs. Kent game has been a shutout, with

Kent never scoring in the 106 years of competition against Loomis.

Although the water polo team does not receive a spoon for its win, or any cutlery for that matter, the pride it gets from beating the same team year after year is enough of a prize. No other team in our school's history has a perfect record against a single team, and Loomis water polo intends to keep it that way.

So come on out and cheer Loomis Chaffee boys' water polo on to a 107-0 record against Kent!

Editor's note: Kent School does not have a water polo team.

So who's going to win? Kent Day team predictions

BY CHRISTIAN BERMELE '12
& SPENCER CONGERO '12
Managing Editor
& Staff Writer

Boys' soccer

Hoping to succeed where the past two teams have fallen short, the boys' varsity soccer team will fight on Saturday to defeat Kent, ensuring Kent Day fame and a spot in the playoffs. Leading the way to victory are captains John Abraham '12, Dilan Casanovas '12, Jesse Wasserman '12, and Dale Reese '13, who have headed the charge toward this highly-anticipated victory throughout the whole season. Terry Lee '12, an acrobatic, high-energy player, said, "We have to win." Hopefully, they can do just that.

Girls' soccer

With a 9-2-1 record, the girls' varsity soccer team likes their chances in the upcoming game against Kent. Annabel Hess '12, a key member of the team's much-vaunted backline, said, "We definitely have a great shot at beating Kent this year, we have a really great team and we're ready for them!" Sharing this belief are captains Allison Saucier '12, Liana Hinds '12, and Bre Derella '12, who hope to end their last Kent Day game on a high note.

Girls' field hockey

The courageous members of the varsity field hockey team, led by the resilient Bobbi Moran, view the upcoming game against Kent with confident eyes. With captains Cally Moran '12, Devin Markison '12, and Chloe Alexander '12 at the helm, we're sure their ship will sail smoothly toward victory. Optimistic in their chances against Kent, this team will certainly bring us one step closer to winning the bowl.

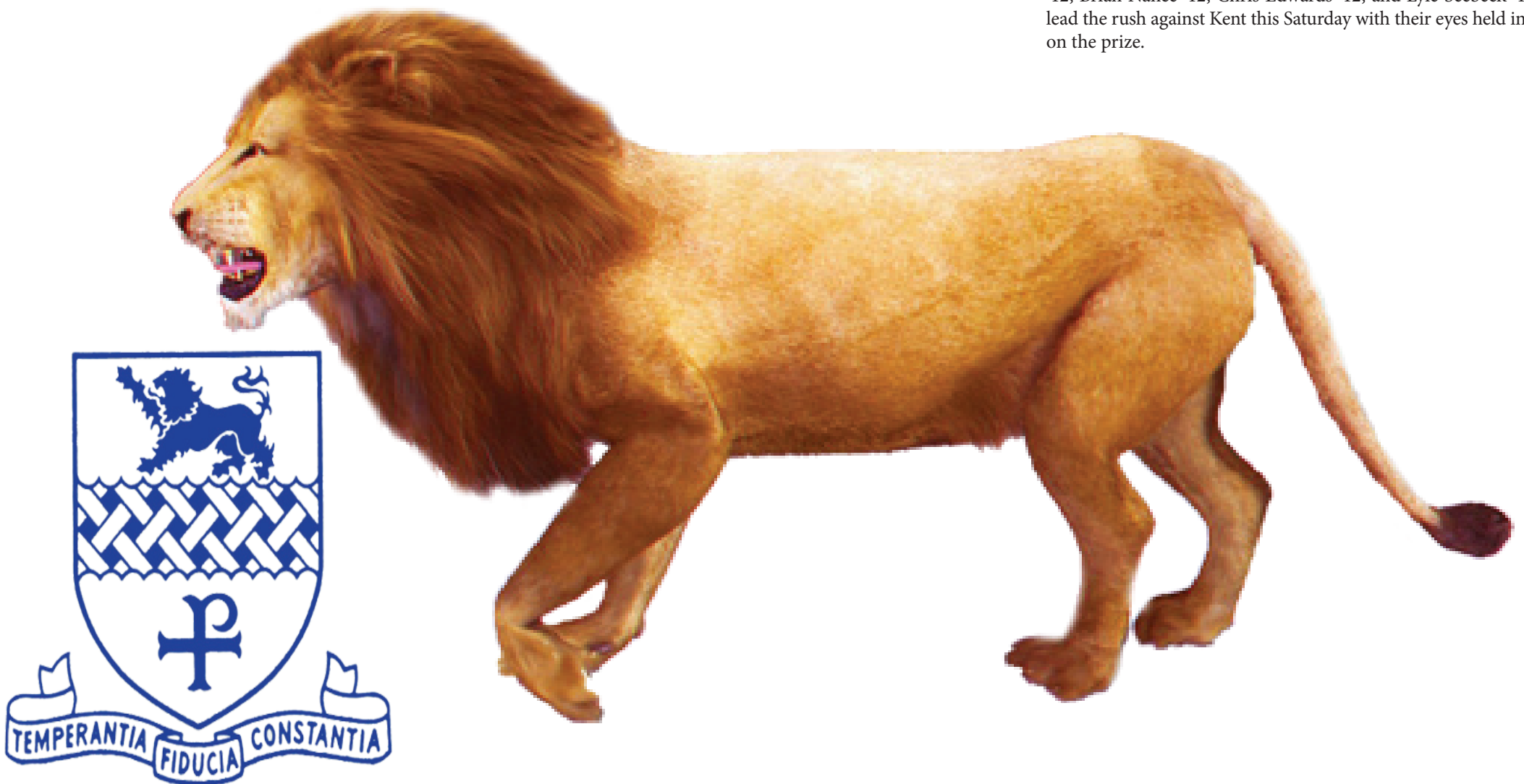
Boys' football

The varsity football team, having braved the harsh conditions of snow and ice amidst a raging blizzard, will surely have no trouble locking horns with the Kent team. Lacking a victory in this contest for some years, the Loomis players of this '11 season hope to break their curse and once again give our school a spoon for its bowl. Their spirits fueled by the success of the season thus far, captains Stephan Turner '12, Jon Spivey '12, Joshua Winslow '12, Zachary Williams '12, Brian Nance '12, Chris Edwards '12, and Lyle Seebeck '12 will lead the rush against Kent this Saturday with their eyes held intently on the prize.

THE LION

WON THE SPOON 40 TIMES

Best known for being in the middle of
nowhere and wearing formal dress
every day (like a scrub)



Loomis Pelicans roar louder than Lions

BY ADRIENNE HENDERSON '12
Staff Writer

For a Loomis student the phrase Kent Day is associated with a multitude of exciting events ranging from spirit week to dorm banner competitions to the big pep rally in the gym. All week, students dig through their wardrobes and raid their parent's closets to find the most absurd clothing for days like Twin Day and Suit-up Day. Meanwhile, seniors design the consistently clever Kent Day T-shirts for game day and dorms spend hours designing hilarious banners. While all of this commotion is underway on our sunny, bustling campus, Loomis students often forget about the dreary, wooded town of Kent two hours away. On that dismal campus, Kent students attempt to prepare for their inevitable defeat.

I find it hard to believe that Kent students are as spirited as we are. Nevertheless, how do they brace themselves for the impending doom

that the Pelicans bring them every year? I wonder if they drench themselves in the monotonous grey and blue pallet of their school colors all week or if they huddle up in their St. Joseph's chapel in religious garb praying that one day they might actually beat Loomis. Perhaps I am a little bi-

No wonder the booming Loomis cheers always stifle the faint "Go Kent" whispers during the football game!

ased, as a member of the Superfan Club here on The Island. I guess I have become incredibly spoiled by the omnipresent school spirit that reliably encourages all of our teams to perform at their best. No wonder the booming Loomis cheers always stifle the faint "Go Kent" whispers during the football game!

This evening, we Loomis students will jovially jostle into our bright Olcott Gym, as our talented peers

remind us why we should all be so proud to be a part of the Loomis community. It is not only for our athletes that we cheer on Kent Day, it is for our dancers, our singers, our teachers and ourselves (or maybe we cheer so Donegan and all of the 'FacBrats' throw candy our way). That same

night, Kent students will huddle, shivering around a measly fire listening to some blasphemous story of how Loomis allegedly wronged Kent decades ago. They will get riled up and angry at Loomis and spend the night focusing on us, while, unbeknownst to them, we are also spending the night focusing on us, and maybe that's what sets us apart. We don't go all out dressing up for spirit week to intimidate Kent, we don't

listen to Mr. Watson's uproariously funny Kent Day story at the pep rally to put down Kent, and we certainly don't scream and support our athletes on the sidelines to make Kent feel inferior (though these are all convenient side effects), we do all of these things in support of our community.

So to all of my beloved teachers and peers here at Loomis, this Saturday, put all of your storm, college or exam related worries out of your mind and spend the day cheering for Loomis. Spend the day screaming for that helpful girl in your English class, that cute boy who held the door for you yesterday, your Senior Leader, your Peer Counselor, or maybe a bunch of people you don't even really know. Spend the day sporting an obscene amount of maroon student-made apparel and try not to miss our beautiful campus too much while we are away. To all of you athletes, play your heart out, represent the best of Loomis and beat Kent!

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ABOUT

The Loomis Chaffee Log is Loomis Chaffee's official student newspaper. We can be found online at www.lclog.org and we can be contacted via e-mail at log@loomis.org. Letters to the editor and op-ed piece submissions are welcomed via e-mail. The Log reserves the right to edit all letters and pieces for brevity and content. The views expressed in the Log do not necessarily reflect those of The Loomis Chaffee School. Unsigned editorials represent the collective views of the Editorial Board.

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Thank you, Alyssa Reamy

First of, *the back of your fin looks ridiculous*, Alyssa. The Loomis Chaffee Log wants to thank all the effort and hard-work you've provided for the Opinion section of the Log. Although your stay was short, we enjoyed your contributions to the section. Despite having to start from scratch in terms of taking up this position after some restructuring of the Log Editorial Board, you did an excellent job meeting the guidelines and deadlines.

Hopefully, your short, yet condensed experience with the Log has helped you learn new skills and appreciate the workings of one of the most complicated student activities in school.

Good luck with the musical this winter as well as the Student Council house system proposal you're working on! See you around, Betty Boop!

ATTENTION: WE ARE LOOKING FOR AN OPINION EDITOR!

REQUIREMENTS:

- No freshmen can apply for this job. We are looking for sophomores, juniors, and possibly seniors.
- Should have written for the Log at least two times if not more (possibly for the Opinion section)
- Must be willing to commit and show responsibility

EXPECTED:

- Proficiency in the English language (grammar and mechanics included)
- Dedication at all costs (working for the Log is like being on a varsity sports team)

BENEFITS:

- Free food every layout weekend and hanging out with cool editors

Contact Izzy Kornblatt & Sojin Kim if interested.

Eleven wishes for the day

In honor of 11/11/11, the mother lode of wishing, I decided to make a David Letterman-esque list of requests that I would make if I didn't take the occasion so seriously:

11. I will find the DeLorean from *Back to the Future* and travel to an alternate universe where John Hughes is the president of Hollywood.

OPINION COLUMN JEESUE LEE '12

Michael J. Fox doesn't have Parkinson's, Patrick Swayze teaches life lessons through dance and Tom Cruise refuses to jump on Oprah's couch.

10. George R. R. Martin will join Weight Watchers for the sake of his own health and finish the *A Song of Fire and Ice* (Game of Thrones) series. (I want to know the identities of Jon Snow's parents, dang it!) I would also appreciate if he stopped killing off the Starks, started another series called "A Melody of Steam and Hail," and made the franchise's board games less expensive. I have a budget!

9. I will be the cool Auntie Jee to all my friends' and sister's kids. You know, the type who gives the babies Yoda costumes for Halloween, teaches the toddlers how to knit and gives the teenagers their first cups of coffee. I intend to turn future generations into retro-maniac divas and build a pop culture army. Watch out, Perez Hilton!

8. Apple and Google will build the technology to bring Steve Jobs back to life and he will rule the world as the Great OS X. "All hail the Steve. All hail the Steve."

7. I will fulfill my dream of creating the ultimate teen brand: Holicrombie and Eaglepostale. The mascot will be a caribou with wings. My clothes will be sold for hundreds of dollars, but the actual designs will never change. My stores will have floor-to-ceiling black-and-white photos of naked models cavorting around in large fields holding lacrosse sticks over their respective parts. Obnoxious dubstep will blare over the speakers and lights will flash so frequently that customers will believe the paparazzi is present.

6. I will magically grow six inches taller and run away to become a professional stuntwoman. My specialty will be movies with lots of sword fighting and horses. Of course, my face will never actually be on camera, but I will become a 'Where's Waldo' icon amongst geeks, as they will frantically search every epic battle scene to find me. I will also develop a signature fighting style that future stuntmen will attempt to emulate.

5. Frank Sinatra's music will become wildly popular again and take over the Billboard charts. Pop culture from the '50s will once again be mainstream, and we won't have to stomach angsty teen music anymore.

4. I will have a *When Harry Met Sally* romance with a guy with the chops and glasses of Woody Allen and the looks of Colin Firth; except I would be the Harry and he would be the Sally. It's a win-win situation considering I get to be Diane Keaton and Billy Crystal.

3. I will learn how to apparate or get a transporter so that I will never have to learn to drive, fly in a plane or take a train. For me, public transportation will become a thing of the past, and I'll never have to worry about tardiness or traffic jams.

2. I will host the Academy Awards after conquering my fear of public speaking and my horrible tendency to mumble. For the occasion, I will learn how to perform a football tackle from Coach Reid, so that way when speeches get too long and boring, I can make a running leap and knock the winners to the ground, creating much mayhem (but keeping things pithy). I do indeed intend to do this in heels and a dress.

1. I will become Liz Lemon.

SOJIN KIM '12 AND IZZY KORNBLATT '12 *Editors in Chief*

CHRISTIAN BERMEL '12 AND LINDSAY GABOW '12 *Managing Editors*

ERINROSE MAGER *Faculty Adviser*

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FORUM

Proposed housing system

The Student Council has been planning a proposal for a new system in which students and faculty will belong to houses, and while the details of the proposal remain nebulous, the Log asked a variety of students for their input about the housing system and its goal of increased unity. Student responses varied, as you will read below, and we hope that they will help StuCo take the feedback into account as they adjust their plans. At this point, it appears that few students fully support the proposal as it stands, but, at the same time, few students are vehemently against the idea. Of course, fine-tuning is always necessary to any initiative, and there is no doubt that the Student Council will ultimately act in the best interest of the student body. It will be interesting to see how the proposal plays out, and a trial period of a term could be beneficial in determining the efficacy of such a system.

If the proposed system is put into place, Loomis Chaffee will follow in the footsteps of schools like Lawrenceville and Milton, where housing systems helped to alleviate divides within the student body. This will not be Loomis's first experience with a housing system, however; the Chaffee School used to have housing systems before Loomis and Chaffee merged.

The housing system would be implemented next year, if it is approved by the deans. Students in all years, freshmen through postgraduates, and faculty, will participate and be assigned to one of four houses. Aside from building pride and school spirit, the housing system will reduce tension and stress, especially for new sophomores and juniors, who really have no mentors as they enter the school. Freshmen can rely on Peer Counselors, but new students in other grades have more difficult transitions as they have no real support system. Students in the houses will forge close bonds, and underclassmen will find role models in the older students. Interactions will become easier as the older students offer guidance and to their younger counterparts. Concerns exist as to the acceptance of the system by returning students, but as they graduate, and new students enter the school, the system, if it is effective, will become tradition.

EKATERINA KRYUCHKOVA '13

Creation of division

The ultimate objective of the house system remains a vague abstract ideal. Just as the use of the word "liberty" often turns off critical thinking by triggering patriotic passions, the claims made by the system's proponents hide a fundamental contradiction in the proposal: integration by means of division.

The division between boarding and day students, a more specific problem that the housing system would supposedly solve, has been an issue for years. But the proposed system cannot guarantee success in eliminating such a chasm. Every Loomis student already belongs to multiple groups that promote integration—at least in terms of mixing the day students and the boarders. We share classes, sports teams, clubs and associations. If these daily interactions have failed to eradicate the division, how can we expect new, mandatory socializa-

If daily interactions have failed to eradicate divisions, how can we expect new, mandatory socialization to succeed?

tion to succeed? And even if students acquire a strong sense of affiliation to their respective 'houses,' the system will promote labeling rather than merited distinction. Loomis Chaffee is a school that attempts to nurture individuality rather than perpetuating stereotypes.

A common concern regarding the house system is the lack of free time in students' schedules. Mandatory 'friendly competitions' would be rejected by students simply because of the necessary time commitment. Also, the random choice of members would deprive the houses of even resemblance of ideology. Even with the competitions, members of houses would lack the motivation to assimilate. In short, the housing system would become a nuisance rather than a means to instigate unity amongst students.

CALEB RUDNICKI '15

Unnecessary initiative

Most members of the Student Council are comparing Hogwarts's house system to Loomis Chaffee's proposed house arrangement, a system that was previously employed in the school's history. This method, used in J.K. Rowling's award-winning series, was the only means of separating Hogwarts students. Loomis Chaffee, however, has a plethora of dormitories that already serve to divide students. Therefore, the house system would be a secondary grouping that would serve only to further divide the school.

The house system at Loomis will just be a way to divide the student body, not bridge it together. The proposed house system involves more interaction among day students and their boarding counterparts. Dormitories already have organized bonding activities that do not include day students, and inserting day students into the already tightly-knit dorm community will create discomfort and awkwardness. Though noble in concept, the proposed system may be impractical due to the dearth of spare time. Many day students do not want to make an extra trip back to campus, especially in addition to athletic commitments, for a short bonding exercise, nor do they want to waste their free periods that can be used for studying or meeting for group projects.

In considering the proposal, the Student Council will question whether the system will unify or divide students. StuCo intends to revive the same arrangement that was used Loomis's history. Elizabeth Haas '61 attended the Chaffee School, where each grade was split into two houses—the Greyhounds and the Pelicans. These houses competed in a series of athletic competitions for an award that was given out during graduation. Haas confessed, "We [the Chaffee School, class of 30 girls] were all very close, being such a small group, so I don't think the competition between teams had much of an effect on the school spirit or cohesion at all." Our classes, small as they are, can and will bond without the presence of a house system.

VICTORIA SMITH '14

Pass me the Sorting Hat!

Like many preexisting programs at Loomis – Kent Day, Freshman Seminars and Sophomore Retreat, to name a few—the proposed housing system is a tremendous way to bring the Loomis community together. Aside from sports and clubs, there are few instances when boarders and day students, underclassman and upperclassman, faculty and students have the opportunity to interact. The house system would promote unity, making Loomis an even closer family. The activities and events would foster healthy competition and school pride.

Not only will we be able to participate in fun activities and events, but also we'll be closing the gap between all sorts of Pelicans and making the relationship between us stronger. Aside from creating amusing diversions, the house system would also encourage students to earn better grades, do community service and get involved by rewarding house points for good work. The friendly competition would inspire us to work for the common good and remind us that we all depend on one another.

The Harry Potter-like housing system would help day students become more involved in campus life. In addition, the new housing system would be a great way for new students to feel more welcome when they first arrive on the Island. Students would get to know people they may not ordinarily interact with.

Some of my peers may think that the housing system is unnecessary and that Loomis does not need to be divided into any more groups, but I respectfully disagree. The housing system would be a great way to foster school spirit, bring everyone together and promote healthy competition in all aspects of our lives. We'll interact with students and faculty of differing backgrounds, interests, and personalities. We'll be nudged out of our comfort zones, that much is certain, but we'll be better-rounded individuals for it. Loomis Chaffee would become an even better place with the house system implemented, and, let's face it, who hasn't secretly wanted to go to Hogwarts?



Although the houses won't be named after those featured in the Harry Potter series, the idea is similar.

PHOTO COURTESY BUCULTURESHOCK.COM

OP-ED CONTRIBUTOR | SOJIN KIM '12

Alternating between sticks and carrots

In October 2009, the newly elected Prime Minister of Greece, Papandreou revealed his predecessor's cover-up of his country's deficit. During the previous decade, backed by the strong euro, low interest rates, unproductive labor rules, inflated public sector and ill managed state assets, Greece accumulated \$400 billion in debt.

In order to reassure markets of the European Union's solvency, in May 2010, EU and the International Monetary Fund offered its troubled member, Greece, its first bailout fund of €110 billion (\$163 billion), and pledged an additional €500 billion (\$680 billion) as EU's contingency fund.

Since then, EU's efforts to build up investor confidence and to restore the growth necessary for debt-ridden member countries, including Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Italy and Greece, to escape debt traps, have largely failed. In fact, Greece's debt only increased, as EU's bailout deals demanded strict austerity measures over reform and growth.

Economic reform and growth necessary for Greece to pay back its debt are proving difficult as laid off workers from bloated public sectors cannot find jobs in private sectors amid punitive austerity measures that choke off private businesses. Relentless fiscal austerity programs that decrease social welfare benefits and wages along with tax increases are stimulating social unrest.

Faced with growing political and social opposition amidst carrying out EU's austerity demands in return for the rescue fund, Prime Minister Papandreou shocked EU,

last October, by announcing the approval referendum of EU's new bailout package for Greece. Al-

Constant austerity measures amid growing number of poor and unemployed will only exacerbate social unrest.

though he has now called off the vote, Papandreou's daring move won Greece some leverage in bailout negotiations with EU. In drawing up a new rescue fund for



PHOTO COURTESY ATHENS.INDYMEDIA.ORG

A graphic of Greece's debt crisis

Greece, EU leaders asked banks to take a 50 percent loss on Greek debt, which banks have yet to agree to and finalize. However, by projecting a possibility of a Greek rejection, Papandreou expedited future banks' compliance, as any deal would be better for creditors than Greece defaulting. But, above all, Papandreou sent a message to EU of the debt-ridden country's need to grow and reform, in order

to regenerate enough profit to pay back its debt. Through his gesture of throwing in the towel and handing over the rein of sovereign debt restructuring to the public, Papandreou showed the EU leaders how constant austerity measures amid growing number of poor and unemployed will only exacerbate social unrest, obliterating any hopes or wishes for recovery.

The anxieties stirred up by the Papandreou's vote on the austerity package reverberated around the globe, but the crisis hit EU the most. Greece, holding just two percent of the EU's total GDP, might not seem to possess much potential threat. In fact, EU governments could probably substitute the bailout money for Greece to raise the capital of their banks that will lose money on Greece through defaults. But the threat lies in the fact that EU citizens witnessing the Greek chaos might decide to move their savings to safer regions other than Spain, Portugal, Ireland and Italy. Once a capital exodus takes place in the EU's weakest links, and all these countries go belly up, the current European crisis will explode into a global catastrophe. A calamity far worse than the 2007 financial meltdown will occur, and unlike the 2007 crisis, there won't be enough bailout money to go around.

Faced with such prospects, EU leaders will need to reexamine Greece and other economically failing countries' bailout plans so that the focus lies in reform and growth, rather than merciless austerity measures that will defeat any nation's efforts to reform.

the 2007 financial meltdown will occur, and unlike the 2007 crisis, there won't be enough bailout money to go around. Faced with such prospects, EU leaders will need to reexamine Greece and other economically failing countries' bailout plans so that the focus lies in reform and growth, rather than merciless austerity measures that will defeat any nation's efforts to reform.

OP-ED CONTRIBUTOR | LINDSAY GABOW '12

Family dinner: eating with Big Brother

In light of an incessant health issue permeating the United States, the Food and Drug Administration has, once again, begun to flirt with the idea of mandating chain restaurants to display calorie information. The health issue to which I am referring is, of course, obesity. And, by the phrase "flirting with the idea," I mean, rather, that it has become a law. Yes, I said it. No, I kid you not.

As of April 2011, all chain restaurants, convenience stores, concession stands, and vending machines must show the nutritional information of their products.

"We do see this is as an important step in providing consumers with information they can use in choosing healthy diets and fighting obesity," stated the deputy FDA commissioner for foods Michael R. Taylor. I suppose I understand Mr. Taylor's viewpoint. Clearly, Americans do not understand what exactly they are consuming when they stepped the immense laughing face of Ronald McDonald and order a Big Mac with a side of fries. Evidently, our citizens simply cannot fathom the oil-drenched Pizza Hut pepperoni slices (you mean it isn't olive oil?), the cardboard bowls of astoundingly crunchy Kentucky Fried Chicken (more "fried" than "chicken"), the grande Starbucks Double Chocolate Chip Frappuccino Blended Crème (I just needed to wake up). No, no, silly! Americans have absolutely no idea what they are spooning into their mouths, and who can blame them? We have been de-

ceived, lied to, manipulated, for so long by these chain restaurants that we have become conditioned to fast food, but we've never been taught the adverse effects of eating it. That's why so many Americans are grossly obese.

That's why the FDA needs to tell us. You see, we needn't make decisions for ourselves, nor utilize even a sliver of... what's the stuff?... common sense, when the kind-hearted FDA can guide

conators, and obesity rates will descend to record lows as Americans will suddenly heed dietary caveats and understand what they eat.

That's right; Americans will realize that eating a tofu-garnished tossed salad at home with the family contains so much more meaning and value than grabbing Arby's steak sandwiches. Heck, the salads might even start to taste better!

Perhaps the FDA will begin distributing food diaries, where we can track every calorie we consume! We'll be even more aware of the fats and sugars and preservatives present in fast food, just by writing it down (hopefully, the FDA will team up with Environmental Protection Agency and print said journals on recycled paper).

Bring it on, Mickey D's, Burger King, Starbucks, Sonic, Wendy's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Dairy Queen, Subway, Taco Bell, Domino's, Arby's, In-N-Out, Pizza Hut, Dunkin' Donuts, Blimpies. Let's see you get yourselves out of this one. I give you a year before you all go out of business, declare bankruptcy, and appeal to the government for bailouts.

And so, I, along with every other American, shall watch as the vile fast food industry collapses. The super-sized revolution is on its way. Soon the sounds of crinkling paper, slurping straws, and squirting condiments will be extinct.

The large popcorn is on me. Don't worry; I won't forget the extra butter... reduced fat, of course!



PHOTO COURTESY BUCULTURESHOCK.COM

us. All personal responsibility is gone, thanks to this wonderful institution; Big Brother is not just watching you—he's eating with you!

According to the new regulations, any restaurant chain with a minimum of 20 branches will need to reveal every calorie of every undoubtedly grease-laden, sugar-coated, salt-sprinkled morsel of their scrumptious cuisine. I don't know about you, but I am leaning forward in my chair, just pining to see the results of what will undeniably be a nutritional revolution. I cannot wait to witness a complete cultural overhaul, to watch a society that has thrived off of fast food for almost a hundred years change its ways. The fast food industry will, no doubt, crumble to bite-sized bits of Ba-

OP-ED CONTRIBUTOR | ALYSSA REAMY '13

In sickness and in health...

I walked into the Health Center with a bit of anticipation and excitement. As much as

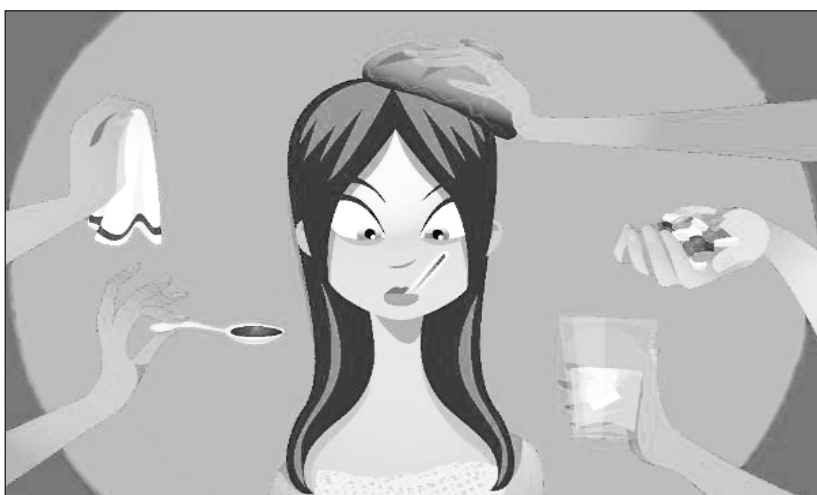
HEALTH CENTER

I love the nurses in the Health Center, I felt a tinge of dread deep within my stomach as I prepped myself for my interview with a Health Center staff member about something as important as the health and well-being of the students at Loomis Chaffee. I wore my most professional red polka dot dress (dress for success, right?), and pursued within the realms of the mysterious Health Center.

What I had found when I entered through the doors surprised me: a warm, friendly nurse who asked if I needed anything. I told her I was writing an article about the Health Center and was curious if I could ask her a couple of questions. She told me she'd love to answer any questions I had, but she had been right in the middle of dinner. She invited me to join her while she and another nurse ate their dinner. (Nurses eat food too!!!) They both watched me with curious and attentive eyes. *Showtime, Alyssa.*

Some boarding students have challenged the Health Center's judgment, and have reported that when students go to the Health Center, they are immediately sent back to class. Many have felt the slightly unbalanced difference between day students and boarders. In the end, a day student can go home during the day if he or she is sick (or not show up to school at all), and a boarder must yield to the expertise and advice of the nurses in

the Health Center. How does one decipher whether or not a person is fit to attend school? "It can be a tough call to make, and it's done on a case by case basis. If a student has a contagious disease, such as a fever, they definitely must stay in the Health Center for as long as they need," said the kind Glenda McKinely, a nurse in



after class. Nurses don't bite! The Health Center tries its best to promote independence, and doesn't want students to abuse the use of the Health Center. "We're not a student's 'Get-Out-Of-Class-Free' card." The nurses actually try to help students by having them go to class—missing class means missing work, which also means added stress as you try to make up the work you've missed. It all makes sense, if you think about it. The staff in the Health Center truly wants to provide another stem of support for the students on the Island.

Before actually talking to the staff in the Health Center and observing how human and benevolent they truly are, I guess you could say I was a bit weary of the Health Center and its power to deem whether or not a person is truly ill. I mean, how can another person deem whether or not someone is actually ill and should not be at school? What I learned in that short conversation for my article gave me a new perspective on the Health Center. Yes, the Health Center may slip up every once in a while, but so will each person in his or her lifetime. The Health Center is not out to ruin students. In my experience, the Health Center has actually been quite helpful when absolutely needed. There comes a point where each and every student must help his or her own self out and take responsibility for their health—both mentally and physically. In the same way you would talk to a teacher if you were stressed out about a test, you should go to the Health Center if you have any health concerns.

Some students have the mentality that if they are slightly under the weather, the Health Center cannot, and will not, help them. I understood the thought process that the kind nurse had advocated, but as a student I felt a bit uneasy in the actual practice of this idea. After all, I am a hypochondriac, and challenging a school nurse is not my forte. Either way, the Health Center is open whenever the school year is in session (every day) and it is the best place to go whenever a student feels sickly or simply needs to rest. Ms. McKinely explains that, "If a student is truly feeling ill, they should really come to the Health Center. Advocating for yourself is key, and only you know how you really feel." Students often don't realize that if he or she goes to the Health Center and they are sent back to class, they can always come back to the Health Center

OP-ED CONTRIBUTOR | SIOBHAN REID '12

Why we Kent give up our traditions

I like cereal. Every morning, I get a bowl and spoon and pour myself some Cap'n Crunch or Raisin Bran. You could say my morning routine is a kind of tradition—I roll out of bed, grumble at everyone in my family, trip down the stairs, and eat a soggy mess of carbohydrates and milk.

Yet some students on this campus dislike traditions having to do with bowls and spoons. Some students question why we compete against Kent, why we travel to a school in the absolute middle of nowhere, why we obsess over cutlery and place settings. They complain that Kent Day is outdated and argue that we should pick a different school with which to hold a rivalry. But the annual contention between Loomis and Kent has become an integral part of the school and its history, and gives students an outlet to celebrate, cheer on their classmates, and participate in a truly exciting school event.

Kent Day is anticipated all term. New students and returning students alike feel the school-wide enthusiasm, and the nervous, albeit positive, energy is tenable. Everyone in the Loomis community takes part in the revelry. Facbrats run around at the all-school pep rally, clobbering the poor sap in the lion suit and throwing candy at bemused students who wonder exactly where the airborne confections were before being pelted into the crowd. Student groups perform songs and dances, teams introduce themselves, and, of course, a faculty member recounts the infamous story of Mrs. Batchelder's spoon and the egregious theft of said utensil by a Kent football player. It could be argued that Kent Day fosters more intra-school unity than any other bonding initiative undertaken by the administration.

I have heard students advocating for a change in rivals, a switch to a "more competitive" Founders League school. How? It's doubtful that the Heads of Schools and Athletic Directors will convene and say, "We're kind of tired of playing Kent; let's create new rivalries! From now on, Loomis will despise Hotchkiss, and the winner of the field hockey game will win a fork." First, that sounds silly. Second, the student bodies of both schools will never accept the change as legitimate. Standing traditions contribute to Loomis's character, and the established customs are generally acknowledged by the community. The feud's history is a rich one, and desertion of the Kent Week rituals will deprive Loomis students of memorable experiences.

For me, the worst thing about Kent Day is that I don't get to go. The cross-country program races in the NEPSA championship—this year hosted by Phillips Andover Academy—and we never finish in time to catch any of the games. However, my teammates are genuinely interested in the outcomes of the contests and express desires to support the soccer, field hockey, and football teams in their efforts. We'd

actually love to subject ourselves to frigid November temperatures solely to cheer on our classmates. I'd love to actually watch an entire football game (which I've never done at Loomis, thanks to scheduling conflicts). As much as I love my team, and as much as I enjoy running, I must admit that, on Kent Day, I check my phone excessively for score updates. This year, though, I'll probably just bother somebody with a smartphone until they check Coach Colgate's Twitter feed.

At my previous high school, also a small preparatory school, there are no traditions to speak of. Nada. There used to be Holderness Sunday (similar to Kent Day), but somewhere along the line the focus on the rivalry diminished, and fall term at the school seemed interminable. What used to be an all-school event became something only awaited excitedly by football players and alumni. Loomis's rivalry with Kent at least provides a sort of finale, a conclusion to the term.

Tour guides at Loomis are explicitly instructed not to mention the rivalry with Kent, and I don't understand why that is so. Shouldn't we take pride in our history? Aren't tradition and school spirit attractive to potential students and their families? It's not as if a Loomis boy stole a piece of silverware from the Kent headmaster's wife decades ago; our record and integrity are intact. Of course, taunting and unprofessional behavior regarding Kent Day, especially near visitors to our school, could tarnish our reputation, but hopefully our tour guides would exercise discretion.

Loomis Chaffee has a plethora of traditions, among them being Senior Path etiquette and John Metcalf Taylor's lucky nose. We respect these conventions, we give them credence, and we embrace them as elements of the Loomis experience. I know I'm not the only Pelican to deliberately cross the quad just to wish for a good quiz grade, or to hear a senior yell "get off the Path!" at an underclassman. Many of our school's practices become second nature to us. At the tracks, we automatically yell our appreciation to our bus drivers; in the dining hall, we instinctively venture to either the upper- or underclassmen side for meals.

But in Kent Day, we have something even more special. Because it only comes once a year, we appreciate it more. We truly value our involvement in the festivities and competitions. Kent Day is the autumnal, politically correct, prep school Christmas. It's a time of unity, of celebration, of dysfunctional relationships. A change in Kent customs would only serve to disappoint.

This year, I wonder if Mr. Howe will allow me to alter slightly my morning ritual. This year, I want to roll out of bed, to stagger across campus and to eat my cereal out of a very shiny bowl, with a very shiny spoon.

The NEO's *Metamorphoses* stuns visually and dramatically

Two weeks ago, beginning on Tuesday the 25th of November, the Loomis Chaffee Norris Eli Orchard Theater dazzled its

THEATER REVIEW
LIZZY SCHIMENTI '12

audience with yet another successful show, *Metamorphoses*. Enthralling its audience with decorative scenery, an energetic cast, and slight variations to the original script, the play— to say the least— really did put on a show. The addition of a pool to the stage had such a dramatic and realistic effect on the performance. All of the actors truly embodied their characters and, as three year senior actress Melanie Silverman said, “The quick pace of the play and [being able to] get into a new character for each scene” brought the vibrancy of the play to a whole new level. My favor-

ite part, however, was the modern day jokes and the Loomis lingo that was cleverly tied into the script. Knowing that Ovid, the writer of *Metamorphoses*, made subtle changes to the works of Lucretius and Homer, makes one wonder if perhaps our theatre, too, desired to use and mimic this same tactic. All and all, however, these changes not only added humor to the play, but also made it more relatable to its audience, made up of mostly Loomis students.

Throughout its various scenes, the play, a collection of ancient stories in mythology, focused on the act of transformation. It began with the creation of Man and all of his virtues and vices. As the plot proceeded, both human virtue and human vice were vastly represented. The conclusion of the first story ends with Man falling to temptation, the desire to turn everything into gold,

and thus suffering the consequence of turning his beloved daughter into precious metal. However, not all hope is lost. After all, the gods are gracious, telling Man that if he walks to the end of the earth and finds a pool that reflects the stars at night, he shall wash his hands in it and all will be restored. So Man embarks on an epic journey to turn back the clock and bring back what he lost. As each story began and concluded, it was noticeable that the play greatly focused on the struggle for power, the sadness of love, and the hope of redemption. Such timeless insight from writers of the past makes one realize how little the world has changed since *Metamorphoses* was written. Yet as just mentioned, all hope for mankind is not lost. The concluding scene represents Man's ability to learn, grow,

and change as we see him arrive at the pool, cleanse his hands in its waters, and revive his daughter from her golden statuesque state. As the crowd applauded the performance on Tuesday night, I realized that it was not just the significance of the plot which made the play so captivating, but also the tremendous efforts which the cast, the teachers, and the stage crew put into the performance.

Four year senior actress Liana Fernz informed me that the crew put in over seventeen hours of rehearsals each week. After realizing that seventeen hours each week for a little more than seven weeks really does add up, I began to think of these actors as a different kind of varsity athlete. The amount of dedication, devotion, and commitment these performers have put into the play

is nothing short of commendable. What is truly incredible, however, was our very own theatre alumnus and current chemistry, biology and improv teacher Mr. Chaudhary's last minute preparation for his performance. On the opening night of the play, only three hours before the performance began, Mr. Chaudhary learned that he would have to fill in for one of the actors who couldn't perform anymore. And, amazingly enough, he nailed the performance three hours later.

From the audience, the whole play was spectacular. I give my continual applause to everyone who helped make the performance such a success. It was very well done and makes me anxiously anticipate the NEO's next show! Be sure to congratulate all the actors and crew you see around campus!



Liana Fernz '12

WAYNE DOMBKOWSKI



Quinn Schoen '14

WAYNE DOMBKOWSKI



Darius Moore '13

WAYNE DOMBKOWSKI

STUDENT PROFILE

Coming from Bahrain, Esraa Sabah '13 settles into Island life

BY XIN WEN '14
Staff Writer

Navigating across campus, one may occasionally glimpse a girl sporting a sweet smile and an elegant, colorful hijab, the traditional headwear of Islamic women. Esraa Sabah '13, a scholar from Bahrain, arrived at Loomis this fall through the highly competitive Crown Prince Scholarship, which sponsors two years of study at a boarding school for one winner from a public school in Bahrain. Last year, recent alum Ellie Yusuf Ali '11 arrived at Loomis through the same scholarship.

As this year's winner, Esraa has embraced her Loomis experience with an eagerness to try new things as well as a great enthusiasm to share her culture. Esraa admitted that although the U.S. is not all that different from what she expected, she was still confronted with certain culture shocks. Chief among the differences is the education system. Since all the schools in Bahrain separate girls and boys, having co-ed classes and other co-ed activities was a brand new experience for her.

Also, the concept of classes and grade levels are different in Bahrain. Instead, about thirty students constitute one class, and there are six classes in one grade and three grades in an entire high school. Students of one class stay in a fixed classroom while teachers of different subjects come and leave. Among other differences, Esraa enjoys more flexibility in course selection here at Loomis. In the first year of high school in Bahrain, everyone has to take seven subjects decided by the national education board, including Arabic, English, math, physics, chemistry, biology, and social science. After that, students can choose their high school majors, such as business, math and physics for their last two years. They continue their study in other subjects, while delving more in depth into the areas of their major. Furthermore, Esraa noted that students here obtain a more equitable relation with teachers.

“Students back home have to show a lot of respect to teachers,” said Esraa. “It is really rude to call a teacher [on the phone].”

Besides the educational system, the way people dress is another huge difference. She pointed out that in her country, people, especially girls, out of politeness and modesty, rarely wear shorts. She then added that because of the high temperature and conservative clothing, girls normally only participate in indoor sports, like basketball, badminton, and volleyball. Here at Loomis, girls are free to participate in any sport they choose, both indoors and outdoors.

Despite all the culture shocks she encountered, Esraa has avidly welcomed her new life here at Loomis while bravely embracing many opportunities. Living in the dorm for the first time, Esraa confessed that at first the idea of living with forty other girls worried her a bit. Having lived a life in which she had her own bedroom, kitchen, and bathroom for so many years, residing in a dorm was hard to imagine. But she quickly fell in love with it. “It becomes like a home,” said Esraa.

During her time at Loomis, she has also decided to expand her horizons, endeavoring in fields she never had a chance to try before. For example she has joined the theatre tech crew, and is excited to try fencing in the winter. Also, Esraa started playing piano. “I always wanted to learn an instrument and Loomis helped me start that,” said Esraa.

While these enriching new experiences have brought Esraa great enjoyment, she did not forget about maintaining her tra-

dition. Although far away from home, Esraa chooses to continue wearing the hijab every day. “It is a personal choice. Some people decide not to wear them once they leave home...” said Esraa, “[but] my religion is very important to me because it shapes many parts of my personality, but most importantly, it inspires me to do good to myself and to others.” She also joined the Arab World Affiliation, determined to help provide people with insights on her culture.

Still exploring her potentials and reflecting on her insights, Esraa is not sure what she wants do in the future yet. But she never stops seizing opportunities as well as sharing her thoughtful perceptions with other people. When asked about the most important lesson she learned at Loomis so far, she said, “Not to feel bad when I don't achieve what I want but [to] try harder next time and to ask for help when I need it.”



Esraa Sabah '13

JAHEWAN KIM '13 / LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

Let's get physical!

SNUG(GLIN') TIME | ALEX LASKO '12



Your illustrious columnist Alex Lasko '12

JAHEWAN KIM '13 / LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

No, I'm not talking about some boring exercise class or yet another sports requirement. I'm talking about expressing affection.

OK, now that I have your attention, welcome to Snug(glin') Time (see what I did there?) with Lasko, your one-stop Loomis location for advice on how to deal with love (or perhaps lust) at a prep school. Why me? Well, I am a four-year senior who, shall we say, understands the ways of the world. I have been asked by your illustrious editors to share my hard-earned wisdom, and bestow upon you the many do's and don't's of a Loomis love life. My goal with this column

Don't be shy, boys and girls -- really, don't be shy; being shy is unattractive.

is to make you (my hopefully soon-to-be-faithful reader) competent in coping with situations involving other boys, girls, aliens or whom-ever you may be attracted to (there is no judgement here at Snugglin' Time). Send me an e-mail (at the address listed below), or, if you feel so inclined, put a letter in my mailbox asking your questions. No matter what the situation is, trust me, I've got your back. Or, if you don't have a question, but you think you are a proficient player, send me some tips that I can share with the rest of the Loomis community.

So boys and girls, don't be shy -- really, don't be shy; being shy is unattractive. I'll teach you some tips and tricks that will definitely prepare you for a better social life.

*Snug(glin') Time is a column written by Alex Lasko '12
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