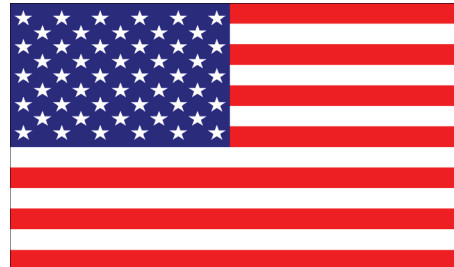


INSIDE THE NYSE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

PAUL LEE '13 REPORTS FROM NEW YORK | FEATURES P.4



An insider's view of China

JO WANG '12 IN OP-ED P.7

Why formalizing the dress code is a bad idea

EDITORIAL P.6

Faculty approve StuCo's honor code initiative

Key hurdle for high-profile initiative cleared; Proposal amended by faculty

BY MEADESHIA MITCHELL '12
Staff Writer

Early in the fall term, the Student Council set its sights on bolstering morale on the Loomis Chaffee campus by promoting respect, integrity and goodwill. On Faculty Day — January 4 — the organization saw its efforts come to fruition when StuCo president Lindsay Gabow '12, boys' vice president Steven Z. Wang '12 and secretary/treasur-

er Shannon Hearn '12 presented a proposed 'honor code' before the faculty and saw the code's contents passed in a faculty vote.

Although the text of the code passed the faculty vote, the code's title did not. Those opposed to the term 'honor code' felt that the title too strongly connoted honor codes on the collegiate level, which often entail discipline (i.e. what one should not do) rather than what one should do to make a posi-

tive impact. A new title has not yet been decided upon.

The current text of the code, which is still subject to slight modification, reads as follows:

"As a Loomis Chaffee student, I pledge to:

(L)ive with integrity and honor

(C)hampion a community built upon respect for others and myself."

The code's proponents contend that the text emphasizes

the mission of the school to promote the best self and the common good. They say that those themes will remain central to the code even if modifications are made.

In addition to voting on the code, the faculty also approved the Council's plan to create a Loomis Chaffee Values Committee to oversee the code's implementation. This group, along with the Student Council, will also work to examine new cus-

oms to be put in place on the Island that will be put into effect over the course of this year and subsequent years. Such customs will encourage the principles put forward by the Council in its 'honor code,' the Council says.

This committee will consist of seven students, including a Student Council officer as the chairman, and four faculty members. The application process will be similar to that of

HONOR CODE, PAGE 3

LC hosts 30th annual debate tournament

Andover, Joel Barlow HS take top prizes

LOG STAFF REPORT

On Sunday, January 15, the Loomis Chaffee Debate Society hosted its 30th annual debate tournament, a high-profile and well-attended event in the DANEIS (Debating Association of New England Independent Schools) league. This year's tournament drew roughly 100 debaters from schools around New England, including league powerhouses Choate Rosemary Hall and Phillips Academy Andover.

The tournament, unlike most in the league, uses the prepared switch-sides format, so it requires participants to carefully prepare cases on both sides of the debated resolution: "Resolved that significant procedural change(s), to include filibuster reform, be made in the US legislature."

Debate Society adviser Curt Robison selected the topic and helped a group of LC debaters headed by Paul Han '12, Izzy Kornblatt '12 and Ji Hee Yoon '13, in preparing the two cases for LC's teams.

Andover and Joel Barlow High School, a member of a different league, the CDA or Connecticut Debate Association, swept the nine advanced division awards given at the end of the tournament. The winner of the top speaker award, Andover's Haonan Li, earned a place at this year's world debate championships.

Loomis Chaffee's four two-person teams — two novice and two advanced — had a weaker than expected showing, winning just five of a total of 12 debates over the course of the day. Two of the teams, the advanced team of Kornblatt and Yoon, and the novice team of Karen Cha '14 and Suzie Jung '14, did, however, amass 2-1 records. Cha tied for fourth place speaker out of 52 total novice speakers.

MLK week celebrated

LOG STAFF REPORT

On the week beginning January 16, 2012, Loomis honored Martin Luther King Jr. and his impact on society today through various events the school hoped would promote equality, peace and understanding.

Loomis kicked off its celebration with the "Loomis Chaffee Honors Dr. King" convocation. Head of school Sheila Culbert opened the convocation, encouraging the student body in her speech to become a stronger

MLK WEEK, PAGE 2

'When you take it, you have this feeling of superiority.'

-Anonymous



PERFORMANCE HIGH

First of three parts

Tales from a world of performance and risk

For illegal Adderall users, a high price paid for success

BY JAEHWAN KIM '13 AND IZZY KORNBLATT '12
Graphics Editor & Editor in Chief

Editors' note: This piece, the first in a series on the usage of Adderall and similar stimulants, is not based on a scientific sample of students. No evidence is presented to suggest the extent of usage at Loomis Chaffee or elsewhere. All names in this article have been changed to protect the identities of individual students.

John Brady didn't feel any different from his usual self when he took his first Adderall pill. He had a weighty English essay — worth more than 20 percent of his fall term grade — due in two days, and, at one o'clock in the morning, something had to give.

Then his right leg began to shake. But he didn't realize it. The writing began to flow, and everything

else faded away.

Brady's interpretive sentences no longer required thought; writing felt like putting together a simple jigsaw puzzle. There was no more confusion. "Everything you've practiced becomes instinct," he said.

When the pill began to wear off, around four in the morning, he felt himself slowing down in every sense of the word. As if someone were turning off a spigot, the flow of ideas began to slow. He felt hungry, dehydrated, tired and aware of everything around him. Four hours later, he found himself back in class, unable to concentrate.

Brady's paper received one of the highest scores of any in the class. He believes it's the best paper he's written this year.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

LC reaccredited by NEASC

Two-year process concludes with high marks

BY PAUL LEE '13
News Editor

At a final meeting that took place on June 27-28, the Commission on Independent Schools of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) voted to reaccredit Loomis Chaffee. The reaccreditation process included an 18-month period of self-study that began in the fall of 2010, led by coordinator Molly Pond and assisted by current seniors

Izzy Kornblatt, Alex Lafrance, Cally Moran and Hayley Root and by a number of faculty and recent graduates.

The second part of the reaccreditation process was the campus visit on April 10-13, 2011 by a 11-member NEASC visiting committee, led by Margarita Curtis, head of school at Deerfield Academy. Head of school Sheila Culbert said about the visit, "It's a very standard

REACCREDITATION, PAGE 3

TAKING OUT THE TRASH

Introducing single-stream recycling

Environmental team gears up to launch a new recycling campaign

BY CLAIRE KIM '14
Staff Writer

The environmental proctors and the faculty at Loomis Chaffee have recently taken steps to introduce a single-stream recycling system to the campus as a means of making the Island cleaner and greener. Single-stream recycling is a system in which all categories of recycled goods (ex. paper, plastics, metals, etc.) are commingled in the collection process. The current system entails separate containers for metals/glasses/plastics and white paper around campus, and all recyclables are ultimately sorted manually in the physical plant. After the launch of the single-stream initiative, all recyclables will be sent commingled to Windsor Sanitation Inc. to be resold, and refuse receptacles on campus would be divided into only two categories of waste: trash and recyclables.

"The main reason for single-stream recycling is the convenience for the residents on campus with one designation for all recyclables," said Keara Jenkins



'14, one of the six environmental proctors working to launch the campaign soon. "Recycling will become much simpler and more efficient on campus and the [environmental] proctors believe that the amount of recycled goods will increase as a result."

Jenkins has already created signs with Harriet Cho '14 for the new recycling bins that will be placed around campus. "We are thinking of color-coding every recycling bin — for example, all with orange — so that they are in unison and easy to notice," said Jenkins. She also interviewed multiple classmates about single-stream recycling, and noted that many have told her about similar single-stream recycling campaigns that were launched in their own hometowns.

Jenkins's peers also reported increased quantities of collected recycled goods following the institution of single-stream recycling, compared to those collected when the traditional system was in place. Of the municipalities incor-

SINGLE-STREAM, PAGE 3



Printed with soy inks on partially recycled paper.
Please recycle this publication.

Performance and risk

TALES OF A HIGH-POWERED, ACADEMIC CULTURE

PERFORMANCE HIGH

The Log explores the use — both legal and illegal — of Adderall and similar stimulants in a three-part series.

PART ONE | TODAY

Tales of student lives impacted by Adderall in a wide variety of different ways

PART TWO | FEBRUARY 2

Addressing unauthorized Adderall usage as an issue at Loomis Chaffee and beyond

PART THREE | MARCH 2

Looking at the wider trends in Adderall usage around the globe and figuring out a way forward

CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE

Adderall, one of the most used and abused prescription drugs in America, is prescribed to people with ADHD (hyperactivity) to help them concentrate (it is also prescribed for narcolepsy). Adderall is, like Ritalin, Vyvanse, Focalin and Concerta, a stimulant that causes the body to metabolize food quickly and increase the efficiency of the brain's processes.

Legal in only the United States and Canada, Adderall relies on amphetamine, the same active chemical found in the street drug 'meth.' Adderall is perhaps best known in the academic world as a 'brain steroid' — a drug that increases academic performance by augmenting concentration.

Less well known are its significant negative side effects. Excessive Adderall usage can lead to weight loss, insomnia, changes in vision and even, in a few cases, neurological and behavioral shifts.

Prescription usage, however, is not seen as unsafe. "Psychostimulants — when taken at appropriate doses under a doctor's supervision — do not seem to cause permanent damage to, or changes in, the brain. Nor do they seem to increase one's susceptibility to depression. In fact, they are probably the best studied and in some ways safest of all psychiatric drugs," wrote Charles Raison, a psychiatrist at Emory University's medical school, in a 2009 column for CNN Health.

John Brady doesn't have an Adderall prescription, but that doesn't mean that it's hard for him to obtain Adderall. His first pill came from a close friend, who said that he purchased it from another friend — a friend with an Adderall prescription.

No illegal student user interviewed by the Log had ever heard of illegal Adderall not coming from prescribed users on campus.

Jasper Smith and Kyle Johnson, both of whom have taken Adderall and stimulants, like it for both academic and recreational use, said that Adderall is easy to find. "Some will just give it, or you can buy some," said Smith.

"People will say, 'I'll give you one; just give me a dollar,' or, 'Give me a slice of pizza,'" said Johnson.

Adderall usage is particularly popular during exam periods, both for studying and for testing, as well as be-

fore and during SAT administrations. Johnson said that he's seen individual pills go for as much as \$15 in the days prior to final exams.

Loomis Chaffee's Health Center has a strict prescription drug policy for boarders. Boarders can receive only a 24-hour supply of their medication at a time, and if they're found with more than that, they can be placed on Level II status. Any prescribed student on Level II status for drugs or alcohol must take their dosage in the health center.

Because boarders, unlike day students, don't manage their own pre-

Although the school considers Adderall usage, in terms of disciplinary action, to be as serious as recreational drug use, some student users say that because Adderall induces faster and more efficient thinking, it's not as serious. "I don't use drugs recreationally here," said Sarah Anderson, who used Adderall illegally for years before testing positively for ADD and getting a prescription. "But I would take Adderall for academic stuff because that's not the same thing. I'm not taking it to get high; I'm taking it to do my homework."

Smith and Johnson use Adderall recreationally — more often, in fact, than they do academically. Compared to the effects of other recreational drugs such as marijuana and cocaine, the effects of Adderall are tough to detect. There's no smell, and users still have full control of their behavior.

There are two different forms of Adderall: XR, or extended release, which acts for about 12 hours, and IR, or instant release, which acts for just a few hours. Smith and Johnson said that IR is used at LC primarily recreationally and that it's more expensive to purchase: while illegal XR pills gen-

interviewed anonymously for this article.

"The amount I take is probably not as much as it should be. I don't want to push it," he said. "It's just enough to give me a bit of a boost."

He was prescribed Adderall last year. When he was first tested, he was given increasing test dosages to the point where he didn't sleep for three days and his leg muscles began to uncontrollably loosen. "I ended up beating the crap out of my legs," he said. "I thought I wasn't going to walk for the rest of my life."

"I don't want that to happen again," he said.

Grover uses Adderall only when he's in school and has never used it recreationally. He does, however, provide it to friends who wish to use it academically — like Puckett. He says that he wouldn't do so if he felt that they were addicted or that they were using it for anything other than studying.

Because he's a day student, he doesn't need to get his daily dosage from the Health Center and therefore can continue to take it even while he provides it to others.

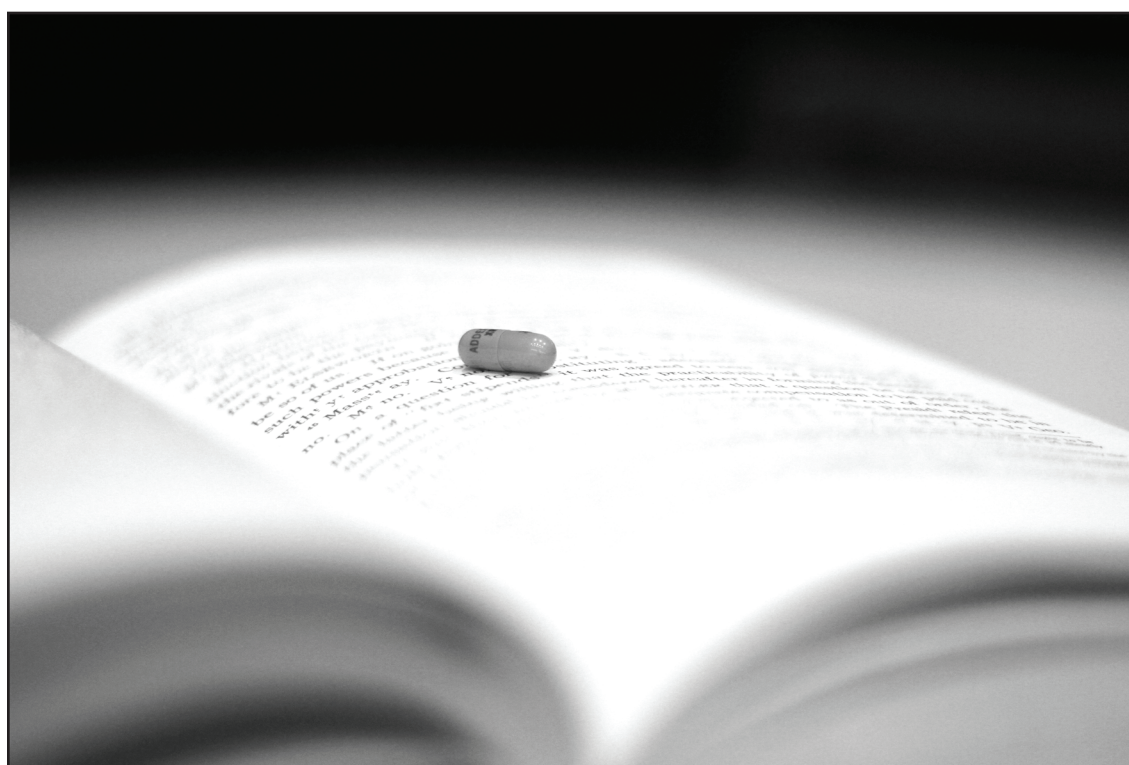
Brady didn't use Adderall for another paper, but with final exams looming ahead, he purchased some more. He even decided to try using Adderall to enhance his sports performance.

"When you take it, you have this feeling of superiority," he said. At his game, he had tremendous success. He couldn't believe his playing skill.

Then came the time for studying. With the help of Adderall, it was a breeze: he memorized compulsively, but without really understanding the material. When finals week finally came, Brady began taking one extended release pill a day. For days on end, he barely slept and food was optional.

The Adderall worked again: Brady's exam grades were excellent. But even so, he doesn't plan to use it again. "It's not worth it. It's just work. It's homework. And at the time, it might seem worth it — when you need to get that one letter grade up — but it's not," he said.

Brady wants to do well in school, but to him, there are other, more important factors to consider. "After that week, I don't want to take it again," he said. "I don't want to end up in a hospital."



JAHEWAN KIM '13 / LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

scriptions, for them distributing Adderall to friends means not taking it themselves.

Many see Adderall as a way to get ahead in a pressurized academic climate. Students know that their grades and SAT scores will radically affect their futures, so they turn to a drug they think will help.

Brady says that he wouldn't have used Adderall if he had had more time on his essay. He thinks that reducing students' illegal Adderall usage is as simple as reducing the workload. "If I had 20 percent less work, then I'd be 20 percent less likely to use it," he said.

He says he faces pressure from his parents to get into a top college and that he doesn't feel as if he has other options. He wishes the school would spend less energy trying to punish students and more empathizing with them, he said.

"Maybe it's unfair because not everyone has that advantage, but it's a stressful place and if I can get some kind of advantage without many side effects, then why not?" said Melvin Puckett, an illegal Adderall user.

Even though most illegal student users interviewed said that they only used Adderall for academic purposes, they did notice a correlation between students who use Adderall and those who use other recreational drugs. "I mean, if you're willing to break the rule against illegal Adderall usage, then I guess that you'd be more likely to break rules against other types of drugs," said Puckett.

Brady said that most of his friends who use Adderall, even just for academic purposes, also use or have used other drugs recreationally.

Recreational Adderall usage is another story altogether.

erally cost no more than \$6, IR pills can cost as much as \$10. They said that IR pills are frequently crushed and snorted.

"The effects of snorting Adderall are instantaneous. It just hits you all of a sudden. If you take a dosage that's two or three times larger than what you might normally take for studying, then you feel very hyper and energetic and happy," said Eden Lancaster, a friend of Brady's who has used Adderall illegally but no longer does so.

Anderson said that recreational Adderall usage is certainly correlated with the use of other illegal drugs. "I mean, taking Adderall through the means of snorting is definitely going to be paired with some other type of recreational drug," she said.

Mike Grover is embarrassed by his Adderall prescription — so much so that he was reluctant to be

Sammer Hinduja addresses cyberbullying at convocation

His speech sparks a campus-wide discussion of the issue

BY GRACE FOSTER '13
Staff Writer

With more than 50 percent of adolescents in the United States owners of Facebook accounts, and with the number of Twitter accounts on the rise, concerns regarding internet safety, security, and privacy have become real issues for many.

In a convocation on January 5, Sameer Hinduja, associate professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida Atlantic University, sought to address these concerns and inform the campus about avoiding trouble in the online community.

Hinduja began his address with a discussion about why Facebook and other social networking sites have garnered such popularity. The bright red number in the top left corner of the Facebook web page or its equivalent on other sites plays a significant role in this phenomenon, he noted, as such notifications alert the user that some person was thinking about, looking at posts and pictures of, or generally paying attention to him or her.

The positive emotional response that arises from these notifications Hinduja likened to that stemming from a compliment from peers; however, he also contended that there is a

crucial difference between social networking websites like Facebook, Twitter, or Formspring and the halls of a high schools, namely that the digital world is broader, allowing adolescents to connect with almost anyone, from great aunts living just down the road to peers not seen for long periods of time who live an ocean away.

This ability to connect with relatives and friends living far away also comes with a dark side, Hinduja said, one that involves victimization, bullying, and abuse. Hinduja attributed much of this dark side to anonymity. Formspring, Honesty Box, and Tumblr, all websites and apps that allow any subscriber (and in some cases, nonsubscribers) to post anonymously on the profile of any user, have seen a number of abuse scandals, some of which were publicized by the mainstream media, and many more of which have gone unreported.

Alyssa Reamy '13, a user of both Facebook and Twitter who has experienced cyberbullying firsthand noted, "Anonymity is great, until you start seriously damaging people's feelings and self-esteem... It's the worst feeling in the world. I would use Honesty Box and people would tell me that I should just drop out of Loomis and go back to 'where I came from.'"

Reamy's experiences are not isolated incidents, and resemble the abuse suffered by numerous students targeted through anonymous social media.

Hacking, the intentional logging in to a social networking account of another person and the deliberate impersonation of the victim through status updates, posts, and comments on others' pages, also contributes greatly to the harassment and abuse exacted online, Hinduja said.

Although he noted that hacking can usually be spotted easily, he also said that the posts left by hackers can often prove embarrassing, and even emotionally detrimental for the hacked individual. Jeremy Bogle '14 said, "Even though it's almost always a joke by the person's friends, it can be hard to tell sometimes."

Hinduja also noted that repercussions of hacking by a friend can prove difficult to repair, at times leading to strained friendships and upset observers who, while not directly involved with the post, may take offense to the post's content.

Hinduja's presentation at the convocation identified differences between face-to-face bullying and online harassment. Escaping cyberbullying, Hinduja noted, can be difficult, and at times even impossible, because online fo-

ums and Facebook pages do not cease to exist at the day's conclusion or the end of the year (as a matter of fact, they grow; one of multiple graphics Hinduja brought to the convocation indicated that the number of pages receiving updates over the course of 20 minutes is in the millions).

A number of Loomis Chaffee students have observed that any issues at Loomis typically stray away from the direct bullying or overt cyberbullying like that discussed in Hinduja's convocation.

Kate Timko '12 noted, "The difference is that... at Loomis, compared to other schools, specifically the public school in my town, there is less direct cyberbullying but more passive aggressiveness. It's more indirect, snide comments in order to get lots of likes and feel important by putting someone down in a clever way."

Regarding Loomis Chaffee's online interactions, Student Council president Lindsay Gabow '12 said, "I think it's safe to say that Loomis does not have as much of a bullying problem as the vast majority of high schools in the U.S. Nevertheless, I think we can definitely improve upon the level of respect people have for each other, particularly in the arena of the cyber world."

MLK week

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

community. In response to the question of how Loomis can better embrace diversity she advised, "Bring the same intellectual rigor that you bring to the classroom to this issue."

"It also takes a willingness to adjust, a willingness to change where we're coming from, a willingness to question our own ideas, our own values," she said. "It's always good to be open-minded about these things."

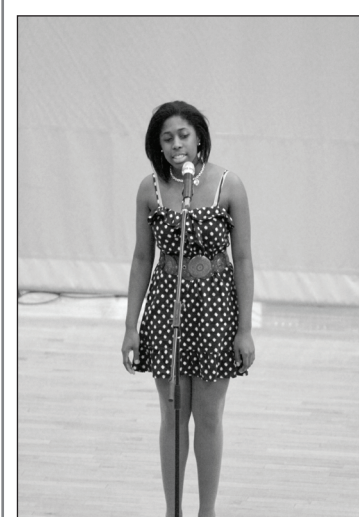
The convocation continued with songs, dances, and performances emphasizing Dr. King's legacy. Students performed inspirational songs like "Man in the Mirror," "Amazing Grace" and

"What's Going On?" showcasing both talent and the attitude that Dr. Culbert encouraged.

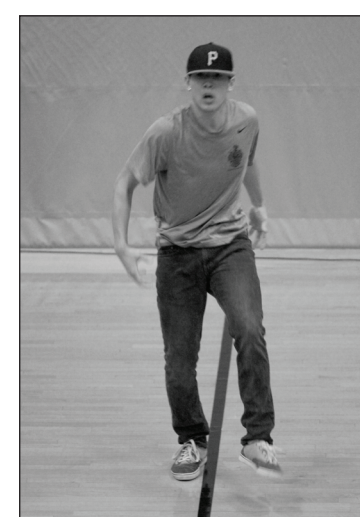
On Tuesday, the dining staff prepared favorite foods of Dr. King for lunch. An all-school convocation was also planned for Tuesday, but a death in the speaker's family forced a cancellation.

The week's events continued on Thursday with a discussion titled "Are You For Real? Microaggressions in the Real World," an event that allowed students to discuss in an event of issues of race, sexual orientation, and discrimination in general.

The week will culminate tonight in a performance in the Hubbard performance hall by the Windsor High School Gospel Choir.



JAHEWAN KIM '13 / LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG
Haley Magwood '13 sings Etta James's "At Last" during the convocation



JAHEWAN KIM '13 / LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG
Caleb Yoon '12 "krumps" at the convocation

Single-stream

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

porating single-stream recycling, a number are located right here in Connecticut; in fact, Connecticut is one of the leading states in implementing this new recycling system, with 65 cities already having adopted it.

Jeff Dyreson, environmental science and chemistry teacher and sustainability coordinator, has designated the environmental proctors leaders in organizing the single-stream campaign, and has been collaborating with them on the institution of the new recycling system.

He also addressed recent rumors of recycling being mixed with the regular trash, and noted that if the allegations were indeed true, the contamination was inadvertent. According to Mr. Dyreson, a likely situation that could have contributed to such an error with the intermingling of trash and recycling could have involved students mistakenly discarding articles intended for the trash receptacle in the white paper recycling bin. With enough trash misplaced in the bins, he noted, the trash truck workers could easily overlook the recyclables buried at

the bottom of the bins and simply mingle them with the other trash.

At present, Loomis Chaffee is making other efforts to get the most out of its recycling by setting out bins marked for "returnables" - water bottles or soda cans labeled for cash returns ("CT 5¢ Cash Refund," for example).

The collected returnables would be sold back to either private vendors or to grocery stores for a monetary refund, which could potentially be used for environmental initiatives on campus or simply for fun dorm activities and events.

"There's been a lot of miseducation and ignorance when it comes to recycling on campus," said Mr. Dyreson. He hopes that the launch of the single-stream campaign will make everyone on campus more involved in recycling and in maintaining a healthy environment.

The faculty and the environmental proctors are getting ready to launch the campaign as soon as possible. The environmental proctors kicked off their campaign during the class meetings on January 18.

Honor code

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Dress Code Committee, for which members were selected earlier this year. Interested students will have to write a paragraph describing their interest and qualifications and StuCo representative Alex Lafrance '12 will spearhead the effort to select students. He expects the committee's membership to be finalized by Head's Holiday in early February.

So far, the code has been greeted by a positive reception from students. "I think we as a class and as students or faculty can pride ourselves on being a part of a school that is respectful," said Gabriela Angelini '12.

The Student Council has in recent weeks sought to reach out to students and faculty for their ideas to implement the honor code. Some ideas brought forward have been an initiation ceremony at the beginning of each year, during which each new student pledges his or her commitment to follow the 'honor code,' as well as a "Wall of Love," where students and faculty can post tributes to

certain members of the community, or to the Island as a whole, that could be hung up in the Olcott rotunda. StuCo and the Kindness Club may work in conjunction on the latter idea. Furthermore, proponents of the 'honor code' hope that honoring members of the community who have made a positive impact either at Loomis or outside the Island will encourage goodwill

lems with bullying or integrity. Obviously, there is always room for improvement. I think verbal bullying should be taken more seriously, but other than that, more community bonding times would make us all closer," said Olivia Olender '12.

Dean of Faculty Ned Parsons doesn't think bullying is a significant issue at Loomis. "I have never perceived or felt a

So far, the code has been greeted by a positive reception from students. "I think we as a class and as students or faculty can pride ourselves on part of being a school that is respectful," said Gabriela Angelini '12.

on campus, and make it known that LC is not only an academic institution, but also one with many other facets as well.

A number of other ideas about encouraging respect and integrity at LC have also been circulating among students and faculty, particularly after January 5's convocation about cyberbullying. "I think LC has a tight community with limited prob-

problem with these things here; in fact, one of the things that drew me to Loomis Chaffee in the first place was the mutual respect I witnessed on this campus the very first time I stepped foot here. If anything, LC has always been a community based on these values, and I think we show our respect for one another daily," he said.

"I don't see a problem at LC

along these lines at all, but if anything is 'missing' here, it's that we haven't had as much of an explicit conversation about it, or that we don't have that open conversation about respect and integrity on a regular basis as we might," he added. "A pledge of some kind, something people sign and acknowledge as meaningful, could help fill that void."

Student Council officers say they are still seeking ideas on how to strengthen the LC community. On January 17, the officers hosted the third annual Loomis Leadership Conference with the topic, "What can we do, as a community, to promote respect, integrity, and goodwill at Loomis?"

At the conference, various student leaders in all classes representing organizations including the Pelican Service Organization, the Log, each dormitory and each athletic team discussed the topic along with select faculty members.

The Student Council officers say they will continue to seek out student input on the honor code initiative as it moves forward.

Reaccreditation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

process at every school. [The committee] comes in on a Sunday and leaves on a Wednesday. We make ourselves totally available; we let them see anything they want to see, and meet with anybody they want to meet. However, how they organize their time is entirely up to them."

She also noted, "What generally happens is you have a team of people that all have different responsibilities. One person's responsibility is to look at student life and athletic program. There would be someone else just for looking at the finances, or the physical plant, or the faculty and teaching. By the time they leave on Wednesday, they need a draft of the report written."

The visiting committee praised the school for its "highly organized, systematic, and inclusive approach to institutional growth" and its "thoughtful management of change across several

operations and aspects of school life." Indeed, the school has undergone a large number of changes over the past two years, and it plans to make more reforms in the near future.

Loomis received commendations in several standards and failed none; however, the visiting committee did make five major recommendations in which they saw potential for development.

The first of these recommendations was a suggestion to broaden the faculty evaluation process, such as a specification of "best practices and faculty expectations in all domains of school life." With the addition of the Kravis Center for Excellence in Teaching, led by Scott MacClintic, the service of Ned Parsons, dean of faculty, who has set up a "new, more robust" faculty evaluation program, and the work of a committee led by English teacher Jane Archibald in professional development of senior faculty, the school has already begun to

thoroughly address this issue.

The visiting committee praised the new campus master plan, and proposed that the school put both the master plan and regular campus maintenance at the top of its priorities. Over the past few months, members of the physical plant have worked hard to make several renovations, such as the roofs of dorms and buildings around the Grubbs quad. For new facilities, Dr. Culbert cited a new dorm and a campus center, which would be the "heart of the community—a place where faculty and students could really come together."

Furthermore, the visiting committee advocated for a "healthy balance between action and reflection, work and leisure." It was impressed with the school's work on the faculty equity project, the daily schedule, and the discussions on the importance of sleep and time management. A noticeable change this year has been the lengthening of the school calendar; with snow

days and the resulting changes in syllabi, both students and teachers often feel pressured to complete all of the assignments on their agenda, especially for an Advanced Placement class. Starting this year, the school year now extends a week into June. Dr. Culbert said, "We moved into June another week to give us more space during the year, so students wouldn't feel as rushed."

Another recommendation that the visiting committee made was the development of diversity of students, faculty, staff and board members. With the introduction of the Diversity Task Force and AIM this year, Loomis has already emphasized the need for and value of diversity in the school community.

Finally, the visiting committee recommended an enlargement of the Technology Committee and the development of a "comprehensive academic and institutional technology plan." Although technology is an area that has no end in development, the school has

been focusing much attention on using new technology that could enrich a student's experience at Loomis.

Dr. Culbert said, "Technology is really something that I am excited about. We tried to separate the technology issues that have to do with the backbone of the school, such as the database and registrar, under Dan Corjulo, head of IT, from teaching technology, led by Mr. MacClintic.

With regard to these recommendations, Dr. Culbert said, "None of this was a surprise to us. These were all things that we called out in our own report. We had done our self-study, and these were all things that we thought we ought to be working on that the committee simply confirmed."

The NEASC Commission on Independent Schools requires a two-year interim evaluation report by spring 2013, and a five-year report in 2016, as well as another on-campus visit scheduled for 2021.

SPORTS

MORE SPORTS ON PAGE 8

Coaching tennis with passion

NEW COACH PROFILE: MEGAN BLUNDEN



JOHN PATRICK '14 / LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

INTERVIEW BY ALEXIS
DITOMASSI '12
Business Manager

Loomis Chaffee welcomed new teacher Megan Blunden to campus this past fall. In an interview with Alexis Ditomassi '12, Ms. Blunden, who teaches history and coaches squash and tennis, shared some information about her life before coming to Loomis and her goals

for the year.

Q: What were you doing before you came to Loomis?

A: Last year, I was a graduate student at the University of Virginia, completing my Master's degree in teaching. I also attended UVA as a history undergraduate. Over the summer, I worked at Choate Rosemary Hall's summer program, teaching middle school literature and high school public speaking.

Q: How do you like Loomis so far?

A: I have greatly enjoyed my first few months at Loomis. I get to work with many different students in my US and world history classes. I love that my job consists of being able to read and talk about history every

day! I also live in Mason dorm, an experience that has given me the chance to really get to know the Loomis culture and community.

Q: Did you play tennis or squash in college?

A: While I played both sports at the varsity level in high school, I did not play competitive tennis or squash in college. I would often play recreationally, especially over the summer, when I worked in boarding schools.

Q: Have you ever coached a tennis or squash team before?

A: While I am new to coaching squash, I have coached tennis for a few summers to both experienced and beginner players. I have had a great time working with the boys' JV squash team this winter and am

excited to get started with tennis in the spring.

Q: What are your goals for the rest of the boys squash season/upcoming tennis season?

A: The boys' JV squash team has already played some excellent matches! The team's record is currently 5-2, with losses only to Choate and Brunswick. My goals for the rest of squash season include: maintaining our strong record, building on our fitness and conditioning, and taking a trip to watch a college squash match.

With some strong returners on the girls' tennis team, I'll be working on getting to know their game and finding players to fill the remaining spots on the team. My main goal for the tennis season is to continue building and maintaining the depth of the tennis program.

Hockey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Loomis played their best game of the tournament versus the Trinity Pawling School.

During this game, Loomis proved that it could play at the highest level and with the greatest intensity even without a starting defenseman. Goalie Danny Tirone '12 rose to the occasion as he put on a show, allowing only one goal in 26 shots.

The Pelicans played their final game against the Berkshire School early on Saturday morning. The hard-fought game was very much up in the air until the third period when Berkshire scored two quick goals to seal the victory.

Goalie Jamey Cox '14 commented on the Christmas Classic, "I believe that the win against TP was a statement win for our team. We [have] lost to them before, and we showed how resilient our team could be. What we need to focus on in the future is coming out fighting from the first seconds in each of the periods, because it is when we are flat-footed that opposing teams score most of their goals."

Even with a disappointing record, the Pelicans still have the heart, determination and school pride to push through the rest of the season. With focus on improving their team chemistry and stamina for future games, the Loomis Chaffee boys' varsity hockey team aims for great success and triumph.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Life Insurance
Fixed Annuities*
Estate Conservation
College Funding
Retirement Planning
Sandra A Neumann
Agent
Registered Representative
NYLIFE Securities LLC
Member FINRA/SIPC
A Licensed Insurance Agency
360 Bloomfield Ave Ste 402
Windsor, CT
860.298.1065 Office
413.537.3710 Cell
*Issued by New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation (A Delaware Corporation)



FAMILY PIZZERIA

181 Broad Street
Windsor, CT 06095
Phone: 860-688-5069
Phone/Fax: 860-688-5240

STORE HOURS:
Tues. - Thurs. 11am - 10pm
Fri. & Sat. 11am - 11pm
Sunday Noon - 9pm

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

WE ACCEPT:

Get a FREE RewardsPLUS Card and SAVE on Gas!



Visit floberts.com for list of participating locations.

wondering if there will be a snow day?

introducing Log snow day predictions (in the vein of Fred McNulty '11)

on our Facebook page:
[facebook.com/lc.thelog](https://www.facebook.com/lc.thelog)

Loomis Chaffee Log
online at lclog.org

'I will not vote for Rick Santorum.'

A fresh take on new year's resolutions; students' resolutions abound this year

BY MICHAEL HOROWICZ '13
Staff Writer

It's that time of year again. Time to hit the gym, to focus, to start that book you've always wanted to read, to talk to that old friend, to up the grades, to be nicer, to go skydiving, to obtain a domestic composting container, to be happy, to grow a beard, to shave, and to get more sleep. You guessed it. It's New Year's resolutions time!

I, for one, have never taken the whole concept too seriously. But last year, I decided to give it a shot and wrote down an entire list. This list encompassed everything one could think to improve on. Everything from athletic and academic resolutions to personal resolutions all geared toward self-improvement. Unfortunately, like most of the resolutions ever made in this world, not many of them lasted very long. The aver-

age person creates New Year's resolutions that they eventually don't stick to. These resolutions don't have much longevity. The issue is that we are constantly pressured by everyone around us to create New Year's resolutions. Our parents, our teachers, our friends, and even the media tell us to make resolutions, to become better people. So, to this effect, every year we grasp the occasion to completely change ourselves, to start over, and hopefully to become a paragon of perfection. Often this very desire initiates a vicious cycle of unfulfilled resolutions and disappointments. We become over-motivated as we attempt to change everything at once.

I am as guilty of this as much as anybody else. In fact, at the start of this new year, I once again commenced the cycle myself. This over-motivation leads to lofty and far-fetched goals. Don't get me wrong; it's great to challenge oneself, but

as with everything, there must be a limit. Once we create these goals, we become overwhelmed; this leads to disappointment followed swiftly by the prompt abandonment of all of our previous resolutions. Then, next New Years, we think back to the prior year and our lack of so-called "tangible" achievements, and then once again proceed to create more lofty goals.

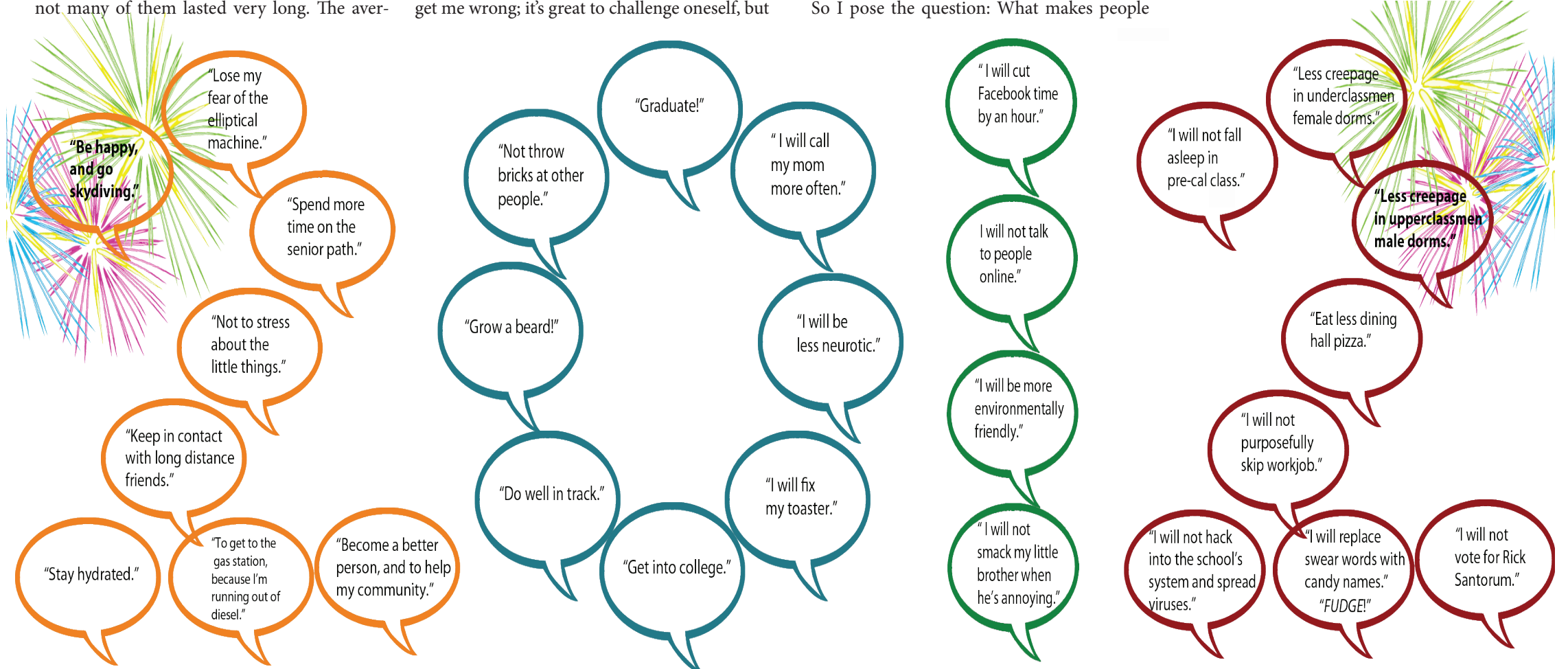
Let's take a step back. Upon interviewing my classmate and friend Mark Crawford, he presented a new approach to the situation.

"Why do you need a new year to make a resolution?" Asked Mark. Other than the social ties and expectations the date triggers, what makes January 1st any different than March 15th or May 29th? He continued, "People think 'Oh! It's a New Year, all of my resolutions must come true.' They don't commit; it's some fun thing!"

So I pose the question: What makes people

think that a resolution made on New Years is any more likely to bear weight than a resolution made any other day of the year? I am all in favor of setting goals and self-improvement. So, as a solution to this problem, I propose that we all arbitrarily pick any day of the year, and mark that date as our own "resolution day." This personal date enables the process of self-improvement to be more of an individual and personal thought process than a social to-do task. It also efficiently eliminates all the public pressure surrounding the "all-important" New Year's resolution.

With that, rather than leaving this resolution so open-ended, I personally challenge you readers to pick a resolution day and to commit yourself to work towards your best self and the common good.



GRAPHIC BY JAEHWAN KIM '13 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

INSIDE THE NYSE

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE



PHOTO COURTESY PAUL LEE '13

INTERVIEW BY PAUL LEE '13
News Editor

NEW YORK, NY - After many emails and calls, I was able to enter the New York Stock Exchange as a representative of the Log. I interviewed Christine Sandler, executive vice president of global sales for NYSE Euronext, a global electronic stock exchange, to gain a sense of how an authority figure on Wall Street feels about her country and its economic future. Also having a great deal of experience with fundraising and charity work, Sandler was eager to discuss the benefits of working at the NYSE.

Q: How did you end up working at Euronext and eventually becoming the executive vice president?

A: I began as a trader, and as trading began to change, I began to see a leveraging of technology by working for [Michael] Bloomberg where I learned about electronic trading in its infancy. Through the use of technology, I have been able to become instrumental in helping the stock exchange get to the next level in global trade.

Q: What do you think is the key to solving the economic problems of the United States?

A: In all honesty, I think that collaboration is going to have to be a part of the equation. We definitely have to set aside some of the differences we have and look to solve the bigger problem at hand, as opposed to our individual goals.

Q: For students at my high school, Loomis Chaffee, what would you say is attractive about a job here at the New York Stock Ex-

change?

A: As financial markets change, you'll start to see different intermediaries and different folks taking different roles. We are focusing on changing what it might look like to be a global exchange. We've expanded globally - we're not just about equity trading, although we're closely identified with that branch of trade. We trade derivatives, and we also provide our technology to our clients. We are a different kind of company than we were ten years ago - it's very exciting. At the end of the day, we enjoy the good fortune of having this fantastic brand that allows us to have connections with big companies like Goldman Sachs. It's a great traditional base, but it's growing and changing too.

Q: What do you think about the Occupy movement?

A: They are raising awareness. It's one of the most important things that we have. Freedom of speech is one of the cornerstones of our society. It's so important for folks to have a venue, an outlet to speak and to present their ideas. Raising awareness is not just about corporations or banks, but it is also about individuals.

Q: What is your favorite newspaper?

A: The New York Times.

***equity trading** - the buying and selling of shares of company stock

***derivatives** - a security whose price is dependent upon or derived from one or more underlying assets such as stocks, bonds, commodities, currencies, and interest rates.

How to deal with excessive P.D.A.

SNUG(GLIN') TIME | ALEX LASKO '12

Hello Pelicans! Welcome back to Snugglin' Time with Lasko. My goal here is to give you a few guidelines on how to engage and deal with a common issue that faces all snug-goers: P.D.A.

(public displays of affection). P.D.A. tends to be a touchy subject for many people on the Loomis Chaffee campus. Some couples believe that it shouldn't matter if they kiss or cuddle (or whatever else they are doing) in the presence of others for they think that other people should mind their own business and quit being jealous. Though some couples feel uncomfortable engaging in P.D.A. for fear of criticism from their peers, the classic phrase "GET A ROOM!" can be heard throughout the halls of Founders, around the tables in the dining hall, and of course, in the Snug.

My take on the issue is that there is both a time and a place for certain activities. What is that time? Where is that place? What activities am I referring to? Well, inquisitive reader, I shall tell you.

Rules for Those Who Participate in P.D.A.:

If you are drawn to this half of my article then congratulations, you have someone with which to practice P.D.A. with. Here are some simple ideas which you can apply to your daily (or nightly) life. Sitting in the Snug with a group of your friends is not an appropriate time to engage in spit swapping. It is, however, an okay time to maybe hold that person's hand, or if you're feeling bold, you may put your arm around that person. Kissing in public can also be an issue. If you are with your boo and there is someone else in the vicinity, then please refrain from kissing said boo; you might risk traumatizing some innocent freshmen who may not know how to deal with such visuals. Or, you might risk creating an awkward situation for some poor new faculty member who has never had to break up a canoodle sesh before. By just refraining from a visit from the awkward turtle.

Now don't think that I'm trying to prevent all lovin'. I'm just trying to prevent it in public. There are many places where

you can go to have a good time. You can go for a walk around the loop, you can interdorm, and even chill in the Carey room (for those of you who don't know, that's the small room in the Snug where no one ever goes to). At those places you can have the privacy to enjoy yourself without having to deal with the harassment which comes with P.D.A.

Rules for Those Who Have to Deal With P.D.A.:

If you are one of these people, then I am sorry that you have witnessed whatever it is that has caused you to read this half of my article.

So here are the basic rules and regulations for you guys.

The most important rule to remember is: Don't make things awkward! That's just rude. Realize that engaging in such acts is rude and antisocial (well it is social but not in the desirable kind of way). You need to be the bigger person and not create a bad situation for the parties involved. What you should NOT do is scream, "OMG, ew, get a room!" "Awww, how cute, the couple is kissing! Daw-wwww!" or any other variation of these phrases. Instead, relocating is your best option. Those engaged in P.D.A. are focusing too much on each other to be focusing on you and your buddies, so go watch a movie or see what StuActs has going on that weekend (seriously go to StuActs events; I plan them therefore that means they're fun). But whatever you do, do not make things awkward!

OK, Pelicans, there are my basic rules and regulations for P.D.A. Try to behave and have a good, awkward turtle and harassment-free weekend.

XOXOXO,
Lasko

Snug(glin') Time is a column written by Alex Lasko '12. She can be reached at snuggl intime@gmail.com.



JAEHWAN KIM '13 / LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

A SENIOR REFLECTION

A stormy process

One acceptance letter and it's over

BY JARROD SMITH '12
Staff Writer

As a high school senior, earning acceptance into your first-choice college marks an exciting and unprecedented personal achievement. It's something that you hope for, work toward and dream about often in the preceding years. It defines your years to come. Everything suddenly seems all well, and there are no problems when you can carry that confidence.

The college application process poses high pressure circumstances on the lives of every teenager as an entire twelve years of education comes down to a single application. Filling out applications proved to be an adventure in and of itself for several of us this year, with the legendary snowstorm of 2011 leaving most of us in the region without power for a week including the early application deadline. Someday, years from now, I'll be able to tell my kids with absolute honesty that back in my day I had to fill out college applications by hand under candlelight. After eventually coming to campus to submit them online, I forgot about everything for the next months, satisfied with having done everything I could.

I didn't worry at all up until the day before the decision date, when I had perhaps the first truly sleepless night of my life. I never thought about how much would be going through my mind in that last minute. I think back to my application from months before and wondered how some lucky admissions officer perceived it. The basics are straightforward; whoever reads my application would know that I'm a Loomis Chaffee student currently studying Linear Algebra, Chinese, Physics and Calculus from Monson, Massachusetts with a Filipino mother. Then I think back to everything that I've worked toward in the past couple years...building robots, teaching myself geometry, volunteering at church, playing football, designing hybrid vehicles...asking myself what else I should have done. Did the reader appreciate everything I had achieved in the past few years, or just skim through it with a glance? Or maybe the reader just couldn't connect with the mere 500 words I was allotted to fully expound everything about who I am. I thought back to the fifth grade when I first decided that this was where I wanted to go to college. All my work since then would come down to these next few seconds.

Poised to either jump in celebration or defiantly punch the computer screen in disappointment, I nervously opened the web page the next day at the promised minute that the results would be revealed. Everything happens quickly from there, because when the first line of the letter begins with "Congratulations" there's no need to even read the rest of it. The greatest feeling of fulfillment ensues, knowing at last that all the years of working finally paid off. It feels as though there's not a worry in the world as your sisters give you a hug and your folks burst into tears even though they were absolutely confident that you'd make it the whole time.

But as happy as I am, I understand that that moment could have very well turned out completely different. The letter could have started with the dreaded "Every year, the admissions process becomes more and more competitive..." For those who go through that experience, it may feel like the end of the world. For seniors, this time of year presents a difficult and confusing situation; when one student celebrates an acceptance while another tries to bounce back from a deferral or more disheartening, a rejection.

For those who received the less fortuitous result, I can say this: know that when you submitted your application, you presented your best self. You took the best points from all 17 years of your life and constructed a ship to brave the stormy seas known as college admissions. Once you let the ship out to sea, it's out of your control. Luck and the gods (college admissions) decide your fate, but as long as you know that you did everything you could to make that ship as seaworthy as possible, you can be content; you are not at fault if the ship blows astray. Remember, it's the journey that counts, not the end. Wherever the winds end up blowing you, that's where you belong.

I'll leave the underclassmen reading this with some last simple advice as they begin their own college application journeys. You well know the importance of the college application process - just make the most of it and try your hardest to have fun and use it as a way to discover yourself because you only get to go through it once. Finally, try to get the apps all done by junior year so that you can save time for when you're a senior and give yourself the prerogative to mess around just a little bit. After four years at Loomis, you deserve it.

But as happy as I am, I understand that that moment could have very well turned out completely different. The letter could have started with the dreaded "Every year, the admissions process becomes more and more competitive..." For those who go through that experience, it may feel like the end of the world. For seniors, this time of year presents a difficult and confusing situation; when one student celebrates an acceptance while another tries to bounce back from a deferral or more disheartening, a rejection. For those who received the less fortuitous result, I can say this: know that when you submitted your application, you presented your best self. You took the best points from all 17 yrs of your life and constructed a ship to brave the stormy seas known as college admissions. Once you let the ship out to sea, it's out of your control. Luck and the gods (college admissions) decide your fate, but as long as you know that you did everything you could to make that ship as seaworthy as possible, you can be content; you are not at fault if the ship blows astray. Remember, it's the journey that counts, not the end. Wherever the winds end up blowing you, that's where you belong.



The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo falls flat; The Descendants is the year's best film

by Izzy Kornblatt '12
Editor in Chief

THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO

David Fincher's Sweden is a bitterly bleak place of cold anonymity, white snow and stark modern buildings. Its chilling beauty sets the stage for a bleak piece of filmmaking, a film where the world is unsympathetic and misogynistic, where we can expect even the most seemingly innocuous characters to do evil things.

Fincher's slick style, comple-

ment by an excellent, pulsating score by Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross, gives *Dragon Tattoo* a sense of energy that was lacking in the 2009 Swedish version of the film. We're fascinated by this freezing world and how similar it is to our own. In one of the film's best sequences, a man tries to steal Lisbeth Salander's (Rooney Mara) bag on a well-populated subway escalator. In a rapid burst of stylized action, the two struggle and Salander gets away. She hops over to the downward moving escalator, seizes her bag and jumps onto a departing train. The people all around them seem a bit startled and perhaps annoyed at the disruption, but they don't seem to care about the young woman who's just been mugged.



Rooney Mara in David Fincher's new film

The plot revolves around the 1966 disappearance of the niece of Henrik Vanger, a wealthy and powerful industrialist who lives on a frigid private island with other members of his extended family four hours north of Sweden's capital, Stockholm. Mikael Blomkvist, an investigative reporter disgraced in a libel suit, is hired to look into the disappearance by the aging Vanger, who has been consumed by the disappearance for years. Blomkvist takes up residence on the island and begins to research what must be the most disgusting collection of people anyone could dream up. Few members of the family are on speaking terms, and no wonder: the family is rife with fascists and Nazis, and, apparently, also includes a murderer.

Though this case, buoyed by the film's exciting score and Fincher's fast-paced style, shows some early promise, ultimately it's not all that interesting. The plot of Stieg Larson's novel was not what made it so appealing to millions of readers. Rather, it was a single character: Salander, a brilliant hacker and investigator, and a damaged young woman. Rooney Mara's Salander is a

pleasure to watch: she's at once otherworldly and very much a victim of the worst of our world. She's taken care of by the state, in particular by an utterly deplorable lawyer named Nils Bjurman (Yorick van Wageningen). This relationship leads to two separate scenes of sickeningly horrifying violence. These scenes are intended to set the stage for the film's theme of violence against women and give us a sense of Salander, but they are excessive and revolting, and far harder to

watch than the equivalent scenes in the 2009 film (which, make no mistake, were still horrifying). Fincher seems to wallow in this violence, as he does in the generally despondency of the world he creates, in a number of his previous works, like *Se7en* and *Fight Club*. Although this film has more to recommend it than either of those, the three share a certain unrelenting bleakness that seems wholly unnecessary. These films lack subtlety in their portrayals of the world: forcing an audience to sit through graphic acts of despicable violence may incite immediate emotion, but beyond that, there isn't much to it. I was left repulsed and revolted, without insight and without interest in Fincher's dismal world.

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE: GHOST PROTOCOL

It doesn't take a genius to know that a *Mission: Impossible* movie shouldn't attempt to tug at the heartstrings, make a point, or in any way require its audience to think. This is a movie where, armed with popcorn and a soda, I'd like to be wowed with incredible gadgets, slick car chases, big explosions and exciting music. And Brad Bird, director of such Pixar classics as *Monsters, Inc.* and *Ratatouille*, makes that happen in *Ghost Protocol*.

I frankly cannot remember much of the film's plot, other than the fact that it involved someone trying to destroy the world, lots of globe-hopping, and plenty of opportunities for Tom Cruise to look suave and in charge (as usual). Fortunately, Bird plows through the plot quickly and without any time wasted on silly back stories or doomed romances. Instead, he prefers to let his camera linger on the gadgets and car chases and stunning sets. And thank God for that. It's hard not to have a good time watching

this movie.

THE DESCENDANTS

George Clooney, playing the top dog in a wealthy Hawaiian family with a good deal of money and a massive tract of pristine, undeveloped land, spends much of *The Descendants* at a loss. Not of how to manage his family's land or his business, but of how to be a parent to his two out-of-control daughters and a husband to his unconscious, dying wife. Clooney gives an extraordinary, subtle performance as a sincere but fallible man. Needless to say, this film wouldn't succeed without him. But it's a film that's bigger than one performance or one actor. It's a film about real life.

Unlike Alexander Payne's previous films, which have cut through razor-sharp satirical commentary at fast paces, *The Descendants* is mellow and slow, even as its plot thickens. Payne calmly and assuredly paints a poignantly accurate picture of a man — and a family — beset by problems with no simple answers. As with all excellent filmmaking, we can feel the truth of what we're watching: we can both connect to the characters we see and observe their plight from afar.

The Descendants never descends (if you'll pardon the pun) to Spielbergian sentimentality and similarly never takes the easy comic route — the route Payne has already proven a knack for. Payne's approach is bold in its directness: the world of *The*



Tom Cruise in *Mission: Impossible*

Descendants is our own world, without pomp or frills or beautiful people with simple answers. And in that approach, Payne's film is exceptionally powerful.

In *The Descendants*, we watch a wealthy family tackle the issue of what to do with its land; in a way, this family isn't so different from the Vangers of *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*, only here there are no Nazis or murderers. Payne understands that big plot devices and exciting set-ups are extra: at the heart of any good film are characters who deal with the very same things that we do.

THE ADVENTURES OF TINTIN

Steven Spielberg seems like the perfect match for the graphic

novel hero Tintin. Much of his best work has been in liberating adventures like the *Indiana Jones* series, and he's always had a taste for the wildly visceral. True to his reputation, Spielberg, aided by a lot of explosions, a John Williams score, and a globe-hopping plot, makes this film come vigorously to life. Spielberg also deserves some credit for his use of 3D, which is to say that he doesn't overuse or abuse it. He simply uses it calculatedly and carefully, as just another tool in his filmmaking toolkit.

The result of all this is a film of manic energy and no downtime. Even the film's very first scene doesn't pause to set the stage; it hurls us right into the film's rather complex plot, involving a bunch of different miniature ships, not to mention all the big ships, and a whole lot of fighting. Our cast of characters includes, of course, an evil villain (Daniel Craig), along with two bumbling detectives (Nick Frost and Simon Pegg), an adorable white dog, and our hero, Tintin (Jamie Bell). There's not much that can be said about Tintin; we know that he's short and boyish, has that classic tousle of red hair, and is a well-known adventuresome journalist, but aside from that, his personality is either extraordinarily bland or simply nonexistent.

This is in fact in keeping with the Tintin of the graphic novels by the Belgian author Hergé. There, too, Tintin, was little more than a blank screen upon which the audience could project its own fears, hopes and dreams. This is not an uncommon thing:



after all, Harry Potter and Luke Skywalker serve virtually the same function in their own respective worlds. But Tintin is too boring, so boring that we don't really care what happens to him or have any interest in connecting to him.

What's left, then, is a wild and skillfully done adventure with many inventive visuals and a whole lot going on. It's fun to watch and could not possibly bore anyone. But unlike Martin Scorsese's excellent *Hugo* of earlier this year, *The Adventures of Tintin* is lacking in feeling. Even the most lighthearted films need emotional grounding. Lacking that, *Tintin* strains at cuteness and remains superficial. You can enjoy watching it, but you won't remember it the next day.

Loomis Chaffee Log

FOUNDED 1915

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 email. 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.

ADVERTISING

Advertising rates can be found at www.lclog.org/advertising. To advertise in the Log, please contact the Business Managers listed to the right.

Published by the Loomis Chaffee School, Windsor, CT.

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

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

ERINROSE MAGER *Faculty Adviser*

ALEX LAFRANCE '12 AND PAUL LEE '13 *News Section*

PIM SENANARONG '13 AND STEVEN Z. WANG '12 *Features Section*

SIOBHAN REID '12 AND JAKE VERTER '12 *Opinion Section*

RACHEL ROSENBLATT '12 AND LIZ TITTERTON '12 *Sports Section*

JAEHWAN KIM '13 AND JOHN PATRICK '14 *Graphics*

SHIRLEY FENG '12 AND HARRIET CHO '14 *Layout & Design*

LEON AN '13 AND REKHA KENNEDY '13 *Web Site*

SAMSON CHOW '12 AND ALEXIS DITOMASSI '12 *Business Managers*

CONTRIBUTORS

Grace Denny '14, Grace Foster '13, John Furlong '14, Lucian Goodman '14, Michael Horowitz '13, Jack Kilpatrick '12, Claire Kim '14, Alex Lasko '12, Jeesue Lee '12, Meadeshia Mitchell '12, Madison Peterson-Porta '15, Meaghan Reid '13, Jarrod Smith '12, Jo Wang '12

EDITORIAL

A stifling dress code

Freedom of student expression is at stake in the debate over the dress code

For boys, it's simple. A collared shirt or sweater, and no jeans. For girls, it's even simpler. No shirts with writing, and, again, no jeans. And no sweatpants, either. Or hoodies. Or athletic gear. That's the Loomis dress code. Coming from public school, it's a bit of a shock at first. But, in the words of faculty member Curt Robison, "Certain restrictions to the freedom of choice in dress are needed" (the full text of a speech he gave on dress code policy is excerpted below). Eventually, most students learn to cope with the dress code and respect its restrictions, though. It seems like a lot of restrictions, but truth be told, it's reasonable. It strikes a good balance between relaxed and formal. A happy medium.

But as the News Section of this newspaper reported in our last issue, the Dress Code Committee is "poised to push for a more formal dress code." Fred Seebeck, committee chairman, said of the committee's goals, "We think the dress code should be more formal; the atmosphere should resemble that of one in the workplace. The learning

atmosphere is compromised when the dress is too casual. The more formally we dress, the more serious school becomes."

Dean Seebeck is in large part right. When dress is too casual, the learning atmosphere is compromised. But one could hardly call our current dress code casual. Beyond some level of formality, the learning atmosphere is no longer compromised. We think our dress

Students need to be able to express themselves in a variety of different ways.

code is already above this line. A typical boy's outfit is a button-down shirt and khaki pants. If the goal is a stricter dress code, where might we go from here? Ties every day would be the next logical step up. But in terms of improving a learning environment, what's the difference between a shirt and shirt-and-tie? It's hard for us to believe there

would be any substantive difference.

Indeed, for a learning environment filled with teenagers, our current dress code is more than sufficient. It compromises neither the learning environment nor our personal liberties. The latter is what's at stake with this issue. For marginally better academics, are we willing to restrict personal liberties? As Mr. Robison said, "Such restrictions should be made only when there are compelling reasons backed by moral principles which can legitimately override the principle of civil liberty."

So the issue to consider is this: are there moral principles backing a change to a stricter dress code? We can't seem to find any. Perhaps if our dress were offensive, tightening the code would help the community. But, as it stands, the dress code doesn't offend. There is a key principle, however, backing the keeping of our dress code where it is: our school's need to support student expression. The more specific our dress code becomes, the less freedom we have. And that's not something to take lightly.

QUOTABLE: ROBISON ON DRESS CODE

The following is an excerpt from a speech given by faculty member Curt Robison in 1986 to the faculty of the American School in Switzerland

I think we do ourselves an injustice and give our students a misleading message when, by legislating styles of dress as precisely as we do, we imply that our concern over aspects of style takes precedence over the very general principle with which it conflicts, that of minimizing the restriction of an individual's freedom of choice and self-expression. Of course, the issue considered didn't seem to be terribly important, but that doesn't mean that there were no major principles at stake in our decision. It was precisely in the conflict between concern for a certain style of dress vs. concern for the minimizing of restrictions to an individual's liberties that we decided that the concern for style should be overriding.

There are many restrictions to an individual's complete freedom which we could agree are not only permissible, but

indeed, are ethically demanded. The concern for individual liberties does not, and should not, ethically override many of our rules (or other possible rules) relating to a student's treatment of his fellow human beings. Nor in a school setting should freedom always take precedence over certain attempts to foster a positive attitude toward learning and academics. Clearly, issues relating to the development and enrichment of character and mind should be at the very heart of what a school is about (and of course, it is probably clear that in my mind, the principle of civil liberties is crucial in the development of character).

The concerns surrounding many of the particularities of the dress code, however, do not seem to be so central to our mission to develop mind and character. Within certain boundaries (which I don't think are crossed by the mix of ties and sneakers) a respect for students' individual choice and self-expression should override our fears of their allegedly poor taste in dress. I become embarrassed by my profession when I am obligated to enforce rules which so

lightly regard principles of civil liberty which I consider so important. I wish it weren't so.

It may be suggested that by posing the issue the way I do that I've unfairly biased the argument against any particular dress code provision, for surely any individual dress code regulation, when baldly stated, pales in comparison to a more lofty ideal such as that of civil liberty. This is not my intent, for I fear that even in the area of dress, given our circumstances, complete liberty would be inappropriate. I recognize then that certain restrictions to the freedom of choice in dress are needed. In keeping with my main theme, however, such restrictions should be made only when there are compelling reasons backed by moral principles which can legitimately override the principle of civil liberty in cases of conflict between the principles. I'm afraid that I have difficulty finding such a principle which would warrant a ban of some of the things which were banned - 'neatness' just doesn't seem to make it.

LETTERS

Why we censor the Log

To the editors,

The Log's editors seek to be able to publish their paper with no prior review of its contents by faculty or the administration. This is an idealistic goal which is understandable. But although I admire the Log as a newspaper, I do not think we are anywhere near ready to suspend all oversight, and I would be surprised if many students and even some Log people did not agree. Even experienced professional reporters and editors have oversight. It is not clear who would play that role here if faculty and the school administration were to step aside.

It is likely that ambitious but inexperienced student writers will sometimes wound community members or themselves, invade the privacy of individuals they write about, slander rivals (Kent School, for instance), and do an exposé knowing only part of one side of a story. In fact, all of the above would have already happened this year with the Log had there not been adult supervision. The Log editors rightly admit that "mistakes will be made" without supervision, but believe those mistakes are a small price to pay for free speech. But I believe the price is too high when you consider that what you really have is not widespread free speech, but enormous power in the hands of a few people, the editors and any editorial writers they choose to include. I believe the emphasis for the intermediate future in the Log should be the training in journalism of young staff coming up through the ranks and the maturing of editors as they negotiate with adults here about what is reasonable to print.

The fact that we approved the editorial which criticizes our supervision policy demonstrates that we are not hopeless censors. We agree that issues need to be addressed and debated, and there are plenty of interesting and controversial subjects the Log can focus on without us relinquishing all oversight of its work, especially when it comes to protecting individuals in our community (or elsewhere) from the possibility of ad hominem remarks, intemperate sarcasm or innuendo.

I really do not know if there will come a time when we could suspend oversight of the Log. But I do know that much in the way of journalistic training and a sustained effort to develop a culture of informed responsibility would have to come first. I say this not to question the goodwill of the present Log staff, but to say that their challenge seeking independence suggests a positive path in that direction.

WOODY HESS

Associate head of school

What do you think of Log censorship? Send us your thoughts (email to log@loomis.org) on this issue or any other and we might just publish them!

EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK

SIOBHAN REID '12

Delay the game — heart screenings for all student-athletes

We called him Tex, because his real name sounded too pretentious for the ebullient teenager from the Lone Star State. He was bright, cheerful, always smiling. A hardworking student-athlete, Tex gave his all in the classroom, on the football field, on the basketball court, and on the inflatable competitions at the annual SpringFest. As a student and player for my father, and an advisee to both my parents, he was like my older brother. I remember pegging him with snowballs on the most frigid New Hampshire January days, the ones so cold you lose your breath when you step outside the door.

On October 20, 2008, my mom knocked on the door of my room as I was getting dressed. Tex had passed away of unknown causes the night before, asleep in his Texas home. He was 18 years old. Weeks went by and still the autopsy results were inconclusive. Every day I'd rush home from classes and practices, begging my parents for any shred of news. Blood tests proved drugs and alcohol were not involved, but no evidence as to how a healthy teenage boy could die that way suddenly arose.

One day I opened my MacBook to read the news, and again my breath escaped me. Apparently, scientists found that a type of Attention Deficit Hyperac-

tivity Disorder (ADHD) medication led to enlargement of the heart, putting excessive amounts of stress on the body as the organ would be forced to work harder to distribute oxygenated blood throughout the body. Males make up the largest percentage of ADHD cases, and Tex himself had had the disorder. I wondered if his medication had anything to do with his passing.

At the end of the winter, the autopsy revealed that Tex had in fact died of a cardiac disorder called hypertrophic cardiomyopathy; his heart was too large. But because his family didn't have any history of congenital heart defects, nobody had thought to have Tex or his siblings screened.

Simple tests could have saved his life, and now his parents must live with the knowledge that their son's death could have been prevented. Of course they are not at fault, but the survivor's guilt will plague them.

In August 2010 senior football player Brian Colvin, 18, died of a heart attack during a Lewisville High School preseason scrimmage.

In early January 2010, Southern Indiana basketball player Jeron Lewis, 21, collapsed on the court and died.

In March 2011, 16-year-old Wes Leonard died on

the basketball court after he made the game-winning layup. He died of a condition called dilated cardiomyopathy. Like Tex, he had enlarged heart valves, decreasing the rate of blood flow.

On December 7, 2011, 19-year-old Fred Thompson, a football player at Oregon State University, died during a game of pickup basketball. Like Tex, he had HCM.

Electrocardiograms, or EKGs, test for irregularities in heartbeats and can help detect predispositions for coronary issues. Although running the cost of approximately \$1,000 per examination, EKGs should become mandatory for all high school students, particularly male athletes, who appear to be the most at-risk for such tragedies.

Waldwick High School in New Jersey requires EKGs and heart ultrasounds for all incoming students, in addition to the typical entrance physical. With the help of local organizations and companies such as CardiacScan, the costs are offset so that the school can provide these types of services. Since the institution of that policy, three students have been diagnosed with underlying heart problems that would have gone unnoticed.

Tex's parents, Bart and Doré Koontz, have estab-

lished a similar organization called *August Heart*. Their group seeks to educate people in Texas about dilated and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and provide screenings in schools.

Heart screenings need to become mandatory tests, especially for athletes. Contributions from foundations would offset the costs, because too many teens have died too young. At the current time, Loomis Chaffee does not require student-athletes to undergo these procedures (though it does require all students to undergo annual physical exams), even though doing so would protect students' well-beings. Given the proportion of athletes at Loomis, it is only a matter of time before an at-risk student arrives on the Island. To ignore the test's importance is to neglect the student body. Although inconvenient, EKGs prevent further inconveniences such as death or serious injury.

Were Tex still alive, he would turn 22 on March 29th. If he, Brian, Jeron, Wes and Fred, had only been screened, they might still be here today. The more aware we are of possible heart problems, the safer our youths will be. Before my thirteen-year-old brother begins high school sports, he will be screened as a precaution. It is my hope that more families will do the same for their student-athletes.

OP-ED

JO WANG '12

An insider's guide to life in China

The rise of China in the post-World War II era has probably been the most controversial compared to the elevations of other countries. Many people subscribe to the notion of China as a threat, stirring and spreading worries about China's potential to become an international superpower—with its fast developing economy and political ideology incompatible with the Western world. As a citizen of China who attends boarding school in America, I neither believe in nor have the slightest interest in the likelihood of China's assertion of dominance over the world. I want to propose an alternative way to look at the rise of China.

About politics: While most of the native Chinese students at Loomis come from well-off families in large cities, and you will never see us wearing ragged clothes, feeding solely on rice and cucumbers, or hear us talking about our five-hour mountain trek to get to the nearest school, there are children from the most under-developed areas in China who live this reality. But if not for my experience of living with these children and their families in crude houses, and witnessing the lack of medical treatment and the primitive way of farming that these families use, I never would have had such a concrete understanding of the despair of the destitute, and of their simple and reasonable wish for a better life. Why aren't these people bestowed with the same blessing for economic security as those in democratic and developed nations are?

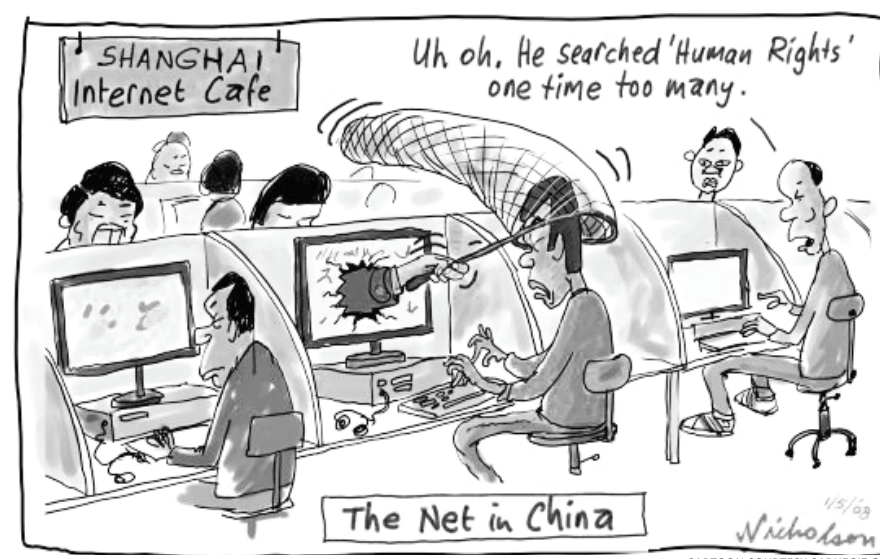
I believe that, in terms of economic development, the Chinese government is indeed trying to meet its responsibilities to improve the lives of its people, although I do wish that it abuses its power less and that the economic development becomes more equal between regions. Even if, as the New York Times asserted in a recent editorial, the Chinese government only makes economic growth its priority in order to "satisfy the people," political games are not unique to China; politicians around the world manipulate public sentiment to further their own goals.

MADISON PETERSON-PORTA '15

Lights-out, while preserving our sleep, hurts academic performance

It is a belief universally acknowledged that day students at Loomis Chaffee with unlimited time to do homework must have an advantage in terms of academic performance over boarders. One possible explanation for this belief could be the lights-out policy enforced in underclassmen dormitories. Homework is a primary concern for all of us, yet boarders face a distinct disadvantage in terms of the amount of time they have to complete their work in a thorough manner.

What happens if a boarder doesn't finish homework during the mandated two-hour study time? Underclassmen have to stay up late to complete it, often in the dark so as to evade their prefects. Day students, on the other hand, are allowed to finish their work in stress-free environments without fear of getting "sevens" for being awake past bedtime. Day students also have the advan-



While I justify China's actions as universal, I understand and, to some degree, empathize with the reasonable feeling of insecurity in China's becoming an autocratic superpower. I guess the reassuring part of reality lies in the fact that the rest of the world wants the Chinese government to become more democratic, but also, the majority of Chinese people desire the same. The real problem is that this grassroots hope for political reform may not reach the Chinese government, or, if it does, make a difference. With more bottom-up urges for democratic participation in politics, and with seemingly looser censorship control in political journalism, there almost seems to be hope after all. Thirty years ago, China did not have any private economy whatsoever, and when you think of this it makes any future changes possible. But if you think about the fact that sixty years ago we followed a single leader in this one-party communist country, and still do today, you feel depressed and apathetic again. The main problem with politics in China is that nothing is ever certain.

About censorship: Yes, it is true that Facebook, Youtube, Twitter, and the Wikipedia pages "Democ-

those online proxies completely, although some of the proxy software was disabled (until newer versions of software came out and thus restarted the vicious battle between Chinese hackers and the government). And just as your parents told you as a child, the truth always comes out. I have seen the recordings and video footage of the Tiananmen Square tragedy, an event the Chinese government has forbidden to be mentioned, passed down from generation to generation. Young people always 'climb over' the firewall when they see their Chinese friends posting updates or pictures when they go back home for vacations. Remember how long it took you to realize that the truth eventually comes out? It may be harder for the government to learn, as they are set in their ways and have more power.

About North Korea: On the morning of December 17, 2011, a normal day during my Christmas break in China, I logged onto Renren.com (the Chinese equivalent of Facebook), and saw a whole page of status updates about the death of Kim Jong Il, North Korea's dictator for over fifty years. Among the updates, the most commonly seen were jokes forwarded by thousands of people, one of which read, "The

obese population in North Korea has just been reduced by 50 percent, and the other 50 percent was about to claim power as the next hereditary ruler of the country." The jokes were just harmless fun, yet the apathy and disapproval toward the Kim dynasty of North Korea speaks for itself. Born in China almost five decades after China's assisting Kim Il Sung in the Korean War, my Chinese peers and I could hardly relate to the tie between China and North Korea, as much as we can't relate to the worship of communism present fifty years ago.

For Chinese youths who live in a country where Facebook, YouTube and Twitter are blocked and Internet search results and Wikipedia pages are monitored, it is easy to transfer the discontent of this information blockade towards the North Korean government, and to feel sympathetic for the North Korean people, most of whom have never used a cell phone or personal computer.

For the majority of Chinese people who don't have to worry about helping out 'the other Communist country in Asia,' as Chinese government officials might strategize, the general attitude toward North Korea is vaguely similar to an attitude toward your crazy, irritable neighbor whom you suspect plays with dangerous chemicals in his backyard but is so creepily anti-social that he just does not socialize with other people. Because you are worried about your own safety and the possibility of your house becoming collateral damage if your crazy neighbor has a 'little' accident, you find yourself talking to this neighbor because you live closest to him; this is as unsettling and annoying for common Chinese people like us, as it is for the whole world.

While this whole article is about politics in China, many people there just don't care about politics. They want to have normal lives, eating Chinese food (or, as we call it, food) three times a day, listening to music on Billboard and its Chinese equivalents, trashing the *Twilight* series with friends, and complaining about school or work. But they still hope for better lives and more freedom.

Leap before you look

Welcome back to the Island. Now that the New Year has finally passed and the doom of 2012 begins, I can only wonder how many of you truly took my advice. I had suggested that you choose a theme of self-improvement

THE LITTLE THINGS
Jeesue Lee '12

instead of compiling a list of random goals. For example, by choosing positivism, I will have further leeway to accomplish my goal, as opposed to making a simple vow to smile more. (I haven't been.)

By and large, I like to think the world agrees with me. Several days ago, my English teacher, Mr. Scanlon, read my class an article by Scott Adams, creator of Dilbert. In the piece, Adams summarizes his life, describing how after over twenty years of cautious living,

MEAGHAN REID '13

Strict gun control leads to lawlessness

Sarah McKinley was in her house on new year's eve with her three-year-old son when two men broke into her home. McKinley barricaded her door with a couch, then called 911. She told the dispatcher what was going on, explained that she had two guns in her hand, and asked if she could shoot the intruders if they entered through the door. The dispatcher could not legally advise her to shoot someone, but said that McKinley should do what she must to protect herself and her baby. Justin Shane Martin got through the door after twenty minutes and rushed McKinley with a twelve-inch hunting knife. McKinley (recognizing one of the intruders as someone who she thought had been stalking her) shot and killed Martin when he entered, saving herself and her son. She said, "I was going to have to choose between my son's life and the intruder, and it wasn't going to be my son." Martin's accomplice heard the gunshots and fled. Oklahoma's laws state that deadly force may be used against intruders, and McKinley is not facing any charges.

What would have happened if guns were outlawed? McKinley may have been able to acquire a knife of her own before the intruders got in, but she probably would have been unable to disarm her assailant, especially because Martin's accomplice only fled when he heard the gunshots. He probably would have joined a knife fight, had there been one. McKinley could not

tage of parental guidance and assistance with difficult assignments.

Boarders have to be much more organized and use their daytime study halls effectively, since there is a high probability that they will not finish all of their homework during study hall. Students scramble to meet the demands of modern life, and sometimes cutting back on sleep is the only reasonable option. With our hectic schedules at Loomis Chaffee, there isn't enough time to complete all of our homework. Teachers assign up to an hour of homework per night, meaning that students can often accumulate work loads of up to five hours.

The Center for Integrative Genomics asserts that "ev-

eryone's body adapts differently to different amounts of sleep; what is enough sleep for one person may be too little for another." I've functioned in a classroom on six or even five hours of sleep. I'm fine with that amount. However, others may find those eight hours of sleep essential. Those people may want to be in bed at 10:30, but the rest of us may prefer to stay up later. Therefore, Loomis should not enforce a universal rule. We should rely on our own good judgment.

Loomis Chaffee is a boarding and a day school. How is it fair that only day students don't have a lights out when we all have the same amount of homework? Loomis gives day students more opportunities than boarders to complete assignments. In the dorms, if we don't finish all of our homework during study hall, then we're allowed to have late lights until 11:00 PM. Unfortunately,

hindering school and work. It should complement the student's personality while forcing him out of his comfort zone. Of course, we must reflect upon the ambiguity of the word 'risk.' For what does 'risk' actually mean? One person's conception could be choosing the trendiest top and paying full price for it. Another could be climbing Mt. Everest. There is an odd disparity.

For us Loomis Chaffee students, I think that taking chances ties with our current theme of doing the right thing. After all, standing up for your peers can certainly count as risky; not everyone will appreciate the gesture. Similarly, consider that Loomis students (and teenagers in general) will have their fair share of disagreements and social separation. We certainly don't have exclusive cliques, but not everyone deeply loves each other.

Well, try apologizing. Last week, I was charged with

ly, an extra half-hour is sometimes insufficient.

We should be permitted to study quietly in our rooms past 10:30—as long as we don't disturb others, there's no reason to enforce a specific time to go to sleep. Our grades are more important than lights-out. We're only helping ourselves by staying up later to study.

I think that all of us agree that limiting our waking hours in favor of extra sleep can be detrimental to our grades. Our schedule at Loomis Chaffee is a busy one, and we don't always have enough time to finish our homework with the current lights-out policy. Clearly, Loomis students have proven their academic strength, not to mention their ability to manage time. So why does Loomis Chaffee think that we need a mandatory lights-out to function on a school day?

writing an apology essay for my Creative Writing class, and the experience was riveting. At last, I could finally express the words I wanted to say in an effective manner. The notion is also precarious as, again, not everyone is likely to accept. Sometimes pain runs too deep or turns into anger.

Another approach could simply be to attempt something new, to give it the proverbial "Loomis try." If there is one story that is prevalent among past and present Pelicans, it is the one in which someone discovered a passion he or she had never previously explored. One of my closest friends discovered an immense talent with ceramics. Another realized that she is fascinated by math. There's always a chance to re-invent and re-discover exactly who you are.

So embrace life and take my advice. The world has a million possibilities, and adventure is always an option.

have defended herself effectively without that firearm.

About one million people defend themselves with guns each year. Sarah McKinley was just one of these people. In fact, her method of self-defense may even reduce violent crime, albeit marginally. Martin's accom-

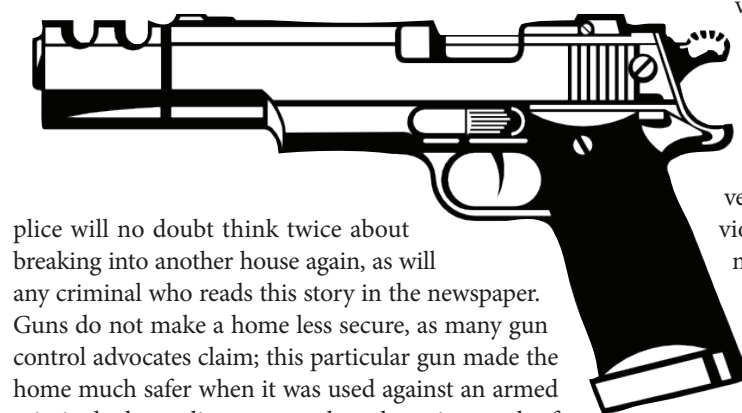
plice will no doubt think twice about breaking into another house again, as will any criminal who reads this story in the newspaper. Guns do not make a home less secure, as many gun control advocates claim; this particular gun made the home much safer when it was used against an armed criminal who, police say, may have been in search of prescription drugs when they entered the house.

In England, Wales, or Australia, the story would be far more tragic. A woman is in her house with only her baby, and someone tries to break in. She barricades the door with her couch, and the criminal manages to enter after about twenty minutes. The aforementioned woman and her son are found dead by authorities some time later, and the autopsy reveals that both victims were stabbed to death. In those countries, it is illegal

for citizens to own a gun, which makes people more likely to commit crimes, as no gun owner will be there to stop them. These three countries have the highest violent crime rates among the seventeen most industrialized nations, as citizens are more prone to gun violence. If someone is already a criminal, he is unlikely to have any qualms about smuggling illegal firearms into the country; what's an illegal weapons charge against something like murder or armed robbery? England is the developed country with the second-highest violent crime rates. In the space of five months, street crime in London alone increased by a whopping 32 percent. Australia's crime rates are up, too; in two years, murders increased by six and a half percent, while attempted murders increased by 12 and a half

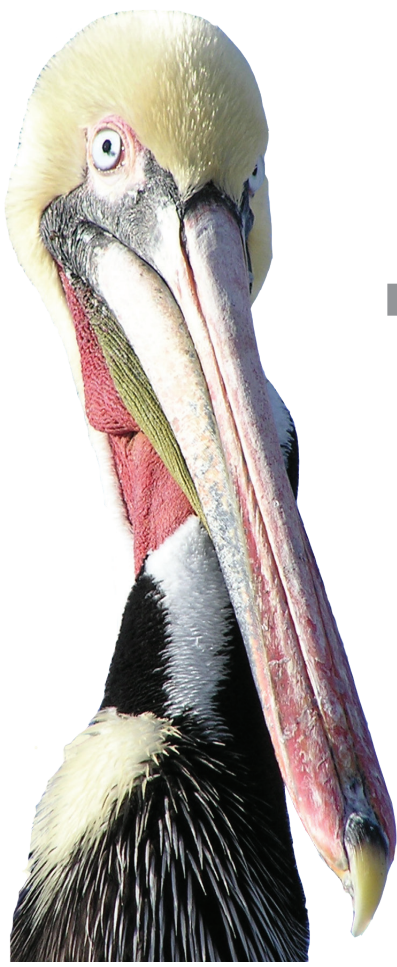
percent. However, in Switzerland, the country with the highest number of privately-owned handguns, the murder rate is lower than any country where guns are, if not outlawed, severely restricted.

Having concealed weapons is more effective than having a gun in the house. Two professors at the University of Chicago, John R. Lott, Jr., and David B. Mustard, conducted a study comparing gun ownership and FBI crime for the 3,045 counties in America. It was



eventually determined that carrying hidden handguns is the most effective way to reduce crime. Every time a state changed the law to allow concealed handguns, violent crime was reduced by eight and a half percent, and, each additional year that the law stays in effect, the murder rate falls an additional three percent. That means that, in only five years, what may have been one hundred murders becomes seventy-nine murders. That is twenty-one lives saved (and counting) if the concealed carry laws remain in effect. Right-to-carry legislation deters armed assault without the unfortunate side effects of increased rates of accidental deaths and suicides by firearm.

Fatal accidents involving firearms reached an all-time low, whether concealed or unconcealed, in 2000. Only four out of one million died in an accident with a loaded gun that year. There are a lot of everyday objects that cause many more accidental deaths than guns, including motorcycles, cars, and, particularly in the case of young children, bathtubs. Furthermore, a study was conducted in which two groups of children were left with an unloaded gun. One group had just taken a course on gun safety, and immediately left in search of an adult, while the children in the other group played with the gun. The already very low accident rate could be decreased further if children were taught gun safety, either in schools or by their guardians. Americans are safer with the ability to carry firearms.



H₂O + Cl₂ + Vitamin D = swim trip

BY JACK KILPATRICK '12
AND LIZ TITTEKTON '12
Staff Writer & Sports Editor

After a seemingly all too short holiday break, the Loomis Chaffee swim team reunited at the Bradley International Airport at six in the morning and shared in the exchanging of exhausted hugs and greetings from their teammates. After two flights and too many banana nut muffins, the team arrived in Vero Beach, Florida. The Pelicans were greeted with a 6,500-yard work out before they could take a moment to enjoy the weather and scenery. Classic Loomis Chaffee swim trip.

Later that night, the team gathered outside their rooms at the ever-welcoming Islander Inn for pizza and the annual goals meeting. Coach DeConinck and Coach Seebeck congratulated the swimmers on completing their first practice of the eleven to come that week. They talked about their expectations and the goals they hoped each swimmer would strive toward, the ultimate one being to finish every lap. Kudos to Hadley Merrill '13 for completing all 2,860 laps.

Although the swimmers were plagued by fatigue and sleep-deprivation, they rallied to play boisterous games of Apples to Apples and Kemps in the hotel courtyard. The competitive spirit and shrieking laughter that first night set the tone of fun and incredible team-bonding to come for the remainder of the long week.

Each morning, after a quick breakfast at the local favorite, Cravings, the groggy swimmers would trudge on board the bus, ironically named the "Magic Carpet," to head over to St. Edward's



LC swimmers pose underwater during the Florida swim trip

PHOTO COURTESY ISSO SHIMOMOTO

School's outdoor pool. The practices were a mixture of old favorites such as Coach D's Super 600s and Seeb's infamous "Butterfly Set." The swimmers credulously breathed a sigh of relief when Ms. Chambers and Ms. Shimamoto announced that they would have an opportunity to create a practice. The Loomis Chaffee Pelicans got to experience, first-hand, the torturous "non-breathing" laps of Williams College and Cali-style sets of Pomona. Both provoked a few of the boys to begin an Acappella group to avoid swimming the practice.

As the week wore on, the Loomis swimmers put all their effort into each lap, constantly asking for advice and growing stronger with each 50. The lanes maintained a high morale, despite the hundreds

of laps, and the athletes maintained a willingness to improve and work hard through each practice. Coach Seebeck said, "The overall lively spirit of the team made coaching each practice a pleasure, and I thank the team for that." Despite sporadic injuries and exhaustion, the team continued to flip turn and drive through every lap, even if it meant icing and vertical kicking to return to the pool the next day, ready to go.

On our fourth day of training, the team was given a challenge: the practice would be cut short if a selected group of swimmers could fulfill a task. They had to race an 8 X 100 yard freestyle relay in under seven minutes and forty-seven seconds. The reward was an early dismissal from practice. After 35,000 yards already

that week, there was nothing that any swimmer wanted more than a little extra rest. The coaches had collaborated the night before and chosen swimmers that spanned across all skill levels in order to showcase a true team effort. The selected swimmers, armed with their "zoomers," all lined up in the pool and the relay began. After many spectacular performances and a fair share of flailing, the race was over. The team cheered with excitement and relief when Mr. Seebeck announced the time of seven minutes twenty-seven seconds. The stand-out swimmer who shocked the team the most was sophomore Geneth Chin '14, who swam a 50.7.

Outside of the pool, both the girls' and boys' teams participated in numerous team-bonding activi-

ties that made them become very close with each other. Whether it was BFL, Beach Football League, with football star John Furlong '14 and champion quarterback Jamil Hashmi '12, or hours at the beach tanning in a massive group of 40 students, the team did everything together and always had fun. For New Year's Eve the entire team went to Universal Studios to celebrate the beginning of 2012 and more importantly explore "Harry Potter World." During the nights, when most athletes would have slept after completing countless miles in the water, the Loomis swim team battled it out in intense games of Uno and Indian Chief, waking every resident in the hotel. And of course, many hours of the trip were dedicated to eating. Michael Phelps is not the only swimmer who can consume twelve pancakes, ten slices of bacon, Belgian waffles, a loaf of bread, and scrambled eggs in one sitting.

This year's swim team training trip was filled with hours of hard work, over 42 miles of endurance, stomach-aching laughter, and an incredible sense of team unity that will forever be remembered by the athletes, coaches, and 200 photos Seeb's was able to capture. What sets this trip apart from ones in the past? Coach DeConinck says, "the incredible senior leadership, having them set the tone and work ethic for the underclassmen to emulate." While the team is back, pounding out laps in the indoor Connecticut pool, the swimmers are much closer with one another and the overall attitude during practices and meets has grown increasingly more positive and joyful. The Loomis Chaffee swim team looks forward to having a fun and successful season!

Pelicans on ice

BY LUCIAN GOODMAN '14
Staff Writer

On Thursday, December 15, Loomis Chaffee Boys' Varsity Hockey traveled to Avon Old Farms to participate in the esteemed Christmas Classic. LC hockey players knew that the tournament would be no walk in the park, especially with the added pressure of numerous college scouts watching from the stands. Nervous and excited, the team arrived at AOF on Thursday afternoon ready for their first and most important game against Avon. However, the Pelicans were not at full strength as defenseman EJ Culhane was benched with an injury from Wednesday's game. With Culhane on the bench, and with a lack in defensive depth, the varsity hockey team entered the game at a disadvantage.

Avon, an annually solid team and force to be reckoned with in the Founders' League, showcased their star defenseman Connor Sullivan, currently a NHL draft pick. The game started off well for Loomis, with Austin King, a recent forward turned defenseman, scoring in the 4th minute. However, Avon responded with four goals of their own, three of which were scored in the third period. It was a tough first loss that setback the team, but Loomis was in no way prepared to give up.

The next morning, Loomis faced Tabor Academy, and immediately their opponents capitalized on LC's lethargic play and state of mind. Tabor scored three goals and Loomis scored once, but it was too little too late. Later on in the afternoon,



Boys' varsity hockey

PHOTO COURTESY LOOMIS CHAFFEE



Girls' varsity hockey

PHOTO COURTESY LOOMIS CHAFFEE

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Ballin' — Club A status

BY GRACE DENNY '13
Staff Writer

English teacher Scott Purdy, a club basketball referee and former coach, describes the club basketball players as belonging to three groups. Coach Purdy said, "You have athletes who aren't basketball players, basketball players who aren't athletes, and then you have kids who are neither." In spite of this, or perhaps because of it, there's a lot of enthusiasm and heart, even if not at NBA-caliber talent, on the court from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. in the afternoon. The club basketball program increased to six teams this year, providing students with a chance for some fierce competition in a relaxed and friendly environment.

With the wide range of talents on the teams, the club basketball games can be fun, and at times, comical to watch. In a recent game, Bre Derella '12, known to

ereed by kids on the varsity basketball team. It's not uncommon for a ref to blow his whistle and just laugh."

Spencer Congero '12, another

"You have athletes who aren't basketball players, basketball players who aren't athletes and then you have kids who are neither."

-Scott Purdy

her teammates as the Honey Badger for her tight D, tried to guard Haris Kuljancic '12, waving her arms above her head, but only reaching the height of his chest. Christian Bermel '12, a two-year club basketball all-star (Mr. Matlack, in particular, remembers Christian's blazing speed on the court), said, "Games are often ref-

a two-year aficionado, recognized that "whether air-balling free throws, or just plain walking out of bounds, the players of club basketball clearly show that winning is not a number one priority."

While the club basketball players may not have the skills of those at the varsity level, they play

with incredible pride and enjoyment. In fact, the coaches might be the most fanatic participants of club basketball. Each year, the coaches compare records and the coach with the best record wins. Mr. Purdy remarked with unmistakable satisfaction, "I've won every year that I coached, except for one."

When asked who he thinks will win this year, Mr. Purdy modestly places his money on Mr. Mac, a club basketball veteran. At the end of each season, the winning club team and a collection of faculty members face-off for the ultimate club showdown. "We almost always win," Purdy boasted.

Come watch ballers like Michael Danielczuk '12, Riley Clark-Long '12, and Terry Lee '12 drain a trey.

Tebow reigning over Mile High City

BY JOHN FURLONG '14
Staff Writer

With one throw of the football, Tim Tebow launched himself into super-stardom. Not just super-stardom in the sports world (he's already been a sports star for some time), but super-stardom in our daily lives. On January 8, 2012, Demaryius Thomas, the Broncos' receiver, caught a short pass from Tebow and outran his opponents to the end zone, winning the game on the first play of overtime. Yes, the 2011 AFC Wild Card playoff game between the Steelers and Broncos would deservedly be discussed by passionate sports fans with nothing better to do with their lives, as it was a thrilling game with a heart-pounding finish. But after the Broncos' upset "Tebow Talk" strictly be confined to sports fans. With one play, Tim Tebow bridged the gap between sports fans and non-sports fans and united society with curiosity about one man.

Admittedly, I recognize many people are still unaware about who Tim Tebow is. To those people, although you probably live under a rock, by the end of this article you will be properly informed. Tim Tebow is a football player. More specifically, he's the quarterback for the Denver Broncos. Yes, I realize you're wondering, "He's just a football player; why is he more popular than any other player?" For starters, he's successful. With Tebow as the starting quarterback this year, a job he did not earn until mid-season, the Broncos are 7-4. Even more impressively, the Broncos won only one game before he inherited the starting job. A position as glamorous as the football quarterback often receives a lot of attention from the sports community, especially if the quarterback is performing successfully. But, what sets Tebow's popularity apart from other famous athletes is that he connects to pop culture in addition to reigning in the sports world. How? Well, if you have an Internet phenomenon

named after you, most people are going to know who you are. I am talking about "Tebowing." Again, for those of you who don't know, "Tebowing," similar to "planking" or "owling," is the act of getting down on one knee and placing your hand on your forehead in prayer, a move popularized by Tebow himself, which he performs after every win. Humorously mimicking prayer may seem stupid, and not to mention sacrilegious, but it's the Internet. What do you expect?

Tebow is unique in the sense that football fans either love or hate him. If you surveyed 1,000 football fans with the question, "What do you think of Tim Tebow?" the results would be perfectly divided between "like" and "hate" with no in between answer. Fans of Tebow love his passion for the game of football, as well as his passion for religion, as evidenced when the star "Tebows" following a Broncos win. In addition, his fans love the fact that he's a likable person. Whether it's taking a

mission trip to the Philippines or visiting children with disabilities, he makes non-sports news for all the right reasons. However, Tebow's many haters despise him for one reason: he wins. His unique playing style, running as often as throwing, an uncommon trait for quarterbacks, leads some haters to describe Tebow as "not a real" quarterback.

My question is: Why all the hate? Sure, it's easy to be jealous of a man who succeeds at what he does, but why give in to those emotions? As a lifelong Dolphins fan, I've felt jealousy countless times, mostly towards opposing teams and their fans experiencing more success than my beloved team. As someone whose experienced jealousy for many long, painful years, I can tell you with confidence that it's not an emotion worth pursuing. Enjoy "Tebow Time" while it lasts, as the world has never seen a person as fascinating as Tebow, and the odds are very good that we never will again.

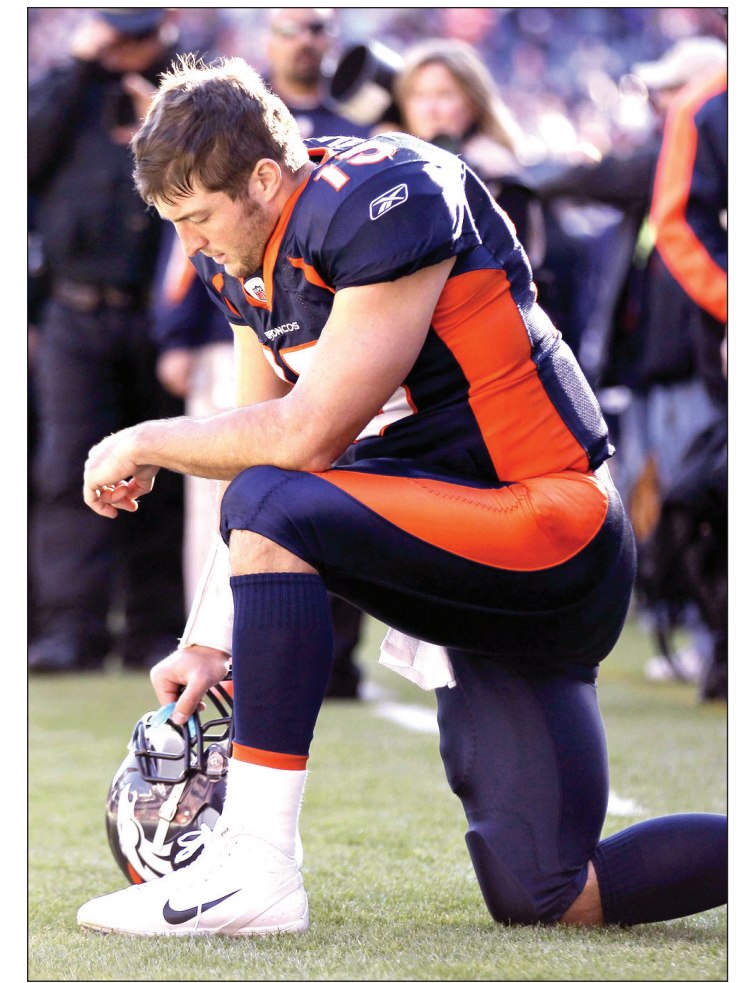


PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE IMAGES

Tim Tebow performs his ritual prayer in a pose that has earned the nickname "Tebowing."