

## Hannah in France

BY HANNAH SHUSHTARI '13  
Staff Writer

"Chante! Chante! Chante!" Every member of my host family urged me to sing. I sat on the Persian rug in the middle of a foreign living room, my lungs filling with the exhaust of fast-talking family of French social-smokers. I heard my host dad starting to sing. Goodness, did it seem familiar! I heard the beginnings of English words melt into a blur of vowels. My host brother then started accompanying him with his guitar. "Bob Dylan!" I shouted. I could feel myself relaxing, absorbed in the familiarity of the music. Feeling more comfortable, looking around at the group of strangers whom I would soon call my 'family', I began to sing. They concentrated on me, trying to understand and imitate the lyrics. For the first time since I had arrived, I felt at home. I felt wanted. I felt significant. In this new culture, I am constantly comparing and contrasting, observing and learning. Through Tambourine Man, I found a common ground, a language we all speak: Music. Every SYA (Study Year Abroad) France student has experienced a moment when he or she no longer felt foreign. For some, it took days, and for others, only a few minutes.

When we arrived at the airport on September 12th, the director of SYA told us that there would be highs and lows, but unlike day-to-day life in America, the highs would be really high, and the lows would be really low. I sat there thinking that I would be the exception.

I'm mature, I thought. I won't hit any lows. Who was I kidding!? I've learned in my first few months here in France that one of the hardest part of being abroad is not living away from my family; it's not being flung out of my comfort zone at least five times a day; it's not even the huge barrier that is put between my host family and me when I can't figure out how to express myself in French. It is all of the little things. I have to sit in my shower. CVS doesn't exist. Want to walk around barefoot? Absolutely not acceptable! Don't say hi to people on the street. Always say hi to the bus driver or store clerk. Wear outfits at least four times before washing them. Never, I repeat, NEVER say "salut" to the eighty year old neighbor. Don't be surprised if the couple standing next to you in the grocery store line starts making out. Don't be surprised when parents hit their children (a lot). Never get a drink or go to toilets during classes! If you don't want to appear totally and completely American, do not show your teeth when you smile. At dinner, do not put your hands on your lap when sitting. Who knows what weapon you're holding under there! Hands must always be on the table. Learning these aspects of life is utterly exhausting.

Luckily, we have teachers at SYA helping us out. I am currently taking eight classes including: French Literature, French History, French Culture and Society, French Art History, French Language, French Pronunciation, English and Math. The French way of learning is incredibly different from that



COURTESY OF HANNAH SHUSHTARI '13

Alums display their fashion designs and more at the Satorialist show. Full story, PAGE 45.

## Fall from Grace: A Senior's Perspective

BY JOHN MACDONALD '13  
News Editor

Imagine a beautiful meadow, laden with budding flowers, butterflies lightly fluttering about, the sun warmly beating down on your skin. Now imagine the exact opposite: Senior Fall. I tremble at the very thought. To put it into perspective, the last article I wrote for the LOG was typed out at four in the morning. Upon thinking about the past several months, my knees begin to tremble, my mind grows foggy, my desire to crawl under the covers and hide intensifies to an unbearable level. But I remind myself: it's over. Never again will I be subject to the intense horrors that lay hidden in every corner of the egregious, utterly hideous, heinous term. As an underclassman, I was horrified by the tribulations that Junior spring would bring, but I thought that after that term, school would get easier. How ignorant I was. Are Seniors entirely liberated from the burdens of the year? No. But will we ever have to suffer another senior fall? Well, hopefully not.

At midterms, my advisor, Simon Holdaway, a teacher in the science department, made an analogy: the RPM of a car. Simon Holdaway explained that although a car can "redline" for a little while, if continually left there it would overheat and become useless. He asked if I was redlining; I was. He advised that I find some way to pull back a little and to give myself a small break; I said that I could. But in order to do so, I had to cut back on things I enjoyed doing, like eating, sleeping, and breathing. Several nights brought fewer than four hours of sleep, the worst granting a little over an hour, the next day, I had cross-country hard circuits (in Mr. Neary's group...). I can proudly boast that I made it through that day. (I lost 15 pounds)

As Christian Bermel claimed in his perspective on Senior Spring in the final edition of the Log the last academic year, Loomis students are like rubber bands. Senior Fall represents the maximum point a rubber band can stretch without snapping. As physics has readily taught me, this is the point when the pressure, the force, on the object (Seniors) is the greatest.

Why does Senior Fall suck so much? Well, for starters it's the most vital term for college applications: a poor Fall can hurt, a successful Fall can elevate. It could be the difference between

## Landmark Case Headed to Supreme Court

BY REKHA KENNEDY '13  
News Editor

The Supreme Court has chosen a court case as the plaintiff with which to judge upon the constitutionality of DOMA, Defense of Marriage Act. A local law firm, Horton Shields & Knox PC, was also pursuing case that was among the top contenders for being chosen as the plaintiff for the Supreme Court's poster case judging DOMA.

The Defense of Marriage Act was enacted in 1996 as Congress's reaction to Hawaii considering to allow same sex marriage in its state constitution. Some mem-

bers of Congress believed legalizing same-sex marriage in Hawaii would lead other states to recognize the legality of gay marriage under the Full Faith and Credit Clause in the United States Constitution.



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woman," although this does not forbid states from allowing or denying homosexuals the right to marry, it states that the marriages are not recognized in the federal sense. This would deny same sex couples the federal responsibilities given to heterosexual couples. Most of the court cases being considered for the Supreme Court are arguing that these same sex couples deserve the same federal benefits as their heterosexual counterparts.

The court case chosen was Windsor v. United States to review 83-year-old Edith Windsor, a widow of a same-sex couple, who was denied the spousal deduction because of the definition of "marriage" as defined by the Defense of Marriage Act. Edith Windsor married Thea Spyer in 2007 after doctors determined that she wouldn't live much longer because she had multiple sclerosis. After she died, Spyer left all property to Windsor, but be-

cause they were a same-sex couple Windsor had to pay an estate tax bill, which would not be the case if Windsor was married to a man. At the time of Spyer's death, the state of New York, their residential state, legalized gay marriage, thus validating their marriage. The plaintiff argued, with Chief Judge Dennis Jacobs agreeing that DOMA violated the Equal Protection Clause in the Fourteenth Amendment "that all persons similarly situated should be treated alike" and DOMA treats individuals differently based on their sexual orientation by not giving same-sex married couples the same benefits as their legally married opposite-sex counterparts. The Defendants, however, argued that their marriage was not legal in the state of New York when they were married and they did not hold a decisive marriage license. If one assumes that their marriage was not legal at the time then the whole case is annulled because if they can't ar-

gue that they deserve the benefits given to legally married same-sex couples. After Windsor sued for being denied the same rights as a heterosexual counterpart and the Department of Justice declined to continue its defense of DOMA, the congressional group, Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group (BLAG), began to defend the statute. Another argument for DOMA was that it preserved the tradition and sanctity of marriage, but this argument was countermanded by the opinion of the judge, which stated that DOMA does not help preserve the institution of marriage between a man and woman. The United States District Court ruled that the Defense of Marriage of Act did deprive Windsor the constitutional guarantee of equality rights under the fourteenth amendment. The case then went to the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed with the United States District Court of Appeals on the unconstitutionality of DOMA.

## Senegal Project connects

BY SARAI MERINO '14  
Staff Writer

What do you think about when you hear the word "Senegal?" Do you think about the 76,000 square mile country located in West Africa or does a hazy recognition of a country in the Western Hemisphere come to mind? Probably the latter (unless you happen to be really good at geography) due to the average person's lack of information about Senegal, the Senegal-America Project makes for the perfect opportunity to learn about the fascinating culture of the Senegalese.

The Senegal-America Project was established and is currently

run by Tony Vacca, an American percussionist who plays instruments from different countries around the world, including those in Africa, the Caribbean, Asia, and the Middle East. It is a collaborative art project in which two "strangers"—in this case, Loomis Chaffee students and students from a school in Senegal--attempt to reveal, change, and connect with one another through their art. Chet Kempczynski and Mrs. McCandless, teachers in the Art Department, first asked the Art Club leaders - Seyun Kim '14, Sara Gershman '14, and Quinn Schoen '14 - if they wanted to head this project with the guidance of Tony.

The students didn't hesitate to accept the offer. The Art Department purchased many new supplies, including new brushes, acrylic paint, and even glitter for the purpose of the project. Primarily, the Art Club had to determine how they would run the project, deciding to produce a large poster to be filled with paintings, drawings, and even collages—anything that would describe the United States and Loomis Chaffee. The bottom half of this poster was designated to house the artwork of any Loomis students, regardless of artistic ability. The Art Club decided that they would draw a human body with its arms outstretched, as though reaching to the sky. The human body re-

## Editor's Picks

Choice articles from each section

### A Snow day

Do you want to know how those coveted snow days get decided? Well, we'll give you a hint: it has nothing to do with putting a spoon under your pillow.

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### Sports Recruitment

Various aspects and rules behind the ambiguous process of college sports recruitment. From the regulations set by the NCAA, to the less structured advises of coaches, the sports recruitment process is broken down and ex-

### Obama on gay marriage

A Loomis Student speculate about the motives behind president Obama's controversial decision regarding gay marriage.



## FROM PAGE ONE

## Senegal Project connects students



SARA GERSHMAN '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

fects the people from Loomis Chaffee, and the idea is that the Senegalese students would mirror the American student with a depiction of the typical Senegalese student at their school. Together, these two images represent our two schools, American and Senegalese, holding hands. Tony's piece of advice to Loomis was to "Be bold and keep it simple," words of wisdom LC students have creatively taken to heart.

This Senegal-America project has helped LC students express themselves artistically and expand their worldview in a radical, new way — without travel. "Although we won't be able to see each other and directly talk to each other, through art we can have a thorough understanding of another's culture," Seyun responded when asked about how she thought that Loomis would benefit from this project. But not only do we benefit from this project by strengthening and deepening the connection between Senegalese and American cultures, we also recognize the astonishing role that we (the students) play accepting the opportunities and everyday things we might take for granted had we never engaged in the exciting, eye-opening, Senegal-America Project. Our student council members have been quite busy this past fall, and their schedules are just as jam-packed for

the winter. Student Council has improved a lot since last spring. StuCo representatives were each required to sign an oath and must take notes at each meeting. There are guest speakers at nearly every meeting, from Dr. Culbert to head RAs to various StuCo committee branches. Also, you can go to the Student Council youtube channel, <http://www.youtube.com/lcstuco>, so you can keep up to date with various projects and activities.

This fall, StuCo organized several successful events. The blood drive, in which 45 pints of blood were donated, was especially successful seeing as it surpassed the original goal of 35 pints. They also organized the spirit week leading up to Kent Day and the food drive with PSO, which raised over one thousand cans of food for the Windsor food bank, which was nearly empty due to Hurricane Sandy. Catherine Dunlavey also organized the Senior Meditations.

This winter, Student Council plans on working with The Center for the Common Good to help initiate Common Good ideas and activities, as well as attempt to satiate the demand for supplies for the victims of Hurricane Sandy. They have already begun tackling the latter project with the competitive Penny War - a charitable contest between

the grades consisting of positive and negative fiscal points. There are 4 jars (or, empty, upside-down water jugs, rather, (yay for going green!)) stationed in the SNUG, one for each of the grades. The idea is that for every penny you place in a jar it is one positive point. But, every other kind of money—including dollar bills—counts as negative points. So, you want to put as many pennies as you can in your grade's jar, and as many nickels, dimes, quarters, and bills as you can in the other grades' jars—such as the freshman's! The grade with the most positive points in its jar at the end of the competition will get a jeans day—so start donating! All donations will go to helping victims of Hurricane Sandy.

In addition to the Penny War, Student Council is in the process of planning a benefit concert on February 23rd. It's free but all donations will go to the victims of Hurricane Sandy, so come and hear your friends and faculty perform! StuCo also plans on hosting the annual game night on January 26th, and is in the process of enacting several great ideas, such as starting electronic pers, selling LC mittens to raise money for the school, and accepting input on what to sell at the bookstore and cage. They are joining up with a lot of new organizations and groups such as Junto and Kiva. Junto is a new group of student leaders who will meet and Kiva is an organization that gives loans to individuals or groups of people to help them jumpstart their business ventures. Also, a new student group, called the Think Tank, is emerging from the Center for the Common Good. The Think Tank will meet regularly to discuss ways to increase the Common Good around campus and get involved with community service and other projects.

## Fall from Grace: A Senior Perspective

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Harvard and the Botanists College for Children with Problems. But on top of schoolwork, at least in my case, I had varsity sport and several extracurricular activities to balance. Senior year, teachers and coaches expect that you will be experienced enough in the Loomis lifestyle for you to be entirely successful. They realize that the majority of us have been at Loomis for three or four

years and that we can handle the cards we're dealt. And for many seniors, the adults are correct. We know what we have to do as individual to perform well. However, in order to do so, we must be fully committed to our work and when work is so greatly numbered, this is a hard task to do.

Winter is approaching, and for many students the thought

of finger-numbing walks from Founders to Chaffee are horrifying. Every senior must still bear the intensities of Loomis; however, we are no longer oppressed by the thought that every single grade, every small quiz has the potential to ruin our shots at top-choice schools: a weight far superior to the burden of Atlas, although perhaps I am simply over-dramatizing this situation.

## Landmark Case Heads To Supreme Court

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The local lawyers I met with, Kenneth Bratschi and Karen Dowd, also explained that their case Pederson v. Office of Personnel Management, features seven couples from Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Vermont, who are all validly married under state law but were denied the ability to file joint tax returns and thus were paying thousands of dollars extra in taxes, because the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) does not defer to state law and therefore denies same sex couples. These couples argued that DOMA was unfairly violating their Fifth Amendment's guarantee to Equal Protection that basically states, "no state shall... deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." Similar to the previous case, the ruling Judge on Pederson argues that under the Equal Protection Clause in the Fourteenth Amendment "that all persons similarly situated should

be treated alike" and DOMA treats individuals differently based on their sexual orientation by not giving same-sex married couples the same benefits as their legally married opposite-sex counterparts.

If one of these court cases does reach the Supreme Court which is a very likely possibility since two out of the 13 circuits have ruled DOMA unconstitutional then the Defense of Marriage Act will be repealed. However, contrary to popular opinion the repeal of DOMA will not result in same-sex marriages being legal in all states, for all the states will still hold the power to rule upon the legality of same-sex marriages. The repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act will just ensure that those same-sex couples who are legally married in their state will have the same benefits as those available to legally married heterosexual couples, such as filing a joint tax return.

Another possible effect for the repeal of DOMA is that it might cause an upward trend in the number of states that will then begin to legalize same-sex marriage. This trend would be further aided by President Obama's statement that he does not support the Defense of Marriage Act because it violates the Constitution but will have to enforce it as long as it's law.

If DOMA is not repealed, it will likely be a long time until it has another chance to be reviewed by the Supreme Court for its constitutionality; some experts say at least another ten years would have to pass before the Supreme Court will tackle the question of DOMA, so the stakes are high. However, only time will tell if the Supreme Court will take a case that pertains to DOMA, which court case it will take, and whether it will succeed in repealing DOMA.

## School hosts new student leadership

BY PIM SENANARONG '13  
Editor-in-chief

On Thursday, October 4th, a group of fifteen students met in Founders Lounge, constituting the first Junto meeting. Junto, which means 'togetherness' in Spanish, is a meeting of roughly fifteen to twenty student leaders on campus. This freshly initiated assembly of student leaders meets with the deans and Dr. Culbert to discuss topics such as school spirit and the current events taking place around campus. Rekha Kennedy '13, Secretary Treasurer of Student Council describes the meetings as a "think tank, where leaders, deans and the Head of School get together to talk and exchange ideas."

Although since the beginning of fall term, Junto has only met twice, the board of student leaders plans to meet at least monthly in order to fully maximize their efficiency and accomplish their goals which are largely centered around increasing school spirit.

"People need to be more excited about going to Loomis," says Kennedy. During the first meeting, the board just met to discuss how they could accomplish this sense of enthusiasm and school unity. They also started on set-

ting up the agenda for their following meetings by raising issues that the board should concern itself with.

One of the issues brought up by the board was the ongoing decision over whether or not to increase the number of student leadership positions available on campus. One of the suggestions made concerning this issue is to increase the positions and thus the student participation by offering up more leadership positions with a non-academic focus.

Another issue that the board recently discussed was the issue of alcoholic consumption during dances. It is come to the attention of the deans that in past dances, alcohol use has been suspected. The meeting discussed the issue in order to provide students' perspectives on the rumors.

"The Junto can be seen as an evolved form of the Loomis Leadership Conference," said Student Council President Paul Lee '13. "Although the LLC brought various student perspectives together, it lacked cohesiveness, since over 40 people were crowded in the Nee Room. Since the Junto is a small, self-selected group of student representatives, the meetings allow for fluid, organized discussion and input

from every member. Furthermore, the face-to-face discussion with the head of school and two deans eliminates the usual lag time for student-faculty communication.

The board of student leaders consists of representatives from various student organizations on campus. Present at the first meeting were Student council officers, who ran and presided over the meeting, Prism leaders, E-proctors, Head Tour Guides, Sports Team Captains, Spectrum leaders, Pelican Service Organization leaders and Stu-Acts leaders. The invitation was extended to the community of leaders on campus in order to get their individual perspectives on how to improve the community in general. The cast is predicted to stay pretty much fixed for the following meetings however, in the case of a topic-specific issue emerging, the Student council officers will likely extend invitations to leaders of various other groups deemed experts of that area. While the main agenda of the meetings still remain abstract, Junto is nevertheless an effort made by Loomis to exercise students' critical thinking, communication and the broadening of communal efforts.

## Student Council Update

BY SARA GERSHMAN '14  
Graphics Editor

Our student council members have been quite busy this past fall, and their schedules are just as jam-packed for the winter.

Student Council has improved a lot since last spring. StuCo representatives were each required to sign an oath and must take notes at each meeting. There are guest speakers at nearly every meeting, from Dr. Culbert to head RAs to various StuCo committee branches. Also, you can go to the Student Council youtube channel, <http://www.youtube.com/lcstuco>, so you can keep up to date with various projects and activities.

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## E-proctors and Project Green introduces

BY CLAIRE HARD '13  
Staff Writer

This past week, the Environmental Proctors and Project Green piloted the Snug Mugs program. When students, faculty, and staff members purchase the Snug Mugs, they will receive a coffee card, allowing customers to purchase a large drink for the price of a small one. Every time the card is used it will be marked, and after ten marks, the customer will receive a free drink.

For several days, the mugs were sold by Project Green in the lobby of the Dining hall, priced at 3 dollars a mug. The mugs are now available for purchase in the Snug. The discount applies to any drink that would normally be accepted to receive the discount.

Our campus' many coffee addicts, e.g. Mark Crawford, inspired this environmental initiative. America consumes 400 million cups of coffee every day. We don't want to stop people from drinking coffee, but we want to stop the unnecessary waste produced by the disposable cups. If one person purchases one cup

of coffee every day, he will create 23 pounds of waste per year. By drinking out of a reusable mug, he will keep this waste out of the landfills and reduce the amount of carbon used and the number of trees killed to make his coffee cups. The goal of this program is to reduce our campus' paper and plastic waste by providing an incentive to use reusable mugs.

Every year the Sustainability Committee creates new initiatives to improve the environmental friendliness of our campus and to decrease the amount of waste that our community produces. Since paper makes up 40% of American landfills, Project Green and the Environmental Proctors understand the significance of reducing, reusing, and recycling. Last year, Loomis switched to single stream recycling. This switch means that rather than sorting recyclables, putting bottles in one bin and paper in another bin, anyone can drop any type of recyclable into any bin with any other recyclables. By switching to this simple recycling system, our campus can easily make the decision to recycle their soda bottles and used papers.

During the fall term, Loomis

participated in the Green Cup Recycling Challenge and placed 6th out of 67 participants. This competition tested our school's knowledge of recycling by monitoring how many recyclable items were found in our trash cans and, conversely, how many trash items were found in recycling bins; Loomis placed under the "Recycling Champions" category. However, the Environmental Proctors and Project Green are still working to improve our school's environmental awareness: recycling is not a panacea for all the green issues.

Although recycling is a step above throwing paper in the trash, the best way to become a more sustainable campus is by reducing the amount of materials used from the start, thus eliminating any waste. The mugs initiative will encourage Snug customers to avoid creating waste, while also allowing the coffee addicts and regulars to save money. The Snug Mugs Program is another step in our community's attempt to become a more "green" campus. We hope to continue to instill sustainable habits within our campus' community that will provoke a desire to act sustainably in all facets of living.

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# THERE ARE 35 PELICANS AROUND CAMPUS...

BY ANNIE FERREIRA '13  
Features Editor

It appears as if the current national obsession with Lincoln has made its way to the Island in the form of Mr. Batchelder, who sits proudly in Founders Hall wearing a top hat, beard, and the quote "Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character give him power." Below the quote is a graphic that is similar to the Loomis Family Crest, except for a few key changes. Instead of a Pelican on the top, there is a different type of bird with its wings raised above its head, and there is a different latin quote, non semper erit aestas, on the bottom. A quick foray onto Google Translate tells me that this means "It's not always summer," another key clue into the mysterious happenings around campus that started a few weeks ago.

Several weeks ago the light in the Cupola switched from white to a pinkish-red, coinciding with a flurry of fliers bearing the

same crest but a different quote, "What light through yonder window breaks," and a simple direction, "Grubbs @ Darkness". A few days after that, similar signs appeared informing the student body that 35 pelicans had been hidden around campus with a locker number and combination taped to the wing. Inside each individual locker was a box of candy, a congratulatory note, and directions to leave the pelicans. With that, the hunt for the beanie baby pelicans began. Many groups of students were seen traversing campus in search of these mysterious pelicans, peering into fireplaces in the dining hall and in the stacks in Brush.

Despite these notes, a lot of students were confused about the purpose of the hidden pelicans. "I didn't really understand where they came from or what they were," explained Catherine Dunlavy '13. Mike Wang '13 saw the signs but never laid eyes on the physical pelicans, wondering "Did anybody ever end up finding them?" Some people

claimed that the pelicans did not raise school spirit because the "event" only lasted a week. Austin Jubrey '13, who found a pelican in the third floor Clark computer center, said that "It was fun because I heard about it through word of mouth and rumors, and stumbled upon one in my common activities." In general, the response was mixed. "It was pretty cool" explains Kirsten Mossberg '16, "but there were probably some things that could be refined."

Many questions swirl around the pelicans, including who has been in charge of their distribution. Some theorize that the administration and a certain President of Student Council are in charge, while others believe it is Student Council in general, Student Activities, or a group of seniors are in charge. Additionally, many people wonder whether the pelicans were placed as a prank or with the consent of the administration. But, because of the use of the crest and iconic Loomis imagery, like the cupola, Mr. Batchelder,

and the pelican, that this is a group with a strong sense of Loomis's heritage and culture, intent on spreading a little cheer and a lot of beanie babies.

\*Editor's Note: This article was originally claimed by "Mystery Man" who attached a note to one of the editor's cars explaining that the article will be available in a Founder's locker in a flash drive. The "Mystery Man" suddenly pulled out a week before the articles were due, adding another layer of mystery to this enigmatic event and its anonymous originators.



NATHA SINGHASANEH '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## Global Commitee

BY MICHAEL CARTER '15  
Staff Writer

The Center for Global Studies is arguably the most responsible for your future out of all the departments on campus, and might be what gets you into your first-pick college, or land your dream job. Aimed at expanding the curriculum to involve global issues and multicultural studies, the Center bears the mark of being associated with Loomis Chaffee: it's been created with not only the student's education in mind, but also with their future successes as well.

When the Center was first announced in April, Mr. McCandless, the director, said, "Just flip to the employment notices: Associate General Counsel—knowledge of Sharia law and Middle East culture desirable; for a nutritionist—knowledge of English/French and another official UN languages. Students who graduate from high school having studied other cultures and languages, and having already traveled abroad are already in a better position to succeed." His perceptive insight rings true. We live in a drastically different world compared to when our parents were in high school, and the demands of such an environment require more than the standard education of the past.

When I interviewed Mr. McCandless myself, he recounted the way that Loomis Chaffee has embraced globalization and world culture since the school was founded almost one hundred years ago. Our school was one of the first schools to teach Chinese and an early member of the School Year Abroad program, and is now at the forefront of Arabic studies among high schools. To quote Mr. McCandless, "The creation of the Center is really to make that process much more intentional, much more carefully thought out and organized."

At the Center for Global Studies they're identifying more globally inclined courses, working with individual teachers to infuse courses with greater global content, and are looking to promote the future development of new courses. The Center has more planned as well: "We're also looking at offering a certificate in global studies that students can pursue, which will involve taking a set number of global courses, four years of language instead of just three for the graduation requirement, significant extracurricular involvement in a club that has a related focus, travel component, and a presentation or project that brings it all together upon their return."

It's an inspiring goal, and knowing Loomis Chaffee, one that many students are bound to reach. Our school is certainly very well endowed when it comes to cultural opportunities, but today, and in the future, there can be no surplus of international knowledge. Such studies aren't just rewarding business-wise, but they can also be a valuable and often underestimated source of self-fulfillment.

As Mark Twain explains in his book, *Innocents Abroad*, a humorous chronicle of his tours of Europe, "Travel is fatal to prejudice." He describes in other writings the ways in which the men who he finds most repulsive are those who have never left the place they were born. In today's world as well as his, not learning about a variety of people and places is one of the most harmful things you can do to yourself and your future. Mr. McCandless and The Center for Global Studies know this truth, and are working hard to help each student be as successful as they can in a rapidly globalizing environment. "I think students want to know what they need to know," McCandless said. "What we're trying to do is teach students about the world, get them interested in it, and get them involved."

## The Process Behind Snow

BY STEPHANIE YIU '14  
Staff Writer

With modern technology, you know it's snowing when you see a blizzard of Facebook statuses and Instagram photos of snow. But seriously, aside from the awful puns, every time there is even a chance of snow, students freak out in excitement. The night before a possible snow day, students constantly refresh weather.com, in the hopes of learning the latest forecast. Many students perform the well-known rituals: wearing pajamas inside out or leaving a spoon under the pillow. Arguments arise as the student body divvies up into different opinionated groups: snow day or no. Some always say it will be a snow day, others determine it will be a delay, and finally, and the most despised students, believe nothing will come of the snow. But the ones to trust are those who have Mr. Marchetti as a teacher, the god of snow day predictions. These students are able to provide the most specific validation of their argument, arguments that only Mr. Marchetti could recognize. Some of the best snow days are

those that are not at all necessary; however, nothing beats the warm feeling of seeing fresh white snow purifying the earth of all its flaws.

Snow days are mainly a result of our day students, so maybe the school shouldn't really decrease their population. But together, the entire community groans a sigh of disappointment when the administration doesn't grant us a deserved snow day. The ultimate question appears: How does the faculty decide when to cancel school or not?

Mr. Hess stated, "Well, the first thing I do is get up at five in the morning to check the weather." I don't know about you, but I would not enjoy doing that. Then, he discusses with the Head of the School, Dr. Culbert, and the director of the physical plant, Mr. Walters, to decide what to do. What do they consider when deciding a verdict? Using a couple of towns, they base their final decision on West Hartford and Windsor because these are the "benchmarks" or the middle ground. Not only do many students come from

these towns, but also West Hartford lies in between our school and other farther away districts. Although there are some people from places like Tolland or Longmeadow, the faculty can and will choose to hold classes as long as most of the students can get to school without great difficulty. Canceling a whole school day because of a few students' difficulty to get to school would negatively affect the education of the majority. Once a decision to delay or cancel school is made, Mrs. Forrester, head of the communications office, sends out the information to the students at 6 a.m.

When we do get a day off, you may find students frolicking outside or staying warm inside while drinking their hot chocolate. When our dining hall used to have trays, the students would take them outside and sled down the hills. Even though we may have some fun on our days off, many students use the added time to catch up on work or get ahead. A day off is not always a day of rest.

## Shabana on SOLA "School of Leadership Afghanistan"

BY SARAH BRECKINRIDGE '14  
Staff Writer

During a recent all-school convocation, Shabana Rasij-Rasikh spoke of the struggles and risks of receiving an education during Taliban rule in Afghanistan. Through a U.S. State Department exchange program scholarship, she attended high school in Wisconsin and furthered her studies at Middlebury College in Vermont.

It's hard to believe that at 22 years of age, Ms. Rasij-Rasikh has graduated from a leading US College, co-founded a school in her native Afghanistan, appeared on several US National Television stations, and traveled the world advocating for girls rights. Her story is an incredible, inspirational, and educational journey.

After graduating magna cum laude from Middlebury College, Ms. Rasij-Rasikh felt the need to go back to Afghanistan and share her knowledge with girls in her native country. With fewer than six percent of Afghan girls completing high school, she felt a responsibility to help educate Afghan children. "It is because of these girls and their courage that I can do what I do," she said. At the age of sixteen, Ms.

Rasij-Rasikh secured land in her hometown to build a school for girls. The school, SOLA, was founded in 2008 as the first ever private school in Afghanistan. During that first year the school had four girls enrolled; now there are twenty-five. There are currently six classrooms and a freshwater well on campus. SOLA stands for "School of Leadership Afghanistan." The school's slogan, "Courage to Grow, Knowledge to Lead, Power to Learn" represents SOLA's dedication to the overall development of girls as well as their commitment to expose students to the world. When asked of her future initiatives for SOLA, Ms. Rasij-Rasikh replied, "We hope to build the school up to become a globally recognized boarding school, like Loomis Chaffee. In the next five years, we hope to

build the school physically while admitting more students." She



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also aspires to create athletic fields at SOLA since girls are not only deprived of education in Afghanistan but also lack athletic

opportunities. During a recent talk at Middlebury College, Ms.

Rasij-Rasikh told the story of one of her students who left her family in Iran for SOLA. Ms. Rasij-Rasikh proudly declared,

"It was so nice to hear someone say they came to Kabul for better opportunities." Ms. Rasij-Rasikh hopes to make her school universally acknowledged and her students exposed to the world. Recognizing her girls' potential, Ms. Rasij-Rasikh remains confident that her students will mature into leaders of Afghanistan.

Ms. Rasij-Rasikh has high expectations for herself as well as for SOLA. She hopes to attend law school and become an influential force in Afghan politics perhaps as governor of the providence where she was raised. In a recent interview with *Glamour Magazine*, Ms. Rasij-Rasikh stated her lifelong dream: "To become a minister of women's affairs in the Afghan government."

While the Taliban no longer hold power in Afghanistan there

still remains several threats to girl's education including social tradition, national funding and the decrease of United States military presence. Despite this, Ms. Rasij-Rasikh remains hopeful that Afghanistan will be able to overcome their challenges for the benefit of their children.

Ms. Rasij-Rasikh's main impetus behind her success comes from her family's persistent influence. Both her parents received an education and her mother was even a school teacher. Her parents are among many Afghani people who are passionate about their children's education and who are willing to risk their lives for knowledge. She admits to often having doubt about going to secret school during the Taliban regime. However, her father, a previous Afghan general, often reassured her with these words: "You can lose everything you own in life. Your money can be stolen. You can be forced to leave your house during a war. But the one thing that will always remain with you is what is in here (pointing to his head)."

Her family's commitment and Ms. Rasij-Rasikh's determination to fight for girls education inspires us all. As she says, "I dream big. But my father, he dreams bigger for me."



# HOLIDAYS on the ISLAND



Dear Santa,

As you probably already know, what I really want for Christmas is a pony, but my mom said that you might have some trouble carrying that in the sleigh, so I've come up with a few more things that I want instead. And as I've been a really good kid all year (aside from the occasional onslaught of accidental deeps) I figured I'm pretty high up on your Nice List anyway. Anything on the Brandy <3 Melville jewelry website, especially the adorable bow rings (plus, Santa, all of the jewelry is \$15 or under so you can get me lots and lots). If you could find room in your sack for an unlimited supply of fuzzy socks I would greatly appreciate that because I always seem to have an odd number and God knows the New England weather is perpetually freezing. Also, a 4.0 GPA and admission to my favorite college, if that's not too much to ask.

For my brother, I was thinking the teddy bear from Ted. He's snuggly and warm, but he also talks and comes with a rated R warning. Or maybe just a gift card to Chipotle because that's where he spends all his money anyways. And for my sister, a Snoopy onesie will keep her not only looking cool but also snuggly and warm. It's from Forever 21, though, so there's a distinct possibility that it will catch on fire in the washing machine. In that case, maybe you could also get her some Ninja Bread cookie cutters. Perhaps then she'll get the hint that I want her to bake me more cookies.

For my 12 year old cousin who is still going through her awkward middle school stage (yes, we've all be there) I think that the Rookie Yearbook One would provide some useful guidance, like how to make a bitchface and do mod eye makeup. And, for her annoying twin brother you can get him The Bro Code which contains valuable advice like "Never wear jeans to a strip club" or any gear from rowdygentlemen.com. My personal favorite is the shirts, hats, and posters that advertise the fact that America is back to back World War Champs (Santa, sometimes people just need to be reminded of our awesomeness). But there is an assortment of other gear, including koozies and bathing suits so you really can't go wrong.

I think my crazy aunt would really appreciate a \$5 inflatable unicorn horn from Archie McPhee for her 17 cats. That way she can pretend that she is in one of those fantasy novels she always reads and tries to give me for Christmas. And I think my hipster uncle would really appreciate a pair of Bean Boots, a peacoat, some eclectic scarves, and maybe some fake glasses while you're at it--those kooky glasses are really all the rage nowadays. He lives in Brooklyn and claims everyone's a "poser" and rants against our consumer society, so maybe you should just give him good wishes for the new year or a secondhand raincoat from a random thrift store (make sure it's sufficiently old so he can claim its "vintage"). He always brings his hipster girlfriend to Christmas too, so I guess we need to get her a gift. I was thinking the Feminist Ryan Gosling book. It has very attractive pictures of RyGos paired with feminist statements the author imagined him saying. It sounded weird to me too, Santa, but you know kids these days. And, maybe for their baby, a pacifier that makes it look like he's wearing a mustache because, well, its adorable.

I know that's a lot to ask for, Santa, but my mom also says you never get what you want in life if you don't ask for it! Besides, I already told you that aside from the deeps, I've been a great kid.

Love,  
The Log Staffers

## Hannah in France

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of America. How do you learn? You memorize! If my history teacher uses certain words, I must use those exact words on my tests. I just had my examination on *Effroyables Jardins*, a World War II novel, and there were two parts to the examination. First, one question. How many times is the title mentioned in the book? I said three, but the answer was four (I forgot the book cover...) Secondly, a recitation of two pages of the book. I thought Mr. Purdy was tough, but he never made me recite two pages of *Pride and Prejudice*! I had huge difficulty adjusting to this way of learning. I think a lot of my Loomis teachers will be surprised when I tell them that I have learned to

ing?" "No." So are you coming or not?! The French have never experienced this problem. The answer is either "oui" or "si." Our languages are different, and attempting to understand how the French communicate has helped me progressively begin to see their culture, their way of thinking.

My school day goes from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM, but the time that I spend learning is 24/7. Living in another country, I am constantly observing and seeing new things. With SYA, we travel all over France. So far we have discovered all of Brittany and the Loire Valley. The châteaux were my favorite. I love imagining what life was like in the seventeenth century.



Chateaux Chenonceau

PHOTO COURTESY OF HANNAH SHUSHIARI '13

not discuss in class, not to challenge things. French do not like being challenged. Teacher are there to teach you! It is a one way communication. As my history teacher often reminds us, "Dans ma classe, ce n'est pas une démocratie!" The key to learning the culture, and the French mindset is examining the language very closely. Why do the French say "I'm holding the candle" instead of "I'm the third wheel?" How do they not have a word for "sibling?" Who decided to make the word for 'masculinity' feminine? La masculinité. How were the French clever enough to invent the word "si" to contradict a negative statement? I think all English-speakers can relate to this conversation: "You aren't com-

America didn't even exist, but there were people living these extraordinary lives in France.

If you have a small part of you that wants to go abroad, explore, learn about yourself, another culture, and the world itself, I highly suggest that you apply to SYA. There is nothing better that you can do for yourself. Sure, the lows are low, but the good parts, the fulfillment you feel at the end of each and every day, the discoveries you make just by walking home from school turn every second into the best moments of life.

Craving for more story? Check out my blog! [Danceschassuresdehannah.blogspot.com](http://Danceschassuresdehannah.blogspot.com) (In Hannah's Shoes)

## A New Year of Resolutions

BY PIM SENANARONG '13  
Editor in Chief

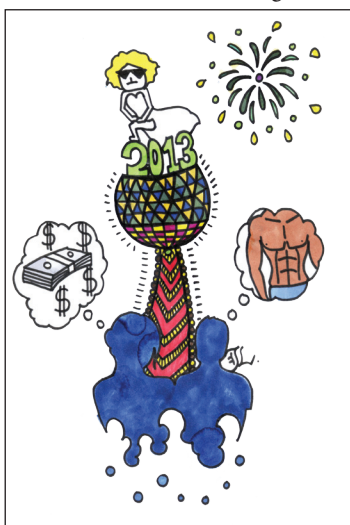
December is my second favorite month of the year. Not only is it the only month of the year when you can get away with wearing an ugly holiday-themed sweater, drinking hot chocolate every day and humming Mariah Carey's All I want for Christmas is You on the way to classes, but there's also the promise of a rapidly approaching new year. Both the notion of acquiring a gratuitous clean slate and a final opportunity for tying loose ends excites the general public. In that final fireworks spiraling, ball-dropping, cheek-kissing and well-wishing moment, the world becomes one as we bond over our anticipation for the upcoming year. For most people, as the night trickles into dawn, we are left with a woozy stomach (from the all the excitement), a new sense of wholeness, and a handful of New Year's resolutions.

But what is it that so compels us to make these often-redundant resolutions? Have we not got enough on our plates that we have to add a couple more half-hearted self-generated goals to the mix? How many years have I promised myself to shed those unwanted pounds

only to completely abolish the thought when presented with a birthday cake a week later? Countless. Does our need to make resolutions have anything to do with a deeper psychological longing for closure? Or perhaps a burning desire to salvage our broken ego from the debris of last year's foolish mistakes? Apparently the tradition of making New Year's resolutions has come a long way.

In religious context, at certain Watch-night services, Christians use the late-night hours to confess their sins and pray in order to resolve themselves to a new goal. The Romans used this sacred period of time making promises to the god of beginning and transitions, Janus. Janus, according to ancient Roman religion, presides over all beginning and transitions no matter how profane or hallowed. The double-faced God serves as an embodiment of future and past, symbolizing people's tendency to both re-

lect on the past and anticipate the future on this special day. The month January is named after Janus. As for the ancient Babylonians, at the beginning of each year, they would promise to return items and pay back debts to their gods.



GRAPHIC BY JAE LEE '13

As years pass by, much of the religious contexts of the tradition have faded but the ritual itself curiously remains although the consequences of breaking such promises or not reaching those goals have lessened considerably. Maybe no God will get mad at you for not having the guts to tell your sister she needs to lay off the candies, but a little tinge of disappointment is almost always guaranteed.

According to Statisticbrain.com, the ten most common New Year resolutions include:

1. Losing weight
2. Getting organized
3. Spend less, save more.
4. Enjoy life to the fullest.
5. Staying fit and Healthy
6. Learn something exciting

7. Quit smoking
8. Help others in their dreams
9. Fall in love
10. Spend more time with family

Statistic Brain, which gathered their data from the University of Scranton's Journal of Clinical Psychology, also reported that approximately 45% of Americans regularly make New Year's resolutions, but only 8% of those surveyed actually accomplish theirs.

According to Time Magazine, the ten most commonly broken New Year Resolutions for the past year are:

1. Lose Weight and Get Fit
2. Quit Smoking
3. Learn Something New
4. Eat Healthier and Diet
5. Get Out of Debt and Save Money
6. Spend More Time with Family
7. Travel to New Places
8. Be Less Stressed
9. Volunteer
10. Drink Less

Do you see an astounding parallel between the first list and the second? Yet, despite the exponential rate of failure in actually accomplishing New Year's Resolution, we plow ahead undeterred, armed each year with a list of goals both new and recycled. Which leads me back to my

focal question: why? The truth is perhaps there isn't a logical answer to our compulsive behavior. Something about turning the page of a new calendar year seems to instill people with a strangely gripping, unexplainable sense of obligation. We just can't help it. There's something monumental and awe-inspiring about the beginning—things haven't gotten old yet, nothing (hopefully) has gone wrong so far, and the future looms ahead, filled with delightful possibilities and electrifying enigmas. So why not take a second to briefly reflect on the past year, maybe repay out a few of the scenarios that have made us go "Oh God, no" or "I love my life" and come up with a few promises to make to ourselves. Perhaps the act of coming up with these resolutions, even if our subconscious tells us we'd end up abandoning most of them within the first month, lends us the vigor and determination we need to begin a new year. Perhaps Hope, "the thing with feathers that perches in the soul and sings the tunes without the words—and never stops at all" as Emily Dickinson phrases it, is really quite enough.

And on that note, here are some New Year Resolutions by our very own, feathered Peli-

- Make sure that I don't get confused with Paul Lee (2015) and try not to be too maudlin about my last year at Loomis. (Paul Lee '13)
- Try to eat less nutella. (Adrina Thompson '14)
- Lose weight/ make myself fitter and manage time better. (Ji Hwan Seung '13)
- Not get kicked out of school.... Oh wait (Sack Morris)
- Leave Loomis satisfied with the experiences I've had. (Young Sang Choi '13)
- Be happier and more supportive of people (well what I mean by people is my girlfriend if you need specifics) (Nathan Harris '13)
- Make honor roll!!!! (Allison Pagani '13)
- Get rid of my roommate. (Eric Sze '15)
- Work out and get big. (Win Suthapradit '13)
- Dress more coherently. (Rekha Kennedy '13)
- I don't really make resolutions in that way, but I can tell you that my goal for January is to have a great senior dinner! (Dean Liscinsky)
- I am resolute not to make resolutions---too many not realized. (Dean Hess)



## Dancing in December

BY CHRISTINA WANG '14  
Staff Writer

For the first time ever, Loomis Chaffee Department of Theater and Dance is producing the Fall Dance Showcase, and as a proud member of Dance Company II, I could not be more excited. Originally planned for October 31st, the Showcase performance date was pushed back to December 7th due to school cancellations resulting from the hurricane. Traditionally, the main attraction, the Dance Revue, is held in May to wrap up the year. Although the Spring Dance Revue will still be held this spring, the Fall Dance Showcase will allow opportunities for more dancers and student choreographers to display their work. The majority of pieces and choreography that have been developed and rehearsed during the course of the entire year are going to be performed in May.

Last year, I felt it was necessary that dance at our school should be more widely advocated. So last spring, Ms. Kate Loughlin, our dance teacher, and the members of Company II discussed how we could promote dance at our school. One

of the main issues that we felt was most pressing included the lack of opportunity in the beginning of the year for dancers such as the students from after-school Ballet Technique and the daytime Musical The-

mance at the start of the year, student choreographers can now run with their artistic inspirations through developing and refining their pieces for showcasing. Some people have used the show to perform a

hip hop piece taught at one of the workshops there now can be performed to our school. Other Dance Showcases this year will include a wide variety of dance styles branching from self-choreographed pieces by



Dance Company II

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four soloists and a trio, as well as pieces choreographed by Ms. Loughlin for each of the three dance companies. The Fall Dance Showcase--both a motivation and an encouragement--will propel us so that we can work toward upcoming goals. Hopefully, this show will expose and expand our dance program at Loomis even more while inspiring dancers, both experienced and non-experienced, to step out of their boundaries or challenge themselves. The nervous excitement and anticipation

from the performers and the support generated by the community leading up to the Dance Revue in the spring is what every dancer here at Loomis is thrilled for. My hope is that a similar effect and even greater support can be accomplished by the Fall Dance Showcase as we begin this new tradition.

ater Dance Technique classes to showcase their hard work and accomplishments from the fall. In addition, the number of dancers interested in choreographing their own pieces had noticeably increased and the Revue did not allow enough time to include all of them. By holding another dance perfor-

“make-in-progress,” with plans for not only having their piece ready for the spring show, but also having the option to present an un-finalized version in the fall. Furthermore, with Loomis students attending the Central Connecticut State University CT High School Dance Festival earlier in October, a

## Cutest Roomies Part 2.

BY GRACE WOO '15  
Layout Editor

Q. Could you introduce yourselves? How do you feel to be chosen as the best roomies?

A. Cyrus: Hi, I'm Cyrus angel, a junior from Flag. I'm from Boulder, CO. I feel really good to be seen as who we truly are: the best roomies.

Jack: Nice to meet you. I'm Jack Bradley. I'm also a junior from Flag, and I have an intoxicating smile. (wink) I wasn't surprised at all to hear that we got chosen.

Q. What was your first impression of each other?

A. Cyrus: Jack was funny, nice, and went out of his way to brighten people's days.

Jack: I wanted to touch Cyrus' hair because it looked fantastic. He doesn't know it, but he has beautiful hair.

Q. How did you guys become roomies?

A. Cyrus: We requested each other as roomies.

Jack: We were friends since

A. Cyrus: We do each other's hair care. We also gossip about girls. Oh, we're also neat freaks.

Jack: We like crating together, like making small replicas of Viking ships.

Q. What do you like the most about each other?

A. Cyrus: I like Jack's cheekbones.

Jack: I really like...nothing... (JK)

Q. What do you dislike the most about each other?

A. Cyrus: Regularly. Er'day, all day.

Jack: He's very abusive.

Q. Any other fun "roomie episodes" to share?

Cyrus: We compliment each other daily about how we have really really good sense of fashion. We also talk about how if we're on the hockey team, it'd be a bit of a record.

Jack: We were once massaging each other's ears with our feet, then my favorite tune came on the radio, we broke out into song, birds suddenly sang with

us outside the windows, and we finally burst tears at the end of the song, and Cyrus sniffled. (laughs)

Q. What is their most annoying habit?

A. Cyrus: Jack thinks that it's ok to put his clothes in my closet. It's annoying 'cause I need space.

Jack: Yeah, I have two closets. I don't know like his bailing noises when he wakes

up. Also, it's annoying when he breaks into songs while I'm studying.

Q. What do you guys like to do before/during/after study-hall?

A. Cyrus: We dabble, play pingpong, work on our self-portrait in evening robes next to fire, with hounds resting at our feet.

Jack: We do vocal warm ups, just to get ready to scream at the sophomores.

Croshanes during studyhall.

Q. Do you have a roomie code or anything else like that?

A. Cyrus: If Jack crosses a certain line after 11, we'll get in fight, and brawl starts and sophomores start watching.

Jack: We dance off a lot.



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sophomore year. And we never got along. Never. JK...

Q. You guys are both prefects in Flagg. Does being roomies help you be better prefects? Do you think it's unfair to have a double even though you guys are prefects?

A. Cyrus: Yes, we can yell as twice as loud to the sophomores. And no to the second question: not the slightest.

Jack: No, I don't think it's unfair at all.

Q. Any funny habits?

A. Cyrus: Every morning, Jack wakes me up by tickling my feet with feathers, and we also play the Lion King theme song.

Jack: Cyrus breathes heavily over me in the middle of the night.

Q. Any hobbies you guys share?

## Loomistory



### Comparing the 20th to the 21st

The goal of Loomistory is to help students understand and value Loomis history. For every issue of Loomis Chaffee Log, this section will reflect on different themes and aspects of history of Pelicans. Today's Loomistory focuses on the comparison of girls' fashion on campus from the past and that from present days.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LC ARCHIVES. JUWON JUN '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG



PHOTO COURTESY OF LC FASHION CLUB. SARA GERSHMAN '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## Champions of the Common Good

With the recent inculcation of the LC Pledge, our community has adopted a new tradition: The Champions of the Common Good. The LC Pledge committee recognizes that acts beneficial to our general community are done everyday, by many community members. As the Athletic Department recognizes the work of athletes via Pelicans of the Week, the Pledge Committee wanted to recognize the caring acts of our community members. From students to faculty to staff, all community members are possible candidates for nomination. The Pledge Committee encourages nominations to come from anyone and everyone; if you would like to submit a nomination, contact Rowan Rice '13 or Mr. Pond.

BY PAUL LEE '13  
Managing Editor

### Deb Roper

Whether in the west annex of the dining hall or downstairs at the SNUG grill, Deb Roper undoubtedly deals with most of the student body at it's worst, most barbaric state: during the mass frenzy to stuff ourselves with some coffee, hot choco-



SARA GERSHMAN '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

late, and a breakfast sandwich. Without failure, however, Deb greets every student, faculty, or staff that walks up to the counter with a friendly "good morning!" and a wide smile. Brightening the spirits of everyone in the LC community--as well as satisfying all with the gooey,

greasy goodness known as a bacon, egg, and cheese sandwich--Deb is a shining example of a champion of the common good as she puts others before herself every day.

BY ROHIN BHARGAVA '15  
Staff Writer

### Gabby Roncone

Exuberant, enthusiastic, vivacious, compassionate and bright are only few of the myriad adjectives that could describe the ever-happy sophomore, Gabby Roncone. A day student from Colchester, Massachusetts, Gabby brings to the Loomis Community a very cooperative nature, fostering virtues of the best self and the common good. Amidst dealing with the pressures of Loomis Chaffee, she manages to remain one of those rare students who are always optimistic and kind, not just for her own ben-

efit, but for the benefit of others. One such example of this, concerning her optimism, presented itself during finals week, when students tended to cram all of their subject material into their brains in very stressful ways. This created a tension



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that resonated throughout the entire student body, but Gabby chose to adopt a positive attitude. By remaining happy and collected, she cultivated the same positive optimism in her peers, which served their health well. In a completely different instance, Gabby showed her infinite compassion. Just a

few days ago, while celebrating a birthday immediately after the Student Council meeting, the Council was presented with doughnuts. Instead of grabbing a doughnut and bolting out of the room, like countless others, Gabby held the container of doughnuts and offered them to people around her before she took one herself. These two examples are just small tastes of how Gabby builds the Loomis Community, but it's Gabby's repeated genuine consideration that really made it clear to the pledge committee that she should be recognized. Congratulations Gabby, you are truly a model of the best self and the common good outlined in the pledge, so you deserve this!

BY PHILIP HERALD  
SHANNON IV '13  
Staff Writer

Mrs. Dexter

Walking down the Chaffee corridor always brightens my day. Saying hi to Mrs. Dexter can help alleviate daily stresses; she is very understanding and always willing to help solve someone else's problems. Her upbeat and positive attitude made the dean's monitor workjob of counting endless convocation slips more enjoyable than imagined. Sometimes promoting the common good can be done in the simplest of ways. Her job allows her to interact with student in a unique manner. She is not a teacher, not a coach, and to most, not an advisor. However, her genuinely caring attitude helps to alleviate students stresses. A simple smile and warm hello does more for our student body than most would imagine. Considerate and outgoing, Mrs. Dexter embodies all of the values of a champion of the common good.



Loomis Chaffee Log

FOUNDED 1915

ABOUT

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OP-ED

FELICIA WORON '13

SATs, Early Decision and Munchkins: The LC College Office

Sometime around the advent of junior year, during your first few days back on campus, when you can't enjoy the sandals-and-shorts weather and watch the legend of the "dreaded junior year" come to life, you realize there is an elephant in the room - well, on the Island.

You hear seniors throwing around terms like the Common App and ED. While you're preoccupied with your U.S. History essay, it hits you: they're applying to college, and that's going to be you next year. To make matters worse, you have no idea what ED means, and this essay actually matters and could possibly determine the next few years of your life.

It won't. But around junior year, the huge unspoken thing looming ahead suddenly becomes real, no longer in the distant future. Then, you actually force yourself to stay awake during class meetings, because this is important. You are dumped into the arena of college fairs in mid-October, trying not to catch the eyes of any college representatives, who hand you interest forms that generate nothing

but an abundance of superfluous e-mails.

But when you come back from a winter break, you find yourself seated in your college counselor's office, adding every college you've ever heard of to your Family Connection account. You find yourself signing up for the May SAT, only to discover that you won't be able to sleep all March break because of a college road trip (although after the fourth one, all the info sessions sound identical).

It's no secret that Loomis' College Office assigns college counselors in January of junior year. Lots of students start visiting colleges over March break, on spring catch-up weekend, and over the summer. College programs take up some Saturday mornings and community frees - but they're not pointless; on the contrary, they're quite informational. The majority of LC students take ACTs in April and SATs in May of junior year. All of a sudden, you are launched forward, and the elephant has dissolved because now the seniors have gotten their (hopefully) acceptance letters, and it's your turn

to discuss with your friends the colleges you visited over March break.

And now, currently a senior, I have few complaints about the LC college office. Among the added bonuses of candy at Ms. Falco's desk and that glorious study break during finals with cider and munchkins, it's a good system. You can walk in and make an appointment with your counselor or send a quick email; there are a plethora of college guides available for your skimming or perusing pleasure. I would say the best part, in my opinion, of LC's college office is the way your counselor is always there to guide you, but it's ultimately your choice. You'll get a reminder to sign up for the SAT, but you're the one who makes the CollegeBoard account. Your counselor will reply with advice if you send a quick question or a lengthy supplement, but it's up to you whether you write your college essay during junior spring when a counselor stops by your English class or two weeks before your early action deadline like I did (advice:

don't do the latter, try to finish before senior fall starts.) But if you stumble into your counselor's office junior winter like me, not knowing whether you want a school of 30,000 or 2,000 undergrads, without a clue of what you want to study, or whether you are positive you want a moderate-sized urban liberal arts college, you won't be stuck, the LC college office is there to help you figure it out.

It's no secret either, though, that not all private school college offices are like Loomis'. While we don't start until junior winter, other prep schools commence the college process sophomore or even freshman year. Some even limit students to applying to only six colleges to avoid competition (I am extremely glad that this isn't a policy at Loomis). While I personally applied early to six colleges, I don't think the number of colleges a student can apply to should be under the control of the school, but rather should be a personal decision. I would hope that students are mature enough to respect each others' joys and

disappointments, but I don't think that a student should have to pick six schools they want to apply to, ranging from likely acceptances to dream reaches: some of us could barely narrow our lists down to a reasonable ten or even fifteen.

While I believe that the underclassman years are too early to load on the additional stress of thinking about college, I do not, however, think that it would be unwise to start the college process earlier during junior year. One consideration is that not everyone can make it on that classic March break college road trip: many students have just returned home, parents may have to work, trips may be planned. Perhaps these students would be able to make college visits over fall catch-up weekend, November or winter break. Additionally, the majority of LC students take ACTs and SATs junior spring, and sometimes have to wait until senior fall to take these tests a second time. Often, the opportunity to take the tests a third time is after Early Action and Decision deadlines,

and the sign-up date for winter tests comes before fall scores are revealed. If LC students were encouraged to take these tests in January of junior year, or March if possible, then ideally, senior fall would be less stressful, and probably be the last time for standardized tests. Even the opportunity to discuss what you are looking for in a college or send a quick question transferred from an anxious parent closer to the start of junior year might be helpful.

Overall, the LC college office is organized and responsive, letting the student take responsibility but always there for advice. It does seem that we wait until the last minute possible during junior year, when the juniors are starting to get exasperated with the cold weather and the work that this year "really matters," and are then piled on with the additional stress of the college process. Therefore, I would have wished that we started junior fall, but otherwise, I have no complaints. I wish the best of luck to all seniors this year and everyone else that will apply to college in the upcoming years.

KAREN CHA '14

Let's Face The Music: Album Art vs. The Digital Age

A critique of modern day album art, from the changing industry to the impact of the consumers

I did not know there was a Grammy for Best Album Package (a.k.a. album cover art) until this Thanksgiving break, when out of pure boredom I flipped over an old Bob Dylan disk and read all of its credits. Well, apparently in 1967, John Berg won the Grammy Best Album Package for his work on the album Bob Dylan's Greatest Hits. In fact, Berg won the honor four times and was nominated 25 times, for his work with Chicago, Barbara Streisand, and Thelonus Monk. But what do these albums have in common, besides their visual appeal and prestige? The sad pattern is, all the albums were created decades ago. The bulk of Berg's cover art career took place in the sixties and seventies, before dwindling to a close in the early nineties. Cover art is a dying industry.

Before album covers, records were sold in a collection of flaps that held several records, similar to the way photo albums hold photographs (or used to, before the digital age made photographs even more obsolete than record albums). These record albums were white or burlap brown, undecorated, and minimal—until the victory of World War II. Artist Alex Steinweiss, hired by Columbia Records in 1938, is credited with the invention of the album cover. Dubbed the father of modern cover art, in 1939 Steinweiss suggested replacing the blank labels on records with original artwork. Under Steinweiss' direction, typography art became the first stepping stone in the merging of music and art. With music as an increasingly vital aspect of popular culture, recording labels chose to design the record covers with the pur-

pose of attracting listeners. As Columbia Records' sales spiked, other companies took on creative art directors. And so was born cover art: an ingenious marketing tool for musicians and a visual representation of the product inside.

The second major milestone after Steinweiss' lettering influence must have been the Beatles, with their colorful album Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. The colorful cover features the Beatles in neon bright military uniforms, tassels and all, as if a completely different band. According to artistic director Sir Peter Blake, the concept was that the band just finished a concert in the park, and the audience had posed for a picture behind them. Each Beatle made a list of people they wanted in the collage, from actors Fred Astaire and Shirley Temple, to writer Edgar Allen Poe, to Socialist philosopher Karl Marx (Of course, the first face I recognized was Marilyn Monroe, complete with her platinum-blonde curls). First of many more to come, Sgt. Pepper introduced an era of album cover art that packed as much of a statement as its psychedelic rock music. Millions of dollars poured into the booming album design industry, bringing names such as John Berg, Peter Blake, and Storm Thorgerson as much prestige as their clients: world renowned Aerosmith, Bruce Springsteen, and Jeff Beck. Typography, lighting, photography, modeling, fashion, digital editing, programming software—album art built into all of it. But the business

that helped nurture so many of these art industries has now atrophied at the cost of technology.

To be completely honest, I am not sure how artists created such accurate and striking images without the aid of Photoshop. Some say technology has only helped the precision and quality

focus on one particular line: the very fine line that technology treads between convenience and complacency. To put it in the colloquial: sure, it's nice to Instagram a selfie instead of manually editing in blurs and borders. And who doesn't like a gratuitous picture of yourself (haha...gпой...)?

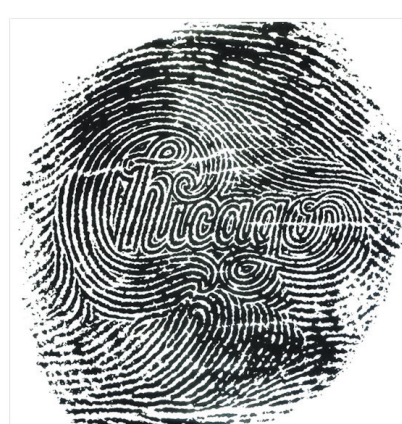
covers on CD's has deteriorated as well.

To think how much time and effort must have been put into Sgt. Pepper—coming up with the ingenious concept, crafting the cardboard cutouts in the background, molding the wax life-like figures, finding a bright enough neon dye for the costumes, planting each blossom in the foreground—is unimaginable. But the Katy Perry Firework album cover I just found through a 0.52 second Google engine search could not have taken more than a close up of the singer, a touch of Photoshop, and a couple pre-made fonts.

The amount of quality, effort, and time put into album covers has greatly decreased over the decades. I came to this realization while staring at my mother's collection of albums, strewn over the carpeting of our not-so-expansive home. From the great band Queen all the way down to Mariah Carey—the difference through time is disappointing,

the album cover of our favorite songs. Music downloading, mp3 file converters, and online video streaming have rendered album art obsolete. Listeners aren't drawn to a Coldplay album for its mosaic of bright patterns as much as for its recommendation based off an iTunes Genius review, a personalized Pandora radio, or a YouTube subscription. And this is not to say I am innocent of the phenomena—I can dictate the lyrics off any track of Imagine Dragon's new album, but I couldn't tell you its cover art. But technology cannot take the whole blame. If this generation had abstained from the dishonest convenience of free downloads, I think we all would still marvel at the beauty of an evocative album cover.

Today, the only places I know of that sell full albums—records or CD's—are Target, Urban Outfitters, Barnes and Nobles, and Starbucks. A pretty short list, especially when taking into account that Urban Outfitters is mainly for clothing, Barnes and Nobles for books, and Starbucks for coffee. Only in these places do I see the cover art before listening to the music. Only there do I experience the advertisement before the product. Perhaps this is another indication of our chronic need to speed up the process, based on the universal assumption that "faster" equates to "easier". Frankly, I would like to see the assumption rejected: what if—plot twist—we saw albums before listening to them, or stopped using Youtube-mp3 converters? What if—major plot twist—we actually cared about an album's cover art?



This is a RECORD COVER. This writing is the DESIGN upon the record cover. The DESIGN is to help SELL the record. We hope to draw your attention to it and encourage you to pick it up. When you have done that make you'll be persuaded to listen to the music - in this case THE'S Go 2 album. Then we want you to BUY it. The idea being that the more of you that buy this record the more money Virgin Records, the manager Ian Reid and I, ourselves will make. This writing is trying to tell you in much like an eye-catching picture. It is designed to get you to BUY it. This is called being the PITCH. But if you have a free mind you should STOP READING now! Because all we are attempting to do is to get you to read on. But this is a CONSIDERABLE because if you don't stop you'll be doing what we tell you, and if you read on exactly how you're falling for this simple device of making you read on. You've considered it. And now you're falling for this simple device of making you read on. This is the DESIGN of all sides it's describing the PRICE whilst trying to trick you. And if you've read this far then you're MESSING UP. You wouldn't have known this unless you'd read this far. At least we're selling you directly instead of sending you with a beautiful or haunting visual that may never tell you. We're telling you now that you ought to buy this record because in essence it's a PRODUCT and PRODUCT are to be consumed and you are a consumer and this is a good PRODUCT. We could have written the band's name in special lettering so that it stood out and you'd see it before you'd read any of this writing and possibly have bought it anyway. What we are really suggesting is that you are POSSIBLE to buy or not buy an album solely as a consequence of the design on its cover. This is a con because if you agree then you're probably like this writing - which is the cover design - and hence the album inside. But we've just wanted you to read that. The con is a con. A good cover design could be considered as one that gets you to buy the record, but that never actually happens to YOU because YOU know it's just a design for the cover. And this is the RECORD COVER.

JUWON JUN '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

Everything is faster. But does faster necessarily mean better? Aren't you putting less effort into that Moral Development paper if you found a website that does all the work for you? The speed and convenience of technology make us complacent, and take away from the quality of our work. And of course I don't mean only with Instagram; the quality of

reality. But, say Photoshop and editing conveniences are not at fault for the degeneration of album art quality. Say the culprit is closer, much closer. What if we, the consumers, have lost our appreciation for album art? It is very possible, since due to online downloading and video streaming we rarely even encounter



## OP-ED

VICTORIA SMITH '14

## 007 Back In Action (SPOILER ALERT!)

Renewing classic Bond clichés with ruthless fights, an old Aston Martin, a foreign lover and a vodka martini, shaken not stirred, Skyfall hits the mark as another excellent movie in the 007 series. Skyfall brings back the mission-driven story lines that seemed to be lost in Daniel Craig's earlier performances. His aggressively vengeful escapades to right wrongs in Casino Royale and Quantum of Solace are replaced with carefully planned, yet equally creative and enticing mission strategies.

The opening chase scene jumps into suspense as 007 and a new MI6 agent race through Istanbul in pursuit of an encrypted disc containing the identities of MI6 agents in action around the world. As the chase comes down to a train top fight between Bond and the enemy, his fellow MI6 agent is forcefully instructed to take her shot, despite the fact that she may hit Bond. Her trembling words, "Agent down," as Bond falls into the water terrify 007 series newcomers, but serve to remind Bond fanatics of his ear-

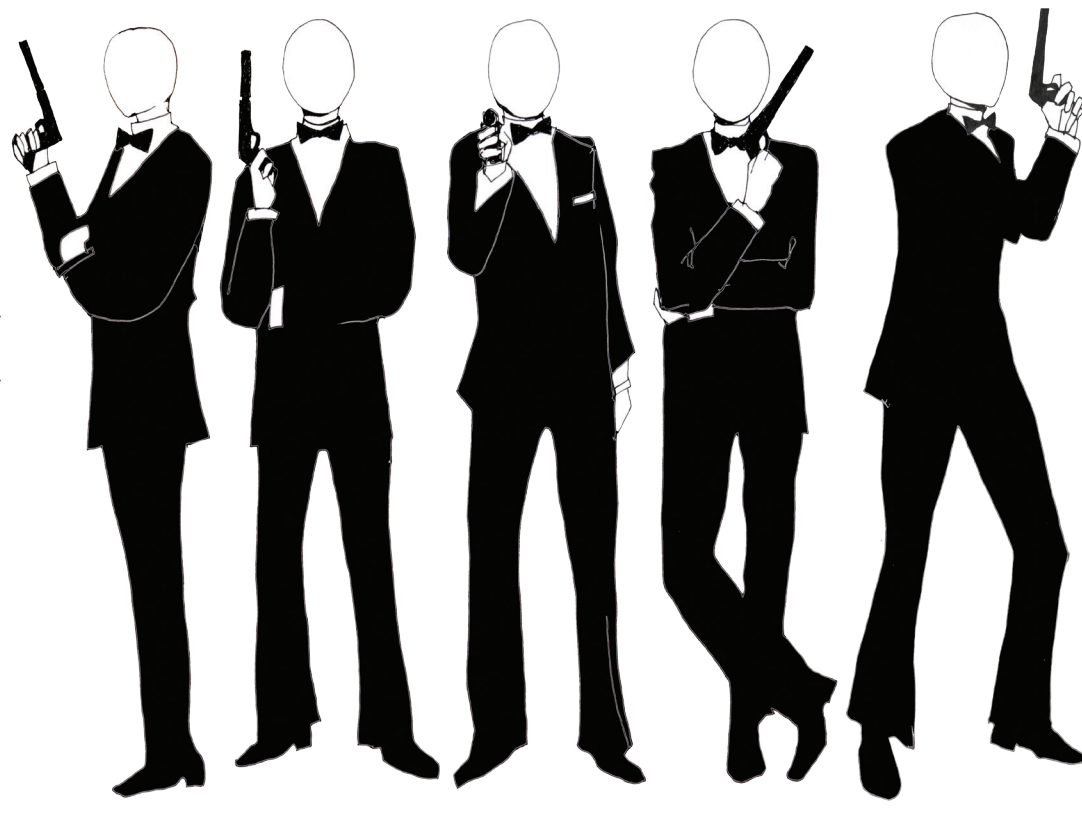
lier trials and tribulations.

The opening credit images and animation, along with Adele's tremendous performance of her song "Skyfall," bring back the nostalgic feeling of the old Bond movies. Audiences don't suffer Bond's "death" long, as he once again practices his favorite hobby of "Resurrection."

After a period of vacation, Bond hears of the attack on the MI6 building in London, and as a true Royal agent, returns to help save his agency and his MI6 family. As Bond struggles through countless physical and

psychological field tests after his return from his believed death, the audience struggles with him,

pushing for Bond to get his act together and restore himself to his former physical strength, emotional stability, and mental



JUWON JIUN '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

acuity. Although Bond fails all his tests, M sends him into the field with her usual confidence

and faith in her favorite agent. Bond, armed with simplistic gadgets from the newest member of Q branch, embarks to

locate the source of attacks and silence them.

Despite the constant remind-

er of 007's increasing age, Daniel Craig wows audiences as a Bond who stands unwilling to let his age or troubled past prevent him

from destroying the villain, an ex-MI6 agent, Raoul Silva. Silva's cyber terrorism unveils as a meticulously planned, long term plot to kill M, who he believes betrayed him when she decided to not rescue him in exchange for other agents and peace.

The intimacy and preparation of the plan prove Silva to be one of the most patient and smartest bond villains yet. The movie is named for Bond's mysterious childhood home, a place that represents the tragedy of his past and serves as the battleground for the epic finale.

The compassionate and famil-

ial relationship between Bond and M becomes stronger as 007 brings M to Skyfall to draw out Silva in the hope of home field advantage. The intensity of the final battle scene at Skyfall serves to shock and appall audiences. With a gun to both their heads, Silva urges M to end their misery and pain. Luckily, at moment so late it's almost too close for comfort, Bond kills Silva and proclaims himself "the last rat standing," making a mockery of Silva's disturbing childhood anecdote as the villain gasps for his dying breaths.

After killing Silva, Bond focuses his attention back on M, who has been badly injured. M's death is tragic, painful and upsetting for both Bond and the audiences who have loved M for years. Although M's death upsets audiences and hurts Bond, with her death comes the beginning of a new era of key players in the MI6 agency. The new players set the stage for what seems sure to become the next captivating chapter in the James Bond series.

JAMIE NEIKRIE '13

## Four Better or Four Worse?

As President Obama moves forward from a victorious re-election, several obstacles loom ahead that may make or break his political career

No time for celebration. Barack Obama won his re-election, but he takes office again with an already daunting set of challenges. How will he handle his next four years? "Will he be more pugnacious and more willing to swing for the fences on domestic issues, judicial appointments and so forth?" asks Christopher Edley Jr., a dean of the law school at the University of California, Berkeley, and a longtime Obama friend who has been disappointed in him many times. "You can react to a narrow victory by trimming your sails, or you can decide 'What the hell, let's sail into the storm and make sure this has meant something.'" Many have claimed that Obama's issues this term pale in comparison to those he faced in his first term, and though he probably failed in maintaining the mantle of hope and change that he promised four years ago, he navigated a global meltdown, almost ended two wars, and passed through health care reform. Peter Baker of the New York Times believes that "what faces him in this next stage of his journey are not overinflated expectations of partisan, racial and global healing, but granular negotiations over spending cuts and tax increases."

Baker gets straight to the point, highlighting Obama's most immediate issue, the "fiscal cliff." At the end of the year, in fewer than 60 days, if the President and the Congress cannot reach an agreement on debt management, trillions of dollars of arbitrary spending cuts and taxes will kick in, a careless reform that could cripple the economy once again. Already the Republicans and Democrats have reached a stalemate over tax increases on people earning over \$250,000. Initially, John Boehner, the Speaker of the House and leader of the Republicans in the House expressed his wish for compromise. "I think the best you can hope for is some kind of bridge," he said. Boehner and other Republicans have demanded spending cuts and other measures that would exceed any increase in the federal borrowing ceiling, but have vehemently opposed Obama's offer last week to hike taxes by \$1.6 trillion over the coming decade.

The Obama administration has also expressed its intent to let the Bush tax cuts expire, which

means an average tax increase of almost \$2,000 for middle-class Americans. Sucking that much money out of circulation could push unemployment above 9%, according to the Congressional Budget Office. White House officials, though not the president himself, say he will preserve the Bush tax cuts for the middle class but veto any bill that extends the cuts for households with incomes over \$250,000. But many see this action as a necessary step in tackling our deficit and debt, since the tax cuts are estimated to raise some \$500 billion in revenues, according to the latest CBO data.

The debate over the fiscal cliff is one that affects the entire world. G-20 finance ministers cited the U.S. fiscal cliff as the biggest risk to global growth and Canadian Finance Minister Jim Flaherty warned of "dire consequences" if the problem is not tackled. Already the EU-U.S. trade, which was worth \$636 billion in 2011, has fallen to \$150 billion. Regardless of its urgency, most people believe, that with Congress due to be in session for only 16 more days in 2012, any deal reached before the end of the year may only be a temporary solution, one that will only prolong the coming cuts, not avoid them.

With the 24 hour news media, it becomes easy to lose sight of what is important, when blinded by what is immediate. Obama also faces a nuclear Iran, genocide in Syria, managing military drawdown in Afghanistan leading up to the 2014 deadline, debate over Medicare and Social Security, and immigration reform, all issues just as pressing as the fiscal cliff. On the ladder, Lorella Praeli, director of advocacy and policy for the United We Dream Network, a group advocating for young immigrants, has pushed for the President to revamp the immigration system. "We will hold the president accountable not only on his promise on legislative relief, but also what he can do administratively," she said. A lot of Obama's Hispanic supporters were discouraged by the Presidents lack of emphasis on immigration reform, specifically the Dream Act, during the campaign, though he and his aides indicated occasionally in interviews that he hoped to tackle the

immigration system.

Another concern that went under the radar during the campaign was the environment, an issue that Obama stressed during his initial election campaign but failed to make progress on in the midst of the Congressional stalemate. President Obama has already mentioned clearing out needless regulations in an attempt to streamline environmental regulations. Others have proposed examining chemical site security to reduce the vulnerability of these facilities to terrorism. Under the Clean Air Act, Obama could create such safeguards without Congressional approval. Obama failed to pass through cap-and-trade proposals to limit carbon emissions, but he may attempt to do so again, though with a Republican House he will have a much more difficult challenge this time.

The devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy brought climate change to the public's attention again, but many environmentalists worry that, as in the last 4 years, the environment will continue to take a passenger seat because of issues like the fiscal cliff. Though many blame Obama for the lack of emphasis on the economy, Janet Ritz, of the Huffington Post believes that the fault for lack of environmental reform lies as much in the people as it does in the President. "If we're to see prosperity return, the planet turned toward healing, the broken government fixed, we cannot turn away from our responsibility as citizens this time. We must actively support the president where legislation makes sense to us. We must let him know how we feel if it doesn't," Ritz emphasizes.

Just as it was when Obama took the office 4 years ago, he faces a daunting set of challenges. But without the prospect of reelection, many Democrats hope that Obama will be able to pass through more legislation, despite the Republican House. Republicans fear the same thing. No matter what he accomplishes, the next four years will define Obama's presidency, for better or for worse.

SAM ADLER '15 &amp; CALEB RUDNICKI '15

## Shifting Student Population

As many students know, Loomis Chaffee is looking to reduce the amount of day students and increase the boarding population for a number of reasons. Here is our take on the issue.

Loomis should be a place where students with diverse backgrounds can be part of a community of scholarship. Increasing the amount of boarders is inconsistent with Loomis' mission statement. However, we fully recognize the reasons for pushing for such a reform. Depending on from what viewpoint one looks at the issue, boarder or day student, the proposed population shifts may seem advantageous or devastating.

Community is an enormous factor of Loomis student life, whether you're referring to the booming weekend nights full of StuCo events or the not-so-busy Sundays of lazing around the quad. Especially in the past couple years, the school has been attempting to strengthen the sense of community on campus. One might argue that increasing the quantity of boarders would only add to the community--more students to be on campus for more time. Increasing the boarding population also would allow more opportunities for after school and weekend activities. During late hockey practices, many day students teammates complain about how they won't get home until 10:30 so won't get enough sleep for the next day, while boarders tend to like this practice time because they can shower and go to sleep literally 15 minutes after practices ends. In the end, more boarders means a larger campus community, as well as less frustrating after-school activities.

On the other hand, a compelling case can be made that day students only foster an even stronger connection with the community, especially in foster-

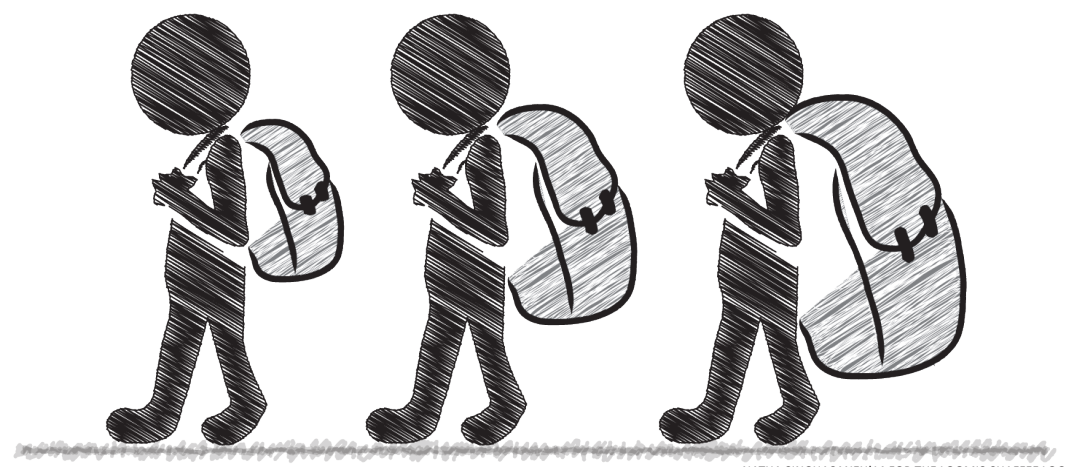
ing a bond with the neighboring town of Windsor. Strong relationships with neighboring communities are essential to ensure an elite boarding school's success. After an especially crazy week of testing, late night practices, and club meetings, the average Loomis student craves a quick trip to CVS or the Whistle-stop. Day students open the door of possibilities beyond Windsor, providing rides to nearby malls, movie theatres, and restaurants. From as close as a five-minute walk in Windsor to an hour-long ride from New Haven, day students help link the school to the outside community. They also provide housing for boarders during holidays. Even day student parents are involved in the community. They make up the PTO. Day students also bring a great deal to the school's academics. Last year, roughly 60% of the cum laude members were day students. Also, 23 day students won junior prizes from the class of 2012. Although day students are a minority on campus they set a high bar for academic excellence. Clearly, day students play an enormous role in the Loomis community.

So, if day students contribute so much towards the school community, why should Loomis decrease their numbers? Well one possible reason: money. Day students pay \$11,650 less than boarding students every year for tuition. Very few parents would be willing to have their children board when they could save over ten grand a year. Conversely, the school could be putting tens of thousands of more dollars into renovating or building facilities, recruiting promising athletes, reinvesting in technology and materials for class, or any of our other new projects. However, while increasing the school's funds may sound like a practical idea, the school was not established to earn money. As all

students know, the five Loomis siblings tragically lost their own children, and founded the school to provide for the children of others. This school was built on the principle of educating children, not compiling funds. When it comes down to it, money should not impact the decision on whether the school increases the amount of boarders or not.

Another possible reason for increasing the boarding population: renown. Around the world, if you were to ask a person if they have heard of Exeter, the conventional response is "Yes". But when asked about Loomis, a typical answer may or may not involve a scratch of the head and a raised eyebrow. Despite the fact that we are part of the Ten School Admission Organization, Loomis is quite unheard of in comparison to other prep schools. Loomis Chaffee has 11 dormitories with 62% of students boarding, whereas Exeter has 25 dormitories and 80% of the students live on campus. If we were to create more boarding positions, we would be able to accept students from more countries, therefore spreading the word of how great a place Loomis is and we would become a more elite school.

Speaking of dormitories, the word around campus is that there will be a new dormitory installed behind Kravis Hall. It is said to hold around 50 students, and is planned to be an underclassmen female dorm with four faculty apartments. The dormitory's common room will be opposite of Kravis', creating a mini-quad between the two dorms like that of Harman and Carter. Although several Kravis boys seem enthusiastic about the prospect of a female dormitory as close as their backyard, on the downside, it looks like I won't be able to watch baseball games out of my window for much longer!



NATHA SINGHASANEH '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG





BY REINALDO MARISTANY '14  
Staff Writer

# L GSP RTS

## “Fourteen Crazy Weeks”: The 2012 College Football Season

ued their reign as one of college football's top teams, while the Louisiana State University Tigers easily defeated their early season competition. These teams--the perennial championship contenders--didn't disappoint until a dramatic turn of events in mid-September.

In 2012, one team dominated sports headlines--for all of the wrong reasons. Entering the season, USC held the title of being college football's number one ranked team. The Trojans, eager to reassert themselves as a national powerhouse, attracted elite recruits from all over the nation. Furthermore, with 2011 Heisman Trophy finalist Matt Barkley returning as the team's quarterback, USC looked to solidify itself as an offensive powerhouse. Although they were equipped with all these spectacular weapons in their arsenal, it was even more shocking how badly the Trojans under-achieved this year. With an overall record of 7-4 (including an embarrassing loss to archrival UCLA) heading into their final game of the season, USC fell far out of contention for not only the National Championship, but also the Conference championship. With one last chance to save face, the Trojans met the undefeated (and newly number one ranked) Fighting Irish of Notre Dame at the L.A. Coliseum. Unable to break through Notre Dame's stifling defense, USC lost 22-13. While a 7-5

season is extremely respectable for most teams, USC's failure to achieve their lofty goals made the season an utter disappointment.

Following USC's Week 3 loss to Stanford, Alabama ascended to the #1 spot in the rankings. However, playing in the SEC (the Southeastern Conference), widely regarded as the

take place in LSU's home stadium, nicknamed "Death Valley." LSU's hopes at a return trip to the national championship, bruised by a loss to Florida in early October, hung by a thread. Injuries lurked throughout LSU's depth chart, and the preseason expulsion of 2011

game, 21-17. The Crimson Tide, riding high momentum after their victory over the Tigers, faced #15 Texas A&M in their next game. Shockingly, the Crimson Tide lost for the first time in almost two years, falling to the Aggies 29-24.

After Alabama's loss, the Notre Dame Fighting Irish as-

### Alabama vs Notre Dame



most competitive conference in the country, Alabama faces high caliber competition on a weekly basis. Additionally, teams like the University of Florida, Georgia, Stanford, Kansas State and others were primed to inherit the #1 spot if the Crimson Tide stumbled. On November 3rd, Alabama faced its biggest test: a game vs. LSU. As if the game needed any more hype, it was a rematch of last year's of last season's National Championship, where the Crimson Tide dominated LSU and won by a score of 21-0. This time, the game would

Heisman finalist Tyrann "Honey Badger" Mathieu only further weakened their chances at the national title. Zach Mettenberger, the Tigers' dreadfully inconsistent quarterback, faced embarrassing criticism from the media in the days leading up to their matchup with #1 Alabama, and even his coaches expressed their doubt of his ability to lead the team. Despite all the naysayers, Mettenberger played a strong game, putting LSU ahead 17-14 with under 5 minutes to play. But, Alabama scored on their next possession and won the

cended into the #1 spot. The Irish battled their way to an fairytale season, completing the regular season with a perfect 12-0 record. To put their unexpected success in perspective, the Irish weren't even ranked in the preseason top 25. As a school independent from conferences, Notre Dame chooses their own matchups. Many believe Notre Dame's freedom of choice allows them to craft an unfairly easy schedule. However, wins over elite teams like Stanford, Oklahoma, and USC proved that they were, indeed, one of the best teams

in the country. Powered by their dominant defense, the Irish are led by senior linebacker and 2012 Heisman finalist, Manti Te'o. With their win over USC in the final week of the season, Notre Dame, completing their first undefeated season since 1988, secured a spot in the 2012 National Championship game.

Now, here we are, in the midst of bowl season, with 35 bowl games scheduled for December through January. Though all bowl games stage great matchups, the highest anticipated of them all, the BCS national championship game, offers two starkly contrasting storylines. Having already won two of the last three national titles, A victory for Alabama in the 2013 National Championship will confirm their status as a college football dynasty. If the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame win the title, they will win the school's first national title since 1988, bring an end to the SEC's reign over College Football, (the last time a team not from the SEC won the national title was Texas in 2005) and solidify the 2012 team's place in Notre Dame's legendary football legacy. Be sure that on January 7, 2013, you're watching as Alabama faces Notre Dame for the national championship. Tune in and keep a vigilant eye, as anything could happen in the world of college football.

## Featured Athlete: Wyatt French '13

BY ALEX COHEN '16  
Staff Writer



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICIA COUSINS

squash team. The following year, he transferred to Loomis and played as the number 1 on the LC's JV squash team. Wyatt's hard work at the JV ranks allowed him to practice with the Varsity team while still representing number one on JV. He believes Mr. Beck, along with the guidance he received in his sophomore year from the varsity players, really cultivated his appreciation for the game of squash. He said, "The squash program at Loomis completely changed my high school career." After his sophomore squash season at Loomis, he was determined to pursue his squash career further. He worked tirelessly during the summer and fall, improving his game. When he arrived for his junior year, Wyatt's hard work had paid off, as he inherited the number one spot on the Varsity squash team. Wyatt's most memorable match was against Brunswick School in his junior year. Although he lost the match in 4 games, he played at the highest level. In fact, that year he was the only Loomis Varsity player to win even a game against Brunswick that day. Wyatt now possesses an unparalleled passion for the game of squash and has positively changed the squash culture here on the Island. We wish Wyatt luck in his squash matches this year.

This issues featured athlete is none other than Wyatt French '13, LC's number one Varsity Squash player. Starting the game at a young age back in Bermuda, Wyatt began his LC squash career in his Sophomore year. Despite his high level of talent, he only participated in a single U.S. squash tournament before coming to Loomis. His first taste of squash at the high school level was at Westminster School in his Freshman year of High School. At Westminster he played as their number three on the thirds

FALL FINAL RECORDS	
BOYS LCXC	6TH @ NEW ENGLANDS
GIRLS LCXC	13TH @ NEW ENGLANDS
VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY	9-3-1
VARSITY FOOTBALL	5-3
VARSITY BOYS SOCCER	10-4-3
VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER	13-1
VARSITY VOLLEYBALL	8-8
VARSITY WATER POLO	6-9

players to develop their game, as there are many playing spots vacated by last year's seniors. The talent of the seven underclassmen will surely mature under the tutelage of the returning players. This team is looking to improve last year's record of 9-12. The much anticipated game vs. Miss Porters will conclude the season, as the Pelicans hope to avenge last season's loss to the Fighting Daisies.

Loomis will look to Maxine

Offiaeli '14 and Abby Pyne '14 to provide solid defense along with influential rebounding. Coach Stew continues to remind the team that when it comes to Offiaeli, very few opponents have a player with such a strong presence on the court. The team values her ability in one-on-one matchups and will look to utilize these opportunities to their advantage.

Although Pyne, the starting goalie for LC Varsity Soc-

## Spotlight: Girls Varsity Basketball

BY JUSTIN LEGOWSKI '15  
Staff Writer

As the days turn colder, windier and noticeably shorter, it is evident that winter has descended upon us here on the Island. For most LC students, Winter is a dreadful and gloomy time, but for others, the excitement of the winter sports season brings brightness to the cold and dark winter days. Winter sports always provide an entertaining break from studying during the long winter term and Girls Varsity Basketball will surely be one to watch.

The Girls Varsity Basketball team began its season this week with an impressive win at home over Westminster School, 56 - 48. Coach Stewart is impressed with how quickly the team has matured and the high level of intensity the group brings to

each practice. Coach Stewart commented, "The dedication and intensity of the girls' basketball practices drive the success of our program."

The Girls Varsity team has a busy schedule prior to the holiday break. The Pelicans have two games, one at Pomfret and one at home vs. Phillips Academy (Andover) before they head to Noble & Greenough in Dedham, MA for a holiday tournament (Friday through Sunday December 14th -16th).

The team will look to its only returning senior, Brooke Marchitto, for leadership this season. While the team, with five freshmen and two sophomores, is relatively inexperienced at the high school level, the experience of the five returning juniors should prove invaluable. This season should be a great opportunity for younger

cer, rarely allows others to score while defending the soccer net, her mid-range jump-shot should fuel plenty of scoring opportunities on offense for the Pelicans. Not only is Abby an All-American on the soccer field, but, her clutch shooting, paralleled with stellar post moves, are sure to generate headaches for her opponents throughout the season.

To complement the frontcourt, Sophomore guards Chynna Bailey '15 and Stephanie Jones '15

will run an imposing backcourt guaranteed to challenge the most disciplined defenses. Smart decisions, court awareness and protection of the basketball are key components to playing the guard position and the success of the Loomis Chaffee offense depends on them. With the duo of Bailey and Jones in the backcourt, plus Offiaeli and Pyne dominating the paint, Loomis will no doubt be a formidable competitor.

## Loomis Chaffee Sends Four Teams to Post-Season Tournaments

BY ALLISON YEH '15  
Staff Writer

### Girl's Volleyball

This year's volleyball season brought tremendous excitement and hope for the future. Winning the Founders League and qualifying for New England's, the team, lead by Senior Captains Haley Magwood and Jihee Yoon, couldn't feel more accomplished. Starting with a remarkable game at Exeter, winning 3 sets to Exeter's 2, the team's chemistry grew stronger, resulting in a hard-fought and successful season. After the win at Exeter, the pride and energy continued on as LC tackled two more powerful teams, Taft and Hotchkiss. The team's tenacity was unparalleled, as the girls took five teams to full five set matches. Making the New England tournament as an underdog in the competition, the team traveled to Boston to take on a strong, yet never be-

fore seen, squad from St. Paul's. Taking one game away from St. Paul's, Loomis lost 1-3. Looking back on the season, the potential for this young team is enormous, and with another year of experience, who knows what may come in the fall 2013!

### Girl's Soccer

After an nearly undefeated regular season, consisting of 13 wins and one loss, the girls varsity soccer team had well-earned its spot as the number one seed in the New England tournament. The returning nine varsity players, including co-captains Danielle Marmer '13, Faith McCarthy '13 and Danielle Snajder '14 as well adding several newcomers, the team's prospects were looking bright. After a hard opening loss against the future New England Champions, Noble & Greenough, the girls became more determined and motivated to enhance their ferocity. With dominating performances against

Taft, Kingswood-Oxford, Miss Porter's, and Greenwich Academy, this team made it clear that they meant business. Even when going against the (at the time) undefeated Wilbraham & Monson School, LC fought hard and won 1-0. A threat to any team on the pitch, the team's astonishing run into the postseason was definitely one to watch. In the first round of the New England Championships the team faced off against Deerfield, who they have already beaten 3-0. The game took place on our meadows, and unfortunately, Deerfield edged the talented Pelicans 1-0. The team had an extremely impressive season dominating the majority of its opponents. With many returners next season, the Pelicans look forward optimistically.

### Boy's Soccer

This year's boy's Varsity Soccer team, lead by a strong group

of seniors, worked hard to an impressive record of 10 wins, 4 losses, and 3 ties. Beginning the season with a long drive to Exeter, the Pelicans left their hearts on the field, but the final score didn't end up in their favor, as they lost 1-2. Turning the season around, the team persevered, scoring victories against strong competition such as Deerfield, Hotchkiss, Avon, and many more. From raising \$200 for Nothing But Nets (an awareness to support the fight of malaria), to making an energetic video displaying their soccer skills and intricate dance moves, this team has seen, and done, it all. Making it as the sixth seed in the New England tournament, the team was ready and looked forward to its re-match against Exeter. Away from home again, the boys traveled another three hours for the win-or-go home game. Coming in as the underdogs, especially after the long bus

ride, it took some time to shake off the cobwebs. Giving it their all, Loomis kept Exeter scoreless in the match. However, Exeter's defense kept LC scoreless as well, and the game was decided by a penalty kick shootout. Sadly, LC lost the shootout by a score of 3-2. The 2013 team will have to fill the big shoes vacated by the ten seniors on the team but the young talents are sure to shine through.

### Girl's Field Hockey

The girl's varsity field hockey team couldn't be more excited with its success this past fall. With only two losses and nine wins, the girls fought valiantly each and every game. Lead by Senior Captains Allison Byrne, Melissa Haganey, and Lauren Yue, the team's energy was incredible. The team kicked its season off with a great win against Andover during Homecoming weekend. Brittany Bugalski

(2015) netted two goals, while both Melissa Haganey (2013) and Leah Zacalick (2013) scored one of their own, leaving the final score 4-2 in Loomis' favor. After their great victory, the team continued their hot streak by routing Kingwood-Oxford 7-0. Filled with great ups and downs, the girls' killer shots and unbridled spirit was noticed all over campus. The girls also earned a berth as the sixth seed in the New England Championships. Matched up against the field hockey powerhouse of Nobles and Greenough, the girls fell by a final score of 0-3. With or without the title, however, the athletes' winning season confirmed the teams' success. Even though the team will suffer from the loss of its seniors, it will be returning many key juniors and sophomores who are ready to take on the leadership positions next fall.