

Loomis Chaffee Log

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Commencement 2013
Congratulations to Loomis Chaffee's 98th graduating class!

“Richmond Hall” To Become LC’s Eleventh Dormitory

By KELSEY DUFFY '15
Staff Writer

In the fall of Loomis’s centennial year, a new dorm will stand on the Island. The hill behind Kravis Hall, in what is now adjacent to the Admissions parking lot, will soon become a construction site, with the groundbreaking taking place on Saturday, May 25.

By the start of the 2014-15 school year, fifty-five underclassmen girls will be the lucky first residents of Richmond Hall. Along with four faculty families and a dorm head, these girls will be the ones living in the

newest dorm on campus, a title held for years by Longman Hall. However, all students at Loomis will have a chance to experience the new dorm, with the lower levels of Richmond Hall containing both the new health center and counseling department. The fate of Gwendolyn Hall, the current home of the health center, is currently undecided; one option currently being discussed is moving students out of Longman Hall and into Gwendolyn Hall.

A meeting with Mr. Esposito, and Mr. Walters, head groundskeeper, allowed me to preview the plans for the upcoming project. The building will create a new,

miniature “quad” with the back of Kravis Hall. Students will be able to enjoy a fire pit and hang out in the area similar to that currently in between Carter and Harman Halls. Additionally, the covered walkway in front of Kravis will extend to the side of the building, creating a convenient path from the Rockefeller (underclassman) quad to the baseball and softball fields lining Batchelder Road. Although some are skeptical about the space allotted for this dorm, Mr. Walters confirmed that it will have nearly the same square footage as Kravis and will stand just as tall.

Perhaps the most exciting feature of the new dorm
CONTINUED ON PAGE A3

PERSPECTIVE

Contrary To Popular Belief...

What Senior Spring is Really Like

REKHA KENNEDY '13

Senior Spring was the term that I was going to be that cool, super relaxed, care-free kid. You know the ones that slowly stride down the hallway to Founders when you have to be somewhere. The kids whose slim backpacks silently mock the corpulence of your own 25-pound back-breaker. Well, I was going to become one. I would spend my days playing Frisbee on the quad, eating ice cream in the amphitheater, watching movies on my computer and my nights, well, I would spend my nights sleeping, because I still need to catch up on all the sleep I lost in the last two terms.

Now, I just want to punch myself for ever thinking that could be possible. See, what I actually did was sit in the library with my friends talking. Literally, I did no homework. I just talked with the people who were there. If no one was in the library, I would text people, hoping they were free to come to the library so that I could talk. I would head home after practice and maybe watch a few shows and right when the clock struck midnight I would realize that I still cared about school. I care that Scando’s monolithic paper was due tomorrow or that I had to memorize the inscrutable works of Vergil for Latin and I would not sleep until the wee hours of the morning. I was like Cinderella on repeat; I would turn into a carefree student by day and my old crazy neurotic somewhat homework obsessed self at midnight. However, after maintaining this routine for a month I looked far from Cinderella. I more closely resembled Jekyll and Hyde except with a greenish hue usually associated with the Hulk. When underclassmen bounced up to me in their usual happy manner or when juniors trudged up to me seeking the light at the end of that dark tunnel called junior spring and asked “Hey Rekha! How’s the slide coming along?” I would laugh and tell them, “they sit on a throne of lies.” They would stare at me like I was a weirdo who just quoted the movie Elf.

I was slowly but surely descending into madness. I could finish 40 pages of reading in 10 minutes. I wrote seven page papers in one night; I finished an overdue article in one hour. I even found a prom dress in 20 minutes online. However, the truly mad times were in those moments of pseudo-sleep right before I actually fell asleep
CONTINUED ON PAGE A3

Nick Pukstas: 2013 LC Teacher of the Year

By KRISHNA KULKARNI '13
Contributor

From the very first moment I walked into Mr. Pukstas’ Latin II classroom, I immediately sensed something different. Latin, commonly referred to as a so-called ‘dead’ language, began to jump off the page. Mr. Pukstas resurrected Latin for me, and in doing so, opened my eyes to the hidden beauty intrinsic to the works of Vergil and other poets. His boundless energy, dedication to teaching, and willingness to laugh with his students distinguishes Mr. Pukstas as the best teacher I’ve ever had. When I work hard for Mr. Pukstas’s class, I do it because I genuinely want to make him proud of me. Very few teachers can motivate cynical, rebellious teenagers to sincerely care about the work they’re assigned, but, in his unique way, Mr. Pukstas has done just that.

As a dorm head, Mr. Pukstas



PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH WILLIAMS '13

Loomis Chaffee’s Dance Company Performs For Sell-Out Crowds

With its artistic choreography, colorful costumes, and, of course, expressive dancing, Loomis Chaffee’s Dance Revue left audiences stunned thanks to its epic array of artistic expression. *Read full article on Page A4.*

Reaching The Finish Line: A Reflection on The College Process

By PIM SENANARONG '13
2012-13 Editor-in-Chief

Arriving at the end of a race is a different experience for everyone. For some of us, the delightful disbelief of victory courses through our veins as we exuberantly greet the finish line swollen with pride. For others, the numbness weighs down on our limbs, accentuating the weariness we’ve felt throughout the entire process: junior year, summer internships, the leadership positions, senior fall, the early decision showdowns, and ultimately, the results: the wake up call, the dust kicked in our faces by those that finished before us.

The majority of us, however, stand between the two extremes. With senior spring enveloping us in a cloud of nostalgia and bore-

dom, we constantly remind ourselves: “I am done.” Like war veterans, we must assimilate our minds and bodies back into the overall chores of daily life.

For the “winners,” the newly granted free time gives us plenty of room for our imaginations to restlessly daydream, blissfully plan, and diligently procrastinate. All of a sudden, we find ourselves cruising

COLLEGE SERIES

Final of three parts

through online images of the dream campus, looking up nearby restaurants and tourist attractions, and cheekily checking out fraternity or sorority options. We bookmark the college’s Class of 2017 facebook page

and obsessively talk about the ridiculous, borderline hysterical posts made by others desperate, done-with-high-school seniors hoping to get a head start on their fresh palette. Yet for the less fortunate, this awkward section of time in our lives proves to be even more daunting than the process itself. At least once in our high school careers, we’ve received advice that went along the lines of something like this: the name and prestige of the college doesn’t actually matter in the long run, you can still be successful in life no matter where you go to college, and if you’re really pursuing an ambitious career like law or medicine, grad school is more important anyway, etc. I say etcetera because such advice at one point

“FINISH LINE”, PAGE A3

Continued from Page A1



JUWON JUN '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

commands absolute respect among students. Although Mr. Pukstas may seem an imposing figure at first glance, sporting a grizzly beard and extra-medium shirts, people in

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5

Continued from Page A1

PSO’s “Canstruction” Brings Hunger Awareness

By LILY ZHANG '14 AND
EMILIE SZEMRAJ '16
Contributor and Staff Writer

On the Sunday of May 19th, as a cloud of smoke and music encompassed the quad, five students completed their can-sculpted masterpiece in the SNUG. The grilled burgers of

the dorms’ barbecue cookouts were recreated using cans, bread loaves, boxes, and--under the permission of a librarian--old library books. With some help from some SNUG denizens, they brought to Loomis Chaffee hunger awareness in the mere span of an hour.

The roots of The Hunger Burger idea first came to the Pelican

Service Organization (PSO) in the form of a flyer declaring a students’ canstruction competition in Springfield, MA. Under the stress of raising cans for the event, PSO supervisor Ms. Lombardo suggested that students create a can sculpture on campus, raising awareness for our own students and faculty. PSO and the Art Club

CONTINUED ON PAGE A3

The Island’s Newest Varsity Squad

By SAM COX '16
Staff Writer

I followed Ultimate Frisbee team manager Anita Richmond '16 through the bustling halls of Olcott on a busy Tuesday afternoon. I was ecstatic to find out what all this Varsity Ultimate Frisbee hype was about. We probably would have passed the masses of athletes unseen if it weren’t for Anita’s huge green wagon, weighed down by a jug

of water, sunscreen, a mini lost-and-found for her team, Spongebob Band-Aids, Frisbees, and, of course, snacks. “Snacks on snacks on snacks”, as the team refers to Anita’s everlasting heap of granola bars and fruit chews. On the trek from the gym to the back right section of the meadows we talked about what it was like to manage such a unique team. She told me there was so much more

CONTINUED ON PAGE A8

Big Changes Come To “One-Acts”

By NATALIA GUTIÉRREZ '14
Contributor

Each spring we return to the humble seats of our little red barn, eagerly awaiting to see the theatrical works of the many, many students enrolled dedicated to scriptwriting. And by “many”, I mean two to three students enrolled in Loomis Chaffee’s Playwriting and Directing

course. Although “One Acts Playwriting Festival” no longer adorns the event’s playbills, the redesigned, reimagined, and revamped Loomis Chaffee Playwriting and Directing Studio retains the true spirit of the NEO’s annual Spring show. One Acts have found new life, reincarnated by the students’ writing, producing, and directing the multitude of plays.

“THEATER”, PAGE A4

Editor’s Picks

LC Bids Adieu to Eighteen Faculty and Staff

With the close of the school year comes the departure of eighteen faculty members and staff, whose future plans range from “raising a family” to “building boats”

PAGE A2

Movie Review: “Promposals” 2013

2012-13 Editor-in-Chief Pim Senanarong negatively reflects on Marvel’s third installment of the Iron Man series, finding it “entertaining but neither memorable nor touching”

PAGE A7

Interview With: Caitlin Farrell '14

The Class of 2013 put their creativity to work in devising their “promposals”. Everything ranging from glow sticks to choreography were used as props to “pop the question” and campus filled with rumors about “who asked who?”

PAGE A5

A member of the Varsity Cross-Country, Swimming and Track Teams, Caitlin’s athletic achievements earned her the prestigious Junior Class Athletics Award. Check out our recent interview with this talented Pelican!

PAGE A8



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Marchetti, Baxter, and Kosanovich Among Eighteen Departing Faculty and Staff

Log Staff Report

As the 2012-13 academic year draws to a close, the Loomis Chaffee community bids farewell to seventeen departing faculty and staff members, whose years of service to the school range from one to forty-three. The LC community will certainly miss them, and all of us here at the Log wish them well in their future endeavors.

Ron Marchetti

Employed Since: 1970
Positions: Teacher of English, Latin, Former Director of Studies

Future Plans: Hoping to “just retire” and spend time with family and friends.

building wooden boats”

Memorable Moment: I don't think there's one moment that is especially memorable, it's an accumulation of all the relationships that I've had with wonderful students over my time here”

Brian Kosanovich

Employed Since: 1995
Positions: Head of the Theater and Dance Department
Future Plans: Attending Dartmouth College to obtain an M.A. in Liberal Studies with a concentration in Creative Writing.

Memorable Moment: “I'm hoping the most memorable moment will be my final graduation here, so actually I'm hoping I haven't had it yet”

Nick Pukstas

Employed Since: 2005
Positions: Associate Dean of Faculty, Teacher of Latin, LC's 2013 Teacher of the Year
Future Plans: Attending San Francisco State University to obtain an M.A. in Classics.

Memorable Moment: Coaching both the boys and girls New England discus champions in 2009.

Ted Garber

Employed Since: 2008
Positions: Head Boys Lacrosse Coach, Athletics Department

Future Plans: “In all honesty, I am not sure what I am going to do yet. I have been approached by 2 of the most prestigious prep schools in the

Isso Shimamoto

Employed Since: 2011
Positions: Teacher of Math, Assistant Coach of Boys Swimming and Girls Water Polo
Future Plans: Teaching math at the Stamford-American school in Singapore.

Janis Jones-Strange

Employed Since: 2011
Positions: Health Center/Housekeeping

Ben Haldeman

Employed Since: 2011
Positions: Teacher of History and English, Head Coach of Wrestling

Future Plans: He'll be attending UConn Law next fall, but will still coach Wrestling at LC in the winter. He plans on

The Year That Was at Loomis Chaffee

BY ERIKA PURDY '15
Staff Writer

From the chickens to the new lights on the football field, from the Founders fire to the controversial sex rule, from performances in the NEO and Hubbard to excellence on the athletic fields, Loomis Chaffee epitomized the school's motto during the 2012-13 school year. Upperclassmen and underclassmen alike found new challenges—some big, some small—and undertook them all with perseverance and determination.

Early in the school year, a small fire during renovations in Founders unleashed several hundred gallons of water on various rooms in the building. While this event signified that the sprinkler system was functional, it also cost the school the use of two classrooms and of the Nee Room. Luckily, the water damage was eventually fixed and all the rooms affected are now fully usable—and looking as good as new. Discovering opportunity from bad luck, the school completely renovated the Nee Room. Now, students enjoy more comfortable chairs and better working spaces, and the community unanimously raves the aesthetics of the renovated space. Featuring eco-friendly lights, a new carpet, and new tables, the Nee Room now forms a perfect workspace for study halls, and we owe it all to the hard work of the Physical Plant.

If you haven't seen the chickens, I doubt you've ever set foot on this campus. In fact, if you haven't yet met our fine feathered friends, walk over there right now. This article can wait. Okay, now that you've met them, let me illustrate a bit of their history. Eight chicks arrived on the Island over the summer, and were cared for by various faculty, staff, and students, the last group including the newly appointed E-Proctors. The choice to introduce the chickens to the campus was made in a proposal by a student a few years ago, but only now has it been implemented. Along with providing eggs that the school sells at a small profit, the chickens provide cleanup services by eating weeds, and of course, giving moral support. Although they're bound in their coop, at least for the moment, soon enough they'll be out and about again, ready to greet newcomers and returnees alike.

The student council continued their excellent work this year, implementing the new Honor Pledge as well as hosting a benefit concert to raise money for victims of Hurricane Sandy. In addition to their achievements, they also proposed an amendment to the so-called “sex rule” that would lower the punishment from being caught having sex from a Level Two to a Level One. Obviously, there

would still be serious repercussions, but the change would allow students to not worry about the incident being reflected during their college process. However, the vote failed to pass the faculty, and the proposal was rejected. But the message was clear—members of StuCo are ready to lead and take action to make a change in the Loomis community, and we'll certainly be hearing more from them next year.

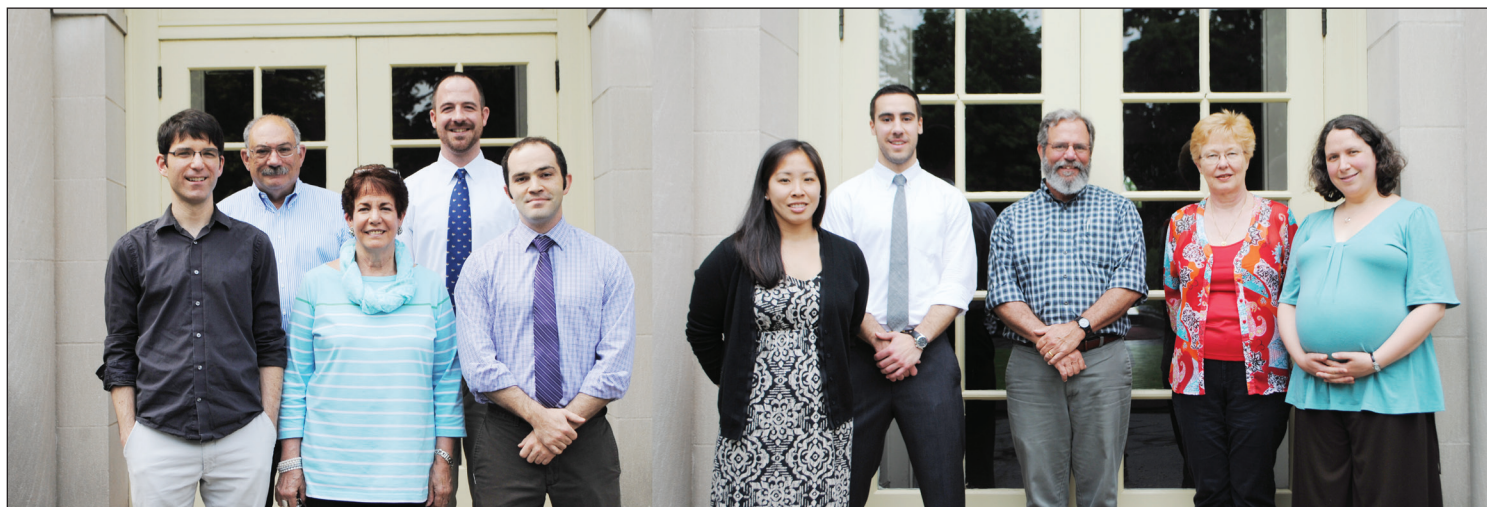
This year, the stage of the NEO brimmed with incredible talents. In the fall, Shakespeare's *A Comedy of Errors* graced the stage, bringing with it laughter, happiness, and one of the best performances the school has ever seen. *Legally Blonde* debuted in the winter to similar success, led at the helm by actors and actresses, and supported by a wide variety of promising actors, singers, and dancers. The “One Acts”, performed only a few weeks before this was written, enchanted the audience for two nights, as the seats were packed with students, faculty, and parents. Athletics also excelled this year, as the boys' varsity soccer, girls' varsity hockey, varsity volleyball, and boys' football teams finished with a near-perfect record. Although this year marked the end of the Spoon tradition, the football team proved itself a formidable force of nature, and they'll only grow stronger in the years to come. We may not win the Spoon, but perhaps we'll forge a new tradition.

As the presidential election occurred this year, history students in the fall and winter held a mock campaign and mock election, coinciding with the visit of the two writers of the all-school read, *Democracy Despite Itself*. Other events included the return of Mr. Watson, a much-loved former teacher, to the Island, the success of the Green Cup, in which Loomis took third place nationally, and the inspiring speech of Dr. Mykee Fallon. The last of these events inspired the creation of a new organization, the “Oysters Club”. Founded by Olivia Shin '15 and Gabby Roncone '15, the club holds intermittent meetings where students are encouraged to hold open conversation with their peers. Poet Billy Collins also visited toward the end of the year, answering questions about his experience with writing, while also offering tips for students.

All in all, this past year was a whirlwind of frantic energy, both positive and negative, but everyone on campus continued to uphold and improve his or her excellence and meet new challenges head on. In the wake of horrible tragedies like Hurricane Sandy or the shooting in Newtown, students, faculty, and staff pitched in to help the community and their peers, showing incredible resolve during hard times. “Do not yield to adversity,” indeed.

be true. With seniors bound for college, it is wonderful to imagine how much they will contribute as musicians to their respective schools. On the other hand, Loomis Chaffee will miss them

dearly for all they have given for the school: their skill, effort, and love. I wish all of the class of 2013 good luck in the future!



From Left: Kris Allen, Ron Marchetti, Maria Schumann, Nick Pukstas, Ben Haldeman; Isso Shimamoto, Rick Taylor, David Newell, Nicole Jamieson, Lucy Thiboutot

Most Memorable Moment from LC Career: “Being named Teacher of the Year was nice, but the times when you see that one student who's had an epiphany and whose life is going to be better because of it is truly special”

Alice Baxter

Employed Since: 1979
Positions: Teacher of Science, former Dean of Faculty
Future Plans: “My husband and I are moving to Hamden CT. We hope to take advantage of the educational and cultural offerings of New Haven and Yale. I have no specific plans as of now, but will figure out my next step after taking time to consider all my options.”

Memorable Moment: “I cannot name one specific moment in 34 years of working at LC: a favorite experience is when a student has a lightbulb moment in chemistry and finally gets a difficult concept, or when a student discovers that he or she has a true and deep interest in the subject of astronomy or chemistry”

David Newell

Employed Since: 1992
Positions: Teacher of Philosophy/Psychology/Religion
Future Plans: To “keep

Additional info: “After Dartmouth, the plan is to get a job as an English Teacher, either in Boston or New Hampshire, and I am, in fact, giving up the theater world”

Maria Schumann

Employed Since: 1996
Positions: Teacher of Spanish

Future Plans: Hoping to travel, mainly to visit her relatives in New York, Ecuador, and Germany.

Memorable Moment: “My most memorable moments are every time I enter the classroom. I can have a headache, I can be sick, but when I step in, everything is forgotten. I've always enjoyed that moment tremendously”

Nicole Jamieson

Employed Since: 1999
Positions: Alumni/Development Office

Future Plans: To spend more time with her family especially her grandchildren, Josephine and Amelia. She's also looking forward to spending more time at her NH getaway on Lake Warren where she enjoys nature, kayaking, and swimming.

United States about working for them which is a possibility, and I am also considering an outside business venture with a company that places high caliber student-athletes (lacrosse and soccer players) into the prep schools across the country. I am also planning on continuing to coach in Major League Lacrosse.

Neil Chaudhary

Employed Since: 2010
Positions: Teacher of Science, Associate Head of the Theater and Dance Department

Future Plans: Moving to Vietnam to work for AEG, a company which assists Vietnamese students by facilitating their admissions process to American prep schools.

Lucy Thiboutot

Employed Since: 2010
Positions: Teacher of Arabic and French, Former Teacher of History

Future Plans: She is leaving Loomis in order to spend time with her “growing family”. She hopes to return to teaching in the future, as she will “miss interacting with students”

“being mercilessly nice to my professors, avoiding Facebook, and glorying in my newfound Saturday morning sleep-ins”

Teresa Giugliano

Employed Since: 2011
Positions: Health Center Nurse

Rick Taylor

Employed Since: 2012
Positions: Teacher of Art History

Future Plans: “I am leaving to pursue a PhD in Classical Archaeology at the University of Oxford. The plan is to continue some of the work I did there last year for my Masters on the representation of non-Romans in both public and private Roman narrative sculpture.”

Kris Allen

Employed Since: 2012
Positions: Concert Band Director

Future Plans: Leaving LC to become the Artist in Residence and Director of Jazz Studies at Williams College

Tiffani Hooper

Employed Since: 2012
Positions: Associate Director of College Guidance
Future Plans: Working in admissions at her Alma Mater, Amherst College.

Student Recitals Provide Spring Term Entertainment

BY JEAN LEE '15
Staff Writer

What better is there to do than listen to some classical music on a spring evening? At 7:26, I strolled to The Hubbard Performance Hall from my dorm for a recital that was to start at 7:30. (The perks of living in Harman!) I admired the sunset as the warm spring breeze caressed my arms and face. During the final few weeks of the term, the Hubbard Performance Hall held recitals of for the Island's most professional players, some performances serving as finales to their Loomis musical career.

On Monday evening, Wyatt French '13 calmly walked onto the stage, sat down on a solitary chair in the middle of the vast stage, placed his cello between his legs, and calmly began to play. He performed two pieces of music: *Le Cygne* from *Carnaval des Animaux* by Saint-Saëns

and *Elegy, Op. 24* by Fauré. The calm and peaceful tune from cello strings mesmerized the audience; listeners held on to every note. Crescendo and decrescendo, the cello's distinctive low notes sent vibes to the audience. After drawing his last bow across the cello strings, he rose to meet the cheers and applause of the audience with the bow on one hand and his cello on the other—the cello with which countless hours were spent in practice rooms and numerous concerts successfully performed.

Once the applause subsided, Claire Kim '14 walked into the spotlight. She slowly placed her hands on the keys and took a deep breath; the concert hall was silent. The moment she started playing, every single soul in the audience was captivated. The fast notes raced by, but every single note could be clearly heard. Her songs were *Prelude and Fugue in B-flat Major* by

Bach, *Sonata No. 26* in E-flat Major, *Op. 81a* by Beethoven, and *Trois Études de Concert* by Liszt. “Wyatt and I had a very nice, intimate audience,” Claire said after her concert. “I am thankful to have had such a supportive audience and cannot wait to perform again next year as a senior!”

On Wednesday, Nina Sayles '13, the school's best percussionist had her solitary recital on Wednesday, May 22nd. The audience seats were full with people excited to attend her last concert. Calmly, she started playing her first song, *Tambourin Chinois* by Kreisler, accompanied by her sister, Julia Sayles, on the piano. The marimba's notes reverberated in the concert hall and created perfect harmony with the piano. The American Suite for Unaccompanied Snare Drum by Gauthreaux III caught everyone's attention, because the instrument was nothing like anybody has ever seen before.

The drum was played with two brushes, and a great variety of sounds could be made, one of them made by brushing the surface of the drum. In addition to these memorable music pieces, her recital also included *Yellow After the Rain* by Mitchell Peters, *Gitano* by Alice Gomez, and *Strange Humors* by Mackey, which was performed with Kenny Kim '13, Sijie Wei '14, Kevin Cha '14 and Elizabeth Lee '14. Nina played tirelessly for almost an hour; the recital was breathtaking, providing a perfect ending to her musical career at Loomis.

Wyatt, Claire and Nina all played spectacularly, with skills that seemed almost too good to



Felicia Woron '13 and Sijie Wei '14

PHOTO COURTESY OF JELLEY ORTEGREN

Senior Projects Display Students' Passions

BY JOHN KIM '15
News Editor

Every year, the senior projects are a popular catalyst for discussion throughout the school. Started by Mr. Merrill and Mr. Neary in 1992, the senior projects that we know and love were started to allow seniors with a minimum grade point average of a 3.33 to receive exemptions from their classes and exams



Diana Suciú '13

two weeks before graduation. Some examples of past projects include studying the religious and psychological causes of lucid dreaming, turning Tea-winning essays into poems, and creating a comparative study of two middle schools within differing socio-economic neighborhoods. This year, Payge Kerman, Sarah Horowitz, Diana Suciú, Sam Asher, JiHee Yoon, Dan Wade, Ben Russell, Emelynn Abreu, Ryan Springer-Miller, Austin Jubrey and Catherine Dunlavey are all working to create physical manifestations of their passions.

Payge Kerman is currently studying the biological and psychological effects of bikram yoga on the body. She describes Bikram yoga as "a series of twenty-six postures and two breathing sets in an hour and a half . . . in a 110° room". And she's doing this twice a day!

Sarah Horowitz, renowned as the creator of the LC fashion club and its Facebook fashion blog, is currently in the process of creating her very own fashion magazine, complete with students as models and articles written by Sarah herself, and as well as several other contribu-

tors, though it will "be very photographically based".

Diana Suciú is currently writing and drawing the first volume of her own comic book. This sounds like a daunting task, but, Diana is doing this completely by hand, without having access to a team of assistants or using a computer like most professional comic book writers. Naturally, this requires an extremely large amount of time and patience. Diana's comic features anthropomorphic animals in a fantasy world and a plot that explores many of the problems we face in our own world with a "deeper meaning" that she will reveal to us at a later date.

Dan Wade and Ben Russell are exploring new musical territories by mixing traditional rock music with new-age electronica. In this process, they have both created origi-



Emelynn Abreu '13 and Ryan Springer-Miller '13

nal tracks and covered familiar songs like "Feeling Good". Both of them use their deep understanding of music theory to craft brilliant musical ideas, and use their creativity to put new spins on older tunes.

Emelynn Abreu and Ryan Springer-Miller are working in tandem to organize the Color Run, which many of you have doubtlessly seen flyers around campus for. This event was created in order to raise money to cover the medical costs of the grandson of one of the members of our community, who has Rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare form of cancer that affects children two to six years of age.

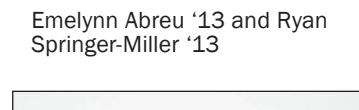
The premise of the Color Run would be a "fun run" whereby a runner would run and get spray painted after



Dan Wade '13 (a.k.a. DJ DWade)

running a certain distance, such as one or two miles.

It is clear that the seniors have learned a very great deal from their experience working on their projects. When asked about a lesson they had felt that they had learned, their answers provided me with life advice I will use throughout my years at Loomis. Sarah Horowitz put the ideals of senior projects together very cogently when she told me that "if you love something about yourself, whether



Austin Jubrey '13

it's loving Star Wars or having an obsession with The Lord of the Rings, don't be afraid to show that." And with this in mind, all of Loomis looks forward to the projects that the class of 2013 will produce, and future projects that will be undertaken by future classes.

It was late nights filled with blank sheets and un-annotated readings. Senior Spring was like being on a roller coaster and going down the steepest part—you are counting the moments before its over knowing full well the moment you get off that you'll want to go just one more time.

call home at Loomis: the library. It was late nights filled with blank sheets and un-annotated readings. Senior Spring was like being on a roller coaster and going down the steepest part—you are counting the moments before its over knowing full well the moment you get off that you'll want to go just one more time.

random mixture of chance and calculations. As unfortunate as it is, grasping the truth is the closest you will come to closure. Even though most of us will naturally brush aside the clichéd "it's not you, it's them" comments that keep spilling out of the adults' mouths as they pat our shoulders grimly, it's not despicable to start considering the truth behind that notion.

When you consider the amount of work we've accomplished with our time here, an acceptance letter by a handful of people rushing through essays and SAT scores at the speed of light shouldn't be an indication of success or failure. Our skills and passions do not get diminished by one name and enriched by another. There's no denying that in this process, the concept of winning and losing exists. However, not gaining acceptance by the college of your choice doesn't mean you lose an integral part of yourself. It doesn't even mean you lose some sort of elevated notion of dignity. Understandably, most of us feel some sort of innate embarrassment at the notion of this so-called "failure," heightened by

New Dorm: Richmond Hall

Continued from Page A1

is its eco-friendly structure. It will be "Designed with sustainability in mind, with recycled materials and energy-efficient systems," says Mr. Esposito. This project will undoubtedly take campus's already significant "green movement" to new heights.

Unfortunately, when students return in the fall, they will not be able to see the dorm coming

together just yet, as a large hole and a foundation will likely be the only signs of the dorm's existence. However, construction will be continuing throughout the 2013-2014 school year.

Clearly, the ten to twelve million dollar project, (funded exclusively through generous donations) will change the appearance and "feel" of our campus. But beyond the physical changes, the addition of a new

dorm will represent some long-term changes being implemented by the LC administration. The expansion of dorm space coincides with the school's gradual movement towards a higher boarding population. However, not to worry, day students: this doesn't mean any drastic changes for a few years at least. But by this time next year, Loomis Chaffee's 11th dormitory will be well on its way towards opening.

PSO's "Canstruction"

Continued from Page A1

made plans to collaborate for the design and purchase of cans with money raised from the Mardi Gras banquet. Seyun Kim '14, the designer of the sculpture, explained that she chose to create a hamburger because "a lot of people don't get the same opportunity to eat as we do, they

the years to come.

There are a number of fundraisers for worldwide disaster relief, but this year PSO has tried to incorporate projects that address poverty from the needy of our local community. All the food and cans used in Loomis' construction will go to the Windsor Food Bank. In addition, the PSO officers hope that next year Loomis

they will be dispersed among the needy. In 2012 alone, Canstruction raised almost three and a half million pounds of canned food.

The charity Canstruction isn't the only one responsible for this new form of food collection. There are many independent charities and organizations making use of constructions around



PSO Members work on "canstruction" their sculpture

MERCIE VILLARREAL '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

really rely on fast food." When she first heard about the project, she imagined a construction that could symbolize a harsh life that most with the privileges of a Loomis education cannot understand.

"My initial plan was to break the structure a little bit and make it fall down on one side to represent the [scars] of the pain and suffering these people feel [when they face] their broken dreams," Seyun responded after being asked about her design process. Although the sculptors decided on a half-hamburger supported by the wall, this decision created a much bolder look. The Hunger Burger can be appreciated both visually and artistically, and will be a great opportunity for raising cans and relieving starvation in

can make "constructions" from cans donated by student participants, furthering the school's participation and extending our time commitment to the community.

"Canstructions" have not been found in Connecticut alone. In recent years, these fun but meaningful sculptures have become increasingly popular as community service projects. One organization, actually called "Canstruction", hosts yearly contests in which different teams enter and compete for first place in their state, as well as national titles. The winning sculptures are displayed as art exhibits. After the competition have ended, the hundreds of cans of food are taken, sorted, and given to local food banks, or pantries, where

the world. A company, community, or even a school, (such as Loomis) sponsor and create "constructions." Even Disney World created a sculpture in 2010 using 115,000 cans, setting the Guinness World Record for the largest construction of canned foods in history. These pieces of artwork express world hunger as something tangible and real for many people, and interest others with beauty and creativity.

Loomis Chaffee's very own "Hunger Burger" represents a common fast food many students enjoy, but may be others' only choice. The "Hunger Burger" is a symbol that brings together community service, art, and the LC students and faculty in building the common good of our community while representing hunger awareness and relief.

Senior Spring

Continued from Page A1

when I would ponder existential crises and truly discover the meaning of a quarter-life crisis. In these moments I finally understood my Senior Spring (and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus Part II).

I lived Senior Spring the way

I'd like to remember it. I wanted to end my four years not by being a female rendition of Otto Rocket from Rocket Power, but as my frazzled and school-efficient self. So senior spring for everyone else may have been pranking cars and rides to Dunkin' Donuts, but for me it was sharing stories with friends in the one place we

"Reaching The Finish Line"

seemed hackneyed, euphemistic, and above all, clichéd. While I cannot speak for everyone, I think most will agree that very few students could actually heed such advice. We hoped we would never have to confront a situation in which the aforementioned advice would become applicable.

However, for those of us who haven't won the long race of the college process, suddenly the clichés and the bland words of wisdom become things that we must seriously consider. Having missed out on our prestigious, ivy-league or otherwise top-notch first-choice schools, we must wonder: will I still be okay going to a school that is ostensibly less than what I wanted? Counselors, teachers, and adults alike are often quick to repeat their words of wisdom at this point, complete with plastered-on tired smiles and instinctive nods. For some of us, this automated response, while well intentioned, can cause us to spiral even further into self-doubt and perpetual worries. This reaction, of course, is naturally defensible. We spent much of our adolescence scheming and building college-worthy resumes. Hours of finding the right words to

describe our activities in community service clubs, searching and acquiring leadership positions, running the Log, finishing your articles semi on time—were all those hours to go to waste? Right in front of your eyes you are forced not only to witness the collapse of the coliseum you've painstakingly built, but also to help in the deconstructing process. For now that your dreams have withered somewhat, it is time to reconcile yourself to the fact that life goes on and you must adapt to the reality of your circumstances. To put it less abstractly: you are still going to go to college, even if it's not where you saw yourself going at first.

Self-pity is time-consuming and a drain of energy. Allow yourself a couple of days or weeks of this small indulgence if you must. However, as the end of the year draws closer and closer, try and wrap your head around the knowledge that although you might feel like you're the only one in the world with this predicament, there are countless others facing the exact same anxieties. After all, the college process is a numbers game; a precise yet

our perception of what others will think of us post-decision. Yet it is important to remind ones' self of another shamefully clichéd saying: "those who matter don't mind and those who mind don't matter."

When we began this long race, most of us were ambitious, hopeful, and naive. Getting accepted to the schools of our dreams would have not only provided a satisfying ending to our Loomis careers, but also done wonders for our per-

sonal egos. Now, with the race over, the winners crowned, and the rest of us left in an ambiguous limbo with our futures far from certain, many of us are struggling to find meaning in a suddenly chaotic world. Perhaps it's ironic that the clichéd platitudes about the prestige of a school not mattering in the long run that we refused to listen to have become reality for us, the only faintly guiding principles in the dark sea of waitlists and rejections.

In the midst of all the decon-

struction, the crash-and-burn of your resume and façade, perhaps you'll even learn to embrace and remember the life you had before you took up the mantle, before all the burden and stress buried you under. Perhaps, instead of seeing the end as the end, you may even visualize the blueprint of a new structure rising from beneath the ruins.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Science Department Honors Renamed after Retiring Faculty Member

In recognition of Alice Baxter, who retires this year after thirty-four years of service to Loomis Chaffee, Science Departmental honors will now be called Baxter Awards. Current Head of the Science Department Ed Pond stated "As a classroom teacher, she's touched the lives of over a thousand students and inspired and shared with them her passion for chemistry, astronomy, and the history of science." This year's honors tea was held on May 24, where about 100 students were recognized for their excellence in the study of science.

Both Boys' and Girls' Track Place Third at New England Championships

Both the Boys and Girls teams earned Third-place plaques after their performances in the New England Championships on Saturday, May 18. The Boys scored 64.5 points, while the girls accumulated 78 points, just one behind Hotchkiss for second place. Phillips Exeter took home the title for both Boys and Girls, while Choate took home runner-up honors on the Boys side.

What's news? - If you have a news tip for the Log, let us know! Email log@loomis.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH WILLIAMS '13

Dance Revue: A Review

BY KENNY KIM '13

'12-'13 Writer's Melange Editor

Showcasing a variety of talent from LC's own dance program, the Dance Revue combined artistic choreography, colorful costumes, and of course, expressive dancing in the cozy atmosphere of the Norris Ely Orchard theatre. I attended the revue on the second day of performance, and as usual, the house was packed. Loomis students, relatives, and faculty alike turned out by the dozens to appreciate the dancers in the highly esteemed arts program of our school.

At Loomis, The dance program is just as popular as the music, theater, and visual art programs. However, the Dance Revue serves as the only time in which all of the members of our dance program may come together and showcase their talents as one; similarly to the way the orchestra concert or the winter musical coalesce the members of their respective practices. Although dancers often participate in musicals and collaboration pieces with our numerous instrumental and vocal groups, but Dance Revue remains as the only event of the year that exclusively stars LC dancers.

The entire concert, roughly an hour and a half interrupted by a

single intermission, consisted of twenty-nine performances. Each dance, with its own original choreography, illustrated its unique and creative routines; they were either crafted by dancers themselves or choreographed by the director, Ms. Loughlin. We also saw a great variety of costumes, from the nature-inspired twists of branches and layered tulle of the first performance, to the classic detective trench coats of the Pink Panther piece, to neon 80's style crop tops and leg warmers in the tap dance. And let's not forget the rather risqué, all-black fishnets and heels of the closing number, "Cell Block Tango" from the musical *Chicago*.

Although the costumes were a focal point of several whispered conversations between each performance, viewers enjoyed the dazzling variety of dancing styles. From the more artistic, flowing dances by dance companies to the sharper, rhythmic performances of James Daring and the hip-hop class, it was clear that everyone and anyone who wished to show off their dancing prowess was actively encouraged to do so. There were as many solo performances as group performances within the course of the revue, providing variety in number as well as stage presence and style. Freshmen, sophomores, juniors,

and seniors alike all took up the gauntlet of choreographing as they danced out their own unique creations to the soundtrack of their choice. Christina Wang '14 and her modern, dramatic interpretation of the song "Love" brought as much diversity and drive to the show as her fellow company dancer Claire Hard '13 in a fluid, soft piece with the mellow song "Collide" by Howie Day. This was most certainly a night of an epic array of artistic expression. Although not a single word emerged from dancers (with the exception of "pop" and "Cicero" in the "Cell Block Tango" piece) one could feel the tangible passion in the charged air as energy emanated from the stunning twists and fluid turns (and sometimes flips, in the case of Ciera Hunter '15!)

As a shy, instrumental musician who could never quite find the courage to take up dancing, the dance revue served as confirmation of the legitimacy of dance as an unique form of artistic expression. I found the dance performances as elegant and beautiful as the paintings hanging in the RAC and as powerful as the symphonies performed by our orchestra. It is a pleasure to be able to enjoy the excellent dance program here at Loomis.

"A Night at the Theater"

Continued from Page A1

Little did many of us know, however, that the title One Acts Playwriting Festival was never truly concrete. After shifting from name to name in attempts to find its true character and purpose, as well as a acting as a true stalwart of the NEO stage, the crew finally came to its discovery.

Known informally as One Acts, "the event has evolved many different names, and different shapes," notes Loomis' new Theater and Dance Department Head, Candice Chirgotis. According to Ms. Chirgotis, One Acts has evolved throughout its life on the NEO stage, beginning as "An Evening of One Act Plays," and developing thereafter throughout the Norris Ely Orchard Theatre's lifetime. One Acts' constant shifting was partially due to the former Playwriting and Directing classes, which, according to Ms. Chirgotis, were "once upon a time two separate courses." The new creation of the Loomis Chaffee Playwriting and Directing Studio is intended to combine the once divided classes in a cohesive creation of student inspiration.

As in every aspect of theater, however, the shows are in no way expected to be flawless. High school students, even students as talented and experienced as those gracing the stage of the NEO, are prone to the mistakes of a tyro. Yet this aspect of trail and error lends a learning atmosphere to the One Acts experience. Ms. Chirgotis continues, "the Loomis Chaffee Playwriting and Directing Studio... [shows the] student work in a performance yet work-

ing phase."

One Acts has always prided itself on its almost entirely student-run structure, a feature rare in New England boarding schools. Therefore, the Theater Department tries to involve all participating members as much as possible, from the writers and directors to the techies and actors. Communication and cooperation are the top elements necessary to succeed in such an independent, student-coordinated feat. To accommodate these drastic measures, several changes have been made.

In the past, the script bid adieu to the writer as the play was transferred entirely to the director and cast, leaving the playwright out of the extensive (and stressful) paper to stage process. The new form of One Acts, on the other hand, allows the playwright to continue molding the play as he or she sees fit until several days before the show. This process also makes for the truest vision of the show to be seen onstage, even if the changes necessary occur as the last clock hand ticks before dress rehearsal. One Acts is essentially a learning experience for all parties involved; whether a stage manager calls his first show, an actor learns something beyond the mere text on his scripts, or a director witnesses the process from the other side of the stage. As stated in the Producer's note, the new modifications to last year's One Act Playwriting Festival are "a step towards a more active Playwriting and Directing class and experience." One example of the increased level of organization and autonomy on this year's stage is the new leadership role. The Loomis Chaffee

Playwriting and Producing Studio now features an omnipotent and omnipresent primary leadership role of Producer. This year this esteemed position has been held effectively and bravely by theater veteran Mark Crawford (2013), who had a primary hand in redeveloping all aspects of the NEO this spring.

As we watched the One Acts Playwriting Festival last spring, we wondered what else would appear on the NEO Stage in the next few years at Loomis. As director Mr. Chaudhary and Head of the Department of Theater and Dance and director Mr. Kosanovich (known campus-wide simply as Mr. K) take their leave from the Loomis Chaffee's Department of Theater and Dance, Ms. Chirgotis leaves us with a few wise words.

"Since [they are] leaving Loomis is "the boss now." With One Acts changing its identity and both Mr. Chaudhary and Mr. K leaving our little red barn, we wonder what other changes will happen in the NEO. Though we can only image what a new year has in store for the Loomis Chaffee Playwriting and Directing Studio, Ms. Chirgotis comforts us with her wisdom, "We'll be doing something theatrical and exciting in the NEO in Spring 2014... I just haven't decided what that will be."

Though we will miss both as they make their departure from the NEO, Mr. K has kindly handed his powers off to the next leader, warmly saying that Ms. Chirgotis is "the boss now." With One Acts changing its identity and both Mr. Chaudhary and Mr. K leaving our little red barn, we wonder what other changes will happen in the NEO. Though we can only image what a new year has in store for the Loomis Chaffee Playwriting and Directing Studio, Ms. Chirgotis comforts us with her wisdom, "We'll be doing something theatrical and exciting in the NEO in Spring 2014... I just haven't decided what that will be."



JULIA SONG '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

Loomistory



Comparing the 20th Century to the 21st

BY GRACE WOO '15
Layout Editor



Travel back in time and imagine yourself on the Island about thirty years from now. Would you be enjoying your free time on a spring day with your friends in the Grubbs Quadrangle--upper-classmen quad? Or would you be departing from campus in a boat because of the 1984 flood in the spring after finals were cancelled? Explore Loomistory to find out more about how Loomis evolved!

The goal of "Loomistory" is to help students understand and value our Loomis history. For every issue of The Loomis Chaffee Log, this section will reveal the inner workings of our golden, bygone Pelican days. Come with us and go beyond the archives. Today's Loomistory focuses on the progression of facilities available on campus.



Loomis from the Air during the Flood 1936

PHOTO COURTESY OF LOOMIS CHAFFEE ARCHIVES

The Life and Times of Paul Lee '13

BY HANNAH MCCARTHY-POTTER '16
Staff Writer

Sitting down to interview Student Council President Paul Lee '13 about his vast four years of Loomis experiences, I could not help but think back on the incredible transformation the freshman class and I have gone through our first year on the Island. While on that subject, I asked Paul how his view of the school changed since freshman year. Nostalgically reminiscing, he recalled, "When I first came to this school I knew there would be very talented people here." His initial perception of Loomis reminded me how much my life has changed since first stepping on campus last September. I did not realize that I would be pushed socially, academically, physically and mentally. Paul's adventures as a freshman "started off as all about school. Soon the campus became home and I felt accepted by the Loomis community. I began trying new sports like wrestling and cross-country; the support from my peers really pushed me out of my comfort zone." Paul's journey at Loomis, and exposure to new people, ideas, and experiences, feels so similar to my own; I know that I am stronger, more confident, and more mature than the girl who, a mere eight months ago, wandered through the quad not knowing the names of any dorms and having to ask directions from every upperclassman that hurried by. Even though I'm just eight months into

my four year journey, I know that attending Loomis is one of the best decisions I've ever made.

I wondered what Paul, an underclassman, thought of the freshman and sophomores years below him, who were just beginning their career at LC. Paul chuckles "I honestly am not used to being a senior; it is crazy that I will be graduating in such a short time. I still relate to underclassmen and us seniors still recall our freshman year mishaps and accomplishments." While Paul and his fellow seniors may remember their former years with sentiment, looking up towards the junior and senior years quickly approaching ignites a daunting sense of intimidation. My first encounter with the mysterious world of the upperclassmen came during my Loomis Scavenger Hunt in Taylor, when I glanced at a group of shockingly big, tall, and scary juniors and seniors looming over my group of tiny, naive freshman. I couldn't even comprehend that these kids attended the same school as me. Paul insightfully remarks, "Something I love about our school is talking to everyone. It is incredible that at Loomis age is viewed as just a number, not something that can exclude people from getting to know each other." Paul's thoughts on befriending others outside your grade rings true; after the initial shock of being three years and half a foot shorter than most of the seniors, I quickly embraced their knowledge, advice, and leadership, learning more about Loomis than I ever could

on my own. Changing pace with an emotional admittance of his freshman year weight struggle, Paul remembers, "my freshman year was when I made a transition from a student to a student athlete. I no longer sported my insulating layer of chub," in a brief moment of emotional introspection. Moving on rather than dwelling so far in the past, I inquired how, after four years of Saturday classes, late-night studying, trips to the Whistlestop Cafe, and uncountable grade bonding events, his senior classmates have grown. "In the beginning we all started off as intimidated freshman who had no idea what we were doing. But, now all my peers act as leaders in the dorm, on the field, and in classes. Everyone seems much more comfortable with themselves and more understanding towards each other." Truthfully, I can't even imagine my fellow freshman as seniors; I see the potential in all of us, but only time will tell how we all will change and who we may become. Paul's last morsel of advice to leave for the pelicans in the years behind him: "Don't be afraid to take risks and step out of your comfort zone. Embrace different people and ignore social boundaries. These past four years changed who I am." Wrapping up the interview and walking up the steep amphitheater steps, I can only begin to imagine what three more memorable, crazy, hectic, and incredible years Loomis has in store for me.

“Promposal” 101

BY STEPHANIE YIU '14
Staff Writer

Spring time has rolled around and now it's time for Prom. Someone once said that her favorite season is spring because of all the prom proposals, or as I like to call them, promposals. Although this is usually a great time to show off that creativity that has been building up for four years, some people still have trouble figuring out how to ask their special someone. Here's an A-Z guide with examples from your senior class this year.

Animals: You could always use an adorable animal to get that special someone. That's exactly what Phil Delamater did. He took Katie Kent's dog and stuck a note with the word "prom." Her dog ran over to her and of course she said yes.

Bodies: Javier Andres used his friends in order to get the message across to Shannon Deveney. His pals Phil Delamater, Robbie Lusardi, Doug Gorman, Thatcher Gleason, and Harry Gilpin helped with his promposal. Standing in front of her with a bouquet of red roses, she simply couldn't say no.

Choreography: When asking that certain girl, there's only one thing to do and that's to dance to Psy's new hit "Gentleman." I certainly was shocked to find Viet Doan showing off his moves in my physics class. In addition to the dance, Amanda Arute's and Lily Zhang's artwork only made me want to say yes even more.

Donuts: What better way to a man's heart than through food? In Founders Lounge, donuts were the main ingredients used to get Rohin to say yes to Allison Pagani.

Español: Kassidi Jones certainly got a surprise in Spanish class when Michael Wang asked her to prom. He went to their Spanish class a little earlier to set up the plan. He gave her two options: pick the card that says "sí?" or "no?" Kassidi chose the side with the flowers and said yes.

Footwear: A lot of guys believe that girls are obsessed with shoes, and Greg Duvergé was right about Arianna Calabrese. Greg chose wisely, getting her a pair of Toms. Things got a little awkward when he realized that he bought the wrong size, but he eventually got the right size. And of course, Arianna said yes.

Glow sticks: Abby Lavalley received an illuminating message when she went to her car. With delicate precision, Dakota Hunter placed the glow sticks in front of her car, spelling out "prom," lighting up the night.

Hopscoth: Young Sang Choi wanted Christina Wang to have fun answering his promposal. What better way than to remind her of those good old childhood days? He has a "yes" square and the "no" square at the end of the hopscoth. After all that work, it's no surprise that she chose yes.

Illustration: Kevin Sears shows off his artistic skills when he asks Sara Gershman to prom. A simple yet beautiful sign saying, "Sara, prom?" was enough to make Sara say yes.

Jolly Ranchers: Everyone knows the couple Nate Harris and Kate Fotos. I even remember my freshman year when people would ask if they were dating when they really weren't. Now it's time to ask her to prom, and Nate gave

it some thought, finally deciding to melt down jolly ranchers into lollipops that spelled out "prom?"

King and Kokoska: Warren Lorenz made a big statement when he put a giant picture of him with Sophie Kokoska. There's nothing cuter than being asked to be someone's prom queen.

Old Fashioned: Back in the old days, people would just go together, but there was no official promposal until one day Elizabeth asked Pat in his natural habitat: the basketball court. Elizabeth had to place a sign on the ten feet high hoop, receiving help from two PGs. Maintaining the basketball theme, Elizabeth gave him orange flowers, and Pat willingly said yes.

Parking Lot: RJ Paige stealthily got Rekha Kennedy's car keys and planted his promposal in the upper parking lot. Rekha was shocked when she opened the trunk of her car to find balloons

and chocolate. Adding more chocolate, RJ effectively pulled off his promposal and got Rekha to say yes.

Quest: One of my favorite promposals is having your soon-to-be date go on a scavenger hunt. During the Day of Silence, Jamie Neikrie put Anne Ferreira on a quest to find out who was asking her to prom, and when she figured out that it was Jamie, she said yes.

Reverse: There's nothing wrong with having the girl ask the guy to prom, and that's exactly what Nina Sayles did. Nina simply invited Sam Verney over, and having previous knowledge about this plan, he said yes instantaneously.

Senior Meditation: Every year there is always that one student who is valiant enough to ask that important person to prom in front of the whole school. Durelle Napier used his friends to help hold the letters. Even though his friends misspelled "prom," Kayla Schreiberstein still accepted his promposal without hesitation.

Track: AJ Poplin asked Christin Washington during track one day. While the girls track team called Christin and Tati over to thank them for scoring the double dual meet the day before, he

was getting ready to shock her with flowers, and got down on one knee. The girls counted down, and then they all shouted "Christin, will you go to prom with me?" Excitedly, the girls told her to turn around, and when she saw it was AJ, she responded with "yes."

University: Esraa Al Sabaa asked Yusuf Alnawakthah to prom as a friend, but he turned her down, only to amaze her with a plan of his own. He sent a letter from Prom University, marking the envelope with the school's name and a fake address. She accepted the offer, pleasantly surprised.

Vocalize: Everyone knows Darius Moore as one of the nicest people and greatest singers on this campus. Darius utilized his singing abilities to serenade Sarah Horowitz from Taylor's balcony, and she simply couldn't refuse his offer.

Wake Them Up: John Macdonald cleverly used the slack line to spell out prom and then climbed up and tree to await Rowan Rice's arrival. Little did he know that she was woken from her nap due to the din, but nonetheless, she said yes.

X-treme Hiking: On BCP's weekly hikes, Andy Munoz decided to pop the question to Madison Marra. A simple poster that showed his effort and a friendly face was all that Andy needed to get her as his date.

Younger People: Don't be afraid to ask an underclassman to prom. Paul Lee wasn't afraid to go for a sophomore. On the bus ride to Founders, Paul Lee held the flowers and made his way down the aisle until he finally reached Gabby Roncone who will never say no to Mr. President.

Zany: Harris Fischer surprised not only the audience but also Jessica Faust during Musical Revue by asking her using an umbrella. Though an umbrella isn't the usual prop for a promposal, it still worked remarkably well for this cute couple.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLAIRE HARD '13, LAUREN YUE '13, MACKAY DUBAY '14 AND GREER DAVIS '15

Log: People always say, "Go big or go home," and that's exactly what Michael Horowicz did when he wanted to ask Shannon McCabe to prom. Using the school newspaper, Michael made it public and made sure no one would miss the message.

Mark (your arm): Aaron Chiu asked Sam Asher to prom by using a sharpie to draw a fake tattoo on his arm; a unique and effective way that got Sam to say yes.

Net: Elizabeth Freeman and Pat Dickert decided earlier on they would go to prom to-

gether, but there was no official promposal until one day Elizabeth asked Pat in his natural habitat: the basketball court. Elizabeth had to place a sign on the ten feet high hoop, receiving help from two PGs. Maintaining the basketball theme, Elizabeth gave him orange flowers, and Pat willingly said yes.

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Prom Committee: Behind the Scenes

BY AURELIE LIU '16
Staff Writer

It's that time of the year again. Spring term hurtles past with summer on its heels. As you may have noticed from the abundance of delighted couples in post-promposal pictures flooding our Facebook pages, the biggest dance of the year is nearing. Prom night, supposedly the most memorable night of one's high school career, again appears on the radar. It's the night girls dream about since the third grade: a grand ballroom filled with extravagant decorations and a sea of vibrant dresses accompanied by the monotonous suits of their escorts. The entire school has prom on their mind, the anticipation tangible in the air. Yet, what would prom be without the dedication and hard work of our beloved Prom Committee? This year's committee seniors, Mark Crawford and Becky Siegel, dedicated much of their senior year to ensure a flawless prom night.

A massive commitment that requires months of hard work, the Prom Committee is no easy task. "We wanted an event that exceeded expectations, that stood out from years past. The only way to ensure that prom was something worth remembering was to take matters into our own hands," Mark and Becky explained when asked why they decided to take on this responsibility. Organizing prom can be overwhelming at times due to all the different aspects and features to consider; they have to pay attention to ev-

ery detail and make sure everything will be accounted for. Mark and Becky scoured the areas surrounding Loomis for a venue, visiting and interviewing each option and their managers. They eventually found Hartford Marriott, which allowed Mark and Becky to individualize a lot of the packages and stray away from a "cookie cutter prom"--which they were adamantly against. They then had to negotiate and finalize contracts with their various vendors in order to determine price points and detail of services, manage the specifics with their lighting designer, live musicians, and photographers.

Mark and Becky soon understood that compromise was the key when organizing such an elaborate event. "We certainly ran into our fair share of problems along the way; situations and complications made our ideal prom more elusive than we ever imagined," they state. One of the most challenging aspects of organizing prom includes managing the student body's expectations. Along with the rest of the senior class, they pictured prom to be a truly phenomenal evening. While a lot of their initial concepts have been preserved from their initial dreams, many ideas had to be altered drastically or simply nixed. Despite their various hindrances, Mark and Becky are still confident that this year's prom will be impressive; "at the end of the day, it's all about the pretty pictures and the people in it; we think we have the first one down."

Despite the challenging pro-

cess of organizing prom, Mark and Becky look back at all the hours spent with a sense of accomplishment, simply giving one important word for future Prom Committees: "Fundraisers". Mark, also the Senior Class Treasurer, acknowledges outstanding fundraising efforts put forward by the senior class for the many luxuries of prom, such as live music, espresso bars, calligraphy, coach busses, and photographers. The class' fundraising successes were truly astounding; Mark states, "People think that success just happens to you...it doesn't. There were a lot of long nights with our noses to the grindstone, and a lot of letdowns, but it all paid off in the end." By straying off the beaten path of senior class fundraising, their class went above and beyond the standards and provided the financial basis that allows Mark and Becky to make their goals a reality. They devoted so much of their time to provide their class with an undeniably spectacular night to conclude their final, vital chapter of each senior's High School Career. Their hard work will pay off on the night of June 5. "Prom has this expectation that is so hard to manifest into an actuality," They explain. Yet, the hard work and dedication that they put into this year's prom will almost certainly turn everyone's expectations into reality. And so, with one last hurrah, the seniors will be able to enjoy their last night as high schoolers, thanks to our very own prom experts, Mark and Becky.

LC's Teacher of the year



Nick Pukstas and Krishna Kulkarni '13

Batch are utterly loyal to "the Big P" (our nickname for him) Whether it's participating in our "Boo-Yay" games at dorm meeting or using Horace as a prop in a "Harlem Shake," Mr. Pukstas has a sense of humor that more or less lines up with ours (even though he balks at our mad scramble to get to birthday party food). Yet he retains an air of 'erudite swagger' (Paul Lee's term to define Mr. Williams), which reminds us that fun won't happen if we start slacking off. Tough yet entertaining, and infinitely compassionate,

the "Big P" truly sets a high bar for all Batch residents, and helps us provide evidence to our belief that we're the classiest dorm on the Island.

Mr. Pukstas' greatest ability as a role model is to sympathize with our various grievances. Ranging from our vehement disagreement to the elimination of the "Thatcher Gleason Memorial Badminton Court," to the helmet rule, even if Mr. Pukstas might not change the rules, it's truly refreshing to have someone who genuinely UN-

DERSTANDS our petty issues. As I was writing my teacher of the year essay, I was slightly frustrated that I couldn't talk about what an amazing person he is outside the classroom, which will definitely sway the nomination in his favor. I hope I have shown what an incredible dude the "Big P" is in this article; the only way you'll ever grasp the full extent of his awesomeness is by living with and learning from him.

Loomis Chaffee Log

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ABOUT

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OP-ED

NATASIA NABILA '16

An Indomitable Chinese Soul

A 59-year-old Chinese blogger Zhang Shihe, who is commonly known as "Tiger Temple" by his faithful Internet followers, rides his bicycle across thousands of miles to the valleys, terrains and rural areas of North Central China. Every summer, his heart tells him to stop wasting time as he documents the hardships that plagues the lives of ordinary villagers. By concerning himself with the welfare of others, Zhang demonstrates altruism at its peak.

Since media in China is largely controlled by the central government, which represses its citizens

by censoring many online articles or reports, Zhang strives to let the voices of oppressed people be heard publicly. He is considered as one of China's most influential bloggers as his reports cause waves of phenomena among Chinese citizens. The continuous ripples of his message send a threat to the conventional Chinese government who only wishes to display the country's positive outlooks. As of May 2013, there are sixty nine Internet users and bloggers known to be in jail for posting "inappropriate" content. Zhang, who is among the arrested group, establishes his opinion- "Why would

you [the government] restrict a citizen's right to report when he or she does not attack anyone?"

In fact, censorship always defeats its own purpose, for it creates, in the end, the kind of society that is incapable of exercising real discretion. In several occasions, censorship reflects society's lack of confidence in itself.

When Zhang traveled to Xiao Dong Po Village of Henan Province, he documented a cogent testimony of a desperate farmer. According to the farmer, "the factories nearby cause pollution that hinders the growth of crops. As a result, the nearby farms are af-

fects greatly. The lustrous plants that were once filled with life are now mostly barren." Repeated attempts of pacifying the problem fail when the factory bribes the country's environmental bureau to remain silent. The central government has to realize that if incidents of unfairness occur, they should allow it to be publicized to guarantee impartiality for its citizens. Otherwise, there will be nothing to curb rampant corruption that puts millions of workers' lives at risk, whether through shoddy construction or disregard for safety regulations.

"If it is the truth, I dare to write

it, because I write about nothing else but the truth." Zhang maintains 10 different blogs, and transfers content to another when one is shut down. His works and admirable spirit when pursuing equality is undeniably magnanimous. During Nong Li Xin Nian, the annual Chinese New Year festival, the Xi'an Police Department captured him and let him spend the festival in the police station. In 2012, he was pressured by local police to leave his home in Beijing indefinitely. Yet, he does not cease to update new reports or articles, which tens of thousands of his followers closely read.

Simply put, Zhang sets a pace, defines goals, provides justification, and most importantly, introduces fortitude that will be later imitated or adapted elsewhere.

Along with time, we learn to give each human being every right that we claim for ourselves because no man is above the law or below it. By the 21st century, it is evident that silence has never won any rights. The government should realize that they are not handed down from above; instead, pressures from ordinary citizens like the farmer and Zhang are the forces that allow them to be fulfilled.

CLAIRE KIM '14 AND MICHAEL HOROWICZ '13

The Notorious Senior Slide: Junior vs. Senior



PHOTO COURTESY OF OLIVIA SZCZERBICKY '13



PHOTO COURTESY OF JIHEE YOON '13



PHOTO COURTESY OF HELENA MURRAY '13

Claire Kim '14 - Attention everyone. T'is spring. T'is the season that commences with the arrival of acceptance letters from colleges. T'is the season when the girls show off their sexy spring-break tans in their pastel Lilly Pulitzer dresses to win the hearts of the boys scavenging for their perfect prom dates. T'is the season when the boys fervently practice their serenades on ukuleles and gather up every bit of confidence to finally ask his dream girl to prom. T'is the season that culminates with the poignant walk down the senior path. Yes, t'is the season made for seniors, only for seniors.

I get it. You seniors feel pretty darn great about your lives right now. Since I'm given this article space to rant away, I dare to tackle the big fat monster of the pretty-faced spring: SENIOR SLIDE. Please keep in mind that I am indeed a spring-term junior, that unlike the unconditionally blissful seniors thoroughly loving the balmy weather, most juniors like myself are rather unconditionally chagrined, with haunting dark circles under our sleepless eyes, hatin' on the seniors working on their tans in the Grubbs quad. It sucks for us to have to watch seniors casually slacking their ways into the summer, completely worry-free, perfectly college-accepted.

I can't talk about senior slide without my multivariable calculus class with 15 seniors and 3 juniors. You can imagine how atrocious it must be for us poor juniors. The I-don't-care-because-I'm-into-college craze drives us nuts. Now, please know that my multi class is, by all means, smart; "smart" might even be an understatement. The seniors in the class are some of the top dogs at LC, getting into out-of-this-world schools like Harvard and MIT (yup, that's my class.) Nonetheless, not even these overachievers/super-nerds could resist senior slidin'. The casual degeneration of intellect is manifest in the blank faces of the seniors quasi-listening to Mr. Moran's lectures on the esoteric realm of triple integrals and directional derivatives. No longer are they overachievers, but rather slackers, to be cruelly precise. The 100s on a test, once a popular fetish, seems to have lost its hold on the obsession of some of the brightest minds on this campus (trust me, as ridiculous as math with multiple variables in different dimensions sounds, a high A or a perfect score on our tests is highly attainable - that is if you actually try.) The class' nerdy, intellectual, math-loving glow is gone; the seniors are on the verge of having to take finals, with many certain to take one. You think it ain't so bad? Well, you know, some of them hit the high 30's...on a 100-scale. A 67% on a test? No problemo. It's probably above the class average on the test. Our lovely Mr. Moran suffers, having to motivate the sloth-like seniors to push through their last two or three weeks of high school. (Just imagine how much senior sliding he has had to cope when he's taught at LC for over forty years! God bless patient high school math teachers.)

We gotta admit that senior slide can be atrocious. Seniors, knowing how senior slide used to do wonders to the sanity of their junior-year selves should be more attentive, act responsibly for the sake of the juniors plus other fledgling underclassmen, and aim to finish strong with unequivocal success in their classes.

*PAUSE. Alright, alright. I know. Who am I kidding. I know that by the time you (seniors) are reading this, you are graduating, which means you are sooo done with high school. So, I'll cut you some slack. Who says senior slide is so bad? Well, it's bad for non-seniors, the heavy majority of the school. But I know I'm gonna be enjoying every part of next spring, even with my merciless allergies, because you know what? I'm gonna be a senior next year, which means I'm gonna be slidin' like there's no tomorrow with the rest of Class of 2014. So, watch out y'all. Another slidin' spring is a-coming!

Mike Horowicz '13 - Before I can defend the esoteric Senior Spring in all its magnificent and alluring magnificence, I'd like to give you the best possible picture of what exactly it is. Senior spring for me is finishing sports a week before every other team; thank you track, and playing squash with your best friends every day after school. Senior spring is deciding that your reading for Mr. Robbins' incredible class, Prophetic Voice can once take a back seat to watching The Dictator or That 70s Show. Senior spring is sitting on your porch basking for hours in the humid mid may sun. Senior spring is rolling out of bed 5 minutes for class, and then taking a shower and eating breakfast during your second period free after already attending once class. Senior spring is sitting in your room, after taking a glorious early evening nap to finish that pesky Log article almost 24 hours after your junior editors needed it.

Previously, none of these things should have passed through the typical on point Loomis Chaffee student, but the senior in his final term on the Island has a special tool that is rare in the Loomis Chaffee community, not giving a shit. No, it's not simply "not caring" or "being ready for summer". There is a certain accepted arrogance in the ethos that is so beautifully encapsulated by use of the phrase "not giving a shit." Now that I've excused my profanity let me explain to you, the Loomis Chaffee community, why you should not wag your proverbial finger at the four-year senior.

As a generality, we the Class of 2013 have worked hard, just has every class before us has, and like them we would like to spend our last couple of weeks on the Island pretending that contrary to popular belief, all the glitter is indeed gold. In all actuality, just as Christian Bermel '12 so elegantly portrayed in his Log perspective during his senior spring, the senior spring is not all it's cracked up to be. There are just as many things to worry about in the final term of the senior year. Whether it be your 12th term, 9th term, 6th, or 3rd term, everyone has to figure out their end of year plans. The ladies obsess over their prom, class night, and graduation outfits, while the guys have to figure out who the heck they're asking to prom and how. Trust me, for both parties, the tasks are just as daunting and sometimes as exhausting as the junior term paper. The only real difference is that our worries focus on our departure from the Island and our newest chapter in life, college. Believe it our not, acceptance letters don't dissipate all worry. Senior spring is just the beginning of worrying about roommates, classes, and transportation. College is scary.

Additionally, as the seniors shirk off a couple responsibilities in the last couple of weeks of senior year it's not necessarily the end of the world for the rest of the school. Next year, when we're all gone, who will pick up the new leadership positions? YOU! Each and every one of you will pick up where someone in the class of 2013 left off. In actuality, we slacking seniors are giving the school the chance to practice for the following year. You can practice you're new roles in the community without pressure, because after all if you mess up, the blame is shifted to those sliding seniors. Albeit, we don't go into senior spring with that magnanimous mindset, but it's the truth that the rest of the school get's to get ready to fill the void that's only a few months away. And don't feel bad about blaming us for everything, because frankly we don't give a shit. We made it.

OP-ED

KAREN CHA '14

Overview of the Junior Year: Myth Busting the Fire Truck

“And to the juniors,” Our student body president started, pausing for dramatic effect before laying down what I presumed to be the answer to our prayers. Juniors around the gym careened forward in anticipation.

“Good Luck.”

If hope was a wall of glass, and if the sound of hope could be heard, the proper reaction to those bitter two syllables would have been one hundred and seventy six glasses shattering, their crystal shards spitting across Olcott Gymnasium. The reaction that did surface, however, was one I am not at liberty to reproduce in published content, mostly because it started with “f” and ended in “k”, and was definitely not “fire truck”. Glass shattering and fires blazing, we exited the convocation that marked the conception of a year in hell—or so we thought.

Greetings to all good people on the Island, I present to you my article in a nutshell: junior year is not as hard as everyone makes it out to be. Follow my year in retrospect as I review each menacing obstacle, and I hope you will find this statement to be true.

Week one seemed tricky. Trigger word: seemed. Junior-specific courses such as Advanced English Seminar (aka “SEM”) and AP United States history bombarded me with a constant influx of papers and readings. The key here was truly applying myself, and scoring a strong first impression with my teachers. Soon enough, the storm had passed; whether instructors were attempting to weed away the weak or prepare us for the storm, there was no denying that after the first few weeks they had lightened the load. Phase one: clear.

The rest of the term progressed in largely the same manner, with obstacles that appeared insurmountable turning out to be perfectly manageable. Somewhere in the midst of fall term a realization dawned on me that although classes were challenging and free time scarce, the work placed in front of me was always reasonable in difficulty and amount. If ever I stayed awake past one, I had only myself to blame for mismanaged time. Undoubtedly someone will read this and

bring to my attention, “that one time when you were lying on my floor refusing to read *Pride and Prejudice* and crying for some Easy Mac”. To that I say firstly, Jane Austen is a goddess of elocution and I would never disgrace her writing with my rejection. Secondly, when do I not want Easy Mac?

In my defense, I was storing up on midnight snacks in order to shield my innards from the bristling cold. Not only low temperatures, but also low tolerance marked the interminable winter term. Model United Nations conflicted with debates, which interfered with the Log, which cut into my music, and all of which hurt the God Particle Answer (GPA). Critical advice to underclassmen: updating your schedule is a good thing, but in moderation. I remember neurotically filling out my planner with assignments, exams, and after school commitments for the next month, feeling my capillaries constrict as blood pressure reached an unhealthy maximum. Another point to follow: it does not matter how many times you put your grades into your calculator, the right answer is still the right answer. Because winter term was interrupted by a big, fat two-week break, as well as a skinnier four-day weekend, I was sucked into obsession with the determining decimal, that evil three digit number which never quite satisfied my expectations. But somehow I made it—we all did. By the end of the term, we emerged like starved polar bear cubs bounding home to our parents to prove that, against our uncle’s twenty-dollar bet, we did not get a C+ in AP Chemistry. Cha-ching.

Contrary to popular belief, Advanced Placement tests and the SAT’s are not the only notable events during junior spring. I allowed myself a mall trip or two, and kept up with my favorite shows without fail. I also ate a lot. But those are the basics to maintain my sanity; now, down to business: prepping for D-Day. Loomis does not call itself an elite school for nothing; our AP courses provide in depth and all-inclusive coverage of the material we teach. That being said, having a reliable AP prep book is certainly an advantage ONLY IF one starts using it before the week of exams. In

addition, the curves for AP tests are so generous that a seventy percent raw score correlates to a perfect five for most subjects. I have even heard of a senior who “got tired” and left an entire essay (one out of three) blank on her AP Language exam, and still pulled out a passing grade of four. Personally, I walked into all four of my AP tests feeling strangely reassured by America’s falling public education. It was a good week to be a Pelican.

Having completed my SAT subject tests and AP exams, I have yet to face spring term finals. But the worst is over, from calculus problem sets to college meetings to camp applications. Most of the monsters have emerged from the closet, and they all look pretty harmless in the daylight. Now that the school year nears its close, I cannot help but question Paul’s misleading warning.

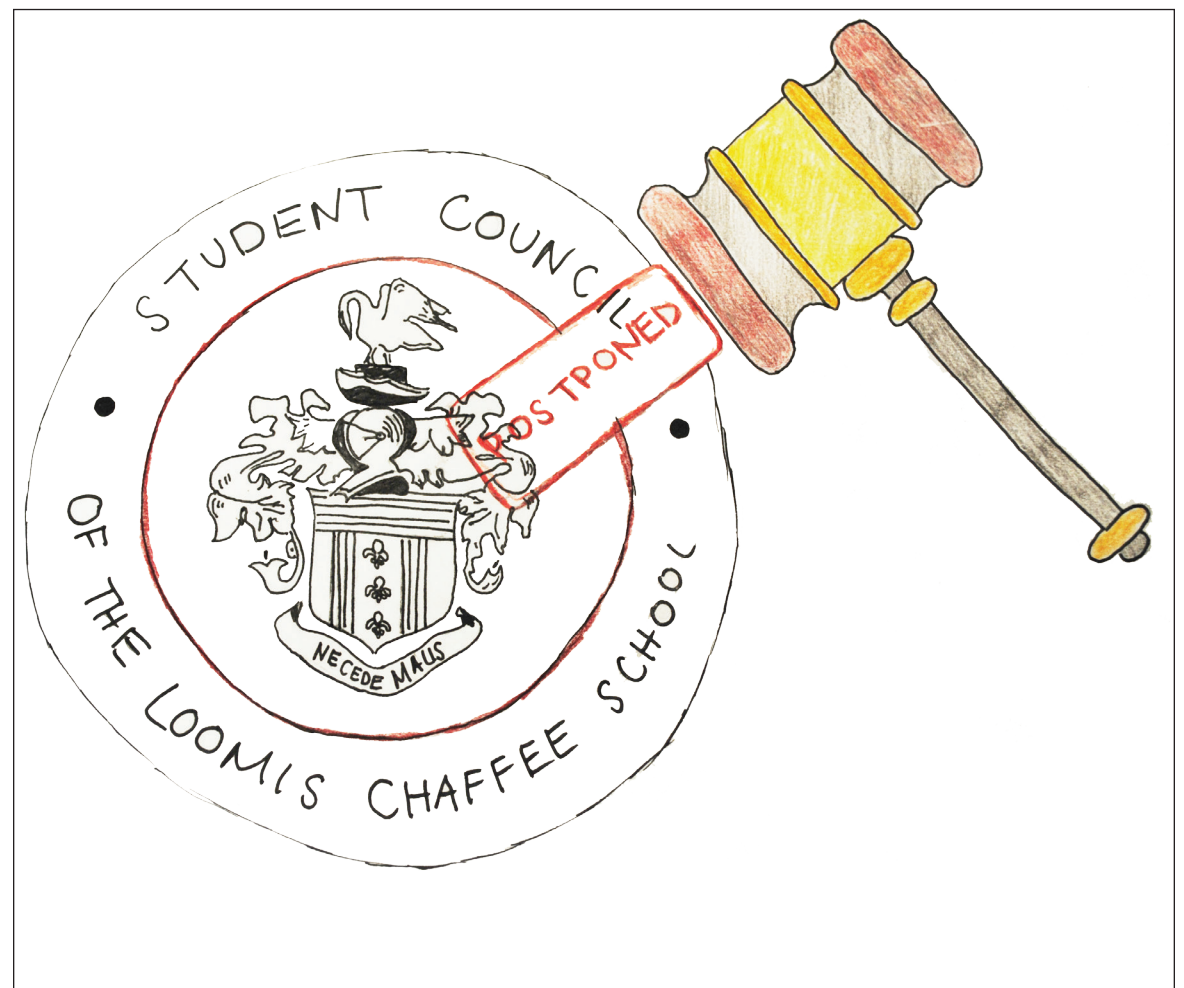
Every senior relays his or her horror stories about junior year. As underclassmen, we consumed these trials and tribulations without restraint. Like helpless foot soldiers battling Hydra with toothpicks, we indulged in these stories believing that inculcating our minds with fear would prepare us for war. In fact, quite the opposite: we heard a gun cocked at our heads when there was no one pulling the trigger, we saw hunters in the distance that were just eerily shaped trees. In layman’s terms, we psyched ourselves out, “bro”.

To the sophomores: if we survived, so can you. But just in case, a couple do’s and don’ts. Do: invest in AP prep books, only one per subject. Don’t: start reading them at the beginning of the year. Do: take study breaks. Don’t: spend three hours on an Arrested Development marathon. Do: tour your prospective colleges. Don’t: rely on College Prowler for information. Do: keep in touch with your parents. Don’t: stress out more than you absolutely need to. Everything will work out.

To the juniors: although there are even worse horror stories about senior fall, let’s keep this year in mind. Armed with healthy skepticism and a Fiske college guide, I predict that this next year of schooling will be harder, but not impossible. And to the juniors that do not share my opinion: Good Luck.

JACK BRADLEY '14

A Limited Oligarchy



MERCER VILLARREAL '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

This time last year, as I sat down to write an article with the same prompt as I was given this year, my view on Student Council was unimpressed to say the least. I saw the council as little more than an unorganized group of students looking to put another impressive title on their college applications. I was drawing assumptions strictly off of conversations I had with friends where I had noted a general feeling of discontent with the little that StuCo had achieved and I had not heard of any initiatives StuCo was looking to tackle. I was particularly frustrated once I found out that StuCo elected committees at the end of each year, which I saw as sectioning off the council’s own responsibilities to others to make their roles easier. I realize now that these assumptions were ill-informed and exaggerated, fueled mainly on a desire to spark a reaction then actually propose a solution. After attending a few StuCo meetings, speaking with members of the council, and having run for a committee myself, my view on the council has evolved.

It is evident that by sitting in on a meeting that the members of StuCo value the integral role student government plays in the Loomis Chaffee community. I realize now that StuCo is comprised, for the most part, of passionate individuals that put forth an honest and noble effort to push for any initiative that they believe is most beneficial for the student body. My only problem with StuCo now is that pushing for initiatives seems to be the only thing they truly do. If you ask any com-

mittee member about the workings of the council, they will say that the committees are responsible for new initiatives that keep StuCo running. If you ask a council member the same question, they will scoff at such a far-fetched accusation and immediately dispel any thoughts you had about a committee doing anything of significance. Due to these contrasting opinions, I am left to decide for myself which of the two entities I believe to truly do the most for the school.

To keep the answer short; Committees do more. Committees, due to their small size and more thoughtful election process, are not subjected to the constant arguments stemming from such wildly contrasting opinions that are so prevalent in a StuCo meeting. They meet away from student council, giving them more time and range to throw around ideas without the criticism, allowing the committees to make genuine and new proposals that matter to the student body. The best example of this can be seen when looking at the infamous sex rule. The rules committee proposed that Sex be dropped down from a level two to a level one, a proposition that was very well received on campus. StuCo, after understanding that the sex rule would be received without much opposition by the students, embraced the initiative, making it seem as if it were their own. They held open meetings and created petitions, pushing the initiative wholeheartedly, giving little to no credit to the hard-working committee members that proposed the rule change.

The rule change made it all the

way to a faculty vote, a remarkable achievement for a rule transformation of this magnitude. Students were disheartened as the result of the vote came back, the rule-change was shot down by a vast margin. After the rule change was shot down, it exposed one of StuCo’s biggest flaws. Student council works in conjunction with the administration, which immediately puts a halt on all changes that the administration does not green-light. The ties StuCo holds with the faculty and deans at the school do not allow any real change to be implemented, but rather a polished sense of “we might be able to do something...possibly?”

The Student Council is such a vital part of the Loomis community, but their work, in a sense, stops at the higher administrative power. They are highly motivated individuals that dedicate a large portion of their hectic lives to trying to better the community we live in. It is not their fault that they face such harsh resistance from the administration, they have no choice but to work with them or else they would face being shut down. Similar to last year, I am left at a loss of what to say and I am unsure of the solutions to the council’s problems are. The problems that remains and topics yet to be discussed appear to be a vital part of next year’s StuCo. The phrase “In waiting” certainly applies here, as I wish them the best of luck in their endeavors, and perhaps I’ll have changed my mind on the issue by next year.

PIM SENANARONG '13

Movie Review: Pathos and Passion Fall Flat as Iron Man Comes to a Close

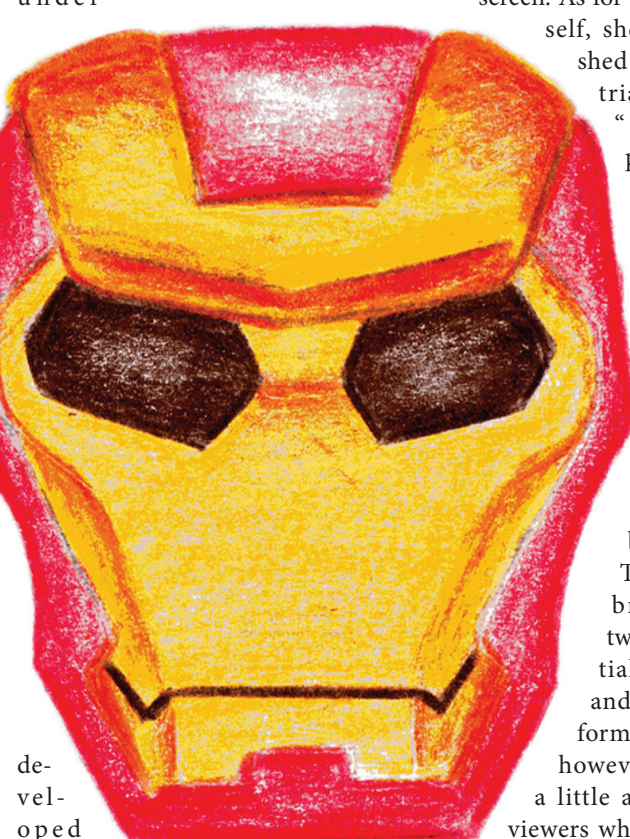
In Iron Man 3, Tony Stark returns from the all-action, extraterrestrial adventures of The Avengers a changed man, facing serious mental anxiety and a yet another new enemy. Viewers are treated to the famed cocky yet charismatic personality of Stark, the somewhat blatant riches he possesses, and a strange “The Incredibles”-like plot twist introducing the central antagonist of the film. Pepper and Jarvis are back as well, taking on larger roles. In short, all the elements that made the Iron Man series what it is are back, but Tony Stark’s third installment comes with a strange sense of ambiguity.

Although the movie satiates a hunger for action, it simultaneously fails to do much else for viewers other than to provide the thrilling yet short-lived entertainment that all action movies do. If we consider the Iron Man series as a trilogy (there are murmurings of an Iron Man 4 without Robert

Downey Jr., but that’s speculation at this point), Iron Man 3 neither delivers a true sense of closure nor any standout moments that definitively distinguish this latest episode of Tony Stark’s adventures from his two previous ones.

The movie throws conflicts at viewers within minutes of the movie’s beginning in the form of multiple flashy explosions. Although visually captivating and adrenaline-pumping (and slightly headache-inducing if seen in 3D), the movie lacked an element that made the first one so phenomenal: emotional depth. While Stark charms the audience with his usual jokes and comedic mannerisms, his character seemed hollow and almost too unperturbed for someone with so much on the line. His allegedly intense love for Pepper was portrayed so casually, making their relationship seem almost one-sided or at best,

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NATHA SINGHASANEH '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

screen. As for Pepper herself, she seems to shed the pedestrian, human “damsel” presence she possessed in the earlier films, transforming into a powerful, seemingly invincible heroine. The great breach between her initial character and the transformed version, however, seemed a little abrupt. To viewers who were still trying to get used to her

new official role as Stark’s wife, her sudden emergence as a true heroine in the movie bordered on the anticlimactic.

Unlike the plots of movies in the same genre, Iron Man 3 lacked the human connection that makes such a hero’s journey timeless. In Spider Man 3, Peter Parker and Mary Jane sit upon the rooftop comforting their dying friend, Harry Osborne, who had sacrificed his life to save the heroic face behind the mask. The sun rises over the three friends as Harry draws his last breath, a goodbye to the universe he has both terrorized and cherished. The scene, filled with camaraderie and sadness, concocts a poignant and dramatic end to the movie. In the Dark Knight Rises, Alfred departs on a final sentimental trip to Florence, Italy, only to be greeted by the brief glimpse of Bruce Wayne and Selina, sitting at a table nearby. Such a last-minute pot twist gave the intense movie one last glim-

mer of hope. The choice to set the last scene in the same café Albert had visited during Bruce’s earlier disappearance provokes nostalgia and plays with the audience’s emotions even more. All these movies simultaneously softened and intensified the action-packed plot with a few carefully crafted scenes that played to the “feeling” function. However, Iron Man 3’s ending, while glorious, landed flatly, and almost safely on its two feet. The concluding scene failed to give the audience any flare of hope, glint of anticipation or at the very least, embarrassing tears.

Overall, for an enamored fan of Stark, the movie made the trilogy fizzle out instead of concluding it in the fireworks and sparkles typical of Marvel. Unable to establish a tangible connection between the audience and the characters, Iron Man 3 remains only on the level of a decent action movie, entertaining but neither memorable nor touching.



Continued From Page 1

to the team than taking attendance and setting up cones for a scrimmage. "I provide emotional support when needed," she said, "typically on game days when the pressure is high. The hardest part of being manager is spreading the love equally throughout the team". She told me she loved the "empowering" feeling the wagon and her position gave her, and, on a sadder note, added, "I get to bond with my brother, Harrison, during his last term on the Island with me." She loves her team and there's no question that the team loves her.

Anita is only one of many extraordinary aspects of the team. The biggest, and most important, is the game itself. For those of

"Ultimate"ly The Best Team on Campus

you who don't know the rules of Ultimate Frisbee, they're fairly simple. A regulation field is 70 yards by 40 yards, with end zones 25 yards deep. Play starts when one of the two teams throws to the other, similar to a football kickoff. When caught, the possessor can't run with the disk and he must throw the throw within 10 seconds. Points are also scored like football; the player must make a catch in the end zone. But this isn't your typical gym class game of Frisbee.

Ultimate, when played on such an intense level, requires dexterity and extreme cardio. Players must be able to read the play and turn on their heels in any direction. Besides agility, a player must have various throws at their disposal. Aside from the usual forehands and backhands we often see on the quad, throws such as the hammer, push, scoober (Wyatt French's signature throw/nickname), corkscrew, blade and thumber are all used for specific purposes.

During the scrimmage I watched, talking to the players on the sidelines waiting to be subbed in. There was a delightful team spirit -- players from every corner of the island exhibited cheer and good humor. Varsity hockey star Henry Tobin, Squash players Drew Lavine and Wyatt French, and XC runner Dan Lanza are

only some of the athletes that make up the squad's diverse roster. From my conversation, I learned that it was many of the guys' first year on the team. The veterans, like Dan Lanza, were "stoked" about the increasing number of competitive games they get to play together. Although the team isn't as stoked about its number of wins this season, the players keep

this from the very beginning -- all him".

From my talk with Coach Chaudhary I could immediately tell where the team got its entertaining sense of humor. When asked the necessary prerequisites to play on the team, Chaudhary commented, "Perfect SAT scores, Doctorate degrees, sub 2:15 miles, physical abilities and op-

tional fire breathing. The latter is what makes the Frisbee suddenly pop upwards while it's descending". On the team's performance, Coach Chaudhary stated, "Except for our four losses we're undefeated".

As I struggled to record everything through my hysterical laughter, Coach C got a bit more serious. He told me it had been

a pleasure working with all the talented Frisbee players, and that they were overall great kids. He'll miss the sixteen departing seniors deeply. He wants everyone to know that the program is open to everyone, whether you can sauce like a pro or don't know what shape a Frisbee is. All that matters is that you're there to have a good time.



LC's Varsity Ultimate Team

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANITA RICHMOND '16

their heads high. Harrison Richmond Schulman, when asked about the team's record, said, "I can confidently say we are doing better than Varsity Lacrosse, and continue to be the best looking team on campus." When I asked for some interesting, unknown facts, Alex Buis told me, "Johnny Mac is responsible for starting

Featured Athlete: Caitlin Farrell '14

BY MICHELLE CHOI '16
Staff Writer

A record breaking cross country runner, a celebrated track star, and a force to be reckoned with out on the track, it is no wonder that when one thinks of Loomis Chaffee athletics, they think of Caitlin Farrell. Not only did Caitlin receive the prestigious Junior Female Physical Education Award, but she also served as an excellent role model to her peers and even to her coaches. Becky Purdy, LC's head cross country coach, recognized Caitlin as the number one runner on the Loomis Cross Country team during the 2012-2013 fall season. Purdy praised her as "a hard worker in training and a tenacious racer, a supportive teammate, and someone who sees the best in every member of the team." She added that she "would not want to be an opponent on the final stretch with Caitlin breathing down my neck!" Fred Seebeck, the long distance girls track coach, also recognizes Caitlin as a selfless team player and a hard worker who "focuses, does what she is asked to do well and without complaint." A hard-working athlete, a great role model, and, overall, a down-to-earth person, Loomis is lucky to have Caitlin on the Island for one more year. I recently had the opportunity to sit down with Caitlin and ask her a few questions about her experiences on the cross country course, in the pool and on the track.

when you run and swim?

A: I mean, it changes from race to race and depends on the sport, too. During track races, I tend to think more about passing people, getting to the pace I'm trying to go for, and staying more focused, whereas when I swim, I let my mind wander for a bit more. For the most part though, I just try to go as fast as I can.

Q: What has been your favorite LC athletic experience so far?

A: It would have to be my freshman year when I ran against a girl at a cross-country meet. We started out the race with her ahead of me, we were going back and forth the whole time, but in the last 200 when we were racing to the finish for first place, she ended up beating me out. But then, this year I was able to beat her by a lot, and just those two events coming together in my mind and seeing the progress I made over the years was definitely a highlight, plus the revenge was pretty sweet.

Q: Do you have any advice on managing time as a student athlete?

A: I think especially in the winter because away swim meets were held so far away, it's difficult to find the time to fit in everything comfortably so you just have to work whenever you can whether it's right before practice, during a free, during dinner, or

on a bus ride to Exeter. For example, Mr. Deconinck, who was one of the swim coaches, is a chemistry teacher, so when we'd take the bus rides back, I'd sit with him and just ask questions and talk about chemistry. Being a student athlete definitely requires you to learn time management, something I've picked up over the past few years.

Q: Is there any advice you'd give to freshmen or underclassmen athletes?

A: Funny you should ask that because a couple of weeks ago, one of the younger freshmen kept asking what the point of running was if you're not going to improve. So my advice to her was that right now, you might not improve dramatically or drop your times like crazy, but each year is different. Every year I've been running has been a completely different experience. Freshman year I ran the 400 and the 800, and last year I only ran the 3000, so it was very different. She asked, "don't you get bored of doing the same thing if you're not going to improve?" but I told her again that each year is a different experience, and that it's important to stay open to trying new things and putting yourself out there, and just believing in yourself to see the results and success you've been working towards.

The "Golden Boy" Retires After 22 Years



Beckham during his final season with Paris Saint-Germain

PHOTO COURTESY OF AP IMAGES

BY NICK SAILOR '13
2012-13 Sports Editor

After a remarkable twenty-two year soccer career, David Beckham has announced his retirement from the game of soccer. Born in Leytonstone, England, Beckham discovered his love for "football" at an early age. Impressing many scouts as a youth player, the child phenom signed with Manchester United at the tender age of sixteen. With stellar free-kicks and superb technique, David Beckham became an instant star at United. During his tenure at with the team, Beckham made 394 appearances, winning six Premier League titles, two FA cups and one Champions League trophy, not to mention scoring 85 goals in the process. His goal scoring record, however, isn't what made him special. His sheer passion and love for his club made him a fan-favorite.

In 2003, Beckham made a move to Real Madrid. During his five-year tenure with "Los Blancos", he helped his team win La Liga (the domestic league) and the Super Copa de Espana (a tournament comprised of all Spanish teams). In 2007, after five years of playing in Madrid, Beckham moved to the United

States to play for the Los Angeles Galaxy. His six year stint with the Galaxy cannot be measured by the two MLS Cup Trophies or the Multiple Supporters Shields he won, but rather measured by his influence on the revival of soccer in America. No one since the great Pele, who played for the New York Cosmos in the 1970's, has created that much buzz surrounding American soccer. His global influence created fans in a country that desperately needed an entry on to the international soccer stage.

In early 2013, Beckham joined the powerhouse French team, Paris-Saint Germain. And it is here that, after a short couple of months, he announced his retirement from the game of soccer.

David Beckham, known for his spectacular free-kicks, good looks, and fashion-sense, became an international icon that transformed the way America looked at soccer. He became a hero to those who had a passion for the game and a spectacular role model even for those who didn't. He wore every jersey with his head held high and his heart on his sleeve.

Sir Alex Ferguson, the legendary manager who coached David Beckham had the following

words to say about his former player: "He is an amazing person. You talk about longevity and in many ways reinventing himself, it has been absolutely incredible." The former coach of the LA Galaxy added, "Today is a day to celebrate David Beckham and the completion of his fabulous career. In addition to being such a great player, David is also a great personality, a great teammate, a great friend and family man. He is a person that you cannot replace, on the field or off and our club is in a better position for having him play for us in the six years that he did."

It is probable that Beckham will look forward to starting a new chapter in his life. With three kids, Romeo, Brooklyn, and Cruz, and music superstar wife Victoria Posh, Becks might look to settle down, lay low, and enjoy family. However, Manchester City just announced they're expanding into the MLS with a new team, New York City Football Club, and there has been talk of Beckham becoming a partial owner. Although not much is certain about his next move, there is no doubt that the world will be forever indebted to the talent and love that David Beckham brought to the game. Thank you, Becks. Truly a legend.

Q: What sports did you play as a kid?

A: When I was younger I used to do gymnastics, lacrosse, soccer, I swam my whole life, and I just started running when I came to Loomis, and I really like it and plan on doing it in college.

Q: Is there a particular reason why you partake in individual sports more than team sports?

A: Well, I've done both, and even though I love the whole team aspect and feel, there's something about individual sports that for whatever reason, I've migrated more towards.

Q: What trait do you think helps you be so successful as an athlete?

A: Well, for me I think probably the fact that I've been raised in a very athletic family and was surrounded by athletics my whole life contributes a lot to it. I'd say being tough, prioritizing, and working hard is really important.

Q: What do you think about



LAURA PADDOCK '14 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG