

Loomis Chaffee Log

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Dear Seniors,

BY ISABELLA EPSTEIN '16
Managing Editor

Through the doors of the most historical building on campus, Founders Hall, saunters the senior class of 2015. Hearts heavy, filled with memories and nostalgia, each individual walks down the senior path one last time, marking the culmination of his or her Loomis career. Younger students gape in awe and admiration at their older, successful peers, and hope to one day be much like them. Teachers and faculty observe their fresh protégées with pride, wishing them success in all of their endeavors. And from all around the world, friends and family gather on campus to celebrate the graduates.

Each member of the class of 2015 contributed to the kaleidoscope culture on The Island. But the momentous accomplishments that they achieved in unison was the defining quality that solidified their legacy. To the remaining Pelicans, the class

of 2015 taught valuable lessons that inspired younger students to strive for excellence.

Class of 2015: Though your time on campus has come to an end, your legacy will live on. Thank you for showing us that sleepless nights and endless hours of homework are not unconquerable. Despite the sweat, blood, and tears, you prove that anything is possible and give us the strength to believe in the same. Your spirit, liveliness, and love for LC truly demonstrates how precious a Loomis Chaffee education and experience is. By embracing the community and exhibiting what it truly means to be a Pelican, you embody the school's mission of pursuing the best self and common good. Your laughter and memories of both good and bad times remind us to take advantage of our short time here at Loomis and make the most out of it.

To the 99th class of the Loomis Chaffee School: Ne Cede Malis!



OLIVIA MCCAUGHEY '16 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

Free Speech, Israel, Pamela Geller, and the Loomis Chaffee School

BY SAM COX '16
Editor-in-Chief

Loomis Chaffee recently found itself in the middle of a fierce global debate concerning free speech, religious expression and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Though it seems a far cry from the peaceful calm of spring on the Island, a controversy sparked by a speaker series on campus put Loomis in the epicenter of some of the thorniest issues of intense international interest.

It all started when Naomi Paiss, the vice president for public affairs of the New Israel Fund, agreed to visit the Center for Global Studies as part of the Bussel Family International Lec-

ture Series. The New Israel Fund is a U.S.-based organization that strives to "advance democracy and equality for all Israelis." In the past, Paiss has been critical of Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories and supports a two-state solution to the ongoing conflict. Paiss's attendance-optional lecture was titled "After the Israeli Election: Prospects for Progressive Change," and was scheduled to take place on April 29th.

Just a few days before Paiss's talk, Pamela Geller, a right-wing blogger and president of the American Freedom Defense Initiative (AFDI), posted a blog titled "Loomis Chaffee School to Host Anti-Israel Event." Geller called the New Israel Fund "a

radical anti-Israel organization - that should not be allowed at the Loomis Chaffee School" and posted Loomis's main phone number, alongside a list of Board of Trustees, urging readers call to petition the cancellation of this event. She described Loomis as "quintessentially preppy" and, in all caps, "WASPY."

According to the AFDI, Geller's organization's mission is to act "against the treason being committed by national, state, and local government officials, the mainstream media, and others in their capitulation to the global jihad and Islamic supremacism." Geller is also the author of "Freedom or Submission: On the Dangers of Islamic Extremism and American Com-

placency" and "Stop the Islamization of America: A Practical Guide to the Resistance."

Geller's blog regarding Loomis started a social-media firestorm, garnering more than 100 comments on her website, both supportive and critical of her view. One of Geller's primary accusations was that the New Israel Fund supports the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) Movement, which intends to destabilize Israel's economy - a movement that Geller describes as "standing against Israel." Paiss has gone on record numerous times reiterating the same point: "We don't fund organizations with global BDS programs."

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Furry Friends on Campus

BY MADDIE BROWN '15
Staff Writer

First chickens, now...goats? Rumor has it that LC has recently adopted three new furry friends who are currently roaming around campus. Ollie, Eunice and Valentine arrived on the island at the start of spring term, and to date, many students remain unaware of their presence. Lars Schuster, a junior day student, was generous enough to give Loomis the responsibility of caring for his goats while he spent the semester away in Colorado. So, to ensure quality care, students Laurie Zelinski, Una Shea and faculty member Mr. Gwyn have risen to the challenge.

Why are the goats even here? "Companionship? Milk and cheese?" guesses senior Gaby Foti. Junior Anita Richmond humorously suggests that "We have our goats to honor the goat that was assassinated at Tulane University." Mr. Gwyn, head of the work job program, explained the truth behind Ollie, Eunice and Valentine's presence. "We are doing a demonstration project with the goats to show that the students can take care of something larger than chickens." In addition to serving an educational purpose, the goats also eat invasive species that exist on campus, which greatly benefits our community.

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COURTESY OF THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

Editor's Picks

Hope-Shattering

Earthquakes

Recalling the heartbreaking events in Nepal, Isabella Epstein '16 ventures into the sociological and physical destruction that has occurred in Nepal. More on page 2.

Frank Bruni '86

Sam Cox '16 and Julia Song '15 interview Frank Bruni '82 on journalism and the importance of college prestige. More on page 2.

Robots in Disguise

Conor Rush '17 dives into the problematic directing styles of Michael Bay, while also discussing the countless cinematic sins that occur in *Transformers: Age of Extinction*. More on page 7.

Deflategate

Sam Goldfarb '18 reflects upon Tom Brady's reputation in light of the Patriots' recent scandal. More on page 11.

100% Effort for 100 Years

BY STEPHANY PALAGUACHI '16
Contributor

Based on 60 application essays titled "What is the heart of Loomis Chaffee?" eleven members of the Class of 2015 were carefully selected in the spring of their freshman year by Centennial Co-Chair Karen Parsons and Dean Michael Donegan to represent the voice of the student body during the planning process for Loomis Chaffee's Centennial year - to be celebrated during their senior year. Michael Carter, Lauren Champagne, Rashi Dua, Celine Erkey, Micky Estaban, Isabel Guigui, John Kim, Kijoon Kim, Doyle Lokitiyakul, Mollie Rich-

ter, and Gabby Roncone helped with Centennial preparations all four years, working side-by-side faculty and staff and contributing to the huge success of the Opening Celebration, the production of Centennial memorabilia and a Time Capsule, and the overall promotion of a celebratory spirit on campus all year long. Of these dedicated students, Dean Donegan says, "They brought both their voice and their hearts into this four-year commitment, and the 100-year celebration was much better for it. This group of enthusiastic students went well above what was asked of them by embracing their responsibilities and owning the "essence" of the Loomis community."



PHOTO CREDIT: YANG-YANG KWON '15



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After the Island: Frank Bruni

BY SAM COX '16 AND JULIA SONG '15 Editors

Frank Bruni '82, former member of the Loomis Chaffee Log, is a Pulitzer Prize nominated journalist whose work has appeared in the Detroit Free Press, The New York Post, and The New York Times. At The Times Bruni is currently an Op-Ed column-



PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANK BRUNI

ist, and previously served as its Chief Restaurant Critic. Bruni graduated from UNC Chapel Hill and attended the Columbia School of Journalism, and returned to Loomis in 2013 as the Commencement speaker. In his new book, *Where You Go Is Not Who'll You Be*, Bruni explores the flawed college admissions process from a perspective that disregards college prestige. SC: How did your time at Loomis shape you? Do you recall anything about writing for the Loomis Chaffee Log or writing in general while here that has helped your career as a journalist? FB: Loomis allowed me to indulge my curiosity with interesting history and religion and English electives that other schools might not have had. It

turned me on to learning in a very special way. And by having extracurricular venues like the Log and the Loom, it gave me the chance to begin to try out my chops as a writer. That was very helpful. I wrote music reviews and movie reviews, if I recall, for the Log. I remember writing a review of Fleetwood Mac's "Tusk" or of Stevie Nicks' "Bella Donna" --- one or the other. I remember having so much fun with that, and it was in my mind when, decades later, I had the chance to meet and interview and profile Nicks for the New York Times. JS: Your new book shines light on the importance of individual experience and pursuit over the prestige of an educational institution. What, if any, role did your own experience in competitive elite institutions, where collegiate prestige and pressure are so emphasized, play in your forming such a unique, and arguably unexpected viewpoint? FB: I don't think it's such a unique viewpoint, but it's informed some what by the trajectory that Loomis put me on, in the sense that Loomis nominated me for a Morehead scholarship at UNC-Chapel Hill and thus confronted me with a decision: Yale or Chapel Hill. That made me reflect on what college is and should be about. That made me weigh prestige versus unfamiliarity, the known versus the unknown. Those themes are prevalent in the book, partly for that reason. JS: How does one go about becoming a columnist and restaurant critic (or a copy editor, or an intern for that matter) for the New York Times? FB: One doesn't plan it. At least I didn't. It's best not to set your sights on ONE job or on ONE company or organization, because life is all about curve balls. Just hone your talent, build your skills and make sure you're as competent as you can be in the field of your choice. Then the good gigs, which may not be the ones you envision, will come. Aim for competence, not for a given label. JS: Do you consider yourself a gay journalist, or a journalist who happens to be gay? Is there a difference? FB: I'm a journalist who happens to be gay, for sure. 'Gay journalist' would connote an approach to work that's entirely about sexual orientation. My sexual orientation surely informs the way I see the world---any fundamental aspect of identity, like gender or skin color or socioeconomic background or physical appearance, does---but it's not the sum of who I am or my lodestar as a journalist. JS: Do you have any advice for current high school students aspiring to be journalists, particularly considering the drastically and continually changing landscape of journalism? FB: That's very, very tough to answer, BECAUSE of what you cite the changing landscape. My advice would be not to lock yourself into any ONE subject matter, and to be sure you have a passion for journalism, because you're going to have to work very hard, with no definite payoff. That means you really need to be animated and jazzed by the work. And if you are, you'll probably be good at it, and you'll maximize the chances of forging a fulfilling career.

Ending the Silence

BY JAMIE LEE '17 News Editor

On April 17th, 2015, around 50 students with 2 faculty members participated in the "Day of Silence" campaign. Students were asked to refrain from talking and to remain silent for the whole school day, not communicating at all in both person and social media. Derogative LGBT bullying has profound effects on students, often silencing forcing them to expressionless silence. This day gives those victims of bullying an opportunity to "speak up"; encouraging acceptance and support from the community. In 1996 the National Day of Silence was founded at the University of Virginia. By 2008, students in more than 8,000 middle schools, high schools, and colleges had participated throughout this movement to bring about awareness in the acceptance of anyone regardless of their sexual orientation or preference. As a participant of the LGBT Silence movement, I sat down with Ms. Conger, the faculty advisor for spectrum, and Madden Aleia, a president of the Spectrum club. Interview with Ms. Conger (Faculty Advisor for the Spectrum Club) **Jamie Lee:** Have we had this in the past? What was the result? **Betsy Conger:** Yes, we have done it for about 7 to 8 years, and we've always had positive results. The students who participate have learned a lot about

themselves and how hard it is not to be themselves and not to communicate. The faculty and administration have been always supportive of this day. **JL:** What do you hope this movement will bring about? **BC:** Awareness in general, and awareness of how little things people say and do without malice can have a big impact on people. Although people do not intentionally say words like gay and fag to be meant to other people, these jokes still hurt them in ways they cannot freely express. I hope that this movement will help the Loomis Chaffee community to further embrace the differences, diversity, and equality we have. **JL:** What was the greatest difficulty you had while taking part in this event? **Madden Aleia:** It was difficult in the sense that I was trying to promote my message by not speaking, and oftentimes people did not understand why I was involving myself in this movement. **JL:** What did you hope to learn or gain by your participation? **MA:** I wanted to show the straight allies what it feels, and what it means to be in the "closet"---not being able to fully express who I am. As much as it is complicated for straight people to understand, I wanted the silence by our community members to illustrate the silencing effect that bullying has on LGBT students and those perceived to be LGBT. By taking a vow of silence, we wanted to encourage

our classmates to address the problem of anti-LGBT behavior in our school and community. **JL:** What do you wish to improve in this movement? **MA:** I wish there had been more announcements beforehand, so that non-members of the Spectrum club could participate, because we can't send our message if we're being silent. We should have had discussions and explanations announced publicly of why we're doing this, and why it's so important for us. Also, if we had more talks in the common good regarding this issue, we would have gained more support from the community. **JL:** Has there been any other event besides the National Day of Silence to bring about LGBT awareness into the school? **MA:** Yes, we have had open discussions both on and off campus, involving other schools. We went to Ethel Walker for a movie night, had open discussions involving GSAs (Gender and Sexuality Alliance), and received much support from Glisten and True Colors (Organization in the Hartford area for LGBT youth). We (members of the Spectrum club) are planning on having more trips to other schools to get together and talk, or have movie nights, game nights, and etc. to engage other people. **Halloween Haunted House** On October 31st, 2014, the PSO and the Student Council ran their first joint-event of the year---the Halloween Haunted House---to raise money for the UNICEF. Just as the darkness set in on campus, PSO and Stu.Co members, along with a few volunteers, waited at their respective stations from the haunted old health center and Dr. Culbert opened her house as a station as well. All were prepared to scare the students who pass by. Hannah McCarthy '13 and Emelyn Abreu '13 decided to do a

major success that year, PSO had the opportunity to continue the tradition the following year as well. "With the all school theme of 'Sustainability,' PSO decided to raise money for 350.org in 2014," said Aurelie Liu '16, one of the representatives for PSO. "We got better in terms of organization as participants brought in donations, and we provided the appropriate food, drinks, and donation boxes. Because the color run

has always been successful in terms of both satisfaction and donation, I hope color run will be a priority next year." In fact, Ms. Lombardo, adviser to the PSO, imagines the next color run will instead be held in fall as one of the opening days' events and also double as a welcome to new freshmen, invit-



PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANK LIU '17

enthusiastically. "We had students from every single grade drenched in fake blood scarring victims of our haunted house. The haunted house was a super creative event because PSO decided the themes of each room and how we wanted to decorate the entire health center. I learned how well PSO can work as a team and the importance of reaching out to the broader Loomis community when PSO needs support" **Rachel's Table** Running through the aisle, looking for the greatest deals, participants think excitedly about the potential meals that would be made with recently bought boxes and cans, smiling in victory as they admire the super long receipt with all the savings added up on the bottom. As a race towards combatting hunger in our immediate community, the annual Rachel's Table food-raiser held at the Big Y in Longmeadow truly embodies PSO's spirit of helping others. As one of the first community service events of the school year, Rachel's Table introduced to students the idea of service as a way of bringing friends closer together and extending friendship to others in need. **Mardi Gras** On February 26th, 2015, students who participated in the Mardi Gras dinner indulged in delicious homemade food with only a few dollars. By raising more than \$1,500 for Nica-Photo, the PSO was able to help the "grass-roots organization dedicated to helping break the cycle poverty in Nicaragua." Moreover, the event featured the Acapalicans with their medley of "Cups" and other songs to add more festivity and lighten up the atmosphere for participants to enjoy their poltuck dinner. **Color Run** The color run started in 2013 when seniors Ryan Springer-Miller '13 and Emelyn Abreu '13 decided to do a

Hope Shattering Earthquakes



PHOTO COURTESY OF BY KAJAN JOURNALIST VIA CREATIVE COMMONS LICENSING

BY ISABELLA EPSTEIN '16 Managing Editor High in the Himalayas, at an altitude of four thousand six hundred feet, thousands of people lie in absolute desperation and devastation. Hungry for hope, food, and craving the strength to rebuild the debris, citizens of Nepal cling with immense might to any chance of survival. On April 25, 2015, a catastrophe struck the country. A magnitude 7.8 earthquake trembled the grounds, leaving Nepal in a state of complete chaos. With its epicenter in Lamjung, approximately 50 miles from the capital city of Kathmandu, the temblor had a ripple effect throughout the entire country and affected areas in India and China, as well as activated an avalanche on Mount Everest. A myriad of deaths, countless injuries, and a general sense of pain, fear, and exasperation filled the county with heartbreak. While it has been noted as the worst natural disaster to strike Nepal since 1934, the tragedy of April 25th was far from an unfamiliar fright. Unfortunately, this cataclysmic event was just one of many. Day and night, the people of this remote, impoverished, congested, and shoddily built mountainous community live in constant fear of more natural disasters. Just about a week before the ground-breaking calamity, seis-

mic experts from around the world gathered in Kathmandu to discuss tactics and preparations for potential tribulations. Number one on the agenda was to find a solution to the danger of earthquakes in order to mitigate the extremity of the destruction. Though an earthquake of this enormity was predicted and highly expected long before realization, as life has come to prove, time is never on our side, so the experts were incapable of implementing a plan before the fiasco occurred this year. In the midst of an incredibly quake-prone zone, Nepal's vulnerability has always been very high. At the junction of the Indian and Eurasian tectonic plates, frequent tectonic activity makes the region hazardous and unstable; devastating earthquakes are nearly inevitable. Time and time again the beautiful, culturally rich, and vibrant, streets of Nepal turn to ruins, and nearly everything deteriorates. Because the shallow depth of the quake was just six miles, the amount of earth was not sufficient to absorb the energy, creating a massive intensity, which caused much greater damage. In essence, it is a never-ending cycle of disaste For several reasons, the extent of this catastrophe goes beyond sole ecological means---the human conditions in Nepal exac-

A Mess in the Midwest Indiana Under Fire

BY BEN FU '16 Staff Writer

Because of the diverse and welcome society we live in here on the Island, it is hard to imagine communities with prevalent discrimination against sexual orientation. Many of us are accustomed to liberal decisions and outlooks regarding legislation on sexual orientation, but this new Indiana Law is certainly not. Much pressure has been put onto Mike Pence, the governor of Indiana, to approve the act. Objectively speaking, the bill's challenge of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) purports only to give individuals or corporations the ability to assert their religion. Supporters of the bill claim that their religious freedom has been tampered with and they use that as a legal defense. In other words, the RFRA simply sets different standards to cases in which religious objections are to be judged. The new law seems almost completely innocuous on the surface, but it has aroused furious debate and protest ever since its passing quite frankly, it can be misused so easily. Many people (liberal and otherwise) are sympathetic to the LGBTQ community in Indiana and argue that the new law infringes on

individual rights. Interpreting the act as a green light for businesses to discriminate against the LGBTQ community, countless people have staged protests not only in Indiana, but also all around the United States. Connecticut's very own Governor Dannel Malloy engaged in protest to the new law, approving an executive order to cut off all state-funded travel to Indiana. UConn men's basketball coach, Kevin Ollie, joined Malloy in protest of this seemingly discriminatory act, boycotting the Final Four that was held at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. Many more notable protesters have voiced their stance against the RFRA. Local business reviewer, Angie's List, aborted its proposal to establish a new headquarters in Indiana; rock band, Wilco, cancelled its May 7th performance in Indianapolis; comedians Nick Offerman and Megan Mullally, cancelled their May 16th show. Offerman proceeded to call Governor Pence out on Twitter, pledging to donate to the Human Rights Campaign to further protest the new laws. On the other side of the spectrum, some see nothing wrong with the act and fervently defend it. They see the act as being beneficial to society. Richard Garnett, a Notre Dame professor who sup-

ports the RFRA, declares that the act was only put in place to defend the rights of people of less popular religions. Some see a bright side to this Act, as it makes lets people act freely based on their religion without being discriminated against. In the midst of all this protest and disapproval of the law, Mike Pence has been forced to clarify the Act. Firmly stating at a press conference that he "[doesn't] support discrimination against gays," he affirmed that the law was passed so that people have the power to go to court when they feel their right to religious freedom has been infringed upon, not so that people could discriminate against the LGBTQ community. Pence is calling for "legislation that is added to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act in Indiana that makes it clear that this law does not give businesses the right to deny services to anyone." The debate over the constitutional-ity of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act rages on, both sides pronouncing the other sides views as inaccurate, as misinterpretations of the law. However, further clarification may lead to revision later this spring that will prove the law more inclusive in practice.

multiple, nuanced, and contradictory perspectives." The note also said the school would hold a follow-up event to Paiss's. The debate about free speech and Middle Eastern politics might have ended there if not for Paiss's more recent celebrity. On May 3 the AFDI hosted a "Draw Muhammed" event in Garland Texas that ended in violence. What the group called a "Freedom of Speech" assembly included a \$10,000 contest to see who could draw the best Muhammad, a prophet whose depiction is considered sacrilegious to Muslims. Two gunmen, who were both killed on the scene, stormed the event, resulting in the injury of one person. The incident recalled the storming of the offices of French satirical magazine Charlie Heb-

do in January. The publication was attacked for depicting Muhammed, resulting in the deaths of 11 Hebro cartoonists and writers. The tragedy spurred a global debate over free speech. After the Texas shooting, Geller said, "Clearly what happened is indicative of how very vital this conference was needed. The idea that there is a violent war - a violent assault on freedom of speech, clearly was brought home last night." As this issue goes to print, Rabbi Craig Marantz, from Congregation Kol Haverim, and Jewish History Professor Dr. Avinoam Patt of the University of Hartford will be on campus Monday, May 19th, as an addition to the Bussel Speaker Series.

Student Council Environmental Initiatives

BY ALLEN PARK '18 Staff Writer

Nearing the end of yet another school year, students are presented with a variety of leadership opportunities for the coming year, one of many being Student Council. With the recent election of 2015-16 student council officers and members - President Samantha Roy, Boys VP Eagle Wang, Girls VP Hannah McCarthy Potter, and Secretary Treasurer Colin Phelan - meetings have been held in regards to what student council has planned for next year. Recently, talks during all-school meetings and seminars about the environment have provoked new ideas within the council. For the 2015-16 school year, Student Council has decided to shift gears and bring a more centered focus on not only the needs of their respective constituencies but also the needs of the school, collectively. From last year's school theme being "Climate Change," Student Council has found it only appropriate that they address the environmental issues present at Loomis. More specifically, the Council is looking to combine efforts with the E-Proctors to better dispose of the waste on campus. "Currently we compost pre-consumer waste, but next year we are hoping to



PHOTO COURTESY OF BY KAJAN PIERONI '16

compost our post-consumer waste as well," said StuCo President Sam Roy. This initiative agreed upon by the Council will not only reduce the school's overall waste but also save the school money. The processes explained by Sam Roy include saving money by taking the waste and making it into our own compost to use as soil and fertilizer. In addition to working alongside e-proctors/ag-proctors, Student Council has agreed to work in support of personal projects of students such as Sam Kent's "16 floating wetlands" project. By doing so, Student Council hopes to enforce the Sustainability Plan and try to make a positive change on the environment both within and outside the campus. In regards to the non-environmental aspects StuCo has planned for the 2015-16 school year, they are efficiently working on numerous tasks to give students the best experience at Loomis. A few of which include allowing international students to return to school early, creating more frequent faculty evaluations, looking into the feasibility of online pers, altering lunch periods, relaxing dress code on Saturdays with classes, and improving relations with the town of Windsor. Student Council hopes to achieve all the goals they have planned for the coming year and hope that everyone stays tuned. Make sure to follow @LCStuCoASM on twitter and be updated on what StuCo has

Iran Nuclear Deal Boom or Bust?

BY LILY LIU '17 Features Editor

On April 2nd, 2015, President Obama offered Iran an unprecedented deal promising to lift various economic sanctions in Iran in exchange for a 10-year freeze of Iran's current nuclear programs. Nonetheless, just as this explosive deal struck the world with a blast of excitement, fear, and surprise, many distrustful forces, such as the Israeli Prime Minister and the U.S. Congress, fret on the security of such a bold political experiment. Will Obama's dreadfully idealistic nuclear deal work? Or will the overwhelming doubt doom his dream? Our contention with Iran's nuclear program has started since the 1960s. Although the U.S. helped Iran establish 23 nuclear power plants, the outbreak of Iranian Revolution and the seizure of U.S. embassy in Tehran brought U.S. aid to an end. Ever since then, the U.S. has attempted to starve Iran with numerous harsh economic sanctions while Iran relentlessly sought help to develop its own nuclear technology. While most Western nations had raised their uranium concentration to no more than 5%, Iran had declared to possess enriched uranium with a 20% concentration in 2006, 70% away from producing a nuclear bomb. Consequently, the appalled Western nations tightened their grips on Iran's economy after Iran successfully failed to comply with the supervision of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). However, in 2013, after Hassan Rouhani---known for his moderate political views---was elected as the President of Iran, Iran opened negotiations with the P5+1 and agreed to comply with the Joint Plan of Actions, a plan that consists of numerous steps regarding Iran's gradual disarmament and the increase of Iran's nuclear

transparency. Now, to accelerate the disarmament of Iran's nuclear program, President Obama has bet all his trust on his recent preliminary agreement with Iran: that Iran would accept more intrusive international inspections in exchange for the alleviation of all economic sanctions. According to the deal, Iran will limit its enrichment capacity for 10 years and eliminate further stockpiling of enriched uranium for 15 years. In addition, Iran agrees to reduce its centrifuges---facilities that turn uranium into the metal core of atomic bombs---by two-thirds, and to transform its underground enrichment sites into centers of nuclear technology research. Besides such elimination of uranium, Iran must remove all plutonium reactors and heavy water reactors. To prevent Iran from cheating, Obama demanded that Iran lead the IAEA to greater access of its nuclear facilities, nuclear supply chain, uranium mines and mills. Theoretically, this deal would delay Iran's "breakout time"---the amount of time required to produce a nuclear bomb---by a year. Nonetheless, not everyone is optimistic about this risky deal---especially not the anxious Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu. Having long feared Iran's potential nuclear capacity, Netanyahu virulently repudiated Obama's "inconcrete" agreement with Iran and stressed that, regarding Iran's past connections with terrorist groups, "We must not let Iran, the foremost sponsor of global terrorism, have an easy path to nuclear weapons which will threaten the entire world." When President Obama demanded Netanyahu for a better resolution, Netanyahu proposed to shut down Iran's illicit underground facilities rather than to allow Iran to keep its current nuclear facilities. Furthermore, besides the anxious Israel, the U.S. Congress, irritated by lack of representation, demanded voice on the nuclear deal. Terrified by Obama's abrupt diplomatic move, both Republicans and Democrats expressed the concern that Iran would divert from the lenient terms of the deal and produce nuclear bombs. Although President Obama threatened to veto the Congress's bill to intervene with this "once in a life time opportunity," he nevertheless, though reluctantly, conceded the authority of the final Iran nuclear deal to the Congress on April 14th, 2015. Unfortunately, the intervention of Congress not only disabled Obama to waive any economic sanctions on Iran within the 30 days of Congressional review, but also devastated the previously cooperative attitude of the Iran, adding more gloom to the future of the agreement. On April 15th, 2015, two days after President Obama's defeat against the Congress, Iran's president Hassan Rouhani assailed the Congress vote on Obama's nuclear deal and threatened that "if there is not going to be an end to sanctions in this round of the talks, there is nothing to be a deal." As Iran's strong opposition of Congress intervention further aggravates the tenuous trust between the U.S. and Iran, the future of the preliminary deal that President Obama had so painstakingly pursued seems quite ominous. President Obama has a lot of obstacles to deal with. Will he execute orders according to his own will, or yield to the opposing voices? Will Obama's Iran nuclear deal be a shameful "BOO" in American history of foreign affairs, or a progressive "BOOM" in the history of world peace? How would this game of trust versus doubt and idealism versus reality turn out? We will have to wait and see.

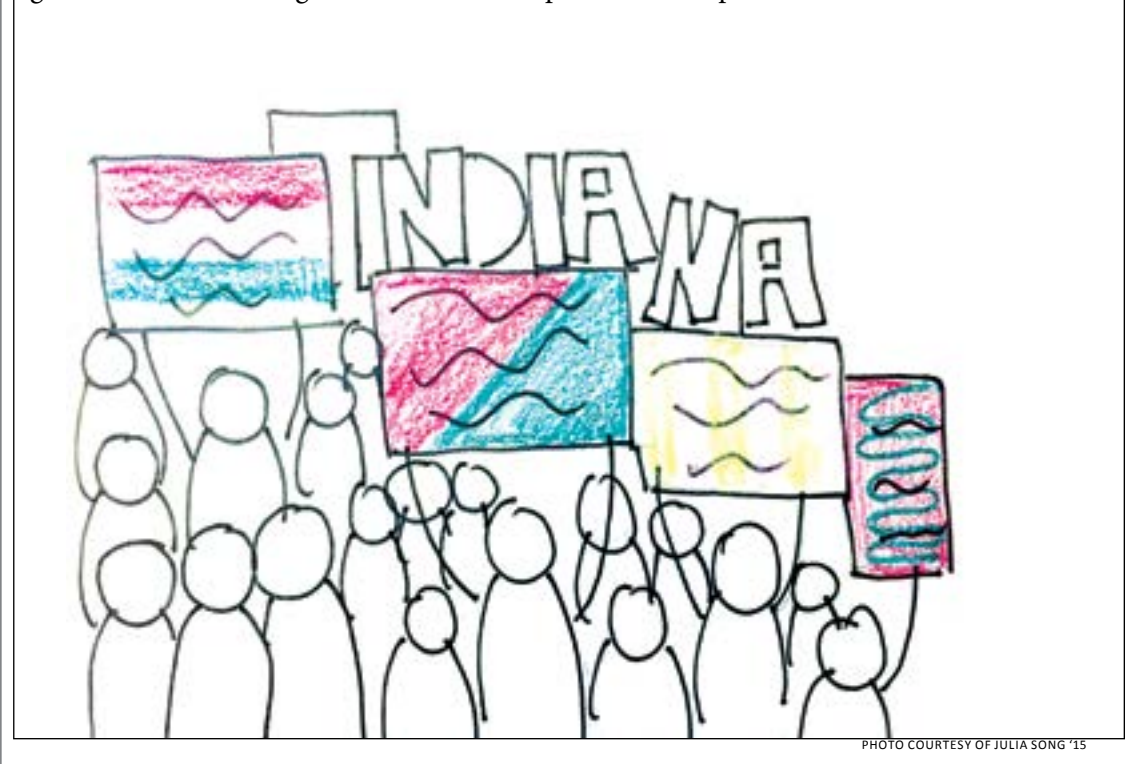


PHOTO COURTESY OF JULIA SONG '15

DANCE REVIEW 2015



PHOTO CREDIT: ANNA MEYER '17

BY SARA CORSETTI '16
Staff Writer

One of Loomis' most popular and well-attended events in the school year is the acclaimed Dance Revue. Occurring in the NEO just three nights a year, the community is treated to a two-hour snapshot of our finest dancers showcasing their most recent pieces. This year's event was held May 13-15th and each show was sold out within the first two days of ticket availability. As a predictably popular annual event, eager faculty and students quickly scoop up most tickets, making up the majority of attendees.

Several multifarious types of dance were seen in this year's Dance Revue that separated it from previous years. Habiba Hopson (2016), Dance Company 2 member and consistent performer in the show, affirms "We saw anything from ballet with Rock-and-Roll music to Irish step dance with eclectic". There were Pointe, Jazz, Tap, Irish Step Dance, Modern, Contemporary, Hip-Hop, and Ballet pieces exhibited among the performances, engaging the audience with a

broad spectrum of entertainment. The unique assortment of different types of dance resulted in increased appeal among guests, pleased participants, and a highly successful 2015 revue.

At face value, the show is nothing short of a well-oiled machine greased with the talent of the dancers. However, most audiences fail to appreciate and even overlook the immense time and effort that goes into the final product. In preparation for the spring revue, dancers undergo an extensive, time-consuming preparatory process. As early as the fall, performers begin to spend a great deal of time with choreography and routine dynamics that will be executed in the show. Throughout the year, the dancers gradually perfect these dances before group/individual formal auditions. All dancers unaffiliated with Dance Company that wish to take part in the revue must audition for a spot with their intended piece for the show approximately two weeks prior to the show. Dancers must then attend several rehearsal periods during and leading up to the week of the show. The final rehearsals are de-

manding and occupy much of dancers' free time from the preceding Saturday through Tuesday, but repetition and practice have proven the root of a successful show.

In addition, many hands make light work on the set of the revue. From changing set lightings to switching music between routines, Dance Revue techies are a substantial part of the show. The tech, light, and sound crews are in charge of verifying the smooth functioning of mechanical elements all three nights of the revue, playing a crucial behind-the-scenes role.

The purpose of the annual Dance Revue is to offer an opportunity for students to express themselves and showcase their abilities through the art of dance. After months of determined practice and, at times, arduous training, each of the dancers' hard work ultimately pays off for a last hurrah in front of the community for the 2014/15 school year. This year's Dance Revue was debatably the most successful in years and the tradition has and will continue to be a prominent element of the Loomis community.

BY LILY LIU '17
Features Editor

If my friends ask me for one special thing about Loomis, I would tell them,

"the spring flood." I would joyfully describe to them the shimmering light of the golden dusk, the rusty smell of ocean in the air, the lovely image of yelping birds gliding on the water with tips of their wings...all wonders about the transient river that made me lose myself on a couple mid-April nights. Time here flows by like the rushing river; as I opened my folder to the centennial

song, "Where Rivers Rise and Fall" at the spring choral concert, another year of music at Loomis had come to an end. Chewing on the words of the narration, I started to recall pieces of my memories on the Island—memories of stroking Mr. Taylor's golden nose, of giggling at the creepy angel sitting in front of Longman, of nervously following the conducting of Ms. Chrz on the Hubbard risers. Intrigued by this connection of experience, I briefly chatted with Mr. James Rugen '70 and Mr. Tim Lawrence, the two lyrics writers of the song, as

they unveiled to me a touching message behind this centennial piece.

"Dr. Ratté, who had been a wonderful headmaster of this school for 20 years, wanted to create a simple and melodious Loomis anthem that commemorates the 100 years of the school," said Mr. Rugen. After being invited to compose the lyrics for the song, Mr. Rugen and Mr. Lawrence embarked on this challenging task of creating a piece that will resonate with a wide range of alumni and students. According to Mr. Rugen, the two of them would assign

each other homework, meet in the east annex of the dining hall, and seek inspiration. "We were looking for little details that everyone can understand—Mr. Taylor's golden nose, the victory bell, the sound of clattering cleats on the brick pathways— little moments that evoke the sense of this place and tell the story of all of us," said Mr. Rugen. However, they also confessed to me the difficulty of finding a theme that would fit in a time scale of 100 years. "It was very hard. Tim and I would read the imagery that we wrote, look at each other and say, 'this doesn't feel right,'" chuckled Mr. Rugen, who then broke into laughter, "We threw a lot of papers away."

As the two of them spent countless afternoons watching the cheerful pelicans rushing in and out of the dining hall, converging on the steps of the library and rebounding from one another, the idea of the surging river clicked for them. "I was struck by how much the flow and convergence of students and teachers on their paths resembles the confluence of the rivers. We started to explore the symbolism of

the river, for example, that teachers are like the guiding stones channeling students' growth and direction," exclaimed Mr. Lawrence. Having never discovered that revelation, I suddenly recalled the crescendo of the burgeoning "ooh's, the sonorous narration, the and the ebbing hum of "sustain" at the end of the piece, fading away just like the receding tide. Echoing Mr. Lawrence's explanation, Mr. Rugen further elaborated on the river's embodiment of our school's spirit, "They [the rivers] evolve and create new lives; new water would flow in, but always through the same river, the same place."

When I asked Mr. Rugen and Mr. Lawrence why they ended the music on a soft note, "sustain", Mr. Rugen emphasized that he would like to ask the audience to reflect on the founding principles of the Loomis. "The piece is a call of remembrance, a call of obligation. We are all members of this community, and we all have the responsibility to stay true to the fundamental principles of the school, to continue the dream of our founders." As Mr. Lawrence and I reflected on the

wonderful experience of the centennial year and what the celebration meant to us, I asked Mr. Lawrence how he considered Loomis special as a result of his experience and through writing such a piece. He shared, "I thought a lot about the founders and their remarkable story, and how integral that is in the inclusive and kind community spirit we still feel today. Rather than becoming stuck in their tragedy or despair, they passed their love and nurture on to other people's children. That ethos defines our community, and it defines our history."

As I departed from Mr. Rugen's office with new questions in mind, I admired the receding pond in the meadows. New water comes, new water goes, year after year, generations after generations, just like the students. Perhaps the centennial song itself would be put away for a while; however, its compelling message has called upon all of us, the Pelicans, to reflect on our experience on the Island home, to remember the lessons that we've learned from our teachers, and to sustain the Loomis family's dream, a bittersweet, loving story.



PHOTO CREDIT: MIGUEL ESTABAN'15

Taking A Stand: Sexual Assault

BY ISABELLA EPSTEIN '16
Managing Editor

"Sexual assault is any involuntary sexual act in which a person is coerced or physically forced to engage against their will, or any non-consensual sexual touching of a person. Sexual assault is a form of sexual violence, and it includes rape, groping, forced kissing, child sexual abuse, or the torture of the person in a sexual manner." -United States Department of Justice

Essentially, sexual assault entails trespassing upon the personal boundaries of someone's physical and mental being. According to Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN), every 107 seconds, another American is sexually assaulted. This horrifying statistic solidifies with the number of sexual assaults each year

reaching 293,000, with victims aging twelve years of age or older. Of course, this report excludes the fact that 68% of assaults are never reported to the police, and the terrifyingly shocking truth that 98% of perpetrators will never spend a day of their life in jail.

If after reading that data, you didn't feel a cold shiver run down your spine, rest assured that very shortly you will. Imagine yourself in the dark. Alone. Scared. Fearing for your life. As a victim of sexual assault, that is how you feel every single day. When the light shines bright, you feel cast by a shadow, ashamed of your reality and isolated because of your experience. In essence, it becomes the bane of your existence. With no one to turn to, victims of sexual assault face one of the most challenging obstacles, and more often

than not, face it alone.

In today's world, sexual assault has become prevalent in far too many places. College campuses, for example, have received ample attention in the past few years, and for all the wrong reasons. In 2014, President Barack Obama signed the Presidential Memorandum establishing the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault. In this file, the President exposed a statistic which read, "one in five women is sexually assaulted in college." Not only is this fact frightening, but it also addresses the severity of this problem and emphasizes the necessity for change. However, it is important to realize that sexual assault can occur anywhere at any time. And it is for this reason that Loomis has taken on the challenge of raising awareness and educating its students.

What society doesn't seem to understand is that consent is not a grey area. It is either yes, or no—simple as that. In regards to the mutual agreement that should constitute the enablement of any sexual activity, Dean Liscinsky emphasized something that many people generally underestimate and too often disregard. "Sexual assault is the result of many factors, one of which is the lack of respect for others," she said. I am a strong believer that respect lies at the center of this tragic matter, and without firmly establishing boundaries, the problem of sexual assault will never be solved. Until people learn to respect one another, the issue will be exacerbated and develop even more drastically.

At Loomis, we recognize that the safety of our student's mental and physical being comes first. With

the direction of junior Sara Boe, the Norton Center for The Common Good began an initiative that focuses on discussing the topic of sexual assault in a mature and effective manner. She so eloquently expressed her desire to "engage our high-school community in being proactive, aware of, and interested in positively influencing this issue." The hope is that by indulging in these conversations, students will feel comfortable and safer in the Loomis environment. Furthermore, by opening up the discussion and eliminating the stigma that surrounds this subject which is frequently classified as taboo, we can hopefully prevent these incidents from ever occurring on our campus. As Mr. LaForest conveyed, "If we are setting out to identify ways to operate as a more inclusive and equitable com-

munity, discussing sexual assault publicly and preemptively makes a great deal of sense."

Sexual assault is an issue that has been deprived of the attention it merits. Though it is by no means a problem of slight concern, it rarely garners proper care. The ways in which sexual assault is treated has caused a great and long overdue riot in the college world, which has spurred discussion all over. For the first time, students are speaking up and taking a stand against sexual harassment, violence, and assault. If we all make a conscious effort to educate, understand, and respect each other, there may possibly be a day when few people are stuck alone in the dark, and a day when we can all live together in the light, safe and unafraid, in a world of respect.

BY MADDIE BROWN '15
Staff Writer

With Spring term hurtling forward, there is only one obstacle facing us before our final release to summer: EXAMS. For freshmen, exams are a mysterious and intimidating concept. The class of 2018 will be stepping into the gym and taking a seat amongst a large crowd of anxious students for the first time. For two hours, we have the opportunity to display our knowledge concerning what we have learned in a certain subject throughout the past six months. The task is daunting and the three days from June 1st to 3rd are pressure packed.

1. **Eat Well-** As before a big game or race, eating unhealthy, junk food is not advised before exams. Doing so will drain you of energy and leave you feeling bloated. In order to perform well,

it is vital that you take care of your body, which includes eating well. Berries, for example, are a great snack as they contain lots of vitamin C, which is said to improve agility in the brain. Similarly, any food with protein such as eggs, nuts or cheese will help with mental alertness and keep you feeling full longer. Make sure you eat a balanced meal before an exam. Skipping lunch to study will have detrimental effects on your performance the same way scarfing down four snug cookies on the way to the exam would.

2. **Plan Ahead-** Writing out what you have to do helps you mentally prepare. Whether it be a study for a test or finishing a paper, actually having a plan to follow makes your goals seem that much more attainable. Starting the weekend before finals, when teachers can no longer assign new work, map out a game plan. This simple effort can have in-

credible impacts on the final product. One hour a day on each subject, or perhaps one chapter a day, may work best for you and will be extremely effective. This way, you will ease some of the stress and feel more prepared as time for exams comes closer. In addition, it feels pretty satisfying to check off certain concepts everyday and see yourself moving towards a finish line.

3. **Reward Yourself-** After seemingly endless hours with your nose in the books, it may seem like the end will never come. Rest assured, it will, but until then give yourself small rewards along the way. A little bit of sugar never hurt anybody. So, perhaps treat yourself to one Hershey Kiss for every page you write of your history paper. Or, tell yourself that if you finish three subjects of work, you can watch one episode of Gossip Girl. Indulging in these small breaks is not a problem and

PHOTO CREDIT: MARY ANNE PORTO '16

often makes your work time more efficient. Just make sure when you are working to shut Netflix off and place your phone out of reach, thus minimizing the temptations.

4. **Sleep-** Nothing is more discouraging than getting a math test back and realizing that all the points you lost were results of silly mistakes. Especially when those mistakes could have been prevented with an extra hour or two of sleep. During finals, sleep is vital. Though it is easy to believe that the longer you study the more you will know, I am telling you that once the clock strikes twelve, that is not the case. In one hour, you will complete what you could do in ten minutes with a clear head, and your sense of efficiency will disappear. One more hour of sleep, however, would help you to focus more on that passage in the English final or stay on topic in that APUSH DBQ. If you

often makes your work time more efficient. Just make sure when you are working to shut Netflix off and place your phone out of reach, thus minimizing the temptations.

5. **Move-** I understand that finals means sitting at a desk, hunched over books, preparing and devoting time to studying. Ten hours of sitting at a desk, however, will leave both your mind and body in frazzled states. I recommend that you get up and move around for at least one hour every day. Maybe you could go on a run, or a walk with friends. Perhaps, you can play some squash or basketball between tests. Although it may seem like the

best idea after finishing one exam is to start cramming for the next, this philosophy is faulty. After a certain amount of studying, your mind starts to wander and it is hard to stay focused. Exercising and moving serve as great outlets for the anxiety and stress you build up during finals. Hitting the books after a workout will allow you to focus more on your work and help you a more efficient studier. Plus, your hot bod will thank you for it.

With exam week just around the corner, the workload and nerves are building up. Just remember, you will survive your exams, every-body does. You have already learned this material, nothing is new, and now is just an opportunity to display your mastery of each subject. Like the old saying goes, "don't be scared, be prepared." Good luck and I will see you on the other side!

Cutest Womb-Mates MIKE KIM & SEBASTIAN DOVI

BY SAM COX '16
Editor-in-Chief

A womb is a captivating place. The hollow, pear-shaped incubator that we all came from serves as a



PHOTO CREDIT: TINA CHOI '16

cauldron of life. *The Womb*, however, instead of being lined with an endometrium, is actually lined with Mike Kim's day-old Sesame Chicken (homemade?), and in place of being an ac-

tual Uterus, *The Womb* is in fact Warham 21. Mike Kim '15 and Sebastian Dovi '15, miraculously both RAs, share this balcony room. Despite their ethnic and cultural differences,

"night" going on to clarify. "I feel completely comfortable with it." But that comfort level exceeds sleeping arrangements. Mike and Sebastian pick out each others outfits for the next school day each night - which serves to explain Dovi's increasingly K-Pop-esque fashion sense. Thomas Elcock, fellow RA and floor-mate to the wombies, reflected, "Everyone in the room is very generous, and always open to trying new things."

I, personally, will never forget the nights of 'Chel, Call of Duty and facetime that this space held welcome over the course of the year. The legacy of this room will undoubtedly live on, even when these two fine gentlemen are far away from Warham. Adieu, boys.

this gap in background dissipates when it comes to their friendship. Mike told me that "Bass Chicken (homemade?), (as he lovingly called Sebastian) sleeps naked every

A History of Freedom or Lack Thereof

BY TATIANA LOVERA '16
Staff Writer

On Thursday, April 16, the Island was treated by a visit from a special guest. Jelani Cobb, native Queensman, author of multiple books, journalist and contributor to *The New Yorker*, Associate Professor of History, Director of the Institute for African American Studies at the University of Connecticut (and in essence, all that we aspire to be one day), joined us for a discussion on America's history and it's relationship with racism.

Throughout the convocation Mr. Cobb shared historical facts and significant events that explored America's history, progress, and the racism that has run beside it. In a smaller discussion the night before our all school convocation, Mr. Cobb discussed his relationship with history and how it connected to his own roots.

Although he didn't go into much depth during the convocation on his family history, Dr. Cobb delved into the conflicts that are

seen time and time again in American history.

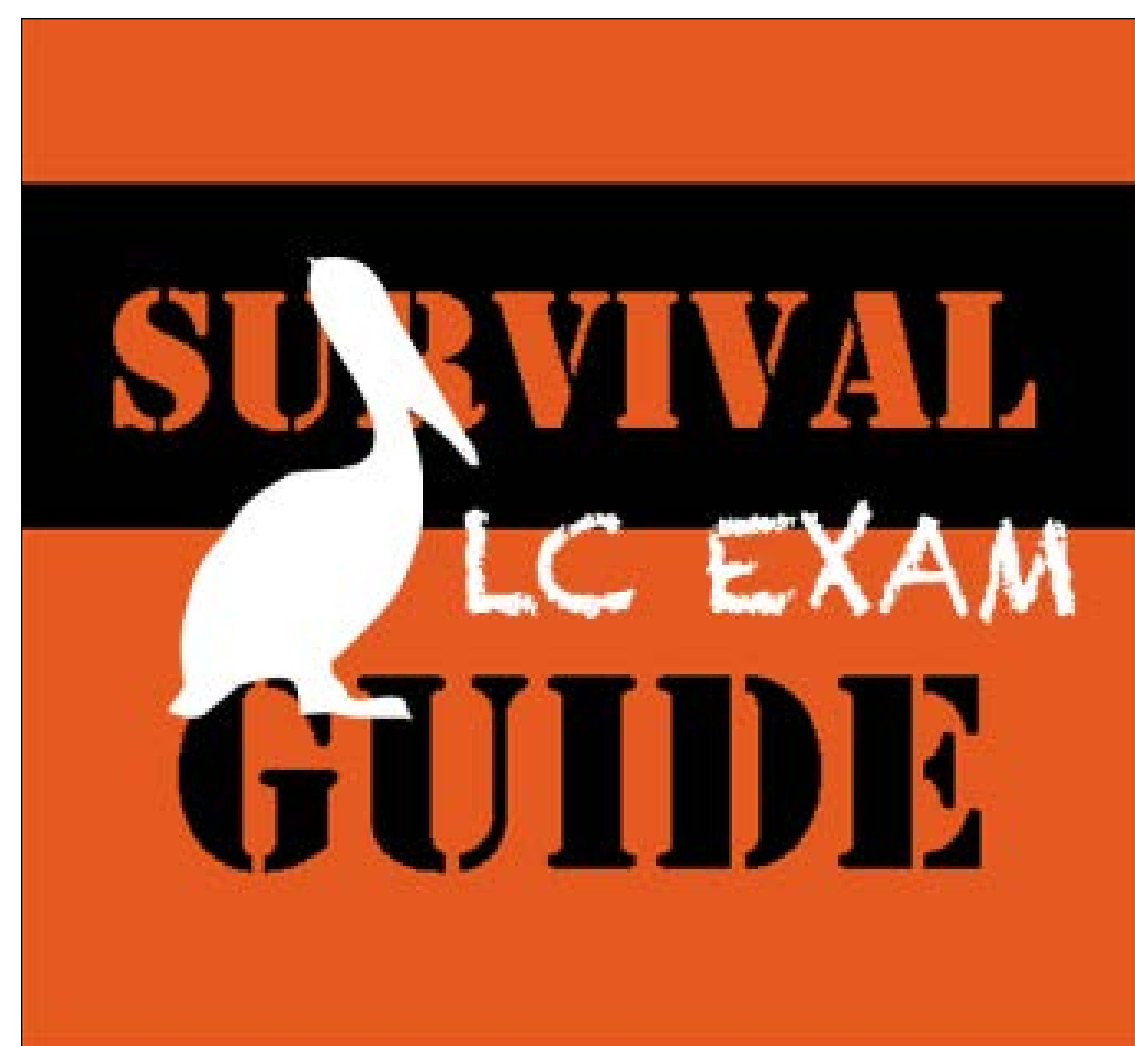
Racism is a topic constantly discussed all over the world and Mr. Cobb's presence has introduced a new perspective and understanding to The Island. An interesting example that Mr. Cobb brought up to support this claim was a survey done in the past, most recently in 2015, which showed that everyone says they would like to live in a mixed or diverse community. Those of color had a preference towards living in a community that is 50% Latino or Black and 50% other, whereas white people would like a "diverse" community with about 90% white and 10% other. It is statistics like this that show how people move into communities, pushing out the original population and recreating segregation in society.

He also spoke about the importance of race and violence in America, comparing the prevalence of black on black crime to police brutality. However, the problem is that the standard for police should not equate the standards for

criminals in the community. He noted the large focus on violence in communities of people of color, and stated that if you were to remove people of color from the picture, America would still be just as violent.

The convocation ended with questions from students and faculty which addressed microaggressions, freedom, and the EKG line of American progression that still requires major work. His last remark for the day in response to a question posed by Derek Martinez '16, addressed the idea of America truly being the home of the free and the land of the brave. Derek probed, "How do you declare yourself a democracy, when at the time of the Civil War there are 4 million people who are enslaved, who cannot vote, who cannot participate in [society]?" Mr. Cobb countered, "Certainly, if British colonialism was wrong, chattel slavery is a further abomination[...]. The more fundamental point is how committed are we to becoming free? Thank you."

How to Survive Spring Exams



Goats on Campus

(continued from Page 1)
Unlike most students, Frank Tucci, a goat enthusiast himself, is quite aware of these goats. "Can you stop referring to them as 'the goats'?" That sounds very derogatory" Frank yells, as I start off our conversation on this clearly sensitive topic. As a long distance runner, Frank and his fellow team-mates often run past the goats during track practice. "After a run, the distance crew likes to go say hi to them. I pet them on occasion," he describes. Located at the intersection of faculty row and the cross-country course, the goats find pleasure in these encounters. Mr. Gwyn even encourages these interactions under the conditions that you "just bring a few snacks such as apples or plants." Five-year senior, Peter Delalio, has found a new delight within his extra

year on the island. "Goats are fun; I am so glad I took a fifth year here so that I could meet these kids. My favorite is Valentine."
Some students, however, are not so eager to visit these animals on campus. Alessandra Piccone, a raging Republican, noted, "I hate the fact that my school is turning into a farm." Matt Bullock, a raging democrat, supports this belief by expressing his hate for farm animals and farming and articulating his aspiration to "live in a penthouse in New York City." Between the new garden in the hayfield, the chickens and now the goats, our school definitely showcases its agricultural aspects. If these additions help the school to be more environmentally conscious, is there really an issue? "It is using money that we could use to build buildings, or even get better

food," Ally continues. Mr. Gwyn, however, notes how easy these animals are to care for. With apples and trees as their diet, how expensive can the goats really be? It seems be that they give more to the island than take.
Despite some lingering negativity, these goats are helping Loomis to grow environmentally and as a community. I even paid a visit to these goats during my free period this past week, where I threw a couple of apples inside their pen to watch them scurry around after them. Although I was initially thrown off by their strong scent, I grew to find their lopsided shuffles and silly smiles endearing. So my recommendation is the next time you have a couple of free minutes, grab a few apples, head down to faculty row and pay a visit to Valentine, Eunice and Ollie.

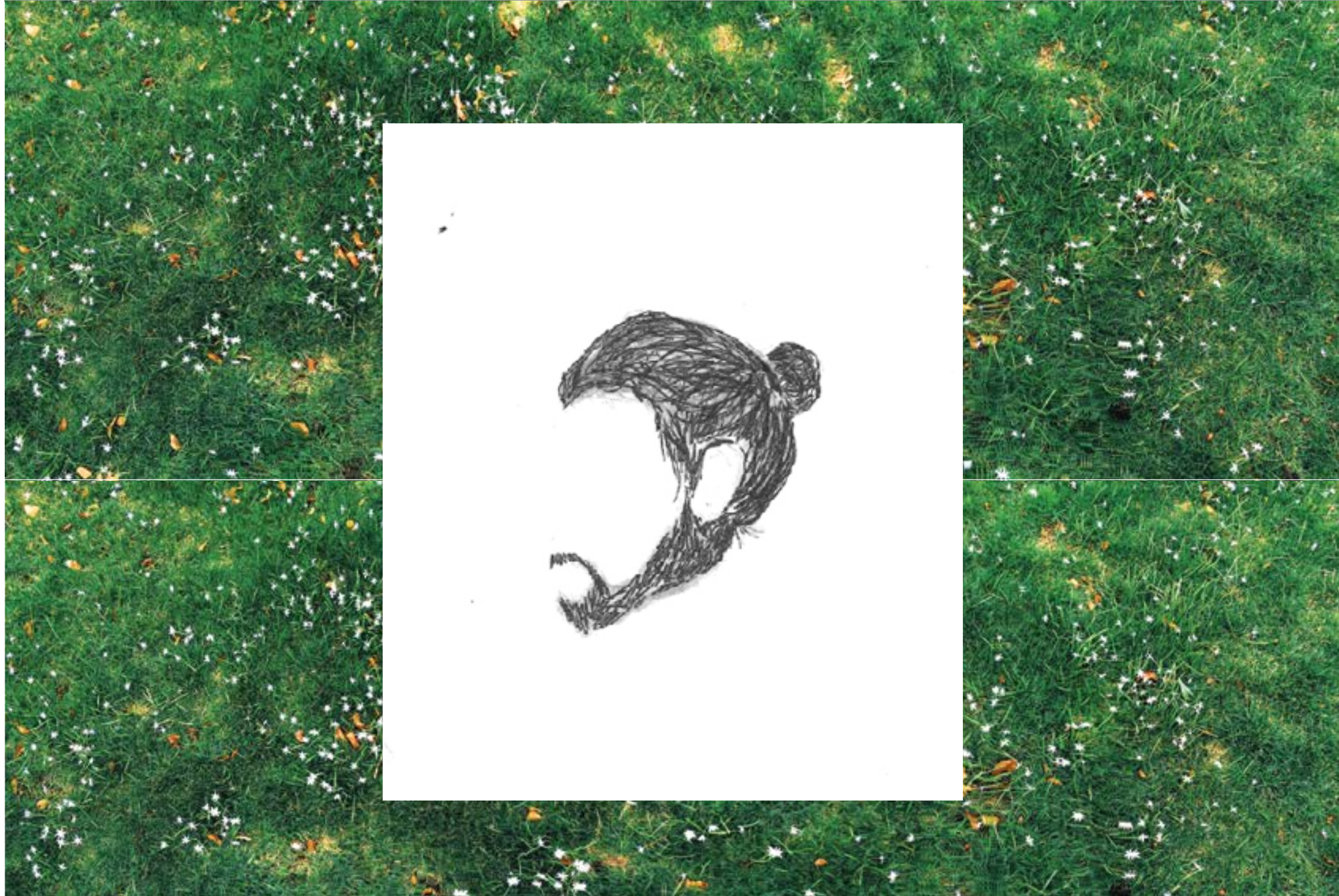


PHOTO BY ANH NGUYEN '18 AND GRAPHIC BY JULIA SONG '17

You Deserve a List

By WINDA WANIKPUN '16
Melange Editor

4 Things That Happened This Yr

Just an FYI, my stress levels are as high as that plane flying right over your head right now. Oh look, it's gone. So this year's coming to an end (Non-seniors, hang tight. You've got this), and I feel that since today is commencement (is it though?), we should recap some of the things that happened this year. Right now, as I'm sitting in painting, typing this up while Chet is building my canvas for me (sorry Chet) my brain is going "Bleerghasdfklajlsdfk'kjasdlkfj@&\$\$!!!" Probably because we have 1+ days of school left (I'm really bad at approximations). Probably because I've been reading too many Onion articles and taking them way too seriously. Probably because Kim Jong-un unordered the execution of - Wait, this is the wrong section for anything informative. Okay here we go you're really great and thanks for reading this really long sentence because I learned nothing from Correct Grammar and ah tagline you deserve this list!

1. THE NEW IPHONE

Remember when I talked about death of the iPod Nano a while back? Well yeah, a week after that, the iPhone 6 was released - and guess what, I have this thing called an iPhone 4 because I'm a nonconformist. Parents, if you see this, my phone is okay, it only starts making beeping noises and automatically narrating my search history from safari, it's all good though. It's all good that the random guy who ran next to me in

the gym a couple weeks ago now knows I googled "Can you die from a papercut?" It's all good that my next door neighbor is aware that I did not know that Montreal is not in South Africa, but somewhere in Canada. It's all good. At least I can still watch Buzzfeed videos on my phone. Yeah, "Weird Thoughts You Have Around Your Crush", the wi-fi in my dorm might be kind of crappy, but at least there aren't Cheez-Its in the cracks of my screen keeping me from watching you in the library. This seems like it happened at least a millennia ago because in this weird place, time seems to go by so fast that it only seemed like yesterday when the tux man-- was in the Parton Room. Oh wait.

2. THIS

(We couldn't find a picture of the Asian Station, so pretend that it's here. I promise, if you squint hard enough, it is.)

3. EARLY GRADUATION (pt.II)

This is as disappointing as the Spider-Man 3 movie. This year's seniors get early graduation, and what do the rest of us get? A lifetime guarantee of disappointment and a lifetime supply of plastic sporks provided by the Loomis dining hall (I hope this spread of falsely created information get the dining hall to start providing sporks now. #more-sporks2015). Maybe the higher ups misheard the Head of School when she made an announcement about a "Pearly Fat Mutation". Like, whoops, Freudian slip! And bam, early graduation for two years because human beings are inherently terrible listeners and yet great at conflict resolution (especially at untangling cords...how is everyone so good at

that???) So yes, thank you very much. Swirly hat taxation.

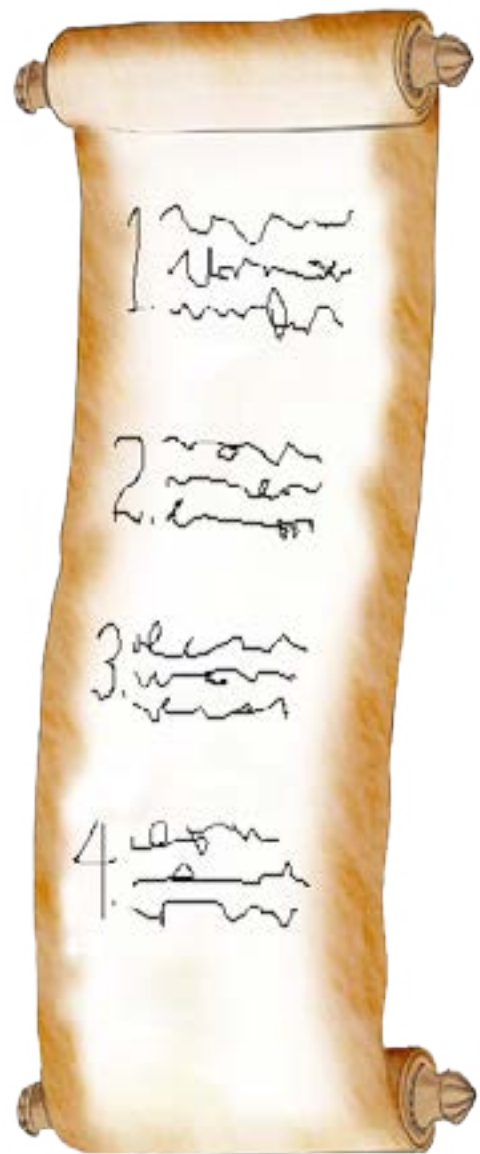
4. YOU DESERVE A LIST

Yeah, THAT'S RIGHT. Shameless self-promotion. I'm going to take this time to talk about a couple of things (Also this is my way of summarizing all the other things that happened this year into one paragraph). Because this is my column and I can do whatever I want. First of all, you can't spell 'PROM' without 'WROMP', which is the sound I make when I fathom the metaphysics of fake eyelashes. Prom was...uh...three(four? six?) days ago and I hope that there were no wardrobe malfunctions mid "Macarena" and no one's wig fell onto their date's shoulder. If that did happen to someone, please email me at batmanisreal@live.com (yes this is a real email address, just ask my history class) and I will gladly compensate your loss with more horrifyingly cringeworthy humor and maybe baked goods. Heavy emphasis on the maybe. As Miranda Priestly said in The Devil Wears Prada, "That's all!"

Should we say our goodbyes now? Yes I think so. So my very long brain fart that has lasted nine months is now finally over. I apologize, but I hope your self-esteem has improved and you solved your consistent hangnail problem. Motivational quote of the day questioning the existentialism of the discovery of a pebble in the dining hall dessert:

"Ah! Basquiat!"
- Drake

(still in Painting)



GRAPHIC BY JULIA SONG '15

BETTER NAMES FOR MASON DORM

By XANA PIERONE '16 AND WINDA WANIKPUN '16
Melange Editors

Since we've learned about the troubling past of John Mason (#LCworld-history) we've figured a new name was in order for our lovely dorm on campus. Here are the top picks:

That Smell is Coming from Batch Dormitory

Where's Our Laundry Room? Dormitory

We Eat Only Salad Dormitory

We Have Bucc! Dormitory

(oh wait...)

Our Lovely Linoleum Floors Dormitory

Division 1 Dormitory

Michelle Obama is Awesome Dormitory

The Music Encompassing the Entire Quad is Coming From Here Dormitory

B) Dormitory

CAN YOU HEAR OUR MUSIC? Dormitory

We're Still Better than Palmer Dormitory

Mason Jar Dormitory (We're sorry)

Madaughter Dormitory (get it?)

We Can Dance if We Want to Dormitory

Chill (not as chill as Ammidon) Dormitory

WHERE DO I BUY THOSE CUTE DRESSES?!?! Dormitory

We're Super Close to the Dining Hall Dormitory

Kappa Delta (we're essentially a sorority) Dormitory

"Oh You're *That* Dorm" Dormitory



GRAPHIC BY JULIA SONG '15

Prom?

By KELSEY DUFFY '15
Sports Editor

We seniors ask for very few things. We want ideal weather for tanning on the quad, an acceptance to our dream school, for our time at Loomis to end with one term of doing absolutely nothing, for graduation to just happen already, yet also, we want time to slow down.

That may be more than a few things, but our four years of hard work all culminate in a few weeks of nonstop activity and excitement. There is one last request that several seniors wish for before Commencement: a promposal. For the nervous souls planning on asking their secret crush, best friend, or significant other in the weeks before the senior prom, here are some important guidelines:

First, consider the ground rules before you plan to pop the question. It's crucial that your promposal will make an appearance on more than one social network. Any site is fair game: Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Myspace, LinkedIn. No post will get more likes and comments, mostly along the lines of "awww" and "heart-face emoji", than a promposal. Here's the simple rule of thumb: Instagram it or it didn't happen.

Now that you have employed a friend to properly document the big event, you are ready to decide how you will actually ask the lucky girl or guy. Now that you're clued in on the big "do" of promposing, here are a few ideas to demonstrate the "don'ts".

A Text

Nothing reminds us more of our awkward middle school years, the ones we thought we had escaped by coming to Loomis, than awkward texts. You may think you are above buying the flowers, making the sign, and participating in the public event that is promposing, but an awkward text is hardly a suitable alternative to a public affair. Please, don't take us back to middle school. *Please.*

Car Décor

Usually a popular choice among day students, we just advise that you ensure the car is still driveable after you secure your date.

Anything Involving Food

Don't get us wrong: we love food. Food is good. But adding an edible element to the equation expands the margin of error for the big event (before the big event). Cupcakes, chocolates, and pizza are generally safe and delicious (make sure there are some to share with friends though), but anything in the vegetable to gelatinous dessert territory can be tricky. To play it safe, steer clear of dining hall delicacies for promposing. A successful promposal may be the cherry on top of senior year, but asking a potential date using mystery cherry cake sounds a bit dangerous.

Anything Spelt Incorrectly

This one's a given. You just don't want your crush wondering what you mean by "ROMP?"

Anything Late

The dress is ready to, the boutonniere and corsage are ordered, but for whom? Promposing is one thing you shouldn't be fashionably late for, and don't leave your date wondering if they will be going stag. Just ask! (But preferably not in any of the ways listed above)



GRAPHIC BY KELSEY DUFFY '15 AND EDITED BY JULIA SONG '15

Not (Optimus) Prime

By CONNOR RUSH '17
Contributor

With the summer blockbuster season now upon us, let's look back to one of last year's biggest releases: *Transformers 4*. With a brand new cast, *Transformers: Age of Extinction* aimed to breathe new air into the franchise. Unfortunately, this was an impossible goal as this movie is a slave to the series' longtime director Michael Bay. Bay is infamous for his formulaic style, in both story and directing, and this holds true for his latest feature.

For the record, I enjoyed the first *Transformers* movie. The first movie was fun, original, and had some amazing special effects. Unfortunately, I hated all entries in the franchise since, because they essentially copy the first movie. All the movies feature a cliché and boring government conspiracy plot and an object that the *Transformers* fight over. The government conspiracy plot is simply overused in Bay's films and creates much predictability throughout the entire film. While other blockbuster franchises have tried to reinvent themselves with new themes in new entries (i.e. James Bond with *Casino Royale* and *Skyfall*, as well as Marvel with *Guardians of the Galaxy* and *Captain America: Winter Soldier*), *Transformers* is simply telling the same story over and over again with little variation. Bay even copies his own shots and set pieces from previous movies, just adding more explosions and special effects for the next movie. Also, the mythology and lore of the *Transformers* universe doesn't add anything substantial to the plot; the lore was clearly crafted with little effort and only created for the sake of selling tickets.

This move is plagued by Michael Bay's cringe-worthy sense of humor: racial stereotypes and sexist jokes. Although many have complained about these insensitive jokes in the past, the filmmakers just don't seem to care. I'm a big fan of Mark Wahlberg, but even he couldn't save this train wreck. Wahlberg's performance is fine, but is ultimately held back by the movie's abysmally awful dialogue. His performance is the only remotely entertaining one, as many of the other characters are downright annoying.

Another issue I have with the film is its length; *Transformers 4* is a staggering 162 minutes. Michael Bay has defended its length calling the movie an "epic." *Gladiator* is an epic. *Interstellar* is an epic. *Goodfellas* is an epic. The only thing epic about this movie was my struggle to not fall asleep. Although there is plenty of action to fill the runtime, an excess of clunky dialogue and dull plot points detracted from my interest. Now, the absolute worst things about this movie: it made a boatload of money. Despite this film being critically panned by both critics and audiences alike (it's rotten at 18% on *Rotten Tomatoes*), the film grossed over a billion dollars worldwide. If audiences are tired of the same terrible movie over and over again then why did they go support this movie at the box office? Studios don't look at reviews for their movies, they look at numbers, so even though this is easily one of the worst movies I have ever seen it will be viewed as a success.

Next year, we'll probably see the release of another *Transformers* movie, likely another clone of the formulaic Michael Bay action movie. The only redeeming qualities of this movie are Mark Wahlberg and the special effects. The fight scenes are well crafted, but are ultimately just remakes of the ones in previous films.

In conclusion, it honestly disgusts me that these movies are still making tons of money, let alone even being made. When the next *Transformers* movie comes out (trust me there will be another one due to its performance at the box office) I implore you to not support the film. Go see something actually worth seeing while also telling Hollywood producers that you're tired of the same *Transformers* movie. I'm not saying you have to go see a small, independent, artsy film, but at least see something different. Plenty of original action movies are made every year and even some of the big franchises are finding ways to bring new ideas to the table, but unfortunately *Transformers* is not one of them.



GRAPHIC BY MARY ANNE PORTO '16

Rejected One Act Ideas

THE BEST OF THE BEST AND WINDA WANIKPUN '16
Melange Editors

Dining Hall: The Musical

Dining Hall Clean: Up The Musical
Starring: Green Plastic Trays

The Life Story of Bob DeConinck - Through Song and Dance

Where's the Turkey?

A study of the curious case of poultry disappearing from the sandwich bar

Forgotten: The Unabridged Story of the Loomis Girls' Golf Team

An Extended Monologue from Mr. Rodarte's Man-Bun
[sneak preview: What is a hairband? Containment, but without it - I am nothing.]

The Real Story: Keeping up with the Hutchinsons
(possible spinoff - Porter takes Miami.)

(possible spinoff no.2 - Argos Rules)

Ammidon Is Always Annexed: A Tragedy

My Fish Walked: The story of a girl who believed

Chicken Talk Trash: How the compost sends these birds cawing and clawing

Aggressive Laughter: The tale of a tragic C+ on my Latin final

The Tale of Eric Foner: A Short (hah jk) Story

MY PLANTS WON'T GROW: Winda Wanikpun's life story

Put That Thing Back Where it Came From or So Help Me - Bagels and Locks at LC Brunch

Forgotten Part 2: The LC LOG

Perfection: Bacon, Egg, and Cheese



GRAPHIC BY ANH NGUYEN '18

Loomis Chaffee Log

FOUNDED 1915

ABOUT

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

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INDIA CARPENTER '16

Cutler: Cutting it or not?

Cutler Hall: the towering construction project in the center of campus, the project that appeared out of thin air, almost literally. After gathering people's opinions about the new development on the Island, I found that most students have one question that MUST be answered: why now? Richmond was just opened and constructed, and others want to know why Gwendolyn has to be torn down.

Everyone has acknowledged the inconvenience that this new project brings to the quotidian life of Pelicans; this project blocks the path to Richmond, a straight shot from central campus to the gym for all the day students and the community during a convocation. The project poses an obstacle for anybody trying to reach the health center, and is indirectly ruining the grass in the surrounding area, as inconvenienced students walk on the grass as a new pathway.

"It's really inconvenient for my walk to Richmond since I already live on the third floor" laments a Richmond boarder. She sighs heavily, saying, "My walk was already long to get to the third floor, but now with Cutler in the way getting to classes is harder."

Some of the faculty members and students worry about the effect Cutler has on prospective families. Cutler Hall centers itself as the first thing one sees when driving onto campus, and with construction carrying out through all of next year, Cutler presents itself as a possible deal breaker for students. However, advocates of this new edifice strongly believe that Cutler represents Loomis's passion for constant upgrading of our facilities to make Loomis a better place. However, the cacophonous noise ringing from the construction site irritates some Richmond girls.

"The noise doesn't really affect me directly, but I've heard about it bothering some of the other girls," says an indifferent day student. While some of the people acknowledge the presence and purpose of the coming of Cutler Hall, others remain nonchalant, or worse, vexed, about all aspects of Cutler. The majority of the community, however, expresses distaste for the timing and placement of Cutler, as Cutler's facilities are not yet in use for current students. While Cutler Hall provides extra room for boarders, is the Cutler construction project a timely one,

or should the project have been stalled, especially after the recent completion of the novel and grandiose Richmond? Personally, I find the timing quite sudden and difficult to come to terms with. Even as a student who does not have a lot of reasons to cross by the area where the construction zone resides, I, too, find the restricted areas inconvenient. To get to the gym for convocations, to visit friends in Richmond, or to visit the health center is an extended trip—especially when trying to squeeze into a ten minute duration between passing periods.

The loss of Gwendolyn is rather bitter-sweet, especially since it has a historical significance in our community. Gwendolyn Hall is one of the oldest buildings on campus, and despite its imperfections, it could have possibly been renovated. Most of the students seem disappointed in the construction of Cutler Hall and dislike the interference that inevitably ensued; nevertheless, students are excited for the designs of the new dorm and look forward to the finished product, whether or not they enjoy the process.

MARY ANNE PORTO '16

#Photocredz

As the end of the year approaches and the idea of my transience on the island becomes more and more apparent, I take comfort in the memories I have captured in the various embarrassing, heartwarming, and nostalgic photos. You may have repressed the memory of your freshmen year back-to-school dance, but fear not: someone, somewhere, has got a picture of that. Fortunately, So as our Facebook feeds become invaded with pictures of family styles and lazy afternoons spent lounging on the quad, take comfort in the fact that you are immortalized by pixels and likes and comments. If you prefer a more traditional medium, remember that you'll also be remembered in The Confluence, our yearbook, though the overlap between their content and our social media seems to be widening.

I am a fan of yearbooks. I keep all of mine on a shelf, which I return to every so often to remind myself that at least my braces and middle part are gone. I recently took down my sophomore year edition (I'm a junior now), and it was fun to look back on events from last year and marvel at how many changes were made in a short period of time. What struck me most, though, was how many of the photos featured in The Confluence were mine, as in, taken by me.

I am not on the yearbook staff, though I really appreciate their commitment, diligence, and artistry. I know that their intent has never been to claim another's work as their own, and their use of my and other students' photos from Facebook is a negligible and easily solvable problem, one that can be fixed by awareness of intellectual property rights, which I'll try to provide an overview of here.

We grant Facebook the license to display our content by uploading it. However, according to Facebook's Statement of Rights and Responsibilities, uploaders still "retain the copyright to [their] content." This means that although photos uploaded to Facebook might be available to one's friends and to Facebook itself, the work is still the user's, and should be credited as such.

Artists—and yes, even photos on Facebook are art—are protected legally in addition to by the Terms and Conditions that we quickly accept. The Visual Artist's Rights Act affirms a right to claim one's own art and re-

quest credit to be cited, regardless of where the art exists physically (or virtually). Essentially, artists have a say in what their art is used for and when their name needs to be attributed to it. Similarly, Loomis students reserve the right to claim ownership of their selfies, no matter how ridiculous or how well-circulated online.

The best and simplest solution is to communicate. Yearbook staff should be required to ask for permission before taking photos from Facebook or other social media platforms, and photographers should be able to deny permission. As previously stated, I don't see my photos in the yearbook as too much of a problem; in fact, had I had been asked, I would've gladly granted permission. Students need to realize, though, that the actions are intellectual property theft, and, technically, illegal. As a school the prides itself on academic integrity, the honor code, and the pledge, we should reflect this commitment in our extracurricular organizations, too. We should take this as an opportunity to express our understanding of an ideal that is important to the Loomis community.

Photo Courtesy of Luis Blanco via Wikimedia Commons



Photo Courtesy Of Rachel Shin '17

ADD THE LOG ON SNAPCHAT!



ERIKA PURDY '15

The Name Remains Making Reparations for Our History

It is May, 1637. Captain John Mason, an English immigrant to the New World, leads a raid on a Pequot village named Mystic. In this attack, around five hundred Pequots are killed. Among this number were women, children, and elderly. Captain Mason accomplished this by ordering large portions of the village in question to be lit on fire. Anyone trying to escape over the walls was shot, while the families inside the village were burned alive. A highly successful raid.

This spring, nearly three hundred and eighty years later, a dorm building at Loomis Chaffee bears John Mason's name, and has done so since its construction in 1913. Mason Hall and Taylor Hall, the two oldest dorm buildings on campus, have undergone several renovations since their original

creation—but their names have remained unchanged.

Why would Loomis Chaffee, a school that promotes and upholds the pursuit of the common good, allow a dorm to be named after the murderer of innocent women and children? In the administration's defense, several explanations exist. One of them being that Mason's actions in the Pequot War are not common historical knowledge among the average student. Essentially every person on campus knows who the first president of the United States was, or that World War Two happened, or when Columbus came to (I refuse to say 'discovered') America. But the Mystic massacre, as the attack came to be known, seems as though it may be a less ubiquitous piece of trivia. Yet ironically enough, today every

freshman in history class learns about John Mason's atrocities. If anything, the fact that we, as a school and as a community, ignore the history we expect our students to learn, is nothing short of chilling in its Daisy Buchanan-esque carelessness.

As I mentioned, the Loomis community is not oblivious to Mason's crimes. All freshmen (and the occasional new sophomore) study John Mason's actions within the greater scope of the Pequot War. Students are asked to discuss the morality of displaying a statue of Mason on a green in Windsor, especially when it was moved from its original location on the site of a Pequot fort, a relocation judged to be insensitive. And yet, the name remains.

Some people argue that it's too late to make reparations, or that

it is not worth the effort and controversy to change the name of a prep school dormitory. What will change, after all? Is it not enough to simply intellectually understand the wrongdoings of our forebears? Not at all.

Take a recent web campaign: Women on 20s. It strived to rectify previous governmental oversights by doing exactly what their name suggests: replacing Andrew Jackson, the current historical figure featured on the twenty dollar bill, with a historically important American woman. Fifteen women were chosen from among thirty initial candidates, and participants were asked to vote for their top three. Currently, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Wilma Mankiller are on the ballot for the final round of voting.

The same logic applies to Mason. A name change would be both easy to accomplish and vitally important in keeping Loomis from falling into

the greased bear trap that is hypocrisy. Though undoubtedly small, this change could bring about important ideological change in both the school's reputation and, more importantly, the way we choose to act in light of our history. When you live in a world dominated by the names of white settlers who unfairly invaded your land and conveniently massacred your people, I imagine it would be highly refreshing to see one of them removed.

But more broadly, changing Mason's name would be a step toward making up for his crimes. It certainly wouldn't be a complete apology, but it would be a start—and the informed minds of the thousands of students that have attended Loomis Chaffee will contribute to the reparations of his crimes.

From there, she detailed

AKASH CHADALAVADA '18

Terrible Tom?

Tom Brady built a stellar career and reputation in the NFL, to the extent that he was increasingly being viewed as the best quarterback in the history of the league. Drafted in the sixth round of the 2000 NFL Draft by the New England Patriots, "Tom Terrific" has been nothing short of astounding. With four titles, two league MVPs, and 10 Pro Bowl selections in his 13 full seasons, there are few statistics remaining that Brady has yet to surpass.

However, his legacy has recently taken a big hit, especially outside New England. A January AFC championship game against the Indianapolis Colts in their most recent run to the Super Bowl set the stage for an incredible sequence of events. Acting on a complaint by a Colts executive that the Patriots were violating league rules regarding the inflation levels of footballs, the NFL measured the Patriots footballs at halftime of their game against the Colts. Upon finding that they were deflated below the league minimum, the NFL launched an investigation headed by an independent attorney name Ted Wells. This episode was quickly coined "Deflategate."

When Ted Wells released his report on May 6, he concluded that it was "more probable than not" that two equipment-related Patriots staffers deflated footballs, and that Tom Brady was "generally aware" of this violation. His report also noted that the Patriots and Tom Brady were not fully cooperative in the investigation. This set off a frenzied discussion with supporters of Tom Brady and Pa-

triot, largely from New England, slamming the report as biased, incomplete, and inconclusive. On the other hand, most outside of New England, concluded that the report was further evidence of a continued pattern by the Patriots of skirting the rules, and that a stiff punishment was in order. The NFL quickly took action, and on May 11, suspended Tom Brady for 4 games and docked the Patriots two draft picks, including a first round pick in 2016, and a million dollars.

However, there is always the question, why? Why did Tom Brady put himself in this situation? It is clear that he did not need this competitive advantage. His performance against the Colts, which they won overwhelmingly with a 45-7 score, and his incredible performance against the Seattle Seahawks in the Super Bowl is clear evidence that he is the best quarterback in the league, regardless of the inflation level of the football. Yet, he knew that the NFL was seeking somebody to punish so that they could save face after national outrage at their handling of prior investigations. He knew that should he get caught, the punishment would be swift and intense, despite the fact that it was not even a major violation. But the entire series of events was entirely unnecessary, more likely than not, the outcome of the game would not have differed if the footballs were inflated to league guidelines.

The punishment levied against Tom Brady for a minor rule infraction is stronger than the initial punishment levied against Ray Rice for his domestic abuse and

is at the same level as those that the league hands to players caught using performance enhancement drugs. So, in the eyes of the NFL, is a minor rule infraction of the same magnitude as domestic abuse or performance enhancing drugs? In my opinion, I don't believe the punishment befits the 'crime.' Tom Brady is appealing his suspension, and it will be several weeks before the final punishment is known. However, his reputation has taken a big, yet unfair, hit. Tom Brady made the headline news on ESPN, CNN, and every major national retail and news outlet, but for the wrong reason. It didn't matter that there was no definitive evidence that Tom Brady had been directly involved in the "scandal." The court of public opinion is fickle, and often quite difficult to reverse. The Patriots' winning seasons, four Super Bowl wins, Brady's success on a professional and personal level have all made them easy targets.

Unfortunately, the allegations, the report, and the subsequent suspension have tarnished Tom Brady's legacy. Instead of being on the Mount Rushmore of football with legends like Joe Montana, he is being grouped with Barry Bonds, Lance Armstrong, and Roger Clemens. One minor error and its subsequent cover up has forever tarnished Brady's legacy outside of New England. As it stands now, rather than being celebrated across the nation for his great accomplishments during such a storied career, "Tom Terrific" is left to ponder the basic question: Why?



Photo Courtesy of Luis Blanco via Wikimedia Commons

LAUREN HINTON '18

Convocation of Personality: Jamaica Kincaid

Typically, at Loomis, illustrious and successful convocation speakers come and express to the LC community their thoughts, ideas, knowledge, and advice. Looking back on the '14-'15 year, we had Steve Ramirez, who spoke about his career and passion for the field of neurology. We also had Jeff Johnson during MLK week, who gave his perspective on how our society is doing in terms of racial prejudice. While the speakers who came in gave brilliant insight and thoughtful ideas, we had yet to encounter a speaker who got extremely personal and talked about a heavily emotional and individual experience. That is, until Jamaica Kincaid.

A professor at Harvard University and an accomplished author and essayist, Jamaica Kincaid spoke at a convocation in March of this year. Her speech struck the community as being very unusual. In accordance with the theme of the 2014-2015 school year, she spoke about memory and its importance in her life. She read a series of excerpts from her 1997 book, My Brother. The community then heard an account, from her own original perspective, of the tragic death of her brother, an AIDS victim. From there, she detailed

utter awkwardness and discomfort, wherein the entire school squirmed, was a refreshingly bitter taste of reality, and a lesson in decorum. To see someone speak her mind without hesitation, and then simply go back to her speech without any regard to her detractors, was a powerful lesson: she taught us all to have appreciation for the power and courage that it takes to respect one's own words.

There are many things which Loomis can take away from Jamaica Kincaid. We ought to embrace discomfort, because it can help us to understand who we are and the things that we should speak up for. Jamaica Kincaid is her own woman and lives her life with confidence, flair, and attitude. I only hope I can learn from and take after her.

"Why can't everybody just get used to it? People are born and they just can't go on and on, but it is so hard, so hard for the people left behind; it's so hard to see them go, as if it had never happened before, no one but you could survive this kind of loss, seeing someone go, seeing them leave you behind; you don't want to go with them, you only don't want them to go."

-Jamaica Kincaid, *My Brother*

MICHELLE CHOI '16

UK Elections

[I am terribly biased towards the conservative party]

I am glad that the Conservative party won a majority in the House of Parliament, because there will be no coalition government between two parties, like the one formed after the 2010 general elections due to a hung parliament and the resignation of Labour leader Gordon Brown. I am also glad that the conservatives won because they plan to make workers who earn minimum wage exempt from income tax, raising the average income minimum for the 40% tax bracket from around 30,000 pounds to 50,000 pounds. The conservatives are holding a referendum vote from the EU in 2017 (even though I do not think the UK should leave the EU I am glad that they are allowing the people to have a vote), abolishing inheritance tax on any estate worth less than one

million pounds, building more schools, increase funding for the NHS (the National health insurance).

While the fact that the conservative party won 331 seats in the house of parliament only slightly surprised me, the fact that the SNP (Scottish National Party) gained control of the majority of Scotland surprised me especially because in the 2010 elections the majority of Scotland voted Lib Dem. I personally disliked the SNP a great deal, though this should be expected as I am someone who's greatest fear is taxation and the SNP wants to raise almost every tax higher. Another thing that bothers me about the SNP is that they are too focused on attacking the Tories (conservatives) in their campaigning rhetoric there is always this mentioning of abolishing the Tories right to be active in parliament which

I think is wrong and against the principles of democracy. Two other major things that came as a surprise to me was the number of party heads who resigned after the election results and the low number of Lib Dem MP's elected. Ed Miliband (Labour), Nick Klegg (Liberal Democrats), and Nigel Farage (UKIP) all resigned in response to the conservative win, which comes off as both childish and strange.

The 9 seats the Lib Dem's won is a stark difference from the 57 seats they had after the 2010 elections.

Although this election was incredibly surprising, eventual, and exciting I am glad that the conservative party won majority of the house of commons; however, I think that sooner problems between parties will arise in the near future.

RACHEL SHIN '17

The Veracross Vote

Discussions regarding Veracross have been going on for months in faculty meetings, classes, and student conversations. Hopefully all Loomis students have an idea of what Veracross is, but for those that do not, Veracross is an online system where students have access to their results on tests, quizzes, papers, and to their overall grades. In the past, teachers were not required to use Veracross. This inconsistent use of Veracross was unnerving for many LC students. The idea of this proposal has evolved over time. But only recently, the student's voices were put into actions through the student council. In past years, the student council received four pages of student signatures. With the use of the student survey, unanimous student council vote, and helpful votes from the faculty, the Veracross proposal reached its goal. Now, teachers are asked to update Veracross within three days after an assignment is handed back to the student.

Personally, I take great ad-

vantage of the Veracross system. Although we do have midterms, this online system helps me gain a better understanding of how I am doing in the class. Constantly checking my Veracross, I know which assignments I might have forgotten to hand in while I can also learn my weaknesses and strengths. Although some teachers are thorough about the different weighing system or point system, it is honestly hard for students to keep track. Having Veracross, students are allowed to easily access and understand how well or how poorly he/she is doing. Through this understanding, we are able to better plan our week, especially during weeks where there is chaos on campus.

Some faculty oppose the above stating that a student should know how they are doing based on the quizzes, tests, and papers that they are handed back. Faculty also added that it is the student's job to ask and reach out to a teacher if he or she are curious about his/her grade. It is an advantage

for LC students to be involved in a small and tight community where we are encouraged to interact with our teachers.

It is true that it is hard to give an exact number grade for each assignment in the humanities courses. However, now that the Veracross usage has already been established, students and teachers should both work for the better outcome. The teachers were mostly concerned that Veracross would be a stress factor for students. This system is to work for the advantage of the students, not to cause stress. If one receives a low grade on an assignment, one should not dwell on this, but should plan for the next tests and quizzes, so that one can improve their grade. Now, that the Veracross Proposal has finally been accepted, faculty and students should all take advantage of this opportunity, for the betterment of the school and each individual.

XANA PIERONE '16

Mental Health at LC

[trigger warning: suicide and mental illness mention]

A few weeks ago, Pilot Andreas Lubitz crashed Airbus A320—resulting in a loss of 150 lives, including his own. While little is known about the incident—motives, final thoughts, etc.—knowledge has surfaced that Lubitz was diagnosed with a mental illness and hid this information from his employer. This recent tragedy has sparked a conversation on mental health, especially health concerning the workplace. Immediately major questions have come up in the debate, such as, "What is mental health?"; "How serious is mental health?"; "How should we, as a community, deal with mental health?"

I'd like to start off by clearly stating this: mental health concerns real illnesses that affect an individual's life just as much as any other physical disease does. Mental illnesses are not easily "fixed" and should be discussed with the same language used for any other illness. Mental health concerns a variety of topics, from fluctuating stress levels to serious mental illnesses such as depression and psychosis. For years, mental health has been stigmatized with statements that demean illnesses and phrases that ignore real issues affecting individuals. Mental health is not always taken seriously due to

these stigmas, and even with recent events, many employers do not find stress, depression, or anxiety to be "valid reasons" for employees to get time off work. Since signs of mental illnesses are not typically seen, they may be brushed off with the phrase "it's all in your head." This fear of faking, or being "crazy" leads to individuals hiding their illnesses, just as Andreas Lubitz did, and suffering in isolation.

Thankfully, the Loomis community overly supports students to consult guidance counselors or to take R&R days. Although Loomis presents the pursuit of scholarship as tantamount to "being your best self," the nurses, teachers, and other faculty members understand that the importance of health is not to be undermined. However, we now, as an evolving community, need to focus our attention on nurturing Loomis into a place where students encourage healthier views of mental health. Talk of suicide is almost completely taboo in Loomis—I don't mean to aimlessly throw this serious concept around—but actually to discuss this dense topic in an intelligent and informative manner that creates a dialogue, fostering understanding and patience. Suicide affects a huge portion of the teenage community in the United States, and Loomis should definitely take a major step in opening up the

dialogue associated with this particular topic by starting talks in increments. For example, we can discuss the basic symptoms of a suicidal people and methods to deal with suicidal thoughts (or a friend with suicidal thoughts). I understand that the concept of suicide is scary and certainly uncomfortable for most - but that is the very reason that I have to bring up this topic. Schools and workplaces are afraid to bring up suicide because it spells out danger and consequences (legal, financial, etc.), but starting these conversations arm these communities with knowledge against what they may not know about mental health. Opening the discussion on mental health promotes the idea that "it's okay to not be okay," and that one should not be ashamed for being stressed, anxious, or depressed. The discussion can also bring individuals who are suffering to meet with counselors, and deal with emotions in a healthy way. Promoting education on mental health will not result in a myriad of students harming themselves, but achieve the opposite instead. A telling and evocative discussion equips individuals with a better understanding of his emotions, thereby allowing the creation of a greatly needed self-reflective moment. Understanding mental health is surely the key to driving Loomis towards its "best self."

NBA Draft Preview: Getcha Head in the Game

BY GRAYSON CLEMMER '17
Sports Editor

While it isn't always heavily embraced by the top draft prospects, the NBA Draft Combine is beginning this coming week and it seems like a good time for some predictions on where the top prospects will actually end up at the beginning of the 15/16 NBA Season. This combine will prove a make or break situation for a lot of young athletes but the star studded class of 2015 has a few notable players that chose not to take part in the proceedings. Top prospects Jahli Okafor, Karl Towns, and D'Angelo Russell have decided to forgo the trials and focus on training individually and in tight training groups. All of these decisions lead up to one event however - the draft. Regardless of their participation in the combine, these players will or won't be drafted, and this list is just a quick speculation about what's going on in the minds of NBA shot callers. The Picks:

1. Minnesota Timberwolves: Karl-Anthony Towns, Kentucky, 6'11", PF/C, Freshman

This pick makes the most sense based on a slew of attributes possessed by Towns, most notably his defensive proficiency. His athleticism, size, defensive capability, and ability to stretch the floor make him a perfect fit for the wolves. Pairing Towns with reigning rookie of the year Andrew Wiggins, expect a fast, tough, and athletic style of play from the young duo. For some perspective on their age, together Wiggins and Towns are 36 days younger than Tim Duncan, and two years younger than Jason Kidd; that's

some real potential.

2. New York Knicks: Jahli Okafor, Duke, 6'11", C, Freshman

Arguably the best prospect overall, Okafor brings a slow but extremely polished skill set to the disgustingly bad Knicks front court. In college he drew double teams, triple teams, and at one point had all five players guarding him and was still able to get a nice bucket or two. He finished the year with the most double-doubles in NCAA DI and second in AP player of the year voting and was the ACC Player of the Year. If the Knicks don't take him here, the next team on the board will immediately jump on him.

3. Philadelphia 76ers: D'Angelo Russell, Ohio State, 6'5", PG/SG, Freshman

Without a single half-way decent point guard around and most likely both of the elite level bigs taken off of the board at this point, the Sixers will be deciding between top tier ball handlers D'Angelo Russell and Emmanuel Mudiay. Although Russell took the college basketball world by storm this year as a freshman, throwing up big shots and fancy passes seemingly every game, don't be surprised if the 76ers do pass on him. Having played in the pros in China for one year and a million dollars after de-committing from SMU, Mudiay can bring in toughness and pro readiness to a lacking offense. In the end, I would take Russell because he's proven, he's nasty, and he is the best point guard I've ever seen play basketball in person, but anything can happen in a draft as stacked as this one.

4. Los Angeles Lakers: Emmanuel Mudiay, China, 6'5", PG, 1996

Rather than picking up their two most coveted guards in

Rondo and Goran Dragic, Showtime will end up taking the intriguing "international" prospect from China. Like I said before this kid is a grinder, who gets to the hoop and draws fouls on everything. He's really just a worse shooting James Harden. Ultimately, there are some at-

I would be content having my hometown team snag the young talent, after all, he's only 18.

5. Orlando Magic: Justise Winslow, Duke, 6'6", SE, Freshman

The Orlando Magic have been clearly building an identity over the past few drafts. Elfrid Payton, Aaron Gordon, and Victor Ola-

Winslow was by far my favorite player in college this year, coming out of a developmental power house in Duke and having freak athleticism as well as a great rebounding, shooting, and on-ball touch, this kid has a lot to like about him. Oh yeah, and he jumped over a guy to block him

half this list really makes me a little agitated. But I digress, the Kings, at pick six, need a frontcourt player to pair with Demarcus Cousins, Willie Cauley-Stein, 'nuff said. The Nuggets had success with an international prospect last year so although it is a gamble, I understand why they would choose to play the cards on Mario Hezounja. The hornets are not only filling a great need but also getting a great player. Having met Stanley Johnson at a high school tournament back in Cali, I love him. He's athletic, energetic and an extremely hard worker, he can score all the way out to the three point line and put out dunks, just check out his mixtape bruh. Then with the final pick of the top ten, the Heat will go with an explosive, long athlete, with NBA roots, Jerian Grant.

This is just the top ten but other notable prospects are Myles Turner, Frank Kaminsky, Devin Booker, Kelly Oubre, and Georgia State's own hometown hero R.J. Hunter. Expect all of them to be in consideration for at least the bottom five of these top ten



Photo courtesy of Canton via Wikimedia Commons

itude problems and clearly he needs to work on his jumper after shooting a China League worst 16.7 percent over five games played. However, he's got a lot of potential to work with and is one of the better above-the-rim athletes in the draft and

dipo are all the same type of player and adding another twin in Winslow makes sense. Their new athletic, above the rim style is sure to offer both a lot of future potential in great athletes as well as immediate revenue in tickets for the next log city.

Glory on the Track

BY NATE LYONS '16
Staff Writer

The girls' varsity track team was out for vengeance at the Founders League championship. After a near perfect season, with defeats to only Hotchkiss, a member of the Founders group of schools, and Andover, a powerhouse of track talent, every athlete on the team was hoping to establish the dominance of Loomis Chaffee.

This year, the sole defeat to a fellow Founders competitor can almost be excused. Rather than stay home to compete against Hotchkiss and Deerfield, a few of the best runners on the team left for the University of Pennsylvania, the famous Penn Relays, where they won both the 4x400 and the 4x100 relay. The winning group included seniors Charlotte Gacek, Greer Davis, Denver Williams and junior Natasha Otton. A couple trophies from such a prestigious event was, in most minds, well worth the loss to a rival back in New England. Having lost by only three points to Hotchkiss, the one team that would pose a threat to the first place finish, the girls stormed out of the gates ready to flip the defeat around.

Everyone knew going into the championships that it would be a tight race. Although Loomis was predicted to win, the margin of error was small; the tiniest slip up could give the meet away to Hotchkiss. Avon hosted the event in the

scorching Connecticut heat, which made it difficult to accomplish anything. Thankfully, after a season of preparing for the toughest possible weather, the team was more than prepared to do as they always do; perform at the highest level.

One of the girls who accomplished much more than was expected of her was Chynna Bailey. Having high jumped no more than 4'6" during the season and seeded fifth, Chynna managed to overcome the odds and tie for first place, nearly clearing 4'10". The 4x100 repeated the success had at Pennsylvania, going so far as to set a school record, though the 4x400 came in second. Greer Davis, a hurdler in both the high and intermediate races, was barely expected to place; however, she and fellow sophomore Skyler Dovi earned first and second place, respectively, in the intermediate hurdle race (300m). Other laudable performances from Ciera Hunter and Kendra Offiaeli, who set a school record in the shot put earlier in the year, and Denver Williams guaranteed a W. All three athletes won their respective events and many others who placed slightly lower than first helped contribute to this triumph. All in all, this torrent of spectacular performances not only solidified the win, but also a complete rout of all the other teams. At the end of the meet, the track team didn't win by the ten or so points they were expecting, but by nearly fifty. When

asked what enabled her to perform so well, Chynna said, "Honestly, I believe that all the credit goes to having such an amazing coaching staff and extremely supportive teammates. Although I was very inexperienced in terms of track, my teammates and coaches made me feel like I could do anything." The bonds and coaching that can be found within this team are truly remarkable.

With the Founders meet and one exceptional season behind them, the track team has only one meet left: New England. As champions of the league, the team will have some big expectations. Although Andover could cause some trouble, there is no doubt in anyone's mind that it will be a close race. Few other track teams in the area have worked as hard, and as passionately, as our girls (except maybe the Loomis Chaffee boys track team).

In the best case, the New England championship will be an opportunity to turn the tide of defeat against Phillips Academy as well, doubt in anyone's mind that it will be a close race. Few other track teams in the area have worked as hard, and as passionately, as our girls (except maybe the Loomis Chaffee boys track team).

In the best case, the New England championship will be an opportunity to turn the tide of defeat against Phillips Academy as well.



Photo courtesy of Robin McConnell via Wikimedia Commons

Treadmills to Trails

BY CYNTHIA HUI '17
Contributor

I have a dream that one day I would be able to play sports outside where there is sunshine, blue skies and white clouds. I have a dream that one day I would be free from the agony and anxieties of interscholastic sports where shin splints, busted knee caps, dislocated shoulders and claw marks are inevitable. I have a dream where I see my team members and I will one day be in a sport where we will not be judged by our missing a goal but by the passion we play with. Fellow Loomis pelicans, if you share the same dream, look no further, because outdoor club is destined for you!

The outdoor club was established upon second-year Spanish Teacher Mr. Cardwell's enthusiasm towards being fit and desire of finding a way to share his passion with students. Around January this year, he and Mr. Howe started to map out the possibilities for this club, coming up with activities and exercises that students, indiscriminate towards fitness level, could perform and enjoy together. Wanting to provide a structured and

athletic option for students who don't have an interscholastic sport this spring, Mr. Cardwell said, "Over time, I encourage students to do a little bit more until they are completing the exercise with the "proper" form."

According to faculty supervisor Mr. Cardwell, "One of the ways I'm trying to provide structure to Outdoor Fitness is by instituting a fitness test every three or so weeks. "The test is composed of push-ups, sit-ups, high-knees, burpees, and a short run—all exercises that when combined, provide a good measure of physical fitness. Any forms of improvement would depend solely on the student's dedication as they track their improvement from test to test, adjusting their level of challenges in workouts and staying motivated to become fitter and better.

One of the many meaningful purposes of the Outdoor club is to make students realize physical fitness is achievable anywhere. Students may find the heavy burdens of school work, social life and extracurriculars leaving them with little to no time for exercise. However, a gym and equipment are not necessary in order to stay fit. Mr.

other notable prospects are Myles Turner, Frank Kaminsky, Devin Booker, Kelly Oubre, and Georgia State's own hometown hero R.J. Hunter. Expect all of them to be in consideration for at least the bottom five of these top ten

Deflategate: Patriots Cheating, Again?

BY SAM GOLDFARB '18
Sports Editor

On May 11, 2015, the NFL penalized the New England Patriots for allegedly deflating footballs during this year's AFC Championship Game against the Indianapolis Colts. Footballs that are deflated below league requirements cannot legally be used in a game, as they are considered easier to grip and throw, especially in inclement weather. Prior to the start of the second half, the Colts alerted the referees that they thought the Patriots' footballs seemed under-inflated (each team provides their own footballs on offense). The officials, after inspection, removed the Patriots' balls from play, and after the game, the NFL opened an investigation, which is now referred to as "Deflategate."

After months of investigation, Ted Wells released his final report in which he indicated that it was "more probable than not" that Tom Brady and the Patriots organization were complicit in the deflation of the footballs to gain a competitive advantage. The penalties that the Patriots received are some of the harshest ones ever dealt by the NFL to a team. First, their star quarterback Tom Brady was suspended for the first four games of this upcoming season (which is being appealed by the NFL Players Association on Brady's behalf). The organization itself was also fined one million dollars, which equals the highest fine issued in league history. Lastly, the "Pats" were stripped of a first round draft pick in 2016 and a fourth round pick in 2017.

While these punishments may seem extremely harsh, there are many reasons why the NFL may have decided that it was necessary to put its foot down. The Patriots have historically been known to push the envelope in order to gain a competitive advantage.

In 2007, the Patriots violated league rules by filming the defensive coaches of the New York Jets from an

angle that was not allowed. Patriots' owner Robert Kraft is also a very good friend of NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, so Goodell may have punished the Pats quite firmly to seem unbiased.

Brady's first half performance in the AFC Championship Game was not great, which suggests he likely gained no true advantage that day from the deflated footballs. The NFL probably thought that the Patriots were using deflated footballs other times during the season. For example, in the Patriots previous playoff game against the Ravens, Tom Brady had a superb performance in frigid conditions, especially in the second half when the team ran passing plays on virtually every down. The Patriots were also near the bottom of the fumbles category last season, possibly indicating that their running backs had a better grip on the ball.

Brady may have been received such a strong punishment due to the fact that he did not fully cooperate with the NFL's investigation. When the NFL requested access to Brady's cell phone, Brady denied the request. It is assumed that two lower-paid equipment managers (one who called himself "The Deflator" in a text message) were involved in an ongoing effort to deflate footballs. Logic suggests that these individuals would not fiddle with their star quarterback's footballs unless they believed that he wanted them in this specific condition. In a press conference before the Super Bowl, Brady actually admitted that he prefers footballs with less air, but he also denied any involvement with deflation of the footballs. Some believe Brady was less than truthful during this press conference to avoid any possibility of a suspension prior to the Super Bowl.

While this scandal is considered a major scandal in the sports world, it seems a bit ridiculous when looking at

it from the perspective of an outsider. After all, the entire sports world is talking about a team taking a little air out of footballs during a sporting event. The Patriots were probably just "pushing the envelope," like many other professional athletes have done previously. For example, Jerry Rice, who is widely considered to be the best NFL receiver of all time, admitted years after his retirement that he put Stickum on his gloves before games to make it easier to catch the football. Many defensive linemen have put cooking spray on their jerseys so they are harder to corral when they are rushing the quarterback.

It is important to consider the difference between "pushing the envelope" and real "criminal acts" when we analyze sports, especially those with the same level of importance in American culture as the NFL. The Patriots, Jerry Rice and many others, while technically breaking the rules, were just trying to get a small competitive advantage in a game. These actions are not "right," but in the broader scheme of life, they are minor infractions. However, the NFL has also recently had to address serious incidents of domestic violence from offenders like Ray Rice and Greg Hardy. The NFL has done a terrible job with these much more serious problems. For example, at first, Ray Rice was only suspended for two games for punching his girlfriend in the head. The NFL claimed to have never seen the video of this beating, even though TMZ was able to secure and publish the footage. Appearing out of touch, the NFL reversed course and eventually suspended Rice indefinitely. It's hard to believe that our society can get so focused on air in a football and lose sight of the real travesty of justice that is being committed within the nation's favorite pastime. The NFL is corrupt, and it's time to do something about it.



Photo courtesy of UTC via Wikimedia Commons

Dorm Sports: The Unsung Heroes

BY GRACE DUBAY '17
Features Editor

Dorm activities have always been an essential part of the boarding experience, and at Loomis, sports constantly bring people together, whether it is on a Wednesday afternoon in the meadows or a Thursday night in the common room. When the rhythm and routine of life on campus sets in (school, practice, dinner, study hall), coming together with other roommates and neighbors in your dorm can lift the spirits of everyone. For some, however, taking precious time away from finishing homework or cramming for a test seems detrimental.

KBA, or Kravis Basketball Association, has always been one of those dorm activities that our guides make sure to point out when talking about dorm life. The winter term, after-study hall sport for the underclassmen boys has been a tradition running for years. Each prefect has a draft, forming a team of five or six players and play a 3v3 game with subs. What's a bonus of having the opportunity to run around at night when campus life seems the most dreary? The free t-shirts, goofy team names, and bonding with kids in the dorm. Although, the downside is every Tuesday and Thursday night when you have a crippling amount of work to get done, skipping out on the activity

can be burdensome on teammates. Missing out on the rowdy matches for homework is definitely a downer. Prefects dealing with the harsh realities of junior year have to take time out of their precious and often scarce study sessions to run their team. Despite the occasional academic difficulties, Kravis boys have fond memories of their time in KBA. The camaraderie, competition, and intense team spirit make KBA games rival the intensity of cheering for your favorite team during March Madness.

For the girls in Richmond and Longman, the newly founded Richmond Volleyball Association, RVA for short, gives everyone the chance to get out of the confines of the dorm to mess around and have fun. In teams of six, the underclassmen girls, under the command of prefects, played volleyball with a beach ball in a double elimination tournament. Some say that getting to play a sport and blow off some steam is essential to keeping their sanity on Monday nights. A feeling of community is one of the main goals that dorm sports promote, bringing together girls who wouldn't necessarily have gotten to know each other without dorm activities. Even if you weren't blessed with athleticism, doing something other than lazily sitting at your desk can boost your mood and the spirits of everyone around you.

In Flagg Hall, the night the

boys play some post-study hall dodgeball is a sacred hour. When stuck in a tiny room for two hours on weekday nights, some time to move around and get blood flowing can be beneficial to dealing with stress. Some friendly competition can really help the sophomore boys bond and develop relationships. Although not an official program like KBA or RVA, impromptu dodgeball at 9:45 still matches the spirit and intensity of organized teams. Occasional time to get out of the dorm and form a few rivalries with other certainly appreciated from the underclassmen quad to the upperclassmen quad.

This year, however, the number of dorm sports and other activities has slowly declined due to time they take away from academics, but participants of sports argue that creating a dorm wide bond through these teams is beneficial. Generally, having programs that allow some sort of sport after study hall helps boost energy and mood, and doing work more efficiently than almost dozing off while doing reading for English. Building a friendly and close-knit atmosphere greatly improves dorm life, and it seems to be worth missing an hour of homework time a week for a portion of the year.



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One and Done

BY JAMES DOAR '17
Opinions Editor

Few men's college basketball programs are as consistently successful as the University of Kentucky. John Calipari has mastered the art of recruiting the most talented young players in the country, promising them a successful NBA career if they choose to progress as basketball players at Kentucky. This season's Wildcats squad came within a game of an undefeated season, losing in a thriller to the Wisconsin Badgers. Such disappointing loss left Kentucky fans grumbling the empty platitude, "We'll get em' next year."

But with seven Kentucky players declaring for the NBA draft, next year's team will look very different. John Calipari will have to recruit a completely fresh starting five, as the Wildcats lose 85% of their points and 77% of their rebounds to the NBA. All this despite the fact that all seven players are eligible for at least one more year of college play, and three of them are freshmen!

These shortened college careers are what has sparked controversy over the NBA's "one and done" rule. The rule, instituted in 2005, requires players to complete at least one year of college before they enter the draft, unless they are over

19 years old. Before this rule, some of the best basketball players of all time streamed into the league, including Kobe Bryant, LeBron James, and Kevin Garnett. Now, a year of college stands between the most talented players in the world, and the most talented league in the world.

So why does the NBA feel the need to hold back incredible talent? Why do they feel compelled to keep under-19 year olds out of their league? D.C United drafted Freddy Adu, a 14 year old, in the 2005 MLS draft, around the same time the NBA decided it mustn't allow athletes under the age of 19 to play pro basketball. There are countless examples of people outside of basketball who decide to cut their college career short. Steve Jobs, Mark Zuckerberg, and Bill Gates all left college early because of their exceptional talents in other fields. Why does the NBA restrict players from doing the same thing? Perhaps the NBA thinks it's helping new players by forcing them to mature and grow into professionals before competing on the biggest stage. But ask any talented college freshman, and they'll tell you that the one and done rule is the only thing standing between them and their dream of an NBA career.

By establishing the one and done rule, the NBA inadvertently impacted college basketball in a bigger way than they realized. The key to success in today's college basketball world has become recruiting and strength of program, something John Calipari caught onto very quickly. Today, the more talent a team brings in, the more quickly it disappears, increasing the demand for more new recruits. Calipari has mastered this cycle. He has sent over 50 players to the NBA, and as soon as one leaves, there are three more waiting to take his place.

Calipari's strategy is shared by other programs such as Duke and Kansas, and its popularity is met with many different opinions around college basketball. After losing to Duke in the national championship game, Wisconsin head coach Bo Ryan made it clear that "we don't do rent-a-player," and that he'd rather "build from within" in order to win games. To solve the debate, the NBA must realize its best interests. Having young talent in the league will not only raise the level of play, it will attract more viewers who are curious about the high school kid who can play with LeBron, or the young center who dunks on Blake Griffin. The NBA needs to do what every Little League coach in America believes in: "Let the kids play!"



Photo courtesy of Save Meadow via Wikimedia Commons

The Log Staff Says Farewell to its Seniors!

What we'll miss most:



cherie

- Her tireless enthusiasm!
- The fact that she's next Mozart
- Her good fashion advice
- Her French skills
- Her being a great role model even though she does nothing during layout



sophie

- Her impromptu Dominoes order with extra cheese
- Her endless support
- Her enthusiasm for Kill Bill
- Her immense love for Mason
- Her killer smile



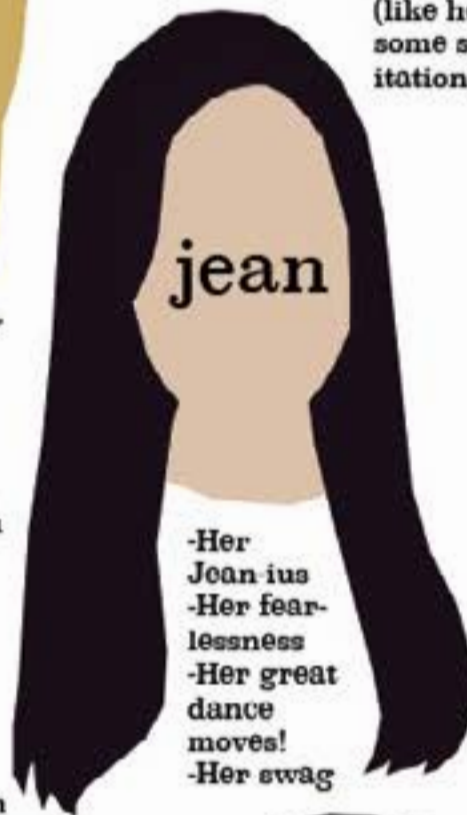
kelsey

- The fact that she's #fly
- Her #butterflystroke
- Her dry humor
- Her BEAUTY
- Her being a Lily Pulitzer model
- Her vivacity
- Her passion
- Her cross country skills!
- Her creativity (like her awesome senior meditation!)



philip

- His penchant for sparkly things
- His garrulous disposition
- His outgoing personality
- His affinity with heels



jean

- Her Jean ius
- Her fearlessness
- Her great dance moves!
- Her swag



erika

- Her cordial smile
- All her humorous jokes
- The cute photos in her emails
- Her indie vibezzz



christine

- Her fashion sense
- Her excellent ankle strength (HEELS)
- Her eyeliner (which is always on fleek)
- Her shopping hauls



angel

- Her resilience and unwavering faith
- Her tennis starpower
- Being the best elder sister ever
- Her biting comebacks
- Her Lulu-lemon modeling



allison

- How beautiful he is
- His pecan pie
- His coffee in a Mason Jar (we hope that the caffeine crash doesn't kill him)
- His Southern hospitality (Long live the South)



michael



john

- Her birks
- Her craftiness and amazingness in every medium of art
- Her love for avocado
- Her perfect instagram
- Her saying "lol"



julia