

# Loomis Chaffee Log

NOVEMBER 10, 2017

Issue 102, No. 3

thelclog.org

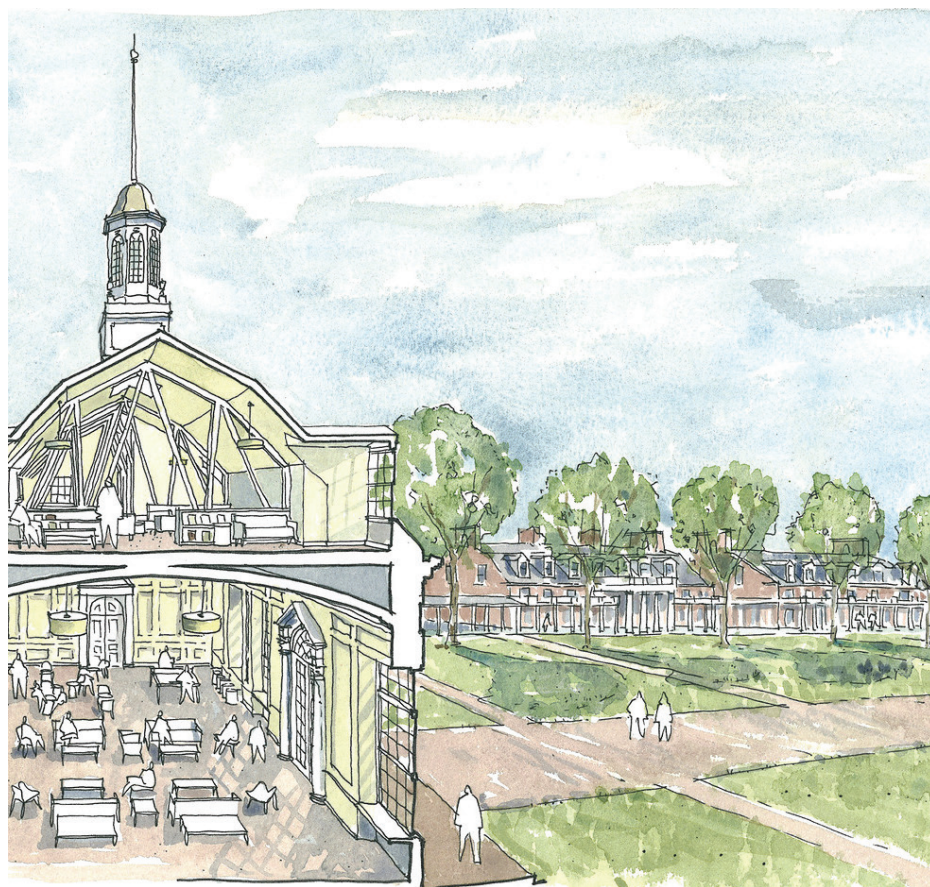


## FEATURES OF PEARSE HUB FOR INNOVATION ANNOUNCED

Lauren Hinton '18 | *Managing Editor*

As a student body and as a publication, we have discussed the various effects of the construction of the new campus center. Up until now, we have mostly thought of the new campus center in relation to its impact on student life and its bearing on where we will eat, on where we will buy our books, and on where we will socialize. However, in looking beyond the impending physical changes to our campus, it is clear that the addition of the innovation lab will have a significant impact on the intellectual identity of Loomis Chaffee. The Pearse Hub for Innovation (PHI) will broaden the way we, the LC community as a whole, approach learning. As Mr. MacClintic, next year's Director of the PHI, believes, the new opportunities for innovation will inspire us to become "comfortable with discomfort." As learners and as educators, the new emphasis on innovation will result in a greater respect for thinking critically about how we think. Mr. MacClintic envisions that "the programs, both formal and informal, will provide students with opportunities to experience and develop a sense of agency and empowerment about their own education." The following will offer a broad sketch of both the role and new features of the innovation lab when it opens next fall. The Log will report more details of the lab's components as they become finalized.

(continued on page 2)



Graphic Courtesy of LC Archives

## GEORGE PRATT SHULTZ '38 HOLDS CONVOCATION

Ethan Levinbook '20 | *Features Editor*

On Friday, October 27, one of Loomis Chaffee's most celebrated and accomplished alumni visited campus for an all-school convocation. A recipient of the Eisenhower medal, Truman medal, and the Medal of Freedom, Secretary George Pratt Shultz '38 spoke at length about his government experience serving under presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, and Reagan. As the Secretary of State under Ronald Reagan, Shultz played a critical role in the peace talks that led to the end of the Cold War.

As a Loomis student, Shultz was a tri-varsity athlete. He ascribes his later successes to the lessons he learned while a member of these teams. "I really started to feel that you learn from experience, particularly in athletics," he stated. "Athletics teaches you accountability: you catch the ball, touchdown. You're playing tennis; a good serve wins, and if it's out, then it's out. It's a relentless accountability system. I think that in life, having a system where there's accountability matters a lot." While at Loomis, his leadership qualities and interest in public service were already apparent. He became the secretary of his class, chairman of his dorm committee, and was a member of the student council. From Loomis, he went on to graduate from Princeton and later receive his doctorate from MIT.

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Graphic Courtesy of AP Images

### NOVEMBER EDITORS' PICKS

NEWS: INNOVATION LAB

OPINIONS: AMES MAYFIELD

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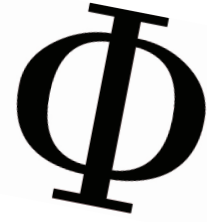
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# FEATURES OF PHI ANNOUNCED



**Lauren Hinton '18** | *Managing Editor*



(Continued from front page)

**M**r. Trenchard and Mr. MacClintic foresee that the PHI will have a multifaceted role on campus next year and onward. The lab will include a system of classrooms, a specialized robotics room, and an adaptable space to be used collaboratively by students. Mr. Trenchard offers a description of some of the roles that the lab will play. First, teachers will be able to frame new activities and assignments with the spirit of innovation in mind. He describes that the lab will “provide LC faculty with a collaborative, innovative space to engage in special units and project-based learning for courses that already exist.” Students will thus be able to apply innovative thinking to various disciplines of study.

Second, the PHI will offer various extracurricular opportunities for students. In their free time, as Mr. Trenchard specifies, the lab will be available to “students who have an idea and want to explore it and/or develop it on their own.” Examples of these objectives could include environmental and agricultural initiatives or the development of an original computer program. Third, the center will allow for the addition of new courses by providing “ideal space for the implementation of new courses that will focus on innovation, design thinking and entrepreneurship,” as Mr. Trenchard outlines. Students will have the opportunity to pursue interests beyond academics and arts; new innovation-based courses will provide a completely new area of study.

Lastly, a distinct program of next year’s lab will offer an opportunity for a group of students to spend a term in the innovation lab exploring one real-world topic in depth. Mr. Trenchard mentions that this feature would be a sort of “trimester away program right here on campus.” The Log will report more details of the trimester-long program later this school year.

The new components of the PHI have been presented to the current faculty. Mr. Colgate appreciates the value of next year’s addition. “It has fascinating potential, and its potential is its inherent strength because it can morph to be any number of things.”



Graphic courtesy of Sam Goldfarb '18

## HOW ONE ISLAND HELPS ANOTHER

**Portia Inzone '20** | *Social Media Manager*



Graphic courtesy of AP Images

**E**stablished on the principle of acting for the common good, Loomis has displayed its resolution through annual school themes, freshman seminar courses, and the renowned pelican mascot. Acting for the common good, a value that is universal across the campus, emphasizes looking out for others. In the words of Dr. Sheila Culbert, “it is about living one’s life with integrity, respect, and an eye for serving others.” Another notable aspect of Loomis’ altruism is the student and faculty body’s initiative to donate, fundraise, and increase awareness for important causes and occurrences. Dr. Culbert also explained the importance of community service on campus: “Those of us who either study or work at Loomis are enormously privileged - we have an obligation to use that privilege to good effect within our wider society.” What will Loomis do this time to contribute to the greater society, in response to the recent disasters that have befallen upon Puerto Rico?

On September 6th and 20th, Puerto Rico experienced pressing disasters that stripped the island of its once-beautiful nature. Hurricanes Irma and Maria, both recorded as category five hurricanes, swept across the Atlantic Ocean and the destruction pinpointed Puerto Rico, home of 3.5 million citizens. Prior to this catastrophe, the area had not endured a category 4 or 5 since 1928, and no hurricanes had made landfall since 1998. Consequently, the citizens simply did not know what to expect or how to react. The direct demolition caused by the tragedy left many families and individuals homeless. In face of the destruction, U.N. recently published a statement suggesting that many Puerto Ricans do not have access to safe drinking water, and 80% of the sheltered population still lacks access to electricity.

Addressing the U.S. response to the devastation, the U.N. also announced that U.S. is not doing enough to help the Puerto Ricans. While the nationwide response may not be sufficient, the help offered by the Loomis community will be provided in the upcoming months and hopefully alleviate the distressing situation.

Pelican Service Organization (PSO) stands as the largest community service organization on campus. It works to create fun and engaging activities for students and faculty to raise money, supplies, and awareness for various nonprofit charities. While no events have focused on Puerto Rico yet, the campus can expect to see something offered soon. As for this summer, Loomis offers a community service trip to Puerto Rico focusing on environmental justice, U.S.-Puerto Rico relations, and climate change. The students will work with various nonprofit organizations to help aid the areas that were impacted by hurricanes Irma and Maria. By first serving to ease the situation and then reflecting upon it, the students will gain a complete understanding of many Puerto Ricans’ misfortunes.

Within most Loomis experiences, the common good and school year theme are intertwined. Providing students with a foundation of giving, the idea promotes reflection, sympathy, and steadfast action. Through the execution of its principle Loomis aids Puerto Rico: one Island helps another.



# Loomis Chaffee Log

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**FOUNDED 1915**

The Loomis Chaffee Log is Loomis Chaffee's official student newspaper. We can be found online at [www.thelclog.org](http://www.thelclog.org), and we can be contacted via email at [log@loomis.org](mailto:log@loomis.org). Letters to the editor and op-ed piece submissions are welcome 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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Published by The Loomis Chaffee School, Windsor, CT.

**SAM GOLDFARB '18 AND MILTON LEE '18** *Editors in Chief*  
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**PORTIA INZONE '20** *Social Media Manager*

**STAFF WRITERS:** *Yuyang Zhang '18, Sarah Gyurina '18, Nezir Alic '18, Michelle (Hee Won) Kim '18, Rosie Park '18, Eugene Kim '18, Charmaine (Hin Man) Sze '18, Eric Li '18, Pin (Prapada) Kanjanachusak '18, Sharon (Yiwen) Zhou '19, Jeri Kim '19, Marleigh Giliberto '19, Lucy (Yangxiaoxiao) Shao '19, Suman Guantpalli '19, Angela (Hanchi) Wang '20, Sumin Kim '20, Maddie Corsetti '19*

**STAFF ARTISTS:** *Julia Zabinska '18, Ashley Chung '19, Sharon Zhou '20, James Oberting '18, Yusuf Zaidi '20, Michelle Park '20, MC Osborne '18*

**CONTRIBUTORS:** *Anyia Sastry '20, Alice Chen '20, Jeri Kim '19, Jacy Case '18, Matthew Weng '21, Jackson Done '19, Stephanie Zhang '21, Tommy Shi '18*

# IS THE ISLAND A LGBTQ+ SAFE ZONE?

**Minna Gao '19** | *News Editor*

Loomis Chaffee has a diverse student body regarding sexuality and gender identities. However, the inclusiveness of the environment itself and the level of support and comfort the Island can offer the LGBTQ+ community is limited. 30% of the 303 students who responded to the school-wide survey said that they don't always feel comfortable openly discussing their sexuality or gender identity, and 1 in every 5 students has been harassed because of who they are and who they choose to be, with 19 people replying that they experience harassment often.

What is haunting the Island? In my short Loomis career, I haven't observed any behavior or language that is outrageously discriminatory against LGBTQ+ students; but as I was reflecting, I remembered a piece of an under-the-radar scene that took place in my sophomore year. During my after school activity, a fellow student suddenly asked me if I was "all about LGBT rights" with a humorous tone, and, assuming that my surprise and speechlessness denoted a "no," went on to make a homophobic joke. Ashamed as I am to admit, I failed to call him out back then; his flippant attitude about a very serious subject and my inaction are the main problems plaguing the Loomis environment and oppressing LGBTQ+ students.

Granted, Loomis is better than many places in terms of its inclusiveness and diversity, but as the results from the survey show, discrimination against LGBTQ+ students is still prevalent on the Island and people are facing the negativity it brings every day. "I would say Loomis is overwhelmingly neutral concerning queer rights," said Jet Elbualy '18, a leader of SPECTRUM. "But there's still some mild homophobia that isn't being called out." Acts of microaggression often come in the forms of light-hearted jokes, but that doesn't mean it should be condoned. "The fact that people would say 'take it as a joke' shows that people think that it's acceptable. People joke about things that are acceptable," said Carolyn Riley '18, another

SPECTRUM leader.

"A lot of people see the issue as 'it doesn't really affect me, so I don't wanna get involved.' A lot of people are taking a passive stance, but people need to speak up for issues that they see affecting the community," asserted Blaine Stevens '18.

The boarding experience that Loomis offers and the rich culture it boasts, as eye-opening and diverse as it is, can sometimes unknowingly exclude LGBTQ+ students. "As a boarder, it's kind of freaky to come out to a group of people that you live with," commented Jet. Frequent and casual instances of homophobia has a negative impact on both individuals and the school environment. "It took me a full year to come out. When I was a freshman I wasn't out to anyone; I was terrified," Carolyn confessed. As can be seen from the survey, many people feel the same way.

Another observation that I've made is that there are significantly less out, non-heterosexual males than there are females on the Island. This occurrence is inconsistent with statistics and common sense; in reality, there aren't necessarily fewer non-heterosexual males than females. It is reasonable to attribute this trend to the gender prejudice and "toxic masculinity" that are perpetuated by society and is pervasive in many male dormitories and athletic teams, but the pressure is also augmented by the boarding environment. "I think there's this enforced masculinity that you'll only experience if you're living in a dorm with twenty other teenage males, instead of like, in your home with your parents and siblings," said Andrew Donshevik '18, "you're kind of going against the grain if you are gay." People tend to associate male homosexuality with derogatory "feminine" traits and isolate or humiliate gay men as a result. "There were some incidences in past years where student-athletes are being taunted because of their sexuality. That really surprised me, because that's just an undertone of Loomis Chaffee that we don't see. There

are still people isolating others because of their sexuality," added Blaine.

So what is the LGBTQ+ community doing to combat the existing stigma? SPECTRUM has organized several Safe Space talks and has successfully hosted another annual Pledge-Signing event. Safe Space is designed to be a confidential, informal, and supportive environment where LGBTQ+ teens can feel comfortable sharing their experiences; having a understanding faculty member whom they can relate to present at the meeting is essential in building that environment. Bea Tran '18 says that apart from raising awareness on LGBTQ+ issues on campus, one of SPECTRUM's most fundamental goals is to "just be there in the first place," to make sure that members of the queer community always have something to fall back on. But SPECTRUM can't hold Safe Space meetings as often as they would like, due to scarcity of queer faculty members and the school policy that all club events must have a faculty advisor present. Bea noted that as of now, there's only one gay faculty in Loomis. "I want to be subtle but...hire more gays, Loomis!" she urged.

"The best thing Loomis can do is to stop perpetuating a negative environment subconsciously. Be conscious about what you're saying," suggested Andrew. Casual discrimination and silent overlook have no place in Loomis. The Loomis community as a whole should strive to always be aware, be conscious, speak up against homophobic comments, and most importantly, learn through communication and frequent discourses. Here I urge all Loomis Chaffee students to not be afraid of speaking up for what's right, in the hope of making our Island a better place for all.

The responses to the survey were anonymous; therefore, the result might have been slightly altered due to repeated submissions by individuals.

# BOY SCOUT OUSTED FOR POLITICAL COMMENTS

**Beatrice Dang '19** | *Opinions Editor*

On October 9th, 2017, a group of Cub Scouts in Colorado met with State Senator Vicki Marble to discuss some of our nation's most pressing issues. One of the Cub Scouts, 11-year-old Ames Mayfield, had an especially incendiary comment about Marble's stance on gun control. In one of many of his politically loaded questions, Ames asked why the senator would want "somebody who beats their wife to have access to a gun." Such statements proved to be too "politically charged" for the den's leader, who would later disallow Ames' continued participation in the pack.

In light of the Las Vegas shooting which took place just eight days before his comments were made, Ames offered a valid argument about the controversy of allowing domestic violence offenders to own guns. Ames, unlike many of our political leaders, was able to use simple logic to identify a perpetuating system that plagues the health and safety of American citizens. The Domestic Violence Offender Gun Ban enacted in 1996 prevents convicted or accused domestic abusers from owning guns but doesn't explicitly state that they must forfeit guns already in their possession. Would someone who abuses his

own family realistically use a gun to protect them, or anyone else for that matter? Putting more power in the hands of those who abuse it is negligent and delinquent. Our country has made efforts to minimize abuses of power in every aspect of law, yet has been able to do little to protect those most vulnerable. The Giffords Law Center found that "abused women are five times more likely to be killed if their abuser owns a firearm." Putting guns in the hands of the "good guy" is a naive premise and fanciful delusion when innocent people continue to be at the wrong end of these guns. Marble claimed that the "more guns a society has, the less crime and murders are committed," in an attempt to justify her stance. I can only wonder what evidence of this she would have to substantiate this seemingly preposterous assertion. In no way do bump stocks correlate with increased safety or self defense and are not a necessity for sport, yet they continue to be legally available. In no way does the accessibility of guns to the mentally ill or the neglect of background checks secure the wellbeing of any individual. Ames attempted to present similar arguments to Senator Marble, yet was met with penalization.

The evasive responses made by Senator Marble and the rash decision of the den leader illustrate the sheer difference of political power between adolescents and adults. Ames' removal from his pack deviated from the very vision statement of the Boy Scouts, which claims to "prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen." This infringement of his first amendment rights as both a Boy Scout and US citizen reveal the appalling defects in our political institution. Why should Ames have been castigated for doing his very duty to his pack and to our country? How can our nation raise a generation of politically aware and active individuals if we cover their mouths and ears to the reality of the egregious state of this country? The political makeup of our government does not properly reflect those colors and voices which we consider to be the minorities, who will soon make up the majority of country. It is vital that we cultivate a political awareness among adolescents now, so that they can one day lead a nation in which an exchange of all voices flourish.

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## GEORGE PRATT SHULTZ '38 HOLDS CONVOCATION

Ethan Levinbook '20 | Features Editor



Graphic courtesy of LC Communications

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Shultz worked for the United States government in several capacities from the 1950s to the present. He took on the roles of economic advisor, first director of the Department of Management and Budget, Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of Labor, and most notably, Secretary of State. As a government official with extensive experience dealing with Russia and other foreign adversaries of the United States, Shultz warned the Loomis community that North Korea is a force that should be taken seriously. When asked how worried the United States should be, Mr. Shultz stated, "We should be very worried. They have nuclear weapons, ballistic missiles... [and] a very insulated regime. People have forgotten what it means to have a nuclear weapon... they are so powerful." Along with Reagan, he vehemently opposed the use of any nuclear weapons. He questioned, "Where does it say that any human being should be able to push a button and kill a million people?... We should aspire to have a world free of nuclear weapons... they're not anything human beings should be playing around with."

Moreover, Mr. Shultz shared his thoughts on the current situation in Russia. "The Russians are playing a disruptive role on the world stage and we are letting them get away with it," stated Mr. Shultz. "We need a

stop sign. They are playing a weak hand very powerfully. We have to call that hand." He added, however, that trust played a major role in forming a suitable compromise between the United States and Russia, two incompatible governments, to close the Cold War. When one considers the political climate today, it is clear that this powerful and effective quality of understanding and compromise has certainly been forgotten and replaced with pride, ego, and a selfish need for recognition. Shultz asserts that, while it is often portrayed as a sign of weakness, trust and understanding are critical to effective diplomacy. "[The Russians and the Americans] learned trust," he said. "I think that... in any human deals you might have, a big lesson is: trust is the coin of the realm. If you trust someone, you can deal with them. Remember that."

Shultz ended his convocation with some words of advice for Loomis students. "I think you have to be prepared to roll up your sleeves and work at whatever it is you're doing," he said. "I think it's a matter of thinking about experiences you've had... Everybody has experiences, but not too many people learn from their experiences. If something happens and you're involved, think about it. Who did what? How did it happen? Learn from your experiences."

## BIG CITY LIVING

Jacy Case '18 | Contributor



Graphic courtesy of Jacy Case '18

Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning I woke up in the city that never sleeps. Of course I picked out my outfit before I went to bed so all I had to do was slip it on. On Wednesdays and Thursdays, I would take the 2 or 3 train to 42nd street and transfer to the 1 to ride to Lincoln center. This summer I worked at the Lincoln Centre Film Society as a productions intern. This job involved watching and rating submissions for the NYC film festival, creating a master key to all the movies ever shown at a NYC film festival, and ultimately helping to actually decide the show times for each movie at this year's festival. The last job, the most stressful and important one yet, involved working in a room with the director of the festival and moving color-coded sticky notes with movie titles on them to different time slots all over the board. If I messed up, the entire schedule would be ruined. We spent a total of 6 hours working on the board, and I was awarded with a grilled cheese sandwich and soda for my hard work.

Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday I would help a local urban farmer with his social media and educational content. Posting on Instagram, Facebook and updating articles on Twitter allowed me to branch out from my personal social media accounts and learn how to help present a business. I grew up learning about the importance of gardening and gained knowledge about the environment. Granting young people in urban settings the same knowledge made my summer internship worthwhile.

I encourage all students to pursue experiential learning with an internship outside of their school life. Talking with Mr. Kuo in Founders or even your parents can help you figure out job opportunities in the world. Participating in life outside the island and living in New York City awarded me with a sense of independence and responsibility that I will draw from for all my next endeavors.

## SHAKESPEARE'S PERICLES IN THE NEO

Anya Sastry '20 | Contributor

The NEO's fall production, Pericles, ran all of last week, and was a whirlwind of battle scenes, stormy seas, princesses, death, and more. From beginning to end, there was nonstop action and a mixture of emotions, creating an engaging and interesting show. The story follows Pericles, Prince of Tyre, and his journey throughout the realm. Running from the anger of an incestuous king, Pericles duels with other knights and wins the hand of a princess, only to lose her as she dies giving birth to their daughter. The plot then goes into even more depth, balancing out comedic scenes with the solemnity of others.

From the Shakespearean lines to the emotion-filled scenes, the cast definitely had their work cut out for them from the start. While there were short scenes and lines, there were also lengthy monologues and dramatic plot points, filled with the early modern english vernacular of Shakespeare's time. With so many complex lines to learn, students revealed the amount of work that was required to memorize them. Marahyah "Richie" Richardson '19, who played Gower One, stated, "It was a lot of time in the theater. Everybody else would be joking around and I would be reading my lines, because it was aggressively hard." Olivia Thompson '18 added a new perspective by commenting on how she was able to learn her lines easier if she was on stage. She went on to say, "I think that it was harder for me to memorize the lines by just looking down at the page and repeating the lines over and over. It really helped for me to work through the scene while I was on stage." Olivia, who played Lady of Tyre and Bawd of Mytilene, had the opposite experience of Richie, mentioning how she "didn't have many difficult lines to memorize" and approached the memorizing process as she would any other production.

As the cast worked incredibly hard to memorize their lines and embody their characters, the crew also dedicated time and effort into making the show really come

together. Not only did the production have engaging sound, but also there were visually stimulating effects, a major one being the fog. Multiple times, the fog drifted up from the stage floor, covering the set in a hazy glow and signaling the start of a crucial scene, as eerie music filtered from the speakers. When cloaked by the fog, the set transformed into a mystical, dark setting; however, even without the fog, it was a spectacular scene. The crew diligently crafted the different components of the set, that ultimately came together to form various locations within the play. The set pieces were bold, while still being able to capture a particular scene and its prominent tone.

Props construction, painter, and sound technician, Sherly Quezada '19, described the technical process and referred to the power outage across campus on Tuesday, October 24th, saying, "For the nights that I've been on, we haven't had any technical challenges, but the night the power went out, we were about to do the show by candlelight...but, you know, the show must go on and all that good stuff. Even if there are mistakes, people usually don't notice them, because it's our job to cover them up." Luckily, the power came back on right as the show was about to start, so the play ran as it normally would have.

Aside from the acting and the set, the costumes were also a crucial part of the show. After seeing the show, it was clear that the costume pieces corresponded with the mood, tone, location, and time of each scene. From glowing gowns to dark robes, the show covered many different items of clothing in an appropriate manner that connected to the production.

Pericles has since ended and the seniors in the cast and crew have been reflecting on their last NEO fall production, while the younger members eagerly await the next show. All the hard work and dedication that the cast and crew put into their show very much paid off, as each show was either sold out or very near. Kudos to the cast and crew on their successful production!



Graphic courtesy of Anna Vdovenko

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# FOUNDERS DAY 2017: SPARKING SCHOOL SPIRIT

Jeri Kim '19 | Contributor



Graphic courtesy of Sally Knight

On October 28th, 2017, Founders Day was held on the Island. Alumni were invited to visit and interact once again with their school. Parents came to cheer on their children, who participated in games. Visitors came and toured Loomis.

A variety of events were held this day, from the fall production to the football game under the lights. The last performance of Shakespeare's *Pericles* was held in the NEO around noon. Barry Moran, faculty emeritus, held a lecture in the Founders Chapel in the afternoon.

Many other athletic teams held home games on this special day. The Varsity Girls' Soccer played against Wilbraham & Monson Academy in the Meadows and brought a win with a score of 5-0. The JV Girls' Field Hockey held a match with Berkshire score, unfortunately losing. Guys' JV Soccer held a match with the Hotchkiss School losing, but the III Soccer team tied with the score of 1-1. The Varsity Guys' Soccer held their win against Hotchkiss with the score of 3-0. Varsity Water Polo held a game with Phillips Exeter Academy, unfortunately losing, but the JV team came back with the score of 12-9.

The final game many were looking forward to was Varsity Football's matchup against Worcester Academy. The team brought home a great win, 17-7. By the football field, the Donut Crazy Food Truck handed out fall donuts,

cidars, and hot cocoa. Fun Enterprises was invited to personalize air brushed Loomis Chaffee pennants.

For this Founders Day, many events and games were held, making the weekend more special than usual. There were some losses in the games, but many of the teams were victorious. More audience in the games made everything much more spirited and exciting. "There was so much spirit in the crowd, especially with the parents," stated Angel Song '18. The Island seemed to carry more spirit than usual. With all the games happening on campus, there were more people visiting each other's games once their games were over. At the football field, where most of the check-ins occurred, friends were hanging out eating the delicious free donuts being handed out at the food truck. Alex Choi '19 stated, "Having food trucks during the football game seemed to gather more students." Although not many alumni visited, it was great to see the ones who visited. Next year we hope more alumni would visit and hangout in the Island again, catching up to personal stories with the students who haven't graduated yet.

Founders Day was very eventful. Games, lectures, visits, and foods all gathered up the spirits of the Pelicans. Many of us will be looking forward to next year's Founders Day with our current seniors visiting Loomis after their graduation in May of 2018!

## WHERE'S THE HALLOWEEN SPIRIT?

Alice Chen '20 | Contributor



Graphic courtesy of Dr. Culbert

Halloween has always had a special place in everyone's heart. Whether it be a faculty member, a student, or a faculty kid, everyone has a pleasant memory of this spooky celebration. Here on the island, halloween is no different with the vibrant halloween dance, pumpkin carving, and everyone's creative costumes.

The Halloween dance, created to raise money for charity and the prom for the class of 2019, received mixed reviews. Some seemed to have loved the dance. Valerie Chu '20 complimented that "there was nice music, nice people, nice lighting, nice breathalyzers, nice DJ, all in all a quality 10/10 dance. Would definitely recommend." Others may not have had such a positive outlook on the dance as Lily Tapsoba '20 stated, "The Halloween dance was okay; it was better than I expected. I feel like it could have been a lot more fun if more people attended though." Many students generally had similar views, claiming that it would have been better if there were more people that turned up to the event. Sofia Asher '19 would like to thank

everyone who came and supported the dance, saying that it really meant a lot to the junior class. She truly enjoyed it, describing it as, "very hype, everyone was having a blast, honestly just a great event."

Several students commented on the creative decorations around campus. Mary Roriston '21 stated, "The pumpkins really reminded me of home. Especially the scary ones."

Halloween at Loomis also had some sentimental value for some students. Clara Chen '21 stated, "Halloween at Loomis reminded me of my childhood because I haven't celebrated Halloween in a few years." Others had interesting thoughts about the purpose of the celebrations. Kelly Xue '21 stated, "Halloween was very festive and brought our community together. It's a token of our diversity and our special community. The green gingerbread people at the dance were a little bit creepy though..."

Although some felt that aspects of the celebrations could have been improved, most students seemed to have a good time.

## 12 YEARS A SLAVE: A REVIEW

Maddie Corsetti '19 | Staff Writer



Graphic by Ashley Chung '19

On Monday, October 30, Loomis Chaffee held a showing of the film, *12 Years a Slave*, for members of College Level U.S. History. *12 Years a Slave* is a film that depicts a tragic part of the American story. Although it strikes many as a way to truly and accurately understand that period of time, others view it as uncomfortable and stress provoking. Due to the views favoring the latter, Loomis provided counselors at the viewing of the film on Monday night in the event that any student felt the need to talk about their feelings regarding the movie. Additionally, the audience was provided with notecards at the end of the movie on which they wrote their opinions on the front, and if be, a note to a teacher or counselor on the back.

Historical films allow one to understand the time period by utilizing specific characters with whom the audience can sympathize and by creating a realistic setting so the audience can get a better sense of the epoch. Thus, *12 Years a Slave* allows one to relate and connect with the slaves and truly grasp the hardships they endured in a way that an author of a textbook could not. Films that succeed at depicting the larger narrative to the audience typically focus on conveying the emotions that arise during certain events and occurrences. In order to achieve this, they must employ actors that have the ability to portray the character and channel the emotions more precisely. John Patterson '19 explains "Because it was from the perspective of a slave, rather than a textbook or neutral author, it opened my eyes to the lesser known, more difficult, hard-to-hear parts of American history." He explained a popular opinion among students that he was able to relate to the characters more than any other movie he had ever seen, allowing him to better understand the material students have learned in College-Level U.S. History.

From the accents, to the sound effects, to the language, to the architecture, to the technology, to the music, *12 Years a Slave* represents the institution of slavery. The film's accuracy and amazing acting allows the viewer to fully immerse himself in the experience, and in watching, become absorbed in the story and traverse through time into the 1840s. The movie was nominated for six Oscars and six Golden Globes, ultimately winning four awards including Best Motion Picture (one for Golden Globes and one for Oscars), Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role, and Best Writing. The acting in this movie was remarkable, and significantly contributed to the film as a whole.

The viewer comes to understand not only how physically grueling slavery was, but also the emotional and mental challenges that go hand in hand with the daily physical pain. The film depicts plantations as communities full of instability and constant fear, lacking trust and hope at most times. The film showed that slavery is a game of balance in which every action and every word must be calculated to avoid pain. The entrenched idea that blacks were inferior by nature was evident in the film. For example the master compared a slave to a baboon or when one condescendingly commented, "Man does how he pleases with his property." Students have spent so much time working with this idea in history classes, which was intangible until it came to life in the story of Solomon Northup.

Most, if not all, College-Level U.S. History classes learned about slavery primarily from the textbook *Give Me Liberty*, by Eric Foner. However, his description of slavery was far less raw and deep than what was shown in the film. Carter Hutchinson '19 explains that "The video accurately put what we've been learning in class into a visual context and was unbelievably powerful and moving." We have learned the basic ideas of slavery and the economic profits the institution produced, but the film really brought this all to life. With that came a greater ability to understand the motives of resistance and the necessity for freedom.

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## NFL: THE MID-SEASON DEBRIEF

Matthew Weng '21 | Contributor



Graphic courtesy of AP Images

The 2017-2018 NFL season has been nothing but a surprise for a huge amount of teams. Teams that were expected to have the most explosive offenses failed to move the ball and those that were expected to have another playoff-less season have strived and led their divisions. As the midpoint of the season has approached, all teams can be summarized into three categories: the unexpected competitors, the no-surprises, and the underperformers.

The first kind of team was the unexpected competitor. The teams that no one expected to make the play-off or even have a winning record but turned out to be successful. The first team would be the Los-Angeles Rams. During the last off-season, with the youngest head-coach ever - Sean McVay, the Rams seemed to be going into another unproductive rebuilding season. It is not an unreasonable prediction at all as their first pick in the 2016 NFL draft Jared Goff and reigning rookie of the year Todd Gurley did not create any spark during the last season. The Rams were only able to win 4 games. However, in 2017, the Rams opened their season with a shut-out and cruised to a 5-2 record for the first-place in NFC West with the Seattle Seahawks. The other unexpectedly dominant team is the Minnesota Vikings. The Vikings started hot last year, with an NFL-best 5-0 record. However, as the season progressed, they retrogressed into a mediocre team. As they traded away one of their best offensive and special team Pro Bowlers Cordarrelle Patterson and with their starting quarterback injured, they surprised everyone with an NFC North-leading 6-2 record. The Vikings defense was dominant and Case Keenum, the backup quarterback for Sam Bradford, played at an elite level. With a two-headed running core starring Jerick McKinnon and Latavius Murray, the once-suspect Vikings offense seems hard to be stopped.

The second kind of team was the team that did not surprise. The Cleveland Browns and the San Francisco 49ers did not disappoint those who expected them to play like garbage. They continued their winless records through week 8 and are fighting for the first pick in the next draft. I, personally, admire Browns fans. Their grit and will to watch the Browns get less than 4 wins a season for the past several years is truly respectable. Their valiant effort of sitting through blow-out losses without creating a riot is truly amazing. On the other hand, there are many teams that succeeded as expected. The Chiefs and Steelers did not disappoint as they dominated the AFC. The Seahawks and Eagles also lived up to their hype and looked like sure-playoff teams.

The last type of team is the one that underperformed,

those that disappointed all their bandwagon fans. The first team is the New England Patriots. As much as I am a spoiled Patriots fan looking for a Super Bowl run every year, the Patriots did not live up to the hype that built up during the off-season. Their defense did not perform well during the first weeks of the season even though they were full of stars as All-Pro cornerback Stephon Gilmore joined Malcolm Butler during the off-season to create the most exciting cornerback tandem. The Patriots defense allowed more than 300 passing yards per game during the first six weeks. However, the Patriots' D showed improvement as they allowed a total of 20 points in their last two contests. The other team that belongs in this category is the New York Giants. With Brandon Marshall and OBJ, the G-men were expected to have an extremely high-powered offense. Instead, all the fans received was a 1-7 team that lost their top three receiver. The Giants' offensive line kept letting aging-veteran Eli Manning get absolutely destroyed by defensive lines, making Manning look even more helpless than he already was.

In week 8, the most interesting game was the 41-38 shootout between the Seahawks and the Texans. It was the only contest in the history where both QBs threw for 400+ yards and rushed for 30+ yards. Texans' rookie Deshaun Watson seemed unstoppable as he threw for more than 400 yards and rushed for 90 more. With a stellar four-touchdown performance, he broke Kurt Warner's record of most TDs in the first seven games of one's career with 12. People can only wonder why the Texans started Tom Savage over Watson during week 1. However, the games were not the biggest center of attention in week 8 as the trades that went on captured the spotlight. The Patriots surprised the entire league as they traded star backup-quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo to the 49ers for a second-round draft pick. The Pats' head coach Bill Belichick believes that it is best to trade Garoppolo before his contract expires thus saving a Franchise-Tag. The 49ers however, got way more than they paid for with a potential elite franchise quarterback for just a second-round pick. Another intriguing trade that went through was the Dolphins shipping their running back Jay Ajayi to the Eagles for a fourth-round pick. Jay Ajayi dominated the league in 2017 and he was worth way more than a late draft pick. The Eagles walked away with a clear win in the trade and left all Dolphins fans scratching their heads wondering how in the world did that trade go through.

The Playoff Picture as of week 8 features the Chiefs and Steelers leading the AFC and the Eagles and Vikings leading the NFC. One potential change in the AFC would be the Patriots dethroning the Chiefs or Steelers and get

a first-round bye. The AFC wild-card picture is also extremely competitive as many mediocre teams fight for the fifth and sixth seed of the conference. The NFC playoff picture could potentially experience large shake-offs as well. Many teams such as the Rams are on the rise, looking to play in the postseason. The AFC championship game would most likely unfold between the Patriots and the Chiefs. The game look like every other shootout between two dominant offenses. Both the Patriots and the Chiefs struggles when it comes to pass-defense. With superior offensive weapons and a Hall of Fame show-stopping quarterback, the Patriots would outgun the Chiefs offensively. However, rookie sensation Kareem Hunt and speedster Tyreek Hill can not be overlooked. Even though the Patriots are known for making great adjustments in rematches, Hunt and Hill might still help the Chiefs to keep the match extremely competitive. The Patriots would prevail 42-39. The NFC Championship is most likely going to unveil between the Eagles and the Rams. This however, would be a match of defense and running backs. The Rams and the Eagles both has intimidating front-sevens that could shut down the run game of the opposing teams as well as powerful running backs. The Eagles has a two-headed monster with Blount and Jay Ajayi. The Rams has Todd Gurley who is extremely elusive while also able to deliver powerful short-yardage runs. I see the Eagles winning 28-24 as they have a more complete package on both offense and defense.

The statistically favored Super Bowl matchup would be between the Chiefs and the Eagles. However, Chiefs' head coach Andy Reid has been known for choking in the playoffs and the Steelers can rarely defeat the Patriots in the playoffs. Thus, my Super Bowl matchup would be between the Patriots and the Eagles. The game would be a low-scoring affair as both the Patriots and Eagles would not be able to produce scoring drives. The Patriots' offensive line would be challenged with a vicious Eagles' pass-rush and Tom Brady would not be able to have much time to work with thus unable to move the ball well. The Eagles on the other hand, would be faced with a physical defensive front that would shut down the Eagles run game that were depended on through most of their games. The score would be 24-20 with a little less than 2 minutes left in the game as Tom Brady delivers another clutch Game-Winning drive and lead the Patriots to a 28-24 victory. Brady will surpass 400 yards passing and the Patriots will win two straight Super Bowls for a second time.

# NBA UPDATE

Ben Rush '18 | *Sports Editor*



Graphic courtesy of AP Images

**T**ragedy befell the Celtics when Gordon Hayward broke his ankle on opening night against the Cavaliers. When the coaching staff told Gordon Hayward to “break a leg”, they didn’t mean it literally. On a more serious note, Hayward’s injury is one of the most gruesome injuries that has ever happened on a basketball court, up there with the Paul George Olympic injury and the Kevin Ware injury at Louisville. This injury will sideline Hayward for the rest of the season, but will give the younger guys, Jaylen Brown and Jayson Tatum, more playing time and an opportunity to further their development. Despite the loss of their second-best player, the Celtics have climbed to a first-place spot in the Eastern Conference and are tied with the Orlando Magic.

Speaking of the Orlando Magic, they have “magically” ascended to a high seed during the early days of this season. While this surprisingly high seed might not last for the whole season, it has given the team some hope for future years.

Staying in the east, the Cleveland Cavaliers currently hold the 13th seed. This comes as a surprise to everyone in the NBA, as they were the Eastern Conference Champions last year. Their new signing Derrick Rose is back to his normal

self and is injured for the whole season...again. Not to mention, they are also missing Isaiah Thomas (broken hip), another new signing, and he is expected to return in February. While people may be freaking out about their lackluster start to the season, I think that they will win the Eastern Conference again.

In the West, The Clippers, that’s right, The Clippers, hold the top seed. With an offense based around Blake Griffin, they have proved to be efficient without Chris Paul. The Warriors and the Rockets are keeping up with expectations this season, with electric offenses that outscore many opponents. Minnesota’s new big three have been performing well on the offensive side of the ball, but similar to last year, they are struggling mightily on the defensive side. If they can do this, they could be a real contender this year. The Thunder, with their new big three, have been adjusting to sharing the ball, but have been successful thus far. The West looks to be very competitive this year, and I predict that the Golden State Warriors, big surprise, will win the NBA Championship again.

## INTERNS AT THE TRAINING OFFICE

**M**et Emilio Cantone and Tekarah Edward, interns at the Training Office.

Emilio is a junior majoring in athletic training at Springfield College. He is originally from Peabody, MA. Emilio played football and lacrosse while at Peabody High. He enjoys Game of Thrones, superheroes, and weightlifting.

Tekarah is a junior majoring in athletic training at UCONN. She is originally from Bridgeport, CT and attended the Notre Dame High School in Fairfield, CT. Tekarah was a multi-sport athlete, playing soccer, basketball, lacrosse, and wrestling. She is a big New York Giants fan, and you can call her T.

Being an amateur in field hockey, I have been to the trainers quite frequently ever since the season started. My first hand experience in the Trainer’s office has taught me just how important the trainers are to Loomis. From the repetitive trips, I not only healed, but learned many skills just by being there, such as how to wrap myself. Turns out, I’m not the only one.

Emilio, who I interviewed, says that he has learned so much from the Trainers ever since he started interning here. “Ms. Sapula and Mr. MacGillivray have taught me so much since I got here. They are amazing at what they do and it’s been cool to be immersed with a different group of people, a new setting. Loomis seems like a great

Stephanie Zhang '21 | *Contributor*

environment because everyone wants to be here,” Emilio says.

“The main goal of the Athletic trainers is to help athletes get back to a point where they feel comfortable and completely ready to play again,” says Emilio. The reason Emilio got interested in Athletic training was because when he was an athlete in high school, he also had many injuries, but he feels like he didn’t get the help he needed to bounce back. Emilio wants to provide for injured athletes so they can return to the sports they love.

Emilio says the role that he plays on campus and in the trainer’s office is mainly to aid the trainers as well as to learn the skills himself. “Emilio is here to learn and further his career in the Athletic training field. He needs a certified 1,000 hours. He is a good example for the students here at Loomis because he shows that this is the next step to expand on hobbies or doing things you love. The practice also really helps expand his skillset,” states Ms. Sapula.

Overall, the trainers are very nice people and very important to the school and athletic department. Regardless of injury severity, you can go to them for help and they will always provide assistance. Without them, who would help us get back up on our feet?



Graphic by Ashley Chung '19

## LCXC: DOMINATING THE COMPETITION

Jackson Done '19 | *Contributor*



Graphic courtesy of Sally Knight

**R**unning has evolved hand in hand with the human race. We once used it as a tool to survive by outrunning and outlasting our prey in the form of endurance hunting but now, it is a sport that determines the most persistent and strong-willed athletes in the world. Among the best is Loomis’ own Matt Farrell, whose speed and endurance has yet to be matched.

Before we can look at the sophomore’s dominance on the course, we should talk about where he started, his role models in the sport and, most importantly, what he does to prepare for his races. Like other freak athletes, Matt developed his love for running at a young age and first strapped on the Nikes at three years old to compete in his first race. The runners that most inspire him most are Grant Fisher, a twenty year old Stanford runner, and the great American runner Steve Prefontaine. Both of these athletes would agree that what you fuel your body with before the race its of the utmost importance in the running process. After talking with Matt about his diet, he told me that he’ll usually “eat salmon, rice, and vegetables before every race,” and puts a large emphasis on hydration as being a key to running at the highest level.

Matt also elaborated on some other important points about his game, saying that “there is so much that goes into my running. It’s not just all of the workouts I have done, but also all of the little things I do to help me reach my full potential.” Some of those little things include eating right, wearing the right shoes and getting enough sleep. What resonated most with me about Matt was his dedication to the sport of running. He said “my summers are spent training for the upcoming season” and that “I take no days off.” Lastly he emphasized that “what people see in my success in running is a byproduct of all of the support and belief my family has in me.” I’ve had the privilege of watching Matt finish a full minute in front of his competition and with his personal best 5k time being 15:18 as a sophomore, I can’t wait to watch him grow as a runner, friend, and member of the Loomis Chaffee community.

## M

## NO SNUG HELPS STUDENTS BE LESS FAT

Liam Scott '19 | *Melange Editor*

The lack of our SNUG is definitely a sad drawback of our year that never fails to serve as the fuel for heated rants against basically everything. But there is one glaring benefit- not having a SNUG means that we students are healthier, due to the lack of food options. Be grateful for your current body; you'd probably be around fifty pounds heavier if the SNUG was still around. Other sly attempts to make us skinnier include the bagel's being cut in half, but that soon ended when students decided to awkwardly carry two bagel halves.

## VIBRATIONS IN CLARK AND BRUSH CREATE A MOMENTARY FEAR OF EARTHQUAKE

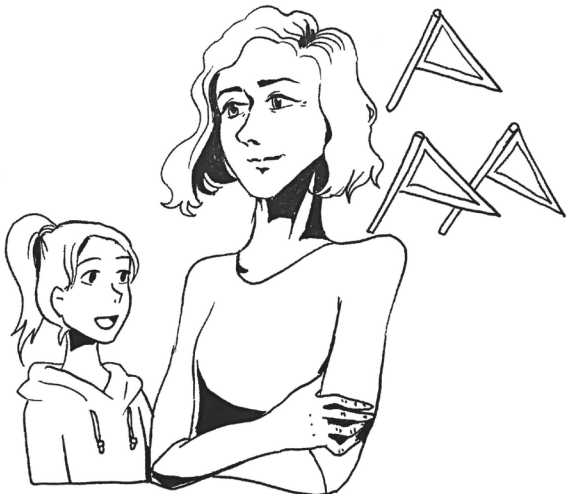
"I remember it like it was just yesterday!" began a student. "I was in my science classroom, minding my own business. I was just sitting there, taking a test, and then BAM I swear there was an earthquake. I looked around for a few minutes because the vibrations caused the glass beakers to rattle against each other, but no one else seemed concerned so I just went with it."

## CHINESE TAKEOUT MENUS JUST APPEAR

The delivery menus for a nearby Chinese restaurant just appeared out of nowhere and were dispersed everywhere around campus. These menus, that proudly advertise beer, ice cream, and cigarettes, have been sighted in a multitude of locations, including the rotunda, common rooms, and classrooms in Founders. The sudden presence of these iconic menus has left many unanswered questions. Who is this restaurant? Is it even good? And most importantly, will it cause food poisoning like Peking did?

## SENIOR GENUINELY ENJOYS COLLEGE PROCESS

Tommy Shi '18 | *Contributor*



Graphic by Ashley Chung '19

The senior college process can be trying for some. But for Seth Atire, it is something that can be genuinely enjoyed. The college process can be broken down into searching for colleges and completing application materials. Seth has indicated that he enjoys both immensely.

Seth enjoys pouring over webpage after webpage of virtually identical college statistics. To him, every college isn't extremely similar. Going so far as to visit every college he is interested in, Seth expressed nostalgia as he re-lived each visit. Every information session is a treasure trove of information, however repetitive they are. Every college tour isn't blending into a generic stroll led by a student on a script. Every college visit is an illuminating experience that allows him to learn something different about himself. He definitely does not visit simply to demonstrate interest.

At the college fair, he visits every single stand, gleaned essential information that could not possibly be posted conveniently online.

The application process is even more gratifying. Listing down his every achievement, Seth used the opportunity to brag about his teaching of disadvantaged inner-city kids, editing of *The Log*, starring in school play or captaining of every sports team at LC. To him, listing and not exaggerating achievements is extremely pleasing. Seth, drawing personal pleasure from filling in his achievements, feels his ego bloat. For his personal essays, Seth writes about his experience saving a stray cat from a crashing bus and connects it to his various academic, athletic, and extracurricular activities. He enjoys the multi-faceted view he presents. Seth loves choosing a major that will have significant bearings on the rest of his life, despite his only being eighteen years of age.

The most difficult aspect of the college process is stress- but not for Seth. He enjoys the anticipation of the looming deadline and the anxiety when looking over an incomplete application. Finding the prospect of missing deadlines an exhilarating sport, Seth intentionally delays his submission just for the adrenaline rush, not because of the excessive workload of senior year. Taking 135 AP courses at once, Seth does not feel the pressure to complete papers, study for tests, and finish applications at the same time. To him, balancing out all his academic, athletic, and extracurricular responsibilities is a piece of cake. At dinner tables, Seth loves hearing over and over again the bragging of another student's unrealistic top choices. Seth is never jaded by the constant pressure of excelling in school and the arduous application process; he loves being constantly reminded by deans, faculties, and underclassmen about the upcoming day of reckoning. He loves the possibility that he would fail at one of the first major steps of life and gladly embraces the delightful college process.

## THE DAY EVERYTHING WENT DARK

Shlok Sharma '19 | *Web Director*

By the time you read this (though you might be too traumatized to remember), the blackout would have happened two weeks ago, although I still remember it like it was yesterday. Let me recount my day, since you obviously care about my perspective.

**4 PM:** I returned to my room, and like any responsible kid I planned to do homework. But first, I had to scroll through YouTube. Call it a pre-study routine.

**4:30 PM:** For some reason, Casey Neistat's video was still buffering. No problem, right? Buffering was normal, although something seemed wrong.

**4:35 PM:** Suddenly, I felt a lack of air conditioning. I turn toward my fan, and it has mysteriously stopped spinning. I tried turning on my lights- nothing. I went into the hallway outside my room, and heard a specifically jarring alarm. All other lights were off, the hallway was barely lit, and the jarring alarm had no intention of stopping soon.

**4:45 PM:** I knocked on the doors of people around me to see whether they were experiencing something similar. Even now, I don't understand why I did- it was obvious that the power was out in the dorm. Maybe I was too shaken to think clearly. Maybe I just wanted to know I wasn't alone.

**4:50 PM:** I returned to my room, and sat down.

**4:50 PM:** (but, a few seconds later): I got up and tried to switch my fan on and off again. That usually works, but it didn't this time.

**4:51 PM:** I sat back down.

**5:00 PM:** I tried to start my homework, but there was no light to illuminate my pages. I took my chair into the hallway, where I saw another person- another companion.

**5:30 PM:** Even in a power crisis you can get hungry. I walked to the dining hall to get something to eat.

**5:31 PM:** I arrived, and saw a dimly lit hallway, illuminated by candles. The rain was pouring on me (ominously, of course) as I walked to the dining hall, but I was too scarred to notice that I was drenched.

It's fun to talk about conspiracies, but I've got an idea that I would like you to take seriously. The blackout took place on October 24th, which can also be written as "10/24". If you add up all the digits of that date, you get 7. If you add the current year's digits, your sum turns to 17. Coincidence? I think not.  $17-7 = 10$ , the numerical equivalent of October. October is the month where the blackout took place, and the last day of October is Halloween, a day known for being the one time of the year when ghouls can roam free in the land of the living. LC Communications sent an email saying that a "fuse blew out on the substation," but I think that's just a cover-up. What actually happened was that the ghosts of Loomis' past came to haunt the campus, and were thwarted just two hours after they attacked. I hear something at my door, and I think the authorities are coming to silence me. Spread the message before it's too late.

## YOUR SIGN AS A "PELICAN BITE" HOROSCOPE

Charlotte Marcil, BenBen Singhasaneh and Cathy Hyeon '18 | *Graphics Team*

**SCORPIO (OCT. 23 - NOV. 21)**  
*chicken tender combo (rip)*

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22 - DEC. 21)**  
*once a month nutella*

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 22 - JAN. 19)**  
*cottage cheese*

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 20 - FEB. 18)**  
*cantaloupe water*

**PISCES (FEB. 19 - MAR. 20)**  
*friday ice cream bar*

**ARIES (MAR. 21 - APR. 19)**  
*the toast that catches on fire*

**TAURUS (APR. 20 - MAY 20)**  
*omelet (burnt)*

**GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUN. 20)**  
*pbj*

**CANCER (JUN. 21 - JUL. 22)**  
*"mom's meatloaf"*

**LEO (JUL. 23 - AUG. 22)**  
*lucky charms*

**VIRGO (AUG. 23 - SEP. 22)**  
*omelet (runny)*

**LIBRA (SEP. 23 - OCT. 22)**  
*granola*