

# Loomis Chaffee Log

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the halloween issue

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## DIVEST, LOOMIS, DIVEST!

### Why Loomis Needs to Get Off Oil

CIERA HUNTER '15  
AND ASWINI MELEKOTE '15  
Contributors

We believe that Loomis should divest from fossil fuels.

Last year, our school theme was sustainability. All students, or at least the freshmen, read the chosen all-school read, Bill McKibben's *Eaarth*, and were hit with a refreshing, fact-based interpretation of reality as we learned of the potentially dismal future in store for us and our planet. Shocked into action, the school promised to bleed green, and together we embarked on a number of eco-friendly initiatives like starting an Agriculture program, expanding the faculty gardens, adding hydration stations in an attempt to reduce the plastic bottles on campus, educating the community about the issues that relate to climate change, and much more.

We are proud to say our community did work together to make changes on campus to improve and become more aware of our impact on the environment. However, as the year passed and as new topics came to the front of our collective consciousness, climate change was pushed out of the spotlight. But the issue is far from being resolved. Our planet is still suffering because of human impact. Climate change is the largest problem that our generation is facing right now. It is the root of natural disasters, poverty, and international violence. Rising temperatures, increasing sea levels, and melting arctic ice are all warning signs that link to greenhouse gas emissions. Unfortunately, climate change is not an issue that we can fix quickly, but we can take a stand. If we take steps in the right direction and continue the conversation about climate change, over time we can keep another species from going extinct, stop the destruction of another rainforest, save another village from dehydration--in short, we can protect the earth, save our home, and make a positive impact that will help future generations.

But what is the right direction? How can we, as a school, revive the momentum behind sustainability and continue the conversation about environmental issues?

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PHOTO COURTESY OF FRED ROCKWOOD VIA FLICKR

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Sam Cox '16 talks with Olympic hockey star and LC Alum Gretchen Ulion about winning gold, teaching kids, and why getting cut was the best thing that happened to her.

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Ben Fu '16 interviews a few faculty members and investigates various claims of paranormal activity on campus...hint hint, don't go to Founders 3 too often...

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#### Cutest Roommates!!!

Everyone's favorite column is back! Sophie Christiano '17 tells the surprising and heartwarming tale of how two acquaintances became the perfect roommates.

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Cynthia Hui '17 rattles off some of the spookiest and most iconic Halloween songs of all time, everything from your fav movie soundtrack to the ultimate thriller.

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Michael Carter '15 wonders why the Loomis community doesn't stand up for itself more often, and comes up with some solutions for how to bring our spirit back.

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Is Trick-or-Treating officially out-of-style on campus now? Lily Liu '17 interviews students and faculty to try to find the reason why.

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### What StuCo's Up To

BY GABBY RONCONE '15  
AND PENELOPE SHAO '15  
Contributors

Hello, we are your Student Council.

Yes, we exist. No, we are not the class officers. Yes, we do do things. Lots of it, in fact, you'll find out more about what we do if you have a long enough attention span to reach the end of this article, or just read the minutes that your representatives send out every week that you may or may not ignore.

This may come as a surprise, but the representatives whom you elected for their nervous speeches last May/September actually spend every Tuesday night in Founders Lounge talking about your concerns and what we can do to make Loomis Chaffee the best place imaginable. We are also the people who write proposals and propel essentially all the changes that you wanted.

So, what are we doing now?

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### Malala takes the Peace Prize

AMANDA GALLOP '16  
Contributor

"My favorite press release ever: 'Malala will make her first statement on winning the Nobel Peace Prize after school,'" tweeted a journalist named Sid Lipsey on October 10th, the day Malala Yousafzai became the youngest recipient of the award in history. She shared it with Kailash Satyarthi, a sixty year old child's rights activist, "for their struggle against the suppression of children and

young people and for the right of all children to education." How is it that a teenager of only 17, young enough to be at this very school, qualified for one of the highest accolades a person can receive? There really isn't a single answer to this question. Malala's story is a complex one, full of struggle, adversity, strength, and many different elements that contributed to her success today.

Malala's story began in the conservative Swat Valley region of Pakistan, where women were and still remain strongly repressed by The Taliban, a fundamentalist group that enforces a strict interpretation of Sharia Law. Resisting these authoritative figures could result in severe consequences, however, instead of simply keeping her head low and mouth shut, Malala made noise. She overcame the silence that was forced upon her and countless other women and girls in her community by blogging, stating her views on television interviews, and even taking to the streets to protest the injustice in the denial of women's rights. "Where in the Quran does it say that girls should not be educated?" Malala angrily demanded in an interview. "I have the right to play. I have the right to sing. I have the right to go to market. I have the right to speak up."

Her efforts to raise awareness were ultimately successful. People were becoming more and more aware of the struggles women face in obtaining an education. That being said, with all the positive attention that came from her speaking out, negative attention was unfortunately inevitable. October 9th, 2012, 2 years and a day earlier than the exact date she would win her Nobel Peace Prize, Malala was riding the bus home from school when a Taliban gunman stopped it,

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# Hope in Hong Kong

BY GLORIA YI '17  
Staff Writer

Pepper spray. Tear gas. Rain. Lots of rain. Hearts churning. Hurts cumulating. Resisting authority. Balancing the defensive with the offensive in this peaceful battle — all for something we take for granted: democracy. Who is involved? None other than students just like you.

In the week of September 27th, protesters with masks on their faces and umbrellas in their hands flooded the main road to Hong Kong's financial district. Through skipping classes and missing work to occupy the streets, the protesters intensified tension and raised awareness on a global scale of what was happening in Hong Kong.

People protested peacefully, raising their voices to sing along to the chorus of "Do You Hear the People Sing" from a revolution-themed musical, "Les Misérables." Although they kept the protest area clean and manners polite, the police broke apart the encampments and started attacking the civilians with pepper spray and tear gas. Umbrellas became quite essential at this point.

"The umbrella represents people working with each other to form a defensive shield. If you see a piece of the shield ripped away by the police, it will be replaced by another...It's a soft thing but it's also very hard in terms of our determination to win this battle," said Kacey Wong, a protest artist. (CNN)

In a white paper issued by China this summer, China

stressed the principle of "one country, two systems," stating that "the high degree of autonomy of the HKSAR

as its basis for stifling free elections, China has been denying the citizens of Hong Kong the right to nominate

calling for an electoral reform after Mr. Leung's resignation.

Only by looking back at the last hundred-fifty years can we understand the tu-

China. With this action came a new formula, "one country, two systems," in which Hong Kong would be under the leadership of socialist China while being allowed to keep its capitalist economy and be partially democratic until 2047. As ensured by the "Basic Laws," Hong Kong's constitution, the citizens' rights include freedom of speech, assembly, religion, and press.

The military crackdown in Tiananmen Square in 1989 left in the citizens of Hong Kong a permanent desire for more democracy, and the devastating massacre of several thousands of pro-democracy student protesters left Hong Kong with a sense of newfound identity. Moreover, over time, the number of people who identifies themselves as Chinese has been decreasing, and instead call themselves citizens of Hong Kong. Even non-Chinese citizens of Hong Kong like Pakistanis, Nepalese, Indonesians, Thais, and Filipinos all have a growing sense of what it means to be a Hong Konger. They, too, insist that they belong to the movement. In an interview with the TIME magazine (online September 22, 2014), Nick, a 23-year-old filmmaker of Indian origin asserted that "the movement is way past race and ethnicity; it's deep down in the core of humanity."

This small island of Hong Kong has come together under a single identity, armed with passion, cell phones, and umbrellas. These young students are standing up for themselves, united together against the giant that is the mainland of China, with a new hope for a prosperous future against authority and oppression. We can only look forward to seeing the rainbow after this storm.



COURTESY OF JOHN SLON FLICKR

is not full autonomy... [and] it is the power to run local affairs as authorized by the central leadership." According to them, upholding the "one country" principle without respecting China's sovereignty over Hong Kong would be impossible. Regarding the "two systems" principle, they argued that "a socialist system by the mainland is the prerequisite and guarantee for Hong Kong's practicing capitalism and maintaining its stability and prosperity."

representatives of their choice. Instead, Beijing heavy-handedly had created a nominating committee that handpicked three candidates. Leading groups of protesters such as Occupy Central and student groups such as the Hong Kong Federation of Students (HKFS) and Scholarism are "intelligent, informed and impassioned" (TIME). The students refuse to view this election led by China as legitimate since they are coerced to choose from the three mainland-selected nominees. Instead, they are

Behind all the advocacies for democracy, the people of Hong Kong understand the direct relationship between free government and economic prosperity. Already, Hong Kong's "financial regulation is top-notch, capital flows are among the freest in the world...those attributes have given Hong Kong an insurmountable advantage as an international business hub" (TIME September 29, 2014). It is in their best interest to have a full democracy to realize their full economic potential.

multitude of events in Hong Kong. The Opium War was ended by the Treaty of Nanking in which China ceded Hong Kong Island to the British. For the most part, Hong Kong did not enjoy a democracy as a British colony, but they did get a taste of it when the last governor of Hong Kong finally introduced some democratic ideas; they have maintained democracy ever since.

In 1997, the Joint Declaration took effect as Hong Kong was handed off to

# BLACK MAJORITY, WHITE POWER

BY NATASIA NABILA '16  
Opinions Editor

It is a human propensity to be inured to social norms. As Bertrand Russell points out, we all start from "naïve realisms," believing that things are what they seem. To us, water is always blue, fire is always hot, and sugar is always sweet. We neither doubt universal truths nor question established beliefs. Racism, however, we discuss completely. Yet the story of the white policeman who shot an unarmed black teenager is often hastily debated. It requires great skill to penetrate careless oblivion. There is a reality to unreality. So we have to be perceptive enough to delve into the repercussions of discrimination.

On August 9, 2014, in Ferguson, Missouri, Michael Brown and his friend Darien Johnson shoplifted in a convenience store. A few minutes later, a white officer pulled over and attempted to catch them. Brown and Johnson fled into different directions and the officer shot Brown six times until he was dead. That Brown did not display any physical retaliation and yet was still killed invoked public indignation. Moreover, that the St. Louis County was represented by a white majority and a black minority, astounded

the country. The latter, consequently, was regularly marginalized. Furthermore, after the incident happened, Ferguson authorities concealed the identity of the policeman who killed Brown. It was not only after the intensity of the riots subdued, that authorities released the name of the killer: Darren Wilson. However, attempting to undermine the atrocity committed by Wilson, they also included a video of Brown shoplifting. Nevertheless, Brown's shoplifting did not, and could not, justify Wilson's murdering. As a result, protests by angered citizens occurred during August 14 to August 22. According to Amnesty International, among other crimes committed, the police also used tear gas and arrested journalists to quell the protests.

In Ferguson, although police officers were far less likely to find contraband on black drivers (22 percent versus 34 percent of whites), there were 86 percent of stops, 92 percent of searches, and 93 percent of arrests of black people last year. This inequality is amplified when blacks contribute more to the economy than the whites. The ingrained notion that racism can be dismissed, and should be accepted, baffled the rest of the country.

However, supporters of Wilson still exist. Some

eyewitnesses declared that at the time of the murder, Wilson appeared alarmed. Wilson felt, although uncorroborated by many, a heightened sense of anxiety. He claimed to have killed Brown out of self-defense. No one but Wilson himself knew exactly his motivations for firing. Despite his defensive stance, his actions thoroughly exemplify the ingrained racism in Ferguson. In a black-majority but white-dominated town, it is appalling that blacks are silenced.

There seemed (and seems) to be a vicious pattern, one that has its roots in a convoluted history of racism, that invariably pervaded Ferguson. Though there were many obvious injustices committed against the black population, black grievances are inadequately addressed. Fortunately, Brown's heavily publicized case sparked new interests in the strained relationships between the two races. Many curious spectators, along with embarrassed authorities, were forced to reexamine the definition of "natural rights". Based on Lockean ideas, rights are granted to each and every person upon birth, and if the government abuses its power, the people have the rights to overthrow them. Whether or not the people will overthrow authority is not of utmost importance



ANGEL FADILA '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

since it is highly unlikely. Instead, the undeniable fact that the government did violate the rights of the people should be promptly addressed. When the enthused media coverage diminishes, the heated debate about exercising civil rights for all will unfold. The white policeman who shot an unarmed black teenager imprinted a lasting impact on a previously ignorant society.

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## After the Island: Interviews with Alumni

# Gretchen Ulion '90 talks Econ and Winning Gold

BY SAM COX '16  
News Editor

Gretchen (Ulion) Silverman '90 spent four years at Loomis Chaffee, playing varsity ice hockey throughout, two years of varsity soccer, one year of varsity field hockey and three years of varsity lacrosse. She went on to Dartmouth College where she played four years of varsity hockey. Gretchen competed on the ice with several U.S. national hockey teams and the 1998 Women's Olympic squad, which won the gold medal in Nagano, Japan. She currently serves on the faculty at the Taft School and is the head coach of the girls' varsity hockey team and assistant coach of the girls' varsity soccer team.

Sam Cox: How did Loomis prepare you academically, mentally and athletically to win the first women's ice hockey gold medal?

Gretchen Silverman: I grew up as the youngest of five children in a busy and active household. Having five children in a span of six years created many logistical challenges for my parents as each of us followed our own individual interests and activities, but I always felt that I was in charge of my own path. Pursuing ice hockey as my passion was certainly an unusual choice for a six-year-old girl, but my parents never doubted or questioned my decision, already appreciating their stubborn and determined youngest child.

This pursuit did not come without a host of challenges and explanations to many well-meaning adults who couldn't understand why any parent would want to put their fragile little girl into such a "violent" and "masculine" sport. I was shaped by these exchanges and experiences, knowing in some small way that I was a representative for all little girls who were looking to break out of the mold. I was driven to succeed in the face of the many who doubted or questioned, knowing that my parents and siblings quietly and in the background always had my back.

At each defining moment of my life, hockey has played a part, guiding my choice in schools, the many places I've travelled, life experiences and even meeting my husband. Hockey is what led me to The Island in 1986. Having exhausted options to continue playing hockey with boys, (it had simply become too dangerous with checking at the bantam level) my parents and I were close to hopeless in searching for a viable option for female players. Enter Bruno (Chuck Vernon). I'm not sure exactly how the connection was made, but I remember my parents having

a phone conversation that would change my life.

My experiences at Loomis and interactions with peers and faculty became an extension of the way I was raised. Encouraged to challenge myself, take some risks, accept the consequences of my actions, as well as to occasionally fall flat on my face were all parts of my four years at LC. Bruno served as more than my hockey and soccer coach. He continued to raise the bar and insisted on accountability; certainly not always appreciated by a stubborn teenage girl. However, I have realized that these are the life-lessons that become ingrained in who we become. Every time I write a handwritten thank you note, I think of Bruno who made sure that we understood the importance of such an acknowledgment. Following through on an agreement or promise, being compassionate, being humble, being a good teammate and leader; there are countless small and big moments and events that took place with Bruno as my guide to many of the principles that I live by today.

Becoming an Olympic Gold Medalist was a life's work. The challenges that I experienced from the age of six through twenty-six all served as preparation for the many obstacles and setbacks that accompany such a lofty pursuit. I did not have realistic role models in the hockey world. I dreamed of playing for the NHL as a youngster, but came to realize that this dream would never come true. I sought role models much closer to home in my grandmother and in my teachers and coaches at Loomis: Sue Biggs, and Grimm Jim Wilson stand out as having a significant impact on my growth and development while at Loomis.

"Biggs" was my coach and chemistry teacher. She was fun, but demanding. Always supportive, yet never compromising on what was expected. I remember in the fall of my senior year I made the decision to try something new and switched from varsity soccer to playing field hockey goalie. Bruno was convinced that

I was trying to escape from soccer because he knew how much I hated the conditioning that accompanied the sport. Anyone who remembers the timed 600-yard runs that Bruno made us do can sympathize with this notion! And, in some ways he was

favorite class during my four years at Loomis. I quickly discovered that there was nothing to fear and Grimm was kind, supportive and caring – demanding yes! Meeting his high expectations became my motivation and I realized that hard work could



COURTESY OF GRETCHEN ULION '90

right (this is the first time I'm admitting this publicly). However, Biggs made sure that I shattered this idea and held me accountable by meeting me on her bike every day before field hockey practice to take me on an off-campus run. She wasn't going to let me shirk on anything!

Jim Wilson was a legend on campus. Advanced Econ with Grimm could evoke feelings of angst and nausea in the best and brightest! With much convincing from my advisor, I signed up. This became my

be incredibly rewarding.

SC: What inspired you to work with kids, both as a teacher and a coach? Did you have a role model here at Loomis, or elsewhere, who has inspired you to become a role model to the players and students you work with now?

GS: I have always been drawn to education as a career. My mother was a particularly creative middle-school teacher and I always loved to hear

about the interactive labs and activities that she created for her students. I often babysat for neighborhood kids, took a summer job in a day-care center and took many education courses in college. I was destined to be a teacher. When I graduated from Dartmouth in 1994, I immediately entered a Master's program in elementary education, while continuing to play and train for hockey in hopes of making the Olympic team slated for 1998. I have since taught at all levels from age 3-6 through high school. Two years ago, I joined the faculty at the Taft School, teaching algebra, conducting admissions interviews and coaching the girls' varsity hockey and soccer teams. There was an instant familiarity with this experience and I immediately recognized my younger self in the faces of the students on campus. My years at Loomis have provided me with many lessons that have molded and shaped the person I am. I have had many wonderful role models who have exemplified the faculty member that I strive to be. I realize that even small moments and encounters around campus can leave a lasting impression on students and serve as the foundation for inspiring children to pursue their own successful and meaningful path.

SC: Winning Gold must have been the ultimate goal to achieve, right? If you could give one piece of advice to students here at Loomis, whether they dream of becoming an Olympian or are just trying to make a varsity sport, what would it be?

GS: Embrace challenges as preparation for what lies ahead. Anyone who wants to be successful in any pursuit needs lots of practice with disappointment and overcoming roadblocks. I was cut from the national team in 1995. It was a huge disappointment and could have been the end of my dream. I was close to giving up, yet dug deep within my experience to draw upon previous failures and disappointments to tap into the motivation it took to become a better, stronger player. Looking back, I have realized that if I had not been cut from the team at this point in my life, I would not have had the determination and motivation to commit myself to the training program I needed to make the team in 1998. We all need the Brunos, Biggs, and Grimms in our lives to hold us accountable, challenge and motivate us and make us reach for a better version of ourselves.

## Getting in the Spirit: Halloween on Campus

BY JAMIE LEE '17  
Staff Writer

As Halloween approaches, students are getting ready by preparing their costumes. To stand out of the crowd, the students brainstorm for creative costume ideas such as characters from Winnie the Pooh and rainbows. To complement the excitement pulsing in the air, many

events will take place on the island that will make this year's Halloween especially memorable.

To celebrate the spirit of Halloween, the deans may allow wearing costumes to classes on October 31st. Last year, students roamed around the campus in their costumes of animals like rabbits and giraffes, as well as cartoon characters like minions from Despicable Me. Halloween

is the one day that the deans grant students freedom to ignore the dress code and wear what they want, so it is very interesting to note how everyone makes use of such an opportunity. Unlike last year, students may be allowed to wear costumes to even family style, deviating from the typical dress-up into fancy clothing every boarder has to go through every Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The fall play, A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare, will be performed 7:30 PM from Tuesday to Friday, and 2PM on Saturday. Many of the student actors and actresses have dedicated their time and effort ever since the beginning of fall term, auditioning, practicing, and emerging themselves into their characters to improve their performances. As an integral part of the Loomis Chaffee community, all the students, faculty and parents are encouraged to come and watch passionate actors and actresses take lead in each of their roles.

In addition to the fall play, for the first time, the Pelican Service Organization (PSO) and the Student Council will co-host the Haunted House on the night of Halloween. The Haunted House starts at 7:30PM, and there will be volunteers at each station in the haunted old health center, ready to scare anybody that passes by. Although most of these volunteers will be members from the PSO and Student Council, anyone interested are welcome to volunteer (email Hannah McCarthy-Potter at Hannah\_McCarthyPotter@loomis.org). Interestingly, the event

will even include the headmaster of Loomis Chaffee, Dr. Culbert, as well as her house. Tickets cost \$3 for those with costumes and \$5 for those without costumes, and every single penny raised from this event will be donated to UNICEF. To serve the cause and provide high-quality entertainment, the PSO and Student Council are looking forward to high participation of students. Hannah McCarthy Potter, one of the executives of the PSO, excitedly added, "I am super excited, and I think it will be a great way to celebrate Halloween. I am really happy with all the support I have received from the school!"

After the haunted house will be the Halloween dance, hosted by the junior class, in which students are encouraged to wear costumes. Moreover, Boo-bags, which contain candies and sweets of all kind, will be sold and be delivered to those who want to share their joy of Halloween with their friends, teammates, and families. Hopefully, more students will go trick or treating than last year, as well as attending all weekend activities including the play, the haunted house and the dance.



GRAPHIC BY CHRISTINE XU '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## BEWARE: WOLVES ON CAMPUS

BY MAISIE CAMPBELL '15  
Web Editor

Awwooo! Where might someone on the Loomis Chaffee campus hear students howling like wolves? Erickson Gym, of course! Why? Well, they were trying to get the real wolves to join in, obviously. Kent Weber and Tracy Brooks, the founders of Mission: Wolf, were greeted enthusiastically by over two hundred students, teachers and faculty children (an impressive turn out for a non-mandatory event) on Monday October 13th. Three large, fluffy wolves—that are not pets!—prowled around the circle of seated students, licking several lucky students, and even Dr. Culbert, full in the face while Kent and Tracy explained these creatures and their plight.

Before introducing the wolves, Kent shared with the audience several amusing anecdotes to prepare the audience for the wolves. These included the valuable lessons on how to receive the wolves without frightening them or being frightened as well. The anticipation to finally meet the wolves seemed to stretch out this prologue, but it was most certainly informative and entertaining. The major lessons could be roughly boiled down to:

1. Be confident, but not cocky (a life lesson, really). Assure others you know who you are and what you are

doing without being aggressive.

2. Don't run away from a predator unless you want it to pursue you.

3. When you leave for the day and return much later, your dog's seemingly over-enthusiastic greeting is an expression of its belief that you had died and it is now scolding you for causing it such a fright. Yes, all you dog owners can feel bad now!

4. Wild wolves have a widespread effect on the ecosystem, including indirectly cooling water in streams and rivers, enabling fish to live in it. This is a process known as the trophic cascade.

5. Last, and most importantly, DO NOT KEEP A WOLF FOR A PET, even if you cross-breed it with a dog. This rule is a strict NO.

The headquarters of Mission: Wolf is located in Colorado and currently accommodates 35 wolves. Although they have been offered many more, Mission: Wolf had to turn many away due to limited space and resources. One of the main goals of this non-profit organization, besides caring for the wolves, is to educate the populace at large about the truth of the often-vilified wolf.

Due to their predatory way of life, they are a species that has been hunted to the brink of extinction, causing extensive detrimental effects on the entire ecosystem. According to Kent after his experience presenting to a third grade class, people learn more in one hour-long session with real live wolves than, for example, studying them in a classroom for three months. Seeing the wolves, not only large as life, but actually alive, right in front of you, gives an appreciation and a reality to the animal, its situation and what you can do to help.

The Mission: Wolf operation, sustainable down to their off-the-grid solar and wind energy production and on site agriculture to provide a portion of their food, relies mainly on volunteer manpower to keep the Mission running and operational. Whether volunteers stay for a day, a week, a year, all are welcome and put to work. The organization's overarching goal, which can be accomplished in many ways beyond meeting wolves, is to reconnect people with nature. Although we at Loomis may take our earthy, natural environment for granted on our spacious and forested campus, it is vital to remind ourselves of our good fortune to have this proximity and connection with nature, available with every step we take on campus, and to take full advantage of it whenever we can.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## BEWARE: GHOSTS ON CAMPUS

BY BEN FU '16  
Contributor

As we all know, Loomis Chaffee is a school rich in both history and tradition. Although every member of the community constantly works towards the betterment and progress of our school, some pieces of our past will remain here forever. From Mr. Taylor's shiny bronze nose on the senior quad to the renovated Katherine Brush Library, Loomis Chaffee never ceases to amaze me as a place where the past meets the present. Amongst the numerous mementos from our school's proud hundred year history that we see every day, there are a few relics of the past that only a select amount of people have had the chance to experience. Students and faculty come and go, yet some are simply destined to remain until the end of time.

James Rugen, a graduate of the class of '70, now lives on campus many years later as a faculty. Over this vast amount of years, Mr. Rugen, unsurprisingly, has experienced many events out of the ordinary. Earlier this week, he opened up about his supernatural meetings. He lived on the third floor of Found-

ers during his first year as a faculty in '74. "In 1974, only a single faculty member lived there and it could be a little lonely and dark at night", Mr. Rugen explains. Seems like the perfect setup for a supernatural encounter, no? Believe it or not, this was in fact the case. Mr. Rugen describes, "hearing footsteps in the corridor at night but usually assumed it to be the security officer making rounds." He would eventually find out that it was no security officer; not even a human being. "I heard footsteps and I thought it was the security officer so I wanted to speak to him but when I opened my door to the hallway, there was no one there," Mr. Rugen recalled. This aroused his attention, and so he decided to investigate. "The next time I heard footsteps, I waited until they sounded right outside my door, and I opened it fast!" he recalls, "Again, no one there." That year, he got a dog, an Airedale named Calpurnia. "When she heard the footsteps, she would cock her head sideways and then start to shake. She was generally fearless, but those footsteps spooked her," Mr. Rugen says, "She was always eager to investigate anything, but not those footsteps".

The ghost that Mr. Rugen encountered, legend has it, was the spirit of a student that committed suicide on the third floor of Founders when it was a dormitory. Many visitors reported feeling considerably uneasy on the third floor of Founders at night and hear-

ing unexplained voices. One person, while standing on the quad, even saw an apparition standing in the cupola of Founders. Upon checking the floor, the person found that the building was totally empty, and the doors to the third floor were locked.

The second faculty member who opened up about paranormal encounters on campus was Mrs. Fitzsimmons. About 20 or so years ago, she visited a friend working as a nurse in the health center who was closing up before vaca-

tion. The building was completely empty, except for Mrs. Fitzsimmons and her friend. "She pulled on a door under the stairs, which was locked, as it should have been," Mrs. Fitzsimmons remembers. However, things would soon take a turn for the unexplained. "Right as we were about to carry on, we heard 5 sharp raps on the door, then silence." Surprised by the knocks, they called out, trying to identify who knocked. No response. No human being could have knocked then, as the building was completely empty except for the two of them. They quickly left the building, fully aware of the rumors about a "woman in the old style nurse's cap who was 'seen' checking on students who stayed in the health center overnight."

Do these stories confirm the existence of beings from the other side? It's totally up to the reader to decide. Were these experiences just tricks of the mind, or were ghosts really responsible for the unexplained occurrences? Loomis Chaffee is known to be teeming with spirits, and these pieces of evidence truly say something about whether we are really the only ones inhabiting this place. Sleep tight, Loomis.



EDITED BY JULIA SONG '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

# Cutest Roommates! Justine B. & Molly B.

BY SOPHIE CHRISTIANO '17  
Contributor

Both veterans of the roommate life, Justine Baird and Molly Berinato have returned to Loomis for their second year on the Island, this time, as roomies. Their friendship has been tested to new limits as they now live in the close quarters of their new split double in Richmond Hall. So far, their decision to room together has only proved beneficial. After all, what is not to love about a roommate who keeps their mini fridge fully stocked?

The real surprise is that the two friends originally had much different plans sketched out for their 2014-2015 lives. Justine had made promises to room with someone else, while Molly was already excited to have a single room to help separate the hubbub of the everyday Loomis schedule from her extracurricular and personal endeavors. Unfortunately, Justine's roommate-to-be unexpectedly discovered that she would not be coming back for her sophomore year. Justine was suddenly undecided on her room choice, and amidst the confusion of freshman year, was not sure if she would be able to find another willing companion.

Feeling the pressure of the approaching room selection deadline, Justine began frantically searching for another

compatible roommate. Much to her dismay, many boarding girls were already committed and unwilling to break the agreements established with their own roomies-to-be. As Justine began to believe that a single might be her only option, she gave her final proposal to Molly, bracing herself for rejection. However, Molly responded affirmatively and without hesitation. Reflecting on the moment this fall, Justine stated, "It was one of those times when you are almost thankful for certain unfortunate events because the outcome turns out to be so great."

So far, their contrasting but complementary personalities have only enhanced their pre existing friendship and unveiled even more similarities about themselves. When questioned about what she loves about rooming with Justine, Molly replied, "Honestly, besides the fact that we have similar morals and values, the best part is that we have the exact same sleep pattern." The girls not only find great humor in watching the same "Youtubers" and Disney movies on Friday nights, but they are also always ready for a weekend adventure to town, whether it be to Dom's for brunch or Geissler's for a grocery run. Due to the fact that they share so much in common, from their taste in music to what they eat for breakfast, the roomies have become a practically inseparable pair.

While Justine's optimistic and Molly's sarcastic natures seem destined to clash, they have actually meshed quite well. Molly has even made a daily ritual of writing encouraging adjectives on sticky notes and posting them on Justine's side of the room. Even outside of the dorm the two tend to stick together with their similar friend groups and club involvements.

Especially on the weekends, Justine and Molly prioritize roommate bonding. They are always up for long discussions over mugs of hot chocolate and Mrs. DeConinck's delicious brownies. Together, they have even carved an intricate pumpkin in their anticipation of this year's exciting Halloween festivities.

Discussing the things that they are not as fond of concerning their room, Justine said, "The only thing that could make our room situation closer to perfection would be its location. Hiking up the three flights of stairs is always a climb. Some days I just have to take the elevator."

The pair is ready to take on all of the challenges and obstacles of this school year and is even more excited that, as roomies, they will get to do so together. After all, there is never a dull moment in room 310.



ANGEL FADILA '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

# Malala: Changing the World at 17



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA GALLOP '16

BY AMANDA GALLOP '16  
Contributor

(continued from page 1)

... boarded it, and asked her name. Without any warning, he drew a pistol and shot her three times, with one fateful shot hitting the left side of her face. Such a wound seemed like a grim prospect, with an unlikely chance of recovery, but by her next birthday, July 12 2013, Malala was alive and well due to the expertise of the surgeons of Queen Elizabeth Hospital in London. Not only was she in amazing health, but on that day she gave her first public address since the incident at the United Nations in New York. As she gave her address, I, fortunate enough to be one of the people in the audience, sat in awe listening to the inspiring words of a girl my age and her life-changing story.

The event was held in the UN Trusteeship Council Hall, and I was able to find a seat about five or six rows from the podium and panel of seats with electronic nameplates for Gordon Brown, the former prime minister of England, Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary General of the United Nations, Vuk Jeremic, the president of the General Assembly, and most importantly, Malala. Soon, the voices of teenagers from all corners of the globe began to fill the hall, the buzz of excitement and anticipation echoing off of the high, arching walls. When Malala stood, the entire room erupted into applause before she even reached the podium. By the time she did reach it, every person was on their feet, and she had to wait a few minutes to even start speaking because of how enthusiastic the crowd of delegates was. But, it was when she finally started speaking that the room became tangibly quiet. I could tell that every student, including myself, was sitting on the edge of their seat, hanging onto her every word.

Her speech was phenomenal. Her words were inspiring and she delivered them with the power and conviction of someone willing to sacrifice anything for what they believe— which, she already had. She was fully aware of the dangers of speaking out against the Taliban, of openly protesting the lack of a right for women to go to school, and yet she still went to school, still blogged and protested in the streets, and it had almost cost her own life. But it didn't.

"On the night of October 2012 the Taliban shot me on the left side of my forehead. They shot my friends too. They thought the bullets would silence us, but they failed." The Taliban indeed failed, for she was speaking that day, stronger, louder, and more passionate than ever.

As teenagers at Loomis Chaffee, we have the opportunity to pursue education every day, without discrimination against gender, religion, or nationality. We don't have to live in fear that one day our military will violently enforce laws against women's education, opening fire on its own students. While we are appreciating these freedoms, Malala, a girl our age, has a permanent gunshot wound in her head, undergoing several surgeries and spending months in a prestigious British hospital in order to recover from it. Her survival is certainly to be celebrated, but it is also a grave reminder of the countless other people who have been killed for standing up for what they believe in. So the next time you start complaining about having class on a Saturday, remember Malala and the thousands of others who would give absolutely anything, including their own lives, to sit in our classrooms at 8:30 am, and receive the same education we take for granted.

# Midterm Madness

BY JUSTINE BAIRD '17  
Staff Writer

I don't know about you, but every year midterms hit me like a truck going down I-95. The overall academic atmosphere on the Island escalates from normal anxieties to putting the entire student body into a Kitchen Aid pressure cooker. Loomis argues that midterms matter, but not immensely. If colleges do not see your midterm grades when applying, does that automatically play them off as unimportant? Students unanimously argue no. Parents see midterms, advisors see midterms, and you yourself see midterms! Therefore, midterm grades certainly can not be written off as invaluable simply due to the fact that they are not included on your college résumé. Teachers and students need to reconfigure exactly how we as a school approach the deathly midterm week and avoid the notorious stress that accompanies it.

It is not like teachers and students do not know about the dreaded date, it just happens to sneak up each and every term. One day it feels like you just started, the next thing you know midterms are due in just three lone days. I think we all know the drill. Projects are to be completed, tests are to be taken, and grades are to be calculated all in the midst of five days or so. We all have heard the excuse, too: "I just need to get some more grades in the book." Some-

times I agree with that excuse. We all have that one English vocab quiz where it was just a bad day, or that Chemistry bellringer that came completely out of the blue. But besides that one grade on Veracross that makes you cringe every time you see it, the grades in the gradebook are solid. The last thing any student wants is the biggest test of the year (so far) assigned with four other ones that day. The stress immediately kicks in when the midterm date inches closer and test in charcoal-black Expo marker is written on the whiteboard.

Teachers need to help students out a little bit. Planning accordingly never hurt anybody! Make sure there are enough grades in the book before the intimidating idea of midterm grades cross your mind. It is understandable that lesson plans always seem to just correspond with the dreaded due date, and a unit test just seems to place itself a day or two before. Yet, it is a little crazy when five unit tests are all assigned over the course of two days. Beloved Loomis teachers, I would like to make a public service announcement: a student's mind and spirit can only take so much. When any student looks in their planner to see TEST, and the adrenaline kicks in and heart rate spikes, it is truly nerve-racking! Now I think we can all agree that when we see TEST written three times over the course of one academic day, our heart rates skyrocket and stress levels soar. The midterm period is just a

heavy, weighted period of time in every term that each Loomis student endures. We survive, but in the midst of it all, we think that there's no hope.

To assist us in the termly endeavor, teachers can distribute weighted assignments differently or try to get enough grades in the book before the Sharpie-circled day rolls around. But as high school students, we simply cannot expect our teachers to cater to our comfort anymore. This is no middle school experience. Our teachers do not meet in order to avoid putting multiple tests on one day or papers and projects due simultaneously. In fact, it feels like the opposite sometimes! Teachers seem to plot and scheme against us as a student body leading up to midterms (when in reality they don't), but as responsible high school students we learn to cope.

These pressures exist as we all know and midterms are a perfect example of the grueling process of surviving high school. On the Island, midterms eventually become second nature, although they do lurk in the shadows for a decent portion of the term. Students leave the Island feeling like their time management skills are established and their academic assessment intake levels are higher than others, so keep that in mind and push through. Keep calm and stay positive: although it may seem hopeless, the suffering will be well worth it on the flip side.



PHOTO BY TINA CHOI '16 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## You Deserve a List!

By WINDA WANIKPUN '16  
Columnist

### What Not to Wear (on Halloween)

Well, well, well, I'm glad you turned to this page because I really thought nobody would want to read another inadequate list. But since you've already started reading this, I might as well keep on dragging out this intro with superfluous and tumescent words so that there is absolutely no context to this sentence whatsoever. So Halloween is near (Next week? Tomorrow? Today? I really have no concept of time), and it's time for the scariest/best holiday of the year. Really. Halloween is probably the only day when you'll see a football PG run down the senior path in a sexy pineapple costume and be completely okay with that. There are waaaay too many creative ideas flying around out there (Nurse Donald Trump anyone?), so here is a guide to help you eliminate possible ideas such as

sheet ghosts or cardboard boxes and burrito bowls. Ok, ignore the burrito bowl – I'm just really hungry. Now list commence costume Halloween. Yoda. Yolo. Ok.

#### 1. An Ironic Costume

Now don't get me wrong, most of the time I really appreciate people who show up in something remotely funny (nudists on strike, you will always be my fav/bane of my existence). But sometimes you've just got to have the heart of an angel and the hide of an elephant and not be a BuzzFeed costume. I mean, we get it. You have a sense of humor, you're an avid French toast maker, and you probably spotted a costume idea on reddit like Garcia López de Cárdenas saw the Grand Canyon (I hope you got that joke). So ditch the paper cutouts of bees taped to your knees (get it? Bees knees? Haha. I'm laughing with you right now) and go back to basics with papier-mâché masks of Justin Timberlake circa 2000 (rest easy, ramen noodle hair – you were loved). As N' Sync

famously said, "Bye, Bye, Bye" to ironic costumes.

#### 2. Katniss Everdeen

I know, so specific. Now although The Hunger Games is a great movie about friendship bracelets and bread, there are going to be way too many costume variations and interpretations of our favorite female heroine/badass. Wait, I might be getting Katniss mixed up with Miley Cyrus's character in So Undercover. On Halloween night, you'd walk around town in front of Jazz Art Java (Jamba?) and see this hairy man-child casually buying a café macchiato in a skin tight Katniss Everdeen costume. Next thing you know he's in Geisslers yelling at the attendants at check out "BUT I LIKED ROBO COP 3 YOU ILLITERATE!!!" and storming out with an unpaid baguette as an arrow (he couldn't find a bow). His girlfriend will be waiting outside, ironically dressed at Katniss's counterpart, Slightly Taller Josh Hutchinson.

#### 3. A Cat

\*Headdesks\* The other day I heard a great quote from a well-known author that kind of helped me figure out what I should not wear this year for Halloween. It went something like this:

"Some people like cheese, but some people don't. Others are just lactose intolerant."

- E.B. White

So then it got me thinking about you know, ~philosophical stuff~ and why so many people vouch for the typical cat costume at midnight while doing a speed round of bikram yoga in their bedroom and realizing that they have no clue what they're going to dress up as. I guess it's somewhat practical, but why don't we ever see provocative dog costumes being sold at Ocean State? Also, why is whaaaaaa - oh no words. I'm sorry.

#### 4. A Dean

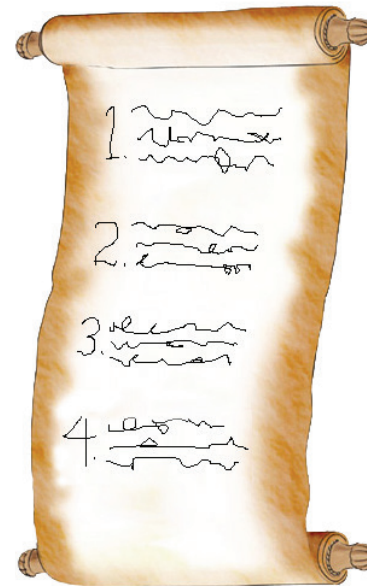
Imagine what would happen if you show up in 'stume in Founders and walk past the Dean whom you're supposedly dressed

as. First they'll notice your bangin' outfit, then they'll ask whether you like Barbara Streisand or not, because your hair looks fantastic. And then they'll suddenly begin to realize who you're actually dressed as, and that your shoes are somewhat similar to theirs and that your hair is actually not on fleek at all. You will see the flame in their eyes and there will be an awkward 10-second-long period of silence. You will begin to explain to them that you had fallen asleep the previous night with your hand stuck in a carton of buffalo flavored goldfish in your dorm room. And that your dorm room reminded you of that one time you stepped into your English teacher's dog's poop. And that that one time you stepped into dog poop reminded you of Steve Jobs. And that Steve Jobs and Ashton Kutcher's beard reminded you of grapes because grapes are fruit just like apples. And grapes reminded you of that time you cried while reading the Grapes of Wrath in Sophomore English. And Grapes

of Wrath reminded you of your English teacher and that one time you stepped into their dog's poop. Stay in school, kids.

#### Outro

Woo hooooo(boo!). Hah, I totally got you didn't I? I hope you don't mind that I superimposed my opinions and probably screwed up your day/life/costume plans/Hanukkah. You deserved this list! BOO! (Totally got you again did I? (Ok I know I didn't (I tried))).



GRAPHIC BY JULIA SONG '15

## DIY Halloween

By XANA PIERONE '16  
Melange Editor

Too old to dress up for Halloween? NEVER! If you think you're too cool for this holiday, you are probably a HalloweenEE!

To prevent you from bringing down the holiday spirit (get it? ghost joke), here are some DIY costume ideas straight from your dorm (go buy a costume, day students)

#### 1. Arctic Monkey(s)

- What you'll need:**
- A coat
  - Construction paper
  - Markers
  - Scissor

- Tape

Take the brown construction paper, and cut out a circle with a diameter of about 6 inches. Take another color (preferably lighter brown) and cut out a heart shape that would fit in the original circle. Place the heart on top of the circle, and then cut out an oval that will be placed over the bottom half of the heart (leave the curved top showing), also the oval should extend a little further than the circle. Place two dots in the heart (eyes) and a curved smile on the oval along with two nose holes. The outcome should look like the image below. Once you get your monkey face settled, tape it onto your shirt and put on a coat. Now you can say you're

a hipster without using words AND you have a witty costume. You're basically just saying "I'm better than you" Wow, wordplay is great. Moving on,

#### 2. Scariest thing you can imagine

**What you'll need:**

- Regular clothes
- A blank piece of paper
- Markers

What is the most terrifying thing you can imagine? To give everyone the creeps this Friday grab your marker and write the words "College Application Deadline" or "Student Loans" on your paper and then tape it to your shirt. Before you know it everyone around you will be crying

or screaming in fear! Don't be afraid to customize your costume by switching out the paper for things like "US History AP exam" or "running 5 miles". HAAAAHA life is scary.

#### 3. Zombie

**What you'll need:**

- A test the next day that you did not study for
- Monster Energy Drinks

Want to capture that amazing zombie look without the cost? Want to pass your science test? With this nifty Halloween hack you can have the best of both worlds. Spend the entire day before Halloween (and your test) complaining about how you have so much work to do (**note:** don't actually do any work), watch all 3 seasons of American Horror

Story, then acknowledge you did nothing and panic. Proceed to stay up all night and cram. By the morning, you'll have bloodshot eyes, dark purple circles, and greasy hair to fulfill your zombie look! Congrats, your self-destructive flaws have turned you into a real life monster! Hahaha candy and pain! Have a Happy Halloween!



GRAPHIC BY JULIA SONG '15



COURTESY OF SPIRIT HALLOWEEN

# Beware these Beats

BY CYNTHIA HUI '17  
Contributor

Never mind about the haunted houses that banally hangs dismembered limbs around every year, or the sugary goodies that you consume in stupendous amounts and feel guilty afterwards, or the tacky costume that you wore two years ago and thought no one would notice. The Halloweenie atmosphere would simply not be complete without some savory ear-candy. So ladies and gentlemen, let me humbly present to you the countdown to the ten ultimate drop-dead-worthy Halloween songs. These are the songs that will even get the graveyard grooving.

**10. Jump in the line - Performed by Harry Belafonte**

This song is definitely a Halloween favorite, thanks to Winona Ryder "shake, shake, shake"ing down one of the most memorable moments of the Halloween comedy film Beetlejuice (1960s).

**9. Werewolves of London - Performed by Warren Zevon**

If you are planning to dress

up as Tom Cruise from The Color of Money, this is definitely your song to rock out to. With Zevon's comical werewolf howl, this song mocks mankind's endeavors to connect to his inner animal.

**8. Double Trouble - Performed by the choir of Hogwarts**

The perfect Halloween song mixed with three pinches of Harry Potter-ness and two teaspoons of Shakespeare-ness, this song was first featured in Prisoners of Azkaban from the Harry Potter movie series and what's better is that the lyrics are adapted from Macbeth! There would have been a time for such a song, tomorrow, and tomorrow and tomorrow, creeps in this petty pace towards the day of All Hallow's Eve.

**7. Monster Mash - Performed by Boris Pickett**

Boris Pickett is the god of all Halloween songs (no arguments here!), and greatly inspired by the crazed mashed potato dance move era, he composed Monster Mash, which was number one on the Hot 100 in 1962 just before Halloween. The song inspired

a whole bunch of Halloween themed parodies, but sadly, none could live up to the original.

**6. Highway to Hell - Performed by AC/DC**

If hard rock is your type of candy, you will surely enjoy Highway to Hell as you go trick-or-treating with your besties. Imagine listening to this on your way to school... (just kidding, I love Loomis Chaffee)

**5. Time Warp - From Rocky Horror Picture Show**

With "a jump to the left" and "a step to the right", Time Warp is the most delightful, danceable yet timeless (the irony here) song to show off your crazy Halloween dance moves to.

**4. This is Halloween - Performed by Marilyn Manson**

This is Halloween coming to town with a statement: This is Halloween. Though the statement is repetitive, it never gets old, and you would never expect such a song to be overloaded with creepiness and spookiness from the simplicity of the song title. By the way, hands up if you want to go to

Halloween town!

**3. Ghostbuster - Performed by Ray Parker Jr.**

Who ya gonna to call? "Ghostbusters!" Who can you call? "Ghostbusters!" What are you going to listen to? Yes, Ghostbusters, number 1 song on the billboard for three weeks in 1984.

**2. Superstition - performed by Stevie Wonder**

Halloween is all about superstitions, and superstition is all about Halloween (and I'm all about Stevie Wonder)

**1. Thriller - Performed by Michael Jackson**

There will seriously be a rebellion if the DJ at the Halloween dance does not play this song. Not only is Thriller the most novel, electrifying Hal-

loween song at the time back then, it also contributed to the change of pop-music industry by initiating a brand new era of modern music videos. With the catchy chorus, suspenseful atmosphere and iconic dance moves of Thriller, Halloween would not be a thrill without it.



PHOTO BY JULIA SONG '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## Spooky Thoughts

THE BEST OF THE BEST  
Melange Editors

Halloween is my favorite holiday. I love when my family gets together and we all share what we are thankful for over a nice tur-

I love Halloween for all of the red and pink hearts and receiving chocolates from my mom...wait

The UPS guy told me my mask was absolutely terrifying. I wasn't wearing a mask.

Halloween is my favorite holiday because I can steal candy from children, and tell them that Darth Vader did it.

If I were a burglar, I would dress up as a burglar, to throw people off.

When the clouds parted and the luminous full moon came into view I howled. I'm so late for curfew.



GRAPHIC BY JULIA SONG '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

Ghosts love Halloween. I guess they really have the holiday spirit.

Don't be afraid to geek out this Halloween and dress as a character from your favorite tv show... unless your favorite tv show is American Horror Story. \*cough\* twisty \*cough\*



DRAWING BY PHUONG BUI '16

PHUONG BUI '16  
Contributor

**The Haunted Mansion (2003)**

A family comedy about a father, Jim, who discovers an important lesson about the family he's neglected as they attempt to escape the haunted mansion.

**Frankweenie (2012)**

Young Victor conducts a science experiment to bring his beloved dog sparky back to life, only to face unintended, sometimes monstrous consequences

**The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)**

Jack skellington, the pumpkin king of Halloween Town, is bored with doing the same thing every year for Halloween. One day he stumbles into Christmas Town, and is so taken with the idea of Christmas that he tries to get the resident bats, ghouls, and goblins of Halloween town to help him put on Christmas instead of Halloween -- but alas, they can't seem to get it quite right.

## (Trick or) Treat Yo'self

BY MARY ANNE PORTO '16  
Columnist

In elementary school, I always had classroom parties beginning with a costume parade through the school and ending with goodie bags. There was always that "room mom" who made the cool witches brew that, through the power of dry ice, magically steamed. There was also that parent that opted for celery sticks instead of pixie sticks, trading our snickers bars for granola bars, and we would all roll our eyes.

So, here I am, your least favorite room parent, proposing some healthy snacks for your Halloween. Enjoy (or don't—I was, and probably still am, one of those eye-rolling, sweet-toothed kids)!



GRAPHIC BY MARY ANNE PORTO '16 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## Loomis Chaffee Log

FOUNDED 1915

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The Loomis Chaffee Log is Loomis Chaffee's official student newspaper. We can be found online at [www.lclogblog.blogspot.com](http://www.lclogblog.blogspot.com) 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 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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## OP-ED

ASHWINI MELEKOTE '15 AND CIERA HUNTER '15

# Divest, Loomis, Divest!

(continued from page 1)

One solution is divestment. During one of our convocations last year, Mr. McKibben visited to further discuss climate change and the steps we should take as a school to have an impact. At the end of his long speech, he casually threw the topic of divestment out, and urged us as a school to divest. Unfortunately, as we were tired after an especially long, daunting talk, divestment did not receive the attention it deserved, and many still do not know what it is. Don't worry, we are going to explain it to you right now.

Divestment is not just a word hanging in the rotunda. It refers to the one of the largest campaigns against fossil fuels. Each college, private school, business, town, and person has the opportunity to divest. Colleges and private schools, like Loomis, are blessed with an endowment—essentially a school's savings account, maintained by large donations and other major gifts. Some institutions' endowments are as large as billions of dollars, such as Harvard, which has an endowment of \$36.4 billion. Loomis currently has a \$178 million endowment with a \$48 million operating budget. To ensure and grow this income, each school's board of trustees invests the money saved in the endowment into various companies to create hefty revenues. Unfortunately, schools often invest in oil companies and other companies who harm the earth because they offer high returns on investments. Having been in operation for a long time is another plus—there's a clear financial history for most of the companies.

Students across the country are taking a stand; they are not willing to be part of a school that condones and profits from the destruction of the earth. They want to send a message to the fossil fuel companies by taking their money

out of the companies that have a negative impact on the environment, and then reinvesting that money in renewable energy or green companies. There is a multi-

tude of research showing that our environmental situation has been worsening since the Industrial Revolution. Our society needs to find new ways to operate! Relying

upon finite, toxic resources will no longer work if we want the earth to continue to be able to support life in the long term. Students are urging their board of trustees to

divest from companies that have high greenhouse gas emissions, and to invest in environmentally-friendly companies. We want Loomis Chaffee to join the hundreds of colleges in this revolutionary campaign and to DIVEST!

I know what you devil's advocates are thinking: one school or a couple divesting will have little to no effect on the humongous, rich, polar bear-killing companies, and sadly, you are right.

A couple of schools divesting won't stop these companies from continuing in their ways.

In fact, Harvard, possibly the most well known college, chose not to divest (even though 72% of the student body voted for it). Even after President Faust announced that the school was not going to divest, faculty and students are still discussing this prevalent issue. The leadership at Harvard made some valid points. Divesting will have no financial impact on the fossil fuel companies. The shares that they sell will most likely just be bought up by another investor. They also do not want to create any instability in their endowment that could potentially harm the school and inhibit them from providing the best education possible to their students with very little visible reward. Also, they believe that their school should be focusing their efforts on other environmental initiatives that center on the school's purpose of education and research. President Faust stated in her April 2014 letter, "We must devote ourselves to enabling and accelerating that transition [from a society that is fundamentally dependent on fossil fuels to a system of renewable energy]—by devel-

oping the technologies, policies and practices that would make it possible—if we are to mitigate the damage that rising greenhouse gas levels are inflicting on the planet." Harvard is not against climate change, but they do not want to take a major moral step by withdrawing their support from companies that are currently holding them back from drastic innovation.

Although Harvard makes some good arguments, many others have seen the value in divesting and have taken a step in the right direction. Recently, the Rockefellers, the trademark name of oil, divested their eight hundred and sixty million dollar charity fund, the Rockefellers Brother Fund, from fossil fuels. In May of this year, Stanford University announced that they choose to divest—because, on a moral level, it is the right thing to do. By divesting, the university acknowledged the significance of climate change and demonstrated that they needed to live consciously and take notice of worldwide problems. Divesting is symbolic on many levels, but it has made an impact by spreading awareness, forcing people to think about their individual impact on the planet, and providing a new way that they can join a united force.

Do you want to be funded by money that profits from keeping our generation in the past? Let's work toward breaking down the wall that keeps our planet cycling toward destruction and, instead, discover something new. Let's support innovative ideas that can help fix the largest issue that faces us today.

Look climate change in the face and then choose: will you stay with what is normal and accepted or will you fight to save what we have? Take your stand!



CHRISTINE XU '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

MADDIE BROWN '15

# To ED or Not to ED? Reflections on the College Application Process

Imagine that, in less than two months, your college future is set in stone. No more applications to fill out, no more standardized tests to take, and no more stress about every single grade you receive. Early decision is a weight off of your back, and it allows seniors to enjoy the rest of their year without worrying so much about the college process. So why would you not apply ED?

Early decision implies that you have made a decision. You've visited a school, talked to students, and now you just know that that school is the one for you. "The moment I stepped on campus, I knew it was the one; it just felt right." That sen-

tence exemplifies the classic response to what drove a student to apply early decision. Unfortunately for seniors, we do not all have that light bulb moment of love at first sight. Early decision places pressure on all seniors to know where they want to live for the next four years of their lives by the beginning of senior year. If we are not sure, we'd better find somewhere where we want to go. Through hundreds of lectures and information sessions, the statistics clearly display that your chances double, even triple if you apply somewhere through early decision. We receive this "gift" from the colleges, and most of us have trouble refusing it. To

wait until January to apply may lead to denial from a college you would have been accepted in during the early decision round. For example, in 2013 Dartmouth accepted 27.9% of those students who applied early decision. Their overall acceptance rate, however, was roughly 11.5%. As a result, the majority of us seniors will sign on to early decision within the next two weeks.

Most colleges that do not have early decision do offer early action. Early action, unlike early decision, is non-binding. Applications are typically due on the same November 1 date. Early action, for the most part, does not increase your chance

of acceptance to a school. Many may choose to partake in early action if they feel confident in their grades and test scores from junior year and wish to learn of their acceptance status earlier. One Loomis Chaffee senior chose to apply early action because "a few of [her] favorite schools don't have early decision." She continues, "I am taking advantage of some early action programs at safety schools to get those applications out of the way early." With students applying to ten or twelve schools, breaking up the applications between early action and regular decision seems to lighten the workload. Plus, as seniors grow more and more

anxious, knowing you are accepted somewhere by December can relieve a lot of stress.

These days, it is difficult to find any senior who is not applying either early action or early decision to schools. One senior describes her decision to do neither, "I've chosen to wait on applying to colleges until regular decision so that schools see my senior fall term grades. I'm trying to use this fall as one last term to bring up my GPA, which was impacted by some sub par grades freshman year." This philosophy makes sense. Colleges look for that upwards progress with grades, and what better way to show it than starting out your

final year strong?

So what is the best method to choose upon applying to colleges? Unfortunately, no answer exists to this question, as aspects such as your own grades and specific colleges' offerings come into play. We must, however, take a deep breath and make the decision ourselves. Do not just apply early somewhere just because everyone else seems to know where they want to go. Do not apply regular decision just because you do not want to begin writing supplements for every college. Think about where you want to be a year from now on a Monday afternoon and start there.



OP-ED

ISABELLE RAPOSO '15

# Flabbergasting Feminism

Where is the Loomis feminist movement? It's everywhere. It's in the emotional extremes of actresses' voices in rehearsal for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. It's in the hearts of the people who are willing to step forward and be the one woman or one of two women in the room in a high level math or science class. It's in the lights on Pratt Field when they're lit for a field hockey game instead of a football practice. It's in a careful reading of the *Aeneid* of Vergil. As Michael Carter pointed out in the first issue of the Log, it's in the administration's decision to eliminate grinding at school dances. The Loomis Chaffee

feminist movement was also in the hearts of the founders, who dedicated the harvest of their lives to both boys and girls. For the first twelve years after the founding of the school, girls also received a Loomis education, and then moved to the Chaffee campus in 1926. Although gender ratios have evened out a bit since the days when Loomis served 39 boys and 13 girls, the school is still slightly heavier on boys than girls as a result of various innocuous factors. Whether we see the influence of this small imbalance in campus culture is up for debate. The 1970 reunion of the Loomis and Chaffee campuses, arriving as it did during

the period of second wave feminism, resulted in a large co-educational school and all the attending joys and trials. The Loomis feminist movement can also lurk around corners such as daily room inspections in Carter or even in the thornier parts of the dress code. Feminism at Loomis ranges from the radically deliberate to the happily inadvertent. Tough questions spring up around every aspect of the school. What, for instance, could the math and science departments do to more represent girls in AP Physics? Is there a flaw in the methodology of the classrooms into which freshmen flock, or has societal gender condition-

ing already worked its wicked magic on these fourteen-year-olds by the time they arrive at Loomis? What subconscious biases influence our decisions and homework time commitments? Can Loomis, as a prep school, really do anything to remedy the damage already done to the self-worth and ambition of its female students from kindergarten onward? Does the education on gender inequality need to stop at Killing Us Softly in Fitness and Wellness? Where is the class that covers rape culture and gender roles and Elizabeth Cady Stanton? Does our school have a moral obligation to address modern gender inequality as much as historical gender in-

equality? The Loomis feminist movement lies in the answers to these difficult and sometimes uncomfortable questions. It also lies in the pile of forlorn sandwiches cut into ninths that I offered the lucky visitors to my Harvest Festival booth (representing the LC Alliance for the Advancement of Women). The heart of the Loomis feminist movement can't be found in statistics, but in instincts. We all have an inner voice that distinguishes right from wrong, and with a little awareness and a little distrust of the social scripts we've always known, every student at Loomis can attune that inner voice to the small injustices and

gendered behavioral trends that, when you begin to notice them, seem to cry for your attention from dawn to dusk. The fact that small disparities will call for your attention does not mean that every gendered textbook illustration or grammar practice sentence must necessarily inspire outrage, but that these things serve as indicators of the different ways our society values boys and girls, or specifically, of how it devalues girls. In the fight for gender equality, we are each our own worst enemy. In J.K. Rowling's *The Goblet of Fire*, a trusted adult exhorts Harry to "constant vigilance!" I exhort you to constant vigilance, starting now.

LILY LIU '17

# Too Old for Treats?

Trick-or-treat always stirs up the most bizarre memories of mischievous childhood fun: hopping around the neighborhood in vampire masks, stuffing your mouth with tons of chocolate, scaring your next-door-neighbor's little sister, or decorating your neighbor's trees with toilet paper. However, the ghosts currently wandering around the spooky Island are not too successful in raising everybody's "spirit". For me, freshman Halloween was nothing but an all-school spirit day when everyone wore funny costumes. I did not get a costume, nor did I join the parade of trick-or-treating—I was too embarrassed to knock on door after door and beg for candy from my teachers. Even so, I was still a little disappointed by the absence of trick-or-treat cheers, especially on this "haunted" campus. Was trick-or-treat a big event back in the old days, or was it just as normal as it is today?

To my surprise, many faculty children at Loomis actually had tons of fun at the annual trick-or-treat. Ever since the school had started, fac brats would gather in front of Palmer Hall in their costumes to take a group picture before embarking on an exciting quest full of candy and chocolate.

"This is actually one of the few traditions that were kept alive," said Athletic Director Bob Howe '80, who grew up on campus as a fac brat in the 1960s. To him, trick-or-treat was a great social opportunity to bond with his town friends and other faculty brats, as well as to meet people that he wouldn't normally see. "Some freshman who hadn't given up the idea of trick or treating would join us. The fact that our families lived and worked together made it especially fun to go from door to door since we knew everyone," he said. Besides going to faculty houses, the fac brats would also rush into dorm lounges, fill their bellies with prepared treats, or even

pull a small prank occasionally. David Flash '81, a former fac brat, talked about one of his best memories of trick or treating at Loomis. "So, he [my father] got us into the apartment - Batch 1st Floor I think, and we stacked as many chairs as we could on the kitchen table, some on top of others. Pretty innocent by today's standards, but it felt adequately mischievous at the time."

Even though Mr. Howe disapproves of the ebbing Halloween spirit at Loomis, he admits that there is certainly more adult supervision than there was in his childhood. "Time has changed. We were allowed to go trick-or-treating on our own while our parents stayed home. Today, my own family included, we accompany our kids on their walk around campus." Seth Beebe '78, Director of Advancement Services, also a faculty brat in the 70s, agreed that parents today have more concerns on the safety of their children. "Kids in our days certainly had more freedom," he commented, "Once we were ambushed in the dark by some older kids throwing cherry bombs at us—it scared the heck out of me." Besides the involvement of parents, a few less faculty houses are open for Halloween candy runs since some of them have dorm duties at night. Perhaps the presence of concerned parents and the busy schedules of the faculty and staff accounted for the dwindle of trick-or-treat spirit on the Island.

In my opinion, the pelicans are just too busy to celebrate Halloween. However, instead of begging for sweets like 10 year-olds, we could think about reviving the tradition of giving out candies in our dorms and perhaps make trick-or-treating fun for the fac brats. Hopefully, more pelicans will come to the Halloween celebration, and maybe we can see a larger parade of trick-or-treaters in the quad on this year's Halloween's Eve.



TINA CHOI '16 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

MICHAEL CARTER '15

# Activism: A Dying Breed

The first thing I noticed was that the students at Wesleyan like to fight. Their newspaper was littered with casual references to this social issue or that one, and the tour guide was having trouble keeping track of which student-led movements he had already mentioned. The students there seem to have a tendency to publicly brawl with each other and the administration over almost every single aspect of life on campus, from the degendering of public bathrooms to the future of the school's fraternities and sororities. In fact, on the front page of the year's first issue of the Wesleyan Argus was an article about "Disorientation," a student-driven campaign and publication that aims to inform new students of ongoing issues on campus. Walking around in my tour group, I felt as if any moment I might walk into a protest or an impromptu student rally.

Wesleyan reminded me of Loomis in more ways than one, but, surprisingly, this was not one of them—at Wesleyan I saw a flood of student action and opinion, and at Loomis you'd be hard-pressed to find more than a handful of people working to change

things one way or the other. So I guess my question here is: Why isn't Loomis an activist school? What is it about the campus, culture, or community here that prevents from making as much noise as the people at Wesleyan? We certainly have the types of issues that make Wesleyan so outspoken: they're fighting against fraternities for the same reasons some Loomis students are fighting against the dances here (or they're fighting for fraternities for the same reason some Loomis students are fighting against the dance rules—it depends on your perspective). But while those at Wesleyan regularly petition and put up signs and write in the paper (hint hint), the Loomis activist scene is strangely quiet. Why?

That may be a trick question. There's certainly a lot of talk about policy and whatnot among the students and the faculty, whether about dance rules, teachers that don't use Veracross, or the ever-controversial dress code. In fact, the dance rules are one of the most talked about issues on campus, becoming the topic of a Dialogue in the Common Good, Log headlines, and even the (almost) first all-school meeting, which would have been held by StuCo a couple of weeks

ago. So why doesn't that translate into action? Why aren't the majority of students walking the walk?

One possible explanation is that Loomis students aren't under the impression that they have any sway in the way the school is run.

Technically, yes, that's true: the deans could decide at any minute to suspend Student Council and make us get up at six and wear all-out uniforms every day and have Family Style for breakfast, lunch and dinner. When it comes to executing decisions, the students do none of it. But then again, there is that thing called Student Council—an institution designed specifically for students to help make decisions about how the school is run. So we can't blame any lack of power in the school, unless we're talking about a lack of awareness of our power in the school: as Gabby Roncone '15 and Penelope Shao '15, the Vice President and Sec-

retary of Student Council, respectively, phrased it in this issue's StuCo Special Report: "We have more power than you think we have, which means that you have more power than you think you have." On a similar note, it's pretty clear that many Loomis

students simply have too much to do to try to fight ideological battles with the administration—when we're scrambling to study for a math test while struggling with an essay or two on top of that, who has time to organize an Anti-Dress Code rally? Who has time to write up a proposal for Student Council? Who has time for anything, really?

The Loomis Chaffee activist scene has been slow to develop and small in its scope, but that's not to say it doesn't exist. I know two people who are working to reverse the dance rules set forth by the deans over the past couple of years. I know someone pushing for reform in the disciplinary

system. I know people inside and out of Student Council who have been working to expand its power. There's a team working to push the school to divest (pull investments) from oil companies, and another team that plans on buying and constructing solar panels on campus within the year. But that's the minority of people—all of them together could probably fit around a Harkness table or two.

In her revolutionary tirade against the use of pesticides, *Silent Spring*, real-life activist Rachel Carson wonders: "Why should we tolerate a diet of weak poisons, a home in insipid surroundings, a circle of acquaintances who are not quite our enemies, the noise of motors with just enough relief to prevent insanity? Who would want to live in a world which is just not quite fatal?" It's a perfectly reasonable question for Loomis students: why should we settle for anything less than perfect? If the amount of complaining the average Loomis student does is any indicator, we certainly don't live at a perfect school—there are so many things that annoy us every day that are just within our grasp. If you constantly need to use a printer in the middle of the

night, why not write up a short proposal asking for a printer in every common room? If you can't stand the SNUG lines, why not request that two people work the counter during community frees? What if it worked? Last year Student Council managed to make the final exam for AP students optional—while StuCo itself admitted that it wasn't as effective as they had initially proposed, it is certainly something, and that's better than nothing. They also convinced the administration to keep the bookstore open longer, a development that spares students the pain of not being able to get books or supplies after school. It's these small grievances that we need to talk more about, that we need to do more about. These are the things that, in bulk, can change the school.

That concludes this issue's tirade, save for one last remark: if you see something, say something. If there's something that you notice and you think that something should be done about that, do something about that. Talk to your friends about it. Write about it in the Log (hint hint). Go to a StuCo meeting. Loomis Chaffee is a small world, and it's one at your fingertips. Go get 'em.

**Why should we settle for anything less than perfect?**



GRAPHIC BY ANGEL FADILA '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## Superbowl XLIX: The Predictions

BY AKASH CHADALAVADA '18  
Contributor

The Super Bowl isn't just a championship game, it is a widely celebrated and media hyped event. Super Bowl XLVIII was the most watched television event in the history of the United States, drawing 112 million viewers. Though the game is the prime entertainment, fans also watch the game for the advertisements that are uniquely created for the event, and the half time show that features stars such as Bruno Mars, Beyonce and Madonna. For some football fans, the next morning provides an opportunity to continue celebrating their team's victory and for others, they unfortunately have to wistfully wait for the next Super Bowl. So now, as we approach the midway point of a season already full of surprises, it is time to fine-tune Super Bowl predictions.

At the beginning of this season, I would have predicted that the New England Patriots and the San Francisco 49ers would be playing in Super Bowl XLIX. However, close to the midpoint of the season, I have a new prediction. The thorough dismantling of the Denver Broncos by the Seattle Seahawks in last year's Super Bowl seems to have spurred them to a sustained high lev-

el. They also understand that they do not have much time left in which they will be favorites. Their quarterback, Peyton Manning is 38. In the AFC conference, the Denver Broncos, San Diego Chargers, Indianapolis Colts and New England Patriots are starting to separate themselves in a weak conference. Teams with promising starts such as the Cincinnati Bengals have fallen behind. The New England Patriots continue to suffer from key injuries and inconsistent performances, and the absence of home playoff games will cost the Patriots a trip to the Super Bowl. The Colts and the Chargers, with their up and coming quarterbacks and strong defenses, are on the rise. I predict the Broncos and the Colts will play in the AFC championship game, with the Broncos winning a close game against the Colts, to make it to their second straight Super Bowl.

In the NFC conference, the San Francisco 49ers, Green Bay Packers, Seattle Seahawks, Arizona Cardinals, Dallas Cowboys and the Philadelphia Eagles are separating themselves from the rest of the teams. Since 2003, no team has won back-to-back Super Bowl championships. I predict that trend will continue and the Seattle Seahawks will not even make it to the Super Bowl. The

Dallas Cowboys, with a rejuvenated defense and featuring running back, DeMarco Murray, who has rushed for over 100 yards in seven consecutive games, seem like the juggernaut. The Eagles, featuring their high-octane offense are also primed for a deep run. The Green Bay Packers, with a confident Aaron Rodgers as their quarterback are playing relaxed football and winning close games. The 49ers, already a strong team, have several of their star defensive players returning from injury in the second half of the season. In the NFC, I predict the San Francisco 49ers, Green Bay Packers, Seattle Seahawks and Dallas Cowboys as the final four with the 49ers and the Packers playing in the NFC championship game. I also predict that the Packers will win a close contest, as the game will be played in the frozen tundra.

My Super Bowl XLIX matchup in Glendale, Arizona is the Packers versus the Broncos. With the rumored performance of Katy Perry's energetic pop music at half-time along with the up-tempo offenses that will be featured, this year's Super Bowl should surpass the viewership of last year. My final prediction calls for the Denver Broncos to win the championship. Final score 31-24.

## Pat Afriye: Q&A With a Loomis Legend

BY GRAYSON CLEMMER '17  
Contributor

Pat Afriye, '14, left The Island last spring, but not without leaving his mark first. Lettering in football, lacrosse, and track, as well as being a Prefect in Flagg Dormitory during his four years, Pat has become a Loomis legend, on and off the sports field. A versatile football player and master of multiple positions, Pat has moved on to become a leading linebacker in his freshmen year at Colgate University. We checked in with Pat to see how The Island prepared him for his college athletic endeavors.

Q: How did you get started in football?

PA: I started playing football in the 5th grade. I used to play soccer but then I started getting too big for it so I tried out football and I ended up being pretty good at it so I stuck with it and it turned into something I really valued. I developed a love for not only the game but for my teammates as well. I think one of the things that I valued most about the sport, over soccer, was the brotherhood that I formed with my peers.

Q: What made you choose to continue football over track and field and lacrosse, the other two sports that you had varsity letters in?

PA: I chose football over track because I had more opportunities in football and I also ran track to supplement myself in football. I used track as an extra way to train. One of the most important aspects of football is a player's physical condition and I'd rather be out there getting better at my craft and in better physical

shape as opposed to just not working out. I couldn't play lacrosse and run track at the same time so I had to cut out lacrosse if I wanted to run.

Q: How does it feel to be a headliner on a premier defense in the patriot league?

PA: It does feel good to be on a good defense in my league. I take a lot of pride in our defense and we work hard to get better every week. I can't only take credit myself because without my teammates or my coaches our defense wouldn't be the same. The scheme here is better than most other colleges we've played and it highlights both mine and my teammates skills as players.

Q: How does it feel to come to Colgate and be a freshman on a new and established team? Is it like starting from the bottom or is the team more inclusive?

PA: It is kind of new being a freshman again, there are a lot of new things to learn and adjust to but the team is also very inclusive. The upperclassmen have made it really easy for all the freshman to adjust and get settled into the system. Any new system is hard to learn but the guys on the team have helped me where I struggled and we've all become pretty close.

Q: Since it is so early in the season, how do you feel the chemistry of the team is coming along? Are you guys meshing well together?

PA: I think the team chemistry is really good; On our team everyone gets along with one another and every week we come out ready to work hard and play smart. We've all bonded through our commit-

ment to be better each week and it has made us a really tight knit team.

Q: How would you describe the feeling of being on a nationally televised college football game?

PA: Being on a national televised game was definitely a great experience. I've never played in front of so many people so it was a really exciting feeling. I loved every minute of it and I can't wait to get back out there with the team and show the world what we can do.

Q: At Loomis you moved around positionally, as a lot of high school stars do, what made you want to end up playing linebacker rather than running back, which you played all four years, or defensive end?

PA: I initially only played running back, but Coach Reid saw my potential at defense and all the positions I could play and he advised me to switch positions. After that I began focusing on defense, specifically linebacker and opportunities came to me and I was able to move on to college football at defense. I have still been moving around a bit on defense in college too though; they are making use of me at different positions around the field. Coach Lukabu has especially helped me to hone my skills at outside linebacker though allowing me to improve tremendously.

Humble as ever, Pat Afriye is meshing well with his teammates on the Colgate team. We're sure he will continue to wow us on and off the field and Loomis is proud to call Pat one of our own.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB CORNELL

## Running Towards Victory: LCXC's Journey

BY RAMESH SHRESTHA '18  
Contributor

The Boys Cross Country team has improved significantly over the past few years. LCXC looks ready for playoffs, with an undefeated season. We're not just about results, though. Through all the good and the bad, we have had a cohesive group of dedicated guys striving towards a common goal: Victory. Just one thing is a little different. We're striding a little faster than usual this year.

The LCXC owes its success to coaches, captains, new runners, and hard circuits (an especially dreaded yet appreciated workout). This killer combination of natural talent, hard workouts, and smart coaching accounts for the team's success.

The team is not just about winning, though. As one of two co-captains Frank Tucci '15 says, "On the LCXC team, we improve every day and

as we improve as individuals, we improve primarily as a family."

It really isn't all that surprising that LCXC has improved, as their main goal is about improvement. As Frank says, "Through our successes and failures, through our successive, individual, and collective trials and triumphs and tribulations, we grow, and we grow together." And that's what the team is all about: growth and togetherness.

The team hasn't just improved over the years, they have improved throughout the season as well. Many runners have seen huge improvements on their PR, or personal record. This is due to a good training program that really pushes the runners and forces them to improve, and become faster.

A major factor in the team's improvement is the fact that slacking off on the cross country team just isn't an option. As Frank and Don-tay, co-captains, say, "We're either running or

injured". Even the injured work out in the pool and help out during races, keeping everyone in shape.

When asked about how each race affects LCXC as a team, Frank said, "With each race we learn a little bit more about ourselves, becoming better people through each lesson, and becoming more like ourselves". Everyone wants to do better the next time; everyone is hungry for success.

Whenever a teammate achieves this success that they are so hungry for, they are handsomely rewarded. These rewards are not material, and they cannot be measured. These rewards are memories. Hard earned memories of after five kilometers of torture, seeing everyone again, cheering everyone on. It is not uncommon for the most cheering to be directed at the later finishers; the race doesn't end until the last man finishes.

Maybe this due to the fact that boy's XC has

bonded so well as a unit. As one runner put it, "We have gone through hell together, we have shared very tough experiences, experiences that rely on more than just strength. We are not a group of individuals that run together. We are a team. We all want team success, not individual success. We all understand that two seconds means a lot more when it's the only difference between you and a pack of four guys from another team, not the difference between your current and old personal record".

The nature of the improvement is, as Frank says, "As we run and become more like ourselves, our best-selves, each stride reaches its peak a little higher off the ground, and as pelican harriers we come that much closer to flying." And with an undefeated season going into the playoffs, the wings are flapping, ready for flight.

# Goodbye to Legends

## Landon Donovan Soccer

BY ALEX BENTHIEN '16  
Staff Writer

For the past decade, Landon Donovan has been the face of United States national soccer. His 57 goal record is the highest number by any U.S. national team player in history, and to put it simply, his goals they tend to "come in clutch" in the most intense and desperate moments during matches. Donovan has helped turn United States soccer around, changing the way Americans view the sport.

But after everything Landon Donovan has done for soccer in the United States, it was still not enough to earn a spot on the 2014 FIFA World Cup squad headed for Brazil. National team head coach Jürgen Klinsmann, in his third year on the job, cut Donovan from the team. Many U.S. fans were devastated, as they yearned for another chance to see Donovan's clutch goals and game-changing plays.

But the worst consequence of Klinsmann's decision was the mental toll it took on Landon himself. Donovan was depressed for weeks after the news, and he took a brief sabbatical from soccer, during which he realized the end of his career loomed in the near future.

"All of a sudden you realize it's over, and it goes by so fast", he explained.

Klinsmann and Donovan's relationship has since been awkward, so much that when the president of U.S. soccer, Sunil Gulati, asked Donovan about a farewell game, Landon's response was a polite, "Thanks, but no thanks". But after discussing the matter with his family, Donovan decided to travel with the U.S. national team to Rentschler in East Hartford, Connecticut for his final game in a U.S. soccer jersey. Fans from all over New England, including myself, attended the memorable game, and everyone hoped they could forget about the events of the previous summer and just enjoy an amazing player's remarkable career.

On the cool and clear evening of October 7, Rentschler Field buzzed with excitement as a steady stream of U.S. fans packed in, each sporting the proper apparel (Donovan jerseys were perhaps the most popular outfit choice). Donovan was named captain and started at striker. The announcement of his name stirred the crowd, and the stadium erupted into cheers and chants. Every time his skilled feet touched the ball, the

crowd's excitement swelled. After only 5 minutes of play Donovan carried the ball down the left sideline and played a wonderful ball into the box, that, after some bouncing around, was finally finished by Donovan's teammate Mix Diskerud. Soon after, in the 24th minute, Donovan found space inside the box and fired a shot to the far side that bounced unluckily off the post. In the 40th minute, Donovan was substituted out of the game, and he earned a standing ovation as he jogged to the bench.

In his final moments on the field, soccer fans worldwide, forgot the unfortunate series of events that led to his retirement and the questionable choices of Jürgen Klinsmann. They just remembered and appreciated a man who defined what it is to be a true player and teammate, a player that leaves big shoes, (or cleats) to fill for future players of the US Men's National Soccer Team.

**"All of a sudden you realize it's over, and it goes by so fast."**

-Landon Donovan

## Derek Jeter Baseball

BY SAM GOLDFARB '18  
Contributor

In an unusual coincidence, two of the greatest athletes in their respective sports just reached the twilight of their careers at almost the exact same time. Derek Jeter, who played shortstop for the New York Yankees for his entire twenty-year professional baseball career, retired this past September when the Yankees failed to qualify for the MLB postseason. Similarly, Landon Donovan, one of the United States' most prolific soccer players, ended his Team USA career on October 10, 2014 in an international friendly, quite close to Loomis, at Rentschler Field in East Hartford, Connecticut. The loss of these two greats in their respective sports leaves American sports fans with an opportunity to reflect, and an invitation to appreciate remarkable careers. In a time when

many great athletes taint their legacies through questionable behavior on or off the field, Jeter is certainly an exception from this trend.

Jeter was exceptional on the diamond, winning five World Series titles and being named World Series MVP in 2000. He posted a career batting average of .310 with 3,465 hits, and he was well known for coming through in the clutch. Jeter hit ten career walk-off hits, including a game-winning single in his final home at-bat against the Baltimore Orioles. "The Captain," as he was called later in his career, was simply a class act. During interviews, Jeter answered with a large amount of humility and was quick to compliment the teammates around him rather than take the credit for himself.

While Jeter was highly regarded for his skills and humility, nobody is perfect. Jeter probably played one season too long, as he could not maintain his typical batting statistics in his last year at the age of forty. Also, as a long-time bachelor, Jeter was often the subject of tabloid stories about the various women he dated.

For sports fans, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find

athletes who "did it the right way" like Derek Jeter. There are many great athletes whose careers have been marred by scandal and will always have asterisks by their names in the record books. Barry Bonds, the "Home Run Champion," is widely believed to have taken steroids to enhance his performance. Lance Armstrong's multiple Tour de France victories have been revoked, and he has admitted multiple doping offenses. Tiger Woods and Kobe Bryant had extramarital affairs that became national news. OJ Simpson, one of the greatest running backs of all time, will always be remembered by most as the guy who was accused of murdering his ex-wife and her friend.

We should appreciate careers like Jeter's, for this kind of greatness is a rarity. As we look at the current slate of popular athletes, there are only a few that will fall into this category. We should take time to enjoy the last few years of play by Peyton Manning, Tom Brady and Phil Mickelson while they are still at the top of their games. A few years down the road, we will only have YouTube clips to watch as reminders of these legendary performers.

# LC's Getting Warmed Up for Winter

BY CHLOE IRVING '17  
Staff Writer

As the fall midterm took a considerable amount of students by surprise, leaving them with the realization that only four weeks remain to bring up their fall term grades, it induced excitement among winter varsity athletes. The first half of the fall term proved to be enormously successful, with cross country, field hockey, soccer, and volleyball producing impressive season records and football stringing together several consecutive hard-fought victories. The fall sports teams are in high spirits as they gear up for the second half of their seasons, many hoping to obtain victory at New England's. There is however, a group of athletes preparing not for the end of this season, but next season.

Winter sports are known as some of Loomis' most rigorous, characterized by extreme amounts of dedication and hard work in spite of the bitter and temperamental New England winter weather that we all know and love. Sandwiched between fall and spring, with no long breaks to precede their onset, winter sports do not have the luxury of a designated pre-season, leading some students take an extra step in preparation for their winter sport: training during the fall.

This year, instead of participating in a fall sport, four varsity swimmers including myself opted to train with the Aqua Bears, a club swim team that practices daily in the Loomis pool. Our team of four congregates at the pool every day after the end of water polo practice. "Obviously what we're doing is benefi-

cial", said preseason swimmer Kelly Hanlon '17. "Being on a different schedule than everyone else and managing our own workouts has been hard, but we're doing it to better ourselves and our team as a whole".

The Girl's Basketball team has approached fall training with a similar attitude. "In the fall, we are able to build up team chemistry and form a bond that is unique to girls' basketball. We get used to playing with each other and get to know each others strengths and weaknesses" commented captain Steph Jones '15.

**"Being on a different schedule than everyone else and managing our own workouts has been hard, but we're doing it to better ourselves and our team as a whole."**

-Kelly Hanlon '17

There are, of course, physical benefits to training in the offseason. "The benefits are early season conditioning, so that when the season begins the athlete is already in pretty good shape. Also, when an athlete is already in good condition, the chance of injury once the season begins is reduced" said Bob DeConinck, head coach of Girl's Varsity Swimming. Athletes that participate in preseason conditioning either in the weight room or literally practicing their sport will often progress faster in the level of their workouts, giving them the upper hand in competition, especially in the beginning of

the season. In typical LC fashion, several athletes excel in more than one sport. Many winter athletes find that they can adequately prepare without withdrawing themselves from fall team athletics. In fact, some athletes see cross training between different sports as advantageous. Often, an athlete's fall sport will have some correlation with his or her winter sport.

"I think that field hockey is great for developing your stick skills and helping your on ice or on the field vision. Weights are also a good alternative to develop your overall strength, and soccer is great for developing your foot speed. They all have pulls to get you ready for hockey season, and I believe they are all good options", says a member of the Girl's Varsity Hockey team.

"Choosing AP weights as my sport for the fall has been great for me so far. Everyone in the program is a committed and focused athlete who happens to not have a fall interscholastic sport. The workouts are intense, but I know it will pay off in a few weeks when my season begins", says another Varsity Hockey Player.

As the days grow shorter and colder, winter looms nearer each day. Soon, volleyball nets will be taken out of courts, goals out of pools, and the rink will be iced over once again. Our incredible fall seasons will be missed, but more athletic success is just around the corner. It's time to lace up our sneakers, skates, and fins because winter is coming and the Pelicans will be ready.



## Meet the Officers

BY GRACE DUBAY '17  
Staff Writer



PHOTO COURTESY OF WILL PARSONS '15

**WILL PARSONS '15**  
President

Will Parsons '15, the former fac-brat living in Taylor Hall, has been serving as our Student Council president throughout this centennial year. Aside from other activities such as rowing, hockey, and tour guiding, Will still manages to find time for this big responsibility. When elected to the council, the senior promised to bridge the gaps between students, the administration, and faculty, while also fostering school spirit and planning school events. Will believes in the council's ability to accomplish more than just the "busywork" due to the working relationships between students and faculty. His legacy will join a long list of past presidents, but what sets Will apart is his knowledge of exactly how the school works and his privilege to call it home for his entire life.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GABBY RONCONE '15

**GABBY RONCONE '15**  
Girls' Vice President

Gabby Roncone, a senior day student from Colchester, CT, has proven to be a passionate and strikingly intelligent member of the Council. Gabby provides a progressive voice, while also keeping in touch with our roots as a school. As the girls' vice president, it's Gabby's job, but also her ambition, to work together with the other reps to accomplish everything possible on the Island. "I could make up a cute comparison to explain our relationship as officers (like, if I were to say that I'm the Ron to Will's Kim Possible) but it's really not like that. Sure, I am vice president. But all of the officers work well together so that there isn't really a hierarchy between us. It works out quite nicely," said the senior. Gabby's fresh, while also extremely caring perspective will do great things for our community for many years to come.

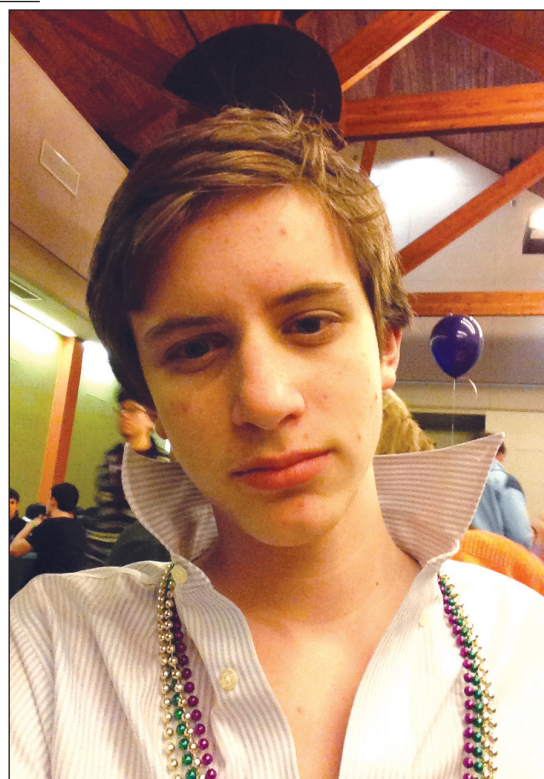


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHARLIE KENNEY '15

**CHARLIE KENNEY '15**  
Boys' Vice President

Charlie Kenney, a senior from Mahomet, Illinois, currently living in Warham, provides experience and enthusiasm for the council. Since freshman year, he has been actively working and establishing proposals such as the Mandatory Syllabus Proposal, Veracross Proposal, Junior Internet Proposal, and the AP Proposal. Charlie works closely with the officers of not only his own class, but those younger than him to create a close bond within the council that brings the student body together from the inside. "What particularly excites me about Student Government is the ability for a group of hard-working students, like the ones I've been lucky to see on the Council, to come together with the common goal of helping out the student body," said the vice president. The list of Charlie's initiatives throughout the years can go on and on, but the accomplishments in which he takes the most pride in are the friendships he's formed while serving.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PENELOPE SHAO '15

**PENELOPE SHAO '15**  
Secretary-Treasurer

Penelope Shao, an RA in Palmer from Ottawa, Canada, has been dedicating her time during her senior year to serving as the secretary to the Student Council. This job consists of handling the communication and coordination within StuCo, as well as the rest of the school. Penelope has been driven by her desire to turn the ideas she's accumulated over her time on the Island into a reality, such as revising Saturday classes and AP exams. By making it easier for the representatives to stay in constant contact online through Google Drive, Penelope utilizes her previous knowledge as a representative to make sure all proposals and initiatives are heard. The swimmer and Model UN member has a passion for working with other innovative students to bring about beneficial change.

## Letter From the Officers

BY GABBY RONCONE '15  
AND PENELOPE SHAO '15  
StuCo Officers

(continued from page 1)

So, what are we doing now? We did plan an All-School Meeting for Thursday, October 9. The Student Council was supposed to run it, and rumor had it that it was going to be much like a town forum. But then just as suddenly as it appeared, it had disappeared from the school calendar. The Student Council planned this meeting in an attempt to give the students more of a voice, whether it be about personal/national/international issues, or school policy. We wanted to hear what you had to say. Because of conflicting visions with the deans of what the meeting would be like and a lack of logistical preparation, we had to scratch it. The All School Meeting is not dead, however. It has been rescheduled to October 28th, tentatively. Right now, we're thinking about running a similarly structured dialogue--opening the meeting with a few short (2-3 mins) talk in the common good from one student from each grade and a teacher, then moving into discussion in response to those talks. We want to run a separate

**"We have more power than you think we have, which means that you have more power than you think you have."**

all school meeting to discuss amendments to the constitution.

Amendments to the constitution? What constitution? YES, the Student Council has a Constitution! We even have a Bill of Rights (the anti-Federalists would be proud!) that is separate from the Constitution. We have more power than you think we have, which means that you have more power than you think you have. You should check them out--they're on the LC StuCo Facebook page. We're planning on adding this to the Constitution along with other amendments designed to promote the student voice in faculty decisions regarding student life. Making amendments to the constitution requires an all school discussion and vote, so you actually have a chance to make a change yourselves, which is cool.

In the end, it comes down to this: StuCo is here for you. That's cliché, but it's true. We are your voice to the deans, and to Dr. Culbert, and to the Trustees. We have a lot of power to make a change. We thrive when you feel dissent festering and you talk to us. So get involved and read our emails; stop complaining to your friends and start complaining to your StuCo rep. Because, essentially, without you we are nothing. You can make a difference.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KIM DAVIES VIA FLICKR

Quoted:

### The Report to the Board of Trustees

#### On StuCo Proceedings:

"We have reformed the procession of inner-council Tuesday meetings so that council members split off into discussion groups with a specific topic to discuss after which they present their conclusions to the rest of the council. We have also established the extensive use of internet-based collaborative platforms throughout our meetings and work. In order to foster productivity outside of the Council meetings (an issue that we have struggled with in years past) we have created specific "Task Groups" to which members have been assigned based on previous interest that must meet outside of the council like mini-committees and report to the officers with a written plan on how they plan to tackle their assigned task in upcoming weeks."

#### On the All-School Meetings:

"With regards to major school initiatives, the Council has energetically undertaken the new idea of an "all school meeting." Ultimately, the goal of these all school meetings is to foster a sense of community as an entire school. While we have all school convocations occasionally, we never convene just as the Loomis Chaffee community. While we are still working out the particulars of the agenda, the loose idea is a forum of sorts, a safe place for all different types of students to come together and discuss major school issues. While the meetings are still in the preliminary stages, we have a date set for later in the month. The student body has received the idea well, and the excitement is palpable to see how students can run such an event."

#### On the StuCo Constitution:

"Also brought to our attention is the Student Council Constitution. Last ratified in 2010, this document set out to elaborate upon the Student Council's objectives, freedoms, limits, and duties. As a council, we have been examining the specific rules, but more importantly the amendments to the constitution. Proposing and ratifying amendments to the Constitution requires comprehensive student action from start to finish, with balloting from both the council and the student body as a whole determining the outcome of the amendment. This school year the officers hope to clean up, review, and amend the Student Council constitution and the student bill of rights, another document, where necessary."

"Two amendments we had in mind were an amendment to require that the Constitution be ratified every four years and an amendment to require students to attend faculty discussions and votes regarding student life to bridge the divide between student perspective and faculty perspective. Not only will these amendments be beneficial to the student voices of the future, but they will also be beneficial to inciting school spirit about policy because of the all-school voting process. A sense that students are involved in administrative decisions will ultimately create a more positive attitude towards the rules and the faculty."



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN TURNER VIA FLICKR