

# Loomis Chaffee Log

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## THE HOLIDAY EDITION

### A Midsummer Night's... um...line?

BY KIRSTEN MOSSBERG '16  
Contributor

From the day you step into that little red barn for auditions to closing night where you find yourself taking your final bow and avoid any flying roses (or rotten tomatoes), you commit yourself to the exhilarating process of creating a show. While every person's NEO experience differs greatly, I will attempt to give you an adequate behind-the-scenes look into the building of this year's LC NEO fall production, A Midsummer Night's Dream in which I played Titania, the fairy queen.

Many people look at me with disbelief when I tell them just how many hours we practice weekly (2.25 hours daily with the exception of 6 hour practices on Wednesday and Saturday). It seems like a lot, but every millisecond spent is indispensable toward building the show. For example, it can take as much as two hours to stage a scene if not more. Rehearsal time, however, does go by quite quickly when your character just sleeps on top of some green and silver exercise balls for three consecutive scenes.

So let's start from the very beginning, a very good place to start working those abs because lord knows you're going to need them in tip top shape for the show that's coming up in TWO months. Especially near

the beginning of the process, warm ups usually take up the first fifteen minutes of every rehearsal. We plank for about one to two minutes while reciting tongue twisters and the alphabet backwards in order to learn how to prevent physical strain from noticeably slipping into our voices when we eventually perform. Many of my non theatrical friends remark upon how uncomfortable it must be to rehearse with all the people whom you just had to compete with to get a part. I would not deny that in the beginning there's always some awkwardness, but that lasts for about five seconds because people's minds soon become preoccupied with the pains of planking. In addition to the physical work out, we do other types of exercise to strengthen our minds and encourage cast bonding. In one exercise, you have to close your eyes and trust your partner to lead you around the space while Mr. McCamish, our director, puts obstacles in your path. Obviously a strong sense of trust develops among the cast, and I think we all get so close in the end because everything we endure: the planking, the long hours, Damon's incessant and terrible puns, etc, we endure together. Wait a second, I haven't even talked about tech week. I'm not allowed to get sappy yet!

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PHOTO COURTESY OF LOOMIS CHAFFEE WEBSITE

### A Midterm Election umm..what?

BY SAM COX '16  
News Editor

Every other year, we flip on the TV, read signs in front yards, or crack open our mailboxes and read names. We see Foley, Malloy, Blumenthal, Murphy, Larson, Esty - and know that election season is upon us.

Our country's government changed dramatically last month. The 2014 Midterm elections marked the first time since G.W. Bush's second term that Republicans have held full Congressional power.

To gain control of Congress, the Republican Party, or GOP, had to win over the previously Democratic-controlled Senate, as well as maintain their majority in the House. However, few contests were considered gimmes for either party, especially in the Senate.

One of the closest Senate races took place in Virginia - a state known to be more conservative - where the incumbent Senator Mark Warner beat his Republican challenger by a mere 16,000 votes.

Meanwhile, Republicans proved victorious in other swing states, coming away from tight Senate races in North Carolina, Colorado and Iowa. They also took seats from Democrats in Montana, South Dakota, West Virginia, Alaska and Arkansas.

The Republicans didn't merely maintain their majority in the

House of Representatives, but took an additional twelve seats from the Democrats to further strengthen their party's presence. Although some races in the House were close, including three runoff elections in Louisiana, the majority of contentions favored Republicans. Additions to the GOP stronghold in the House include District wins in Maine, New York, Iowa, Nevada, and Texas.

Further control of the House by the GOP served to diversify the Republican party. For example, Mia Love, who beat the incumbent Democrat in Utah's 4th District, became the first black woman in the history of the Republican party to be elected to either the House or the Senate. Additionally, Elise Stefanik, who was elected to New York's 21st district, became the youngest woman in Congress history at only 30 years old. This much-needed diversification among Republicans will hopefully help the parties credibility in hot topic issues like immigration reform and abortion.

Gubernatorial races proved that Congress was not the only red-leaning body of power this election season. Although Dem. Dannel Malloy squeaked out a win here in Connecticut, Illinois incumbent Dem. Gov. Quinn was ousted from his governor's mansion.

(continued on page 2)

## College Decisions!

How to talk to the monsters the seniors have become

BY MICHAEL CARTER '15  
Editor in Chief

'Tis the season to be jolly—or, in the case of most of the seniors around campus, worried, testy, and seemingly ready to snap. Why? Because the first round of early college decisions is almost through, and for a lot of us the colleges we're hearing back from are our first choices, the most selective colleges, the colleges we've always kind of pictured ourselves at when we think about college in general. So naturally, the stakes are high, and it's the time of the year when all of those decisions are coming in slowly but surely and with a whole lot of noise—whether it be excessive cheering in the dining hall (I know it's annoying, and you shouldn't do it, but let them have their moment) or excessive sobbing in the dining hall (I guess it happens). It's a time of trial and solidarity for the seniors, but for all the underclassmen it can be rather baffling—that's why in this issue I'll be going through a couple of rules for handling our flying-off-the-handle senior friends.

#### 1. Mind Your Own Business

This doesn't mean "ignore the seniors." It just means to be delicate around them. The most important thing to understand is that a senior's college decisions are very personal, and that if they want you to know they will graciously allow you to know, and that if they don't want you to know they won't tell you and that's

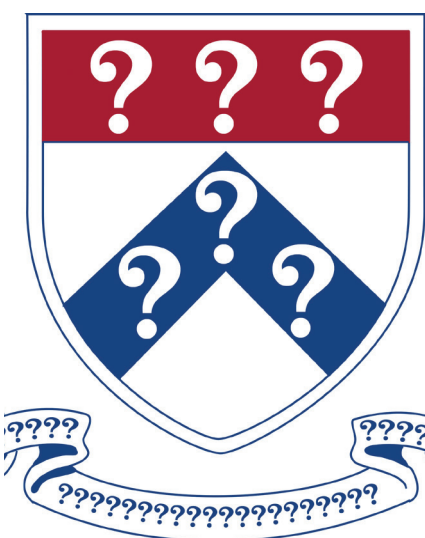
their own decision and you should respect that. As interesting as the decisions are, you don't need to know. Therefore, don't go around to the seniors and ask "What college are you applying to? Did you get in?" That's a little forward, and it definitely puts the pressure on. Rather, you want to approach them non-confrontationally and make sure that they have the comfortable option to withhold information. Here's a stellar example:

You: Hey, what's up!  
Senior: Not much, you?  
You: I'm alright. Have you heard from any colleges yet?  
Senior: Yeah, I did.  
You: Coolio.

See? In that example your senior friend clearly wasn't comfortable talking about college, but you gave him the space to end the conversation and he did. You can probably assume that the news wasn't good, but it makes it so much worse for him to have to say it out loud. You really did him a solid with that one. Good for you. Here's another one:

You: Hey, what's up!  
Senior: Not much, you?  
You: I'm alright. When do you hear from colleges?  
Senior: Tomorrow, actually! I'm really nervous.  
You: Oh wow! Are you telling people where?  
Senior: Yeah, it's from University of Phoenix, actually.  
You: Coolio. Good luck!

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GRAPHICS BY MICHAEL CARTER '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG



GRAPHICS BY MICHAEL CARTER '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## Editors' Picks

### Eight Zeroes

Alex Benthien '16 gives us the scoop on LC's centennial fundraiser. What is it? How is the money being used? Find out more on page 3.

### Pick-Me-Up

Rachel Shin '18 is here to discuss the restorative properties of hot chocolate on page 5.

### Iron Chef Phil

Philip Cui '15 joins the Melange for some serious conversation about pasta-making. See more on page 7.

### Santa?

Happy Holidays from the Log! For your reading pleasure, the editorial staff has put together a holiday wishlist on page 12.

## If you see something, say something.

Have something you think needs to be written about? Tell us more at [log@loomis.org](mailto:log@loomis.org) or at [lclogblog.blogspot.com](http://lclogblog.blogspot.com)



## Seismic Shifts in Government: 2014 Midterms

(continued from page 1)

Three other states, Massachusetts, Arkansas and Maryland, also faced the transition to a Republican senator.

Magazines and media outlets such as High Times made seemingly absurd claims declaring marijuana the winning factor of these midterms - but they may not be far from the truth. Marijuana was legalized for recreational and personal growing purposes in Alaska, a state that remained heavily conservative this election.

Furthermore, America has been watching Colorado and Washington closely to see how their 2012 legalization measures have panned out. Colorado has since brought in close to \$30 million in revenue from recreational pot alone, undoubtedly inspiring other states to consider similar measures. Oregon and Washington D.C. both legalised marijuana for recreational purposes.

In Washington state, a gun violence prevention bill that

would require all firearm purchasers to go through a background check passed with 60% of voter support, a good sign for gun violence advocates in a heavily right-wing dominated election.

The NRA fought, and lost, to the support of Michael Bloomberg's "Everytown for Gun Safety" and entrepreneur Nick Hanauer's \$500,000 support towards the Washington gun bill. NRA advocate Brian Judy criticized Jewish Hanauer for supporting the bill, calling the legislation similar to the measures Nazi Germany took before the Holocaust.

Judy said behind closed doors, "Now, he (Hanauer) has put half-a-million dollars toward this policy, the same policy that led his family getting run out of Germany by the Nazis... It's like (laughter)... How stupid can they - you know?"

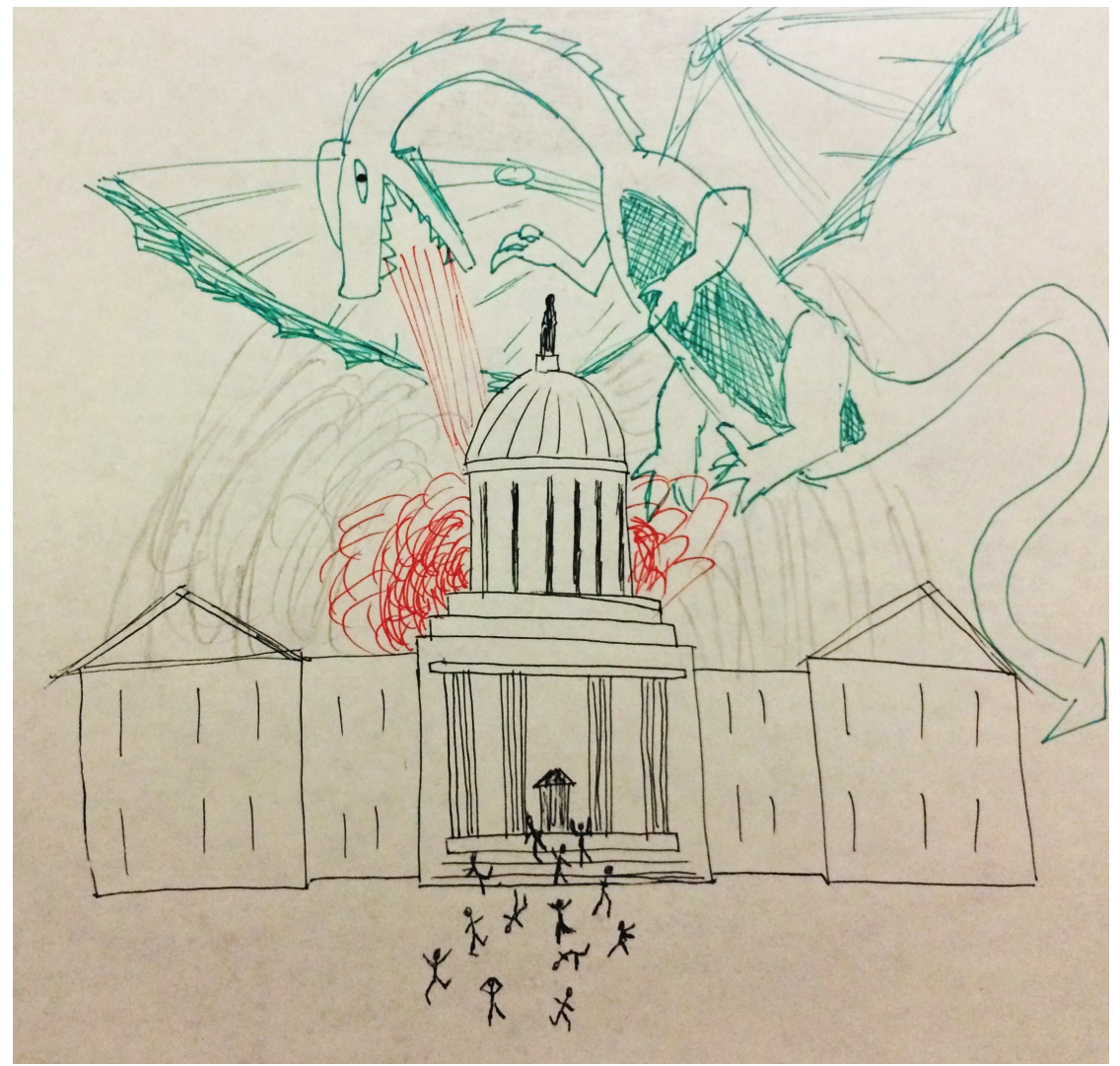
His remarks were countered by Washington Senator David Frockt and Representative Reuven Carlyle of Seattle. In a joint statement, they said, "In 2014, it is really shameful to hear a key political opera-

tive stereotype whole groups of people when they think the doors are closed and the cameras are off".

During election week, Obama's disapproval rating hovered at 54%. When questions regarding regained Republican control in Congress during a Democratic presidency arose, it's easy to point out that Obama's mistakes and unpopularity caused Americans to vote indifferently against his party.

Obama's unpopularity raises questions for the 2016 Presidential election. A bid by Hillary Clinton would likely have her as the democratic frontrunner, but American dissatisfaction with Obama could likely boost the chances of a Republican's occupation of the Oval Office.

This week, the House passed a \$1.1 trillion spending bill, narrowly avoiding another government shutdown like the one we saw last year. Whether this is a sign of new bipartisanship and congressional cooperation, only time will tell.



GRAPHIC COUTESY OF MICHAEL CARTER '15'S AP GOVERNMENT NOTEBOOK FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## After the Island: Paul Mounds Jr. '03 LC Ideals Carried to the Capitol

BY SAM COX '16  
News Editor

Paul Mounds Jr. '03' was a four year boarder student from East Hartford, CT. He served as President of his Senior Class, Kravis Prefect, Resident Assistant in Taylor, and tri-captain of the Varsity Football, Basketball, and Baseball teams. Currently, Paul serves as Director of Government Relations for Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy, as the Governor's chief liaison to the Connecticut Legislature. Previously, he was the Communications Director for US Congressman John B. Larson and Deputy State Director for U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal.

SC: Did any experience, person, event etc. inspire you at your time at Loomis, and how did it/affect you?

PM: One of my most memorable moments during my time at Loomis was winning the Spoon Game versus the Kent School in my senior year on a game winning field goal by my Loomis roommate Paul Mandelson '03'. To win the game against a formidable Kent squad a complete team effort was needed and more importantly we had to trust and believe in each other. The lesson I learned from that one game remains with me today in my professional career - you must seize the moment when it is in front of you. You can either control your own destiny or just be a footnote in someone else's story.

SC: Why did you decide to go into politics?

PM: I decided to pursue a career in public service because I learned from my parents from a young age that benevolence and charity are important traits to possess. There is no greater feeling than going out of one's comfortable zone and going above and beyond to provide service and assistance to others. Politics is the art of understanding the mindset and opinions of the people you serve, and the only way you can be successful in politics is by being willing to escape your personal bubble

and truly putting yourself in others' shoes. The political path I am on has allowed me to remain the same person I was at Loomis Chaffee - competitive, inquisitive, caring, and goal-driven.

SC: Congrats on the midterm election win. What were some of the biggest issues Malloy and his team faced leading to the election, and how did they help or hinder on election day? (Healthcare, Gun legislation, Minimum wage etc.)

PM: I have had the great honor of working on campaigns on all levels-Congressional to municipal elections - and this year's Gubernatorial election had the same ups and downs as the previous elections I worked in. The Malloy campaign remained committed to not running away from our legislative and policy record from the past four years. Yes, we had to make tough

and the first Energy Strategy in the State's history. This is our record, and unlike many candidates across the country we embraced our record from the past four years, and were not afraid to speak to the voters of Connecticut about our Democratic values. Candidates of elections are a reflection of their records, and we embraced ours. Our record is not perfect, but the voters of Connecticut respected the tough decisions we made and felt it was important in comparison to our opponent, that Governor Malloy was the right leader for Connecticut and deserved to continue his vision for the State for a second term

SC: Anything you think we should look forward to in the next four years, within CT as well as the rest of the country?

PM: In Connecticut, Governor Malloy will continue to focus on improving the

petuate with republican rule in the House and Senate and a Democratic President, it will be incumbent on states to take on roles usually led by the U.S. Government, for example funding our aging transportation infrastructure and enhancing education opportunities for our youth. Americans want their government to be responsive and innovative, and focused, however, Congress has displayed that they are neither, which will lead to a growing frustration from voters.

SC: Lastly, what would you say to your former high school self knowing what you know now. Any tips for those looking to go into politics?

My advice to both my former self and to individuals interested in politics are the following:

- 1) It is ok to ask for advice and utilize it- You become smarter when you ask smart people for guidance
- 2) When you fail, just try again. Failing once doesn't mean the end of the task or goal, it just represents the beginning of the journey.
- 3) Listen first, Talk second - Information is received through your ears, individuals in politics are eager to be first and loudest to talk. Listening is the best way to obtain information and understanding how to get your task done.
- 4) Slow down and enjoy the moment - I have been lucky to work in historic sites like the U.S. Capitol. One day on the way to a meeting in the Capitol rotunda I stopped and looked around. I realized I work in a building every day where people come from all over the world to see and experience the history; I started to appreciate how lucky I truly was and began having a deeper appreciation for every moment had there.



COURTESY OF PAUL MOUNDS JR '03

policy decisions to ensure Connecticut moves forward economically and remains competitive but we also passed important policies that led to us being the first state to pass a \$10.10 minimum wage, comprehensive gun reform in the wake of the tragedy at Sandy Hook,

state's economy. Even with the unemployment rate in the state at levels below the great recession, our economic recovery must continue and we must pass legislation that will grow and retain jobs. With the gridlock we are seeing in the U.S. Congress that will further per-

## LC'S FIRST Haunted House

BY SARA CORSETTI '16  
Staff Writer

Whether you organized it, experienced it, or simply received the email raising awareness of the event, if you are a student or faculty member at Loomis Chaffee odds are you heard about the Haunted House hosted this Halloween on campus. The unprecedented event, organized by Loomis's PSO, proved a success, raising an unexpectedly large sum of money, all of which was donated to the Unicef Foundation.

Though most only witnessed the final product, the event required intricate planning and determination to be executed successfully. The fright-fest was organized by PSO, who collectively spent hours not only hosting the event but promoting, gathering supplies, and transforming the former college office into various bloodcurdling scenes. The process of the planning was similar to that of any well-organized event. After receiving approval for the project, the group made their first advance with a visit to Party City, where they purchased the spooky decorations used in their set. Members of the PSO then began to set up these decorations about three days in advance, utilizing their free time to complete the amount of work that went into the final product.

Having attended the haunted house myself, I was impressed by the effort and thoroughness of the set. After paying, I was directed inside what I knew as the old college office, but found nothing of the sort. The building was mainly dark, though as I walked from room to room there were

rare exceptions of light that still somehow

seemed to add to the gloom of the scape. Each chamber was chillingly decorated, including various details like fake blood and students who had volunteered to pop out and scare visitors. While some students appeared slightly nervous, others seemed to be enjoying themselves, clearly entertained by the experience. After visiting each room, I left the building feeling like my money was well spent.

Without good cause, one can imagine the hesitation to pay for a student-orchestrated haunted house for the sheer thrill of a good scare. However, the benefits of giving to a good cause proved to sway the masses. While the haunted house project provided a lot of ghostly fun for the Loomis Community, the overarching goal was to raise funds for a very worthy cause, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, or Unicef. Raising a total \$670, the proceeds were sent to the organization and will be used to benefit children in need across the globe.

Although the building used for this year's haunted house is to be transformed into Cutler Dorm in the future, the possibility of hosting another haunted house on campus stands, and may prove a future annual festivity. When asked her opinion towards making the possibility of making the event a tradition, Junior PSO-member Abby Marmer comments, "Yeah, I would definitely do it again, it was work but it was worth it." So what can be expected of the haunted house next year? We'll just have to wait and see.

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# “Z-Team” and Seasoned Veteran Talk Debate

BY GLORIA YI '17  
Staff Writer

Debate has historically been a forum for discussion, persuasion, and decision. Whether it was about controversial religious views or policymaking or for leisure, societies have viewed debate as civil argumentation. Now, most students see debate as a high school activity, or an exemption from sports. However, as our very own Loomis debaters can attest, debate is much more than that.

Already, our debaters have put their speaking and argumentation skills at the forefront of tournaments, bringing back a sense of achievement and retelling victories of the day, both big and small. Most recently, the duo of Laurie Zielinski '16 and Alex Zilkha '16 – the powerful “Z-team” – went undefeated (3-0) in the Advanced Division of the last Connecticut Debate Association (CDA) tournament on October 25. They debated the question “Should Nations permit secession and self-determination.” Teams were given a dense 10-page compilation of articles pertaining to the topic, and had exactly one hour to digest information. Putting their brains together, The Z-Team prepared contentions for both sides and piled together evidence for support, pulling together a strategy.

Since the last round is based on the teams’ performances in the first two debates, it is often the case that you meet strong opponents, often making this the most “interesting” debate of the day. For Laurie and Alex, the highlight of the day was winning the third and final round of the day when they were faced with a pompous pair that made fallacious ad hominem attacks throughout the round and strayed too far from the terms of the resolution.

In this interview, the Z-team, as well as veteran debater Isabelle Raposo '15 share some exclusive tips for beginners, and point out



PHOTO BY OLIVIA MCCAUGHEY '16 FOR LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

why debate is so important.

Any tips for novice debaters? How have you become so good?

A.Z. It's a lot of trial and error!

L.Z. I've been debating since I was a freshman, so... it's been a long road. I wasn't very good at the beginning. I still don't think that I'm that great now, but I'm better.

A.Z. Stick to the logic. Stick to being the calm force. You never have to be very, very hostile or very active in your debate, as long as you present a reasonable case, as long as you're polite...

I.R. Some people like emotion in your voice when you're talking about emotional topics. But the rest of the time, don't get worked up. If you signpost, [judges] will love you...the more signposting you do, the happier they would get.

L.Z. A lot of debate is about clarity. The kind of things you would think anyway but saying them explicitly. And in that regard, I think debate has helped me a lot with my thinking and ar-

guing in class because it helps me organize my thoughts.

A.Z. The other thing is...remember to control your speaking, like the pace at which you're speaking. It feels as if things are going a lot slower when you're on stage, but your pace usually picks up. So remember to keep a steady standard pace so that everyone can understand, so that every word hits home.

Do you think of debate as a performance?

I.R. Some people do.

L.Z. Absolutely. I pretend to be a totally different person.

I.R. Some people have props that they like to use during the debate...you can turn it into a performance if you want. Whatever makes you feel the most comfortable!

A.Z. Some issues, you need to dramatize just so that people can understand. Sometimes exaggerate, but as long as you stick mainly to the facts, it'll work out. Remember the judge votes equally on the logic as on the feeling.

While you control your emotion you need to pepper it in.

What's your team strategy?

L.Z. (to Alex) You speak first, I speak second!

A.Z. That seems to work...

L.Z. You talk again, and I say what everyone else has said (good parrot!)

A.Z. Yes, that seems to work pretty well. I first lay the foundation and she hits it home.

Last thoughts?

A.Z. Remember your argument is innovation, not imitation. Don't just copy; you have to kind of create your own. Don't go with the obvious.

L.Z. That's the part that I like about debate, actually. Thinking. I'm not so big on the performing part. Crafting the argument. That's the part that actually helps with real life.

A.Z. I mean, when you look around here, you see people playing sports, you see people acting, and of those skills, maybe one in every fifty in whatever sport/af-

ter school activity they'll keep for the rest of their life. Most people won't play football or water polo after college — with the exception of really, acting, most of the sports will die off...but debate is constant. We use it daily.

Meanwhile in the novice division, Gaurang Goel '17 and Tommy Shi '18 went undefeated (3-0) at the St. Sebastian's novice debate. Moreover, Gaurang received the first place speaker award out of 124 other novices. Earlier this year, Loomis had a particularly strong showing at the September 27 CDA novice scrimmage: LC debaters Kyumin Park '17, Gloria Yi '17, and Gaurang Goel finished in a three-way tie for the first speaker award. Kyumin and Gloria went undefeated; with combined scores they were the first place team overall.

The team dynamic holds a great amount of importance. Personal glory is not the point in debate. Only through coordinated team efforts can a structured case be

possible. The performance aspect definitely ties into public speaking and building confidence, but debate is an intellectual art, a team effort.

Though the Loomis Chaffee Debate Team has consistently placed near the top at prep school conferences for twenty years now, both Mr. Robison and Ms. Rochette, LC's debate coaches, see lots of extra potential this year. “We are developing people quite rapidly, I think,” announced Mr. Robison. “One thing that's good is that we've identified and used 28 people already in the fall term and there is still another group of people who are eager to jump in. I think we're going to do quite well.” There are also a lot of freshmen that are interested. “I think we probably already had around 10 freshmen that have gone. I'm seeing that people are arriving these years with some more experience and interest in debate than past years as [debate] has made its way down into the middle school realm.”

The goal of debate is to improve the ability “to passionately express yourself clearly and logically, to have a sense of how to structure the argument, and then to deliver that argument clearly and passionately.” Mr. Robeson hopes to take around 20 to 25 people this year for the winter program where debaters could “more effortlessly see how arguments can be structured, and work on some phrasing and the use of the voice and intonation to make the delivery more convincing and passionate.”

For the dedicated, debate is a lifestyle – not only reading the newspaper everyday, but also discovering your opinion on a matter by formulating arguments for either side. For the reticent, debate is a means of speaking out. For the intellectual, debate is an exercise in thinking on your feet. For the interested, debate is a realm of possibility to be discovered.

## That's a lot of Zeroes:

### A Breakdown of the Centennial Annual Fund

BY ALEX BENTHIEN '16  
Staff Writer

On October 23, many Loomis faculty members attended a trustees meeting in New York City in honor of the Centennial year of the Loomis Chaffee School. Mr. Bob DeConinck, an attendee and Associate Director of Studies at our school, described the gala as “a grand celebration of the hundred years of this school... [involving] eloquent speeches by the chair of the board of trustees, the chair of the fundraising committee, and Dr. Culbert, as well as a beautiful violin performance by Sirena Huang ('12).” This momentous moment called for a special shortening of the day's commitment for the attendees. Faculty who were invited only had a half day instead of the normal 8.30am-3.20pm day. In honor of the school's one-hundredth year, the “Our Time is Now” campaign moved from a private phase to a public initiative, with an ultimate goal of \$100,000,000 to be raised. That's a lot of zeroes. “Where is all of this money coming from?” you may ask, or rather, “Why are we raising it?” and “What is it going towards?”

First and foremost, the basic idea of the campaign is to funnel newly raised finances to five main areas of the school: Facilities, Financial Aid, The Annual Fund, Faculty Sup-

port, and Academic Programming. Our campus has already raised \$69 million in total during the initial private stages of the campaign starting in the summer of 2011, and we have already seen the construction Richmond Hall and the early stages of Cutler Dormitory, the two constructions altering the Loomis Chaffee's boarding to day student ratio closer to a 70-30 split, up from around 60-40 from before Richmond's completion. Also, currently in the works are renovated dining halls, and a bigger campus center even beyond the magnitude of the SNUG to accommodate a higher population of boarding students and provide office spaces for faculty. For many athletes, the news of a possible second, multi-sport turf field installed may be the most exciting news so far, and will definitely be beneficial to the heightening of our interscholastic prowess in sports, one that all of our teams have displayed and contributed to, especially within the last decade.

Equally as, if not more significant than the visible changes in the structure of the school are some of the less visible and more academics-based goals. Some of the money raised will go towards salary and living accommodations for some of the best teachers in the world: ours. In order to continue recruiting teachers



ANGEL FADILA '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

of the highest grade, the benefits and attractive salary we offer must outshine those of our competitors'. Most imperative, undeniably, is our faculty feeling at home during their stay on campus and smoothly integrating into the Loomis community we all know and love. Also aiding the teachers will be a portion going towards curriculum development and enhancement, and the pursuit of progressive approaches improving the already advanced education offered at our school. The ultimate goal is to provide all students, either through the outstanding, comprehensively funded

financial aid program here, or through increased funding of centers like the Center for Global Studies and the new Office of Experiential Learning, which will allow all students to participate in a wide assortment of activities both on and off campus, sharpened their minds in a well-rounded way.

In talking to both Mr. Nat Follansbee and Dr. Sheila Colbert, head of the development office and head of the school respectively, the generous gifts that make all of this positive change possible are solicited personally from accomplished alumni, who have the option

of choosing a purpose for their donation or contributing to the initiatives already in place. Some gifts are also left in the wills of Loomis alumni, which are collected from those that have lived past the age of sixty-five. In the annual fund raising there also exists a final element of mass publicizing and garnering of capitals, which will be raised for specific segments of the campaign. Though students and teachers will not have a direct say in these financial matters, Dr. Culbert has stated with confidence that “[the school's] priorities are driven by the mantra of providing the

best education for [its] students and we, [the campaign organizers], have [introduced] strategic planning processes that involve multiple constituencies.”

In essence, the student body should rest easy and wholly trust that those “running the show” will provide us a performance so spectacular and breathtaking.



## MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S... UH... LINE?

(continued from page 1)

For the next two months, we spend all our time blocking every scene of the show, developing our characters, and memorizing lines. I fondly remember creeping out into the house (where the audience sits) and memorizing my 30-something line soliloquy while Mr. McCamish choreographed a fight scene between two of the lovers. Anytime Mollie had to stage punch or stage crotch kick Damon I would memorize another line or repeat the passage from the beginning. By the end of that rehearsal, I knew my lines like the back of my hand, and Mollie could successfully make it look like she was hurting Damon with the back of her hand. I rarely had any time to spend on matters other than the show, but when not working, you could probably find me in the green room where all sorts of shenanigans occur. Rule one of acting:

stay true to the unspoken rule, "what happens in the green room stays in the green room."

As we approach opening night (if you don't have rock hard abs yet, shame on you) the stage begins to come alive with enchanting set pieces and we really feel the NEO change into this half Elizabethan half Fairy kingdom. In addition to a killer set, Ms. Bebey, our costume designer, brings in some killer options to create killer costumes. Words cannot describe how amazing it felt zipping up my tawny leather corset for the first time and feeling that I had truly become Titania. It really does take more than just good actors to bring a show to life, and I think everyone would agree when I say we owe a lot to our technicians or "techies" as they're fondly called; for without them, we would have no show. These NEO ninjas (they wear all black and always seem to be in multiple places at once) make all the magic happen whether they're controlling the lights, creating

sounds cues or building our set. As much as I wish, I simply don't naturally emanate beams of light when I speak. The illumination comes from a well placed spotlight controlled by a techie. Since actors are inherently crazy, one can expect them to lose their minds at some point, but a techie is always calm, cool, and collected, even if they feel like they might be going crazy themselves. Actors and techies balance each other out; one cannot exist without the other. So, if you see a techie today, give them a hug. They deserve it.

We've finally made it. The show is blocked, our costumes are ready, and the only thing left to do is weave together the technical and theatrical aspects of the show. This union happens over a week known notoriously as tech week. If I were to sum up tech week into one word, it would be "chaos". You have a week until you open and the show currently looks like a train wreck, like a five-cargo-trains-all-simultaneously-colliding-

into-each-other" type of train wreck. In addition to lines, you have to worry about your hair, makeup, costume, props, and much more. Snacks brought in by parents certainly help to ease the stress, but even Mrs. Aleia's cream cheese frosted pumpkin squares can't solve everything. During tech week, it feels like your teachers purposefully doubled your homework load, and you're not sure you're even going to make it to opening night. It's not until you have your first runthrough in full dress and tech that your mind stops racing for one moment and you realize just what a masterpiece the show has become.

Congrats! You survived tech week, and now you're actually ready to put on a show! Walking down the hall you could probably hear anything ranging from Beyoncé and Marina and the Diamonds to 50's classics and heavy metal playing from the boys' and girls' dressing rooms. The whole area bursts with energy and good vibes. I

don't think you could find any other place on campus where guys are applying chubby stick eyeliner to their lips because they've mistaken it for lipstick while jamming out to Bohemian Rhapsody. After about an hour and a half of crazed preparation, the house opens, and then the show begins. Every show is as memorable as the last, and now the cast has an opportunity to bond with the audience through this magical production. You may not realize it, but you've become part of our process too so I guess you could say...we're all in this together! \*cue music, cue childhood nostalgia\* Seriously though, thank you for just being there, your support does more for us than you may know. As the week goes on, the cast only gets closer with each show, and by the end we're practically a conglomerate mass of emotions and happiness. It sounds cheesy, but Swiss really is different. We all just feel so Gouda after pulling off a show. Cheesus! Damon's bad puns have worn off

on me.

After the last show, we begin striking the set the next day and returning the NEO back into its original state. We pay our last respects to the work, and exit the show with grace and dignity. Secretly we're all wondering what the heck we're going to do with our lives now, but that's a problem for tomorrow. Granted, we have some crazy pre-show rituals: most of us worship Miranda Sings (what the even heck?), and if you walk past the dressings rooms, you may be lucky enough to hear the sounds of Nordic chants (courtesy of Brendan Nelson), but I assure you, the theatre kids are not a cult. We're just an extremely enthusiastic, certifiably insane, close and affectionate family with theatrical tendencies. And who could ask for anything more? Now take pains, be perfect, Adieu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LOOMIS CHAFFEE WEBSITE

## Cutest Roommates: Sophie Kaplan & Enya Meade '15



PHOTO COURTESY OF SOPHIE LARY-KAPLAN '15

BY MICHAEL CARTER  
Editor-In-Chief

In this installment we're visiting Sophie Lary-Kaplan '15 and Enya Meade '15, two senior girls on the infamous third floor of Mason. A new junior from Westchester and new sophomore from Boston, respectively, the two have bonded over their newness to the school and their mutual love for all things shopping and Netflix, sticking together through thick and thin to become perhaps the closest (and sassiest) team on campus.

**How did you first meet?**

Sophie: "We were neighbors last year. (GO M3!) I was such a disaster then, I literally couldn't find my way from my bed to the hallway."

Enya: "That's because we couldn't even find your

floor last year, Sophie. You just had a carpet made of your own clothing."

**What about each other made you decide to room?**

Sophie: "There's no one that puts up with me like Enya does, she's my person."

Enya: "Wait, where's that from? Don't pull your Grey's Anatomy crap on me; I'm immune."

Sophie: "Seriously, I just walked up to her and said, 'Pick me. Choose me. Love me.'"

**What are your favorite things to do together?**

Enya: "Sometimes, we turn off the lights, lock the door, and pretend there's nobody knocking outside."

Sophie: "We, like, always eat food together. An exorbitant amount of the time."

Enya: "We spend a lot of alone time together."

Sophie: "Yeah."

**What is your relationship like?**

Enya: "It's like a mother-daughter relationship, but with less yelling."

Sophie: "There's a fair amount of yelling."

Enya: "But it's cute. We're energetic."

Sophie: "cough cough euphemism cough cough"

Enya: "Whatever, Sophie."

What would you call the person who wakes you up for class ev-er-y morning?

Sophie: "My best friend."

**Any funny stories about rooming together?**

Sophie: "People don't know it, but we're legitimately twins. We are same, it's honestly scary. One time, she made it through half the day using my ID because she accidentally took it from the door. She even managed to buy her-

self a snack from the snug until she realized the stupid thing wasn't even hers. The whole thing was priceless, especially considering that she and I happened to be wearing the same outfit that day--she copied me, I'm sure of it. Regardless of the fact that I happened to have a sleep in that day and didn't see her until T4. But everyone just gets us mixed up all the time, I can't even tell you how many times a day people call me Enya. It's so annoying."

Enya: "Sophie. Shut up."

Sophie: "Yes Mom."

Enya: "Like half of that was true."

Sophie: "Yeah, but which half?"

Enya: "What even are you?"

Sophie: "Your roommate :D"

Enya: "Lord help me."



# Winter 101: Hot Chocolate

BY RACHEL SHIN '18  
Contributor

What pops up in your head when you think of the word "hot chocolate"? The cold winter days of sitting in front of a stove with a mug of steaming hot chocolate in hand, careful not to burn

yourself? The perfect reward after standing in the cold all day at your sport game? Or maybe, your thoughts are immediately drawn to the melting marshmallows stewing on top.

As the warm summer weather draws to a close, Loomis students have a lot to say about this mat-

ter. "Hot chocolate is the reason I wake up every morning," reveals Kelly White '17. "I watch the marshmallows swirl around. I sip it in and burn my tongue. But the creamy goodness takes away the pain," Sydney Steward '17 reports dreamily. "Hot chocolate is a seasonal drink because it's

really nice in the winter and fall also it's easy to make," EJ Bill '18 and Emma Straub '18 announce.

During the last week of fall term, a big crowd of LC fans stood obstinately by the turf to watch the football match against Choate. The night was one of legings beneath sweats and under

armour beneath sweatshirts. Despite the sudden harsh weather, the crowd stayed there for more than an hour in an ardent desire to cheer on our beloved football team. As soon as the game came to an end, the fans all began a hasty dash to the Snug, all with one thing in mind: hot chocolate. Entering the Snug, a long line of shivering students waiting for a warm beverage to sooth the coldness had accumulated. Relief filled the faces of the lucky few who were already drinking their hot chocolate. Watching in jealousy, those in line were only met with an overwhelming eagerness to warm up with hot chocolate.

With the unforgiving winter of new England, hot chocolate is but a necessity as Loomis. But how does hot chocolate effect our health?

The many chocoholics may feel guilty for constantly craving hot chocolate, nutella, or other chocolate products, but now I will give you all an excuse for your guilty pleasure: "Drinking two cups of hot chocolate a day may keep the brain healthy and prevent memory decline in older people by preserving blood flow in working areas of the brain," a report by Harvard Medical school states. 60 dementia free people of an average age of 73 years old were recruited as a team for this experiment regarding the possible effect that cocoa

consumption has on memory performance and neuromuscular coupling. The team was asked to refrain from consuming any other type of chocolate while they drank two cups of hot chocolate each day for thirty days. During the beginning of the study, 18 of the 60 participants had impaired neuromuscular coupling. However, the neuromuscular coupling improved by 8.3% towards the end of the study. Not only did their blood flow in their brain change, but also helped preserve memory. While it took them 167 seconds to finish the test prior to the experiment, after a month of consuming hot chocolate, the time shrunk to 116 seconds.

Though potentially unexpected, there are many benefits of hot chocolate to the mind and body. Despite the common comments highlighting that hot chocolate is unhealthy, we now know that this refreshment is in fact an outstanding drink. During the upcoming long winter season, lets take advantage of the hot chocolate served around campus, not only for the pleasure felt but also for our very own well being.



COURTESY OF FLICKR

## Thanksgiving Spirit

BY OWEN BASS '17  
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving, a holiday originally created to appreciate the harvest at the end of fall, has lost its true identity. Today, most employers and schools give their employees and students a long weekend, starting on Thursday, to spend time with their families and appreciate much of what is taken for granted in daily life. In recent years, however, the focus of Thanksgiving weekend has shifted to encompass a more commercial and selfish demeanor. Black Friday was created by major retail corporations in order to attract customers by providing large discounts. Beginning as early as thanksgiving afternoon and running until Sunday, this tradition has transformed Thanksgiving, a once altruistic celebration and appreciation, into a greedy obsession of materialistic desires. Shoppers become so consumed in getting the best deals during this new "holiday" that they go as far as trampling others to death in order to take advantage of

the unbelievable promotions. Data from Dailiedot.com and BlackFridaydeathcount.com, yes that is a thing, reveal that seven people have died and at least ninety have been injured during Black Friday since 2006. A few of those injuries, all occurring in Wal-Marts, resulted from the following incidents: shoppers pepper sprayed by police over an argument about a TV, a stabbing in the parking lot, shootings over a parking space; the list goes on and on. Target shoppers even went as far as trampling a man, Walter Vance, to death just to enter a store and begin making purchases. All of these incidents raise a question: are people in America today less appreciative for what they have than ever before? Of course they are! Forty percent of Americans don't even bother voting when all over the world people are fighting for democracy and open elections in countries such as Egypt and Syria. So, fellow Americans, I ask you to consider this question: are you truly appreciative for what you have?



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHIVE

## KEEPING UP WITH APPLE: YOSEMITE

BY BEN FU '17  
Staff Writer

When Apple released iOS 7 in late 2013, the new-look mobile operating system took the world by storm. In terms of user interface, the clean app logos, glossy white theming, and the modern font intrigued iPhone users. Upon using the new operating system, many iPhone users discovered nifty little features iOS 7 had to offer, including quick Spotlight access with a simple swipe down, Air-Drop, and a revamped Notification Center. Following the major success of iOS 7, it is understandable that Apple wanted to create another splash in the technological world just as big. About a year after the momentous release of iOS 7, Apple gifted Mac users with a new operating system, christening it after a national park in California, which, like iOS 7, sported the new spartan design theme. "This new operating system is every bit as powerful as it looks. It's like getting a whole new Mac," the developers claim. Yet, are these bold claims about OS X Yosemite valid?

The most noticeable change in OS X Yosemite is the new interface: crisper, clearer, and significantly more modern than its predecessor, OS X Mavericks. Similarly to iOS 7, the majority of Yosemite has lost its glassy texture formerly exhibited in previous models. These features, weak shading, flatness, and brightness, have defined the modern theme. OS X Mavericks has certainly accomplished this; all the latest app logos

in the dock have very minimal shading compared to those of previous operating systems. Some users criticize the new app logos, especially the new folder icons, to look childish, while others enjoy the modernization. Yosemite emphasizes a two-dimensional design previously unheard of in the Mac interface. The font has also changed from Lucida Grande to Helvetica Neue, another attempt at visual alignment with iOS 7 and another controversial change, as many users are having a hard time getting used to the new lettering. The new operating system even has a dark mode that turns the menu bar and dock black, useful for those desiring something easier on the eyes or simply to experience a new sensation in OS X. Definitely consider upgrading to OS X Yosemite for the new look if you loved the iOS 7 interface update.

Apart from the bold, fresh new interface, OS X Yosemite has also added new features in an effort to become more user-friendly and convenient. "OS X Yosemite provides users with a completely new relationship between your Mac and iOS devices," Apple boasts. They have certainly delivered. One of the most significant new continuity features that Yosemite features is Handoff. Handoff allows users to seamlessly use iOS apps on their iPhone or iPad on their Mac at once. At the moment, apps capable of taking advantage of this practical new feature are Reminders, Safari, Mail, Phone, Notes, Maps, Messages, Calendar, Keynote, Pages, Numbers, and Contacts.

However, there are some drawbacks that can make Handoff somewhat obsolete for some Apple users. The devices have to be within 33 feet of each other. You also must have a Mac made in 2012 or later, and your iOS device must run iOS 8. Android users also get absolutely nil out of the continuity features. Despite some inconveniences in getting Handoff to even work in the first place, it still is a useful feature that allows the user to have a choice of which device to use to get things done most effectively. Another handy feature Yosemite provides is taking calls for the user's iPhone. Yes, OS X Yosemite makes it possible for an Apple user to answer their phone on their Mac. Yet another great continuity feature Yosemite offers is a revamped Airdrop. Now, the user can transfer files from his/her iOS devices to and from his/her Mac. These are merely some of the additional conveniences that Apple has added to link OS X to iOS.

All in all, despite its controversial interface modifications as well as its exclusiveness in taking advantage of continuity features, OS X Yosemite offers Mac users with a fresh new operating system engineered for maximum convenience without consumers having to ever pull open their wallets. Desktop and mobile devices gain brilliant ways of working together and the new interface is a welcome change for those in love with iOS 7's design. Mac users should definitely at least give this update a try.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE APPLE WEBSITE



## 17 Things I'll Miss About Fall



jk I only have 4

BY WINDA WANIKPUN '16  
Columnist

On a more serious note this week, I bring you a flurry of things you should do to avoid the flu! Just joshing, the flu is just code for "DAY STUDENT FRIEND, PLS BUY ME DUNKIN I'M SICK", and who would want to avoid that, amiright? Intro intro intro, \*something witty about Taylor Swift's new album\*, here is a list about why fall will be missed/why it's so cold right now. I'm totally kidding about the second part because what is weather anymore. But I'm really hoping fall will be missed, if not, then well, excUUUUuse me. I hope it's missed kind of like how Amanda Bynes circa What A Girl Wants is missed, I guess? I don't know, words words words here we go.

### 1. Leaves

What? I thought trees were just huge broccoli! Wait, maybe broccoli are just small trees. And soup that tastes great is just souper! But then the broccoli turned around and said "Canned you not?" Leaves sprout out from trees, they fall, people step on them, they stay on the ground: it's the circle of life. Sometimes I just look at the leaves on the ground and wonder what it's like to be Rihanna for a day. I feel like I'd just end up singing in Madison Square Garden, "WE FOUND STRING IN A ROPELESS PLACE!"

### 2. Pumpkin-everything

Wowza, what a revelation! Are pumpkins fruit or vegetables? Maybe they're both, maybe they're just rocks shaped like pumpkins. This might be as controversial as to whether not a tomato is a fruit, a vegetable, or a small, demonic reincarnation of Child Macaulay Culkin. Well, anyway, I sometimes have a feeling I can drink five PSLs' in one sitting at Starbucks, but then I think, mmm, better not. Worst way to die? PSL blood poisoning. Worst way to live? To not be constantly holding a PSL. Worst way to end your day? To discover Twisty the clown's face carved onto a pumpkin in the dark common room at midnight while drinking a PSL \*spills PSL on self\* Don't be so basic - 60,000 calories really isn't worth it.

### 3. The Rain

Rain is nice. Rain is calming. Rain makes things grow. Rain is mostly benevolent. But sometimes rain isn't.

Rain ruins good hair days and tribal-printed suede rain boots. Rain ruins spray tans. Rain makes you want to throw up and cry because you were running into town and you thought you were sweating calories off when it was actually raining the entire time. Rain waters down your double green smoothie from Whole Foods. Rain makes babies cry. Rain made you trip over a leaf in front of the library and you were subsequently late to Latin. Rain got you a Saturday night study hall that one time you were late to Latin.

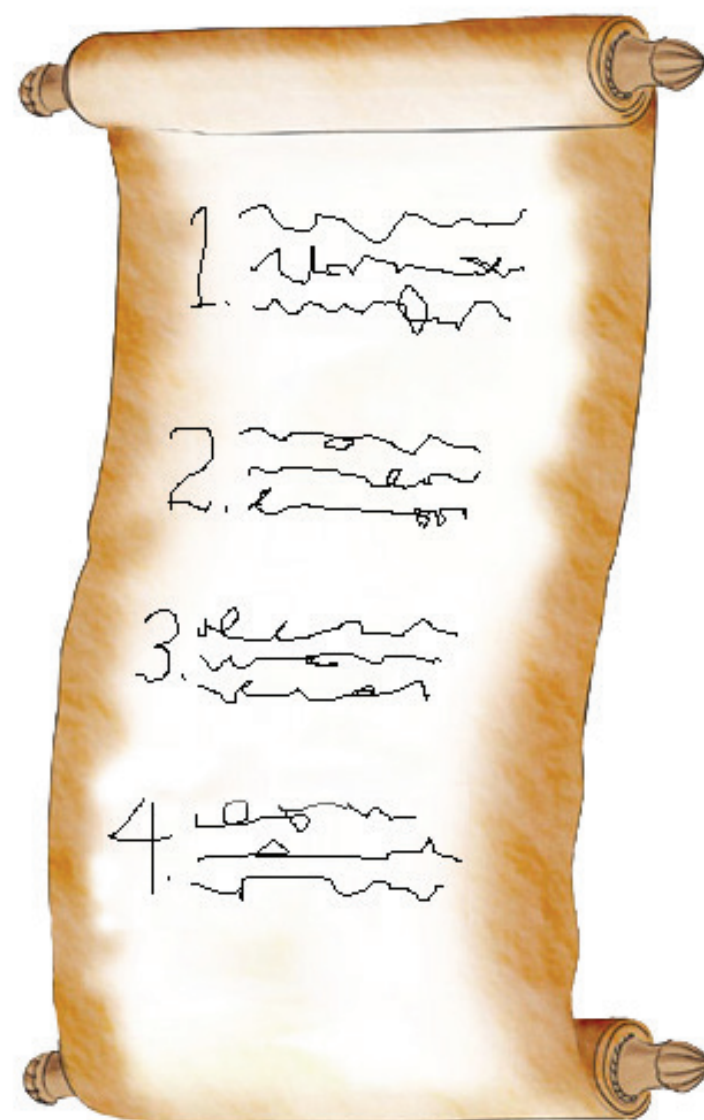
Rain ruins lives.

### 4. Being outdoors

Back to the trees again. So you know how the Earth orbits around the sun and this thing called "seasons" is created, but we all know that this is all BS because seasons don't exist and everything you're seeing out there in the wild is just a Monet painting. Yes, I see the world in Claude Monet. But then you're like "Whoa, when a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds!" and then the Monet illusion just kind of dissipates into Easy Mac mix, and beyond the flume of yellowy smoke everything just looks kind of like Mordor. But then again we could altogether just take a moment of silence right now in November and pray for a snow day (preferably sometime in January because that's when everyone (me) wants to claw their eyeballs out) so that we'll have a day off to enjoy (I guess?) the snow/tears of God/the blood of our enemies.

Well this was great, wasn't it? Short, but great! Once again, I'm sorry. This wasn't the most ideal way to leave the fall term behind and to get your head in the game for exam week (I'm positive it's next week). So here's the motivational parting quote for the day to get you studying:

"I once had a pet turtle. But it ran away from me, so I bought another one." - Ernest Hemingway  
*You deserved this list!*



GRAPHIC BY JULIA SONG '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

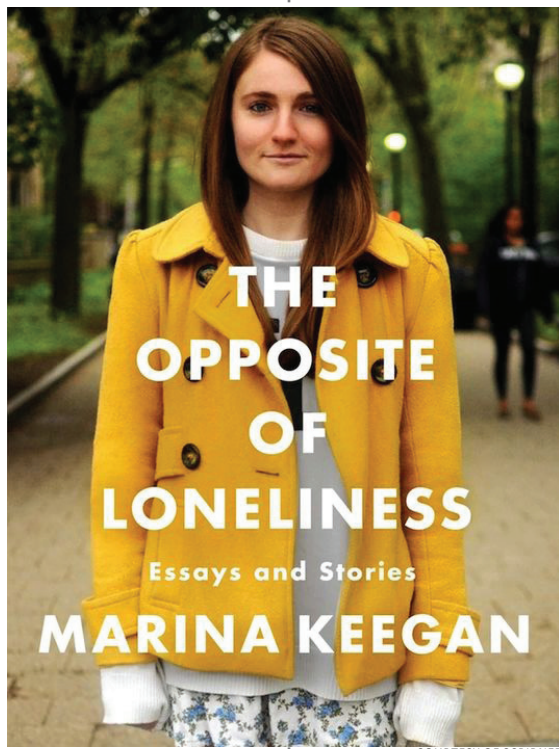
# REVIEWS FOR YOUSE

## Planes, Trains, and Automobiles

BY KENLEE DANNER '18  
Contributor

If you haven't seen *Planes, Trains and Automobiles* then what do you even have to be thankful for? Arguably John Hughes's best comedy film, this movie is great in all departments. It will have you laughing and rolling on the floor and doing other cliché things when reacting to an enjoyable movie. The film is about two totally opposite characters forced to empathize with one another, as they independently travel from home from New York to Chicago to see their families. Although they have the common goal of getting home in time for Thanksgiving, that is about all they share. After Del Griffith (played by John Candy) takes Neal Page's cab by accident, Neal (played by Steve Martin) isn't too pumped to see him on the plane. Turns out their plane can't land in Chicago, but instead has to land in Kansas due to a blizzard. The pair decide to stick together for a wacky three day adventure including a killer angry 80's synth pop soundtrack, unnaturally bad luck, really freakishly strange characters (see Owen), and Going The Wrong Way. After all, what is a holiday without a million difficulties facing you? If you're lucky you might even pick up business tips and tricks from Del Griffith! Normally a shower curtain ring salesman, Griffith sells the rings as jewelry in one pretty intense scene. That's not the only learning opportunity this movie offers; Steve Martin teaches you how to not rent a car from Marathon, and John Candy shows you how to properly display a Casio. Topped with how to react to a fire within a moving vehicle before, this movie is educational at the very least.

*Planes, Trains, and Automobiles* really hits home in the end. Packed with humor, friendship, and self realization, it will leave you thankful for your friends and family. Most importantly, you'll be thankful that you watched it. It's cool, you can thank me later.



COURTESY OF SCRIBNER

## The Opposite of Loneliness

BY JUSTINE BAIRD '17  
Staff Writer

The title alone catches your eye, and the book holds your hand until the very last page. *The Opposite of Loneliness* by Mariana Keegan is a work of pure genius.

Mariana Keegan had potential as an author; a magna cum laude member of Yale's graduating class of 2012, a future New Yorker employee, and an impassioned young adult. Tragically, Mariana died in a car crash five days after her graduation. In honor of Mariana, her family and her professors at Yale created *The Opposite of Loneliness* - a book containing numerous short stories written by Mariana. The stories are a mix between fiction and nonfiction and ultimately prove what could have been for Mariana Keegan. Humorous words grace the page as she illustrates a story about her relationship with celiac disease. Her fictional story of a character's journey after her boyfriend dies during his prime years at university, plucks at every reader's heartstrings. Most importantly the book begins with Mariana's story written for the Yale Daily News titled *The Opposite of Loneliness*. In this story, Mariana bids farewell to Yale on behalf of the Class of 2012 with personal remarks about the school that shaped who she was.

Although reading this novel may seem like a saddening endeavor, the collection is really more of a celebration worthy of everyone's attention. *The Opposite of Loneliness* is recognition of Mariana's potential. Initially put together for disheartening reasons, this collection is an emotional and beautiful concoction of writing. So add this book to your Must-Read list in honor of young talent and the pure passion for writing.

## Snowpiercer

BY CONNOR RUSH '17  
Contributor

*Snowpiercer*, South Korean director Joon-Ho Bong's first English film, is not your typical action flick. It doesn't belong to a franchise, it didn't benefit from a huge summer release in the US, it doesn't rely on CGI and explosions, and, to top it all off, you've probably never heard of it. Released in August 2013 in South Korea, *Snowpiercer* didn't arrive in the States until its very limited theater release this past July. Now available to the masses on Netflix and DVD, hopefully this terrific film will finally get the audience it deserves.

*Snowpiercer* takes place in a slightly unusual post-apocalyptic future in which the world as we know it has disappeared not because of war, but of natural disaster. The world has frozen over, and the only humans left on Earth live on a never-stopping train that runs on a track girdling the entirety of the planet. On this train, the wealthy eat seafood and steak at the front, while the poor, who were only able to board the train right before the deep freeze, live in the filth of the train's tail, eating Jell-O protein bars just to stay alive. Everyone must remain in their assigned section of the train, as the doors to other compartments are locked and protected by armed guards and a crushing social hierarchy. The plot follows the angry Curtis, (played by Chris Evans of Captain America fame), as he assembles and leads a rebellion to overthrow the rich and privileged front.

This film offers a refreshing alternative to most recent action movies; the characters feel real and the viewer becomes invested in their jour-

ney with ease. Although many Americans may not recognize some of the actors, each one delivers a fantastic performance. For example, Go Ah-Sung and Song Kang-Ho, both regulars in Bong films, portray a drug addict and his daughter with a creepy brilliance. Chris Evans was also good in this film, and shows great emotional depth. It's incredibly refreshing to see him outside of his typical macho-



COURTESY OF SCRIBNER

is particularly jaw-dropping: a beautiful, long, slow-motion shot of Chris Evans expertly taking out multiple enemies with his axe. The cinematography also takes advantage of strong color contrasts. The train's rear looks dark, bleak, and hopeless as compared to other sections of the train, which are made beautiful and opulent with sunlight, neon and even an aquarium and a dance club.

Although openly and brutally violent, one of this film's greatest strengths is its ability to provide genuine social commentary that eschews the typical feel-good morality that Hollywood often imposes upon audiences. *Snowpiercer* tackles subjects like government intervention and attempts to "balance" populations. It contains powerful musings on human nature, the price of freedom, and the disproportionate influence of those with power and social status. Towards the film's end you recognize that it's an Orwellian package thematically, though with a generous dash of Spielberg and perhaps even the smallest, most tasteful garnish of Bay.

I would strongly encourage everyone to give this underappreciated film a chance (It currently has a home on Netflix). Not only is this one of the best movies of the past year, it is also one of the best action films in recent memory. It's original, stylish in its delivery, and is backed by an epic plot, engaging acting, and a good measure of piercing (get it?) commentary. If you're looking for a great new action movie that chooses substance over explosions, check out *Snowpiercer*. Trust me, it's worth it.



## cna oyu erad htis?

BY MARY ANNE PORTO '16  
Columnist

While the infrequency of reading is an issue in itself (33% more 4th graders read recreationally than 8th graders), the more daunting issue is that people are still illiterate or functionally illiterate. Even though we often think of illiteracy as a foreign problem, 1 in 4 children in America grow up unable to read due to poverty. Children of low-income families are more likely to have trouble reading, leading to struggling in school, and indirectly, social problems.

October is National Book Month, a time to celebrate books and place emphasis on promoting an interest in reading and a high level of literacy, especially in kids. I'm grateful for the lifelong love of reading my family and schooling has instilled in me. To celebrate, here are the books that have been important to me in the past years, one for every age.



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

## LC Dreams

BY ALLISON YEH '15  
Melange Editor

### 1. Unlimited Deepes

"It's okay." Dean Sasser coos after you confess your three tardies and five deepes of the week. She runs over to grab you a homemade cup of hot chocolate with miniature sized marshmallows. You sip with glee as a new, chocolatey-infused euphoria takes over your tastebuds and warms your soul. Before you leave her office, Dean Sasser offers up her Instagram name and claims she "follows back."

### 2. Personal Barista

As you trudge over to the first math double of the day, you decide for a little pick-me-up. Thankfully, Jonathan has got you covered. He knows your order (no need to try to explain your quadruply adjectival coffee), and he has a magical ability to create your heavenly concoction within two seconds. Before you know it, you are sitting front seat in class, hands toasty from your Three Bean Vanilla Soy Skim Latte, no whip.

### 3. Uncrowded Lunch

"Go up for a second panini? I think so!"

### 4. Getting A Meaningful Package in the Mail

It's 10:45 AM and you just

have that gut feeling that your one of a kind iPhone case from Amazon has finally arrived. Low and behold, your name is highlighted, however, with a suspicious "2" next to it. As you are presented with your two boxes, you can't help but feel the excitement of the mysterious "handle with care" box. You tear it open with a pair of handy scissors laying around the SNUG and realize it to be a basket of all your favorite goodies put in one. A small card is attached saying "Love, Mom p.s. no need to call later."

### 5. Excused for Television Show Requirement

"This student has been ordered to lay on the couch between 8-9pm this evening due to the premiere of Grey's Anatomy. May she please reschedule her Pre-calculus test to sometime next week?" Thank heaven Jonathan also does appointments.



GRAPHIC BY ANGEL FADILA '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

## Re: ad this

BY XANA PIERONE '16  
Melange Editor

To: Class of 2016  
Cc: John Kim (J-kizzle97@aol.com), Michael Carter (onlybae4u@yahoo.com), Allison Yeh (AllisonYAY1@comcast.net), Olivia McCaughey (UnionJackHasMyBack@hotmail.uk)  
Subject: OMG I LOST MY BAG HELP ME GUISEEE!!!!11!!!

Hey John, Michael, Allison, Liv can you send these to your classes?

Hey Guys!

I lost my *backpack* somewhere in the *underground* tunnels, if you see it please let me know!

It's a *blue-and-red*-checked bag from *Hot Topic*. Inside there's a *Naruto* bento box, 14 *full-sized* packs of q-tips, a purple monkey wrench, a wrench, a monkey, love letters to *John Kim*, love letters from *Will Parsons*, mint condition Power Rangers© stickers (from Mighty Morphing Power Rangers© all the way to Power Rangers Megaforce©), all 19 seasons of Big Brother© (VHS), a melon-scooper, a small colony of pineapple slugs, a gift card to Auntie Anne's©, A gift card to JoAnn's©, Jean Lee's advanced hip-hop guide to being hip (and hop) anthology©, and my calculator.

So if any of you come across it, please give it back! (and don't read the love-letters)

Thanks,  
Xana  
Real(lies) Realize Real(lies)  
S(he) Be(lie)ve(d)

## What's Cooking?

BY PHILIP CUI '15  
Business Manager

This is a rather distinct recipe, as it doesn't seem to fit the usual Christmas fare of warm and thick edibles. Anyhow, I make this on every occasion I can, and it is always a delight to have on the table.

### Linguine with Crab and Watercress

This recipe is meant to serve four. If you are decent at math, as a student of Loomis Chaffee should be, you can customize the size of this recipe.

#### Ingredients:

- 1 clove garlic, peeled and minced
- 1 1/2 tsp sea salt
- 1 large red chile, seeded and chopped
- 11 oz canned crabmeat, cooked of course
- 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- Juice and zest of 1 lemon
- 1 package (16 oz) linguine
- Handful fresh parsley, chopped
- Handful watercress leaves, torn not chopped

#### Directions:

First, if you have a mortar and pestle, this is the time to use it. Boil water in a pot large enough for a whole pack of pasta.

You can chop the garlic before grinding it with coarse ground salt into a smooth paste. Add the chile and crush it until the paste has a slightly red tone. If you feel that it might be too spicy, cut open the chile carefully and remove the seeds. Do not rub your eyes, and try to wear gloves of some sort, it really stings.

Open the can of crab meat, and try to make sure there are no bits of crab shell. I know it sounds weird, but it happens.

Add the crab into the mix and pour in the olive oil slowly as you mix everything together along with the lemon juice and zest. A fork or a large spoon will do nicely. Transfer the mix into a large bowl that would fit everything including the pasta. Cover it with plastic wrap so that moisture won't escape, and set it in the fridge to chill.

Boil the pasta until al dente, drain, and wash with cold water to remove heat.

Toss the pasta with the garlic and chile paste; this is where the large bowl gets handy. Add the parsley and watercress last, and toss just a bit more.

If the pasta is ready before dinner is about to be served, put it back into the fridge and let it chill. This dish is always best at a colder temperature.



COURTESY OF FOODIE CRUSH



## 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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TINA CHOI '16 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

LILY LIU '17

## Midnight Coffee: Necessary?

*Should juniors finally get Internet after midnight?*

Growing up always comes with bittersweet pain. While enjoying many upperclassmen privileges, the thriving juniors are expected to behave more maturely and take on greater responsibilities for themselves as well as for the Loomis community. They can no longer reasonably watch movies during study halls, snapchat their friends after lights out, or pile up their homework until Sunday night to finish them. Instead, junior life is occupied with endless homework, SAT preps, prefect duties, club meetings, and of course, countless nights with coffee. As a happy sophomore, it is really scary to think about the stressful junior fall, especially when listening to my anxious junior friends griping about internet shut-off after midnight. Are they actually that busy? Is it necessary to grant the juniors all-night internet access?

Personally, I do not know any fellow sophomores who need to stay up until 12 o'clock every night to do homework. Although taking many advanced classes, I can still finish all of my work before 10:30, and only have to stay up late for a few occasions when my schedule becomes tight. However, a lot of my friends complained about about taking way more than 45 minutes to finish their homework for each class. Curious of how much work the sophomores have each day, my fellow sophomore student council representatives and I sent out a survey and received really intriguing results. On average, the sophomores spend 45 minutes doing homework for a regular class, 1 hour on advance classes, and 1 hour and a half on AP course. Surprisingly, most of

them spend only three hours on their homework everyday. Well, not too bad! However, if we calculate a junior's workload using the same data but with a harder level of classes, the juniors would have to spend much more time on their homework than the sophomores do. Hypothetically, if a junior takes one AP course, two advance classes and two regular classes, he or she would have to start working at 7:00pm without stopping in order to finish homework before midnight. Well, that sounds pretty rough. Also, knowing that many juniors have leadership roles and other commitments, such as club presidency and prefect duties, it might be too idealistic to think that juniors are able to finish their work before twelve.

But, why is the internet shut off at the first place? If I were to take a guess, I'd say it prevents some people from watching youtube videos at three o'clock in the morning.

Also, one may argue that there are many alternative solutions to the excessive workload of the juniors other than extending internet access at night. For example, students can download the resources for the class portal earlier, or do research online before the internet is shut off. Also, perhaps each dorm could have one computer with unlimited internet access open for students who couldn't finish their work. However, if the school thinks the seniors have a solid reason to use internet after twelve, why wouldn't the juniors need internet after midnight? Even though not every junior takes three AP classes, I personally think that they should be trusted, and will take advantage of an extended internet access in the proper way, since they really have an awful lot of work. After all, having more internet access over the stressful junior year seems reasonable.

TATIANA LOVERA '16

## Ferguson Fiasco

*Is racism ingrained in our society?*

"Hands up, Don't shoot!" continuously hummed in my head on my one hour train ride home, it had a rhythm to it that was sure to never leave my mind and would make me reflect on the world our generation is growing up in. Standing in the crosswalks of Union Square, I photographed and recorded hundreds of individuals continuously repeating, "Hands up, don't shoot!" "The people united cannot be defeated," "NYPD KKK," and "Whose streets?! OUR streets!" as the sounds of police walkie talkies whispered in the background, buses shut down, and people from all walks of earth joined together for justice. America, "land of the free and home of the brave", over half a century after Brown v. Board of Education, still has faults that need to be fixed. Our generation is surrounded by technology and social media, we use it to talk, to share, and discover. Like most teenagers that are aware of what is going on in our country, I had

gotten most of my information from facebook and instagram posts along with reading news reports online. For a country that is so well connected by technology that we hold in our hands there are still many that are unaware of what is happening around them. It wasn't until I was standing in the middle of a New York City street during a moment of silence for Mike Brown, holding back tears, surrounded by people who all had the same goal, cops surrounding us, and sirens in the distance that I realized the seriousness and effects of the issues I had read about online had on people. I'd never heard a New York City street be so quiet in my life, there was a choked up feeling in my throat and my mind raced with questions and thoughts. The situation wasn't violent like the scenes we view on TV of Ferguson but it had the same effect. Since 2012 after Trayvon Martin, a young boy from Florida, was shot by George Zim-

mermen and even before Trayvon Martin there have been traces of racial profiling in America. Campaigns such as "Stop and Frisk," have been instilled across the country to end illegal stopping, racial profiling, and violation of human rights. Our country is now focused on recent incidents like the murder of Mike Brown in Ferguson, Missouri and the murder of Eric Garner in Staten Island, New York. Although incident like these have been happening for centuries, why is it that only now are they truly being exposed and questioned? Yes, there have been many protests in the U.S., but the protest for human equality has never been stronger. American society has developed a lot in the past two hundred years but it is up to our generation and the future generations to help execute a plan for change. Racial profiling isn't something that only happens to Americans of African American descent but of many other races as well, even by people of their own race and culture, and this is something people need to realize. The injustice done to citizen's like Mike Brown, Trayvon Martin, and Eric Garner are just some examples of why our generation needs to help sculpt the world we grow up in. Being of both Dominican and Polish descent it makes me question if the color of my skin was a bit darker and the hair on my head was a bit curlier would I too be judged? As small as our island can be and as much as life at Loomis may consume all your time, just take a moment to reflect on the world that's constantly moving around you, because you have a voice and should never have to say "I can't breathe," whether its literally or figuratively.

## A Letter To The Editors

To the Editors-

I am disappointed to read that the Log can think of nothing more aggressive than the pinpricks of Loomis Chaffee divesting itself of carbon-emitting companies--and this in the face of global warming, the biggest threat facing the human species. The space should be better used for causes directly affecting momentous problems.

In 1980, Ms. Conger and the science department instituted courses in environmental science, and I remember showing a movie of a purported newscast from

thirty years into the future. It depicted war, disease, drought, and fire. These have all come to pass in different degrees and in different places. Carbon dioxide emissions have gone up in every year since more people join the middle class of consumerism. Now, in view of the presence of renewed forecasts of environmental degradation and the likely appearance of ten billion souls on earth, I suggest that they take up advocacy of more serious causes--such as the world-wide distribution of contraceptives, and, in light of the huge increase in the future, the demand for electricity, and

the advocacy of the only practical solution--nuclear power.

Yours sincerely, Keith Palmer (faculty, 1962--95)

Mr. Palmer,

Thank you for your input. We do agree with you on many points, but it is our belief that the school has a moral responsibility to do all that it can to slow down climate change, and the investment of the school's endowment violates that responsibility at least symbolically. Of course, this is certainly small in the context of global repercus-

sions, but in terms of the school on its own, divestment seems to be the least we can do.

We have several students involved in various forms of green conservation--most notably the E-Proctors and the newly established Agriculture Club--which cover a larger amount of ground. Divestment is only one facet of environmentally-focused activism on campus.

The Log Staff



ISABELLE RAPOSO '15

## Dress Code's Gender Troubles

*A gender-based reflection on LC's dress code*

**Boys:**  
Shirts — Shirts with visible collars (including polo shirts) must be worn at all times.

Sweaters or vests are permitted with collared shirts.

**Girls:**  
Shirts — Shirts and blouses must be shoulder width and/or have seams at shoulders; no spaghetti straps. No exposed shoulders.

Dresses must be fingertip length and must cover the width of the shoulders.

Skirts must be fingertip length or longer.

Shorts must be thumb length or longer.

Leggings may be worn only under dresses or skirts; no fishnets

Above is the gender-specific section of the Loomis dress code, minus the identical clauses on shoes, sweatshirts, etc. Besides the fact that boys are governed by two bullet points and girls by five (illustrating the gender discrepancy highlighted by Sophie Kaplan in the first edition of the Log this fall), the Loomis dress code has a problem. That problem is contained in the words, "shirts and blouses must be shoulder width and/or have seams at the shoulders" in stark contrast with the words, "shirts with visible collars" There's something wrong with our dress code, but it's not an excess of strictness. It's a disparity of strictness. This disparity has the result that almost any boy on campus during the school day could walk straight

into a college interview or even a job interview, while many of girls would rush to change out of comfortable fitted t-shirts and sweaters.

While our school has existed for a hundred years, it's only been coed for the past forty-four. To examine the current dress code in context, it's necessary to consider the political climate of the time in which the school "went coed" as well as the school's current ideological alignments. The 1960's were full of social and political strife, including the advent of second wave feminism. A school seeking to recombine its girls' and boys' components in 1970 needed to consider the implications of every rule and regulation with regard to its newly arrived cohort of female students. While our current dress code didn't spring fully formed from the head of the newly conjoined Loomis and Chaffee, its themes might be the indirect result of delicacy or simply feminism among the people ratifying dress codes in 1970 and editing them since. It's time for Loomis to iron out this sexist discrepancy.

Standards communicate expectations. Loomis teaches students of all genders that much will be expected of them in terms of work ethic, intellectual curiosity, honesty, punctuality and respect, but somehow manages to communicate to girls on however subtle a level that a lower level of formal and professional dress is expected of them now and will be expected of

them when they enter the adult world. While the current dress code reflects traditional preppy culture and could theoretically result in equal levels of spiffiness, the unfortunate truth is that it just doesn't. While some girls approach business casual in their class dress, many girls, given the freedom to do so, push the dress code as far from "business" and as close to "casual" as possible. The Venn diagram of comfortable and formal clothes for women isn't exactly a circle, so such behavior isn't damnable, but the fact that the dress code allows it certainly is.

The dress code has been contested for years, from the iconic Student Council decision to eliminate the coat and tie from class dress so many years ago to the clutch of motions for less stringent restrictions on girls' clothing and the daily gripe of boys who don't understand why they are held to a higher and therefore more onerous standard of formality in their class dress. An increasingly lenient dress code won't solve the mixed messages in the dress code or the perennial complaints against it, but an equal shirt clause for boys and girls certainly will. We are worth more than a seam. Instead of trying to gradually euthanize the dress code, why not replace "shoulder width and/or have seams at shoulders" with "shirts with visible collars (including polo shirts)"? Short of a uniform, that reduplication and replacement is the best answer to the dress code's gender troubles.



GRAPHICS BY MICHAEL CARTER '15 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

MICHAEL CARTER '15

## How To Talk To Seniors: College Decision Style

See, in that example you used the line "Are you telling people where you got in?" It's a good line. It's a great line. It sounds kind of lame at first, but the excessive courtesy might end up being everything your senior friend could ever hope for in a question. For the seniors who are choosing not to share their college choices, whether it be out of superstition, privacy, or just plain not knowing you, it can be really hard to answer "Where are you applying?" with "I'm not gonna tell you." By asking "Are you telling?" you come off as much more polite and make the conversation much less awkward.

### 2. Mind Your Own Business

You generally shouldn't talk about people behind their backs. Haha. Yeah right. Of course you're going to talk about people behind their backs, and I'm gonna talk about people behind their backs, because that's life, and if we didn't all talk about each other it would be a really boring world. However, if you're going to talk about someone's college decision without them there, or if you get told by someone who isn't them without them there, definitely do NOT bring it up around them. Naturally, everyone's going to

know if your best girlfriend gets into Harvard, but it's still creepy for her to hear it from someone she's never spoken to. And it goes without saying that you shouldn't try to console someone who you heard didn't get into a school and didn't tell you. The last thing anyone wants to hear is that everyone's talking about their disappointment. In conclusion, feel free to talk about the news among yourselves, but don't make the seniors themselves uncomfortable.

### 3. Mind Your Own Business

People celebrate in the dining hall. Ugh. I know. Whether it's laughing or crying or both, it's really important first of all for them not to make everyone else uncomfortable, but hey, sometimes they ignore that. As of Sunday 12/14 I've already witnessed a couple of strong reactions taking place, and I must say that in general I do not recommend it—it's way too public and the last thing you want to do is publicly celebrate in front of someone who got rejected. In general, it's a pretty not-cool thing to do, but, like I said before, people ALWAYS celebrate in the dining hall. Even when they do, it's on you to mind your own business and let them have their moment. They really

don't deserve to have someone rain on their parade, especially if said parade is so important that it requires a public show. And if it's a negative reaction, which usually involves a lot of awkward consolation and sometimes a few tears, give them their space. Of course, if they didn't want people fawning over them they wouldn't be in the dining hall, but it's still awkward for strangers or semi-strangers to be getting too involved with such a huge disappointment.

Either way, give the seniors some space and let things play out the way they will. You eventually will get to know where your seniors friends choose to enroll; either they tell you or you see in the class roster at the end of the year. What's important isn't the gossip or the drama but making sure that your senior friends feel comfortable yet have some elbow room in this round of college decisions through the final ones in March. Be there for them, yet don't be breathing down their necks. In conclusion, your college decisions are nobody's business but your own, and if you choose to share them that is your gift of knowledge to the world. Have a good holiday season, and best of luck to all you seniors out there.



OLIVIA MCCAUGHEY '16 FOR THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE LOG

ZAYNEB KENNEY-SHAWA '17

## Yearning For Better Dorm Facilities

Although the Loomis Chaffee dorms have many amenities, there is still much left to be desired. Many students find themselves without resources that are helpful to their daily needs and comforts—such as printers and stoves. Since this school is to be our home for our high school years, our dorms should have the facilities to make each student's life easier and more enjoyable.

Printers in dorms are also a helpful tool to make students' academic life less stressful. Needing to walk to the library to be able to print your paper can be a huge inconvenience, especially when the student is in a hurry and needs to get to class. A printer or two in

each dorm would solve this problem and allow students to be able to access a printer easily, without stress or hassle. This solution also saves students the trouble of buying an expensive, bulky printer themselves and trying to figure out how to connect it to their computers by themselves. The addition of printers to the dorm would make it an efficient, friendlier and more familiar place to live in.

Stoves are also a luxury that certain older dorms are forced to live without. Although many of the newer dorms like Harman, Richmond, and Carter have well-functioning stoves, ovens, and other kitchen appliances, other dorms like Longman have lim-

ited resources, making it harder for students living there to cook with much success. This raises a few concerns about the accommodation that should be shown in all dorms in order to make each dorm feel like home. All dorms should have decent kitchen facilities in order to allow students are able to cook without having to go to another dorm.

All in all, our dorms, although very accommodating, could do with some newer, more efficient resources and comforts. These facilities would improve the quality of life within the dorm, making our community more friendly and welcome.

KATYA YEPIFANOVA '16

## Doublethink on the Island

*Does an A- equate to failure?*

The bell goes off to signal the end of class. Rushing out of the classroom, many students still hold their graded assignments, which were just handed back. In the hallways of Clark and at the two entrances to Founders, words of dejection and regret permeate the air. "Ugh, I bombed that quiz." "I totally failed that test!" Has grade inflation gotten so bad that it is impossible for students to get an 'A' on a paper? Or are teachers this year particularly demanding? Does anyone do well at all? Then how is it possible that the teacher just mentioned a test average of 89%?

As we know, the majority of Loomis students aren't failing. In fact, (insert number here) of the all students' names can be found written on the high honor roll in Founders. However, as of late, it has almost become etiquette (or perhaps even a necessity) to say that you are struggling in your classes.

Let's face it: everyone at Loomis wants to succeed. Grades are the primary concern for many, and they're something people can rant on and on about. The average Loomis student is rather

competitive. He was that kindergarten who always raised his hand, he worked on his prize-winning science project after getting back from little league practice (he scored a homerun there too), and was possibly at the top of his class in middle school. On the Island, six hundred and seventy students with big ambitions come together in a welcoming community. Even though high expectations, caused by parents and the looming college process, remain, many prefer to be humble about their grades. Excessive pride in oneself may come off to others as showing-off.

However, the opposite is also true. If you brag about your achievements to your friends, they will call you an overachiever. Oftentimes, a grade that is unsatisfactory to you is an accomplishment to them. Thus, everyone 'fails' to his or her own degree. 'Failing' has probably become synonymous with the words 'not doing very well'. "None of us are failing, but we can do better," suggests Natasia Nabila '16.

When talking to each other about their grades, some even dismiss the initial dreary com-

mentary, for it carries as much significance as the salad at family style. You know that it will always be there as an appetizer, so you would rather know what type it is. "Now, the response to someone's, 'I failed,' would be, 'So... what did you get?'" says Abi Worrel '17.

Simultaneously failing and succeeding--an oxymoron that has become ingrained in our heads. In the book 1984, which happens to be a summer reading requirement for sophomores, the author, George Orwell, describes a phenomenon called 'doublethink'. It is a simultaneous belief of two contradictory ideas (Merriam-Webster), which was enforced upon citizens to control them by detaching them from concrete reality. It certainly seems as if we're slowly becoming the citizens of Orwell's doomed dystopia. But we know the single truth.

So why has 'failing' become a vital part to a successful Loomis career? Who knows. But next time you're about to tell someone that you failed a test with 93%, stop to think for a moment.



## NBA Predictions

BY GRAYSON CLEMMER '17  
Contributor

Coming out of an extremely exciting off-season, the 2014-2015 NBA season is sure to offer a plethora of both surprises and let downs for basketball fans everywhere. As we dive headfirst into the long haul of the winter months and NBA season, we'd like to address some of the questions we know are lurking in the back of every fan's mind.

Does the addition of LeBron James to the team make the Cleveland Cavaliers immediate favorites to win the title?

Although the Eastern conference is as diluted as it is, there is still

a steady slew of threats to the King and his Knights. To name just one, San Antonio Spurs are sure to give the Cavaliers a run for their money. As reigning NBA champions, the Spurs exemplify the type of team every fan loves. With nearly exactly the same roster as last year, (consisting of all 14 players who played at least one playoff minute) and no injury deficiency, the Spurs are poised to make another run at the Larry O'Brien Trophy. Tim Duncan, although past his prime, is still an effective post presence. Furthermore, Tony Parker is still an All-Star top five point guard. The other major player with the ability to stop the Cavs is the Bulls. Derrick Rose and Tom Thibeaudeau are set to lead a defensively specialized squad designated for slowing athletic transition games, such as that of LeBron James and co.

Nothing is absolute; but, because of the amount of variables involved in the NBA, I personally would go ahead and say although the Chicago Bulls are a lock for a top 3 seed in the East, the Cavs are most certainly not a lock for the NBA championship.

Out of all of the possible options, who will truly come out on top from the overflowing talent pool of the Western Conference?

The Western Conference, as it has been since the 11-12 season, is flushed with talent

from its 50+ win teams. The Grizzlies, Thunder, Spurs, Clippers, Warriors, Rockets, and Trail Blazers, just to name a few, have certainly been turning heads. Each team has at least two perennial All-Stars. Zach Randolph and Marc Gasol, Kevin Durant and Russel

Westbrook, Tim Duncan and Tony Parker, Chris Paul and Blake Griffin, Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson, James Harden and Dwight Howard, Damian Lillard and LaMarcus Aldridge, all members of the aforementioned teams, are

some of the stars of the Western Conference. Half of these players are first ballot hall of fame players, yet can barely get their teas past the

first round of the playoffs due to the high concentration of talent in the west. Personally, I think that the Warriors fast-paced, run-and-gun style of play can rip apart any defense in the league, due to its confusion-inducing nature. They will likely emerge as one of the top contenders in the Western Conference.

How do star players coming off of season long injuries impact their team?

There are two players most people think of in this context - Derrick Rose and Kobe Bryant.

The two former MVP's have had hard times fall on them as both have seem to have caught a bad case of the injury bug. Kobe was out for two seasons with two injuries, and only played in 8 games last year. Derrick Rose, the youngest NBA player to receive the MVP award, hasn't seen more than 10 games of play over two seasons as well. Both face extremely high expectations from fans, and extreme criticism from the press for any mistakes they might make upon their returns. Basically, both could be pivotal the NBA season; Kobe could make the Lakers a serious championship contender, and Derrick Rose could be that final piece to get the first seed back to Chicago.

The draft class of 2014 has the potential to be the best draft class in the history of the NBA. With Andrew Wiggins, dubbed by some as "The next LeBron", this class has the ability to create the next decade of NBA superstars. But the real question is: Who will make the biggest impact on their new team? Will it be the NBA-ready Jabari Parker, or shooting star Doug McDermott, or maybe even crazy athletic Andrew Wiggins or Zach LaVine? Let's take a look:

Wiggins: The super-human athletic wing is looking at a very prosperous season. With all of the stars in Minnesota gone, he has been given the green light from coach Flip Saunders to take whatever shots he feels he can hit. Defensively, he will likely, especially in transition and isolation circumstances. At 6'9", with a 7 foot wingspan, he has the ability to lock down both the best perimeter players and the best post players, with his vertical leap of 44-inches.

Parker: This NBA-ready forward has already demonstrated the ability to carry his team. Throughout preseason, he averaged 10.5

points 7 rebounds and 1.5 steals per game. Head Coach Jason Kidd said on media day that Jabari will be used in as many plays as possible in an effort to speed his development. If you had pick the safest Rookie of the Year candidate, this is your guy.

McDermott: Doug McDermott is without a doubt the dark horse of this year's rookie class. The fourth

leading scorer in NCAA Division I history, his nickname "McBuckets" is a clear indicator of his talents. He is the greatest pure scorer of the past four years in college basketball. Just give him the ball and watch him work his magic, he can score in any possible way. He may not have a bandwagon of fans like Parker or Wiggins, but McDermott is sure to turn heads.

Last but not least, my award predictions for the year:

MVP  
Anthony Davis:  
His third year in the league will likely be his most important as he has already established himself as an All-Star. His last step on his long journey to eternal NBA greatness will likely be beating out LeBron James and Kevin Durant for the MVP award.

Coach of the Year  
Gregg Popovich:  
The fact that he led a group of 37-year-old veterans and, average, at best, players to an NBA title is astounding. No explanation needed, Gregg Popovich is the best coach in NBA history.

Rookie of the Year  
Jabari Parker:  
Wiggins and McDermott might be good, but neither are Jabari Parker good.  
Parker, a giant who's taller and stronger than his listings and has the scoring ability and basketball I.Q. to actually make a massive impact on the game.

Defensive Player of the Year  
Anthony Davis:  
In the week after the season opener, Davis averaged five blocks per game. That's the highest average of anyone in the history of the first four games of any NBA season. It doesn't seem like too much of a stretch to say he could keep this average through the end of the season.

Sixth Man of the Year  
Dion Waiters:  
It may be a little premature to make this pick, under LeBron's leadership, Waiters could likely become the best spark plug among all NBA benches. However, like for all of these predictions, only time will tell.

All data supplied by Rotoworld.com



# Fantasy Sports: The Game Without the Sweat

BY SAM GOLDFARB '18  
Contributor

The concept of fantasy sports has revolutionized the sports world. Many Americans follow their favorite teams throughout the NFL, NBA and MLB seasons. However, most lose interest during the long haul of seasons, or stop following the action when their favorite team performs poorly. Fantasy sports tends to keep fans engaged all season, since a typical fantasy roster includes players from all over the league rather than just players from the favorite team. Since fantasy sports add the exciting aspect of allowing the average fan to compete against their friends while simultaneously watching the pros, "fantasy" has modernized the how Americans keep tabs on the world of professional sports.

Today, in fantasy sports, league members participate in an online draft and pick their teams from the entire roster of players in the league. Websites ESPN's portal provide loads of statistical information on each player to show the league participants the skill sets of each player. Then, when the action starts, each player earns "fantasy points" for the league participant based on their game performance. For example, in fantasy football, a player might earn six points for a touchdown one of their imaginary players scores, but lose two for a fumble from another. In fantasy basketball, a player earns points for baskets and assists but loses them for turnovers. If a player is not performing well, a team owner can "drop" the player from his roster, and then, like a real-life big-time team owner, can

add an undrafted player from the waiver wire.

There are many different types of fantasy sports leagues. In one league, each team might face each other in a head-to-head battle each week and the team with the most points wins. In another type, the team with the most points over the course of the entire season wins the title. The best strategy for team owners varies from league to league; often, it pays to change your strategy throughout the course of the season based on the selections of your competition.

Since fantasy has exploded in popularity over the last decade, it has spawned its own industry. ESPN has hired an entire staff to work in its fantasy department to give advice on which players to start each week and which players are hidden gems on the waiver wire. One of the most famous fantasy analysts is Matthew Berry, who quit his job as a scriptwriter to pursue a career in fantasy sports. Berry has become one of the most trusted people in the industry, and his advice can be found all over ESPN's website and its television and radio stations. Berry has written a book called Fantasy Life, which is popular among fantasy sports fanatics across the country.

By owning a fantasy football team, owners are presented with many unique scenarios that are unrelated to which football team actually wins any given game. A die-hard Patriots fan might need to root for a player on the Jets they've drafted in order to win bragging rights in their league. An owner is also likely, at some point in the season, to want two players that

are playing in the same game but against each other to both play well. One owner can also be leading another by a large sum of points, but if the opponent has enough players yet to take the field, he can make an exciting comeback. With all these different scenarios, fantasy alters the way sports are watched by the general public.

It's all about statistics in fantasy sports. The 2011 movie Moneyball, starring Brad Pitt, showed the method employed by Billy Beane and his staff at the Oakland A's, where advanced statistical analysis was used to determine the true value of players rather than just assuming that the most expensive players were the best players. In fantasy, statistics are compiled in a similar way to determine each player's fantasy value, which enables an owner to make more effective decisions about who to draft and who to trade if they want to deal their underperforming players.

Fantasy sports are more popular than ever, and it is not unusual for a fantasy participant to "play" in multiple leagues at the same time. Fantasy has revolutionized the way that Americans watch sports and maximizes the use of the wealth of sports statistics now readily available to the average sports fan. Give fantasy sports a try! You'll get the excitement of competing against your friends while becoming a more informed viewer of your favorite sport at the same time.





# Fall Sports are Done: The Final Records

<b>Girls Varsity Sports</b>		
Soccer		13-3-3
Field Hockey		11-6-1
Volleyball		16-3
Cross Country		7-0
<b>Boys Varsity Sports</b>		
Soccer		17-1-2
Football		6-2
Water Polo		7-12
Cross Country		7-0

## LC Volleyball: Spiking For A Cause



PHOTO COURTESY OF MADDIE ASH

BY KELLY WHITE '17  
Staff Writer

On Saturday October 25th, about an hour before our first-ever night game, the Loomis Chaffee girls varsity volleyball team strolled into Olcott gym filled with excitement for a great Dig for the Cure match against a formidable opponent, Taft. The LC players had spent the week preparing for this game by ordering specialized Breast Cancer Awareness T-shirts, making posters, and baking treats for the bake sale in which proceeds would be donated to the Susan G. Komen foundation in support of Breast Cancer Awareness.

After spraying each other's hair pink, applying vibrant rosy lipstick, and accessorizing with breast cancer ribbons and stickers, the players began our warm-ups. Soon enough, the Taft girls filed in looking ready for a good match, and minutes before game-time supporters began to occupy the stands. The fans at a typical home volleyball game consist of several parents, a few friends, and the occasional teacher. Seeing as this was a Saturday night and for a great cause, the volleyball team had hoped to acquire a bigger crowd at this game. When the buzzer reverberated through Olcott signaling the start of the match, fans occupied about one-third of the stands and a hum of energy formed in the gym. Both teams were ready to give these people a high-quality volleyball game.

Spirits rose high as LC started strong with a 4-0 lead in the first set. Although the home team

was playing well, it seemed clear this game was not going to be a blowout; Taft rose to the challenge, matching our play to the best of their ability. The crowd's cheers and encouraging applause heightened the players' drive to win. Loomis pulled away with the first set.

As the match progressed, the fan count increased. Eventually, the bleachers were nearly filled to the top, far surpassing our ex-

pectations. However the crowd wasn't there simply to watch, they came prepared to supply us with unlimited energy in order to help the team win this match. Parents, students, and teachers came together that night in the Olcott Gymnasium to cheer, encourage, and support Loomis' volleyball team. The fans' energy fueled the team, supplying our players with the vigor we needed to perform even better. Point after point Loomis and Taft entertained the audience with a high-intensity match of volleyball, and point after point the fans reciprocated with roaring enthusiasm.

**“The energy from parents, students, and teachers that came together in Olcott to cheer, encourage, and support fueled the team.”**

sets, the home team's confidence was high entering the third set. However, it appeared the fans' confidence was even higher. Their fervor and excitement grew, a seemingly impossible feat after such a lively second set. Now, with every dig, set, and kill on Loomis' side the fans chanted, “YES, YES, YES.” When the opponents touched the ball, LC fans countered, “NO, NO, NO.” Although the third set remained a close game, our confidence, enhanced by our fans, never faltered as we peeled ahead and ended the match with a victory for Loomis Chaffee.

If I said that Loomis Chaffee's volleyball team came out triumphant in that match simply because of our skillful performance, I would only be telling half of the truth. The girls varsity volleyball team won that match not only because of our talented players, but also because of the nonstopping support and encouragement doled out by our fans. That was not just a Loomis Chaffee Girls Volleyball team victory; that was a Loomis Chaffee victory, because every person who showed up that night, whether they were there to play or to support, played a vital role in that win. Thanks to the fans, the players were granted the privilege to participate in one of the most exciting and lively games of volleyball. The people who came to cheer on the game displayed exactly the type of school spirit Loomis needs. Is this the beginning of a new and even more spirited Loomis Chaffee? I certainly hope so.

After winning the first two



# THE 2015 LOG

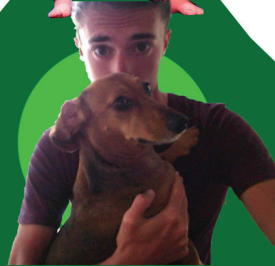
# WISHLIST



a supersized F650 monster truck  
 Godiva Pretzels  
 AXE Body Spray© for my sister (gosh dang it Nat)  
 steamed broccoli  
 to join the prestigious (Michael) Carter  
 Twerk Team 2K15



to not be on every single promotional publication this school ever makes  
 a purse dog (purse included) or a teacup pig  
 a hot bae  
 An autographed copy of The Communist Manifesto  
 Freedom to embarrass anyone I want whenever I want to



Christine Xu:  
 MIA(as per usual)

a life (time supply of the world's finest coffee beans)  
 duct tape, rope, a large brown sack,  
 and a nearby river  
 blonde hair  
 ten thousand bees  
 fried chicken (long live the South)

clothes that don't look good (I don't have any)  
 Ear muffs that block out every sound  
 the ability to make my problems materialize and then fight them to the death  
 a fly swatter to swat everyone with



some ARTSY decor from Michael's©  
 Sam Cox  
 the ability to breathe fire (jk already have it)  
 a pet iguana (my spirit animal)  
 Xana's undying and eternal love (jk already has it)



three stress balls and a punching bag  
 stale birthday cake  
 to be an indie chick(en)  
 the one ring to rule them all,  
 one ring to find them.  
 one ring to rule them all and in the darkness bind them

a Kill Bill-style samurai sword and yellow jumpsuit  
 SmartWater©  
 a book filled with all the answers to all the latin homework ever  
 87 orange turtleneck sweaters (#velma)  
 a personal bench press for my room



Crocs©  
 a train ticket outta here  
 I wanna, I wanna, I wanna, I wanna, I really really really wanna zig-a-zig ah  
 green tea chocolate  
 door key to Arashi's abode, wherever they live



all of Hungary  
 Aquaman's superpowers  
 yet another flannel



a boyfriend (but not Colin, been there done that..)  
 Liberty Sport Rec Specs Maxx-21 Eyeglasses©



Bridge to Terabithia and a lot of tissues  
 Mean Girls 2  
 for the Log to have layout weekends EVERY DAY  
 li-trally another passport (ran out of room in my other one)  
 For swim practice to last for 7 hours (not that I'm ever tired anyway)



to erase every single memory of freshman year ever.  
 A Harley-Davidson LiveWire © electric motorcycle  
 peach-melon-apricot snapple  
 Mars

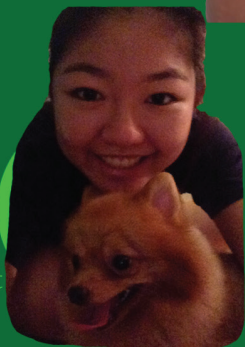


a dragon  
 AXE Body Spray © (Chocolate Thunder)  
 an A in IEPS (hardest class ever fml tbh)  
 gift card to Free People (jk I already own the store)  
 some more guys on the Log staff PLEASE



a flamethrower  
 to be a kpop dancing star  
 a dancing kpop star  
 kpop major  
 k(ake)-pop?

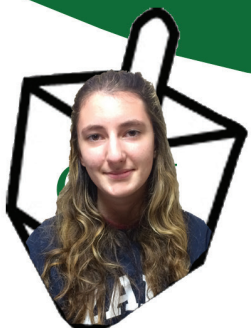
a full set of medieval armor  
 to GET MATH  
 dance moves for da club  
 an I.D. with a GPS  
 overdue hummus (yes I do eat them)



Silly String©  
 some rockin' puffy hats (as seen on Sharpay in High School Musical)  
 an exit buddy for the SWIRLING VORTEX OF TERROR, DUDE  
 a cool drink of water (to quench my thirst)  
 customer of the month at Dunkin' Donuts



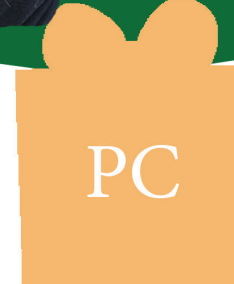
Rachael Ray's new cookbook  
 Gator steak with fried mac-and-cheese  
 Red pandas  
 Michael Carter



the keys to the kingdom  
 maltasers  
 Tea time with the Queen of England  
 versace versace versace  
 bath salts



world peace  
 a miniature version of Mariah Carey  
 a baby who eats lemons  
 The boys' soccer team



PC

six-inch Louboutins  
 The US national debt in cash  
 'Free Hugs' t-shirt  
 A nuclear warhead  
 slow-growing bamboo

to see what a B feels like (in theory)  
 10 mpg diesel Hummer stretch limo #VroomVroom  
 none, unless you got buns, hun  
 for someone to read the Log Blog for once  
 13 banana peels



for someone to be able to pronounce my name

Lee Jong Suk  
 A kiss from an AZN ;)  
 A room next to Jean Lee



the state of California  
 to be invited to layout the Holy Grail  
 smaller speedos #ftbl  
 comfy socks!

