

The Loomis Chaffee Log

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Photo by Haven Low '21

The solar array is located behind the turf field by the hockey rink. Jason Liu '17 initiated the plan to install the solar panels, which will be functional by November after several delays due to legal and logistical issues.

LC Goes Solar

New Solar Array to Supply Campus with Green Energy

By **NICHOLAS DARRAS '21**
Contributor

This fall on the Island, Loomis Chaffee will finally finish installing a massive solar array, originally scheduled to open in February of 2019. Set to be finished by early November, this array will supply Loomis with cleaner, green energy.

The project was initially developed by Jason Liu '17. Drawing on his research and coursework, and working alongside Associate Director of the Alvord Center Mr. Jeff Dyreson, Jason developed the idea of implementing solar panels around campus for his Gilchrist Environmental Fellowship (GEF) project.

Jason's goal was to have a solar array that could meet 25-30% of the electrical demand of our campus. That amount of energy would be capable of powering over 900 homes.

After several delays, the panels were officially installed this past summer. Currently, everything is finished except the connection from the array to the electrical substation, which is set to be completed by October 25. The array will then officially be put to use in November.

Director of Physical Plant Mr. Lance Hall explained that in addition to providing cleaner energy, the array will have great financial benefits.

"The power collected from the array will be transported to Eversource, the company

Loomis buys energy from. The energy delivered will substantially decrease Loomis's power bill," he said. As Loomis' energy bill decreases, the school will be able to put more tuition dollars toward other needs.

"The cost of the array is minimal because of a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) Loomis made," Mr. Hall said. The PPA is an agreement whereby Loomis will purchase energy at a cheap fixed price for 25 years, while a third party company will take care of maintenance and installation of the array.

During the construction of the array, finding an appropriate place to put it proved challenging. In the area surrounding Loomis are various wetlands protected under Connecticut law. Loomis had the option of placing the array in the wetlands under the condition that they would replace the wetlands somewhere else, but unfortunately, the wetland in the desired area was in poor condition.

Ultimately, the array was installed in a dry area west of the train tracks and outside of the wetlands and floodplain to avoid future conflicts.

According to Mr. Hall, the school considered other possible locations, including on the top of buildings or in other dry lands in the western side of our campus, but ultimately rejected them.

Parents Weekend Becomes Family Weekend

By **EMILY KHYM '23**
Contributor

Recently, "Parents' Weekend" was changed to "Family Weekend" in an effort to make the event more inviting for other family members or guardians.

"In conjunction with the committee, we changed the name of Parents Weekend to Family Weekend this year. Knowing that grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, and others participate in the weekend's events and activities, it was determined that adjusting the name to Family Weekend was more welcoming and inclusive of those who attend," Mrs. Lisa Ross, director of alumni and parent relations, said.

On one hand, the name switch is intended to help students and their families feel a sense of belonging on campus.

"People who don't have parents, and instead have guardians, now feel included," Kate Shymkiv '22 said.

"The new name makes it sound more open to everyone in the family," Tony Chun '22 said.

On the other hand, Mr. Jeffrey Scanlon '79, English faculty member, believes that the change was not necessary.

"I do not think it needed to be changed," Mr. Scanlon said. Mr. Scanlon feels that guardians or siblings would have come anyway, whether or not the name changed.

Family Weekend Highlights

Friday, October 25

2:00–4:00 p.m.
International Families Meet & Greet in Brush Library

3:30–5:15 p.m.
Open Rehearsal for "Macbeth" in the NEO Theater

Saturday, October 26

8:30–9:30 a.m.
Faculty and Parents Meet & Greet in Brush Library

3:00–6:00 p.m.
Home Games on Campus (see page 10 for schedule)

October EDITORS' PICKS

News (Page 2)

Flik Debunks Food Package Rumors - 2

Features (Pages 3-6)

Students to Perform "Macbeth" - 3

Opinions (7-8)

LC's Political Culture - 8

Sports (9-10)

Family Weekend Preview - 10

Mélange (11-12)

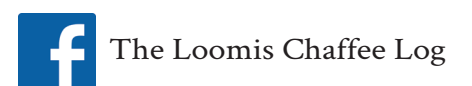
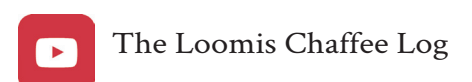
Tips to Prep for the SAT - 12

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Team Photos Return to Olcott



Photo by Angela Wang '20

The 2019 varsity softball team photograph has returned to its rightful place on the wall of Olcott Athletics Center.

By KELLY XUE '21
Features Editor

Photos featuring rows of cheerful varsity athletes and coaches have long adorned the walls of the Olcott Center.

These familiar, black-framed photographs have documented Loomis Chaffee's varsity athletic history for generations. But when students returned to school last year, they found an empty space where they had expected their team photos to be.

This fall, however, the photos have been updated and reinstalled after a brief delay due to a mishap involving the picture frames.

Before the summer of 2018, the Athletic Department ordered frames for team photos from their usual frame company. The completed frames, which arrived six months after the order placement, were found to be too large and unfit for the frame holders.

The framers from which they ordered subsequently went out of business. Athletic Director Susan Cabot explained that looking for other options, the department began a lengthy process in the search for a frame with appropriate dimensions and eventually ordered around 15 different frames.

"It became a difficult process," Ms. Cabot said.

She commented that with limited extra time on top of her other responsibilities, these unanticipated intricacies, like obtaining the frames, took much longer than expected.

The uneven widths of the frame holders further complicated the situation as the frames "were not one-size-fits-all."

By then, the new school year was already well underway and students began to notice

and question the absence of their team photos.

Ms. Cabot expressed her frustration at the misconception that the Athletic Department was considering to discontinue the practice.

"I think it's a wonderful tradition," she said, explaining that halting the picture tradition had never been their intent.

In previous years, the school spent approximately \$3500 on the picture frames annually, according to Ms. Cabot. She believed that preserving the tradition justified the cost.

"Representing the past is always worth the effort," Ms. Cabot said, adding that she enjoys seeing alumni finding their old photographs during visits.

The Athletic Department resolved the issue by bringing the frames to the Pearse Hub for Innovation and manually sawing off the edges to the correct proportions and finally drawing their year-long quest to a close.

All of the team photographs have now been added. Ms. Cabot explained that in the future, they may possibly choose to frame the photographs after each sport season rather than organizing them all in June as they had previously done, so as to partition the work.

Furthermore, there are plans to switch out the colored photos for black and white ones to create a more uniform look.

At the beginning of this school year, when Ms. Cabot was rearranging the photographs to make space for the new additions, she noticed that many of the older photos had also been cut at the bottom as a result of ill-fitting frames.

"If only I had known!" Ms. Cabot said.

Flik Debunks Food Package Rumors

By LILY POTTER '21
Staff Writer

A rumor has spread around the Loomis Chaffee community that LC has a "bronze" Flik Dining package, as opposed to other boarding prep schools that have the Gold or Silver. In reality, the Flik dining service at LC is the same program across every school that uses Flik.

It is not the case that Loomis has a lower or less expensive plan compared to other schools.

According to Mr. Keith Garfield, Flik manager at Loomis, the price per meal is standard across all schools.

"It's not really a budgetary thing in regard to how much money we can spend. It's basi-

cally the price per meal and then times how many people we're [serving]," Mr. Garfield said.

Every school has the same standards of Flik meals, which include "making sure we have the right stuff on the deli and on the salad bar, having a vegetarian option, having a vegan option, having a clear broth soup and a cream broth soup, so it's all standards that we have to follow," Mr. Garfield said.

The chefs have discretion over what food items get served on what day, but all schools that use Flik use the same menu database.

"It's just the standard across the board of Flik. We don't do anything particular that's different from anyone else," Mr. Garfield explained.

Most Susceptible Age Group
Under the age of 15 & over the age of 50
EEE Found in Total 21 Towns in CT in 2019
Including South Windsor

11 Deaths Reported in 2019
3 Deaths Near the Southern Coast of CT

EEE Stokes Fear in Connecticut

By ANNA LI '21
Staff Writer

Loomis Chaffee had widely cautioned students about the infectious virus Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) following its recent emergence in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

A rare disease most dangerous to persons over the age of 50 and under the age of 15, EEE has been detected in mosquitoes in a total of 21 Connecticut towns in 2019, including South Windsor.

While EEE causes deadly symptoms such as swelling in the brain, cyanosis, and even

coma, there have been only 11 total cases of death in the United States in 2019.

Connecticut has had three deaths that resulted from an EEE infection, but all human cases of infection occurred far away from Loomis Chaffee, near the southern coasts of Connecticut.

Loomis Chaffee, following steps taken by Windsor and other surrounding towns, had banned evening activities to reduce the risk of mosquito bites. However, LC finally removed that ban this week, after several cold evenings resulted in a mosquito-killing frost.

Water Warriors Receive Sponsorship



Photo by Skyler Hanley '20

Trent Hieber '22, a member of the boys' varsity water polo team, helps out with the Water Warriors program.

By ANNA LI '21
Staff Writer

Water Warriors, a program that teaches kids in the local Windsor area how to swim, has recently received a sponsorship from SwimOutlet, an online swimwear and equipment retail company.

Swim Outlet has agreed to donate caps, goggles, and other training equipment for the swimmers. The donated training equipment will be used at the school, and the kids will also be able to take the gear home to use for themselves.

The new swimsuits and equipment are expected to come in by Sunday, October 20.

U.S. History Students to Travel to Rhode Island

By ANNA LI '21
Staff Writer

All students taking U.S. History or CL U.S. History, as well as their teachers, will be going on a field trip to Newport, Rhode Island, on Thursday, October 31.

This is the first year the history department has decided to go on a field trip to Newport. Students will be exploring the effect of slavery had on the North by looking

at historical documents pertaining to the slave trade as well as going to the graveyards of the slaves to see how they were remembered.

"[The field trip] will help [students] better understand that slavery did exist in the North and Newport is a good example of how an economy really revolved around slavery," Mrs. Lori Caligiuri, a U.S. History teacher, said.

Students to Perform “Macbeth” in November

By VICTORIA CHE '21
Opinions Editor

“When shall we three met again, in thunder, lightning, or in rain?”

The Weird Sisters’ question leads the audience onto an enticing journey to explore power, ambition, and guilt in the renowned Shakespeare tragedy “Macbeth.”

From November 5 to 8, the NEO will be presenting the fall play “Macbeth” for the Loomis Chaffee community. An all-time Shakespeare classic, “Macbeth” has proven to be both a challenging task and a rewarding experience for the students and faculty involved in the play.

Since early September, actors, directing faculty, and backstage crew have been working collaboratively to create an impressive production.

Lana Breheny '21, who plays Lady Macbeth, shares that one of the most exciting experiences she enjoyed was “getting to explore a character much deeper than usual.”

“Macbeth” is the first tragedy that Lana has been a part of since the beginning of her NEO career at Loomis Chaffee. Furthermore, the play’s widespread popularity renders her performance of this character even more challenging.

Knowing that the audience is more familiar with “Macbeth” than most of the previous plays and musicals, Lana admits that she feels more pressure.

“The audience knows the play, they know the plot, they might even know the words,” Lana said.

Despite some difficulties throughout the process, Lana believes that the directing faculty have guided the actors with their profound knowledge of Shakespeare literature to a point at which the crew feels proud to be.

“There is no doubt in my mind that we would have a beautiful show by the end,” Lana said.

English faculty member and fall play director Dr. Will Eggers has served as the assistant director for many fall plays at Loomis Chaffee, but directing “Macbeth” is his first time serving as the primary director.

“We have such a solid foundation upon which to build, and our students are both talented and committed,” Dr. Eggers said. “A lot of my job is turning them loose on the material, see what they produce, and retain those strongest elements.”

Dr. Eggers believes that his background in teaching Shakespeare helps him to “provide context, interpret the language and offer clarification on the differences between their [characters in the play] society and ours.”

Dr. Eggers shares that two elements in the play this time — clothing and stage setting — will be quite different from those in other classical productions.



Photo by Anna Rebello '21

John Howley '21 (Macbeth) and Talia Mayo '21 (Young Siward) engage in stage combat during a rehearsal of Macbeth, which will open on November 5.

“Instead of using Renaissance clothing, we are having costumes that have more of a modern style. The set has different layers and angles, so it is very dynamic. When actors move around the stage, their movement is tailored by the stage itself,” Dr. Eggers said.

By the end of the play, Dr. Eggers hopes that the students involved in the production will find it an amazing experience and have made many memories from it.

“As for the audience, I hope that they feel entertained even as they encounter the culturally rich material Shakespeare offers,” Dr. Eggers said.

John Howley '21 plays Macbeth and believes that the play’s widespread popularity both pressures and liberates the actors.

“It make the need for accuracy and a text-perfect reading become more essential,” John said. “On the other hand, it opens

up a lot of freedom to the actors because the majority of the audience knows the storyline. Whereas for ‘Twelfth Night’ or ‘Pericles’ we had to focus on conveying the story, this time we can really focus on the acting and introspective work,” John said.

Mr. David McCamish, who has been the director of many previous NEO productions, has been on leave since earlier this fall. From John’s perspective, the transition was seamless.

“Dr. Eggers and Ms. Saxton have both worked in the NEO before, and their knowledge of both Shakespeare literature and theatre have really provided us valuable insights and advice. They have the cast and crew’s full trust,” John said.

Director of Writing Initiatives and English faculty member Ms. Kathryn Saxton has been the assistant director for five musicals at Loomis, but this is her first time

working with the fall play.

“Working on the musical is always an exciting whirlwind because we have to balance singing, dancing, and acting rehearsals. Helping with ‘Macbeth’ this fall, I appreciate the extended, quality time that we have to work with the text and build the world of the play as an ensemble,” Ms. Saxton said.

As an English teacher, Ms. Saxton has taught ‘Macbeth’ several times and she feels that she knows the play well.

“However, Shakespeare always takes on a different life on stage, and no two productions are ever the same,” Ms. Saxton said. “I have certainly discovered new things about the play, thanks to our production. I hope that the audience will leave the show with a similar sense of discovery and new insight into this enduring classic.”



Photo by Anna Rebello '21

L-R: Kassie Rivera '21, Tom Zhang '21, Ben Radmore '22, Aidan Cooper '22, and Dr. Eggers at the Norris Ely Orchard Theater

Halim Ali '20: From Somaliland to Windsor



Photo by Jessica Hsieh '08

By **KANTAPHON "NICKY" WONGCHAMCHAROEN '20**
Contributor

Abdihalim Ali, a new Loomis Chaffee senior from Somaliland who has just moved to the United States for the first time, has faced a dramatic wave of changes in his life: the adjustment to a new country and a new boarding school. As his roommate, I spent a lot of time with him during the first three weeks of school. Conducting an interview let me delve deep into his story and perspectives. He decided to move from his old community of a boarding school in Somaliland to the Loomis Chaffee School as he intended to meet new people and pursue his dream. Both communities are dramatically different, and he found out that the reality of being a member of Loomis Chaffee community perfectly matched his dream. This profile dives into the interesting story of Halim, the boy from a country most people have never heard of, and my own thoughts and experience being his friend and roommate.

Before entering Room 36 of Batchelder Hall with two big suitcases, I glanced at the nameplate and saw the engraved letters of "Somaliland," a country I've never heard of before.

Tiptoeing inside, I met my roommate Halim for the first time. He shook my hand

tightly and said, "I'm Halim from Somaliland." I could feel that he was amiable from the very first moment we met. Knowing that he was a new senior and just traveled from half a world away, I felt more comfortable because we were both international students and new to the school.

When I asked him about his country, he eagerly opened Google Maps on his phone, locating and meticulously describing the place where he came from. I was so impressed with his loquaciousness and his good command of English.

After that busy morning, I went to the dining hall with him. I was so nervous since I didn't know anyone else. I was afraid of sitting alone, but at the same time, I was afraid of walking to a random table and asking if I could sit there.

But he wasn't, so I followed him to sit with a group of sophomores. "I love strangers," he told me with confidence. Without him, I wouldn't have had very first friends from the dining table that day, I would've had a hard time knowing other people, and I wouldn't have adjusted so quickly to Loomis. He was truly my savior.

During the first week, we talked and learned a lot more about each other. Unfortunately, he loved rap music, but I didn't. I loved sushi, but he thought raw fish was disgusting. He played his music loudly, but I loved to study quietly. He talked on the phone and slept late, but I go to bed early.

We were so different that sometimes I was afraid I would struggle living with him. At last, we found something in common – our dream college. He told me, "If we both get into Penn, we'll meet again, having fun, and maybe we can be roommates again!" To be honest, I wasn't quite sure whether I would feel comfortable living with him for another year.

When we started the interview for this profile, Halim told me that the best decision in his life was moving to America: "I think coming to Loomis Chaffee is the stepping-stone to my career both as a businessman and a student." He came here to develop academic skills and ultimately become a better person, student, leader, and

a member of the community.

Where he came from was totally different from here. "I came from a community where things were not developed and the opportunities were very few. Everyone was fighting for oneself. There is no we and us, but only me and I."

Halim describes his previous school as a very unfriendly community. There was no cooperation; everyone was self-centered and selfish.

However, he didn't suffer living there at all. He described his life there as "fantastic." He had his family to support him and, most importantly, to send him to the United States, the country he longed for.

I thought it would be difficult for us to adapt to our new lives at Loomis, but I was wrong. He quickly got used to the new schedule, classes, and community. On the very first day, I was still homesick for my family in Thailand and was confused with almost everything. He asked me if this was my first time in the boarding school, and the answer was yes.

That was when I learned that he had been in the boarding school for four years in Somaliland. He showed me some pictures on his Instagram, and his school looked very different from our U.S. boarding school. The buildings were old, and the land looked barren.

"You know, it's a very competitive school. Every year, 3000 kids take exams and only a few students get accepted each year. And if you get in there, it's a different dynamic. Everyone is grinding. The school tries as much as they can to impose the sense of community, but it's kinda like 'what can I do to be at the top' not 'what can we do to be at the top together,'" Halim said.

When I asked him about his expectations of Loomis Chaffee, he said, "The picture I painted in my head was honestly a heaven." He claimed to have read every newsletter and post on the school's social media. He thought of Loomis as a place full of knowledge and people who love being part of this warm community.

As for the reality, he said, "Honestly,

that picture is the reality I'm living in right now." I couldn't agree more with his remark as I can feel the intimacy and strong bonds among Loomis community members; everyone here supports each other both inside and outside of classrooms. Ultimately, he is an important part that made me feel this way.

He told me since the first day we met, "If you need anything, you can tell me everything and every time. 'Cuz we are roommates, right, so we need to support each other." I was grateful for that, but I never thought that we would support each other for literally everything.

One day, when he saw me carrying three big packages from the mailroom back to our room, he told me, "You should have called me to help you. Next time, just tell me okay? Remember we are roommates and support each other." I was so impressed as I never thought that he would take his words seriously, but he really meant that he would support me with everything.

I love talking with Halim about business, which is our common interest. When he told me about his involvement in the business world, I was surprised that he is currently running three companies in Somaliland.

Two of three companies work with Somali celebrities by making advertisement and merchandise for them. Another company invests in farms, helping the farmers launch their products into the market.

"The farmers don't have knowledge about business, so we help them make money," Halim said. "It's a win-win cooperation, and I'm very happy that I could support them." Even though having businesses in Somaliland is great, he told me that he planned to found a startup company involving the stock market here because he can reach more people and make an impact to the world in a bigger way.

"Thanks for having me here, bro," said Halim after the interview ended. I then got back to work, hoping that we would both meet again at our dream college. It would be great if we could be roommates again someday, I thought to myself.

LC Students Explore Peru

By **PILAR WINGLE '22**
Contributor

On June Ninth, twelve Loomis students and I, along with two teachers, began exploring the marvelous and diverse country of Peru. On our trip, we studied Peru's culture by trekking the Sacred Valley, balancing on the sides of ancient salt ponds, and visiting different neighborhoods in Lima.

First, we learned about the economic disadvantage in some pockets of Lima. We studied neighborhoods that are divided based on status and wealth. In one case, this divide was maintained by an actual wall - In San Juan de Miraflores, at the top of the hill.

On our way up we saw slabs of metals and concrete placed together to create a home and stray dogs running freely. The wall, placed between San Juan de Miraflores and one of the wealthiest places in Lima, is covered with papers bearing questions and answers regarding the feelings provoked by the physical separation.

One question asked, "¿Qué opinas de los muros y las fronteras que existen en el mundo?" (What do you think of the walls and borders that exist in our world?). The answer: Es cierto que los muros causan divisiones de varias sociedades (It is true that the walls cause a divide in society.)

However, regardless of the immense need for aid and attention, the neglected community asserts its voice by electing a leader and working together to make the best of what it has. It built a community center with help from volunteers and has a plan for future improvements.

This sense of community and working with what you have is a common theme seen all around Peru.

At the Salinas de Maras, a place where

salinated water flows from a mountain top and funnels into pools where families have been harvesting salt since before the Inca's time, we learned a little bit about the history of relations between the government and natives on the land.

The Peruvian government first took the salinas from the indigenous people, but after many failed attempts to perfect the difficult technique, the government handed back the land to the indigenous people of the area, now different local families share and collectively own the mountainside. In unison, they work together to produce salt and make sure that all the operations run as smoothly as possible.

Along the exit, they have multiple different stands, with each family selling their own bags of salt and goods. The families bonded by their jobs create a society around the salinas that captivates you with beauty from not only the view but the passion and dedication the people all have to their traditions.

At the end of our trip, we took a three-day trek and encouraged each other while climbing up steep mountains, and reaching high altitudes. We picked up on the characteristics of the people around us for so many days that we ourselves were united and connected.

The sense of community we experienced throughout the whole trip had become a part of us, something that seemed almost impossible in our dead-silent pre-trip February meeting.

Peru changed us all and taught us to not only be grateful but to take full advantage of everything we have in life. For that, we will always be a part of our tiny Peru-Loomis community.



Photo by Maribel Blas-Rangel

Kennedy Anderson '21 climbs up the Lares trail in Peru in June 2019. Twelve LC students and two teachers traveled to Peru to explore its culture and history.

BOOM! Boomerang Bags

By HAZEL LE '22 and LANA SHENG '22
Contributor and Staff Writer

In the famous words of Katy Perry, “do you ever feel like a plastic bag, drifting through the wind, wanting to start again?” Unfortunately, due to the over-use of disposable plastics, the sight of plastic bags floating in the ocean or drifting through the wind is our reality.

Nevertheless, this problem is being addressed through the new Connecticut law on plastic bags, effective from August 1, 2019. Joining the worldwide movement to combat climate change, the state of Connecticut has begun charging a 10-cent fee per single-use plastic bag in all retail stores.

Denmark was the first country to charge a small fee on plastic bags in 1994, and California was the first state in America to adopt this new law in 2012. Many countries such as Bangladesh and China have even applied more aggressive approaches to climate action, placing a total ban on plastic bags in recent years.

Implementing the new 10-cent law is Connecticut's first small step to spreading climate awareness to residents and confronting climate change.

Boomerang Bags is an Australian organization started in 2013 that includes a network of local volunteers who work independently to reduce waste in their communities. Loomis Chaffee, thanks to Project Green leader Freya Rich '20 is participating in the Boomerang Bag initiative.

Mrs. Heather Henderson, the director of community service, is the faculty advisor for Boomerang Bags.

“It's been amazingly effective so far. I go into stores and see people carrying their own bags, and it's incredible how much people's mindset changes in just two months. By putting the price directly on the consumer, they will think again if they really need a bag or not,” Mrs. Henderson said.

Freya was inspired to bring Boomerang Bags to Loomis Chaffee in 2017 after going with her father to a local branch of Boomerang Bags, where people gathered for weekly sewing bees.

With the help of faculty and Project Green, Boomerang Bags started as a clothing drive and sewing weekend activity before turning into an afternoon community service.

This after-school program teaches stu-

dents how to sew reusable bags from fabric scraps and old clothing. The produced bags are hung in the foyer of each dorm, given to food pantries, and sold to fundraise for charities.

Lilith Yu '20, a Project Green leader, said that she had to “start from zero and learn how to sew before jumping right into leading the project.”

Both Lilith and Freya faced multiple challenges along the way as they tried to spread out the Boomerang Bags projects.

“Everytime I see a LC student going to town with a Boomerang Bags, I feel like it's all worth it,” Lilith said.

This fall, Lilith and Freya have created more signs around the dorms to remind students to bring Boomerang Bags with them. They also announced the project in class meetings to attract more attention from new students.

They have set their goal for the year: Expand Boomerang Bags to the Windsor community.

Asher Kornfield '22, a new boarding student in Carter said that he always uses Boomerang Bags while going out because “they are helpful to the environment and reusable and also have an added bonus of handles.”

Sadie Gardner '19 said that “using reusable bags to shop is a small, easy way to prevent more plastic waste,” but she thought that there should be more constant reminders so people could remember to use them while going to town.

Valentin Silva '20 said he knows about the existence of Boomerang Bags and usually uses them.

“Sometimes I forget to take one and I have to purchase a paper bag from Geisslers or CVS,” Valentin said.

Stacey Zhang '22 does not use Boomerang Bags that often because she brings her own tote bag or backpack while shopping.

“However, [I realize] that people do often use plastic bags as trash bags, but they will now have to buy new trash bags,” Stacey said.

Students and community members can contribute to this cause by joining Boomerang Bags.

“Whenever it's time to go, everyone just keeps working and no one seems to want to stop, even after five o'clock. They just keep working on their projects and it's always been that way with Boomerang Bags,” Mrs. Henderson said.



Photo by Hazel Le '22 and Lana Sheng '22

Project Green leaders Lilith Yu '20 and Freya Rich '20 hold their reusable “boomerang bags.”

Reflections on Sophomore Retreat

By MERCY OLAGUNJU '22
Staff Writer

Sophomore retreat is a sleepaway camp for sophomores to bond in a different environment, make new friends, and strengthen old friendships. On September 22, the class of 2022 upheld this tradition in Camp Becket in Massachusetts.

After arriving at Camp Becket, students were split into different groups and separated for introductory team bonding exercises. Afterward, they participated in camp-organized activities such as ropes courses and canoeing.

“My favorite activity was definitely the ropes course. It was really fun, and it was nice talking to everyone and coming up with strategies to complete different courses,” A'jah Canty '22 said.

After a long day of traveling and games, the sophomores sat down to eat dinner at the dining hall. “I liked the family-style dinner because it was an opportunity to...get to know new people,” Joice Odongo '22 said.

After dinner, people were assigned cabins and settled into their cabins with their cabinmates.

On Sunday night, the sophomores danced at a silent disco, screaming words of popular songs, and jumping to the beat.

Later that evening, a campfire was set up with marshmallows, chocolate, and graham crackers for s'mores. After gathering around the bonfire and singing songs, people headed back to their cabins and called it a night.

The next day was also packed with team bonding activities. In addition to the camp-organized activities, other events included Gaga ball, archery, swimming, basketball, and volleyball.

“My favorite activity was swimming. It was really fun because it was a very hot day and everyone came out so you got to see all your friends at once. The activities we got to choose like gaga ball really brought the students together because we got to choose what we wanted to do and who we wanted to do it with,” Dias Belda '22 said.

As the day came to an end, the final activity was to reflect in groups on how the sophomores challenged themselves and helped their classmates enjoy their experience.

“I'm used to staying in my comfort zone but sophomore retreat challenged me to meet more people and make more connections,” Hazel Le '22 said.

“[Sophomore retreat] put me in a situation where I had to work with some people that I have never met before and integrated myself into the community,” Oliver Martin '22 said. “I had a great time, so if you go into it with a good attitude, you'll have a great time too.”

At sophomore retreat, a group of senior leaders helped facilitate the activities.

McKayla McPherson '20, one of the senior leaders, shared that she had a different experience from when she attended as a sophomore.

“I was more nervous and didn't know what to expect,” McKayla said. “But, as a senior, I was really outgoing and super excited to be there. I had my friends with me, and I was also excited to get to know more people and help them have the best experience possible.”

“As a sophomore, the retreat was fun but my group leader wasn't as engaging as I wanted her to be, so I knew I would be able to make it the best experience a sophomore could have,” McKayla said.



Photo by Kelly Xue '21

The Cutler and Howe Family

By ELIZABETH PECORARO '21
Contributor

While arriving at a new school can seem intimidating, it can be helpful to have an older peer to look up to or rely on. This year, Howe Hall and Cutler Hall have collaborated in creating a Big Sister/Little Sister program between the two dorms.

The new initiative is led by Mrs. Lori Caligiuri, head of the all-senior Howe Hall, and Ms. Lillian Corman, head of the underclassman Cutler Hall.

The goal of the program is to give new girls in Cutler an opportunity to bond with seniors and provide them with a friendly face at school. The seniors may also act as a mentor or a trusted friend for their younger counterparts.

Two weeks ago, the freshmen and new sophomores of Cutler were paired with a senior "sister" from Howe. Half of the group went to Howe, while the other half stayed in Cutler. In the spirit of the fall season, the girls painted pumpkins together and relaxed with good snacks and music.

"I liked it a lot. The seniors were really nice," Karly Saliba '23 said.

Looking to the future, the sister pairs will meet sporadically throughout the year for various fun activities.

Loomis Chaffee has a number of programs and resources for new students such as peer counseling, pelican pilots, and prefect groups. However, the Big Sister/Little Sister program is the first of its kind in that it connects seniors and new underclassmen specifically for a one-on-one relationship.

"It helped me feel more welcome to Loomis, and it's good to be friends with an upperclassman," Cameron Devenney '23 said.

In addition, this new program is also specifically gender-based and helps facilitate conversations about the Loomis experience as a boarding girl. Having an "older sister" figure is valuable for younger students, and encourages them to ask for advice and helps them receive assistance from someone who went through the same situation only a few years ago.

"As the program continues and we develop relationships with each other, I can't wait to talk more about empowerment and life as a boarder girl here at LC," Howe resident Clare Wibiralske '20 said. "I think this program is wicked important, and I wish there was a program like this when I was a freshman."



Photo by Haven Low '21

Above: Howe and Cutler residents decorate pumpkins together in the Howe common room.



Photos by Haven Low '21

(L-R) Liles Wall '20, Jean Shin '20, and Turner Brode '23; Alli Benthien '23, Thea Porter '20, and Avery Martin '23; and Sadie Olcott '20 and Karly Saliba '23 hold their decorated pumpkins.

Is SCAM Dead?

By **STEPHANIE ZHANG '21**
News Section Editor

"Party in the USA" echoed loudly off the walls of a half-empty Shimkus gym as underclassmen and a few juniors showed off their new TikTok dance moves under the hazy glow of strobe lights, dutifully waiting for the seniors to run in.

The clock struck nine and the seniors came stampeding in, like a mob of determined shoppers on Black Friday weekend, making tons of noise and stopping to flash their cut-up firefighter t-shirts that displayed their senior status.

A swaying, sardine-like mass of people ping-ponged my body from one side of the gym to the other. The heat emanating off people's bodies made the air so thick that I couldn't breathe, and my feet were stomped on every five seconds. And yet, this is what I lived for.

This year's opening dance, or as the students all call it, SCAM (Seniors Care About Maturity, along with other creative variations), was without a doubt better than that of my freshman year, a construction-themed dance held in a sectioned-off portion of the hockey rink that included more awkward jumping up and down than any of the dance's characteristic squished-in masses bumping shoulders and trading annoyed glances.

But despite the sweat soaking my shirt and the adrenaline hastening my heartbeat, this year's dance just seemed like another rave. It didn't live up to the iconic standards of opening dances past.

In fact, the iconic nature of the opening dance, along with Loomis Chaffee's dance culture in general, has been fading out for a while now. Other than SCAM and the winter formal, the only two dances where people actually show up, every attempt at a dance turns into a room of about five people, three of whom are StuActs-appointed DJs. If I wanted to listen to music in an empty room, I would just stay in my dorm.

The opening dance isn't completely dead, but Loomis's dance culture is slowly having the life choked out of it by strict regulations and the loss of certain traditions. Starting last year, freshmen could no longer participate in the tradition of donning cut-up class shirts at their Loomis dance debut.

I understand and agree with the deans' attempts to prevent the freshmen from being targeted, but depriving freshmen of their only opening dance tradition takes away much of the dance's identity, let alone the fun of bonding with fellow new students over the shared pre-dance ritual of mutilating class gear.

Additionally, this year's opening dance was held on October 5 — far later than last year's date of September 22 — and each year the weekend of the dance seems to get pushed back more and more. At its core, the opening dance is supposed to be a chance for everyone to let loose, as well as an opportunity to integrate younger students with old, creating camaraderie between previous strangers. When the dance is held five weeks into the school year, can it even be called the opening dance anymore?

The slow demise of the Loomis dance



Photo by Laine Duncan '20

Avery Fitzgerald '20, Jenna Stevens '20, Laine Duncan '20, Liles Wall '20, Bailey Prete '20 and Emma Keane '20 posing in their Class of 2020 shirts in 2016.



Photo by Samantha Tishler '23

Ellie Ross '23, Sofia Preuss '23, Zoe Alford '23, Mattie Wright '23, Samantha Tishler '23 and Izzy Balise '23 pose in their tie-dyed shirts after not receiving the traditional freshman class shirts.

culture comes with the end of other student favorite traditions too. The disappearance of round tables in the dining hall, the SNUG becoming the Student Center, and the discontinuance of family-style are all relatively small changes that have still had a large impact on the identity of Loomis and its community.

So the real question is, how do we as students revive the dance culture at Loomis without upsetting the Deans or accidentally targeting students? How do we deal with the loss of Loomis traditions and the Island's constantly changing identity?

While the opening dance wasn't what made Loomis, Loomis, it was an iconic part of our school's identity. As traditions of yore continue to die, we lose aspects of our school that promoted the value of community: cutting the shirts together, the round tables, the old SNUG.

So while change is inevitable, these changes have propelled Loomis into a more individualistic direction that will shape how future students define the culture of the Loomis community.

The Loomis Chaffee Log

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

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CORRECTION: The photograph of Liam Scott '19 in our previous issue was incorrectly attributed to Haven Low '21 instead of LC Strategic Communications and Marketing.

EDITORIAL

Family Style Should Not Return

This fall, as students have returned to Loomis Chaffee, one thing has been noticeably missing from the boarding-student experience: family style dinners. Every LC student, except those who are new this year, has experienced some form of family style dinner, in which the entire boarding population, dressed in their best, convenes for a meal on Tuesday nights.

This arrangement was feasible when our dining facilities were large enough to accommodate the entire boarding student population; however, the Scanlan Campus Center, inaugurated October 2018, cannot seat everyone this year. The Loomis administration has thus introduced Class Dinners, in which entire classes — boarders and day students alike — will eat together.

While the original family styles we four-year seniors once loved are (lamentably) a thing of the past, given the circumstances — specifically, the lack of space in the Tisch dining hall due to this year's over-enrollment — the proposed Class Dinner model seems preferable to reinstating family style dinners.

During the 2016-17 school year, the boarding student population sat down for dinner on Tuesday and Thursday nights in the fall and on Tuesday nights in the spring. With students arranged by dormitory at our beloved circular tables (greatly missed), the food was served family-style — that is, passed around the table to be shared among neighbors and friends.

The 2017-18 school year disrupted this tradition; due to construction on campus and the transformation of Erickson Gym into a makeshift dining hall, family style ceased to exist. As the return of family style was debated during the 2018-2019 school year, the administration ultimately decided that it would return in the fall and the spring but would take place only once a week.

The atmosphere of family style last year

was significantly different than that of the 2016 school year. Without the circular tables, conversing with more than two or three people at a time has become more difficult. Also, the food was not served family style. Instead, students would walk to the servery to serve themselves buffet style. The family style experience seemed far more casual than it had been during the 2016 school year.

Class Dinners are a great opportunity to build community within each class and also, to a certain extent, continue the long-standing tradition of formal dinners. This year, each class will meet for dinner once a term. The formal dress code will remain the same, but day students will be included in these dinners. The rest of the school will eat in the student lounge.

The first class dinner (for the senior class) happened on October 22, and the rest will follow during the remainder of the term.

At times it does seem that traditions are fading at Loomis Chaffee, and family-style dinner is just another one to bite the dust. Every year it seems that

the school puts less and less emphasis on preserving traditions; however, given our current circumstances, the administration should be commended for making a concerted effort to ensure some form of formal dinner remains.

We recognize that it is no longer possible to return to the Family-Style Dinners we knew and loved due to the lack of space in our new dining hall and because we've gotten rid of our circle tables. Ideally, if family style were in the same format as it once was, we would argue for its return.

However, due to the current circumstances, we believe that Class Dinners are a great way to include day students both in the boarding student community and in a beloved Loomis Chaffee tradition.

Class Dinners are a great way to include day students both in the boarding student community and in a beloved Loomis Chaffee tradition.

Loomis Chaffee's Political Culture

By **ANYA SASTRY '20**
Contributor
and **MINJUNE SONG '21**
News Section Editor

LIBERAL PERSPECTIVE

"Let's Not Get into an Argument."
Anya Sastry '20

As someone who is highly invested in and engaged with politics on multiple levels, I have always felt that the political culture at Loomis is a significant part of my experience on campus. I have found that although we like to refer to ourselves as an island, distanced and separated from everyone and everything else, we are much more like a sponge when it comes to political culture — our community soaks up and reacts to the greater political atmosphere around us.

I entered my freshman year at Loomis in the midst of a heated and heavily polarized presidential election. When the results of the 2016 presidential election were announced, I found myself determined. I became intent on engaging with, participating in, and learning more about the political atmosphere that surrounded me.

And I saw other students do the same. Loomis reacted strongly to the election and as a new student, one of my first impressions of the Loomis community was that both students and faculty alike were passionate about political issues and cared about what was happening around them.

As a freshman, I looked up to the members of the Classes of 2017 and 2018 because those classes were filled with students willing to engage with each other and have those difficult conversations, no matter what side of the aisle they were on. Many of those students taught me how to have

those challenging conversations with peers and they created an atmosphere on campus that encouraged and facilitated difficult, yet respectful, political discussions.

I have had the opportunity to progress through Loomis at the same pace that Trump has progressed through his presidency. In this process, I have gained insight into how national reaction to Trump's presidency over the past few years has impacted and shaped our political culture here at Loomis.

However, I have found that just as Loomis' political culture was heightened by the intense national response to the election results, it has also conformed to the nation's growing apathy toward and resignation to political occurrences.

It seems to me that as Trump's reactionary political decisions and actions remain consistent, the general public no longer reacts, as they predict what is coming. People have grown tired of debating and discussing political issues.

The same has occurred at Loomis. The political culture that persists now is wildly different from the political culture of my freshman year. Aside from student groups such as the Shultz Fellows, the Young Democrats, and the Young Republicans, genuine political engagement and interest is hard to come by in our community.

Students are put off by any mention of politics. Recently, I voiced a political opinion different from one of my peers and I was eager to start a discussion over the topic; however, in response to my statement, the student simply said, "Let's not get into an argument," and instantly changed the subject, despite the fact that there were no signs of a confrontation. Students are now seeing politics as disruptive and taboo.

As trends and data suggest, the upcoming presidential election will spur the Loom-

is community back into a political frenzy, and students will be much more engaged as different political opinions take the center stage in national politics. But until then, are we stuck with a community that is detached from, uninterested in, and uninvolved with politics?

CONSERVATIVE PERSPECTIVE

"Avoiding an Echo Chamber"
Minjune Song '20

Bias infuses Loomis Chaffee life as it does in any other institution. It's here, prodding at a corner of your mind when you are just about to say something genuine —

I can't say this, not here.

Here we are at Loomis Chaffee, a school where we strive to promote equality and inclusivity for all. However, there is a lingering fear for students with conservative views that our ideas will be interpreted as problematic. As a result, students sometimes feel discouraged from speaking out.

Mrs. Lori Caligiuri, faculty adviser to the Young Republicans, expressed surprise when a number of students spoke out in the first Young Republicans meeting this year. New club members said that they were reluctant to join the club, perhaps because they feared biased treatment from teachers, students, and even colleges.

Max Rosenberg '21, the student president of the Young Republicans, admits he was hesitant to mention his leadership position in the club "because college administrators were sure to judge."

Some conservative students feel hesitant expressing their views because we are located in a more liberal state and attend a generally left-leaning school. Liberal ideas are more likely to be promoted, and rarely do we encounter an openly conservative

speaker.

But what causes disappointment and frustration is the fact that there is little room to disagree with liberal views at Loomis. At least this is what I felt when, during convocations and classroom discussions, there seemed to be a consistent preference for left-leaning ideas. This bias invited indirect reinforcement of the idea that dissent is not welcome, and that only one idea is "right."

What any progressive person should wish for is an equal representation of both narratives. A political discussion with only one side talking — often referred to as an echo-chamber — is dangerous. Period. Students should not be reluctant to express their opinions just because they stand in contrast to popular sentiment.

Discussion from both sides should be promoted, and Loomis has a responsibility to not disproportionately represent one narrative. Let students form their own opinions, and let them have an equal opportunity to hear out both sides: both sides have valid points.

Recently, Loomis has made some changes to even out the political representation of both parties. In fact, Loomis will soon be hosting convocation speaker David French, a conservative writer and attorney. Mrs. Caligiuri singled out Mr. Eric LaForest, director of the Norton Family Center for the Common Good, for inviting different voices into the campus.

Political belief is the least of the qualities that contribute to our ability to be our best selves and work for the common good. No judgement, no prejudice should be cast based on what we believe, and nothing should deter us from being entitled to our own opinions.

QUESTION OF THE ISSUE

Is Anonymous Grading a Good Idea?

By **STACEY ZHANG '22** and **DEBI CHAKRABORTTI '22**
Contributors

Anonymous grading, an idea originally proposed by junior boarding girl Student Council representative Veronika Berezhenko '21, has been on Student Council's agenda for the past year.

Under this proposal, teachers would be encouraged to grade essays without knowing the identity of the writer. Instead of writing their names, students would mark their papers with a unique symbol, thus remaining anonymous until their teacher has graded the assignment, and subsequently matched a symbol to a student.

Student Council has drafted a detailed plan and submitted it to the faculty. If the proposal is approved, Student Council is hoping to implement it in the English Department first, and subsequently the other academic departments.

LAUREN VOLKADOV '22

Web Editor for the Log

"I think there are pros and cons to it. For example, if you improved greatly from your last assignment I would want the teacher to know it was me, but I also would want to remove any bias the teacher had towards any given student."

ARESH POURKAVOOS '21

"The standard-level classes would be more fit for anonymous grading because what matters is a good foundation in the material, and advanced classes would do better with non-anonymous grading because it's more important for the teacher to track individual students' progress."

MR. SCOTT PURDY

English Faculty

"Anonymous grading wouldn't help as much in terms of seeing a student's personal growth and whether they implemented previous feedback into their writing. It could have a psychological impact on students if their grade didn't change after. Then they would see that bias might not come into effect when teachers grade their papers."

MR. EWEN ROSS

Science Faculty

"It would remove the issue of unconscious bias from grading which is good, but writing isn't simply correct grammar and syntax; it is also the emotion and that might be lost if the grader doesn't know who the writer is. Maybe, I am not sure."

KRISHNAPRIYA RAJARAM '21

Web Director for the Log

"Students could benefit from anonymous grading because their grades are not being affected by any sort of bias, so I think this might be a good idea to try out, especially around the end of the year, but a big problem might be mixing up the tests or papers, or losing them since they are anonymous."

KATE SHYMKIV '22

"I think anonymous grading will give an equal opportunity for all students to get a realistic grade, because sometimes teachers might show favoritism toward specific people or have a biased opinion about the others."

MR. JEFF SCANLON

English Faculty

"If you are in my English class, I don't think you want anonymous grading, because it will likely lower your grades."

KELLY ENG '20

"I like the idea because it does ensure unbiased and fair judgement from the teachers. The school can definitely try implementing it; one of my teachers has tried it on an essay before and it was successful."

Coaches Recall Memorable Moments from the Sidelines

By **MERCY OLAGUNJU '22**
Staff Writer

Watching from the sidelines, Loomis Chaffee coaches have seen it all. The coaches watch film and draw from their previous experiences in preparation for upcoming matches. Sebastiaan Blickman, the varsity boys' assistant soccer coach, recalls that his most memorable game was during his first year coaching in 2017.

"It was the semifinal game against Taft and we were down 2-0. [However], we eventually won 3-2 and played in the finals, where we beat Berkshire 1-0, and that was a

beautiful moment," Blickman said.

Girls varsity soccer coach Linda Hathorn regularly motivates her players with one of her everlasting mottos. "Be better today than you were yesterday but not as good as you'll be tomorrow," Hathorn said.

For the team to be successful, they must buy into to her philosophy. "Always keep in mind that there is constant growth and the ability to keep improving," Hathorn said.

Hathorn credits sportsmanship as being the most valuable part of the game. "The times when players are going one vs one against each other in a game it's really competitive but they're smiling and having fun

at the same time and they shake hands at the end of it are memorable moments," Hathorn said.

Similarly, girls varsity volleyball coach Jeffrey Dyreson revealed the keys to his team's success. "Some of our mottos are practice with a winning effort and generate your own mental energy and focus, but the biggest one is [asking yourself] are you in?" Dyreson said.

He emphasizes that when his team steps on the court, they are fully committed to the task at hand: playing the game well.



Courtesy of LC Communications



Photo by Jenny Pan '22



Photo by Liam Scott '19

"It was the semifinal game against Taft and we were down 2-0. [However], we eventually won 3-2 and played in the finals, where we beat Berkshire 1-0, and that was a beautiful moment."
Mr. Blickman

"Some of our mottos are 'practice with a winning effort' and 'generate your own mental energy and focus,' but the biggest one is [asking yourself], 'are you in?'"
Mr. Dyreson

"Be better today than you were yesterday but not as good as you'll be tomorrow... Always keep in mind that there is constant growth and the ability to keep improving."
Ms. Hathorn

VARSITY RECORDS

as of Oct. 21

of wins - # of ties - # of losses

BOYS' TEAMS

CROSS COUNTRY 6-0

FOOTBALL 2-4

SOCCER 7-3-2

WATER POLO 11-4

GIRLS' TEAMS

CROSS COUNTRY 5-1

FIELD HOCKEY 5-6

SOCCER 4-1-5

VOLLEYBALL 10-2

CO-ED

EQUESTRIAN 2nd place and 4th place in first two shows

Loomis Chaffee Needs an Official Rival

By **RILEY MEADE '21**
Sports Editor

The Loomis Chaffee School was once official rivals with the Kent School, a similar private institution located in Kent, Connecticut. However, the last "Kent Day," a day dedicated to all Loomis sports teams matching up against their Kent counterparts, was in 2015. Since then, Loomis has been left without a primary adversary. Even though Loomis competes against most Founders League schools, we lack an arch rival.

An example of this arch rivalry is the infamous annual enmity between our Founders League counterparts the Hotchkiss School and the Taft School. Both Hotchkiss and Taft have, for decades, devoted a day solely for their intense sports rivalry. Undoubtedly, the athletes from Taft compete hard regardless of the opponent, but on Taft's so-called "Hotchkiss Day," the games simply mean a little more to both school's players, coaches, and even the faculty.

What adds to the established fierce competition within Founders League athletics for them is the intensified tradition, legacy,

and bragging rights that come along with winning the day. This is because on that rivalry weekend the teams shed the identity of their specific sport and truly play as one against another.

Correspondingly, building this tradition at Loomis would produce a new type of experience and competitiveness for pelican athletes. A day in which all of our respective teams share the one common goal of beating one common opponent would generate great camaraderie amongst competitors. The results would carry on as a legacy, and would serve as a common ground amongst all Loomis athletes, past and present.

Associate Director of Admissions and Head Boys Varsity Basketball Coach Russell "Rock" Battistoni believes that Loomis is in need of such an adversary.

"A rival is nice; a day like a Kent Day builds tradition and is something that's really ingrained in the community," Coach Battistoni, a six-year coach at Loomis, said.

Coach Rock also addressed the already competitive nature of Loomis games.

"In my experience teams get up to play us, which I think is a testament to the level of all

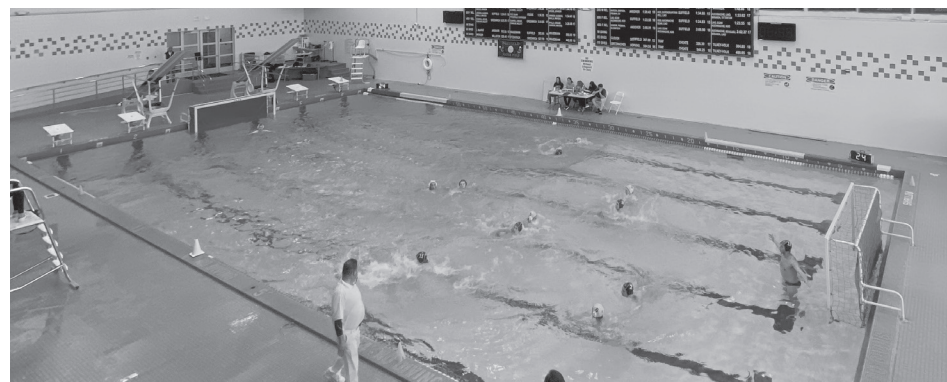


Photo by Kunal Kothari '22

The Loomis Chaffee boys' varsity water polo team played Suffield Academy at Suffield on October 19. The boys defeated Suffield with a final score of 14-12.

of our teams," Coach Battistoni said.

As for who this potential new rival could be, Coach Battistoni touched on the biggest games for his boys varsity basketball squad.

"When we play Deerfield, those are always big games, they know we are pretty good and as a Coach in those games it definitely has that rivalry feel," Coach Battistoni.

Although almost five years have passed

since the last "Kent Day," the prospect of a new marquee opponent excites. Loomis athletes and coaches alike are always searching for more motivation as well as a competitive edge.

What other event hypes up any of the islands respective teams and their fans even more than a dreaded opposing team?

Not much.

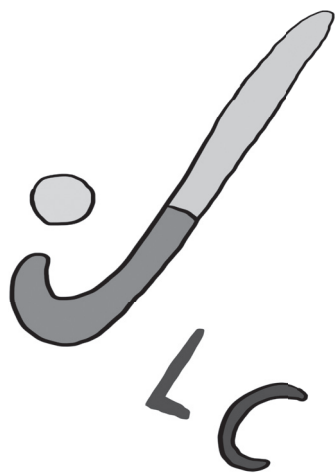
Family Weekend Home Games Preview

By JULIAN HERNANDEZ '21
Sports Editor

Friday (10/25)

Thirds Field Hockey vs. Rumsey Hall School (3:45pm)

After a rocky start, this young pelican squad looks to defeat a tough Rumsey team.



Varsity and JV Volleyball vs. Suffield Academy (4:30pm)

Varsity- Two strong teams face off in a must-see game following last year's epic matchup.

JV- The powerful pelicans squad looks to secure another win against a solid Suffield foe.



Saturday (10/26)

Varsity & JV Field Hockey vs. Berkshire School (3:00pm)

Varsity- Coming off of last year's 3-2 overtime thriller, the Pelicans look to win once more against Berkshire.

JV- This pelican squad looks to redeem themselves against a formidable Berkshire team, following a loss the last time these two teams faced off.

Girls' Thirds Soccer vs. Marianapolis Prep (3:00pm)

An exciting match versus an experienced, older Marianapolis girls team.

Varsity Football vs. Worcester Academy (3:30pm)

A rematch of last year's 27-13 loss, the pelicans look to avenge themselves against Worcester Academy.



Boys' Varsity, JV, and Thirds Soccer vs. Hotchkiss School (3:30pm)

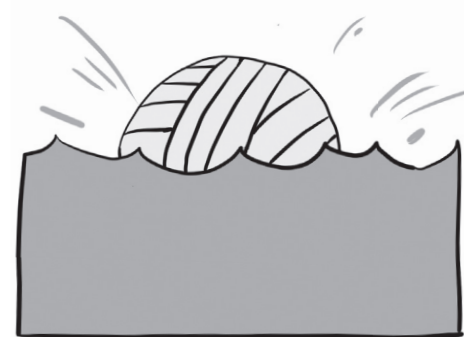
Varsity - A must-win game for the pelicans against their Founders League rivals if they look to secure the League Championship once again.

JV - Nearing the end of their season, this match will prove to be a test for the young pelicans in their efforts to finish the season on a high note.

Thirds - An interesting match versus a strong Hotchkiss boys team.

Varsity Boys Water Polo vs. Phillips Exeter Academy (4:45pm)

Two prominent New England powerhouses collide for a must-see match in Hedges Pool.



Graphic by Julie Chung '21

JV Boys Water Polo vs. Phillips Exeter Academy (6:00pm)

Two red-hot teams face off in an epic matchup following varsity.

Matt Farrell '20 Shatters His Own Course Record



Courtesy of Jerri Graham

Photo taken at 42nd Annual New Haven Road Race. Loomis Chaffee cross country team member Matt Farrell '20 broke LC's course record last year when he ran five kilometers in 15:37.00. On October 5, at the Quad Meet versus Northfield Mount Hermon, Taft, and Hotchkiss, Farrell broke this record again by running five kilometers in 15:00.70. Matt will run this Saturday, October 26, in the Shaler Invitational at the Williston Northampton School.

Hollywood With Halsey

By NATALIE HALSEY '20
Columnist

"We Have Always Lived in The Castle" (2019) directed by Stacie Passion

Sympathetic magic is a form of magic in which objects representative of an intended target are used by the practitioner to gain influence over the target. Such magic appears prominently in Netflix's 2018 adaptation of Shirley Jackson's "We Have Always Lived in the Castle," with main character Mary Katherine "Merricat" Blackwood being a proficient practitioner.

18-year-old Merricat, played by Taissa Farmiga, lives in the titular castle with her older sister Constance, played by Alexandra Daddario and her uncle Julian, neither of which have left the house since the untimely death by poison of Merricat and Constance's parents six years ago, a crime which Constance was acquitted of; Julian was also poisoned, but survived and remains addled.

Conflict comes in the form of a handsome young cousin who threatens to tear the Blackwoods apart.

The film's unsettling atmosphere, built up in layers with shots of dark rooms and hallways, days marked by title cards, and Merricat's vague, unreliable narration, gives the film a dark glitter. Constance's agoraphobia is emphasized with all her scenes outdoors shot wide, with her small figure becoming lost in the forest backdrop around the Blackwood castle.

Farmiga's portrayal of the strange and selfish Merricat lights the character's good qualities, bringing the audience understanding and sympathy for the young wom-

an. While a gorgeous and intriguing film, "We Have Always Lived in the Castle" does have some difficult-to-defend pacing and character development; while all the characters are well rounded, the high focus on Merricat and Daddario's doll-like portrayal of Constance makes the film lose some luster to unreality.

Still definitely a worthwhile watch!

"The Farewell" (2019) directed by Lulu Wang

"The Farewell" opens on a hospital in China; an elderly woman waits for a diagnosis. The elderly woman is given a hopeful diagnostic, while her sister is told the truth: the woman has cancer, and will die within a few months.

In her directorial debut, Lulu Wang weaves a semi-autobiographical story of a family in culturally dissonant grief, after a group decision to keep the grandmother in the dark about her fatal diagnosis. To get the family together again, a wedding is hastily planned, with the entire family believing the wedding will be the last time they all meet with Nai Nai.

Main character Billi, played by Awkwafina, is the first to question this decision to pull the wool over beloved Nai Nai's eyes. A surface level skim of this film gives a simple East versus West story, with Billi having lived in the United States since childhood fighting back against her family's decision, and her Chinese family, especially her uncle and cousin, straining to keep Nai Nai in the dark.

However, a story of love, family culture,

and the difficult process of grief lies deeper within this film. Wang brought to life a cultural story many have lived but few have told.

And with what flair! The details of Billi's difficult life back in the States, her father and uncle's past battles with alcoholism, and Nai Nai's own briefly mentioned past with her husband all give the film texture and depth.

Whereas in other movies such brevity on seemingly crucial details would bog down the story with what-ifs, the small mentions of life beyond the confines of the film's runtime expand the story rather than shrink it; the details make the family better and richer characters.

Scenes in the grandmother's apartment were filmed in Wang's grandmother's apartment, the woman upon whom the story is based. Wang's great aunt plays herself in the film. The attention to detail in not only the sets but the personal lives of the characters makes "The Farewell" a warm and welcome watch.

The audience is not an outsider looking in, but a guest inside Wang's home, captivated by her story. I cannot stress enough that everyone needs to see this movie.

Disclaimer: Natalie Halsey is one of the presidents of the Pan-Asian Student Association (PASA) and is using her journalistic powers for advertising purposes. PASA, in collaboration with the Norton Family Center for the Common Good, is bringing "The Farewell" to campus! Come to the screening and the PASA-sponsored dinner on November 16. (More information to come in the Daily Bulletin.)

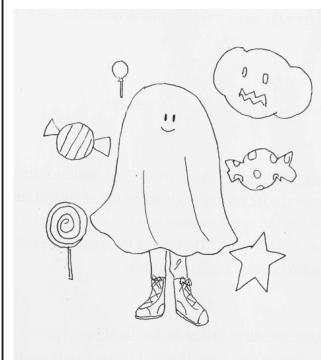


Photo by Julie Chung '21

Halloween Costume Ideas

By COOPER RAPOSO '21
Contributor

As Halloween approaches, so does the responsibility to pick the perfect costume. Here are some cheap, easy, and fun ideas.

A plain black suit — so you can be one of the Men in Black or Reservoir Dogs. This costume is perfect for fighting aliens, robbing banks, and infiltrating Class Dinner.

A yellow sweater, blue pants, and glasses — Arthur the aardvark, a nice blend of nostalgia and memes.

A classic red-and-white striped shirt with glasses and a beanie — Waldo, but this one might be a little tough to find.

Sunglasses and a red bandana can easily make you Guy Fieri, and of course, any flame-themed clothes are welcome.

A cowboy hat with as much denim as possible is an easy way to transform into Lil Nas X (this costume can be improved by bringing a horse to school, but that might not be such a good idea).

A tinfoil hat prepares you well for an invasion of Area 51.

Finally, a group costume and a classic — **the Breakfast Club**. You'll need a letterman jacket, a flannel button-down, and a pink t-shirt, but watch out, this one could get you a Saturday night study hall.



Courtesy of Danny Moloshok/Invision/AP Images

The cast of "The Farewell," including Awkwafina (in all white), poses at the movie's premiere. The 2019 film by Lulu Wang (in black and white) is one of several recent mainstream Hollywood movies that have focused on Asian-American issues.

What You Should Have Done to Avoid Contracting EEE at the Opening Dance

By NEALA SWEENEY '20
Editor-in-Chief

WARNING: SATIRE

Another year, another outbreak. This fall on the Island, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) has reared its ugly head. Students all over New England have been paranoid that this might be the year they lose their life to mosquitos.



Photo by Julie Chung '21

There is in fact a 100% chance that you will die if you contract EEE. Students at Loomis should not take this lightly. In fact, this article shouldn't even be in Mélangé. Nothing in this entire issue is more important. The stakes are high, and this is really no laughing matter.

Before 2015, our rival was the Kent School. Ever since, we've been searching for a new enemy to take Kent's place; our misguided search for new competition was our death knell. Last year our enemy was Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease. A formidable opponent indeed, but nowhere near as destructive as EEE.

It was actually announced on CNN recently that Shimkus Gym is an epicenter for EEE. It is likely that most who attended Opening Dance will die, so here are a few tips to reflect upon in the afterlife. This is what you should have done to avoid EEE.

1. Stood guard at the door.

It was a given that one of the deans was going to try to open the back door to compensate for the rising temperature as throngs of sweaty adolescents "danced" to pop music. It was your prerogative to make sure that this didn't happen. Heat stroke is preferable to EEE.

2. Dressed head-to-toe in mosquito netting

Did you dress up as a fireman? Or wear tie-dye crop-tops and short-shorts with your friends? Big mistake. You shouldn't have shown even a single square inch of skin at this dance. EEE was lurking. When you aren't on the alert, EEE is at its prime to strike. Were you feeling bold when you showed off that ankle? That's prime feeding ground for mosquitoes. You should have dressed entirely in mosquito netting.

3. Brought your trusty citronella candle.

Far more exciting than glowsticks is the trusty citronella candle, whose fine smell would have kept all EEE-carrying pests at bay. You should never have left your dorm without it. Shoulda woulda coulda, though. Amirite?

4. Taken a bath before the dance in Deep Woods OFF Spray

Every dorm has a bathtub. Typically, no one uses these tubs because the idea of getting into one seems a little freaky (they look like places where people get murdered in horror movies). However, this is the perfect spot to get pumped for the dance. The steps to doing this are easy. Go to Costco and buy as much Deep Woods OFF spray as you can and then pour all of those bottles in the tub.

Make sure that no part of your body goes untouched by this lifesaver.

5. Consumed lemon juice and rubbed yourself down with garlic

If you didn't drink lemon juice and didn't give yourself a full-body rub-down with garlic, what were you doing? No, we're seriously asking. What, you were too embarrassed to ask your pals to rub you down with garlic? This short-term embarrassment could have saved your life. You increased your risk of contracting EEE by 300%. That is a real statistic. Look it up.

6. Committed arson

If you didn't commit arson during the dance, what were you even doing? Setting Shimkus ablaze would have gotten rid of those mosquitoes, you know. The seniors were literally firefighters. Why? They should have dressed up as arsonists. If you were smart enough this could have been done such that there was minimal collateral damage.

7. Trusted no one

You don't know who is a mosquito sympathizer and who is not. You also don't know who is a mosquito and who is a person. The lines are blurred. No one is safe.



Graphic by Michelle Park '20

SATIRE SAT

By **BRETT DONSHIK '21**
Staff Writer

November is quickly approaching, which means the SATs are almost upon us once again. Whether you're a senior taking the SAT one last time before regular applications, a junior getting a head start on your testing, or a sophomore getting such an extreme head start that some schools won't even accept your scores, here are some valuable tips that will help you achieve your goal of a sweet 1600!

Before the Test:

1) Devote your entire life to the SAT

Do you have four CL classes worth of homework due tomorrow? Study for the SAT. An important away game against Exeter? Stay at Loomis and study for the SAT. Are your friends all going to lunch in town this weekend? Lock yourself in your room and study for the SAT.

2) Use Test Prep Books

Whether you are taking the SAT or a subject test, books like the Princeton Review and Barron's will jokingly inform you that network solids in fact have nothing to do with television, and surely, other masterfully crafted jokes that will lift your spirits are lurking elsewhere in these books.

3) "Go to Sleep Early!"

Your parents will tell you to go to sleep early so that you have maximum brain capacity dedicated to the College Board's test. However, you will probably just stay up all night stressing out about box plots.

On Test Day:

1) Coffee

This one is incredibly self-explanatory. Just make sure you don't crash mid-test.

2) Bring a Watch

Because you're probably going to find yourself in the only seat in your testing center that does not have a clock view.

3) Actually Print Your Admissions Ticket

You paid for the test so you might as well take it.

After the Test:

1) Agonize

You have two full weeks until your score comes out. At least they'll be out well before the PSAT scores.

2) Register for the December SAT

Even though you answered 15 more questions correctly than last time, the curve will probably be so bad that your score goes down by 20 points.

3) Register for the December ACT

Since you are probably irritated by the SAT, you can switch to the ACT. But don't worry! The SAT will welcome you back in March with open arms once you decide the ACT is just as frustrating.

LC's Scheme to Impress Parents on Family Weekend

By **ANDREW PARK '22**
Melange Editor

WARNING: SATIRE

Family Weekend. Previously known as Parents' Weekend, it's the perfect time for celebrations, feasts, and other such shindigs with none other than one's family – hence the name.

The relatives (usually parents) of students congregate from all around the world to see how their precious boys and girls are doing in such a fine school. They follow their children around everywhere, from their classrooms to the dining hall, and are made privy to the wonders of Loomis Chaffee.

Now, just how do they do it? How does this prestigious institute make sure that parents will leave feeling awed by it? My team of researchers think they've figured it out.

Bougie food: After hours of extensive research done only by the most respected and acknowledged professionals of the field, it has been proven scientifically over and over that the quality of the food served in the dining hall during Family Weekend tastes 49.65% better.

While these values neither hold any room for doubt, nor have they been randomly selected by a random number generator, it has been noted that indeed, the food during Family Weekends seems to taste better and look fancier than your usual, run-of-the-mill dining hall food.¹

Raising hands: Tales told in the deepest, darkest corners of the Island tell of a series of instructions some faculty members jokingly (read: very seriously) say to their students.

After years of strenuous deciphering by a team of the top five most accomplished cryptographers, the message was revealed to say, "Raise your left hand if you don't know the answer and raise your right if you do."

This was a revolutionary discovery. While making it seem as though the class participation rate was an astounding 100%, in reality, the teacher would merely have to call on a person with their right hand raised, unless, of course, it was a person who habitually raised their right hand who actually didn't know the answer.²

Attitude of students: Walking around the campus on Family Weekend, one may notice that in general, the entire student body looks unnaturally upbeat and, well, smiley. Now, students could just be happy because their parents are here, but it's always better to know for sure.

After running up to hundreds of students, scrutinizing their faces, checking boxes here and there in our very professional-looking clipboards, and making them take an hour long survey over the course of numerous Family Weekends, we came to the conclusion that while the presence of parents was a determining factor in the change in people's moods, it was not nearly the largest one. Instead, it was found that students were

being instructed to be more friendly to all the visitors, with performing actions such as holding the door open, pulling out a chair, or looking happy for people.

This was found to cause a dramatic change in the community, with no one going inside buildings as everyone was holding doors open for everybody behind him or her without going in, and nobody sitting in chairs as everyone was pulling out chairs for people to sit on, without actually sitting in a chair themselves.

With such a polite community, it's no wonder visiting parents would feel so welcomed at Loomis.



Graphic by Julie Chung '21

Spooky Costume Ideas for Each Academic Department

By **JOHN HOWLEY '21**
Staff Writer

To truly embrace the Halloween spirit, the various academic departments on campus should dress up together in coordinated costumes. While some departments have already decided on what creepy outfits to wear this Halloween, I have a few suggestions that might really scare the masses.

English: The English teachers on campus should consider dressing up as characters from various Shakespeare plays because we already don't understand what they're saying.

Science: This department should dress up heavy metal rockers, you know, like ACDC, magnesium, aluminum, or Metallica.

Math: Our math teachers should dress up as lumberjacks so they can cut down some logarithms. (Get it? Get it?)

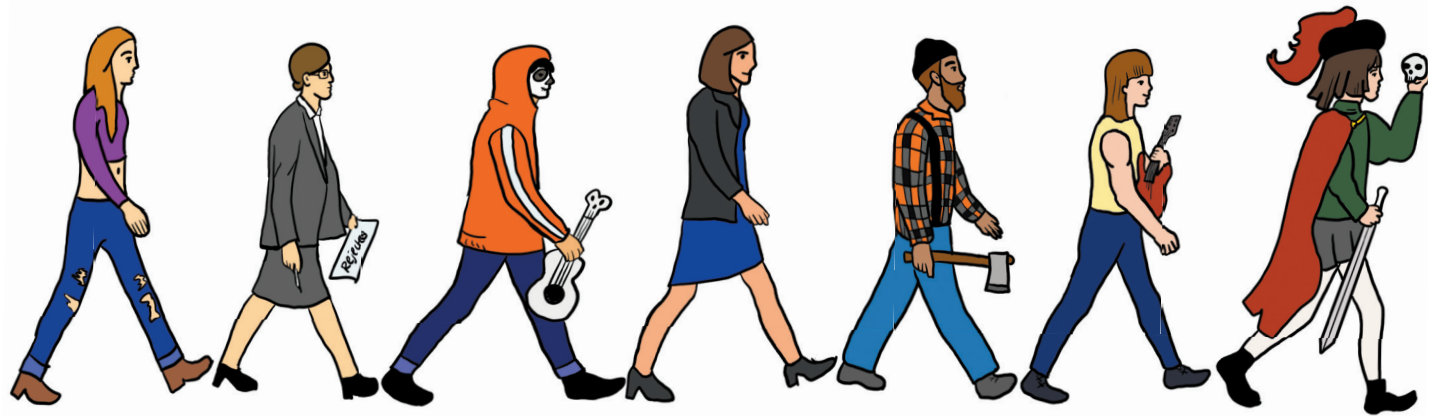
History: Teachers in the history department should dress up as some of our past government officials. That would be pretty scary...

Language: The educators in our foreign language department should dress up as

characters from foreign films because we already need subtitles to understand what they're saying. Why not embrace the confusion?

College Counselors: This Halloween, the college counselors should consider dressing up as actual college admissions officers because after all, there is nothing scarier.

Administration: Administrators on campus should dress up as students out of dress code. That would guarantee a scare or two. (Oh, the horror!)



Graphic by Michelle Park '20

SPOOKY LOGRhythms

By **PORTIA INZONE '20**
Managing Editor

"Ghostbusters"
by Ray Parker Jr.

"Monster Mash"
by Bobby "Boris" Pickett & The Crypt-Kickers

"Thriller"
by Michael Jackson

"I Want Candy"
by Bow Wow Wow

"Monster"
by Lady Gaga

"Witchy Woman"
by KIDZ BOP Kids

"Sympathy for the Devil"
by The Rolling Stones

"Zombie"
by The Cranberries

"Somebody's Watching Me"
by Lizzo

"Take It To the Graveyard"
by Lovecraft

"This Is Halloween"
by The Citizens of Halloween

For more playlists, follow us on Spotify by scanning the code below:

