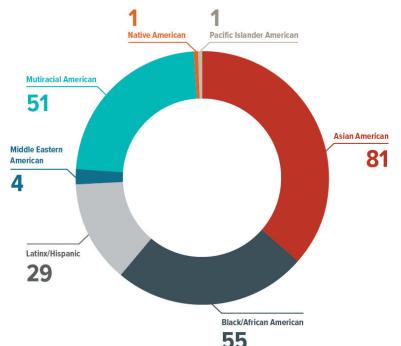
Issue CV No. 3 Est. 1915, 4 Batchelder Rd., Windsor, CT April 9, 2021

Number of Domestic Students of Color 2020-2021



From the Loomis Chaffee DEI Report *All data reported in these graphs are based on self-reported information. Self reporting is optional.

LC Unveils New DEI Report

By FEDORA LIU '24 Contributor

In an effort to reflect upon the 19 initiatives Head of School Dr. Sheila Culbert committed to in hopes of heightening the diversity, equity, and inclusivity (DEI) of the Loomis Chaffee community, the Office of DEI has summarized the progress into a report released on January 20, 2021. These initiatives, announced in June 2020, comprehensively cover four divisions of the school: academic and co-curricular programs, students and student life, faculty and staff, and administrative goals.

"This is definitely the first time that the

school has gone through a real commitment to make sure that everyone is aware of what's going on with DEI in efforts to improve our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion at school," Dean of DEI Ms. Elizabeth Parada said.

The DEI report, which is the first of its kind to be released publicly by LC at such a large scale, is divided into six sections: an introduction from the Head of School, a message from the Dean of DEI, a reflection of the progress of each DEI initiative, DEI modifications in academic departments, demographic data of the 2020-21 school year, and additional DEI resources respectively.

Continued on page 2

Admissions Office Heads Into Yield Season

By MADISON HUA'23 Social Media Manager

On March 10, Loomis Chaffee released admissions decisions for the class of 2025. This year, the Admission Office has faced unprecedented changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has not only stopped in-person operation of the office, but has also led to major transformations on the applicants' side of the process.

This year, Loomis has experienced an influx in applications. Thus, the admission team has spent countless hours interviewing applicants and pouring through transcripts, recommendations, and personal statements. Considering the over 20 percent increase in applicants compared to last year, the Admission Office implemented a new software this year that enabled them to begin reading applications earlier than previous years. Using this software, reading has become more efficient which was a huge help in processing the increased load of applicants.

This year especially, the Admission Office found it significantly more challenging to read through all applications and get decisions made and released by the March 10 deadline that has been agreed upon by the Ten Schools Admission Organization.

Reading applications from students from around the country and the world with so many different educational experiences, as well as the majority not submitting test scores, certainly took more time, and while it is always challenging to get decisions made and released, we did feel those time constraints this year more than usual due to those factors as well as the increase in plications," Dean of Enrollment Mrs. Amy Thompson said.

increase in applicants

virtual events underway

yield rate in recent past

53:47

ratio of boys to girls in LC's student body

Now that new pelicans have been accepted to Loomis, the virtual recruitment process has begun. Compared to last year, events are in some ways similar, but in other ways quite different. Last spring, Loomis cancelled the Pelican Preview Days just weeks before their commencement because of the pandemic. This year, the Admission Office had a year of experience using online platforms such as Zoom and more time to prepare online programming in order to ensure the same bright and spirited campus environment when accepted students tune

The Admission Office has put together extensive virtual events to showcase the Loomis experience to the newly admitted students. In fact, Loomis has over 25 virtual events that are well underway including Instagram Live events on the weekends, webinars with different academic departments, zoom meetings with peer counselors, and specialized programs for those interested in particular elements of Loomis such as the PHI, The Alvord Center for Global and Environmental Studies, and The Norton Center for the Common Good.

'We have had hundreds of people already attending these programs and they will run until the enrollment deposit deadline of April 10," Mrs. Thompson said.

However, we will not know how successful these events are in attracting students until the newly admitted students decide to decline or accept Loomis' offer of admission. In the recent past, our yield has been around 49 percent. It is yet to be determined whether our online programming and the pandemic will lead to any changes to our former

While the Admission Office points out that it is too early to know what the next admission cycle has in store, the office predicts that they will have some form of hybrid programming from here on out with both in-person and virtual events to accommodate everyone who has been admitted to



A side view of the Admissions Office.

Loomis has seen significant benefits from using virtual platforms and bringing Loomis directly to a family's living room, and there is no doubt that virtual programming will be continued in future years in order to expand the reach of the institution.

The Admission Office has put extensive effort into creating the effective methods to reach accepted students and have them experience life at Loomis even though they are incapable of being here in perso

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LC Unveils New DEI Report

By FEDORA LIU '24

Continued from front page

In her introduction, Dr. Sheila Culbert briefly touches on each section and re-emphasizes the school's promise to create a more equitable and inclusive institution. Ms. Parada continues on this idea and elaborates on the progression of several DEI projects in section 2 of the report. Some of these projects include the establishment of the Thursday Advisory Groups (TAG) program and Flagg Hall's all-gender housing floor, as well as the continuation of the Pelican Support Network (PSN) and affinity groups associated with the Office of DEI.

It is apparent in Section 3, which reports on the progress of each initiative specifically, that all 19 initiatives have seen at least some form of action.

'Some of the work that we are always committed to doing is looking at our numbers and increasing the...students of color that we have, [this includes] our BIPOC faculty as well. So, we've definitely seen some improvements there," Ms. Parada said.

Revising the curricula of the academic departments to further reflect the school's DEI goals, one of the two initiatives in academic and co-curricular division, has also seen progress. Section 4 of the report details the updates in curricula of ten departments, from sciences and mathematics, to the languages and arts.

"I think another goal that has been met in especially science...is [that] the academic departments will continue to revise their curricula and examine their practices and policies," said science teacher Mr. Ned Heckman, an LGBTQ+ coordinator on the

Section 6 provides additional DEI resources and news for the Loomis community, such as podcasts, books, websites, and documentaries.

Ms. Parada also noted that the DEI initiatives and report were inspired by both the school's longtime commitment to DEI

as well as the resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement, which created further awareness toward these issues on a national level

"I did see kind of a gradual change from my freshman year to halfway through junior year...but then I think the events and the protests and BLM...catapulted it into hyperdrive....A lot of the stuff that might have taken a couple of years was done in a shorter period of time....I think this DEI report kind of encapsulated of lot of what's been going on," Azaan Malik '21, one of the PRISM presidents, said.

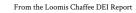
"It was nothing, nothing of this magnitude that we're at right now. I think that back then, the students had to take those initiatives when the administration wasn't. And now, I feel like we still have a student front and [have] the student ideas out there, but we have more cooperation from the administration," Evan Petkis '21, another PRISM president, said.

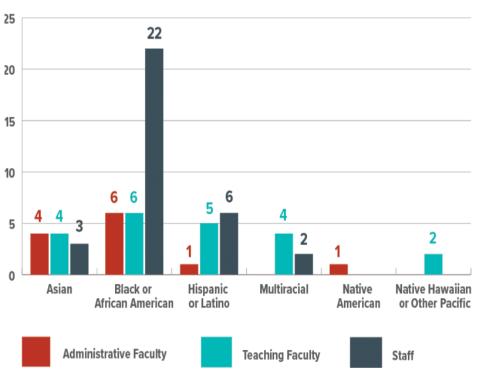
Regardless, both the administration and students agree that there is more work that needs to be done to promote more diversity, equity, and inclusion at Loomis. In the near future, the Office of DEI plans to rewrite their mission statement and release similar annual DEI reports. The faculty will also begin a climate assessment directed by Dr. Derrick Gay, an inclusion and diversity strategist. The results of this assessment are expected by the beginning of the next school

"[The assessment is] about getting insight from so many different people to help us prioritize and help us see what some of the blank spots are that we as an institution need to address," Ms. Parada said.

'It's fair to say that the work has started," Mr. Heckman said. "I tend to think of the work of diversity, equity, and inclusion like flossing, which is maybe an aggressive analogy. But you would never just floss your teeth one time per year and say, 'Cool, I did the thing.' You have to be doing it all the time and responding to the world that's changing a lot.'

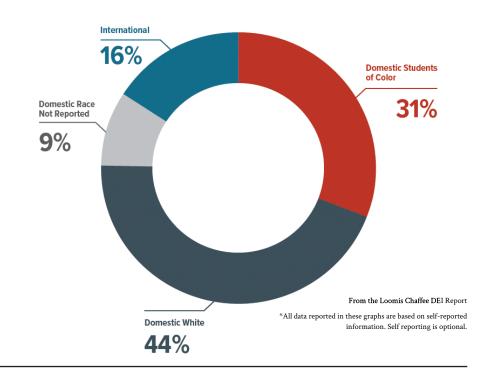
Number of Employees of Color 2020-21





*All data reported in these graphs are based on self-reported

Domestic and International Students: Percentages of Total Enrollment 2020-21



Student Council Pushes All School **Meeting Proposal**

By AMY SONG '23 Contributor

The Student Council is planning a major change for the next school year: the implementation of bi-weekly, all-school meetings in addition to the traditional class meetings. These meetings will serve as a means to bring the Loomis Chaffee community closer together as an entire community rather than simply coming together as individual

These all-school meetings, which will be held in the Olcott Gym during community time every other Friday, would be added as part of the schoolwide schedule once COVID-19 distancing rules are lifted. Student Council and the overseeing deans expect that this would be sometime during the next school year.

Like class meetings, all-school meetings would be mandatory, with attendance being checked through ID scans and possibly the help of faculty advisors.

The proposal to enforce these meetings, passed by Student Council on March 16, now awaits approval from the Head Administrative Team. The Student Council expects to receive feedback from Head of School Dr. Sheila Culbert, Director of Strategic Communications and Marketing Ms. Lynn Petrillo, Associate Head for External Relations Mr. Nat Follansbee, Dean of

DEI Ms. Elizabeth Parada, Dean of Faculty Mr. Andrew Matlack, and others who are "important to the way the school runs on a higher level," Student Council Representative Pilar Wingle '22 said.

Currently, class meetings are a time when the class deans make important, STUDENT

grade-relevant announcements and reminders. A shift to all-school meetings opens new opportunities for the school to bring the community together and for students to become more involved, all the while continuing to update the student body on pertinent updates on a bi-weekly ba-

OOMIS CHAFFEE For one, all-school meetings would take on a new approach and be led by the Student Council, with deans acting in an advisory capacity. Establishing this system of student leaders "would change the relationship [between the speaker and audience] to be more peer to peer rather than a hierarchical order," Pilar said.

Council Member Sam Kurian '23, the student who first brought up the idea of pushing for all-school meetings, added that another motive is to diversify those who are speaking. "We want a wide range of age groups speaking," Sam said.

If these meetings take place, Olcott would become a platform students utilize to share talents, independent projects, or meaningful words with students and faculty.

COUNCH Any member of the Loomis community is encouraged to use this time to give out purposeful speeches, announcements, or performances ranging

from music to poetry. In reference to COVID safety sues that have been Loomis restricting as a community this year,, "The Dean's office believes that having allschool meetings would ben-

efit the community, and I think that next year there needs to be a strong emphasis on rebuilding it," Dean of Student Life Jessica Matzkin said.

Although the set bi-weekly schedule would no longer apply to class meetings, the Deans will still be able to call mandatory meetings for the grade they oversee, when that is deemed appropriate.

"Plus, the deans can use emails and other means of communication to give students information that previously would have been distributed at those class meetings, Council Member Calvin Pan '23 said.

Regarding the potential challenge in overseeing a gathering of the entire school body, the Student Council is working to create a planning committee, comprised of a Student Council Officer as well as other Council Members, Head of Student Productions and Student Activities Mr. Andris Briga, one dean representative, one representative from Physical Plant, and a faculty

The committee's role is to outline the next all-school meeting at least one week prior. Anyone who wishes to stand before the school would have to reach out to the student officer at that time to get approved, and would partake in a dress rehearsal before the actual meeting.

We have made plans for every process," Council Member Serena Kim '23 said, adding that she believes a stable placement of all-school meetings into the Loomis agenda "is highly possible."

"An all school meeting has to be really well organized and structured so that they run smoothly. Our role would be to help [Student Council] streamline that process, Dean Matzkin said.

The Gilchrist Environmental Fellowship **Produces Successful Results**

By CJ BUKOWSKI '23 and SANDRO MOCCIOLO'23

Contributors

Loomis Chaffee has played a prominent role in trailblazing environmentally sustainable initiatives in the New England prep school community. A key sustainability initiative at Loomis is the Gilchrist Environmental Fellowship, a grant program that promotes both environmental stewardship and leadership among passionate community members.

The program began several years ago thanks to an endowed gift with the purpose of providing funding for potential environmental sustainability projects. Each year, Loomis community members can apply for this grant, and those who are accepted into the program are provided with both funding and mentorship through the project's execution.

There is a wide scope of possible projects for students applying for the GEF.

"The projects have ranged from [travel] to hosting speakers on campus to ... shower timers or lightbulbs," Director of Environmental Sustainability Initiatives Mr. Jeff Dyreson said.

Through this innovative and ambitious approach, the GEF has helped propel Loomis to the forefront of environmentally conscious education practices.

"It's very unique amongst our peer schools," Mr. Dyreson said.

On campus, the impacts of these projects have been far-reaching throughout the Loomis community.

Alejandro Rincón '21 is spearheading a maple syrup production project that ties in multiple facets of environmentalism. In the past few months, he has harvested sap from maple trees on campus and overseen its production into maple syrup.

"Sap is ninety-six to ninety-seven percent water. Maple syrup is essentially a high-concentrated solution of sugar that is in the sap. So the whole process is essentially boiling down the water and getting that high concentration of sugar solution," Alejandro said. "It's a lot of waiting, a lot of attention

by the greenhouse ... I like showing them the process.' Meanwhile, another one of this year's GEF projects aims to bring homemade tea to the Loomis community. Lillie Szemraj '22 and Ellen Olender '22 are rehabilitating the Tea Gardens, and designing packaging for their flavorful tea products. "We were inspired

This process has

yielded excellent results

but also produced more than just a sugary treat.

"I like to think that it has

brought people togeth-

er," Alejandro said. "I

invite anyone that comes

to reestablish the Tea Gardens and create a working system that will allow for future tea sales and long-lasting production in the future," Lillie

This project has also been a show of entrepreneurship, utilizing the vast technological resources to follow the engineering design pro-

"We are printing out stickers and test-running several different designs in the PHI. In addition, we are setting up a dehydrator and will be harvesting these plants

to actually turn into dry tea leaves," Lillie continued.

GEF projects have also proved to hold a long-lasting impact, even after their creators graduate.

For example, there was a previous project which added water bottle filling stations to drinking fountains. By reducing plastic waste, improving water usage practices, and increasing convenience, this renovation caught the attention of fellow Loomis stu-



Alejandro Rincón '21 and Thierno Diallo '21 working on Alejandro's maple syrup GEF project.

dents and administrators alike.

'The school adopted that as a best practice, so every time they look at a water fountain, they try to put that [water bottle filling station] on," Mr. Dyreson said.

Through fostering creativity and independence, the Gilchrist Environmental Fellowship provides a great opportunity for students while pushing the larger community to adopt better environmental practic-



A plaque listing GEF participants hangs in the Clark Center for Science and

The Chaffee Leadership Institute Positivity Project Spreads Joy on Campus



Loomis students taking part of the Chaffee Leadershup Institute Positivity Project (CLIPP) Event on campus.

By MICHELLE LIU'23 Contributor

Over the past year, there have been numerous deviations from normalcy on campus. In light of these recent challenges, the Chaffee Leadership Institute Positivity Project (CLIPP) was established. The CLIPP is run by the Chaffee Leadership Institute and works to bring more happiness to campus through Daily Bulletin posts, campus events, and Instagram posts.

"We are just looking to bring more joy and fun to campus, as well as encouraging a positive mindset and wellbeing. We understood how the pandemic was affecting people in a different way, and we thought about bringing all of us together through cheerfulness and themes that people can relate to,"

CLIPP leader Isabela Spina '22 said. In pursuit of spreading positivity on campus, Isabela reached out to the members of Chaffee Leadership Institute and Dean Donegan. It turns out that many more students were eager to help.

"I joined CLIPP because I wanted to ensure that everyone within our community felt welcome and appreciated," Ella Xue '23 said. "Due to increased isolation and stress from the pandemic and other current events, it is more important than ever to stay optimistic. Therefore, we aim to put forth our

best effort in making others around us smile and feel valued."

CLIPP has already held several events on campus such as a faculty dog event, as well as sharing hot chocolate and jokes in the student center. The hot chocolate and jokes event was a favorite among CLIPP mem-

"It was a little bit awkward in the beginning as I felt that I was just embarrassing myself in front of all the people in the SNUG, but it came to be so enjoyable! Some people gave me half-smiles while others just burst out laughing. The quality of the jokes was also a little questionable, but the feeling of having the room filled with laughter again was incredible. I would definitely do it again!" Isabela said.

"I loved seeing everyone smile and laugh as we delivered the hot chocolate along with some terrible jokes," Ella said.

Despite the silliness of the joke event, this event, like all of CLIPPS' programs, is meant to serve their broader mission.

"I just wanted to bring a smile to people's faces and made them value the short but meaningful moments in life. Sometimes we just search for happiness outside when it is inside of us, you just got to let it shine, and to spread that inner happiness is definitely something that I want to keep bringing to people," Isabela said.

Condensed Curricula Cuts Class Content

By EDWARD PARK '23 Contributor

With the COVID-19 pandemic playing a major factor, Loomis Chaffee's decision to shorten the number of class days this academic year has necessitated a condensed curriculum across several LC academic departments. While there was variation across classes of different departments on how the curriculums would be condensed, one thing was clear: students would be exposed to less academic content than in previous years.

In the English department, most classes abridged their curriculum through removing either books or plays from reading lists. For the CL English III Seminar class, commonly referred to as Junior Sem, last year's winter reading list, which included four different plays, was reduced to just two plays.

"Students are exposed to material that provides background info and general history which give context for the author or book they read," English Faculty and Junior Sem teacher Dr. Fiona Mills said.

While the condensed curriculum in Junior Sem meant exposure to fewer works of literature, it also allowed for an addition of new, more diverse material into the curriculum. In light of the current Black Lives Matter movement, the Junior Sem curriculum now includes readings on Martin Luthur King Jr. as well as Malcolm X's speech "The Ballot or the Bullet." The schools' newly implemented condensed curriculum has allowed for more flexibility with teaching materials and provides an emphasis on the world's most pertinent issues.

Moreover, the condensed curriculum has allowed for higher level math students to independently pursue their academic passions,

and to work at their own pace.

'The multivariable class, one of the highest level classes, has more leeway because students are at the end of their high school math journey," said Ms. Bowen, who teaches CL Calculus BC and CL Multivariable Calculus on the Island.

Ms. Bowen notes that the condensed math curriculum allows for "the pace [to be] set by the students and for the students." For high-achieving students in Loomis' math curriculum, it is definitely beneficial for them to be in charge of their own learning-a realistic precursor for math at the college level.

For lower level classes, such as Algebra II and Advanced Precalculus, the condensed curriculum meant that some units and topics from normal years would be cut. However, with students focusing on a smaller number of units, there was a greater chance for students to understand the material better.

While some may argue that students are less prepared for their future math classes, the math department has planned ahead and made sure that there isn't confusion on what has and has not been taught.

While the condensed curriculum has its pros and cons, its implementation this year will nevertheless provide the academic departments with a better understanding of what works and doesn't work when teaching students.

The school will learn valuable information this year which will be helpful in the future," said Ms. Bowen.

Hopefully with the possible resumption of a regular schedule next year, Loomis students will be equipped with the proper tools to tackle their academic challenges.



CL Multivariable Calculus class in session.

Weekend Food Trucks on the Island



thing most people know about them are miliarize ourselves a bit more with a few of

Loomis Chaffee students wait in line for the weekend food truck.

By JAMIE ZOU '23 Contributor

Considering how boarding students are unable to enter campus, StuActs has recently implemented food trucks as a fixture on weekends of the Island. In order to satiate student desire for off-campus cuisine, a variety of vendors have been invited. A few examples include Los Mariachis' tacos to Gula Grill's Pasta Night and Relish This Food Truck's chili-cheese hotdogs.

'We shoot for [a truck] every Saturday,' Director of Student Activities Mr. Andris Briga said. "But these food trucks are usually in high demand," Mr. Briga added, going on to mention difficulties such as budget and availability.

Further, StuActs only seeks out "food trucks [that] are small businesses in the greater Hartford area," Mr. Briga said.

The pricing of the food trucks is dependent on each vendor, but Loomis negotiates with each vendor to allow all students one free entrée. The popularity of weekend

food trucks is not just limited to students they're also popular with faculty members.

The faculty enjoy the food trucks too! Although [they] are not as patient waiting in lines as the students," Dean of Student LifeJessica Matzkin said.

In order to comply with state COVID guidelines while maintaining food trucks that draw high density crowds, StuActs has begun allocating non-food truck events in other time blocks.

The food trucks are usually not paired with any specific event [by the Student Activities Organization]. This helps prevent overcrowding," Director of Student Activities Mr. Andris Briga said.

Despite StuActs intent, oftentimes "the lines get really long because the food trucks are popular amongst students," Madison Hua '23 said.

Although weekend food trucks on the Island proved to be a success, Mr. Briga is still open to suggestions and sends this message: "Find me and tell me your favorite truck!

Faculty Children Spotlight

By CALVIN PAN '23

Contributor

Faculty kids, no matter what you know them as-fac-brats, or the small children



Ava (left) and Kasey (right) Stewart.

AVA AND KASEY

4-year-old Kasey and 2-year-old Ava are

the daughters of science faculty member Dr.

Steven Stewart—also known by his students

as D-Stew-and live off-campus with their

za lover, and also is fond of the color red.

Her sister, Ava, also is a fan of Italian food,

adoring any form of pasta whatsoever, but

doesn't really have a favorite color (and if

she did, she probably wouldn't be able to tell

us what it is, as she can't speak that well just

Like many of us, Kasey is an avid piz-

Loomis Chaffee community. Despite being crucial elements of campus, they are not entirely well-known by students. The only

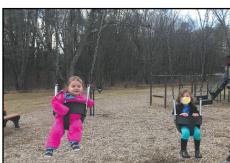
who swarm you as you're trying to run past

Faculty Row—are undeniably a staple of the



Kasey loves spending time with the family's two dogs and likes to dance, participating in dance classes on Saturdays. She's also fond of the very particular past-time of "waking Mommy and Daddy up at 3AM to go pee. Ava, meanwhile, doesn't have many interests yet (beyond the requisite learning how to walk and speaking in incomprehensible baby-talk, of course), but we're sure that she'll develop some when the time comes.

When asked by her father if she'd like to say anything to Loomis Chaffee, Kasey replied with quite the scathing remark: "Who is that? I don't like that name."



Emilia and Evelyn Samuels.



their names, if that: many students just refer

to fac-brats as "Dr. Samuels' baby" or "Mr. Osei's daughter." So, given just how integral

they are to this school, let's go ahead and fa-

EMILIA AND EVELYN

Emilia, 3 years old, and Evelyn, 14 months old, are the daughters of science teachers Dr. Erica Gerace and Dr. David Samuels, and are the youngest residents of Harman Hall. Both children frequently make an appearance in their baby basket and stroller, or in the campus playground, particularly on the swing set.

Emilia has a range of favorite foods, among which are cheese, popcorn, and frozen peas and corn—she has definitely got quite the balanced diet. Evelyn, meanwhile, has a preference for blueberries. Emilia's favorite color is purple, whereas Evelyn doesn't have one yet.



Loomis' many, many faculty children.

Both girls participate in a variety of activities. Emilia is a passionate biker, and can often be seen toddling around campus on her balance bike. She's also a fan of reading and yoga, and supposedly has a pretty immaculate tree pose that she's not shy to show off. In her free time, she loves to visit the playground swing set.

Evelyn, meanwhile, likes dancing, and is, according to Dr. Gerace, "quite the expert at it." She often does so to the tune of "Baby Shark," the notorious musical earworm that she apparently quite enjoys. Another one of her go-to pastimes is eating blueberries. When asked what she wanted to say to the LC community, Evelyn responded simply with a squeal.

parents.

Spring Sunshine Lightens Stress



Pedro Arellano '21, Andy Cao '21, and Charlie Morrison '21 hanging out on Grubbs

By EMILY KHYM '23 Contributor

As the temperatures have started to increase, students have been going out more whether it be on the quad or the turf. Therefore, because of the sudden change in weather, the vibe on campus has also greatly changed. Many students are choosing to socialize outside, rather than stay in their dorms. More students are also taking up new sports such as tennis or lacrosse. Spring brings a welcoming feeling where the bees buzz, while the flowers blossom. This environmental change helps students with their work load or stress.

The environment in which students study significantly impacts their motivation and stress outputs. Simply going out to the quad to have a cup of coffee or meet a faculty's dog can brighten someone's day. There are also more faculty and students walking around the loop with their friends or their pets. Overall, these small activities that can be enjoyed in warmer weather have lifted the spirits of many students.

'The weather has definitely changed the vibe on campus with more people coming outside to interact with their friends. For me, going outside and having fun with my friends has played an instrumental role in diminishing junior year stress" Justin Wu

"I believe that the warm weather has changed the mood on campus. There are more students engaging in outdoor activities and socializing. Now that the weather has shifted, everyone seems happier and more relaxed," another student, Ella Xue '23 said in agreement,

This warmer weather has been a great relief especially for the senior class. Olivia Zoga '21 said, "It's also interesting to me how hanging out on the quad kind of died out among the last few senior classes. I definitely think this year there will be lots of lounging on the quad from the upperclassmen, and even some sophomores, as now Ammidon is full of sophomores who are right on the quad. Very excited for it to warm up again.

The fresh air also helps students deal with their seasonal depression or stress. Due to difficult studies or commitments, it is no surprise that many students have high

stress levels. The quarantining and constant seeking for warmth in dorms have dampened the mood on campus. However, with more students going on picnics or enjoying the sun has allowed for students to get out of their warm havens to interact more and meet new people.

However, some students disagree that the vibe has changed. "I don't think the weather has really changed the vibes on campus. If it's cold out everyone goes to the SNUG to huddle and warm up. And if it's nice out, there are still people in the SNUG, but some are also out and in the meadows and other places on campus hanging out. So it doesn't really change the vibe of campus" Jamnia Ai

So while I believe that the vibe has changed, the students have and will continue to determine the spirit on campus. What's for certain, though, is that the winds have ceased for the flowers to bloom, and there will be more people walking around campus amidst the flurries of bugs.



A group of upperclassmen soaking up some sun on a Saturday afternoon.

Overhyped Pelican Games Need Improvement

By LILLIAN CLARK '24 Contributor

The Pelican Games that happened two weeks ago on Friday have brought up different sentiments. While some think it was unnecessary and encouraged non-COVID-19-safe activities, I think it builds a stronger Loomis Chaffee community but still has much room for improvement.

From the middle of Winter Term 2 to the beginning of Spring Term 1, students at Loomis Chaffee had been hearing about the Pelican Games, which was portrayed as

a major event and was massively overhyped.

The event was advertised for so long that by the time the official weekend kick-off happened, it felt as though the idea had fallen out of fashion. Students were separated into teams away from their friends and were encouraged incessantly by faculty members to participate, repeatedly being told to "go help your team win!"

There are four teams: orange, green, purple, and yellow. Each student was assigned a color and a correspondingly colored t-shirt. The colored teams were compared to Hunger Games districts—yet another way that expectations were set way too high—and the event more resembled forced fun.

In the Pelican Games, each individual event was unique, whether sports related or more general, like the lobster toss event. However, for students that could not find an event that they found interesting, there was not much else to do on that Friday or during the day on Saturday.

The concept of the Pelican Games is a good idea. They are going in the right direction and in the upcoming years I hope they further flesh out the program and establish more events.

From the very beginning, we have been told that the Pelicans Games would continue for the foreseeable Loomis Chaffee future. Our teams aren't just our teams but the teams of many future generations. We can even continue to support our team as alumni.

So while there is a lot of room for improvement with this year's Pelican Games, I genuinely believe that this event will become better and more refined over the years, and improve our LC community.

Eliminate the Secret **Psychology Course** Requirement

By NICHOLAS JI '22 Staff Writer

Each year, course requests are an exciting time for students as they shape their academic paths through high school, dabbling in their hobbies through electives and further pursuing academic interests. However, for upperclassmen seeking to fulfill their graduation requirement of two classes in Psychology, Philosophy, or Religious Studies-commonly referred to as the PPR requirement—this year's course offerings likely came as a bit of a shock.

Due to sudden retirements in these departments, students were left with only one option in Philosophy, no Religious Studies classes, and an abundance of Psychology classes. PPRs looked more like PPPs: Philosophy, Psychology, and Psychology. Many students who decided not to begin fulfilling the PPR requirement in their sophomore year were essentially forced into taking Psychology in order to graduate.

These unfortunate circumstances hinder academic freedom and opportunities, and Loomis Chaffee should have considered changing the PPR requirements to adapt to the new developments.

While Psychology is definitely a great class to take, in the context of the situation, pigeonholing students into taking it is a detriment to their all-around academic experience. A major aspect of a Loomis education centers around stepping outside of one's comfort zone and having the freedom to discover new interests and shape their own learning in a facilitating environment.

This idea of students having agency to determine their own path is reinforced by the term-course structure of PPRs, which are not a year-long commitment but serve instead as a chance for students to test the waters and receive a well-rounded education. The knowledge students glean from the stimulating curriculum at Loomis will ideally last for a lifetime and act as a catalyst for intellectual growth, however what that means is unique to each individual. So while The How of Happiness—a required book for Positive Psychology-may be an excellent read, it may not exactly benefit certain students who have other interests that they would have otherwise been able to delve

Of course, the academic department and Loomis administration as a whole is not at fault for the lack of available courses. With



Sophie Zhuang '21 reads the required text for the Social Psychology class.

the announcements of retirements at a short notice, this unexpected situation came in a year already full of unexpected challenges.

But just as how the school community made sweeping changes to meet changing circumstances with the COVID-19 guidelines, it is certainly possible that modifications could have been made to address the obstacles surrounding PPRs.

While on the surface it may seem like changing the amount of required PPRs from two to one would lower or water down the rigorous academic standard, taking this step would open up lots of possibilities for students and free them from binding commitments to classes meant for students with a genuine interest in those areas of study.

Another option could have been chang-

ing the second PPR to any term course. At least for this academic year, having that extra block untied from a required PPR would give students far more avenues for academic exploration in the form of term courses in Economics, CL Biology, and language courses just to name a few.

In order to develop in mind, body, and soul, students should be truly invested into their classroom pursuits, and giving them more options and agency in personalizing their education to meet their own aspirations accomplishes this much better than mandatory lessons on happiness ever could.

Coach Lee's Last Season: A Reflection of His Time on the Island



Coach Lee in action coaching Loomis Chaffee Boys' Varsity Lacrosse.

By SAMANTHA TISHLER '23 Staff Writer

After eight years on the Island, Associate Director of Admission and head boys' varsity lacrosse coach William Lee will be moving out to Michigan.

He is moving with his wife Gratia Lee, Loomis Chaffee's land use coordinator, and their two-year-old daughter, Beatrice, to be closer to family. This decision was not an easy one for Coach Lee because he and his wife have enjoyed their time at Loomis Chaffee. Wherever they end up, their goal is to stay involved in education and continue

working with students.

Coach Lee has left a lasting legacy in Loomis athletics. Before even stepping on the lacrosse field, he made strong efforts to establish connections with the players on

"He's been like a mentor, like a father figure," Andrew Halesworth '21 said. Andrew will be continuing his academic and athletic career at Vassar College in New York.

Coach Lee expressed that after a day working in the Admission Office, he looks forward to being with the lacrosse team. It is his opportunity to work directly with the students in the community that shared his

Contributors

love for the sport.

"I love going out and coaching... that two-hour period that I'm with them in the afternoons is probably my greatest joy here," Coach Lee said.

He taught the lacrosse players lessons about both life and lacrosse. For Andrew, the biggest lesson he learned from Coach Lee was the importance of getting out and doing something you love every day.

"He preaches this thing about two hours each day where it's like two hours to escape from everything else and play lacrosse. It

doesn't always have to be lacrosse, but two hours to do something you like," Andrew said.

Coach Lee enjoyed coaching at Loomis because of the high level of competition and the dedicated players. No matter the sea-

son, winning or losing, Coach Lee taught his team about the significance of hard work.

'We had some really good seasons and some seasons that weren't so good. There are ups and downs that come with that, but knowing that you put in your best effort as a teacher and a coach is all you can do," Coach

His most memorable games were the final games of the season against Avon Old Farms. Being the last game of the seniors' high school careers, the team put in lots of effort and made these games special for their coach. Out of his six seasons, the lacrosse

team only won one of the games, but they always competed and put up a good fight.

During his time here, Coach Lee and his team have won several sportsmanship awards. He takes pride in knowing that his team can still represent the school and community in a very competitive and physical

"[Sportsmanship] is one of the most important things you can have. Show respect for the game and respect for your opponent," Coach Lee said.

As the adviser and coach of Griffin Marx

Coach played an important role in Griffin's time at Loomis Chaffee.

"He's always teaching us not only to be better lacrosse players but to be better people," Griffin said. Griffin will continue his academic and athletic

career at St. Lawrence University in New York next year.

The lacrosse team appreciates everything Coach Lee has done for them as individuals and the program as a whole. He served as a role model and made lasting impacts on his

"For me, personally, he made me a better person. He taught me a bunch of life lessons, and as a team, he brought back its significance after a rough couple of years when he first got here, he first took the reins," An-

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 reservces 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.

ADVERTISING

To advertise in the Log, please contact the editors-in-chief listed above.

CORRECTION: A graphic caption in the last issue stated the incorrect name for the newly renovated building. It should be the John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols Center for Theater and Dance.

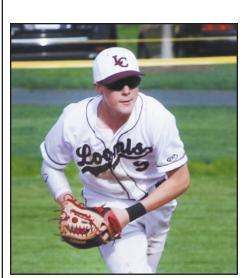
Athletics Gear Up for Unusual Season

"He's been like a mentor,

-Andrew Halesworth

21

like a father figure."



A Loomis Chaffee baseball player winds up for a throw.

By JAKE KLEIN '23 Contributor

For the first time in over a year, baseball, water polo, softball, lacrosse, tennis, golf, and track & field will return to the Island this spring. After COVID-19 derailed the 2020 spring season before it got off the ground, each of Loomis Chaffee's eleven spring varsity squads will have the chance to compete once again. Although the Founders League voted to cancel official league-sanctioned games and championships, Loomis Chaffee will compete in various sports with Taft, Deerfield, Hotchkiss, Choate Rosemary Hall, Avon Old Farms, and Westminster, per an agreement between athletic departments, with most varsity squads playing between eight and 12 games.

This agreement also includes unilateral safety protocols, many of which mirror those put in place for the LC athletic contests that took place this winter. Among the protocols are mandatory mask-wearing, weekly testing of athletes and coaches, and limited locker room usage. New for the

spring, however, is a requirement that has already taken place: cohorts. By splitting each team into multiple groups during the opening stages of the spring, the competing schools hope to limit the cancellation of

"The idea is that a student could test positive and it wouldn't wipe out the rest of their team with contact tracing," one Founders League Athletic Director said.

Among the Loomis teams looking to continue dominant stretches of play from before the cancelled season is Girls Varsity Lacrosse, which has won five Founders League titles in a row, dating back to the 2015 season.

Although she made the move to the Island in the summer of 2019, head coach Stephanie Bissett will have to wait for April 2021 to make her Loomis coaching debut in this unusual season.

"Since I was new last year, I feel it is important to raise our expectations for the program and treat this season no differently than we would any other," Bissett said.

Similarly, the varsity baseball team, which has compiled a 57-14 record over the last 4 seasons and won 4 of the last 6 Founders League Championships, will try to pick up where they left off with 12 games scheduled for the spring season. Head coach Donnie McKillop has been optimistic about his team's chances in this season-like-no-other.

"I am really hopeful this team gets to display the hard work that has gone into prep for Loomis baseball. We definitely have the ability to compete with anyone this year and will be a top quality product on the field," McKillop told New England Baseball Journal this February.

While guidelines, protocols, and limited schedules will change the landscape of the 2021 spring season, athletes and coaches alike are simply excited to get out and play once again after their season was taken away

We are lucky to have several games scheduled and we want to take advantage of those opportunities," Coach Bissett said.

Shameless Hourglass Plug



The Hourglass Logo.

By JUSTIN WU '22 and ERIC SUN '23 Contributors

The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of publication struggles. In the summer of 2020, during negotiations for a third Loomis Chaffee publication (following the Log and the Loom), students Justin Wu '22, Eric Sun '23, Emily Khym '23, Primrose Chittikuladilok '22, Kate Shymkiv '23, and Ethan Guo '23 presented a well-thoughtout, immaculate proposal that was simply too good to overlook: the Hourglass, a student club and publication that would provide fellow Pelicans with valuable insights on today's current events and a link to their

Since then, the Hourglass has taken the

Loomis Chaffee School by storm, amassing strong support within the student body. It boasts a robust Instagram account (@loomis.hourglass) and two complete publications in its two terms on the Island (lchourglass. com). However, unsatiated by its current success, the Hourglass junta continues its quest in achieving school-wide hegemony. and in doing so, looks for Loomis to recognize it as the school's primary student publication (over the Log) on the basis of five points:

Article I: Human Rights

The superiority of the flexible Hourglass submission schedule is self-evident. The Log employs cruel and unusual punishments, restricting writers to a harsh 10-day schedule, infringing upon the essential human decency that is fundamentally guaranteed to all individuals. Freedom of choice and pursuit of happiness is crippled under the Log's oppressive regime. The Hourglass ensures basic human rights through guaranteeing a month-long submission period.

Article II: Long Term Benefits

It is within the nature of all things that objects decay over time. Without a doubt, the uneducated heathens of the Log have blinded themselves to this nature, refusing to accept that their publication is on the brink of collapse unlike the well-educated historians of the Hourglass. We are able to clearly discern the need for change and expansion, including awards, meetings, trivia

nights, and launch parties. The Log refuses to adapt to the new age and will therefore be left behind to wither.

Article III: Libright vs Authleft

We have merch. The Log does not. Therefore we are capitalist and the Log is communist. Death is preferable to commu-

Article IV: Relevance

We must come to ask ourselves, what is the purpose of living, if not the accumulation of knowledge? Spending 20 minutes with a Log article might provide insight into Loomis' performance for the IV girls swim team in the last meet, but 20 minutes with the Hourglass gives knowledge about the state of the world and global affairs. How can such a trivial and frivolous publication like the Log stand up to the behemoth that is the Hourglass? The answer is it cannot.

Article V: Flexibility

The Hourglass does not censor views and topics; unlike the oppressive regime of the Log, we allow for the free conversation of all controversial topics. Additionally, our larger word count also means writers have the ability to flex their writing skills more. Ergo, we are more flex-ible.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED, in the interest of upholding Loomis' capitalist principles, that the school recognizes the Hourglass as its primary student publication, and, in turn, condemns the Log for its communist practices that have plagued our

student body for far too long.

A Note from the Log Editors

We begin with a definition...

censor (v.) examine (a book, movie, etc.) officially and suppress unacceptable parts of it

Readers, we ask you: were you able to read the article? Could you see, perchance, any black bars covering important words or phrases? We thought not.

If this slanderous article is to be believed, then indeed, the Loomis Chaffee Log could be categorized as a propagandist, communist, and heavily censored publication. However, as the free-thinking, democratic journalists that we truly are, the editorial staff of the Log has decided not only to publish this Machiavellian critique but also to ask our faithful constituents: who here has never heard of the Log? And contrarily, who here has even heard of the Hourglass a year, no, even just a single day ago? That's right.

The answer, we are confident, reveals once and for all who the true journalistic power of Loomis Chaffee really is. For it is wholly undeniable that this rebuke is not based in fact, but instead an ill-fated mission to enact a coup d'etat on a beloved, and historic part of Loomis's com-

In many ways, this rebuke is familiar to the classic tale of David and Goliath, where one young manchild attempts to defeat the massive, hulking, famous, incredibly intelligent, big-boy Goliath himself. And we all know how that story

Something Wicked This Way Drives

By ETHAN SONG '24 and **MERCURI LAM'24** Contributors

Friday. 7:30 P.M.

Your friends have realized that tonight is a food truck night. Curiously, the truck lacks a name. No one knows what is being served, but it waits in the shadows of Hubbard. You've seen students flock there, but none seem to return; surely that's fine, right?

Friday. 10:00 P.M.

Standing in the cold for the past two and a half hours, you are accompanied by just your friends and your phone. The conversations and small talk soon die down, and your phone runs out of battery. You try to rationalize the unwavering sense of dread, but it just isn't working. This food is taking an awfully long time, and the line hasn't moved since you got here. How long is this going to last? How long have I been here? You wrack your brain but still find yourself unable to answer.

Friday. 12:00 A.M.

Your classmates and peers attempt to call their dorm heads to no avail. The cell service is gone. Worry and panic begin to set in.

What is the food truck doing?

Why is it taking so long?

So many questions, so few answers. You try to leave the line and head back to your dorm for check-in, but you are unable to. No matter where you turn, no matter where you run, you end up at the same spot every

You fear the worst, forever waiting for the line to end.

Friday, 3:00 A.M.

Whatever hope there was is long gone. A heavy fog now envelopes the Island.

People begin to notice that those who left have not come back.

Some volunteer to abandon the familiarity of the line, venturing deep,

deep into the black abyss. And yet, none have returned. Perhaps

they've found a way out, or a ray of hope, or...

anything good, really.

Still, more fruitless expedition parties are

Day ???

A glow in the distance.

The rumbling of wheels on pavement. Withered souls turn their eyes to the

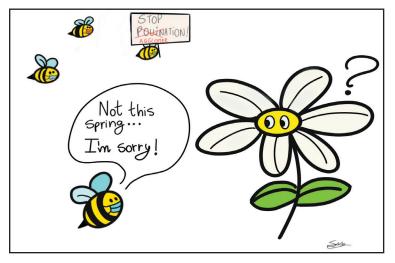
hulking figure,

getting closer, ever bigger. And no one there could deny there also came a chilling cry. By the taking of our lives, something wicked this way drives.



Polli-Nation Rebels

By SOFIA MANSILLA '23



The Pelican Games Trilogy (Movie Reviews)

By ISABELLA JIANG '22

Contributor

5/5

Truly a stunning portrayal and representation of the dystopian genre, this production undeniably challenges the boundaries of progressivism with its tenacious yet heavily dependent characters.

- Darth Richardson (Top Critic)

We all love a good story built off the piled corpses of our enemies. İt's a great throwback documentary on the good ol' days: Darwinism at its finest.

- Billy Bob Joe (Top Critic, 2020 Iowa Corn Shucking Champion)

I have traveled far and wide across all seven seas and continents. I have climbed the peaks of the Tibetan mountains, learned the practices of the monks, and delved into the deep unknowns of the Amazon rainforest.



Graphic by Sofia Mansilla '23 Traveling across desert, sea, mountain, and forest, I mastered six languages, found a wonderful wife, and sired four children. I've wrestled a polar bear on a floating iceberg, been hunted down by a herd of lions, and revived a camel in the Sahara dunes. Yet, despite all my travels and experiences, I have

- Moses (Top Critic, oldest man alive)

My relationship with this movie is quite complicated. It is like my dad who went away to get milk and returned with the best quality milk ever.

- John Doe (Top Critic, Redditor)

Good development and experience. Be patient; I am ready with the products. It is important to know the severity of the dam-

[translated through google]

Click to view full translation - Peppi Hrisovalantis

5/5

This movie is truly life-altering. Before, I was poor, homeless, and unable to feed myself. However, this movie has taught me so much about great camaraderie and the meaning of life, changing me for the better. Having acquired a deeper understanding of the world around me, I was able to truly discover my full potential. I became unbelievably rich and received eight PhDs, one from each Ivy League school. Currently, I am the valedictorian of Harvard University and hold 41 Olympic gold medals for various sports. I have single handedly eradicated poverty and world-hunger, discovered the cure for the coronavirus pandemic, and achieved immortality. I have restored the Roman Empire, establishing world peace, and am drawing up battle plans to invade all existing countries in the world with my army of pigs supplied with potato cannons.

This is the story of my journey from poverty to world-domination, and it all started with this production. It's truly fascinating how a single moment can completely change your life.

Fargus D.A. Feesh (Emperor of Rome, Descendant of Sun Tzu, Blessed by Princess Qajar, Successor to Sir William Marshal, Brother of Elon Musk)

While the progression and artistry were adequate, I'm sorely disappointed by the conclusion of this production. What could have been a masterful and clever ending turned out to be a completely missed opportunity. Where was the Winner Winner Chicken Dinner? I began this film with high expectations for chicken and was completely let down. This movie is not worth your

- Colonel Harland David Sanders (KFC)

The Age of the Leprechaun



By ARTHUR BEAUGEARD '24

Contributor

In a damning study, the Clown College of Boston discovered that nearly every minutiae of our daily lives are controlled by Leprechauss

Leprechauns, small Irish men with lots of gold, are considered rare, but they are more numerous than one might expect because so many are in disguise. Leprechauns first rose to prominence when millions of them emigrated to America and established vast criminal empires in the 19th and 20th centuries. Their pots of gold were historically used in Las Vegas, which Leprechauns kept in order by hiding under the craps tables and biting misbehaving players, an easy feat due to their short stature.

Vast, illicit wealth allowed Leprechauns to become CEOs, teachers, doctors, lawyers, and belly dancers. One of their aims is to turn humanity into docile servants who will happily pick four-leaf clovers and feed them to the Leprechauns. One Colorado citizen named Bob, who has previously been abducted by aliens and has seen Bigfoot at least twice, also claims that Lucky Charms

and Irish Spring deodorant are actually filled with chemicals intended to slowly turn one Irish.

To spot (and subsequently destroy) Leprechauns, look for these cues:

Does he smell like the white waves of the Atlantic battering a steep cliff along the Irish coast?

Is he missing multiple teeth?

Does he give off the same vibe as a small village in the Irish countryside where dark secrets are buried deep?

Does he have the dull glare of a farmer in a staring contest with one of his sheep for a lack of better things to do?

Leprechauns own the banks. The universities. The consumer goods. The women. The men. Even the children. And they are not on your side. Always peer over your shoulder, lest one waddles right toward you with his tiny legs.

And some food for thought: Where is Ireland? In the British Isles. What else is in the British Isles? England. Who's from England? Dr. Sheila Culbert. If you catch her wearing green on Saint Patrick's day—run.

Spring Is Here







00ptvc





Op-Ed: PogMed CEO on Why There Are Anti-Vaxxers

By JANUS YUEN '21
Communist

Sometimes I wake up in the morning And I look at myself in the mirror And I go

(5)

Because I'm a sexy Florida man in my orca PJs and a white tank top.

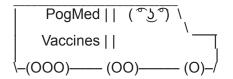
Because I'm Vaccine Man. And I'll save the world.

By day, I'm the CEO of PogMed Corporation, a Tallahassee-based pharmaceutical company whose COVID-19 vaccine was the fourth to receive FDA approval.

By night, I'm the Vaccine Man of Florida: I drive from town to town, swamp to swamp, delivering PogMed vaccines to communities across the state.

You might be asking, why me? Why do I, the CEO of a nationally renowned pharma-

ceutical company, drive around the State of Florida in a tank top and pajamas?



Well, I'll explain.

Even though our vaccine easily cleared third stage trials with a 96% efficacy rate (especially good for a single-shot), even though we've garnered emergency approval from the FDA, there is...let's call it...a sense of hesitance in the community. Perhaps people are hesitant because we derive our viral cultures from local crocodiles and alligators, but that just means our vaccine is effective against all the new Florida variants. Instead, I believe it boils down to something else: image.

Folks distrust men dressed in tailored navy-blue suits. It's all too professional. Too

formal. Too cold. They see a man dressed so snazzily with his hair gelled back, and they see him grubbing at their wallets; they see him stuffing cash in his pocket.

I mean, are they wrong? These are the same people that charge diabetics an arm and a leg to save their arms and legs. These are the same people that peddled the pain-killers.

So I distribute our vaccines in (sterile) syringes on the front porches and in the dark alleyways, and I'll continue to do so until every last person is vaccinated.

This is how I'll save this country. This is how I'll save the world: in my orca PJs and a white tank top. Looking like the sexiest Florida Man alive.



Time Flies...Or Does It?

By ANDY CHOI '23

Contributor

Many of us find ourselves saying "time flies" as we look back anywhere from pre-K to middle school. However, some students claim that they feel as if they are experiencing such emotion in real time this spring. Is it really that time itself is flying, or is it our minds deceiving our perceptions of time?

While this question cannot be directly answered, some simple scientific and psychological insights can help explain such a phenomenon. Surprisingly, such "timeslip" theories are more than real, and they are currently being researched by scientists all over the world. One explanation of this phenomenon is how our biochemistry alters our time.

Our sense of time, and how we as humans interpret "time," comes from the internal clocks that control our circadian rhythms. This rhythm dictates changes in the behavioral, mental, and physical states of our body, which are largely impacted by light. Indeed, this is exactly why we tend to wake up if we sense light and why we fall asleep easier when it is dark.

Routine is a keyword that can be highlighted at this point, as the human body interprets the repetition of routine like a rhythmic schedule that the body should follow everyday. The end result is that people



Graphic by Julie Chung '21

do not consciously remember much, but their bodies repeat the same actions over and over. This theory can be considered almost analogous with Einstein's theory of relativity, described by Einstein himself like such: "put your hand on a hot stove for a minute and it seems like an hour. Sit with a pretty girl for an hour and it seems like a minute. That's relativity."

Einstein focuses on the lack of "firsts" as people age, and while all of our students are young and open to an endless amount of "first" experiences, many of our opportunities to enjoy such memories were taken due to the pandemic. Einstein says time feels relatively short with a lack of significant milestones over a period of time. While time obviously does not actually accelerate in our case, we are just caught in a grueling treadmill, forced to repeat going to school, doing homework, eating food, practicing sports, and occasionally meeting with friends with countless restrictions.

Breaking News: 0% Ads, 0% Bias, 100% Real

By ANDREW PARK '22
Melange Editor

Breaking News: God calls Pope on toll-free line, commands humanity to "stop praying so much" because of "the outrageous rates" He must pay

Breaking News: True magician found with "no tricks or sleights of hands," claims to have made his savings disappear with magic

Breaking News: Local residents sigh in relief as town pizzeria finally invents boneless pizza, "perfect for eating out without a mess"

Breaking News: Scientists in conflict over whether cheetahs instantly create warp holes to travel around or if they use their powerful legs. "Both sides have a massive body of evidence," says economist, offers interviewer popcorn

Breaking News: Citizens around the world begin campaign to ban phrases of gratitude for "creating discrimination between the thanked and the thanker"

Breaking News: Local child praised globally for having successfully brought up two parents as a single baby, says he will give parents to adoption centers within the week

Graphic by Isabella Wang '24