

CA Celebrates Opening Day at the AC

by Katherine Oh '14

On Wednesday, September 12, 2012, members of the Concord Academy community gathered to celebrate Opening Day at the Moriarty Athletic Campus, also



Varsity captains ring the Victory Bell for the first time.
Photo courtesy of www.concordacademy.org

known as the AC. After a brief opening ceremony, the Girls Varsity Soccer, Boys Varsity Soccer, and Girls Varsity Field Hockey teams took to the fields to compete in the first ever matches on the new campus.

During the opening gathering, family, friends, and fans enjoyed a barbecue and listened to live music by a student band. They then heard Head of School Rick Hardy, Director of Athletics Jenny Brennan, and Athletic Council Co-Heads David Lander '13 and Eliza Thomas '14 address the athletes and attendees. The captains of all of the fall teams then gathered to ring the Victory Bell, signaling the beginning of the first season on the AC.

The competitions started about one hour after the ceremony. Charlotte Weiner '13 scored the first ever goal on the Athletic Campus during Girls Varsity Soccer's 1-1 tie versus Bancroft. The Boys Varsity Soccer team beat Bancroft 7-0, and Girls Varsity Field Hockey lost to Southfield 3-0.

Many fans wore green Athletic Campus T-shirts and some decorated themselves with face paint in expression of their support for the athletes during Opening Day.

"I love it down there," said Student Head of School and Field Hockey Co-Captain Kelsey McDermott '13. "This kind of change brings new life to the school." McDermott said that she believes athletes will feel the urge to "honor the new facility by working hard to represent the new Athletic Campus."

David Lander '13, Athletic Council Co-Head and member of Boys Varsity Soccer, said that he anticipates that the Athletic Campus will improve his team's performance. "The ball runs well on the grass and the rain filters well,"

Lander said. "We used to play in mud late in October. This year we will be playing on beautiful grass throughout the season."

Thomas said, "I'm super excited about the opening of the AC. It's something we've been building up to, and good facilities and spaces for fans to come support us are going to up our level of play."

Although students may walk or ride bikes to get to the Athletic Campus, there will be shuttles that run regularly between CA's Main Campus and the AC. "We are trying to make it as easy as possible for everyone to get over there," Brennan said. "I want the Athletic Campus to be a place where the whole community feels comfortable." Brennan said that she hopes that all students at CA will visit the AC often, not just to watch games but also to have picnics, or simply to chat with friends. "It is an extension of our campus," Brennan said.

McDermott and Vice Student Head of School Erin Lueck '13 are planning ways to use the Athletic Campus for non-athletic purposes as well. "We have been thinking of ways to get people down there, such as dances or community barbecues," McDermott said.

"Our athletic program is now on par with our academic and artistic programs," Brennan said. "Athletes at CA should be so proud that the place is ours."

The Moriarty Athletic Campus will be formally dedicated on November 2 in conjunction with CA's 90th anniversary celebration.

Summer Renovations

by Teresa Dai '14

Over the summer, a series of construction and reconstruction projects occurred on Concord Academy's Main Campus. These changes included the rearrangement and redecoration of the Student-Faculty Center (Stu-Fac), improvements in the Trudy Room, construction in Hobson House, and other minor changes around campus.

Director of Operations Don Kingman said, "The Stu-Fac had remained the same for the past fifteen years I have worked here. It clearly needed an upgrade." The tables and chairs were replaced in the entire dining area, and in the lower section of the Stu-Fac, otherwise known as the "Freshman Pit," seven sets of tables and chairs replaced the benches and booths. The new furniture provides a total of forty-nine additional seats for the Stu-Fac. The whole area was also re-carpeted and repainted.

"There's a lot more seating and the carpeting is nice. It looks a lot cleaner in general," Sarah Eberth '13 said. Caroline

sion in the space. "The room is awesome," Eberth said. "It feels so much bigger." While Eberth said that she appreciated the renovations to the room, she also noted that it is now less of a multi-purpose space as the furniture is more difficult to rearrange.

Hobson House was another major site for the renovations. Kingman said that during the summer, the Operations Staff took down all the wallpaper, installed new lighting, painted, redid carpeting and improved the heating system. Math Teacher and Hobson House Parent Kem Morehead said, "It's beautiful. The house is brighter, and the rooms are nicer to be in."

Several smaller changes also occurred on campus. The patio outside of the science classrooms was refurbished and fitted with a picnic table. The path from the Math and Arts Center to the Main School Building was widened to allow enough parking spaces for buses. The Operations Staff also replaced many mattresses in the Boarding Houses and improved the air conditioning and ventilation in the Student Health and Athletic



The newly renovated Freshman Pit. Photo by Leandra de los Santos '15

Stotz '15 agreed. "The Stu-Fac looks a lot more sophisticated," Stotz said. However, Stotz said that she preferred the old benches in the Freshman Pit to the new tables, adding, "It just doesn't look like the Pit."

The Trudy Room, the conference room adjacent to the Stu-Fac, underwent a complete renovation. "The Trudy Room was always an embarrassment when we hosted guests and parents visiting CA," Kingman said. In addition to installing a large conference table, Kingman said that he and the Operations Staff worked with Director of I.T. Services Bob Koskovich to install a projector and a wide-screen televi-

Center to control the facility's temperature

Looking back on the renovations that took place, Kingman said that he found that time was the most challenging factor. While the Stu-Fac construction started directly after graduation, Kingman said that the Operations Staff had to plan around Reunion Weekend and the eight-week long CA Summer Camp that takes place on CA's Main Campus. Due to both the limitation in time and several permit issues, Kingman said that there are still renovations he hopes to complete. "We will continue working whenever the students are not here this year," Kingman said. "It should be done by graduation of this school year."

CA Goes Global

by Ryan Hussey '13

Since the fall of 2009, the number of international students at Concord Academy has grown from six to ten percent. Associate Director of Admissions and Director of Financial Aid John McGarry has played a major role in expanding the scope and number of international students who apply to CA. Each year, McGarry travels to countries around the globe to meet with prospective students and their families to inform them about CA and to encourage them to apply.

McGarry explained that his yearly international trips hold several purposes. "I market the name of CA internationally, connect with current families, interview new students and talk to local education

consultants," McGarry said. The destinations are divided between places where CA's Admissions Office already receives many inquiries and places where McGarry said there are many "potential inquiries."

Through research principally done by McGarry, the Admissions Office determines which new locations might have families interested in CA. McGarry said that he researches economic and educational trends and talks to other boarding schools in the area to find out where they have received increased applications recently. Such research led McGarry to add a stop in Kazakhstan for the first time last year. Now, Nurik Tus-sipov '14 is CA's first Kazakhstani student.

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Inside This Issue...



Faculty Art: Beyond the Classroom

by Marisa Kager '13

While most members of the Concord Academy community left campus and their work behind over the summer, teachers from the Visual Arts Department continued to pursue their own artistic work. Although all Visual Arts teachers have studio days once a

lot of weeklong classes are very expensive, and if you don't live nearby, the cost adds up," said Smith. He said that, in many cases, the school's professional development helps to cover the cost. "It's an investment that the school is making," Smith said.

Bull completed a six-week long course in the Meisner technique, an acting technique based upon an ability to use improvisation.



Artwork by Ben Eberle. Photo by Phoebe Chatfield '14

week to work on their own art during the academic year, the Visual Arts teachers agreed that the summer provides a valuable opportunity to concentrate on their individual work.

"In general, for the Visual Arts Department, summer isn't really a downtime. It's a very productive time," said Painting teacher Jonathan Smith. "For me, it is a good time to get a lot done."

While some teachers use the summer as a starting point for new projects, others used it as a continuation of their work. Smith said, "A lot of what I do in the summer I started during the school year, such as stretching canvases or coming up with ideas. Things that you put together during your studio days can really be brought together in the summer."

On the other hand, Fiber Arts teacher Antoinette Winters said, "I realized the summer is an opportunity to play and explore and experiment in the same way kids do." Winters explained that she used long blocks of time to develop a new technique of working with a type of plastic, Dura-Lar. "The sense of where I was going became clear at the end of the summer, but it gave me a direction for what to do going back to school," Winters said.

Drawing and Architecture teacher Chris Rowe said that having the time to do new work gives him ideas for assignments. While he considers studio days a luxury, Rowe also said, "To get a body of work done, I need weeks without distraction."

Additionally, with the help of Concord Academy's Professional Development Program, many teachers turned the tables: they became the students instead of the instructors. Film teacher and Visual Arts Department Head Justin Bull said, "CA's Professional Development Program is extremely supportive in helping teachers do what they want to do over the summer. I know that everyone in my department has taken advantage of their funds to take workshops, or to travel." Smith also said that he appreciated the role that the Professional Development Program plays in his summer pursuits. "A

Departmental Studies: Delving Into the Arts

by Adetola Sylvan '13

This year, fourteen Concord Academy students will pursue Departmental Studies in the Visual and Performing Arts. The students, who are predominantly seniors, have completed all available courses at CA in their particular discipline and are ready to take on individual, in-depth studies under the guidance of Faculty Advisors from CA's staff.

Five students are doing their Departmental Studies in Performing Arts. Sarah Eberth '13 is doing a study in dance, with Amy Spencer as her Faculty Advisor. Eberth will look into different genres of dance and different choreographers' work, taking their work as inspiration to create her own piece. Eberth said that part of the reason she chose to do this Departmental Study was because she enjoyed taking classes in different styles of dance during several programs she attended over the summer. Eberth said that she will work on developing material during the whole year, and will likely perform in May.

Jorge Pagan '14 will use different acting techniques such as emotional recall to explore Biblical and Shakespearean stories with his Performing Arts Teacher Megan Gleeson. "I want to dive into the world of dreams to stir up wonderings. Like what is the significance of dreams, what are their purpose, and what is the boundary between dreams and reality?" Pagan said. He plans to have an informal performance of his work at the end of the spring semester.

Ryan Sin '13 is pursuing a project in recording technology, working with both student and faculty pieces under the supervision of Music Program Administrator Ross Adams. Derek Lo '13 is also using modern technology, exploring new tools that track human movement. He plans to combine this technology with dance. Both Computer Studies Department Head Ben Stumpf and Performing Arts Department Head Amy Spencer will assist Lo in his project.

In architecture, Sophie Nahrman '13 is working with Performing Arts Technical Director Ian Hannan as she studies the architecture of theatres and designs a hypothetical plan for a new Performing Arts Center at CA.

Nine students have chosen to pursue Departmental Studies in the Visual Arts. Sam Boswell '13 is making a ceramic chess set, and Kelsey McDermott '13 is working with advanced ceramic glazing techniques influenced by Aztec and Mayan designs. Ce-

ramics Teacher Ben Eberle will advise both Boswell and McDermott in their projects. Bona Chang '13 is using tie-dye to create three distinct outfits under the guidance of Fiber Arts Teacher Antoinette Winters.

One Departmental Study overseen by Painting Teacher Jonathan Smith will be by Xiomara Contreras '13. Contreras said that she plans to paint a series of portraits of the women in her family, including herself, and will try to connect all of the pieces visually.



Recent work in Painting. Photo courtesy of www.concordacademy.org

Mehreen Khan '13 is also doing a painting Departmental Study, creating representational still-life paintings with clear structures. She said that, under Smith's guidance, she is focusing on making the scenes she paints look as realistic as possible.

Allie Mundel '13 will be taking on two projects this year, one in painting and the other in garment design.

For the painting project, Mundel said that she will paint the human figure in movement and dance under Smith's guidance. In garment design, she will create three different outfits—including shoes, jewelry, masks, and makeup—that she said are "all focused around the central theme of aliens." Winters will advise Mundel in her project.

SeoHee Lim '13 is doing a departmental study in photography with Photography Teacher Cynthia Katz, focusing on depicting different landscapes in South Korea and Massachusetts. Alissa Merz '13 is exploring constructed images in black-and-white film photography. She said that she plans to create and photograph "fictional scenes" with models, costumes, sets, and props. Merz said that, after experimenting with this form of photography in her Photo 3 class at CA, she was drawn to the excitement of capturing the real and imaginary together in a single image.

Katz urged Merz to investigate some photographers who work in this style of constructed images. Among these photographers, Merz named Duane Michals as one of her favorites. "He spends large amounts of money to construct these huge rooms of scenes, and puts people in the middle of them," said Merz. "It just totally blows my mind."

Merz said that although her project will likely be time-consuming, she is looking forward to her work. "It is an opportunity to take your passion to the next level," Merz said. "I think it's a really good snapshot into how you could be spending your life doing art." Merz's work will be on display at the CA Fall Student Art Show.

Global CA

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In cities where there already exists a strong base of current families, McGarry will conduct interviews with students who are applying. In every city on his trip, he hosts receptions to increase awareness about CA. Current families often attend these receptions along with potential students to learn about CA, and McGarry said that he always "offers a big thank you to [current] parents for extending their trust to CA."

McGarry said that, this upcoming year, he plans to host receptions in Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Shenzhen, Hong Kong, Seoul, and Almaty. "I'm going to take ten flights and

CA Welcomes New Faculty

Adam Bailey
by Harry Breault '16

Spanish teacher Adam Bailey is the new Head of the Modern and Classical Languages Department at Concord Academy. While Bailey's interest in Spanish began with his study of the language starting in seventh grade, Bailey said that after college he intended to go on to a career in the Foreign Service. He worked in the Office of International Activities at the Environmental Protection Agency. "I soon discovered that I didn't enjoy it," Bailey said. Needing money to help with his car payments, Bailey said that he took a second job teaching English as a second language for adults. Bailey said that he loved teaching and valued the interaction with his students and the ability to see the results of his work.

When he found that he preferred his night job to his day job, he quit the latter and began teaching full-time. From his first teaching position at a Catholic school in Washington, D.C. to managing an exchange program, he taught Spanish for sixteen years in the Philadelphia area before coming to CA this fall.

Jenny Chandler
by Chris Pappay '15

The new Dean of Faculty, Jenny Chandler, is excited about her future at Concord Academy. She attended public high school in Williamstown, Massachusetts and went on to study at the College of Wooster in Ohio. Chandler then taught for three years at Shattuck-St. Mary's School in Faribault, Minnesota, before attending Harvard University's School of Education. After Harvard, Chandler worked at Miss Hall's School in Western Massachusetts for twenty-three years, where she ultimately became the Dean of Academics and Faculty.

Chandler said one of the reasons she applied for the job at CA was that she appreciated both the values that Concord teaches and the school's encouragement of each student to follow his or her individual path. "CA seems to value the experience of the whole child," Chandler said. During the course of her career at CA, Chandler said that she hopes to capture the essence of the teaching experience at Concord.

Cory Chapman
by Julia Shea '16

Cory Chapman, one of the six additions

Thai Scholar Program

by Alyssa Taylor '13

Each year, Concord Academy's Senior Class gains a new member from the Thai Scholar Program. This year's Thai Scholar is George Supaniratisai '13 from Bangkok, Thailand.

The Thai Scholars come to Concord Academy and other prep schools around the country through a program sponsored by the Thai government. To qualify for different scholarships, thousands of Thai high school seniors take exams in Math, Science, Social Studies, English, and Thai. The few students who qualify then have the opportunity to apply for scholarships that interest them. Out of the thousands who applied, in the end only forty to fifty Thai scholars are chosen for their programs.

"I am sponsored by an oil company to study petroleum engineering," said Supaniratisai. He will spend a total of five years in the U.S. in his study of engineering: one at Concord Academy and four more years at an American university. Supaniratisai will then work at the oil company for another five years. While he acknowledges that the ten-year commitment is a significant period

of time, Supaniratisai said that his program is on the shorter side. "I like my program because I am guaranteed a job when I go back to Thailand," he said. Other programs do not offer job placement upon a student's return, and can be up to twenty-year commitments. For many of the Thai Scholars, their first visit to America is through the program. The summer before they go to their respective prep schools, the scholars attend a two-month orientation program at Brewster Academy in Brewster, MA. "We learned about American history and culture, and we also learned what to expect from teachers and students in American prep schools," Supaniratisai said. He said that the orientation program is also an opportunity for the Thai Scholars to meet and get to know one another. They will meet again this winter for another workshop to prepare for their college applications.

Thai Scholars choose their top five favorite American prep schools before arriving in the country. For Supaniratisai, the appeal of CA was its proximity to Boston and its Advanced Physics class. "Concord Academy is a small school, but it has a very good reputation in the program," said Supaniratisai.



Five of six new additions to the CA Faculty. From left: Petr Eltsov, Cory Chapman, Max Hall, Adam Bailey, and Jenny Chandler. Photo by Gary Zheng '14

Kumpel who connected Chapman to CA. "I spent the day in an educational utopia," Chapman said of his first visit to Concord. The more Chapman heard about CA from Kumpel, the more he was intrigued. According to Chapman, "What drew me to CA was the carefully thought-out, tight-knit community." Chapman also mentioned that when he visited CA's campus on Martin Luther King Day, he was drawn to the dedication of the students both to academics and to being part of the community.

This semester, Chapman is teaching two sections of Geometry as well as two sections of Intermediate Algebra. Next semester, he will add two Trigonometry classes and continue to teach Geometry. "I love math and I love being around kids," Chapman said. "I can't imagine being anything other than a high school math teacher."

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Petr Eltsov
by Christina Cho '14

Petr Eltsov joined Concord Academy's History Department this fall. Eltsov holds a PhD in Archaeology from Harvard University, a PhD in South Asian Studies from the University of California, Berkeley, and a BA/MA in History from St. Petersburg University in Russia. Eltsov started his career as a high

school teacher twenty years ago in St. Petersburg, Russia. He has since taught in a number of schools, including Harvard University, the University of California, Berkeley, Free University in Berlin, and Wellesley College. In addition, he has worked in a number of archaeological and historical research projects in India, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Dagestan, Jordan, Israel, and Iran. Eltsov is not only a teacher and researcher, but also an author. He published a book that investigates the concepts of the city and civilization in ancient South Asia.

Courtney Fields
by June Sass '16

Courtney Fields is the newest member of Concord Academy's English Department. She has taken courses on diversity in literature, taught in graduate school at Harvard University, held a position as a school counselor, and worked for a nonprofit organization. Fields received her Master's Degree this past summer at Brandeis University and is currently writing her thesis.

Although she had never taught a high school English class before coming to CA, Fields said that she was eager to join the Concord community. "I really like working with high school students," Fields said. She added that it was difficult for her to choose between pursuing teaching English and counseling. "I like coaching, but I also like being in the classroom," Fields said. "I had done counseling after I graduated from college, but I liked the intellectual aspect of it more than the emotional part." While teaching at a small high school like CA, Fields looks forward to forming close relationships with her students. "I've always wanted to be a better teacher, and I really just enjoy what I do," Fields said.

Max Hall
by Harry Breault '16

After a five-year break, Max Hall is back at Concord Academy. Hall previously taught science courses at CA including Physics and Advanced Environmental Science. This fall, he is teaching Physics, Chemistry, and Advanced Chemistry.

Outside of the classroom, Hall said that he has continued to work on independent projects, including an amphibious vehicle with hybridized power. Hall said that he hopes to make the vehicle float by next year. The machine contains batteries for forklifts and will hopefully have the practical application of plowing snow in the wintertime.

Hall said, "It's nice to be back because the character of the place is very much the same. I never lost touch with CA, but it's different when you stop such frequent and broad contact with everybody at school. It's nice to get back into the daily life of the school where you get to know people."

Academic Departmental Studies

by Kathleen Melendy '14

Every spring, Concord Academy students are faced with the difficult decision of choosing from a wide range of classes in a variety of subjects. But, for some students, these course offerings are not enough to meet a specific academic interest. For these upperclassmen, an Academic Departmental Study provides the opportunity to pursue their academic passions.

An Academic Departmental Study is a chance for students to work in a narrowed field of study with one faculty member as their mentor. Academic Dean John Drew said that a student generally applies for a Departmental Study if the student has "exhausted our course offerings." Drew said that the goal of these independent projects is to offer depth in a specific area of study, or breadth in the case of an obscure topic which is absent from CA's curriculum.

Seoyeon Park '14 said that she was interested in pursuing a Departmental Study in Mandarin. "Although I can speak the language, I can't make references to the

deepest part of Chinese culture," Park said. In addition to having completed the highest level of Mandarin CA offers, Park said that she has reached the phase in her education when she wants to focus more on "having meaningful conversation with people who respect me for having studied their culture. For example, it's really hard to talk to someone in English only knowing the alphabet," Park said. "I want to fill in that gap."

While Park is participating in a Departmental Study as a junior, the program has been traditionally geared towards seniors. Claire Fitch '13 is pursuing a Departmental Study on polarized light. Fitch said that she hopes to study how humans perceive polarized light and what environments would cause a human to adapt differently. Last year, Fitch took Science Teacher John Pickle's Oceanography class that touched on the subject of polarized light. Fitch said this unit sparked her interest, and she wanted to take the idea further. Fitch said that she plans on experimenting with factors such as skin color to analyze how polarized light

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Coach's Corner: Ben Stumpf

by Aidan Aciuikewicz '15

Soccer is and has always been a passion for Computer Science Teacher and JV Soccer Coach Ben Stumpf. This fall, Stumpf has taken over as Head Coach of the Junior Varsity Boys Soccer team at Concord Academy.

Stumpf has been playing soccer for thirty-eight years, almost his entire life. A CA-grad himself, Stumpf played soccer during his time at Concord and became Captain of the Varsity team before graduating in 1988. He then went on to play Division III soccer at Oberlin College in Ohio. After leaving college, he continued to play both indoor and outdoor soccer.



JV Soccer Coach Ben Stumpf.
Photo courtesy of www.concordacademy.org

Stumpf returned to Concord to teach more than ten years ago, and took the position of Assistant Coach on the Boys Varsity Soccer Team, helmed at the time by English Teacher Sandy Stott. During this time, Stumpf coached Ben Eberle, who is now another member of the Concord Academy faculty and an Assistant Coach for the Boys Varsity team.

After working under Stott, Stumpf became the Assistant Coach on the Varsity Team under current Head Coach Adam Simon. Stumpf then went on to coach the intramural soccer squad before taking over the Junior Varsity team this year.

When asked about his favorite aspect of coaching Stumpf said, "I really like the idea of guys getting to know each other as a team, supporting each other, seeing kids get better, and feeling proud of them." He said that he looks forward to every game. "I look forward to hanging out with a lot of nice kids, helping them to get better and enjoying the beautiful game of soccer. I just love this game."

Stumpf's goal is clear: he wants his young players to improve enough so that they can become leaders on the varsity team. Stumpf said that he stresses the importance of using both feet for passing and shooting, and that he always encourages and rewards players who use their weak foot. He also teaches his players to have confidence and to play aggressively by winning loose balls and going in strong for headers. Stumpf said that another of his goals is to ensure that his players are well conditioned, allowing them to outrun their opponents and capitalize on the scoring opportunities.

The JV team began the season with wins over Bancroft (5-1), Landmark (3-1), Groton (2-0), Dexter (4-2), and a loss to Berwick (0-2). Groton, a team that regularly competes in the Independent School League, or the ISL, defeated CA 7-3 just a year before.

Stumpf said that he attributes his team's success both to the addition of many talented players and to the return of skilled veterans. Stumpf said that these returning players provide inspiring leadership to the younger players on the team.

"So far, my favorite moment was seeing the team take on Groton," Stumpf said. "They worked together with a large number of injured players and decided that they weren't going to let Groton score. That was easily my favorite moment this season, just seeing the team do exactly what they needed to do." Under his leadership, Stumpf said that he hopes the team will continue to play well and to experience similar results as the season continues.

The Celtics Look Ahead

by Gaurav Verma '13

After an against-all-odds run that led the Celtics to within minutes of knocking off their Eastern Conference rivals, the Miami Heat, the Celtics used the off-season to retool their roster for what will hopefully be another deep playoff run in the 2012-2013 NBA Season. While the team nearly topped the Heat's Big Three of LeBron James, Dwayne Wade, and Chris Bosh, the Celtics could not quite close the deal, in no small part due to the shallow bench the team was forced to use.



Rajon Rondo from the Celtics. Photo courtesy of www.google.com

The team knew that in order to make another run for the NBA Championship they had to address the issue in this year's off-season.

The retooling process began in late June at the NBA Draft. With two selections in the first round and an additional pick in the second, Boston added Ohio State Power Forward Jared Sullinger, along with Syracuse's Center Fab Melo and Small Forward Kris Joseph.

Of the three, Sullinger figures to have the biggest initial impact. A standout at Ohio State, Sullinger was an anticipated number one pick following his freshman year. While he was still viewed as a Top 10 pick even as his production slipped slightly, back issues caused him to slide to 21st pick in the first round of this summer's draft. A very strong rebounder, Sullinger should help alleviate Boston's rebounding problems that plagued them all last season.

The Brazilian born Melo will likely see very little floor time. An athletic seven-footer, Melo is very raw to the game, having just picked it up as a junior in high school. While relatively new to the sport, the former soccer player improved greatly at Syracuse, becoming one of the premier defenders in arguably the most prestigious conference in college basketball, the Big East.

Melo's Syracuse teammate, Kris Joseph, figures to play very little in his first year with Boston, although the Celtics hope he can become a solid rotational player in the future. For this season, Joseph will likely to compete with Guards Dionte Christmas and Jamar Smith, who were signed off of the Celtics' Summer League Team.

Much of the Celtics work involved bringing back their own players. The key to the offseason was to re-up Center/Power Forward Kevin Garnett, who was the team's heart and soul throughout the playoffs. The team quickly worked to re-sign him on a three-year deal worth about \$34 million, a bargain price for a man still considered to be among the best big men in the NBA.

The team also brought back their starting Power Forward Brandon Bass on a four-year, \$28 million deal. In doing so, they locked up a man who played an all-around solid role on the Celtics last year. He set career highs in both points and rebounds, and played good defense throughout the season.

The team also brought back two players coming off heart surgery, Center/Power Forward Chris Wilcox and Forward Jeff Green. Wilcox signed to a one-year deal at the veteran minimum, and is expected to contribute solid minutes off the bench. Green, the centerpiece of the infamous Kendrick Perkins trade, was given a four-year, \$36 million deal with the hope that he can live up to his immense potential and become one of the league's best bench players.

Perhaps the biggest blow the Celtics faced this offseason was losing Ray Allen to the rival Heat. To replace him, the team added Guards Jason Terry from the Dallas Mavericks and Courtney Lee of the Houston Rockets. Terry signed to a three-year deal with a biannual exception of \$5.5 million per season. In the 2008-2009 season, Terry earned the Sixth Man of the Year Award, an annual prize granted to the player in the NBA most effective coming off of the bench. Terry is also known for his solid all-around game and phenomenal leadership.

Lee, who was acquired in a trade that sent four of the Celtics' draft picks packing, is projected to start in the place of Avery Bradley, who is recovering from shoulder surgery. Lee, an all-around solid player, is both a strong defender and a capable shooter, and should bolster the Celtics bench when Bradley returns. Along with the team's elite point guard, Rajon Rondo, Terry, Lee, and Bradley project to form one of the strongest backcourt rotations in the league.

Finally, the team added to their front-court depth with the acquisition of two seven-foot Centers in Jason Collins and Darko Milicic. While Collins is not anticipated to record significant playing time, the former Minnesota Timberwolf Milicic does offer potential. While many have labeled the Serbian a bust after his was selected as the #2 overall pick behind LeBron James in the star-studded 2003 NBA Draft, Milicic has put up solid numbers and played good defense throughout his career. While he certainly will not be a star, Milicic may be able to give the team quality minutes off the bench.

The Celtics certainly hope their off-season moves will bring them closer to raising Banner #18, but the path won't be easy. Though they have vastly improved the quality of their bench, there remain questions about the ages of Garnett and Paul Pierce, two of the team's top players. With Miami's pickup of Ray Allen and the Lakers acquisition of two perennial all-stars in Steve Nash and Dwight Howard, the road to a championship is no easier. While the Boston Celtics are certainly not considered title favorites, they have the pieces in place for a serious challenge for the Larry O'Brien Trophy this season.

Barack Obama: The Clear Choice

by Nathan Greess '15

Election season is here, and we, the people, are back at it again. It's hard to miss the campaign ads, the election news, and all of the other presidential material that floods the airwaves.

As a country, I know we have come so far in the past four years, in strengthening our economy, fighting for equality, and insuring that all Americans can get the healthcare they need. We have come so far, but we have so far to go, and we will only get there under the leadership of President Barack Obama.



Obama's Official Presidential Photo
Image courtesy of www.google.com

To understand why I fully support Obama's reelection, we need to remember where we came from and where we were.

Four years ago, under Republican President George Bush, we were losing 800,000 jobs in one month when our economy was at its worst. Since then, we have gained 4.5 million jobs here in America under the leadership of Obama. We have had more than thirty straight months of private sector job growth, month, after month, after month. Though this is a more than commendable achievement, the part that interests me most is when these numbers are compared with those of former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney.

Many of us aren't aware of what Romney's economic numbers looked like here in the Bay State. Though Romney proudly touts his Massachusetts achievements, the experiences of Massachusetts' residents just don't match up. With Romney as governor, Massachusetts ranked forty-sixth in job growth out of the fifty states. The country's economic growth rate as a whole was about 5%, but in Massachusetts we experienced a job growth rate of 0.9%. With all of the schools in Massachusetts producing hardworking students looking for a job, we couldn't afford to have such sluggish job growth numbers. Strong workers moved to other states where they could find jobs, leaving Massachusetts with less tax revenue, fewer new small businesses, and a worse economy. Is this track record what we really want or need in a president? Do we as a nation want twenty-seven consecutive months of job growth or do we want the fourth slowest growing economy?

The economy is the number one issue on people's minds in our nation, and with good reason. We are still recovering from a recession caused by the failed Republican policies that the Romney-Ryan Campaign is trying to impose upon us again. In Paul Ryan's budget, which has been adopted as the Republican platform's budget, one will see that the plan is a reckless mistake. The Ryan budget expands the defense spending of the U.S. armed forces by \$5.7 trillion over a ten-year period. I fully support the sacrifices that the men and women who defend us make, but this expansion has some hefty consequences. In fact, NBC determined that for this budget to be remotely plausible, we would need to cut every single other government program by at least 40%.

The cuts would extend to education funding, social security, student loans, learning disabilities, emergency food assistance, financial assistance for cancer patients, and—not surprisingly—veterans' benefits for the men and women we send into harm's way.

Although I recognize that the economy is a pressing issue for every American, the social issues matter most to me because, if they are not handled in the right way, the results could be frightening. Obama has fought for a woman's right to make decisions about her pregnancy since he became president. He believes that women should have the right to make decisions about abortion, birth control, and other pregnancy management measures. In stark contrast, the Republican Party, including Romney and Ryan, believes that abortion should be illegal for all women in America. But they don't stop there. The Republican platform and Paul Ryan believe that abortion should be illegal even in cases of rape and incest. This choice on the part of the GOP takes America back fifty years and brings up a fight that women thought had been won long ago.

I think the choice is clear. You can choose someone who says, "We don't care about 47% of the country" because it is composed of people who are victims of their own stupidity and lack of initiative to work hard (as Romney sees it). Or we can choose somebody who, at his Inauguration, pledged to work every day for all Americans, even those who don't vote for him. The latter is President Barack Obama, the clear choice this November.

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Romney, on the other hand, has a record of success everywhere he goes. As much as Obama criticizes him for his time at Bain Capital, Romney created thousands of jobs and helped companies such as Staples and Sports Authority grow successfully. There were some inevitable failures, but that is simply the way business works. As Obama should know from his experience with Solyndra, a major investment is no guarantee of success. Prominent Democrats such as Newark Mayor Cory Booker and former Obama Economic Advisor Steven Rattner have defended Bain's records, with Booker going so far as to call the Obama

campaign's attacks on it "nauseating." Even President Bill Clinton, a man loved by both Democrats and Republicans, described Romney's business career as "sterling."

Romney became wealthy by founding Bain Capital, but, contrary to what many assert, he earned his money on his own. While his father certainly gave him a good start, Romney donated his entire inheritance to Brigham Young University in order to establish a scholarship fund. While Romney is wealthy, he is also charitable and should not be demonized for his success.

After Bain, Romney saved the Salt Lake City Olympic Games. In the face of corruption and massive debt, Romney was named President and CEO of the Olympics. As a result of his tireless efforts, a \$379 million deficit became a \$100 million surplus and the Olympics were a massive success. Additionally, Romney donated the entire salary he earned as President and CEO to charity, while personally donating \$1 million to the Olympics. These facts further emphasize Romney's giving spirit and care for others.

Despite what Governor Deval Patrick says, it is my opinion that Romney was a tremendous Massachusetts governor and didn't draw a penny in salary. Romney balanced a budget that was previously in shambles and turned it into a surplus. He did so while working with an extremely liberal group of representatives and senators and without raising taxes. Under Romney, unemployment dropped by nearly one percent while median income rose by over \$5,000, indications of a successful term. Romney's time as govern-

Mitt Romney: A Record of Success

by Gaurav Verma '13

Though I believe that President Barack Obama is a nice guy with honorable intentions, I feel we need a new president in office. Although Obama's term has not been a failure, it has left a lot to be desired.

Any fair evaluation of Obama's record must take into account the situation he inherited. This year, however, the recovery has sputtered. Job creation is down from just a few months ago, and the latest report indicated that over 350,000 Americans have dropped out of the workforce due to the poor market. The U.S. Department of Labor's U-6 report paints a grim picture, showing that unemployment lies at about 14.9%.

Based on these numbers, it is understandable that Obama's campaign tries to divert attention to issues far less important to the fate of the country, like Governor Mitt Romney's tax returns. When Obama does speak about the economy, he makes statements like, "The private sector is doing fine," or, "We tried our plan and it worked," showing a fundamental misunderstanding of our current economic issues. Obama's "You didn't build that" quote serves no purpose except to demonize small business owners and rile up a base fed up with the wealthy.

Additionally, Obama fails to understand why many wealthy people pay less than what he calls their "fair share." People



Romney addresses supporters. Photo courtesy of www.nymag.com

like Romney earn income through investments in businesses and municipal bonds. Taxes on these are low to encourage more investment, which benefits the economy as a whole. However, Obama's punitive tax plan risks these benefits just to prove a political point and to appease his base. His plan will hurt the economy and do little to erase our national debt. These problems illustrate the intentions of a President I do not want in charge of the economy.

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nor furthers his reputation as a Mr. Fix-It, which is exactly what this nation needs.

I disagree with the Romney-Ryan ticket on several social issues. However, I'm confident that their power would be limited on matters like gay marriage and abortion. Action concerning these issues requires at worst a filibuster-proof advantage in the Senate, which is highly unlikely to occur. It would probably involve constitutional amendments as well, a process that Congress and a Romney administration would not want to undertake. For that reason, I'd rather determine which candidate to support based on economic issues.

Romney and his running mate Paul Ryan both share a similar vision for America: one of small government, which elects to cut wasteful spending while keeping taxes low so that the American people can prosper. Romney and Ryan both have an extremely strong understanding of the economy, and have the experience to attack the growing debt crisis and weak economy that has plagued our country for years. Romney's tremendously successful record shows that he is the man we want—and need—in charge of our recovery.

Romney-Ryan 2012!

Club Expo: A Fresh Perspective

by Ali Zildjian '15

When I went to Club Expo for the first time last year, I didn't quite know what to expect. A couple of tables here and there, maybe some music, but overall I thought it would be a quick, in-and-out event.

To say the least, I was overwhelmed when I walked into the Student Faculty Center on the Friday night of Club Expo. It was packed with people, all of them yelling, playing loud music, and trying at all costs to get me to join their club. I could barely walk anywhere without having to dodge and weave my way through throngs of people. More than a few times I found myself having to step to the side as a large group passed by.

As I walked through the crowds, Club Heads started to approach me and strike up conversations in hopes that their club would spark my interest. Unfortunately, I was a little shy and I spoke very little, searching instead for a way to get out of the conversation. I vividly remember trying to sneak away from one Club Head, only to find myself being talked at by another senior. In my ninth grade mentality, this was a terrifying experience, although I know now that he wouldn't have been upset if I hadn't joined his club. Still, at each encounter,

I signed up and walked quickly away.

After a few similar experiences, I decided go outside of the Stu-Fac to catch my breath. I ran into a few of my friends, and after chatting for a few minutes we decided to enter the fray again. We were still jostled a bit and people continued to try get us to sign up for their clubs by tempting us with snacks, but it was much less overwhelming and more fun than when I had been alone. I felt comfortable enough to look people in the eye and to ask meaningful questions. My friends and I signed up for the same clubs and bought seemingly endless amounts of baked goods and candy. The Club Heads were no longer intimidating, but instead were useful resources for me to learn whether or not I would be interested in the activity they offered.

I joined seventeen clubs that night, and I actively participate in about five of them. This year, when Club Expo came around, I was the excited and chatty Club Head, weaving around people and trying to turn them in the direction of my tables. I offered people cupcakes in exchange for their participation, and met some CA students I might not otherwise have gotten to know along the way. I learned that Club Heads aren't so scary after all, and that Club Expo is a great opportunity to find a club that you can dedicate yourself to during your time at CA.

The Centipede

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Why I Loved Veggie Day

by Abby Brooke '13

From my first encounters with Concord Academy as a younger sibling attending Girls Varsity Squash matches and the opening nights of mainstage productions, I understood that CA was a progressive school. As a student body, we are always looking to be more informed, to investigate, to predict what's coming up on the horizon. Our faculty members strive to create courses they really want to be teaching, our art classes push the boundaries of how we define art itself, and every morning we gather as a community to experience life through the eyes of one senior during Chapel.

When I first heard about Veggie Day—a day in which all Student-Faculty Center meals would be served without meat of any kind—it seemed to me a concept that fit in seamlessly with the fabric of CA. We pride ourselves on our environmental awareness, and, ever since the groundbreaking documentary "Food, Inc." was released, the meat industry has been under harsh scrutiny for its inhumane treatment of animals and its ever-widening carbon footprint. On Veggie Day, we abstained from meat as a reminder to be aware of where our food comes from, and how it got to us. The idea of sacrificing some small privilege to gain a greater understanding of how we affect our world seems so quintessentially CA to me.

Science Teacher Gretchen Roorbach and her Advanced Environmental Science class created Veggie Day in 2009. They were inspired by the implementation of National Veggie Week in places like the United Kingdom. The goal of CA's Veggie Day was to raise awareness about the damaging effects of the meat industry on the environment. Students also hoped that the day might save money, since fresh produce is less expensive to buy than meat.

This year, there will be no Veggie Day. According to Roorbach, the practice was

abandoned due to its cost. Rather than saving money, the vegetarian dishes that the kitchen staff had to prepare took more preparation time and eventually cost more money than the alternate meat dishes. CA's Administration was also prompted to cancel Veggie Day due to complaints from a number of CA students to Dean of Students David Rost.

I was a bit shocked to hear that Veggie Day roused so many complaints. I loved Veggie Day—what it stood for, how it helped me remember to eat fruits and vegetables in generous portions, the fluffy grilled cheeses the Stu-Fac served—and it seemed to me that everyone else liked it too. Upon further thought, I remembered hearing grumblings about Veggie Day, some of which perhaps bore actual merit. Some athletes were concerned that without meat and its lean protein their performances at sports practices or games could suffer. For the most part, however, the complaints were trivial: that it would be too difficult to make lunch without the deli cuts, or that the grilled cheese line was frustratingly long.

I can sympathize a bit with these complaints. I have often stood in a lengthy Stu-Fac line, my stomach rumbling, thinking longingly of the cheeseburger that awaits me. But, at the end of the day, one day of vegetarian eating hardly seems a truly taxing endeavor. And if our Student Council worked with the kitchen staff, I'm sure we could make sure Veggie Day landed on a non-game day so the athletes wouldn't have to worry.

I suppose the insurmountable quandary is the financial question it raises. Is spending more money on Veggie Day really worth it? I'm not sure myself. However, I believe if we put our minds to it, we could find a way to make Veggie Day environmentally and fiscally sound. It is my hope that we can bring Veggie Day back this year. Not just for those delicious grilled cheeses—although they are pretty persuasive—but also for what Veggie Day stood for: a chance to think hard about how our daily eating habits impact our world.

Making a Change: Senior Spring

by Charlotte Weiner '13

As the October chill sets in and the leaves turn to a crackly orange, the Concord Academy community has eased into the 2012-2013 school year. New students have shed their first-day jitters, and returning students have re-familiarized themselves with the pattern of each day. For everyone at CA, but seniors in particular, the pressures of the school year have returned.

After the blissful respite of summer vacation, the pristine pages of my planner have disappeared under a seemingly unending influx of notes and assignments and reminders, as tests and papers and application deadlines loom. From breakfast to the train, to chapel and classes, then sports and homework and sleep, it has already started to feel difficult to emerge from the steady press of work for a gulp of air and a moment to step back.

Don't get me wrong: I love CA, and I love how hard it pushes me. It drives me to do my best work, to plan my time, to work ahead. It guides me to teachers when I need help, and to my advisor when I need time just to talk. I never would have realized my capacity to achieve, whether in the classroom or in the art studio or on the playing field, had CA not held me to such rigorous standards.

But now, at the onset of my last year at Concord, I find it hard to believe that in seven months this pressure will still be productive. Once my classmates and I navigate the crunch of the fall and the winter and spring arrives, I believe that we will have earned a break.

At this point in other high schools, seniors transition into full-blown "senior springs" during which the expecta-

tions of teachers, peers, and the school's administration drastically shift. While seniors frequently take on in-depth independent projects, they also drop many of their classes, pull pranks, skip school, and cease to play a constructive role in the day-to-day functioning of the school.

I am not suggesting any such scenario in which teachers would significantly lower their expectations of seniors. The fact that seniors at CA remain deeply invested in their academics and in the community is a facet of our school that I highly value. At the same time, I believe that CA should realize that seniors would benefit from not being constantly pushed, from having the opportunity to step back, to breathe, and to appreciate their last months of high school.

An effective and reasonable proposal would be for teachers across all academic disciplines to drop a senior's lowest performance on a major assignment during the spring semester when calculating that student's end-of-year grade. Seniors would still complete every major assignment, and this policy would not extend to the final exam.

In stating my proposal at this early juncture in the school year, I hope that the Student Council, Faculty, and Administration will take steps to consider implementing the policy during this upcoming spring. While it would by no means represent a drastic change in academic expectations for students at Concord, this policy would give seniors the hard-earned opportunity during their final months of high school to relax, to enjoy time with friends, to talk with teachers, to make connections and memories that last beyond graduation, and to appreciate CA before the time comes to say goodbye.

Thai Scholar

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-niratisai. Only a year ago, Supaniratisai was a senior at a large Bangkok school. "The Thai education system and American education system are very, very different," he said. The difference that stood out to him the most was the intimate class settings of Concord Academy.

"These students are chosen among the best and the brightest in their country," said Dean of Students David Rost. Rost said that

he has found that the students assimilate "remarkably well" in Concord Academy's environment. "I am always impressed with how welcoming the CA community is towards the Thai Scholars," said Rost.

Supaniratisai has found the community to be "very friendly." "I like it here," he said. "Everyone is very helpful." When asked what he found the most surprising in his transition, Supaniratisai did not hesitate with his response: "The weather here is very funny!"

Departmental Studies

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interacts with different variables. "Every surface reflects polarized light," Fitch said. "There are three spectrums: horizontal, vertical and rotating." She said she hopes to capture images of this light using a special camera that breaks up every millisecond frame by frame. After analyzing the results, Fitch said that she plans to write an article on her findings.

Without this advanced technology and Pickle's previous experience with the subject, Fitch may not have received the necessary support to take on her project. Drew said, "These teachers go above and beyond the average workload" in order to make the Departmental Study proposals a reality. In some cases, CA cannot support a Departmental Study due to lack of resources; in other cases, Drew said, "There is just not enough time in the day" for the student to dedicate to the project.

In some cases, a Departmental Study involves less independent work and more classroom-style learning. Junho Won '14, Will Noble '13, Woody Ahern '13, and Will Murphy '13 are four students taking a Departmental Study in math with Math Teacher George Larivee. The group meets as a class after school in what Noble described as a "lecture-style format." Won said that the atmosphere is "laid-back," and recommends Departmental Studies to those who "know what they want to study and have sufficient background to start something original." Ahern additionally studies Linear Algebra for two long blocks during the week, and runs CA's "Math Help" program with Noble as a Departmental Study.

Drew explained that while CA offers a wide range of classes within its curriculum, he loves the "appetite and enthusiasm" of students who have a specific wish to dive into an advanced subject during their time at CA.



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