



The Centipede

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Commencement Speaker Profile: Maura Healey

by Yoon Kim '18

Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey will be joining the Concord Academy community in celebrating the graduation of the class of 2017 on June 2, 2017.

Healey grew up in Hampton Falls, New Hampshire, a small town just past the border of Massachusetts. After graduating high school, Healey left New Hampshire to attend Harvard University where she received her Bachelor's Degree and was a co-captain of the women's basketball team. Healey went on to play for a professional basketball team in Austria, but returned to the United States after two years to earn her Juris Doctor at Northeastern University.

Prior to her career in public office, Healey worked as a private attorney and junior partner at WilmerHale, a private law firm based in Boston. She then served as a prosecutor in Middlesex County before being hired to work for the Massachusetts Attorney General Office. Here, Healey helped lead the office as the chief of the Civil Rights Division and directed the Public Protection & Advocacy Bureau and the Business & Labor Bureau. In October 2013, she announced her candidacy in the election for the next attorney general of Massachusetts. At the beginning of her campaign, she was described as a candidate with "experience, passion and vision for the office" and the goal to "make a positive difference in the lives of Massachusetts residents."

Healey won Attorney General in her

first-ever run for office, an impressive feat in a highly contested race. This also marked a win for grassroots campaigning and the many individuals who worked to help get her elected. Sworn in at the historic Faneuil Hall in Boston, Healey vowed to work to ensure equality for all Massachusetts residents and make communities safer.

Since the beginning of her term in January 2015, Healey has worked as an advocate for the disenfranchised, tackling workplace rights, housing issues, the opioid epidemic, student loans, and community engagement through her newly established Community Engagement Division. With policy initiatives such as the Earned Sick Time Law, Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights, Pay Equity, and Pregnant Workers Fairness bills, Healey and her office are at the forefront of shaping state legislation and the criminal justice system to expand opportunities for all. The first openly gay state Attorney General to be elected in America, Healey has also stood up for LGBTQ+ rights. Most recently, Healey has joined a new commission to counteract the Trump administration's commission on "election integrity" with twelve other voting rights advocates.

In this way, many of Healey's strives towards equity and justice resonate with Concord Academy's own efforts to ensure equity in its community and its mission to embrace a diversity of backgrounds and perspectives.



Photo Courtesy of Creative Commons

Opinion: End of Year Advice

by Eugene Lee '18

"This is it, guys! It's our final stretch!" remarked my teacher. At the time I was sitting in math class, checking the classroom clock every five minutes to see if the block was ending soon. This sense of restlessness becomes apparent for me towards the end of the year. As such, I'm often lost during the last few classes and find myself immersed in summer fantasies where I get to sleep in and don't have homework.

Quite recently, in my attempt to procrastinate from the pile of assignments forming around me, I started re-organizing my files on my computer. I haven't cleaned up my desktop in a while and as a result, the folders and documents were all in disarray as if a small explosion had been set off in my computer. I have one big folder named "Work" and in it is a collection of files labeled "Math", "English", "History",

"Science" and "German". I usually drag my documents to the designated folders and they are "lost" for a prolonged amount of time. That was until I accidentally double clicked my English folder and a stream of freshman and sophomore english papers came flooding out. Truthfully, I was glad to see all these documents again. In a sense, they allowed me to re-experience what it was like in all these classes, especially towards the end of the year.

Freshman year was definitely a tough year for me, partly because I was still new to CA. Prior to coming to the United States, I didn't have "finals" or any end-of-year assignments. For the most part, every school day was the same in Australia. We didn't have a whole week dedicated to testing nor did we have crunch weeks where at most six or seven assignments are due.

...continued on page 3

Unveiling this Year's Senior Projects

by Elle Stetson Dibble '18 & Sofie Jones '18

Each Spring, members of the Concord Academy community gather in the Ransome Room for one afternoon to see the year's senior projects presented. As seniors set up exhibits on individual tables, rapidly explaining their process, onlookers peruse the different displays. It is evident to all those who walk through that each senior project is unique, representing the student who is behind it.

This year, an impressive twenty six senior projects were presented to the school on May 23. These projects ranged from Miranda Brown's '17 dance performance set to the rhythm of recorded words to Jacob Morton's '17 self-written novella. Others included Jerry Liang's '17 development of an app to track stress, Maren Taylor's '17 plans for a CA greenhouse, and Sam Chester's exploration of the banjo throughout history.

Although all CA students have the opportunity to see the finished projects,

few have insight into the process of pitching, creating, and completing the projects. The Centipede caught up with a few of students who elected to do senior projects this year to gain a better understanding of this CA curriculum option that few know much about until senior year.

The senior project process begins in the early fall of senior year, as students present topic proposals to a committee comprised of seven faculty members. As Academic Dean John Drew, a member of the committee, explained, "We are looking for projects that are interdisciplinary and/or experiential, but mostly things that students seem passionate about pursuing." Those whose projects are approved then begin planning and start work on their topics at the start of spring semester in order to have them done by late May.

One of this year's most visible senior projects was Nina He's '17 portraits

...continued on page 2



Portraits of the Senior Class by Nina He '17 Displayed in the Ransome Room During the Senior Project Fair (Photo Courtesy of Elle Stetson Dibble '18)

New Dean of Students: Sally Zimmerli

by Peter Connolly '19

Sally Zimmerli, longtime Concord Academy history department faculty member and current interim dean of students, will become the official dean of students over the summer. Zimmerli first heard about CA from a good family friend who was a student here. Growing up in Concord, she would host her friend on long weekends and hear all about CA. Zimmerli remembers even coming to campus to see her friend's dorm room.

After graduating college, Zimmerli went on to teach at Wilmington Public High School and, though she loved it, felt "tied down" by the rigidity of the public school curriculum and found it difficult to really connect with students, due to the large class sizes. Her husband suggested that, since she loved working as a residential summer camp counselor and as an athletic coach, she look into teaching at an independent school. Taking this advice to heart, Zimmerli joined Vermont Academy as a teacher but feel far removed from family. When she first interviewed for the job at CA, she thought it was a "kind" and "thoughtful" school, with a great location and progressive mission statement unlike any other she had heard of before. Zimmerli remembers being especially impressed by the emphasis on "common trust" that students and

faculty held. She also liked the opportunity to work with kids in all aspects of their lives as a house parent, teacher, and coach.

After joining the faculty in 2000, Zimmerli worked in many of CA's different departments. She has been a house parent, the director of residential life, and has helped students in Academic Support Center. After holding positions connected to every aspect of students' lives at CA, Zimmerli was asked to step in as the interim dean of students last spring. She said she "was [of course] happy to help," but did not expect to enjoy the job as much as she has.

Zimmerli said that, to her, the job of the dean of students is to oversee "all aspects of students' lives outside of their academics. I work with a great and vast staff to help run a school that supervises students 24/7 and try to make their social and emotional lives as healthy and fun as possible."

Zimmerli also explained that plans are already in the works to better student life programs in the coming year. She said that, although changes to activities are often student-orchestrated, she and her staff evaluate the activities and try to find out what they can be do better in the future. Zimmerli and Wilcox Fellow Kevin Parker have been working recently to try to gauge the interest level students have in specific events and

...continued on page 6

DEMONs: Making Ideas a Reality

by Ashley Kim '19

If you walks into CA's science building on a Sunday morning between 10 to noon, you'll find DEMONs (Dreamer, Engineer, Mechanic Overt Nerds) working away on various projects, developing new technologies, and brainstorming ideas. These projects, many of which have been requested by either members of the CA community or people from the broader local area, range from a 3D printer to a musical staircase. Other projects currently in the works include a CNC machine, a vinyl cutter, LED light panel, and theatre cable cart.

After six years of work, the incufridge, built by Zachary Yedidia '17, has finally been completed this year and is ready to be used during classes for educational purposes. Yedidia used Raspberry Pi, a small credit-card sized computer to program Incufridge. Incufridge is a combination of an incubator and a fridge, which is designed to keep temperature-sensitive materials at their right temperatures. The completion of incufridge enlarged the inventory of experiment supplies for future CA science courses. Max Hall, the faculty advisor of DEMONs, described the Incufridge project "the best

thing about this year's DEMONs."

DEMONs currently has two Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machines, both operated by Michael Qiu '18 and Mark Morton '18. The Computer Numerical Control router (CNC-R) is a 4 by 8 feet machine that can cut wood up, down, and sideways. Qiu and Morton used CNC-R to make the sponsor panels, which were a part of the stage set of the Winter Mainstage 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, at the request of the Theatre department. The Computer Numerical Control Miller (CNC-M), is a vertical miller that operates within a 6 inch cube. CNC-M is capable of cutting hard materials like metal. "Both of them take instructions from a piece of software running on a Windows computer and translate them to motion through a box called a stepper controller, which drives motors in each axis of the CNC machine," Hall described.

The 3D printer project group, lead by Katrina Wang '17 and Raphi Kang '19, has been working on "a tetrahedral model that represents molecular bonds of silicon" at the request of John Pickle, another of the club's faculty advisors. "We have printed several working prototypes, but it's still a work in progress," Kang explained. "We

...continued on page 4



Students in the Chapel
(Photo Courtesy of Concord Academy)

Orientation Changes Highlight CA Values

by Samantha Davidson '19

In the Concord Academy hand-book and mission statement, an ethos of "common trust" is outlined. This is a principle that many feel has been violated this year, and needs to be addressed. Although the meaning behind common trust can mean you are able to leave your jacket and bag around campus, it is much more than that. Common trust holds students to higher standards, even in situations with things as simple as trusting your fellow students will not take your belongings (whether that belonging be expensive or as small as food). Common trust also extends, however, to how we interact with each other, support classmates when they take risks, and uphold this community's values. Lately, an alarming number of CA FYI emails have been sent from teachers

about violations of this trust. It seems that this year has also spiked an issue of vandalism. Whether it was a punctured photo board, some graffiti in CA labs or a shattered music room window, there have been many instances when students have not lived up to the concept of common trust.

As we are faced with these breeched in common trust, it feels important to remember that common trust is not something we can passively take for granted. The CA community's recent realization that common trust is something that we must continuously work to uphold is reflected in the plans for this August's New Student Orientation.

Orientation is usually comprised of traditions such as the square dance, student-run skits, the Student Health and Athletic Center (SHAC) night, and vari-

...continued on page 4



Alexander Lehr '17 presenting his senior project to faculty members
(Photo Courtesy of Elle Stetson Dibble '18)



Abigail Bresler '17 with her project
(Photo Courtesy of Sofie Jones '18)

Senior Projects

...continued from page 1

of every member of the senior class. He said she actually got the idea after being sent an article about a student at another school who undertook a similar project. She said, "Someone just messaged me a link to the article [about the student], and said, oh you should do this, just as a joke. And I was like, I probably should." Working both at her home and in the painting studio with her project advisor Jonathan Smith all semester, He managed to paint every member of the senior class. Although she admitted that it was a big project to take on, and required her to dedicate many hours a day to it, He said that she has learned a lot through the experience and is very glad she decided to take it on. "I really enjoy painting and time passes really quickly when I paint," she explained. "I feel like I got to know everyone in my class better. It's a pretty intimate experience staring at someone's nostrils for 20 minutes."

Abigail Bresler's '17 project, like He's, resulted in the deepening of a personal relationship. Bresler's oral history-based project focused on her grandfather, a doctor at the Maine Medical Center. To Bresler, the chance to do a senior project came as the perfect opportunity to delve deeper into her familial heritage. "I really like independent work, so I knew I wanted to do a senior project," she said. "This project is with oral history and my grandfather...I knew that he had really interesting stories that I wanted to be recorded." After sitting down for several interviews with her grandfather, Bresler then wrote a paper on the information she had gathered. The audio from her interviews is also going to be used, and transcribed, by the Maine Medical Center in the near future. To Bresler, senior projects signify a chance to connect with the stories, people, and issues that can sometimes become distant because of a busy school schedule. She said, "It's amazing that CA gives us this opportunity to pursue a whole semester long project on our

own. That's a really incredible opportunity because I wouldn't have had the time to do this unless I had been given the blocks and the credits for it."

Tim Lyu '17 completed a project about Japanese-American internment, and looking at its history through the lense of literature. He said that, although he was always interested in this subject, his project changed and evolved in the six or so months since it was first proposed to the senior project committee. "You start very ambitious... then there's downtime where you have to figure out where to start," he said. Lyu, like Bresler, was thankful to have been given the freedom to delve deeper into a topic of his own choosing. "It gives me more room to be creative...Usually the courses at CA cover a wide range of stuff, but we hardly get time to really dig into something, especially something that we're [especially] interested in," he explained. "I think it's a really precious opportunity to do that."

Mary Craig '17 had a similar experience, choosing to focus on the story of a Guatemalan woman she knows who immigrated to the United States illegally. Craig interviewed the woman to learn about her own experience on the dangerous journey and then wove her narrative in with supplementary research in order to craft a paper. "It's a big story," she said. "This is always something I've been really interested in and I've always wanted to work on. When it came to senior year and they said you could do something for a whole semester, I was like, I wouldn't want to do anything else."

This is, according to Drew, the purpose of a senior project. As he said, these projects "are an opportunity for seniors in their final semester to work independently on something they really care about. It's a nice final exercise, a capstone experience to one's CA education!"

The Importance of Two-sided Conversations

by Aaron Carrasco '18

Clashing views are what *make* conversations. If everyone shares the same opinions and outlooks, there is no opportunity to move forward mentally, emotionally, and intellectually.

Concord Academy is widely known for being a progressive community that supports liberal values socially and fiscally. The political atmosphere of CA is predominantly liberal and this is portrayed through the various student-run social justice clubs, organizations, and safe spaces for marginalized groups like the Diversity Office, all of which are intended for fostering inclusivity.

In my opinion, these are all great support-ive structures that the community fosters, but it can lead to a collective mindset that

shuns people who do not share the same liberal ideals.

I was raised as a socially conservative person, but this was not something I realized until I came to CA. I was used to being surrounded by people who had the exact opposite views of what people at CA have: a bunch of people of color who all shared the same conservative values as I did. Much like how CA looks down upon Republican Club and shuts down students with opinions that conflict liberal beliefs within this community, I had ignored and disrespected people who did not share my conservative opinions.

I did not realize this until I arrived at CA and saw how great a contrast there was between my political beliefs and those of the rest of the community. Because of this, I kept my values silent and simply conformed to

...continued on page 6



Jackson Sypher '17 (left) and Emily Marquis '18 (right) in "On the Rocks"
(Photo Courtesy of Sam Barton '17)

Behind the Scenes of Director's Workshop

by Helen Wu '19

Friday, May 12th was the opening night of the Director's Workshop Festival, which are student-directed theatre productions. This year, the Concord Academy community was graced with the intensely moving relationship of two brothers, the unfortunate events of a satirically humorous family dinner, and the shivering tale of the Joker's transformation. What made the production so enjoyable was the diversity of creative choices made by the student directors. To learn more about the creative processes involved in the show, The Centipede interviewed Ivy Indictor '17, who wrote and directed an original play, and Elliot White '19, who experimented with set design on top of stage managing and production managing.

It is a grand feat to write an original play, especially since there are no playwrighting courses currently offered in the CA curriculum. Indictor's playwrighting began her freshmen year when she attended the annual Massachusetts Young Playwrights Project, and her ten-minute play was chosen to be performed at the festival. From there, her play underwent many changes, and gradually expanded to become a forty-page play. When asked if her play drew inspiration from real life, Indictor responded, "Not really. My mom is actually really chill and cool. She's not like Maura at all. In some ways, I can identify in little ways with all of the characters, except for Jack, who you're not really supposed to identify with. They're all supposed to be relatable in some way."

Indictor explains that the characters of her play are intended to be caricatures and that she would classify her play as absurdist. On one last note, Indictor shared a common sentiment about her play that many of us relate to: "Maura's the kind of person that we sometimes all wish we could be. Someone does something that we don't like and we just want to mess everything up."

Other unsung heroes of the theatre world are the crew. White, who has done tech for ten CA shows and is a cohead of PACrats, was responsible for designing two sets, stage managing one show, and production managing all three performances. The sets of "True West" and "On the Rocks" were her first sets to design. For the set of "True West", White attempted to create the feeling of another person in the room without the character's physical presence. She used a particular color scheme to mimic heat and researched 80s themed wallpapers. Contrasting to the set of "True West", White describes the set of "On the Rocks" to be a punch line, which explains the minimalist style and surprise of hidden weapons.

"My biggest challenge was time. I also had very conflicting opinions with the directors, who are very smart and knowledgeable about theatre. It was difficult to work with the budget we had, but it was even harder breaking the news to the directors that something was unrealistic for the play," said White in response to a question about the challenges she had to overcome as a set designer.

Ultimately, it was the culmination of dedicated, creative, and diverse student minds that were able to present CA with two incredible nights of performances.

Opinions and Arts

End of Year Advice

...continued from page 1

Because of how different CA's academic structure was, I ended up being incredibly lost my freshman year, struggling to keep remain focused on school. By the end of the year, I didn't really have the motivation to do anything. Having said that, I was still stressed out by the idea of finals. These two-hour long tests are approximately 20% of the final grade! What happens if I don't do well?

A word of advice. For one, don't stress out. It may seem hard to keep your mind off grades especially towards the end of the year, but it's important to remain calm during this time. I have seen one too many students calculating how low they can score on their exam for them to still retain a grade or to possibly raise their grade. To be honest, I'm guilty of calculating grades during finals week and now that I look back I regret ever doing so. Here's the thing, by the time you go into finals week, you already have a sense of which grade you fall in. The final in this sense can only minimally impact your grade. So please don't stress out!

One of the nice things about finals week is that school starts a little bit later than usual. There are no announcements or

chapel in the morning and boarders don't have room inspection. So, if you don't have a morning final, you can sleep in! This brings me to another point: enjoy the little things. Each year, the CA parents make candy bags for each student during finals week and drop them in everyone's mailboxes. In a broader sense, you're done after this week! You'll soon forget what problems were on your math or biology exam and be enjoying the summer.

In a way, thinking about summer and planning out what I was going to do after finals week provided me with some kind of incentive and I didn't worry about final grades as much. Before my trigonometry final during Freshman year, Amy Kumpel attempted to humor me by telling jokes. One of the takeaways that I got from her was to watch a funny video before a final and to much surprise, it worked well to keep me focused on my exam instead of worrying about the endless negative possibilities that can happen from one test.

Enjoy snacking on candy or watch a funny cat video. Take your mind off of grades and just try your best. Remember, this will all be over soon. Have a great summer!



Students in a scene from "Much Ado About Nothing"
(Photo Courtesy of Concord Academy)

CA's Newest Feature Film: Much Ado About Nothing

by Izzy Charles '19

Based off of the classic Shakespeare play, *Much Ado about Nothing*, Concord Academy's original movie musical spin-off, covers three drastically different decades, explores budding romances, and encompasses different styles of dancing and singing all with an artistic twist. After months of filming and editing, the cast and crew of the original adaptation presented the premiere of the production on Friday, May 19th. To get a better insight on the project, *The Centipede* interviewed Justin Bull, the director, and Ali Sheikh '19, who played Claudio in the film.

After being asked about the intentions of the project, Justin Bull said that it "grew organically through my collaboration with Amy Spencer, Jared Green, and Ned Singh." Bull explained, "[we] zeroed in on using Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing as a structure for the story after I shared some raw ideas of teenage revenge that I had floating around in my head. We also began pulling apart gender and how it is explored in Shakespeare's works -- both within the texts themselves and through a historical performance framework where it

was often men playing all genders on stage. From that confluence of ideas, we ended up with a multi-generational storyline with fluid, often stubbornly vague approaches to gender and sexuality wrapped up in a comedy musical."

Bull concluded that the film was "an ambitious, wild production." He added, "I'm so grateful to have had the chance to work with such a massive, creative, and dedicated group of students and adults throughout the year to bring it to the screen."

From the beginning of the emergence of this film became a topic of excitement. When we sat down with Sheikh, he expressed how much he "loves acting and was pretty excited to be part of the cast." After being asked about the plot he stated that "a movie should not be explained beforehand," and commented on the emphasis of keeping the surprise element and the mystery that the film may have had, intact.

Over the summer, they plan to continue editing and to then send it off to the fall film festivals in fall. All in all, the feature film was a successful and commendable production that was thoroughly enjoyed by the CA community, due to the dedication, diligence, and talent of the cast and crew.



DEMONs

...continued from page 3

learned a lot about the rising technology of 3D printing, the nooks and crannies of it that you can't really learn through the manual, and succeeded in taming the printer to a point where it would, well, print."

Hall said that the progress DEMONs made this year was "better than usual." He explained that this year, "We (DEMONs) have a lot of motivated, talented members, and we are doing projects that seem to make people keep going." Last year, the projects were limited only to the project leaders and members who started the project from the beginning. However, with the new system of documentation, an online catalogue called Trello, anyone can join different projects at any point in the year because each task is documented onto the website. Because the completed projects are online, anyone can see what has been done and can help to finish them.

Next year, DEMONs will continue working on documenting the progress of each project using Trello and will reorganize the new workspace for efficient use. DEMONs is excited to get a third CNC machine with a laser over the summer and is looking forward to using the incubator for future science experiments. With all their hard work and diverse talents, the next year looks promising for DEMONs.

Changes to Orientation

...continued from page 3

ous group activities. Although the annual two-day event will continue to be full of fun and games, there will also be conversations about deeper community issues held this year. This Orientation will not only be focused around friendly and fun activities, but also helping the new students become aware of the values we hold dear in this community.

During Orientation last year a few skits displayed the message of common trust to new students with a light and airy attitude. As an Orientation Leader (OL) last year, I remember skits that acted out situations where common trust was tested. Examples include blue slipping to go off extended campus or returning lost items to their rightful owner. There were also focused conversations within each group about the unwritten rules of common trust.

This year, the OL team will make videos prior to the actual day of orientation to show the new students how these values function in daily life. There will also be more opportunities for students to learn, question, and explore CA's other core beliefs.

The summer homework for last year's orientation leaders was to write about a positive and negative experience each OL remembered from their own Orientation. The intention of that writing exercise was to make the leaders think about how they could improve the upcoming Orientation in a vague and broad sense. This year, the assignment is for each student to write about what the phrase "common trust is a lie" means to them.

Training for this year's orientation will include conversations about common trust, as well as how to effectively and successfully portray it to the new students. Hopefully, through engaging conversations that allow new students to step out of their comfort zones and focus on CA's mission statement, common trust will start to heal, and new students will be able truly understand what makes our school community so special.

Photo Gallery: Spring Student Art Show



A dress made by Eugene Lee '18 is displayed in the Art Show
(Photo Courtesy of Sofie Jones '18)



Self Portraits by Olivia Takaacs '20 (left) & Christine Zhou '19 (right)
(Photo Courtesy of Sofie Jones '18)



Works from Eliza Wagner '17 (left) & Kaity Goodwin '18 (right)
(Photo Courtesy of Sofie Jones '18)

Ultimate Frisbee Remains Undefeated (Again)

by Stefano Amador '20

Concord Academy's Ultimate Frisbee team ended this season with an incredible record, remaining undefeated for a second season in a row. First introduced in 1968, ultimate was first played by two groups of students in the parking lot of Columbia High School in Maplewood, New Jersey. This sport has a deep history outside Concord Academy, but many of the game's practices connect deeply to the principles of CA's community. In ultimate, both team members and the referee play with the "spirit of the game," which is similar to CA's value of common trust. The nature of ultimate frisbee is both competitive and friendly, giving players no incentive to cheat.

Many of students who played on CA's team this spring found this to be the most rewarding part about being on the team. After joining ultimate this year, Laird Donohue '19 remarked, "Everyone had a good time while taking the sport seriously. It was a mixture of fun and effort." Throughout the season, the students said they loved the sport and its chill atmosphere. Many of the

schools they faced shared a similar sentiment, approaching games in a manner that was very spirited, but competitive.

The team's victorious season was aided by guidance from Head Coach Kim Frederick and Assistant Coach Ben Stumpf '88. They said that although it felt rewarding to win every game, they hope that next year they will play teams that will challenge them even if it means losing sometimes. The team appreciated how willing and committed their coaches were to help them grow. Frederick enjoyed observing the players' "trajectory of mastery" of the sport. Carly Ransford '18 commented, "I had no idea what I was doing [when I joined]. I actually didn't know what the sport was, but then I got better thanks to the people and especially our coaches. Ultimate became one of the things I'm most grateful for doing at CA."

The team also appreciated the fans who came to their home games. Maggie Doubman '17 said, "Shout out to Mary Bliss '17 for being our number one home fan." The Ultimate Team's passion and deft athleticism is obvious in every game which could not be missed by the CA community.



Sam Welsh '18 after a recent discus competition
(Photo courtesy of Sam Welsh)

Athlete Spotlight: Sam Welsh '18

By Avery Phillips '18

Sam Welsh '18 is a rising senior with a newly discovered passion, and talent, for discus. Welsh has been involved with athletics his whole life and throughout his whole CA career. His new passion has taken great heights this semester as he now holds both the top EIL and NEPSAC records in discus and the CA school record in 4x4 and shot-put. The Centipede had the chance to interview Welsh to ask him about his impressive season and what he plans to take on next.

How did you pick discus throwing?

"Actually Jwal [Jonathan Waldron], the coach, suggested I try to throw the discus, and once I stopped playing baseball I went down the field to try it and I really enjoyed it. Then, I just started practicing on my own."

What sports have you played other than competing in discus throwing and sprinting?

"Well I started playing baseball when I was six years old and I eventually transferred to basketball which I played until sophomore year. Since sophomore year, I have been doing track and field."

How have your skills transferred from other sports to Track and Field?

"I have been training specifically for discus and Track and Field since the beginning of last summer, so [for] about eight months. [Before I started training just for that,] I think definitely my baseball, basketball, and weight training contributed."

How has your experience been with track?

"It has been awesome, I love the team. It was my first year competing and I have already gotten to know a lot of people on the team. I have loved the coaching staff, getting to know everyone. Track and field is unlike any other sport I have ever experienced, because it feels more like a family. Everyone is competing together opposed to against each other. You are able to focus on yourself a little more and do that with all your friends. It's been awesome and I love it!"

Welsh concluded that his goals for next season are to "support my teammates as much as possible and to improve my sprinting times and my throwing distances. I also want to have a really fun and successful year."



The Girls Tennis team with their NEPSAC trophy
(Photo courtesy of Jessica Ding '18)

Girls Tennis Places Second at NEPSACs

by Marina He '20

On May 20th and 21st, the CA's Girls Varsity Tennis team competed in the NEPSAC (New England Preparatory School Athletic Council) tournament, where they were awarded runner-up in Class C for the first time in school history- a great way to officially end a successful season. Hung Trieu, the head coach of the Girls Tennis Team, commented "I couldn't be prouder of our team. Both Coach Laura and I have seen so much improvement in all the players. Getting a runner-up trophy at NEPSAC isn't an easy task." Both Trieu and Assistant Coach Laura Kaye look forward to next season, when the girls tennis team hopes to earn a banner at the end of the season for CA.

The team was originally placed in the third seed with the Winsor School and St. Luke's School, both ranked above them. Nonetheless, on Wednesday May 17th, CA girls tennis played a lengthy match against Winsor School, who was previously undefeated and was ranked second seed. First doubles partners Julia Herman '19 and Jaime Lee '19 defeated their opponents, winning their first two sets. Second doubles partners Audrey Vo '20 and Lucy Frost '19 obtained a quick win too, bringing CA two points above Winsor. Finally, Caitlin Timmons '18, the third singles player, secured a victory for CA by winning her third-set tiebreaker after a long and close three-hour match. As a result, CA rose from third seed to second in NEPSACs, replacing Winsor, and receiving a bye for the early match on Saturday May 20th, qualifying for the semifinals.

The team traveled to Milton Academy Saturday afternoon to play against Newton Country Day School (NCDS), who had bested Winsor School earlier in the morning. CA had lost against NCDS in NEPSACs

Softball Team Reflects on their Season

by Shelly Liu '20

The CA Girls Varsity Softball Team finished a great season on May 20th, as the team competed in the B Pool of the 2017 NEPSAC (New England Preparatory School Athletic Council) Softball Tournament. Though they finished eighth in the tournament, they still achieved the fifth ranking overall, marking one of the most successful seasons of CA softball yet. The team members are looking forward to another wonderful season next spring.

Although the team finished with an impressive record, their season ended with many injuries on team. During their last game against Lexington Christian Academy, Gabriella Kennealy '19 was hit on the head by a pitch while batting. This blow gave her a concussion and left her unable to compete in the following weekend's tournament. In their second game of the tournament, pitcher Kaity Goodwin '18 was hit in the face with a hard line drive straight off the bat. Luckily, she was not hurt because of her protective mask.

Sydney Culbert '19, who was playing third base at the time, bravely stepped up to replace Kaity as pitcher for one inning.

A highlight of the season was when the team won against Newton Country Day School, a very competitive team in the league and last year's EIL champions. The win is mostly attributed to Lauren Mazza '19, who hit two home runs beyond the fence. Although it was a close game, with a final score of 5-4, CA was able to secure a victory.

For Ally Culbert '17, Channah Powell '17, and Jess Pine '17, the team's senior captains, this season concluded a great four years on the softball team. All three seniors have been with the softball program from their freshmen year and have helped build this team into what it is today. Their senior ceremony was guided by the heartfelt words from Courtney Fields, the team's head coach, who congratulated them on a wonderful four years and thanked them for all they have done for the team. The team will miss these three in the coming season but looks forward to continuing to improve and to gaining new players.

The Centipede

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The mission of the *Centipede* is to inform, spark curiosity, and generate discussion within the community and beyond. The majority of the content relates to school issues, events, and news, but occasionally writers voice their opinions on politics, sports, and other contentious topics.

Help Me Rhonda!

Rhonda,
Any summer reading recommendations?
-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,
One of my favorite books is *Cracking the SAT* published by the Princeton Review. It's a great read, a real page turner!
Rhonda

Dear Rhonda,
Now that school is over I don't know what to do with my life. What are some fun things to do to keep myself busy until September?
-Someone who can't wait to love learning again

Dear Someone who can't wait to love learning again,
When I'm feeling bored, one thing I like to do is call the MBTA customer service line to hear the latest excuses for why the train(s) are running late. Some personal favorites of mine are "wet leaves" and "edgy Bernie & Phyl's advertisements".
Rhonda

Hello Rhonda,
What is the recipe for Break Cake? I don't know if I can last three months without my favorite mid-morning snack.
Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,
To make one sheet (16 pieces) of Break Cake, you need to mix three pounds of sugar, four-cups of flour, and one cup of water together, check for necessary lumps, and place in a pan. Place it in a 450° oven for 20 minutes, take it out, and enjoy. If it doesn't crumble enough, next time add more flour.
Rhonda

Check out our website at:
www.thecentipede.org

Two-sided Conversations

...continued from page 3

those of the people around me. However, through various conversations at CA regarding topics such as race, identity, and gender, I have come to understand that a lot of what I thought growing up back home stemmed from ignorance and a simple lack of knowledge. I did not have access to many of the support structures that CA has, such as affinity groups or workshops solely based on advancing my understanding of social justice topics.

The invitation of speakers such as Rosa Clemente who expressed more extreme liberal values than those voiced at CA, made many people uncomfortable. Similarly, an immediate backlash from the community followed after an assembly featuring a Chicago Police Department officer who maintained that she believed in Blue Lives Matter. In these instances, CA students failed to fully understand and interpret where such beliefs were coming from, which led to a mental shut down of conversation. Instead of disregarding people with views other than what the community largely endorses, fostering conversation with people from opposing parties and views would be very beneficial.

CA has become intolerable and fragile in the face of necessary, but uncomfortable, conversations. While we have discussed the role of the CA bubble, and its negative impacts on the community, at length, I think it is important that we take action to actually hear from those we disagree with. In order to do this, we must welcome people of different beliefs to join in these dialogues, so that they don't become one-sided.

Extending more invitations to speakers with more conservative political views would allow a wider array of perspectives to be introduced, heard, and addressed by the student body, which would then reopen an avenue for the CA community to engage in thought-provoking conversations.

New Dean of Students

...continued from page 1



Sally Zimmerli
(Photo courtesy of Concord Academy)

have been using this data to decide which events to organize next. As a previous member of the Discipline Committee, where she acted as both a student advocate and council member, Zimmerli is also working to make the DC process clearer for students. She said, "Overall, we need transparency to the process."

As Zimmerli prepares to take on this new role, and to reexamine the way CA approaches student life and the discipline committee, she said she is reminded of how grateful she is to have a job that brings her into such close contact with students. She explained that she has found the job of guiding students to better social and emotional lives at CA very fulfilling.

Roving Reporter

What was the most memorable part of this year?

"My Head of School speech." - Jackson Abele '18

"One memorable thing from this year was during Thirds Soccer when I scored the game-winning goal against Marianapolis, but then they said in the [student directed] documentary [about the team] that I missed, and that completely ruined the moment for me." - Adam Bradford '19

"Senior Coffeehouse." - Connor Dayton '20

"My concussion and lack of memory for two months." - Elliot White '19

"The most memorable moment of this year at CA was when on the Junior leadership retreat all the junior girls were crowded in one room and we were singing and telling stories." - Matti Horne '18 and Caitlin Timmons '18

"After Trump got elected and everybody was in mourning, Elise gave out donuts and made us all feel better about ourselves and the state of the country." - Abby Nicholson '19

"I got a C- on my Accel Physics exam." - Anonymous

"Walking into CA labs for the first time because I feel inspired every time I come to learn here" -Lysie Jones '18