

PRIDE WEEK

STAFF REPORT

This week, Lawrenceville's Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) organized the yearly Pride Week, in which students and faculty on campus recognize and celebrate the LG-BTQ+ community. With an event for each day of the week, this year's Pride Week kicked off with a Seniors Stories and GSA collaboration featuring V Formers Eric Frankel, Elizabeth Parnell, Camille Trench, and Noah Trupin, in which they recounted some of their positive moments on campus and ways they found support. Other GSA events included bracelet-making in

the Bunn Library and English Teacher M. Stitt's "What Matters to Me and Why" on Thursday. Friday marks both the raising of the pride flag in the morning and the GLSEN Day of Silence, with a GSA club meeting at the end of the day to debrief on the events. "Pride Week is the most beautiful, stressful, and rewarding event the GSA does yearly," GSA President Cassie Dillard '24 said, "[It] reminds LGBTQ+ students and faculty on campus that there is beauty and community here on campus, even though it may not always seem that way."



Bryce Langdon '24: Leaving a Legacy Worth Remembering



Bryce Langdon delivering speech during Smeeting

Courtesy of The Lawrenceville School

DOROTHY LEE '26

Last Friday, April 7, the 6:00 PM L10 News premier announced the newly elected student body president: Bryce Langdon '24. Langdon will succeed Andrew Boanoh '23 as Student Council President during the 2023-24 School year. Langdon's campaign is primarily focused on revitalizing school spirit, expanding networking opportunities for students, reforming disciplinary policies, and increasing transparency between the administration, student government, and student body.

"I love [Lawrenceville], and I feel like I could help bring out the best of it next year," Langdon said. He feels "really excited to get to work and make some changes."

Less than a year ago, Langdon was hesitant to run for office. "I was scared to fail, almost," he admitted. However, Langdon was able to overcome this fear by focusing on preparing his campaign. Having kept an open notebook for his ideas since the Fall Term, Langdon reached out to various members of the Lawrenceville community to discuss potential improvements to his platform.

He investigated how he could integrate feedback into his presidency, as well as how his platform would resonate with the faculty, the administration, and the student body.

"I remember dedicating pretty much all of my focus into writing my speeches," Langdon said. During his free time, he frequently visited the Chapel and the Kirby Arts Center to practice his speech, with the hope that people would "walk away surprised."

Langdon gained more confidence after his first speech to the IV Form, which he considered a success. "[I] definitely felt excited too," he added. "I really like speaking in front of people."

When voting first opened, Langdon experienced "the height of [his] stress and anxiety." He found comfort in reminding himself that "the students [were] going to vote for whoever would be the best for the School." "I want the best for Lawrenceville, and so I just [had] to let them decide," he continued.

Once the decision was announced, Langdon felt both

"the excitement [and] determination" as well as the responsibility of having received such a role.

"Right now, I have that pressure on me to really bring the best out of [the School]," Landon said. He expressed his willingness to do "whatever it [takes]" to enrich the Lawrenceville experience for everyone. Langdon plans to accomplish this goal by holding open student government meetings as well as creating an online form where Lawrentians can submit their ideas.

"A big part of my platform is transparency," he added. "I'm really excited to read what some students are going to propose because so many people here have amazing ideas."

Langdon trusts that the next Student Council will leave a lasting impact at Lawrenceville. "I know the people who are running for all the positions, and they're just some of the smartest and most incredible people I know," he explained. His hope is for future generations of Lawrenceville students to reflect on the Class of 2024 and think, "Wow, the 2023-24 StuCo really made an effort to drive change...they cared so much about the student body."

Outside the Bubble Florida Bill 999



Florida Bill being signed

Courtesy of the New York Times

CLARE REIF '26

On March 13, the Postsecondary Education and Workforce Subcommittee of the Florida House of Representatives voted in favor of House Bill 999. The results of the vote have gained nationwide attention as this bill would pose a threat to diversity, equity, and inclusion on college campuses.

The bill would give Florida state's Board of Governors the ability to remove any courses based on "pedagogical methodology associated with Critical Theory," which

emphasize social justice and democracy as core aspects of education.

The bill has also been critiqued for its ambiguity, as it would allow colleges to ban multicultural activities, courses, and student unions, including Black sororities and fraternities and Jewish, women's, and LGBTQ studies. Numerous politicians and the American Historical Association have called the bill an "attack on principles of academic freedom and shared governance central to higher education in the United States," according to CBS News.

Nashville Shooting



Nashville Shooting

Courtesy of Getty Images

MIRA PONNAMBALAM '26

On Monday, March 27, six people died in a targeted school shooting at the Covenant School in Nashville, Tennessee, reinvigorating a nationwide conversation about gun control. The shooter was identified as Audrey Hale, a former student of the school, and was killed by police at the scene. The victims included Mike "Big Mike" Hill, school custo-

dian and father of seven; Head of School Katherine Koonce, who was known for her kind and compassionate nature; Cynthia Peak, a substitute teacher with a passion for education; Evelyn Dieckhaus, a music-loving nine-year-old with an "infectious laugh," as her family said; Hallie Scruggs, an energetic student who loved to play with her brothers; and William Kinney, an extraverted boy whose family described him as "unfailingly kind."

Tennessee House Ousting



Tennessee House Ousting

Courtesy of Getty Images

SOPHIA LIU '25

On April 6, the Tennessee House of Representatives expelled two of its Democratic members—Justin Jones and Justin Pearson—while narrowly voting to keep its third, Gloria Johnson. Following the Covenant school shooting in Nashville, the three Democratic representatives protested on the chamber floor

for stricter gun laws, after which they were accused of breaching the decorum rules. Johnson, who was one vote short from being expelled, believes that "[the ousting] might have to do with the color of [their] skin." As a result of Jones's and Pearson's expulsion, 130,000 Tennesseans are now unrepresented in the State House, leading the Nashville Metro Council to consider reappointing Jones.

Editorial

How to Incorporate ChatGPT into Lawrenceville Life

Generative AI: It shows up everywhere. From the endless pits of the YouTube recommended page to notifications from The New York Times, there always seems to be something trending about ChatGPT that begs for our attention. Recently, generative AI has taken over the Lawrenceville community, with an influx of school-wide policies aimed at addressing students' use of generative learning. However, the policies' details remain unclear; rather than ban this tool, the School should find comprehensive ways to incorporate generative AI into our daily lives, as it will continue to play a major role in academics and beyond. As President-elect Bryce Langdon '24 advocated in his campaign, the School's policy should be focused "on educating students on tools [as opposed to] going straight to discipline."

On Monday, April 10, 2023, Dean of Academics Alison Easterling informed students of the provisional policy surrounding the usage of generative AI:

"The Lawrenceville School's current position on generative AI is that unless a student has clear and specific permission from their teacher to use AI tools in completing an assignment, using them will be considered a form of academic dishonesty (specifically, a form of contract cheating) that may result in both an academic and disciplinary response."

Despite the recent school-wide announcement discussing policies relating to generative AI, the implementation and details of these policies are not clear. How will the administration define "completing an assignment"? Is generative AI usage limited to work assigned by teachers, or does it extend to any studying related to the School curriculum? Similarly, how will Langdon "educate students," and what will it look like for students to not go "straight to discipline"? ChatGPT and generative AI are evolving tools, and the School's commitment in making policies "provisional" represents the lack of clarity surrounding what education with generative AI looks like. With disciplinary hearings surrounding the usage of tools such as ChatGPT already held, the administration must inform students of the specific boundaries of academic honesty violations in relation to generative AI.

Already game-changing in its infancy, the progress of generative AI is unpredictable. Even if specific exceptions are passed, these policies regarding the use of generative AI risk becoming obsolete in a few months—hence why the School has only proposed provisional legislation so far. Lawrenceville's new blanket ban on generative AI in completing any assignment makes sense, allowing Lawrenceville students to learn and succeed as they always have without using ChatGPT. However, does

Lawrenceville want to resemble John Henry, racing the steam engine that will eventually take over the world, or does the School want to embrace revolutionary technology, which can access all the information on Google, increasing students' learning efficiency?

Lawrenceville must seek a balance and produce students who can independently write, analyze, calculate, and perform all the skills that develop one's intelligence. The ability to generate essays, poems, or summaries in the matter of seconds undermines students' opportunity to learn through trial. But generative AI systems, like ChatGPT, have the potential to augment students' learning for the better. ChatGPT can generate practice prompts for in-class essays and final exams, create study guides for students after receiving just a few key terms, and help students find textual evidence in assigned reading, albeit not with incredible accuracy.

None of the uses of generative AI mentioned above neatly fit within the "completing an assignment" label, recently restricted by the Dean of Academics Office. Moreover, Lawrenceville's generative AI policy should permit the uses above. Through utilizing ChatGPT to generate practice prompts or making study guides, students are not skipping assignments by feeding them into ChatGPT; rather, stu-

dents are consulting ChatGPT as they would a friend or a search engine to fill in gaps that the Lawrenceville curriculum does not cover. Every informed student knows not to use ChatGPT for research—ChatGPT intakes everything posted on the internet, and thus the 1 percent of information on Google that might pertain to a research topic is diluted with the 99 percent chaff of false information and extremist websites. ChatGPT should not write students' essays, as it cannot effectively do students' research for them or replace the critical learning and thinking so essential to the writing process, but it can present students with abridged perspectives. Lawrenceville should consider allowing students to use generative AI, with access to compiled resources on almost any subject, as a consulting tool to see what other people think of the issues they are learning about in school. ChatGPT can extend the Harkness method from a small table in a locked building on a gated campus to the greater world around us.

So how should generative AI regulation look at Lawrenceville? The easiest, most reliable, and most inclusive decision is to fit generative AI use within Lawrenceville's tried and true Academic honesty regulations. Looking at generative AI as solely a consulting tool to augment learning, Lawrenceville should de-

Looking at generative AI as solely a consulting tool to augment learning, Lawrenceville should define consulting AI as legally equivalent to consulting a friend or looking something up on a search engine. Anytime students are allowed to talk to a friend about an assignment (unless pertaining to a math problem set, where students can only discuss the problems with people in their class), students should have the right to use ChatGPT. Anytime students are allowed to consult a search engine while completing or researching an assignment, they should have the ability to use ChatGPT. Outside of these consultation uses, all generative AI use should, as we see it at this moment, be banned to allow students to work, struggle, and learn as much as they can at Lawrenceville. Lawrenceville should incorporate ChatGPT and other generative AI's into its current regulations, merely as a consulting tool.

Lawrenceville and its policies do not contain all the answers. However, the School doesn't need all the answers. We don't need a permanent policy that accounts for all the details regarding generative AI—what we need is a clear policy on what is and isn't academic dishonesty. As generative AI continuously develops and academic institutions around the nation fine-tune policies, the legality of ChatGPT is not a question about whether these permanent policies will develop, but when they will, and who will get harmed in the meantime.

This Editorial represents the majority view of The Lawrence, Vol. CXLIII

Don't Blame ByteDance

Why Congress Should Rethink Banning TikTok

MICHAEL MENG '26

Whether it is through a new dance trend, skits, lip-syncing out-of-pocket audios, or Ice Spice dropping her latest banger, you've probably heard of the viral app TikTok, a social media platform that allows users to create and share short videos with audio and camera filters. TikTok is owned by ByteDance, a Chinese company, and has become increasingly popular in recent years among younger audiences. Just recently a Congress hearing took place regarding a potential TikTok ban and how the existence of the app poses a major threat to the privacy, security, and safety of children around the world. In the hearing, Representative Richard Hudson from North Carolina asked the CEO of TikTok, "Mr. Chew, does TikTok access the home Wi-Fi network?" Visibly confused, Chew replied, "Only if the user turns on the Wi-Fi." It is evident that many state representatives are not adept in technology, but insist on the dangers of the app due to its promotion of harmful trends and the potential censorship of international issues such as the Uyghur genocide. Although there are many concerns over the safety of TikTok, the app's dangers are not unique to TikTok itself, and a ban would worsen the rocky relationship between the U.S. and China more so than abate TikTok's potential

risks.

On April 4, a guest speaker came in during School Meeting to discuss the negative aspects of social media and advise caution around some apps. The speaker made many valid points, including the idea that our attraction to social media is analogous to a slot machine, and that keeping a relationship by sending a snap of a wall every day is not genuine. While social media in general has some downsides, and it is easy to get addicted to endlessly watching short videos, banning TikTok is not necessarily the solution. The job of preventing addictive habits instead lies with users who can take measures such as setting their own screen time and turning off notifications. TikTok provides an open platform for users to express their creativity and get to know people from different backgrounds. Aside from making TikToks, just scrolling through feeds and laughing at videos has often made my day a little better. The Internet is a complex network that offers both positive and negative experiences for users, but balancing the two comes with limitations and self-control, not prohibition. Without TikTok, millions of users in the

U.S., consisting of a primarily younger audience, would lose a form of self-expression and entertainment they have used for years.

The primary concerns of most representatives in the hearing were the promotion of dangerous trends, data stealing, and silencing of free speech. The problem with most of these allegations, however, is that they aren't particularly true or unique to TikTok. Examples of dangerous trends on TikTok included eating NyQuil-seasoned chicken, inhaling liquid nitrogen, and self-asphyxiation challenges. Although these trends are undoubtedly dangerous, banning TikTok would not do much to stop them, as dangerous internet trends



Sonia Singhal '24 / THE LAWRENCE

will always find their way to users. Secondly, allegations of data stealing are similarly applicable to apps such as Facebook, which had a severe allegation in 2021 involving data theft and security issues. Security threats are a universal problem with social media—as the guest speaker noted, much data is stored in areas where big corporations have been established—so the concern isn't just related to TikTok. The concern with TikTok specifically could more so indicate sinophobia, where concerns about data security are only taken into consideration when foreigners, especially Chinese people, are the ones "stealing" it.

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Additionally, Congress' censorship allegations are extremely difficult to prove. The example examined in court concerned the claim that users calling out the Uyghur genocide and concentration camps in China were censored. However, one quick search of "Uyghur" on TikTok proves that plenty of content surrounding the topic is available. Ultimately, all of the allegations presented in court were not unique to TikTok and gave no reason why banning it in the U.S. would resolve its issues.

The final consideration is the U.S.'s relationship with China, as banning TikTok will only worsen the already unsteady

relationship. By banning TikTok, the U.S. will send a message that it is not interested in promoting cultural exchange, self-expression, and creativity, which can be viewed as an attempt to limit the influence of Chinese technology in the U.S. market. This could result in retaliation from China, potentially harming trade relations and further damaging diplomatic ties between the two countries. Making a big deal about something as small as a social media app is not worth jeopardizing our relationship with China.

TikTok has played a major role in the social lives of Americans today, providing an outlet for self-expression, creativity, and diversity among users around the world. A world where TikTok is banned would see many irreversible impacts on both a micro and macro scale, including the erasure of diversity and creativity on social media, the normalization of sinophobia in Western countries, and the weakening of international relations between the U.S. and China. It is important to address legitimate concerns about the safety and security of TikTok, but impulsive reactions that do not take into account the bigger picture could ultimately do more harm than good.



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Let's Talk About Climate Change

How Acknowledging our Views Can Let Us Proceed

LOUISE CARROLL '26

Last weekend, I sat in my basement as pouring rain pounded on the roof and the sound of thunder and lightning echoed through the sky. Like many Lawrentians, I refreshed the weather app on loop and listened to the weather channel's breakdown on my laptop. Luckily, Lawrenceville avoided the major damage caused by the seven tornadoes that struck New Jersey last Saturday.

However, New Jersey never used to get tornadoes. The state sees an average of two tornadoes per year, and they traditionally only cause minor damages. As a New Jerseyan myself, I have never participated in a tornado drill at school. Yet, my hometown of Cranbury, NJ, received two tornado warnings last year, one of which knocked down several telephone poles and trees. Although the tornadoes only caused comparatively minor damages, the fact we were suddenly receiving tornado warnings created panic in my town. We weren't ready. My historic town didn't have the infrastructure that could endure major storms or hurricanes because we had seldom experienced them before.

But this year, areas across

America have experienced more severe weather than usual. Snow storms in Southern California, ice storms in Texas, extreme heat waves in the Midwest, and the ridiculous amount of snow in Buffalo, NY, are footnotes in the never-ending list of weather anomalies attributable to climate change. Attribution scientists have determined that earth's rising temperatures cause more water to evaporate, systematically increasing the severity of storms. With floods, tornadoes, or ice storms making headlines almost every week, climate change is outpacing the infrastructure that defends us against the weather.

The question is: What are we doing to combat climate change? For an issue so fundamentally important as preserving our world, one might expect global powers to take major steps toward a

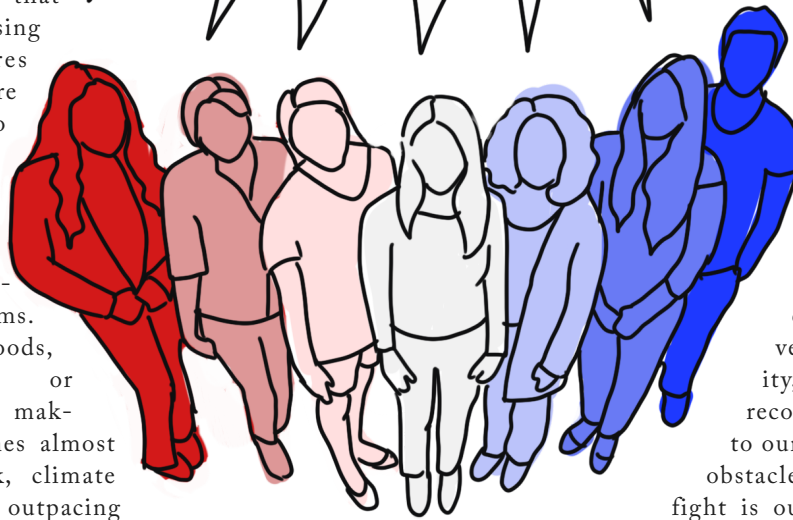
solution. Yet, climate change has become such a politically divisive issue that America cannot effectively mitigate it. Climate change has become a

partisan issue, heavily associated with one side of America's political spectrum. This assumption leads us to believe that only around 50 percent of Americans support climate change policy. However, Bernadette Woods Placky, Chief Meteorologist and Director of Climate Matters Program, cited a different statistic at her Capstone lecture a few weeks ago. A CNBC poll that found over 80 percent of Americans believed that climate change was a major issue—a strong majority. Despite the sample's views on climate change, only 40 percent of the sampled Americans believed that climate change was a major issue. Americans think climate change is controversial, but in reality, a vast majority recognize its threat to our world. Our main obstacle in the climate fight is our own misjudgments of support.

With this challenge in mind, the question remains the same: What are we doing? The answer is we are not doing enough as a collective. Every person needs to act as though climate change is not a politically charged issue,

because it isn't. It is a scientific phenomenon that affects the entire world's future. A global issue such as climate change can only be solved by amending public policy on a global scale. However, America has bogged down in proving the legitimacy of climate change, preventing us from incorporating changes to our public policy. The recent severe weather clearly shows how dangerous climate change will become if left unchecked. The longer we wait to commit to some sort of action, the more climate change will worsen. Like it or not, climate change is visibly affecting our world, and our hesitation to speak about climate change only exacerbates its effects. We should not fear talking about climate change. By acknowledging our agreement on climate change as an American people, legislative action will finally become possible. If we don't speak as a collective body, one united for climate action, nothing will be accomplished. The storms we have seen every week on the news will only become worse. We must recognize our unity and support one another to protect our future.

LET'S ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE



Michelle Zhang '25 / THE LAWRENCE

Touch Some Grass: An Open Letter to Lawrenceville

SATHVIK SAMANT '25

Students with their necks craned downwards while scrolling across the bright blue lights of their cell phone screen are an all too familiar sight at Lawrenceville. At the tables of the Tsai dining center, on the bus to a game, while lounging on the common room sofa, and even tucked under the Harkness table in class, phones appear everywhere in our daily lives. Here at Lawrenceville, phones are commonplace. Although these omnipresent devices seem essential for communication, they ultimately detract from human relationships. They break us away from the present, causing us to lose out on the potential relationships and connections that really matter. Technology, despite its merits, serves to change us, distract us, and divide us. To create a stronger school community, things need to change.

As the speaker from this Thursday's school meeting, Max Stossel, made clear, technology is designed to take advantage of us. We are conditioned to click, swipe, scroll and like—even when the content does not interest us. This addiction

to technology—the inability to take our eyes off of a screen—slowly eats away at one's personality. By design, technology is meant to hook and trap us in an endless spiral of cat videos, potentially dangerous "5 Minute Crafts" clips, and crazy conspiracy theorists. A notification's colors and sound effects, as well as the curated content of social media, keep us endlessly clicking, scrolling, and tapping. Although it may not seem like it, the content we consume divides us; it takes away from the reality of our lives and destroys our relationships with one another.

All this is not to say that technology is not also amazing. Its capabilities are boundless, pushing the limits of human thought, medicine, science, and the arts. Social media has the great power to connect humans from across the world; it gives a voice to the silenced, a platform to advocate for any personal beliefs with a

limitless audience. Social media can empower us, allow us to better our world. But blindly using it—endlessly scrolling through Instagram, morphing our faces

lives and the lives of the people and communities around us of real world connections.

To create a better Lawrenceville, community members need to acknowledge the problem—the high screen times and the Snap streaks that far supersede any physical conversation. We need to acknowledge that Lawrenceville would be a far better place when we recognize the impacts of social media and technology, and prioritize our physical connections over digital ones. This form of community building can be accomplished by eliminating the use of phones in the classroom, establishing boundaries on social media, and creating a conducive environment for learning and growing. Phone baskets placed outside classrooms would make Harkness discussions more vibrant. Students

without the distraction of their phones in their pockets will be more inclined to participate in class, allowing us to hear more perspectives. Instead of scrolling through TikTok, pick up a novel from the hundreds at The Bunn Library. Unwind at the new volleyball courts, not on Brawl Stars. There are actionable steps students can take to be more responsible technology users, and in turn, better humans.

Breaking free from the bounds of technology allows for our connections to blossom and for us to see the vibrancy of life. It is a community effort—a mission our entire school must partake in. So put down your phones and pick up your heads. Enjoy the bus rides, sports games, and meals that make life so beautiful. We are more than the pictures that line our Instagram profiles and the streaks that we diligently upkeep on Snapchat. Take a walk around campus, "touch the grass," and learn to live a life that doesn't rely on technology. Don't be a pawn for advertisers to use—be the hero of your own story. There is so much more to life than what lies in a 2x6 screen—so learn to live it.



Emily Pan '24 / THE LAWRENCE

and bodies, and staring at it first thing in the morning and right before we go to bed—threatens to rid our

Alumni Panel #3

CHARLES POTTER '25

Last Friday, Lawrenceville held its third Alumni and Development Career Panel, a new event occurring once a term where alumni working in particular fields visit campus to give students guidance and ideas for their career paths. To celebrate Women's History Month, the third panel brought in female alumna working in law and government.

Vice President of Academic Life Iris Wu '23 organized the panel. Due to the significant number of employment opportunities that fall under the umbrella of law and government, Wu attempted to choose alumni who would "represent a wide array of paths." Panelists ranged from associates at large law firms to researchers for the U.S. House of Representatives. Placing an emphasis on Women's History Month, Wu hoped that attendees "could feel empowered seeing women who had once been in their seats now occupying such admirable and prestigious positions." The panelists began with a discussion, which was followed by a question and answer session. At the end of the event, attendees also had the opportunity to speak one-on-one with the panelists.

After attending the event, Avianna Zampardi '24 said she thought the panel was "amazing" because she could see "how the offerings and teaching of Lawrenceville have influenced the careers" of the alumna. She was inspired

by how the women continued to be motivated by the transformation of their career. For instance, Zampardi recalled the alumna's experiences of spending nights working in "windowless basements," leading to "sitting in the Capitol among some of the most powerful figures in government." These monumental moments in their careers pushed them to find "solutions with their colleagues to enact change."

Ava Jahn '24 shared a similar sentiment on the panel. Even though "their effect on social policies are not always apparent," the panelists remained resilient. Jahn learned to "appreciate [her] small accomplishments, as [she] may be able to see the greater picture later down the road."

Tabatha Robinson '08, the Special Assistant Attorney General at the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, gave Lawrentians the advice to "make the most of all that Lawrenceville has to offer, as [they] will never be exposed to as many opportunities and experiences as [they] do now."

Wu's reason for hosting these alumni panels is for Lawrentians to realize "that there is a lot of time to decide what they want to do." She believes that "there is a lot of pressure at Lawrenceville to know what you want to do, start early, and keep at it." Wu hoped that after hearing the different experiences of alumni working in various fields, students could learn that "there is no one particular definition of success."



Alumni Panel

Courtesy of The Lawrenceville School

Latinos Unidos Lunch Table

KETAN SINGH '24
SYDNEY WANG '25

Every Friday at 12:15 PM, Lawrenceville's Latinos Unidos affinity club hosts "Almuerzo en Español" in the Abbott Dining Room, where all students and faculty—regardless of their proficiency—can enjoy lunch while practicing their Spanish skills.

Initially, Latinos Unidos hosted breakfast sessions on Friday mornings. Spanish Teacher Lizabel Mónica aimed to provide the space and resources for students to practice the language outside of class, with the meal sessions giving native and non-native speakers alike the opportunity to converse in a casual setting. "A language is something alive...you cannot constrain [it] to the walls of a classroom," she said. In addition, Mónica believes that the meetings are "very useful" in bringing the community together and helping students become more familiar with each other. Hispanic students can "discover a sense of belonging" by meeting people from a similar background and exchanging stories. As more and more students demonstrated interest in these sessions, the club decided to switch to lunch time instead.

According to Latinos Unidos co-President Josue Ramos '24, the lunch table provides a valuable opportunity for students

to connect with one another and build relationships across grade levels. "In the middle of a busy Friday schedule, I get to connect and meet with new students who I otherwise wouldn't have gotten to meet," Ramos said. He went on to say, "Being a native speaker, I also have the opportunity to help other students improve their Spanish and answer

ates long-lasting bonds between students."

Cesar Rodas-Menendez '24, a member of Latinos Unidos and a consistent Almuerzo en Español attendee, expressed a similar sentiment on the lunch tables. "The table offers not only a culinary experience, but an opportunity to connect with the Hispanic community...and its helped me form authen-



Latinos Unidos Lunch Table

Sonia Lackey '25 / THE LAWRENCE

any questions, whether it pertains to the language or the Spanish culture." However, the significance of the lunch table extends beyond just practicing the language. By creating a space for students to come together and share in Latinx culture and traditions, Latinos Unidos is able to build a "more welcoming community." "I believe Almuerzo En Español is more than simply speaking Spanish," Ramos said. "It sparks new relationships and cre-

ates connections with other members of the community," he said. For Rodas-Menendez, Almuerzo en Español is an opportunity to share stories, learn more about Hispanic customs, and create a sense of belonging.

In the future, Latinos Unidos plans to organize more events that can help students improve their Spanish skills, interact with other members of the Latinx community, and learn more about Spanish culture.

Oceans and Climate Change: Capstone Speaker Craig McLean

MIA KINCADE '25

On Monday, April 3, Lawrenceville invited Craig McLean—the recently retired Director of Research of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)—as the second Capstone speaker of this term. NOAA focuses primarily on providing daily weather reports and monitoring the climate, in addition to conducting deep sea exploration and oceanic studies. All students, faculty, and parents were invited to learn more about McLean's findings on the importance of oceans with respect to weather, climate, and planetary health.

Because "oceanography and oceans are captivating for a lot of people," Director of Sustainability Stephen Laubach P '23 expressed that he "wanted to have a speaker from a field that people have an inherent curiosity about." McLean's past experience as the Director of NOAA provided him with an "unparalleled wealth of knowledge," which Laubach believed made him a perfect candidate



Capstone Speaker Craig McLean

Courtesy of Stephen Laubach

for Lawrenceville's Capstone program.

Dr. Laubach noted that McLean's talk was "really insightful because he shared with the students the process of deploying argo buoys deep down into the ocean" in order to retain oceanic data such as salinity, temperature, and the pH of the water. McLean emphasized how these buoys "al-

low us to make better projections for climate models and also for weather forecasting."

Overall, Laubach feels that McLean "helped to elucidate what kind of technology we have to make projections about climate and weather and how we're developing increased capacity for the ocean, like these buoys."

Sophia Kohmann '24 thought

that one of McLean's most interesting points was on the prevalence of "carbon dioxide concentration and ocean acidification" amidst the global climate crisis. Despite the "crucial role of the ocean in environmental health," people tend to think of greenhouse gasses or industrial emissions when asked about climate change. Coming out of the talk, Kohm-

ann learned that "we need to put more emphasis on the oceans, both for measuring the effects of climate change and looking for potential solutions."

Kohmann also learned that "the ocean is a potential solution to land-based climate change issues," emphasizing the importance of oceanic studies in finding potential solutions for climate change. In her opinion, our primary focus should be "reducing the amount of carbon in the atmosphere." "People tend to focus on waste management and water conservation, but when it comes down to it, the most pressing issue is the amount of carbon dioxide emitted each day," she said.

Through his Capstone talk, McLean brought to attention the impact that oceans have on global warming as well as the importance of studying oceanography and advancing oceanographic technologies in understanding the effects of climate change.

Carving Out A Niche: Lifetime Woodworking

IMANI GASKIN '25

Every afternoon, Lawrentians can be found on courts, fields, and turf, training with their teams for a plethora of seasonal sports offered at various levels. For all students, participation in these activities is mandatory, and for many, sports provide a healthy outlet. However, there is a population of students for whom playing a sport is undesirable. This group includes off-season athletes who want time to recuperate after an intense season or recover from injuries, as well as students for whom sports is simply not a passion. In order to accommodate these students, Lawrenceville offers a set of activities under the "Lifetime" umbrella, and these co-curriculars cater to students seeking a less intensive pace for their activity. This may be found in Lifetime activities such as dance, farming, or tech crew.

"Woodworking" is the latest addition to the Lifetime sports roster. This initiative is spearheaded by Rex Brodie, a woodworking teacher of fifteen years who currently teaches visual arts at Lawrenceville. In Brodie's experience, producing useful items through hands-on woodworking provides students with an opportunity to decompress. This passion inspired him to create a space at Lawrenceville for students to learn



Brodie using the table saw during Lifetime Woodworking

Sofia Carlisi '24 / THE LAWRENCE

woodworking. However, as Brodie wanted his students to have ample time to dig into their projects, adding a woodworking class would not have provided ample time due to brief and infrequent meetings. Thus, the idea of the woodworking co-curricular was born.

Lifetime Woodworking is in its pilot trimester, and the co-

curricular currently consists of a small group of students who meet thrice a week in the Gruss Center for Art and Design to explore the basics of "traditional" woodworking.

According to Ava Martoma '25, a participant in the co-curricular, its small size allows students to get to know each other well through their shared interests. The students'

current project is building wooden frames, a project Brodie has used as an initial class project for "many, many years." This strategically chosen project allows Brodie to introduce students to traditional equipment and teaches "safe woodworking." Most importantly, the project gives Brodie the opportunity to show students how to navigate the workshop safely.

The woodworking co-curricular also integrates technology such as laser cutting and the computer application "Rhinoceros 3D" in order to turn designs into student creations. For Brodie, this produces "a nice combination of traditional woodworking and new digital fabrication techniques."

Aki Li '25 "loves" learning 3D design as it is a very "calming and cool" process. Furthermore, it grants students creative freedom and the ability to see their designs come to fruition, transforming simple ideas into tangible creations. As most of the kids in the co-curricular do not have prior woodworking experience, seeing their work progress is fresh and extremely exciting.

Brodie's Lifetime woodworking co-curricular is a fun change of pace for Lawrentians, allowing those experienced in woodworking to explore it in a structured setting while also welcoming students without prior interest to explore a new pastime. Whether you are an out-of-season athlete or a tri-semester Lifetime participant, Lifetime Woodworking with Coach Brodie is the perfect choice for a new, interesting activity that teaches carpentry skills and provides a unique creative outlet.

Campus Crafters: The Simple Joy of Art

SONIA IVANCIC '25

Handicrafts like knitting and crocheting are known to be great stress relievers. Their simple and rhythmic motions of hyperfocusing on simple knot tying gestures force one's mind to slow down after a busy day. The pride one feels after creating something all on one's own and the pleasure of gifting one's handiwork are also added benefits.

Knitting used to be a central part of my life. This was especially true during the pandemic, when I would spend endless Zoom classes knitting just out of my camera's line of sight. Yet, once I came to Lawrenceville, I found that taking just a little time each day to spend on these small joys was almost impossible. If I had any spare time, there was always a nagging feeling to spend it wisely by studying or getting ahead on homework. Nevertheless, despite my knitting projects having been on hold for two years, I have found people scattered around campus who still find time to keep up with their craft, inspiring me to pick up my knitting needles once again.

Knitting and crocheting are often associated with old women, their needles clicking away whilst gossiping on rocking chairs. Thanks to social media and downtime during the pandemic, however, handicrafts such as these have soared in popularity; even Novak Djokovic was spotted knitting on Instagram! People of all ages, including students, have begun to see the benefits of taking the time to make physical crafts with their own two hands.

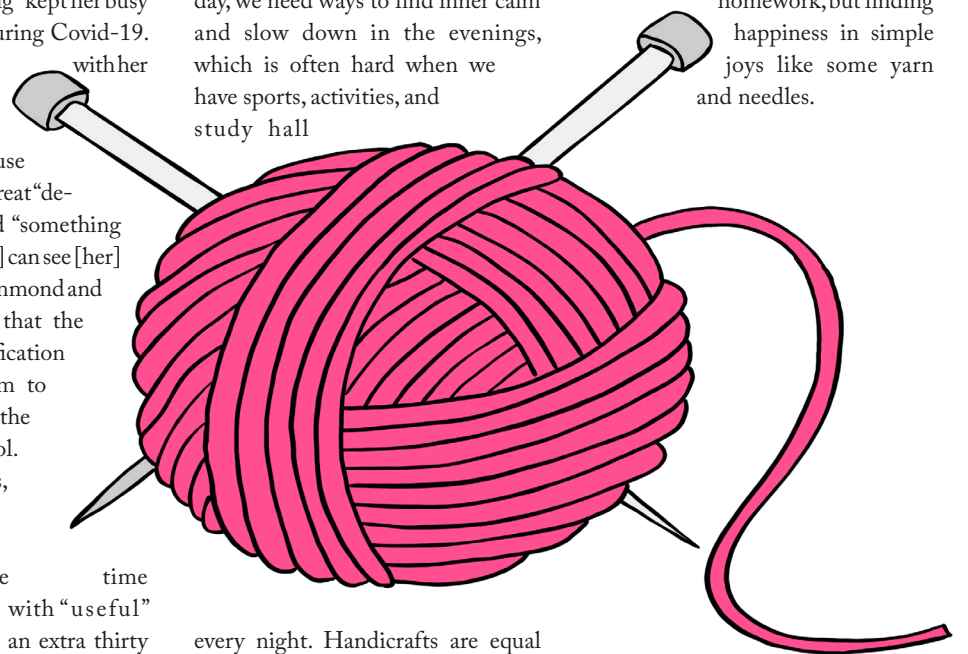
Some Lawrenceville students, despite their busy schedules, find time in the day to knit and crochet. Maggie Hammond '25 first learned to knit in third grade, but really wanted to try her hand at crocheting, a craft far quicker than knitting. After buying a kit, she has "been crocheting ever since," even throughout high school. Although such crafts may be hard to pick up, Hammond said that watching videos or using beginner kits allows you to "get the hang of it." Just knowing the basic technique makes crafting "really easy" and gives people a hobby to pick up whenever they need something "rewarding" in their life.

Similarly, Sonia Singhal '24 has a special connection with such crafts, as "her grandmother taught [her] how to knit and crochet." She explained that creating "kept her busy around the house" during Covid-19. Singhal has kept up with her knitting, sewing, and crocheting at Lawrenceville because she believes they are great "de-stressing tool[s]" and "something relaxing... where [she] can see [her] effort at the end." Hammond and Singhal both agree that the combination of gratification and calm drive them to keep crafting despite the demands of our school.

On campus, we all have a shared mentality that any free time must be filled up with "useful" activities. If we have an extra thirty minutes between dinner and a club, we tend to spend that time working on essays, applications, or doing extra studying. However, taking the time to wind down—especially in

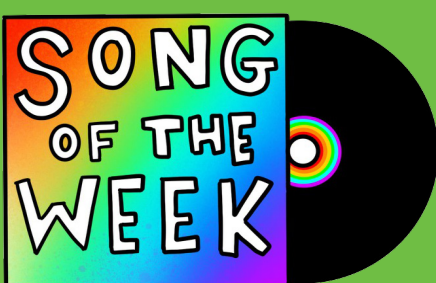
the evenings—is not only "useful" but crucial too. To ensure that the small sliver of rest we get each night adequately refreshes us for the next day, we need ways to find inner calm and slow down in the evenings, which is often hard when we have sports, activities, and study hall

work day and sleep. Hopefully, this article inspires you to spend a few short moments each day doing what is truly meaningful: not homework, but finding happiness in simple joys like some yarn and needles.



Aileen Ryu '25 / THE LAWRENCE

every night. Handicrafts are equal parts engaging and meditative, so picking up a simple form of making—even just for a small amount of time each evening—provides a transition between the fast-paced



Anika Ponnambalam '25 / THE LAWRENCE



"Sunroof" Album Cover
Courtesy of Spotify

"Sunroof" by Nicky Youre and Dazy
Recommended by LOUIS PARK '26

Just as spring is a perfect time of the year to relax on a drive with your head hanging out of the sunroof, Nicky Youre and Dazy's "Sunroof" is a must-listen song, perfect for a car ride on a sunny day. As seen on the album cover, "Sunroof" goes well with the spring, creating a fresh and bright feeling as if the sun is beaming on the listener's face. From the song's beginning, the cheerful and refreshing melody pleasantly catches the ear, making it impossible to resist humming along with the beat.

The Inside Scoope Behind Lville's Instagram

RILEY MCKIBBEN '25

@Epic_Trees_And_Stuff_at_Lville

Epic_Trees_Stuff_At_Lville has been an overnight sensation on Instagram, taking the Lawrenceville community by storm by "spreading love and peace through epic trees and stuff." The account takes student submission photos of unique trees, sunsets, and landscapes at Lawrenceville. What better time than now to get involved with this student-interactive account? The owners recommend Lawrentians send their favorite naturesque photos over to this account, as they never fail to credit their photographers. Until this article, the names and faces behind the account have been kept secret, but they are excited to officially reveal their identity by announcing that this account is managed by Max Blecher '23 and Jack Patel '23. Students appreciate their admirable mission, hoping to see more of this account, lovingly nicknamed "The Lorax," on campus this Spring Term!

@Lville_Bathhouse

As the majority of Lawrentians believe, the Bathhouse is Lawrenceville's go-to for social life, tasty treats, and most importantly, Deb. The Bathhouse is the only place on campus where the chaos of scrambling students, friends sharing laughs, and plates of sushi can coexist in one building. Whenever students are too distracted by the building's hustle and bustle, it is not an uncommon occurrence for belongings to be left behind. For anyone who has left something behind—airpods, jewelry, water bottles, or even a retainer—Deb makes sure to hold it and either send out an email or a post to find the item's rightful owner. In the future, anyone who has misplaced their dental insert or cannot seem to figure out where they can indulge on a flatbread pizza, do not hesitate to search up LvilleBathhouse on Instagram!

@LvilleDecisions23



Gloria Yu '26 / THE LAWRENCE

V Formers at Lawrenceville are under constant pressure, weighed down by stress, and forced to meet high expectations in the grueling college admissions process. Underformers love to find out where seniors are embarking on their next adventure and continuing their education. Hampton Sanders '23, one of the account's featured seniors, says "I think it's fun for the community to try and bring light to where people decide to go!" LvilleDecisions23 is the perfect place to check out where our V formers are heading next fall and how they plan to spend their time. Did they commit for athletics or decide their major yet? Check out this unofficial account to find out and do not forget to drop a comment congratulating these awesome V Formers!

@LvilleSustainability

Trashion show photos, Sustainability information, and the VIL-LEage Green website are all composed into one Instagram page—could Lawrentians be any luckier? Follow Lawrenceville's very own Sustainability Council, the account including all things sustainability-related. LvilleSustainability is a resource often overlooked when in the face of a recycling dilemma, so the next time you struggle to discard your paper cups, cardboard, or certain types of plastic, be sure to check out Pittman Alley's '24 recycling video! Thank you, Sus Council, for holding Lawrenceville accountable and responsible for our environmentally-friendly endeavors.

@Lville_GSA

The brand new GSA council has worked harder than ever to produce the 2023 Pride Week. The account uses organized infographics and colorful visuals to introduce their upper council, and, as of more recently, their daily Pride Week events. Cassie Dillard '23, the club's president, explains that "the account is easy to run because we have council positions dedicated to managing the account's posts." She adds how she "loves utilizing the account as a tool in sharing important information with, and even beyond the club." Lawrentians cannot wait to see photos from this Pride Week of the various happenings organized by the GSA. Show support for the Lville_GSA this week at their daily celebrations and celebrate Pride Week!

@LvilleBlacrosse

With Spring Term in full swing, Lawrenceville's most active account, LvilleBlacrosse, deserves a major shoutout. With an amassed 5,000+ followers, this account constantly posts stories, reels, and highlight videos to showcase their most talented players, especially during the busiest season of interscholastic competitions. Weber Emery '23 notes that the account is "pivotal for outreach, important for recruiting purposes, keeping our student body in tuned with the team's success as well as intimating our competitors!" LvilleBlacrosse posts the date and time for each of their games in advance, so no one is ever left wondering how to spend their Wednesday afternoon. Whether it be Fall Ball, an ugly sweater holiday party, or the college commitment season in general, following this account will express support for the fourth national Boys' Lacrosse Team in action!

To Room or Not to Room

LUKE PURICELLI '26

For many boarders, having a roommate is a core experience of the Lawrenceville. During your years at Lawrenceville, chances are that you've had a roommate at some point. I, as a new sophomore, was surprisingly placed into a single and dodged the bullet of sharing my room with a stranger. However, I have always been curious to find out what makes the roommate experience so special and mysterious.

Sawyer English '25 was lucky enough to be placed into a room with two close friends which only further developed their friendship by becoming roommates. Although many students find themselves pairing up with a friend, others are not as lucky. For new III and IV Formers, the housing situation is one

of their great unknowns before arriving on campus. Will O'Reilly '25 met his roommate on move in day, and since then, they have grown very close. O'Reilly explains that, "no matter how close you are with your roommate, you will get annoyed with them a little bit, but that is completely normal." While many new II and III formers might struggle to learn how to live with another student, many V Formers willingly pair up in anticipation for senior year housing.

For best friends and campus dynamic duo, Caitlin Hoover '23 and Coco Hunt '23, it was a no-brainer to be roommates for their V Form year. Hunt noticed how "being roommates brought Caitlin and [her] closer together," and that "[she would] miss being roommates so much next year in college." Hoover and

Hunt often watch sports, eat dinner on the floor, and enjoy simply hanging out together, bringing them closer together.

As for picking a roommate, it may be wise to choose a friend that shares the same academic and athletic interests. For Hoover and Hunt, both members of the Girls' Varsity Field Hockey and Lacrosse Teams, their similar schedules have allowed them to bond. For those who do not have the luxury of picking a roommate, it is even more crucial to connect with each other such that living with each other is a smooth experience. It is similarly important that they learn about each other's pet peeves. For example Emily Mercy '23 hates it when her roommates are loud when she tries to do homework or sleep. West Violich '25 has the same pet peeve and cannot focus on work



Room of Rhianna Scott '25 and Reagan Daly '25

Sofia Bonilla '23 / THE LAWRENCE

when his "roommates are being loud in [their] common room." So while roommates are fun to have around, it seems to be that the largest concern is getting distracted by each other.

Whenever anyone thinks they may be ticking off a roommate, it is important to talk to

them, and learn to meet each other's needs. Even though roommates might spend time together in their dorm room, it is just as important to spend time with their roommate elsewhere on campus and beyond. Going with them to the Big Red Store, the tennis courts, or just hanging

out around the Circle or Crescent together can be the cherry-on-top of a special bond. Even though having a roommate can be very fun or very nerve racking for some, having a roommate teaches you how to deal with others, and most importantly, prepares you for life after boarding school.

Dance after Dance: What Lawrentians Really Think

CLEMENTINE SUTTER '25

To mosh or not to mosh—a crucial question that Lawrentians ask themselves as they strategize how to spend their oh-so-precious Saturday nights. When thinking of a school dance, everyone knows what to expect: flashing lights, loud songs, and the long-held tradition of jumping up and down in a sweaty group of teenagers, commonly known as the great “mosh pit.”

Aside from occasional unforeseen crowd surfs, dances are predictable. While the consistent expectations are part of their appeal, “dances can be fun, but they can also be very tedious or repetitive,” said Sarah Rodrigues '25. Similarly, Ellie Turchetta '25 agreed that “there’s always the same music that can never fully encompass each individual’s personal taste.” Though they are classic, the crowd will never catch a break from ever-reappearing 2010s hits like “No Hands” by Waka Flocka Flame. While half the dance floor wants nothing more than to sing along to Miley Cyrus’ “Party in the U.S.A.,” the other half prefer to lunge for the skip button when the overplayed song begins.

The happy medium of attendance is also difficult to find. Crowded and cramped, Clark Music Hall was bursting at

the seams during the Fall Term’s Homecoming dance but had a noticeable emptiness during the latest “Club One” dance. As one of the approximately “twelve people” to reportedly attend, Bridget Holden '25 said “there was nobody there, so you

of air. Most agree that dances are best when well attended and lively with just enough elbow room.

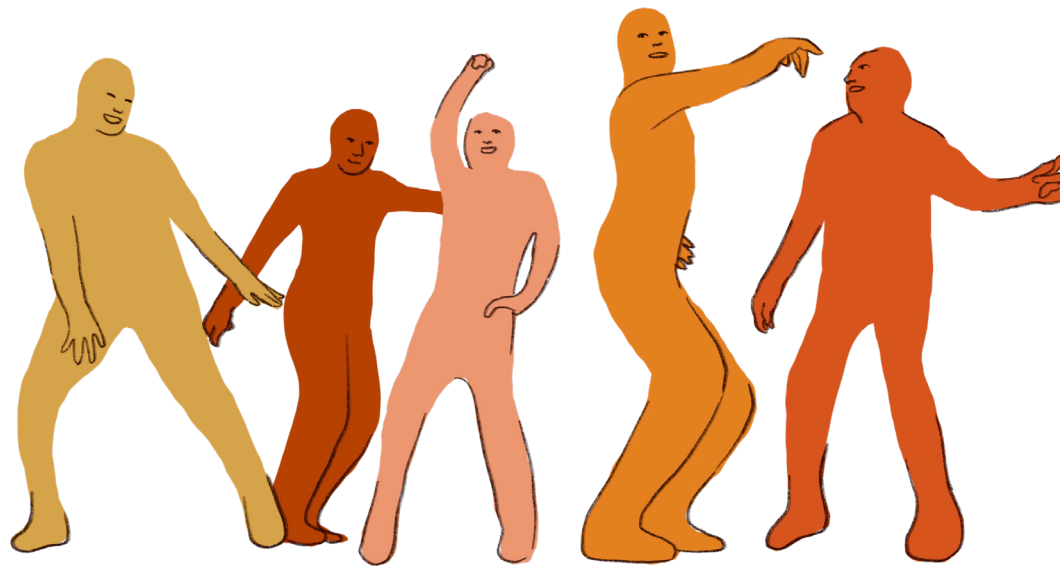
The mosh pit, a controversy of its own, is not every person’s friend. Some, like Rodrigues, do not enjoy the concept of being tossed around in a frenzy of jumping. Arya

House hype. In addition to the rush of the dance itself, one of Sreedhar’s favorite parts of last February’s McLovin’ dance was the dance’s preparation. Coupled with the hard work of McClellan Social Representative, Natalie Moore '24, the McClellan residents enjoyed

they also emphasize House pride. House dances allow each House to create an event as it sees fit whilst having fun with other Houses.

In addition to these dance favorites, the Tropicably Themed Stuco Dance at the beginning of the year was a major hit. This dance on Bunn Library’s patio was one of Turchetta’s “favorite Saturday nights of this year,” as it allowed space for strong-hearted moshers but also room to drift away and chat without the fear of being trampled. As the dreary and gray clouds of winter finally make way for the warm sunshine of spring, the weather creates more opportunities for more outdoor dances.

While not everyone chooses to mosh during their Saturday night dilemmas, Sreedhar says that “Saturday night events, like dances, create a big opportunity for us to bond with our community. People just have to be willing to take part in them, and be willing to have fun.” From one Lawrentian to another, I think that students judge dances too soon. Though they usually look the same, we students are the people who make the event. By reconsidering the stigma behind school dances and adjusting their structure, we can take advantage of this opportunity to make memories with friends. And besides, nothing says intense community bonding like a mosh pit.



Emily Pan '24 / THE LAWRENCE

walked in and it felt awkward and unexciting.” The turn-up at dances can both overwhelm and underwhelm, so when choosing to go to a dance, attendees hope to find the sweet spot between suffocating from lack of air space and drowning in the abundance

Sreedhar '24, on the contrary, is the self-proclaimed “mosh pit beast,” who loves the thrill of riding the wave of jumpers while cheering those brave enough to enter the center of the dance circle.

When it comes to House-organized dances, half the fun is

laughs and House bonding while working hard to create the dance ambiance through the collaborative decorating process. Dances like McLovin’ or Club Stan are crowd-pleasers because they make Saturday nights about more than simply turning up—

The Varying “Lingo” within Lawrenceville

LILY LANZETTA '26

At Lawrenceville, two-syllable words are frowned upon. The long, boring, and old names of things around campus are replaced by newer, more exciting, and shorter nicknames. From the classroom to Main Street, abbreviations appear everywhere. Teachers and faculty alike have become prolific speakers of Lawrenceville “lingo.” It is common knowledge that any word that can be shortened will definitely be shortened. Even if they are not used campus-wide, friend groups often establish their own set of terms.

Starting with a term commonly used by everyone on campus and even other schools, Lawrenceville is often abbreviated to “Lville.” While the abbreviations are mainly used for convenience during texting, they have quickly snuck its way into the spoken world beyond our screens. Many of the school’s sports accounts use “Lville” instead of Lawrenceville to shorten their handles. “Lville” is almost always used when texting with friends or even family, helping Lawrentians save two seconds of their precious time and avoid the risk accidentally spelling “Lawrecneville.”

The buildings around campus are known by two alternate names: the name inscribed above the door frames of buildings, and the other what is heard in between passing periods. Father’s

Building is referred to as “Pop,” and Woods Memorial Hall simply gets called “Mem.” Destiny Ortega '26 explains that “it feels like you’re a true Lawrentian only once you start using ‘Mem’ and ‘Pop’ in everyday conversation.”

Similarly, there are many Lawrentian-exclusive insider acronyms. The Kirby Arts Center gets called the KAC, and the Kirby Math and Science Center becomes the KMSC. Leaving the academic realm, seven Houses out of the eleven have shortened their names to one syllable. As heard from members of “McC, Stan, Steve, Dick, Wood, and Gris”, the nickname of the House makes it feel more personal. Carolyn Levine '96 P '26 explained that “when the girl’s Houses were added on campus they did not have the same nicknames that the boys did so seeing that experience spread from the circle to the crescent is near and dear to my heart.” As a secret bonus, the nickname of a House can lead to some pretty epic cheers during House Olympics.

While many believe the “Lville Lingo” starts and stops at the buildings, it sneaks its way into the classroom and House as well. Harkness table terms like “fac-brat” and “Harkness warrior” often appear. The infamous “Harkness warrior” is a Lawrentian who hogs the conversation around the table and makes sure their opinion is heard first and foremost. Often

known to be on the prowl for an opening in conversation, at least one of these so-called “warriors” lurk in every class. Another legendary term thrown around campus is the “fac-brat”: A student whose parent works at Lawrenceville as a faculty member. To many fac-brats, the term can carry a derogatory meaning. Vivian Teeley '24, whose mother, Bernadette Teeley P'24, serves as the Department Chair of the English Department, said that the term “fac brat” makes her feel “like a rat, which is what [her] friends thought whenever a certain someone rode past [her] on his/her bike and screamed ‘fac-brat.’ [at her]” Moments like these show how the “Lingo” used at Lawrenceville produces moments like these that will become memories to look back on.

A term used often around the Bathhouse is “buff-chick” which refers to a buffalo chicken flatbread. While most people on campus do not use this in their everyday lives, many Lawrentians have adopted these terms to convenience their lives.

Two other commonly used phrases are “The Josh” and “P Cow.” Although Purple Cow has closed its doors, the memories from inside have continued to live on. Especially since Gingered Peach, also known as “GP,” took over “P Cow” to keep their legacy alive. The Gingered Peach is beloved by all for its scrumptious

pastries and last-minute birthday gifts. With their takeover of “P Cow,” it seems as though there is nothing “GP” doesn’t have. Well, maybe one thing—being open on Sundays. However, on Sundays, many students find themselves participating in house bonding at “The Josh.” There is no better place to be on campus than the ropes course. “The Josh” is home to the Ropes Course Instructors (RCIs) and holds freshman orientation in the fall. The Josh is named after Joshua L. Miner, the man who developed the course. Miner attended Phillips Exeter Academy and was involved with numerous

boarding schools during his life. Included in Miner’s agenda for bringing the boarding experience to many was his creation of Outward Bound, an organization that promotes trips and outdoor exposure. Through Outward Bound, Lawrenceville was blessed with its wonderful ropes course.

A huge part of Lawrenceville is the common language that connects all students together inside and outside the classroom. The “Lingo” at Lawrenceville really is unique to the school and in turn, creates a unique atmosphere. The Lawrenceville Lingo forms the campus into one.



Gloria Yu '26 / THE LAWRENCE

NBA Playoff Predictions

STANLEY DUFOUR '25

The 2022-23 National Basketball Association (NBA) regular season has been historic in many ways, featuring one of the tightest MVP races in recent years, six(!) players scoring over 30 points per game, an intense down-to-the-wire standings race, and a historic trade deadline. After a stellar regular season filled with storylines and suspense, the NBA world now shifts its focus to the upcoming playoffs.

Denver Nuggets vs Minnesota Timberwolves (Denver wins 4-2)

The Timberwolves have not had the ideal season, with their Rudy Gobert trade seeming like one of the worst in league history. Still, Minnesota could give the first seed a run for their money, provided that Gobert pulls through defensively against the reigning MVP Nikola Jokić, and the T-wolves shooters get into a rhythm. At the end of the day, however, Denver is just too balanced and deep to bet against, and Minnesota should take this loss and move on.

Memphis Grizzlies vs Los Angeles Lakers (Memphis wins 4-2)

The Lakers have looked like a completely different team since the trade deadline, but the Grizzlies have an experienced, albeit younger roster that should be able to compete

with the best of the best. Memphis will play without Steven Adams, taking away an elite screen setter and post defender, but their established dominance on both ends of the court should overwhelm the new-look Lakers, who are still looking for a team identity.

Sacramento Kings vs Golden State Warriors (Golden State wins 4-3)

The Sacramento "Beam Team" Kings have been electric this season, ending their 16-year playoff drought through a dominant offense, leading the league in points per game. However, despite the Warriors' underwhelming and chaotic season, they are still the defending champs and have much more playoff experience than the Kings. The Warriors are a demoralizing team to play against once they get into their rhythm from outside their arc, and as long as the Warrior's inconsistent post-defense holds up, Golden State will prevail against the young Kings.

Phoenix Suns vs Los Angeles Clippers (Phoenix wins 4-1)

Don't let their relatively low seeding fool you: the Suns are title favorites. They won 64 games last year, and that was before they added Kevin Durant. The Suns are well-rested and don't have to deal with the pressure of being the first seed square. They are undeniably one of the most talented

offensive teams of all time, and provided Deandre Ayton plays the same way he did in the Sun's 2021 playoff run, their defense should be elite as well. If the Clippers want any chance to win without Paul George, their shooting will be the key to their success. Their season will live and die behind the arc.

Milwaukee Bucks vs Miami Heat (Milwaukee wins 4-1)

The Bucks were without Khris Middleton last playoffs, but now he's back and ready to bring another championship to Milwaukee. Giannis Antetokounmpo has been on top of the league for a while, and it is not hard to see why given his otherworldly athleticism. Bam Adebayo guarding Giannis will be an interesting matchup, and I definitely trust playoff Jimmy Butler to get Miami at least one win, but against a much stronger Bucks team, it's hard to see them taking anything more than that.

Boston Celtics vs Atlanta Hawks (Boston wins 4-0)

The Celtics are top five in both offense and defense, and with an NBA Finals run already under their belt, they have all the tools necessary to beat Atlanta on both ends of the floor. The Hawks have been historically average this season, and while they are better than their record would suggest, I don't see them taking even a game

from the reigning conference champs.

Philadelphia 76ers vs Brooklyn Nets (Philadelphia wins 4-0)

The Nets are an interesting young team with a fun dynamic, but they're only in this position thanks to their record before the trade deadline. Meanwhile, the Sixers have been on a tear. If Joel Embiid continues his dominance, we might be able to overlook the bench and scoring holes this team has at least for this round. The Sixers are not perfect, but they're more than good enough to sweep the Nets clean out of the playoffs.

Cleveland Cavaliers vs New York Knicks (Cleveland wins 4-3)

This should be a fun, competitive series, in which an elite Knicks offense faces off against an elite Cleveland defense. The Knicks' key to winning this series is out-rebounding Cleveland, and getting some hot shooting nights. On the flip side, Cleveland could also put the Knicks away with hot shooting and by suffocating New York's paint scorers. This series is a coin toss, but the safer bet is Cleveland, led by an experienced playoff performer in Donovan Mitchell, who is surrounded by talented young players who will make the Cavs a force for years to come.

Athlete Profile: Emma Sung '25

'25
ELLA FESSLER '25

On Thursday, April 6, Emma Sung '25 hit the 100 strikeouts milestone during her Lawrenceville softball career. Starting on Varsity Softball as a II Former, Sung has quickly become an essential Big Red Girls' Softball team member. Coached by Jessica Magnuson, John Schiel H '78 P'97 '08 '10, and Rebekah Crane, the softball team has started the season with a record of 1-3. Hayley Williard '25, a fellow III Former, admires Sung's dedication, remarking that "Emma is extremely hard-working; she's always on the field putting in extra time. She is also a great leader for many of the younger girls on the team." Emma credits her achievement to the passion for softball her parents instilled in her from a young age. She comments on how she would skip from sport to sport early in her life, but softball just clicked, and she has been playing ever since.

Sung started pitching at around nine years old and has played a variety of positions, but ultimately fell in love with the pitcher position. She has played club softball for years and is currently playing for Ruthless, a team based in Jackson, located 30 minutes from her house. Additionally, Sung appreciates all the hard work her coaches and captains have put in over the past two years. She notes that if it weren't for the team bonding and closeness of her team, she would not have been nearly as successful in her career. Sung is excited for all of the new players on the team this year, and notes, "There are very few upperclassmen on the team this year. We are having fun, and the skills will show up as we get there [and] as we have more time to practice." Many girls on the team consider Emma an excellent example of what a model player looks like on and off the field. When asked what her plans are with softball after Lawrenceville, Sung mentions that no matter where she goes to college, she would love to continue playing, whether for school or for a club. Sung encourages everyone to try out softball. She details how fun the sport is, and how much it has changed her life. Sung has reached an incredible milestone, and Lawrenceville Athletics and the rest of the school cannot wait to see what else she can do in her remaining two years.

Caitlin Clark & The New Light Shed On Women's Basketball

ELLIE DUFFY '26

Over 9.9 million viewers watched this year's championship game of the Women's NCAA basketball tournament between Iowa and LSU, making it the most-watched women's college basketball game in history. This championship game was not only record-breaking in terms of its attraction, but it also featured a plethora of all-time talent like Angel Reese, Alyiah Johnson, and one of the most talented players to date, Caitlin Clark. Countless viewers were staring starry-eyed at the TV this weekend as this young superstar lit up the court. With her average of 27.8 points per game, she was the second-highest female scorer in the country. Clark's newfound popularity cemented her as a household name, attracting lots of popularity to women's college basketball.

On March 26, Caitlin Clark became the first player to tally

a 40-point triple-double in NCAA Tournament Division I history, putting up 41 points, 12 assists, and 10 rebounds during the Elite Eight game against Louisville. This basketball phenomenon has set multiple records with her ground-breaking scoring, earning her the John R. Wooden National Player of the Year and the Naismith Women's College Player of the Year—two of college basketball's most coveted awards. Clark, just like many of us, started as a young aspiring

player shooting in her backyard at home in Des Moines, Iowa with her two brothers. She started playing basketball on her AAU team in sixth grade and now attends the University of Iowa, where she is currently a junior. At Iowa, Clark was named second-team All-American her first year and then first-team

All-American her sophomore year. She followed up that achievement by breaking the record for all-time scoring in the NCAA March Madness with 191 points. Caitlin Clark, barely known months ago, has now crafted a record-breaking profile for herself.

Alongside Clark's fame, women's college basketball popularity has skyrocketed during the 2023 Women's NCAA Tournament. The 9.9 million viewers

during the championship game was a record for a women's college basketball game, in comparison to last year's average of about 4.5 million viewers for the Final Four. Not only has women's basketball hit a record number of views, but for the first time since 1995, the NCAA championship game was televised on the ABC Network. The

women's game, which took place in the Final Four stadium, was sold-out. The average price of a ticket for the Men's Final Four 2023, held at a significantly larger stadium than the women's, was \$234. Meanwhile, the women's tickets averaged about \$331, making the women's tickets 30 percent more expensive. The significant increase in the amount of viewers and fans watching the Women's basketball tournament shows that women's basketball is reaching a newfound level of recognition.

Clark's talent led Iowa to the championship game against Angel Reese, while also growing the popularity of women's basketball exponentially. With the help of Clark, this year's NCAA Tournament will be remembered as one of the greatest NCAA Women's tournaments of all time, showcasing many underlying talents that are changing the game forever.



Arts Picks

All Arts Night	Ally Calderon '24 Suave Captain	Kyle Park '23 Co-head of Voicemale	Tabara Fall '24 Co-head of Rouge	Ria Patel '23 Co-head of Muse	Stephanie Xu '23 Arts Rep
If you could master one thing without having to practice, what would it be?	I would love to master playing an instrument without having to practice, probably the piano	Singing soprano like Alistair	ALL INSTRUMENTS	Having the patience to complete an art piece	All Arts.
What's your go to song for getting ready in the morning?	Calm Down by Rema and Selena Gomez	The Imperial March	About Damn Time by Lizzo on a hype morning and No Worries by Devin Kennedy on a slow morning	24K Magic	I wish you would - Taylor Swift
What part of all arts night should everyone get excited for?	Everyone should be excited for Suave's performance and to participate in the workshops	Voicemale + the rest	All of it OBVI but extra excitement for the dance and a cappella groups!!	The food	Suave is the only correct answer. Just kidding! All of it.