

Conquering the Hill: Hill Day 2023



Photo of Hill Day Game Tournament

Nicole Halucka '26 / THE LAWRENCE

ETHAN ZHU '26
NEWS ASSOCIATE

This past Saturday on November 4, Lawrenceville athletes and students alike boarded buses headed for Pottstown, Pennsylvania, where the infamous Hill School sits atop a hill of its very own. Hill Day is an annual Fall Term event that celebrates the long-standing athletic rivalry between Lawrenceville and Hill that dates all the way back to 1887. On this day, Lawrenceville sports teams face off against Hill athletes while non-participating students don their Lawrenceville attire and cheer on their classmates. Students from the Boys' and Girls' Soccer, Boys' and Girls' Cross Country, Girls' Tennis, Girls' Field Hockey, and Boys' Football Teams all traveled to Hill to represent Lawrenceville, taking home a 9.5-6.5 win.

For Bastian Bocklage '26, a member of the Boys' Varsity Cross Country team, Hill Day was an exciting experience. In particular, he loved "seeing how everyone was doing in their sports games and cheering on all [his] classmates." "We had a lot more people show up from Lawrenceville to cheer athletes on this year, so it was a much more active atmosphere," Bocklage said. In addition to watching the games, Bocklage enjoyed "hanging out with Hill friends that [he'd] met from previous meets."

Rebecca Chen '27, who went to Hill as a spectator, noted that "the sports games put a good end to the fall sports season." "Even though the bus rides were long, there was a lot of spirit," she elaborated. Though the games were competitive and even intense at times, Chen recalled that "everyone was really respectful, and there was great sportsmanship from both sides."

Likewise, Junior Varsity Girls' Tennis player Anna Bao '27 found the event to be "really lively and energetic." Her favorite part of Hill Day was seeing the school spirit displayed by the spectators from both Lawrenceville and Hill. "Whenever we scored a point, we would get super loud; whenever they scored a point, they would get super loud...it was really nice to see the healthy competition between the schools," she said.

Varsity Boys' Soccer player Akhil Datla '24 loved seeing the Lawrenceville community come together for such a tradition, commenting that "in recent years, people weren't getting as fired up about Lawrenceville as they were before COVID." "Last year, during the last match of our season, we felt much more individualized... this year, we were more bonded, and there was more of a team spirited attitude," Datla elaborated.

The highlight of Hill Day for Isabella Jin '26 was spectating the sports games that Lawrenceville was taking the lead in. "In the soccer games, for example, we would get really close to scoring and everyone would get really excited," Jin said. She also noted that though the competition could get heated, the students at Hill were "very welcoming" to the visitors from Lawrenceville.

Athletes and supporters alike felt Hill Day marked a successful end to the fall season. "We really upped the intensity for this event, so it's a good conclusion for the sports season," Maggie Blundin '24 said.

Datla echoed her sentiments, saying, "The last match is always important, and it really leaves a lasting message... It's like you're climbing Mount Everest; you spend the entire season climbing higher and higher until you finally get there."

Celebrating the Festival of Lights

DOROTHY LEE '26
NEWS ASSOCIATE

On Monday, November 6, the Hindu Students Organization (HSO) hosted a Diwali celebration in front of the Edith Memorial Chapel. Diwali is a five-day Hindu celebration that also holds historical significance within Jain and Sikh culture. The date Diwali takes place every year in accordance with the Indian lunisolar calendar, as the celebration occurs on the darkest day of the lunar month—this year's Diwali will be observed on Sunday, November 12. Each religion honors this festival with different tales, but the essence of the holiday remains the same across the three cultures: celebrating light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.

"It's a big celebration where you spend time with family, spend time with your loved ones...eat food, light fireworks, [and] just have a good time," Sameer Menghani '24 explained. As one of the presidents of the HSO, Menghani helped plan the event; the preparation process included promoting the event during School Meeting, purchasing firecrackers and fireworks, and ordering traditional Diwali dishes for the attendees—these dishes included jalebi, kaju katli, soan cakes, samosas, and chai.

The festival began with a ritual of worship called a "puja," which is often performed as part of Diwali. The puja was followed by a student dance performance to the song "ChammaKhallo" by Senegalese singer Akon

and Indian popstar Hamsika Iyer. The dance was choreographed by Sonia Singhal '24, who is the captain of Nachale, Lawrenceville's Bollywood and Indian classical dance ensemble. "Dancing has been important to [her] [her] whole life," Singhal said, "and it is another [way] to explore [her] background." To Singhal, Diwali is an opportunity to "celebrate family." At Lawrenceville, that means "hanging out with different people and celebrating an important part of [her] heritage."

Singhal's favorite part of Diwali was the fireworks that concluded the celebration. "It is the Festival of Lights...so we always light candles and watch fireworks," Menghani added.

Reflecting on her experience, Arya Vishwakarma '25 said, "Diwali is a cultural celebration as well as a religious one...because Hinduism is more than a religion. It is a way of life." She described the festival as "a reason to gather and celebrate together during the dark times of Winter Term."

Menghani believe that the celebration gave "everyone, regardless of their religion," the opportunity to "build community at school" while learning more about Hindu culture. With Diwali being more than just having fun with food and firecrackers, he hopes for the attendees to remember what this celebration of light represents. "Even when times are difficult, things are going to pass...Come together and things will be better in the long run," Menghani concluded.

A Look into Spirit Week

CHARLES POTTER '25 &
SOPHIE CHENG '25
NEWS ASSOCIATES

Last week, Lawrentians showed their excitement for Hill Day through Spirit Week, where students were encouraged to wear themed outfits to classes. Student Council picked a unique theme for each school day during Spirit Week, encouraging all students to participate and show their Lawrenceville pride. Vice President of Social Life Grace Chu '24 noted that their goal was to find themes that would "be the most fun and easiest for students to follow and thus get the most participation." "I especially had fun posting all the outstanding outfits on the Lawrenceville Student Life Instagram page," Chu added.

Spirit Week kicked off with Pajama Day on Monday. Students could be seen across campus wearing sweatpants, sweatshirts, and flannel pants, with some even coming to school dressed in onesies. Lawrentians jumped at the chance to sit in their Monday classes with cotton pajama pants instead of khakis. "My favorite day was pajama day because it was really great to just come to school and not have to worry about the dress code, be comfortable, and see that most people were participating in the theme," Mia Kincade '25 said. She speculated that Pajama Day had the most participants out of all the Spirit Week themes and thought that this participation showed "unity as a school against Hill."

Tuesday, the second day of Spirit Week, fell on Halloween. In celebra-

tion of this spooky holiday, students were seen walking to classes in costumes ranging from Barbie Doll costumes to green blow-up aliens. "Walking around campus and seeing all the costumes was really fun," Aoife Kilfeather '24 said. Lawrentians from all Forms spent their Tuesday evening donning their costumes and trick-or-treating at faculty housing.

Wednesday's theme was Twin Day, which encouraged students to wear matching outfits with a friend. For Jalen Gravesande '25, Wednesday was the best day of Spirit Week because he enjoyed seeing his friends "twinned up" and loved how the theme "allowed people to be more collaborative with their outfits and explore their creativity."

Thursday's theme was inspired by the Hill School's formal dress code, which encouraged Lawrentians to wear blazers along with their regular school attire. Kingsley Hughes '24 saw "a lot of people going all out," noting that the day was "an absolute hit." Blazer Day shifted the focus of Spirit Week more to Lawrenceville's rivalry with Hill, creating anticipation and eagerness for Hill Day.

To end Spirit Week on a spirited note, Friday's theme was to wear Lawrenceville merchandise. Kosiso Okonkwo '25 said that Friday was "such a great time for the School to come together in harmony and celebrate Lawrenceville's premeditated victory over Hill." "I loved showing my Lawrenceville pride...it just made me feel like we're all one," Okonkwo said.

This year's Spirit Week was highly anticipated, and helped raise school spirit and foster more Lawrenceville pride in the days leading up to Hill Day.



THE LAWRENCE

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CORRECTIONS

Readers who notice errors should contact lpark24@lawrenceville.org.

In our October 27 issue, we published the wrong page for page two of our Opinions Section. The proper Editorial—"Democracy, If We Can Keep It"—has been correctly published in the digital version of The Lawrence.

In a previous article concerning the scholars programs, we additionally failed to mention the Leopold Scholars. A QR code redirecting to information on the Leopold Scholars has been listed below.



Dogs of the Week
Summer
Sofia Carlisi '24



Editorial

Ramming The Hill

Even after 135 years of Hill and Lawrenceville competition, The Hill School has yet to learn that clacking spoons will not automatically enhance their athletic abilities. While Hill storms athletic fields in matching navy blazers, Lawrenceville's long-term commitment to preparation and athletic excellence is the key to the School's recent winning streak. If the Meigs-Green Cup was awarded on a basis of how seriously a team takes the rivalry and the formality of the school's dress code, Lawrenceville may have to cede the award to Hill, but thankfully, the Cup represents hard work, composure, and overall dominance instead.

The Hill School is founded on time-entrenched customs. Students are required to memorize their school chant and fight songs, attend biweekly chapel services, spend lunches in a family-style dining setting, and most visibly, wear blazers...everywhere. Besides immersing students in a 19th-century boarding school living history museum (especially as the school requires day students to board for at least one year), traditions like these are designed to galvanize Hill spirit, especially when it's most needed—when the Lawrenceville Goliath visits Pottstown.

Unfortunately for the Hill, ritual alone does not win championships. While Hill is whacking wooden dinner tables, exchanging brooms, and reciting Edwardian songs, Lawrenceville conducts its own Spirit Week. Instead of the weird, ritualistic traditions which Hill partakes in such as the questionably motivated red meat meal before Hill/Lawrenceville Day or the continuous droning of the Hill

School Fight Song, Lawrenceville has successfully modernized how students bolster school pride, instilling the process with a sense of humor not found in the Hill's sit-down dining halls or gothically elevated campus. The Lawrenceville Spirit Week started mellow. Monday, students left their pajamas on. Tuesday, students and a few spirited teachers dressed in costumes for Halloween. Wednesday, students twinned with each other. Thursday, students donned the blazer (and wore them better than Hill students do). Friday, students threw on their Lawrenceville merch and gathered for a pep rally that celebrated friends and athletes. Each successive day brought students closer together and added more school spirit into student life. Participation in each event was celebrated, and only grew throughout the week. Impressively, Lawrenceville's consistently high turnout at voluntary events exceeded that of Hill's mandatory events. Even though Lawrenceville lacks a bonfire and many of its pre-Covid traditions, Lawrentians don't need event after event to know that they will sweep Hill, or to know that the Meigs-Green Cup will go home with them. Instead, Lawrentians channel their energy and excitement into fewer, more impactful events. As opposed to uniting solely through a hatred of Hill, the Student Council gathers students on a basis of appreciation for one another.

While Spirit Week is a common tradition between the two schools, Lawrentians know how to show up and show off. With the Vice President of Social Life crafting a theme for each day, every Lawrentian is challenged to upstage each other, and even better, to upstage

the Rams across the border. Pajama-clad athletes, teachers in costumes, and students choosing to don blazers show what real school spirit looks like: effortless and natural, something distinctly Big Red. Even at the week's final pep rally, activities were based on a light-hearted spirit of games and fun competition. The student body did not excitedly gather in anticipation of tearing Hill to shreds; instead, we built each other up through student dance performances and displays of athletic prowess.

With each school spirit event crafted to deliver a new, original experience for students, each event delivers more—students don't feel worn out by being demanded, repeatedly, to cheer on command. Instead of the futile and anticlimactic collection of Hill's Lawrenceville Week, with iconoclastic celebrations intent on criticizing Lawrenceville's perceived flaws, Big Red focuses on fostering community and building on students' preexisting excellence. Lawrentians focus their energy into fewer and more concentrated events, bringing their spirit to each one in full force.

Lawrenceville continuously proves that there is much more to winning Hill-Lawrenceville day than having full buses and a loud fan base. Hill's stylized pre-game rituals have clearly failed to translate into tangible success on the field, while Lawrenceville's balance of tradition and commitment to excellence have rendered them the more formidable competitor as proven by our respectable 3 year win streak. We do it better, @hillnews.

Humanity's Friendly Ghost

IMANI GASKIN '25
OPINIONS ASSOCIATE

“Don't ask a question if you don't want to hear the answer.” This refrain was constantly echoed by my father throughout my childhood. It would ring out against any asinine questions of mine like “should I skip school today?” or “do I feel like driving right now?” Of course I knew that I was undoubtedly going to school and that my parents were never letting a 12-year-old behind the wheel, yet there was something deeply enjoyable about imagining I had a choice. My dad's proclamation would often leave me upset as I reveled in the fun of pretending I had options.

When asked if they have free will, most people would vehemently say yes. However, upon careful consideration, verifying this belief proves extremely difficult. Encyclopædia Britannica describes free will as “the power to make decisions or perform actions independently of any prior event or state of the universe.” In a world where mountains of information are always a few clicks away, people find themselves consuming knowledge at lightning

speed. People may find their opinions being influenced by the wide variety of perspectives fed to them online. In understanding this phenomenon, it becomes quite clear that humans do not exist in vacuums, and as such, we can't make decisions or act truly independent from outside influences. Yet, people still insist they have free will, and in some ways they are correct. In reality, people's inability to reconcile these two thoughts is exactly what free will is based on: ignorance. People who do not recognize that any of their actions are truly independent feel more responsible for their actions. Confident in themselves, they create a fantasy where people hold infinite power over their lives and their choices, also known as free will.

Crafting the fantasy of choice is necessary to believe in free will. It is good, however, that free will only exists as a concept, as the idea of free will in its purest form calls for a person to block out all of their knowledge and surroundings when making decisions—a feat which is not only impossible but ignorant in itself. People are naturally informed by

their experiences. This process of learning from one's past is what creates space for growth. If each choice we made was conducted completely independently of prior context, resolutions, and outside advice, people would be unable to learn from the mistakes of themselves and others. This

Free Will

Gloria Yu '26 /THE LAWRENCE

calls into question the legitimacy of free will as a constructive tool in living a progressive life.

In *The Audacity of Hope*, Barack Obama speaks of the American Dream as being “rooted in a basic optimism about life and a faith in free will.” From this notion,

it can be understood then that free will is largely seen as a cornerstone of freedom, yet is free will truly conducive to leading a free and positive life? If free will were to actually occur and people were afforded the liberty of completely independent thoughts, no restrictions could be placed on their behavior. Not only would the existence of authentic free will impact society in social and cultural ways, but also the sanctity of rules would become obsolete and anarchy would ensue. A society in which any good, bad or downright heinous thought is one in which you are free to act upon is one in which most people would not be enthusiastic to be a part of. This quality, seen as a pillar of American order and freedom, would lead to chaos. This dichotomy speaks to the deeply complex nature of free will, specifically the difference between free will as an ideal and free will as an implemented system.

The fact that we live in an organized society where there are checks on behavior is proof enough that free will, by its textbook definition, does not exist.

What does exist is free will as an ideal to believe in. The facade of autonomy, which helps people get through the day is as critical to society as the laws and cultural norms which inhibit true free will. The delicate balance of the dream of free will and its reality is what keeps society functioning. The maintenance of the illusion of free will is of the utmost importance to maintaining social order and keeping people happy.

Thus I wish to impart the same advice my father gave to me onto you to apply to the question of whether free will exists. “Don't ask the question if you don't want to hear the answer.” Continue to debate the everyday choices and try not to spend too much time analyzing whether your eventual decision was inevitable or not. As much as free will is an illusion, it is one I have enjoyed since childhood and one in which I plan to continue reveling in. Belief in free will, whether justified or not, helps people to step into their decisions with confidence which can only be gleaned from their faith in their own autonomy.

A Deeper Dive into the Hutchins Scholars in Social Justice Presentations

ELLEN JORDAN '26
NEWS ASSOCIATE

This summer, as part of the Hutchins Scholars in Social Justice Program, led by Zaheer Ali Lawrenceville offered a group of rising V Formers the opportunity to stay on campus for two weeks and immerse themselves in topics related to social justice. During the program, participants learned about a variety of tools used in social advocacy and campaign movements, such as the power of storytelling. The end goal of the program was for participants to apply their new understanding of social justice to a project of their choice. Hutchins Social Justice

Scholars Cassie Dillard '24 and Chloe Winograd '24 were interviewed about their experience with the program and their final presentations.

For Dillard, being a Hutchins Social Justice Scholar helped her gain more perspective on social justice in a larger societal context. "Before Hutchins, I could see only what was right in front of me, and now I feel like my whole vision is broader," Dillard explained.

She also appreciated how she was able to apply her knowledge from the program—most notably their learning with policy and advocating for social change—to her other leadership roles, especially as this year's Student Council Wellness Representative.

During the Hutchins program, Dillard conducted research into Narcan, an over-the-counter nasal spray that can treat narcotic overdose in emergency situations. Specifically, she investigated Narcan accessibility in New Jersey schools and other boarding schools: "I reached out to all the medical directors [at Lawrenceville], private



Photo of Jessica Peters '24 presenting her project.

Courtesy of The Lawrenceville School

boarding schools, and the local private schools that are part of MAPL."

Dillard's research yielded a fascinating result: while Lawrenceville carries Narcan only in the infirmary, most other schools in the area keep Narcan in at least one if not all of their buildings. "And there's also the shocking numbers of how many teenagers die from opioid overdose every day," Dillard added.

This research pushed Dillard to make advocating for greater Narcan accessibility at Lawrenceville the focal point of her project. "Increasing Narcan accessibility is just something that is so easy and also so prevalent right now," she continued. Dillard believes that making Narcan more readily available at Lawrenceville—specifically through keeping it in all dorms and public safety vehicles—would be incredibly beneficial to student safety on campus.

As part of her project, Dillard also met with multiple Lawrenceville faculty members, including the Dean of Campus Wellbeing Rae

Chresfield, and the Medical Director, Chris Renjilian. "It takes a lot of steps, and you have to meet with the Medical Director, the Head of School, the Assistant Head of School, the Dean of Wellbeing, and get all of these people to approve your idea before changes can actually be made," Dillard said.

However, more than just gaining support from the adults on campus, Dillard also faced challenges in posing her idea to the student body. "People at Lawrenceville are just really busy, and it can be hard to get students to advocate for something when it doesn't affect them directly," she explained.

Though the presentations are over, Dillard's work is far from done: "I'm not going to give up on this... I've been trying to make Narcan more accessible on campus since before Hutchins, and I'm planning on carrying it out after Hutchins," she concluded.

Winograd applied for the Hutchins Scholars in Social Justice program after seeing how dedicated the scholars were towards making positive change in the

Lawrenceville community. "One of the amazing things about [the program] is that it teaches you effective ways to participate in and organize social justice movements," she elaborated.

For her project, Winograd chose to research gender inequities in healthcare and how harmful ideologies such as sexism and racial discrimination impact the medical field. "The project focused on the ideas of women's pain being invalidated, and the ideologies of women's pain being mistaken for dramatics," she explained.

Winograd was inspired to investigate this topic because of her own interest in the healthcare field, as she hopes to pursue a career in medicine. Additionally, she believes that many people "often don't realize how much social inequities play into different fields," especially the healthcare industry. With her project, Winograd aims to bring to light more of the injustices that individuals face in healthcare due to misogyny and racial prejudice.

"It's scary to think that half of our population may not be receiving

adequate healthcare, and that inequities exist even in the administering of treatments," she explained.

A significant part of Winograd's project included reading articles and analyzing statistics related to the topic. Through her research, Winograd learned more about the impact of negative ideologies, such as sexism and racism on the medical field, resulting in the underrepresentation of women working in the medical field. "I think that I really just tried to read a lot and find a resource that I think that everyone would benefit from seeing," she said. One such resource that Winograd utilized during her research process was the Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR), a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C., that focuses on advocating for women's health. She shared SWHR newsletters with a number of her classmates in hopes of getting more peers to sign up for the newsletter and stay more up-to-date on the realm of women's health.

Like Dillard, Winograd also encountered hardships in applying her research to making visible change within the Lawrenceville community. "Compared to a lot of other places, Lawrenceville is very privileged in terms of healthcare resources... it was challenging to get people who might not be impacted much by an issue to care about it," she elaborated. Winograd's goal was to strike a balance between making the issue relevant to the Lawrenceville community without losing the "general sentiment" of her findings.

Although her time in the program has come to an end, Winograd hopes to continue her research and build upon what she has learned.

Your Next Five-Star Read: *I'll Give You the Sun* Review

REBECCA STREETER '26

Set in a fictional town along the coast of California, *I'll Give You the Sun* by Jandy Nelson is written from the point-of-view of two teenage twins, Noah and Jude Sweetwine. Unlike most books narrated from multiple perspectives, Noah and Jude's perspectives are set three years apart from each other. These three years are far from uneventful, leaving the reader reeling. Noah, previously an artsy loner in love with the boy next door, somehow becomes a popular cross-country runner. Jude, on the other hand, does the reverse, changing from a popular surfer to a superstitious sculptor wearing hoodies and skull caps who has sworn off relationships. Even worse, the twins' already failing relationship seems to have broken off completely. This time jump prompts so many questions that stop the reader from putting the book down, leaving them to try to guess what could have happened. As the pieces of the story come together, they form a beautiful picture that intertwines the novel's various characters become interwoven, forming a web of backstories and connected tales merging into one.

As the story progresses, the plot doesn't just happen to the characters. Instead, their actions and desires drive the main events. Some books are more plot-based; a sickness strikes, so the hero flees, and the story starts. Others—like this book—are character-driven; Noah and Jude's mom decides they should both apply to an art school, and their resulting decisions shape the plot. But Noah

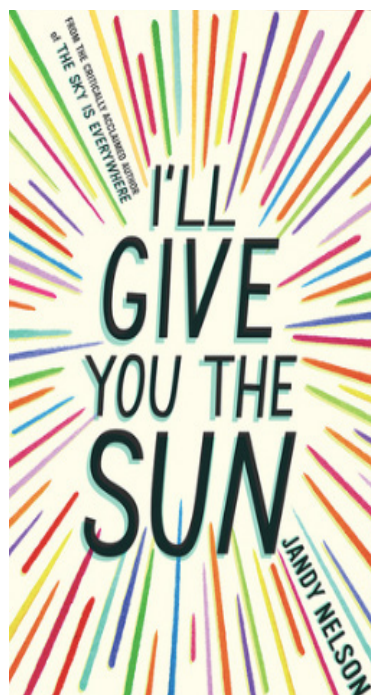
and Jude's life-changing decisions aren't the only focus of the story. Many other characters get their moments in the spotlight and make decisions that dramatically change the course of the story, allowing readers insight into the twins' unique lives. We learn the motivations of Noah's new friend—and crush—next door, Brian, a closeted boy who feels pressured to remain so in order to keep his baseball scholarship. Jude meets Oscar, whose traumatizing backstory affects many of his decisions, and the sculptor Guillmero's connection to the Sweetwines comes to light. Each and every character is written realistically: with care, with thought, and with clear motivations. Except for a few characters who are meant to be hateable, you will come to root for every character despite their faults.

Additionally, with this view this into characters' decisions, the reader gains a new perspective on the developing relationships between all the characters. The incredibly nuanced detail written into every relationship intertwines all of the characters. The novel explores how these changing relationships impact the character's lives with skill and thought. For example, at the beginning of the book, Noah and Jude have an incredibly close bond. Noah even goes as far as to say they "have one soul between [them] that [they]... share." Unfortunately, the time skip of three years shows that the same bond is broken, with each twin secretly longing for their old closeness. The other twin always features heavily in both twins' thoughts, and it becomes clear how naturally intertwined the pair is, as the reader sees both sides of their story. Each relationship in the

book is like this to some extent, and somehow, every character's side comes to light and gives each relationship more depth.

Finally, on top of the excellent writing throughout, this book represents queerness, published at a time when it was hard to find LGBTQ+ literature on the shelves of a bookshop. Books like this one are incredibly important for people, especially teens, looking for representation a decade ago. The characters are all realistic and can be relatable to many people due to their expertly written stream of consciousness, their explosive feelings—both good and bad—their wide range of ages, and their diversity.

I'll Give You the Sun is an absolute must-read for any reader who loves realistic fiction with character development and plot twists.



Courtesy of *The Foodie Bibliophile Blog*

The Hutchins Gallery's Newest Exhibit



Flock: A True Story (2017)

Courtesy of *Jamie Greenfield*

SOPHIE YANG '26

A bright yellow bird looks out at a cloudy morning sky through an old sewer pipe as music spews from the leaking water faucets. A flock of faucet birds sings, and the growing pea pod beside them wraps its tongues around the birds, yearning for a taste of that same music. In another sky is an eye or the window to the soul, looking at a place beyond our reach. We don't know what the eye is looking at, yet a subtle sense of familiarity radiates from its gaze, and I get the feeling that this mysterious eye, with a hint of mischievousness, knows some secrets about how to reveal the hidden truth beneath them.

Beneath the eyelids, a circular garden takes root. Planted in the eyes are two saplings intertwined with taut, red string, as if they were the gateway to another world, and a zipper drops down above it, unraveling the darkness and revealing the pristine, white background.

Then, as we're submerged in darkness, a panorama of the cosmos—a "cosmorama," if you will—emerges, showing an almost alien-like interpretation of our universe. Insect-like creatures and alien plants crawl up from the depths while our stars and planets bloom into flowers, and the tiny sphere of our universe spins and spins and spins...

These scenes are not fictional. They are real, as pieces of art that now reside in the Hutchins Gallery as a part of Jamie Greenfield's artist exhibition. Needless to say, the artistry of Jamie Greenfield is meticulous, dynamic, and mesmerizing. With subtle strokes of charcoal and gouache in her artwork, she creates looking glasses into different worlds, exploring nature and its beauty, the cosmos and the surreal, chaos, and harmony.

Greenfield's art carries the motif of portals. In contrast to the stiffness

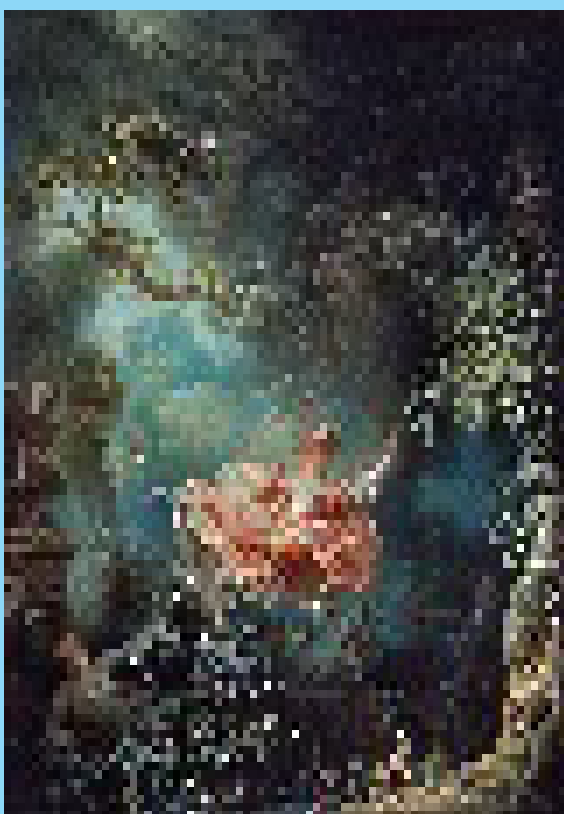
of the rectangular canvas, she uses rounded circles to break the normal perception and limitations of art, luring her viewers into the unknown. In my opinion, Greenfield's art consists of a collection of mirrors that look into different worlds, but she layers these individual scenes together in such a skillful way that what could have easily been a muddled mess retains a unique, coherent story. For her technique, Greenfield combines all sorts of different media. According to Greenfield, she does not have a detailed, step-by-step plan for her paintings. Instead, she paints and draws "with the flow," leaving her decisions up to her artistic instincts. Thus, she leaves parts of her drawings in pencil, some in rough charcoal and others in soft, delicate gouache. Because of the contrast between these different textures, values, and shapes, these scattered and surreal scenes lucidly piece themselves together like a puzzle, creating the grand, cosmic universe of Greenfield's imagination.

So, experience the wonder of Greenfield's art for yourself in the Hutchins Gallery, and when you do, stop in front of one that catches your eye. Look past the aesthetics, the surface-level paint strokes, and let your eyes wander from bird to bird to flower to the planet, and, even for a little bit, try to understand Jamie Greenfield's world.



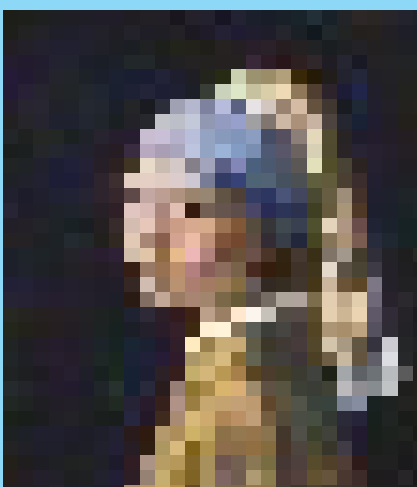
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Pixelated Paintings



Courtesy of *Eric Ingenito P'24*

Which famous paintings are pictured? If you can tell from the pixelated images, email scarlisi24@lawrenceville.org to receive a prize for answering correctly!



Courtesy of *Eric Ingenito P'24*

The Future of Concerts is...Spherical?

ELLIE TURCHETTA '25

Going to a concert is an experience like no other. From the loudspeakers and bright lights to seeing your favorite artist in the flesh, the concert atmosphere is electric. Many concert venues in the US and around the world, such as Red Rocks, Madison Square Garden, and the Hollywood

Bowl, are famous for hosting the most famous artists. But Las Vegas may have just one-upped all these concert spaces with an all-new venue: the Sphere.

The Sphere, which opened on September 29, seats nearly 20,000 people and is a revolutionary space for its one-of-a-kind audio and visual effects. Inside the Sphere, concertgoers will find a 16k resolution LED wrap-around screen, speakers with wave synthesis technology, and

seats with 4D physical effects. The Madison Square Garden Company announced this \$2 billion project in 2018, which contains 1.2 million hockey puck-sized LED lights that can work together to display 256 million colors. As if this is not enough to amaze the public, the outside of the Sphere is made up of LEDs that can display any image, whether it's the earth, the moon, or a blinking eye.

On September 30, the Irish rock band U2 played the first concert at the Sphere, the first of their 25-show residency. U2's concert consisted of mind-blowing visuals, making use of the thousands of LEDs on the ceiling. According to a *New York Times* reviewer, the lead singer was having a little bit of trouble singing because of Vegas' dry air but the band's use of their backdrop was more than enough to make the concert enjoyable.

With the opening of this groundbreaking invention, we can only begin to ask ourselves this question: how important is a venue to the concert experience? With thousands of concert venues across the country, only a few have become household names. What makes the famous venues different from the rest?

The Red Rocks Amphitheater in Colorado is one of America's few

famous venues. Built into a beautiful rock structure with a huge rock angled vertically towards the stage, Red Rocks can hold almost 10,000 people. In 1999, it was nominated for the best small venue in America for the 11th time. While an artist playing at this venue might sound no different than at another venue, the outdoorsy atmosphere at such a beautiful space only 10 miles from Denver creates a whole different ambiance. Just imagine the photos you could take!

All the way on the east coast, about 1800 miles away, is the famous Madison Square Garden, known more affectionately as the Garden or MSG. Home of the New York Rangers and the New York Knicks, MSG is famous for not only hosting crazy sports games but also amazing concerts. MSG has hosted a total of 2,557 concerts, making it the most high-profile concert venue in New York City. Even better, MSG sits right next to Penn Station, making it extremely convenient to travel to a concert by train. While MSG might not seem all that different from any other concert place at first glance, the venue's longevity gives it its boost. Fittingly mottoed "The World's Most Famous Arena," the Garden has been around since 1879 and will be around

to host concerts and sports events for decades to come. For artists, playing at MSG is seen as a huge milestone, almost synonymous with "making it" in the music industry. Even better than just playing at MSG is selling out MSG; once an artist does that, they know their fan base is dedicated and can go on to play more tour dates or even do stadium tours.

Overall, venues ranging in size across the US all have completely different things to offer. Red Rocks has its beautiful atmosphere, MSG has its iconic reputation, and as the latest addition, the Sphere has dazzling technology to transform the concert experience. And while the artist certainly is the draw of the concert, the venues have more influence than people might think. A venue can create a special ambiance for a concert and allow an artist to create the environment and effects they envision their music will be perceived best in. The more famous venues add credibility to an artist's popularity and serve as a milestone for artists in their musical careers to work towards and build on. Even though the power of the venue is often overlooked, its impact on a concert is greater than people think.



Las Vegas's the Sphere

Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

1989 Is Out of the Woods

MELINA KYRIAKOPOULOS '27

1989, an album written by Taylor Swift, is home to songs that we all know and love, like "Shake It Off" and "Blank Space," and others that remain "hidden gems" (if such popular songs can even be labeled such). *1989* has won a slew of different awards, including the Grammy for Album of the Year in 2016, selling over 10 million copies, and cemented Swift as a true musical superstar in the pop stratosphere.

In August, during the last night of the North American leg of The Eras Tour, Swift announced *1989 (Taylor's Version)*, a re-recording of the 2014 hit, and fans have highly anticipated the new album's release. When the re-recording of the album hit Spotify at 12:00 AM on October 27, Swift became the most-streamed artist in a day in Spotify's history. But this album has been out for years. Why is this "new version" so special?

In a nutshell, Swift does not own her first six albums due to a contract with her old label, and her Taylor's Version allows her to reclaim her past songs. A Taylor's Version album includes craftily re-recorded versions of her iconic songs, new visual branding and merchandise, and a handful of previously unreleased pieces of music in addition to rights for Swift over her music. These new songs, also known as the vault tracks, typically are the stars of the new album releases, and this time around, it was no different.

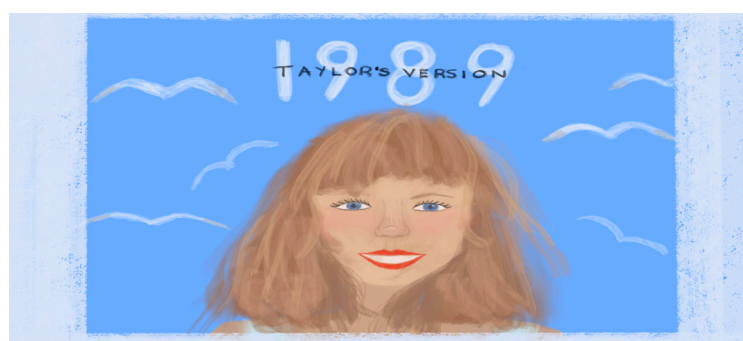
There were five vault tracks in *1989 (Taylor's Version)*. This includes "Sl*t," "Say Don't Go," "Now That We Don't Talk," "Suburban Legends," and "Is It Over Now?". One of the most anticipated vault tracks, "Sl*t," artistically paints images of tropical scenes in our heads while Swift tells

us the story of her publicized love. As referenced in the *1989 (Taylor's Version)* prologue posted by Swift, this song highlights the public's reactions to all of Swift's relationships. Many assumed that all her relationships were intimate. Lyrics like, "But if I'm all dressed up/They might as well be lookin' at us/And if they call me a sl*t/You know it might be worth it for once," reflect how she felt under this microscopic view during this time period. She comes to the realization that her being in love will always come with the label of being a sl*t, and this song is her coming to terms with it. At the end of the song, screams ring out, possibly depicting the constant flow of critics voicing their opinions, disrupting the peaceful vibe of the song. "Say Don't Go" is the second vault track, which stands out for its typical *1989* feel, catchy lyrics, and tasteful production. "Say Don't Go" explores unreciprocated love, bringing lyrics such as, "Why'd you have to lead me on? Why'd you have to twist the knife? Walk away and leave me bleedin'." Accompanying these lyrics come a very pop and bubbly chorus (despite the somber, resentful lyrics), that urges the listener to belt alongside Swift. Similar design elements, like cries for affection, echoing voices, and suspenseful verse instrumentals, cement this song as one of my favorites from the previously unreleased

bunch. "Now That We Don't Talk" and "Suburban Legends" come next, and both hold sounds similar to those heard prior on the album. Although these songs are truthfully less notable, with every listen, I have found myself admiring a new part of both of these songs. *1989 (Taylor's Version)* closes out with "Is It Over Now?", a song that is very *1989* with a hint of *Midnights*. Sticking with the high-quality production of the other songs on this album, it does not lack seagull sounds and classic Swift vocal overlays. The buzz of this song mostly surrounds the person she supposedly wrote it for, but the fun, sarcastic lyrics keep listeners encapsulated.

Aside from the largely stylish and notable vault tracks, small changes have been made to the original songs. Some changes have been more controversial, such as the difference in guitar tone and over-perfection that takes place in the song "Style." Other songs have gotten upgrades, such as the new, futuristic details that were added to "I Know Places."

1989 (Taylor's Version) is full of love, anger, fear, fun, and games. Reclaiming this album is an incredibly powerful move that reminds listeners of memories that came along with the original. With only two more albums left to re-record, it is safe to say Swift's discography has never been better.



Phoebe Rayner '27/THE LAWRENCE

This Week in Lville Arts



Sofia Carlisi '24/THE LAWRENCE

V Formers Helena Chen and Claire Chow presented their amazing work at the Academic Showcase on November 8.

On November 10, at 7:00 PM in the McGraw Reading Room, the Fall Play Reading will take place.



Courtesy of The Periwig Club



Sofia Carlisi '24/THE LAWRENCE

Come watch En Corps amazing dancers at the November Dance Series this Saturday, on the KAC stage.

After the November Dance Series, join Impluse and the Larries for a special performance in Clark at 8:30 PM.



Courtesy of The Periwig Club

Champ Atlee: A Legacy of Poetry and Teaching

JENNY ZHAO '25

Not many at Lawrenceville have seen the School through its ups, downs, and roundabouts—one individual who can undoubtedly claim this honor is Champ Atlee '62 H '74 '75 '79 '83 '84 '06 P '92. Boasting an impressive collection of previous American Poetry Review's "America's Best Poetry" issues within his classroom in Woods Memorial Hall, Atlee has taught in the English Department for an astonishing 55 years. Atlee was the head coach of the Boys' Varsity Baseball Team for several decades before retiring in 2016, granting him the role of a distinguished teacher, baseball player, and coach. Currently, he focuses on teaching two senior electives, West Of Everything and Legal Practice And Procedures, with Poetry Seminar and the IV Form English course, Advanced Poetry, on the horizon for the upcoming term.

When reflecting on his life as a poet, Atlee fondly recalls that his passion for the literary art form began in moments from his childhood spent with his



Photo of Champ Atlee

mother and brother, specifically remembering the cherished collection of poems in "Brady's Bend: And Other Ballads" by Martha Keller. The definitive start of his career, however, is a poem he wrote while a student at Lawrenceville, one that "for reasons unknown to [him]," his then-English teacher "really liked." The affirmation from his mentor regarding a seemingly insignificant poem

always "stayed in [his] head," resurfacing in "notebooks with half-finished poems" during his 20's. Towards the turn of Atlee's career, he realized his wish to be more "well-versed on contemporary poets." Diverging from a "fixation with professional baseball" and committing to an hour-long trek each week to New York, Atlee enrolled in a workshop at a YMCA tailored for those with a strong

dedication to poetry. He recalls that this pivotal course was the true catalyst in his journey to "write poems seriously," helping him publish numerous works in nationwide and local magazines, including "This Broken Shore," an annual journal featuring New Jersey-based poets.

Balancing his career as a poet and a teacher, Atlee believes that the School has supported him both "practically" and

"encouragingly." He maintains that "teaching literature and particularly teaching poetry has kept issues alive in [his] mind." In deference to the poetry courses he teaches in the Winter Term, Atlee claims the courses have been a "pleasant mix" for him to have "all the excuse in the world to read what [he loves] to read and then to talk about it with students."

Having been at Lawrenceville for decades, Atlee appreciates the many ways in which the School has remained consistent throughout the years—from "the engagement in the classroom" to the knowledge that he will "inquire from one day to the next." He has recognized the "power of the conversation" around the Harkness table as something that has "carried" him throughout his teaching career. As Atlee puts it, "when the door closes at the beginning of the hour, it's the same as it's always been." With his enduring passion for poetry and education, Atlee's significant impact on the School reflects his legacy at Lawrenceville.

A Deli-cious Tale: The Lawrenceville Sandwich Co.

ELLIE TURCHETTA '25

The new face on Main Street, The Lawrenceville Sandwich Company, has caused much a stir among students and locals alike. Opened on October 9, the Lawrenceville Sandwich Company has a huge menu to offer to customers; not only do they offer New Jersey breakfast staples like bacon-egg-and-cheese sandwiches and chocolate chip pancakes, they also have a wide array of hot and cold sandwiches, as well as plenty of options for sides. The shop's variety of choices offers a new food option on Main Street that the other places don't quite have.

Over Parents' Weekend, the sandwich shop was a huge hit, with many families wanting to try the new food. Sarah Rodrigues '25 visited during this time, and while she expected great food for Friday lunch, she felt mildly disappointed. "I had ordered a hot sandwich with my friend for lunch because we didn't want to go to Tsai," she said, "but we

ended up waiting 50 minutes for our sandwiches, and they even got my order wrong. I wanted to be impressed but I was sad that I couldn't enjoy [the sandwich shop] as much as I wanted to." While they reimbursed her for the inconvenience, Rodrigues was still frustrated with her experience.

On the other hand, Riley McKibben '25 had an overall positive experience at the shop. McKibben ordered an avocado bagel and chocolate chip pancakes, and noted "[the food] was really good, but really expensive... because avocado is such a commodity in this world and we don't have it at Tsai because it's so expensive, it was worth it to me." She also felt like the sandwich shop would be the place on Main Street for 'real' food. The sandwich shop "really serves its own purpose on Main Street," she said. "It's more of a place that serves genuine food, unlike TJ's, where you go for the ambiance. I don't know many times where I'm craving a pizza, but I can see people craving an egg sandwich, or pancakes, or



Outside The Lawrenceville Sandwich Co.

whatever else they offer." Most importantly, McKibben noted how it made her feel like she was eating somewhere off campus. "The place really made me feel like I wasn't in Lawrenceville Township, and that was really special and not something I get to experience everyday."

Even though the shop has only been in business for a month, the Lawrenceville Sandwich Company has certainly made a splash on campus. It offers a new, wide range of food items that can take Lawrentians away from the mundane TJ's slice or Starbucks drink, and serves as a way to eat

better food off campus at a closer distance. While wait times were certainly inconvenient during the rush of Parent's Weekend, with time the lines will die down, and students and locals alike will be able to enjoy a sandwich, a bagel, or whatever of their choosing at the newest addition to Main Street.

Courtesy of Cindy Shum '24

II Formers Learned to Climb the Hill

ARYANA IYER '27
SPORTS ASSOCIATE

This past Saturday, the school community traveled to Pottstown, Pennsylvania to watch Big Red's sports teams participate in Hill Day, a core Lawrenceville tradition dating back 136 years. While most of the school community was decked in red and white, cheering on friends and peers, the II Formers brought a fresh energy while experiencing their first Hill Day. II Formers learned how to show spirit and pride for the community, and most importantly, were eager to be part of Lawrenceville's special tradition.

Many II Formers enjoyed participating in sporting events and repping school merchandise. In fact, a large fraction of spectators were II Formers wanting to experience Hill Day with their own eyes. They used the day as a time to build



Hill Day Football Game

Courtesy of Nicole Halucka '26

bonds with their peers and share a lasting feeling of school comradery. II Formers enjoyed watching all teams play and spending Saturday cheering on friends. "Not only is [Hill Day] a memory that I can look back on, but I am excited to say that it is something I can

look forward to for three more years," said Tyler McKibben '27.

Besides spectating, many II Formers participated in their first sporting events, whether it be at the Varsity, Junior Varsity, or II Form level. The II Formers finished their first season with a positive ending and got to exhibit

all the hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm they put into their sport to further the school community and make a powerful impact on Lawrenceville's morale.

All in all, every member of the Lawrenceville community brought abundant pride for Hill Day, whether they played

on the courts or fields, showed off their Spirit Week outfits in the classroom, or cheered for athletes in Pottstown. With their spirit, pride, and energy, especially of the II formers, Big Red and Lawrenceville successfully took the Meigs-Green cup home once again.

Counting Sheep or Counting A's at Lawrenceville

MARIAM DZIDZIKASHVILI '25

Sleep is one of the most important bodily functions—a known fact from childhood, perpetually ingrained into our heads by parents, guardians, and teachers hoping to influence our well-being. Getting a good night's rest was not a difficult task when we were toddlers or pre-teenagers. Nowadays, the constant stress and heavy workload that teenagers must grapple with hinder our ability to get the recommended amount of sleep. Lawrenceville understands this struggle and tries to implement methods such as "lights out" ranging from 11:00 PM to 12:00 AM to ensure we get sufficient sleep. Despite Lawrenceville's efforts in implementing a system to promote the student's well-being, the challenge of balancing work and rest still exists.

First of all, what happens to our bodies when we are sleep deprived, or in other words, we get less than the suggested six hours of sleep? Since all bodily systems depend on sleep to function properly, chronic sleep deprivation carries serious hazards to both physical and mental health. For instance, studies have found strong correlations between deficient



sleep and cardiovascular diseases, such as high blood pressure, coronary heart disease, heart attack, and stroke; a study from the University of Michigan has found a 24 percent increase in heart attacks the Monday after daylight savings time starts and people lose one hour of sleep. Moreover, sleep deficiency leads to additional hormonal abnormalities and worsens depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, and other mental health disorders.

Difficulties in balancing work and getting everything done on time naturally come when living

the busy life of a Lawrenceville student. "How are you supposed to sleep before 11:15 PM when each teacher expects you to have all of their homework done for the next class," Aileen Ryu '25 asked. "Getting good sleep is not possible here," Cira Sar '25 asserts. "This school has the gall to promote the students getting at least eight hours of sleep, but we can't fit all of our work in such little time—it's hypocritical. How are we going to fit all our sports, extracurricular activities, and homework into only a few hours? Study hall alone is two hours, how is that

enough to get my work for four classes done? Look at your own schedule—how does it work?"

Moreover, Alex Raymond '25 spoke about the effect of sleep deprivation on her own quality of life: "I'm unable to be fully attentive in my classes, which makes me fall behind on work and prevents me from fully understanding the material. The lack of sleep also affects how I interact with friends, because sometimes I can get really moody because of it. In general, it just throws my schedule off and leads everything to repeat as a perpetual cycle again".

In the face of the large amounts of evidence that sleep deprivation adversely affects both physical and mental health, the paradox of schools like Lawrenceville promoting adequate rest but also structuring a system that naturally prevents sleep continues. As the testimonies of Lawrenceville students illustrate, the quest for academic success is naturally linked to sacrificing sleep. The controversy, therefore, is not over the theoretical value of sleep, but in students' ongoing neglect of its necessity in the midst of their relentless ambition and packed schedules.

Emily Pan '24 / THE LAWRENCE

It's Lonely Atop The Hill All the Scores From Rivalry Weekend

Score Rundown

GV WaterPolo	BV WaterPolo	BJV WaterPolo	GV Field hockey	GV Soccer	BFr Soccer	Boys XC	GJV Tennis
Taking on Hill on November 1, Girls Varsity kicked off Hill Weekend with back to back 14-5 and 10-7 victories	Also playing Hill in the early window, the boys played hard but unfortunately lost 10-17	Wrapping up the early slate of games, Junior Varsity's 10-2 triumph gave Big Red a 3-1 lead heading into Saturday.	Kicking off Saturday's games, GV Field hockey played hard but ultimately lost by a margin of 9-0.	The second 1:30 start of the day, Girl's soccer played out a competitive 0-0 OT tie, off the back of a strong performance from Goalkeeper Cameron Gabrielson '24.	Despite coming back from a 1-0 deficit, 2nd-half penalty controversy and a late Hill goal meant the Freshmen fell 2-1.	Going into the contest with many of the team's upperclassmen injured, Boy's XC put up a valiant effort in their 36-19 defeat	Girl's Junior Varsity Tennis secured Lawrenceville's first win of the afternoon with a 6-1 victory.

Courtesy of Lville Football and shotbylincoln

Courtesy of Lville Athletics Instagram

Courtesy of Lawrenceville Flickr Page



Big Red Football took down Hill yet again in a big win



The Meigs Cup returns to Lawrenceville for the third year running



Hill Day served as fitting culmination to a strong GXC season

GV Tennis	Girls XC	GJV Field hockey	Varsity Football	BJV Soccer	BV Soccer	GJV Soccer	Overall
Girls' Varsity Tennis capped off their MCT winning season by matching JV's 6-1 margin of victory	Also reigning MCT Champions, GXC ended their season on a high note with a 43-17 win	In one of the closest games of the day, GJV Field Hockey narrowly lost 1-0 in the first game of the late window.	For the second year running, Big Red Football dismantled Hill, winning by a score of 40-7	Boys Junior Varsity Soccer secured their second consecutive victory over Hill with a 4-1 win.	Despite a strong first half where they had a goal disallowed, Boy's Varsity Soccer ultimately fell 3-0 in the final varsity contest of the day.	In the final game of the afternoon, Girl's JV Soccer dominated Hill 3-0 to put the finishing touches on Lawrenceville's victory.	Lawrenceville retained the Meigs Cup for the third year in a row by a final score of 9.5-6.5, congratulations to all athletes involved in the win.

Appreciating the Underappreciated A Spotlight on Lawrenceville's Strength & Conditioning Coaches

ARYANA IYER '27
SPORTS ASSOCIATE

There are many student-athletes on campus who give their best efforts to our Big Red Athletic teams. However, we often don't associate their accolades and success on the fields and courts with the work done behind the scenes by Lawrenceville's strength and conditioning coaches: Tony Rienzo and Kelly Wise. Our trainers are a core part of Big Red Athletics: committing themselves to helping athletes through strength and conditioning training; running programs for athletes to build on exercise to help performance in their

sport; and most importantly, rehabbing injured athletes. The support and dedication of our strength and conditioning coaches allow student-athletes to stay in the best condition possible, positively contributing to their athletic performance. But what motivates our trainers to be so dedicated to our Big Red Athletics? What is their process for conditioning our athletes?

To find out, I interviewed with our trainers to uncover their process and mentality when building up our athletes. Wise and Rienzo believe that the hard work and diligence our athletes bring is what makes their

job enjoyable. Rienzo stated "The



Coach Rienzo: Strength And Conditioning

students' passions for getting better by achieving their goals, getting stronger in the weight room, and playing

better in the sports fields and courts is a huge motivating factor for me." When it comes to training athletes, the trainers have a detailed process to improve each athlete's individual performance in games. First, Rienzo and Wise write out a personalized workout plan in preparation for teams and exercise programs to come in. Then, they oversee both varsity and sub-varsity teams' lifts as well as work with individual athletes to enhance their athleticism and success. These workouts are tailored to the level and experience of the athletes so they can improve themselves physically no matter their starting point.

But why do our trainers want to give up their time to work with each of our athletes? Rienzo explained, "I have loved sports my entire life and am of a competitive nature. Seeing the passion of high school students, whether it's trying a new sport or perfecting a sport they've been playing for over 10 years, brings me back to when I was an athlete and played competitively." So when we celebrate the accomplishments of our Big Red athletes and teams, we must also give credit to the trainers who help these athletes build their athleticism and perform on the courts and fields. Today, it's their turn to be in the spotlight.

Board Picks

	William Wang '24 Co-Features Editor	Arisa Okamura '25 Web Editor	Helena Chen '24 Co-News Editor	Aki Li '25 Co-Copy Editor	Sabrina Ottaway '25 Co-Copy Editor	Claire Jiang '24 Editor-In-Chief
Who on the board would you trust to write an article about you?	—	Anyone but myself	Anyone but Claire	Sabrina Ottaway	None (They all pray on my downfall)	Helena
Who on the board would you want to write an article about?	Bryan Boanob	Everyone but myself	Claire	The rise and (mainly) fall of Will Wang	Upper Management!!!	Mrs. Buckles
Least tyrannical member of the Lawrence?	Boanob	Me >)	Mrs. Buckles	Arisa + Sofia Bonilla	None. They're all tyrannical	Arisa!
Favorite irrational number?	e	√2 for the win	e	—	!! do you see my photo above? thats how old i am! (goo goo, gab gab!)	Golden Ratio
Anything else that's funny?	No	The fact that I have to deal with Rails 3.0.0 on my Ubuntu 20.04 which has openssl3 instead of openssl1.1	Nicole	stephens crushed every house in house disk and lost 0 matches	fun fact; copy runs the Lawrence (the powers that be just conceal that from you....just wait until my editorial)	no, i'm slowly losing my sense of humor senior fall