

THE MILTON PAPER

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Post-Covid Family Weekend

SONYA MARTIN '24



On Friday, October 21st, Milton Academy hosted its first fully in-person Family Weekend since 2020. Family members were invited to attend assemblies, student classes, athletic events, and other informational sessions. The Upper School Parents' Association also hosted a variety of events throughout the weekend.

During the academic day, family members accompanied students to classes, in order to gauge the routine of the classroom. The schedule was condensed into twenty-five minute blocks, to ensure all classes met. Teachers typically started off by prefacing the work done so far by students, before delving into regular work. Family members sat in on classes, mainly observing and asking teachers any pertaining ques-

tions they had. Junior Mai Le's '24 father, Van Le described the experience as "engaging and interesting". He recalls particularly enjoying the interactive lessons.

After classes concluded, teachers, advisors and guardians met one-on-one for conferences for the rest of the afternoon. In the meetings, teachers gave individualized feedback and progress reports on the respective student. Later in the evening, parents were invited to Wine and Cheese gatherings, and a USPA dinner. Following the receptions, numerous parents opted to watch the Class IV Play: *The Old Man and the Old Moon in King Theatre* or attend athletic games.

Throughout the weekend, student art was exhibited across campus, from Technology and Media photography to Advanced Art and Drawing pieces. The Class of 2025 had a self-portrait exhibition in the Arts Commons Gallery in Kellner. Roberto Moody's getting dot OLDER was also displayed in the Nesto Gallery, located in the Arts and Media Center, which was open to guests.

Family members were invited back onto campus on Saturday, where Milton again hosted a variety of ac

The European Energy Crisis: A Cold, Hard Winter Ahead.

ZIDAN GRAHAM '25

The energy crisis, which has been making headlines worldwide, is not confined to Europe; it has affected almost every country to some extent. The strict lockdowns implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic together with the overall economic decline that followed caused a significant drop in energy consumption. As conditions improved and restrictions were lifted, the global economy began to reopen and the energy sector was suddenly faced with a large increase in demand and high prices as well as trying to build back its reserves. The energy crisis worsened when Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and cut off its supply of natural gas in retaliation for the sanctions imposed by Western Countries. Meanwhile, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), currently made up of thirteen member countries, has been unable or unwilling to assist in resolving the crisis and has even moved to cut production by two million barrels per day causing oil prices to increase even further. Many major industries, such as manufacturing and tourism, continue to experience some of the highest prices ever.

The energy crisis, however, has affected member countries of the Europe Union (EU) in particular because of their heavy reliance on supplies of from Russia. According to Eurostats, in 2020 almost three quarters of its oil imports, over three quarters of its natural gas and more than half of its solid fossil came from Russia. Since each country depends on Russia for different percentages of its needs, it is difficult for them to come to a consensus on what to do about the crisis. Latvia for example, once part of the Soviet Union, relies on Russia for 99% of its crude oil. Germany, the most industri

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Junior Takeover: The Milton Hierarchy

A walk through the Stu can be harrowing. Wading through a tidal wave of 5'3" freshman is no easy feat, especially with the blaring music of the sophomore section drowning out your cries. Once you make it through, you realize that you've yet to experience the worst of it. Besides the stampede of middle schoolers scrambling for Vitamin Waters in the snack bar, you now have to ascend the Stu stairs with all the upperclassmen (and the infamous railing boys) staring you down from the 2nd floor. This walk of shame is indicative of not only the Stu's flawed design, but also a more serious issue that has plagued our student body since our school was founded.

Anyone familiar with Milton Academy's social scene knows about the sections of the Stu. Freshmen get the cave below the stairs, sophomores get the box with the couches, and the upperclassmen inhabit the top floor. As you move up in grades and on the social ladder at Milton, you literally ascend the Stu. The Stu's layout represents the social division that exists at Milton. Whether it be in athletics, in clubs, or in the general community, the stu-

dent body maintains this system and holds it dear as a tradition.

Now, we juniors of The Milton Paper don't believe that this hierarchy is entirely bad. The seniors have earned their position as the most respected members of the student body: they've gone through online learning, two principals, two lunch providers, and more than half of the college process. After all, they are frontline fighters at a college preparatory school, though this sentiment hints at Milton's prevalent—perhaps even toxic—college-centered culture.

However, this "tradition" of Milton's hierarchy and its rationale can sometimes echo hazing rituals rather than rites of passage. Indignant Class IV students, when they eventually progress to the second floor of the Stu, will undoubtedly bark "off! off! off!" to the new freshmen who stumble their way onto the sacred couches, continuing the cycle of intimidation that we call the "Milton experience™"

For those who oppose this tradition, abolishing the hierarchy would take the noble sacrifice of relinquishing the power they've waited three years for. Unfortunately, few would be

willing to follow through with that action. In a way, this questioning of the hierarchy hits underclassmen like a great awakening each year, but they let go of the thought as senior year draws near. By the time they become seniors, they no longer ponder this topic—that's why the junior board of TMP has decided to tackle this issue in our very own editorial.

Through our takeover, however, we are beginning to better understand why the social order exists in the first place; our work on this issue of The Milton Paper has given us a glimpse of the commitment and work ethic that earn the seniors the respect they hold. Whether two years of upperclassman privilege can make up for the front-of-the-bus bumpiness, the cave-dwelling customs, and the teasing endured during one's first half of high school remains undecided, as does the question of whether the hierarchy significantly detracts our school. Nonetheless, one thing remains certain: the freshmen enter this school less refined, leaving later with the self-awareness and education to make an impact wherever they go.

Post-Covid Family Weekend

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tivities. Advisor-teacher conferences resumed in the morning until noon, succeeded by a few presentations. Amy Staffier, an ambassador for the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority, gave a presentation on financial aid to Class I family members in Strauss, which was followed by an open-floored Q&A session. Later in the morning, the Class IV Jazz Ensemble delivered a performance in Kellner, which was open to all audiences. Family members also received information regarding semester and year-long programs, such as abroad programs like SYA, and domestic ones like The Mountain School of Milton Academy. Lastly, families were welcome to disperse into Affinity Group gatherings, of either BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color), LGBTQIA+ Students, or International Students. The event concluded with a sports assembly in the ACC to cheer on student athletes. Dr. Palmer, Milton's Upper School Principal, says that "on a scale from 1 to 10, [she'd] rate Family Weekend 2022 an 8/9 with room for improvement. [The school has] surveyed the Faculty and Families and will learn more from them in the coming weeks." Milton's students whose family members were unable to attend were encouraged to still be involved; a plethora of safe spaces and activities were hosted in order to ensure everyone felt supported and included on such a family-oriented day. All in all, the preparation culminated in a bustling event with a lively atmosphere.



FOREIGN POLICY

The European Energy Crisis: A Cold, Hard Winter Ahead.

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alized country in Europe, was getting more than half its gas and about a third of its oil from Russia. The energy crisis also comes at a time when EU countries are trying to reduce their use of fossil fuels to meet their commitments to cut greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030. Germany has had to keep its remaining two nuclear plants, which were scheduled to close at the end of 2022, as the country is running out of options. It is predicted that the surge in costs for energy and other raw materials to the makers of metals, chemicals, and gases will shrink Europe's heavy industry. Indications are that with high inflation, economic uncertainty, and energy blackouts looming, a recession is almost a certainty.

European countries are trying to diversify supply, save energy and reduce demand, and protect consumers. For example, European leaders have met with the leaders of African countries to try to come to some agreement that would reduce imports of Russian gas. In May 2022, Algeria, Angola, the Congo, and Nigeria, which are also OPEC member countries, signed contracts to become alternative suppliers. In Britain, the controversial issue of fracking was once again raised during Ms. Truss's brief period as Prime Minister when she lifted the ban on frack-

ing to boost the United Kingdom's natural gas supply. Fracking was one of the first issues Mr. Sunak, Britain's new prime minister, addressed with his reimplementing the ban on fracking. The French President, Mr. Macron, among other European leaders, has called for a 10% reduction in energy use to avoid rationing and cuts in supply. Among other solutions, European Union members have agreed to cap the revenue made by electricity producers and redistribute the exceptional profits made by them to consumers.

Amin Nasser, President and CEO of the Saudi Arabian Oil Company, in his response to these proposed solutions, has commented that while such plans may be helpful to consumers in the short term, they do not address the real causes and are not long-term solutions to the energy crisis and that taxing companies when you want them to increase production is not helpful. Politicians and their representatives will continue to debate, in the meantime with no end to the war in sight, the energy crisis far from being solved, and winter almost upon them, the future looks bleak for the people of Europe.

TikTok Clocks Up Some Dangerous Trends

NIA PHILLIPS '25



ABC NEWS

If you're a teenager, you've likely participated in some kind of tiktok trend. Some trends, such as the "Bikini Body" trend where-in women of all body-types were encouraged to embrace and find pride in themselves, can help build confidence in TikTok users; others, however, prove to be nothing more than dangerous dares, placing susceptible young users at risk of bodily harm. Recently, the "NyQuil Chicken Challenge" has gained much attention from TikTok users around the globe. The challenge involves cooking chicken in the popularly used cold medicine, NyQuil, and eating it. Teens, however, aren't the only group whose attention the challenge has grabbed.

Recently, the FDA released a statement, warning people about the dangers of the NyQuil Chicken Challenge. "Boiling a medication can make it much more concentrated and change its properties in other ways. Even if you don't eat the chicken, inhaling the medication's vapors while cooking could cause high levels of the drugs to enter your body. It could also hurt your lungs," the FDA asserted.

Health care providers around the world would agree that in creating a platform where potentially dangerous activities are encouraged, TikTok puts unsuspecting youth at risk.

However, medicine isn't the only thing cooking in the TikTok trend world. The famous song, "Cha Cha Slide," has been trending for over two decades but has only recently become a staple of TikTok culture. The song turns deadly during the "criss-cross" verse for participants in the challenge: each time the song names a direction, drivers, who are mainly teenagers, swerve their cars in that same direction. "The car almost flipped," reads one caption of a challenge video, highlighting the inherent danger in this widespread trend. So far, no accidents have been reported, but as the challenge endures, that statistic is likely to change. As if the first two challenges didn't incite enough harmful activity, the "Blackout" challenge has also become popular among users. Participants hold their breath and constrict their chest muscles, in an effort to experience a blackout without taking into account the unforgiving health risks involved

with attempting this challenge. "What's really going on in the brain is a lack of oxygen similar to when someone is drowning, choking or having a cardiac arrest," Dr. Nick Flynn explains. He continues, "if you have low oxygen to the brain for over three minutes, you can get brain damage. If you have low oxygen to the brain for over five minutes, it can result in death." Without understanding the side effects, users put themselves at risk, trusting that fellow users, and perhaps TikTok itself, wouldn't encourage them to do something truly or enduringly detrimental to their health. According to the CDC, the "Blackout" challenge has already resulted in around eighty deaths, a number which promises to rise as the trend continues.

Nick Howell, a twelve year old boy who suffered third degree burns across thirty-five percent of his body after participating in a TikTok trend, shared the important message that "you shouldn't try everything you see on social media." He begged users not to be "[followers], but [leaders]." Nick's injury sprung from the "Fire Challenge," which he attempted with his cousins in October 2020 by pouring a bit of rubbing alcohol on his concrete floor, lighting it, and putting it out. Unfortunately, the bottle caught fire and exploded, setting Nick's body on fire. His mother, Estela, recounts the experience as "traumatizing, heartbreaking and terrifying." It took Nick nearly six months of hospital treatment to relearn basic actions such as walking and dressing himself. This is just another example of how TikTok's influence on teens perpetuates their willingness to take unworthy risks, placing youth users in undue harm.

The Art is the Artist

SAM BERK '24



Miamitimesonline

Seated around Mr. Chung's harkness table in Class III Founding Voices last year, my class had many heated conversations. One discussion I remember vividly was on this essential question: "can you separate art from the artist?" We Milton students often lean towards discussion topics like these, constructing arguments and debates based on readings and our own personal experiences. This question, though, has one correct answer: no. Art, as well as its meaning, will always be irreversibly intertwined with its creator.

A quick Google search of the question returns the bolded, wishy-washy response that "separating the art from the artist is an inherently personal decision." Yet, the response is truly not so simple. What happens when artists are charged with sexual misconduct? When they consistently perpetuate hatred towards minority groups? Then, the question becomes much more complex.

To explore an answer to this often-repeated question, each reader must agree on the definition of art. A word that can never fit just one definition, art is something produced through creative means. An artist is any person who creates that art: think author, painter, producer, etc. In art history classes, students study classic painters' work alongside their life stories. When learning about the Renaissance, students study Michelangelo. His art and persona are representative of the times.

When writing key interpretive sentences in English class, we sometimes use "the author intends..." Purposefully, the author's intention is incorporated into their art. So too are an author's biases. Take, as examples, two books I have read in Milton English classes. First is *The Smell of Apples*, a novel on apartheid South Africa, by Mark Behr, a white Afrikaaner who initially fought against the construction of a bi-racial government. This book cannot be truly understood without first acknowledging the author's background. Second is the famed classic *Inferno*, written by Catholic Dante Alighieri after an exile from the cultural center of Florence in the early 1300s. Without this background knowledge on the author, a reader would not pick up on many references in the poem.

The debate is framed most frequently as a question of morality. The first I remember was my mom joking, "no! No one plays *Thriller* this Halloween. We can't listen to Michael Jackson anymore." As NPR's timeline explains, Jackson had been accused of sexual misconduct and acquitted during his lifetime, but in 2019, with the release of accusatory documentary "Leaving Neverland," brands like Louis Vuitton, as well as Jackson's listeners, began to distance themselves from the artist. His music hadn't changed, but perception of Jackson had.

The most recent subject of this debate has been Kanye West, whose legal name is now Ye. Though Kanye has always been somewhat controversial

(think his presidential candidacy in 2020 or his infamous stealing of the spotlight from Taylor Swift at the VMAs in 2009), his recent displays of anti-semitism and racism have caused people around the world to boycott his music and any products associated with him.

When I first read Kanye's now infamous tweet, my initial reaction was such intense horror that I laughed. I am definitely one to laugh in uncomfortable situations, and I couldn't find any other reaction. I'm not shocked or surprised; I'm worried and concerned. As someone who has stood in the last remaining gas chamber, who can't even begin to describe the overwhelming, vast melancholy of places like Auschwitz and Treblinka, I've witnessed what "death con 3 On JEWISH PEOPLE" would mean. It has happened countless times throughout history. Hitler and the Nazis were not the first, and Kanye would seemingly have it that they were not the last.

Though Kanye alone could not set in motion another Holocaust, continued support of his work only perpetuates this type of violence and hate. Kanye has over 30 million Twitter followers (at the time of writing, his account has been re-activated), while there are only 14.8 million Jewish people in the world. Photos are being shared online of white supremacist activists with signs claiming "Kanye is right." Anti-semitism is on the rise, with anti-semitic incidents in the U.S. being the highest on record in 2021. Brands like ADIDAS have dropped their partnerships with Kanye, but is that really enough? What about Kanye's listeners? I'll admit, I listen to the occasional Kanye song. *Bound 2* and *Heartless* are fixtures on my "hype sing along" playlist. Even though I should, I'm reluctant to remove them. I associate the songs with happy memories from Jewish sleepaway camp and bus rides during my trip to Israel this summer. Yet, I can't listen to them anymore. Though each stream of a song on Spotify only gives \$0.005 to the artist/rights holder, these profits add up.

Kanye is just the newest example. Art cannot be separated from its artist. The two are one and the same.



Are Humans Inherently Selfish?

NAM NGUYEN '25



Fisher College of Business

Selfishness is surprisingly complicated to identify and define. For much of humanity, selfishness has been a topic for philosophical discussion and debate. Many say that selfishness is a trait of only a percentage of the population, while others believe that humans are inherently selfish beings. With the continuing rise of capitalism and the emergence of new controversies and scandals involving the wealthy of our world, this long-standing debate seems more important and apparent than ever. Are humans purely driven by self-interest, and does this source of determination make us innately selfish?

I think it's safe to say that some of us are more selfish than others. The egocentric and sociopathic of the world lack or are devoid of consideration for others, thus making them, by definition, the most selfish people. But the argument lies in the idea that every decision that we make, every action that we take, is done in our own interest. This philosophy might be hard to wrap our heads around at first. A person buys a bag of chips, then proceeds to plop down on the couch and devour the whole thing in one sitting. This action is undoubtedly an act driven by self-interest, purely to satisfy the person's hunger or boredom. But what if, instead of eating that bag of chips, this person gives it to a homeless

person they see on the street? Surely, this is not driven by self-interest, but rather, is an act of kindness and compassion towards someone who is much less fortunate than our main character. Well, yes, but not really...

While an act such as donating to the poor is certainly an act of kindness, it can still be motivated by self-interest. Every time you are kind to someone, isn't there a sense of satisfaction inside you? Isn't there that subconscious voice saying: "you know what? I'm a good person." Researchers at the University of California have concluded that kindness can release the pleasure hormones: oxytocin, dopamine, serotonin, and endorphins. Not only does kindness make us look good in front of others, it gives us pleasure and satisfaction as well. Furthermore, kindness is a win-win quality, because like we all learned when we were kids, you should always treat others the way you want to be treated. Those who give more, get more. As we can observe in our everyday lives, the people who appear to be kind and generous generally have the most influence, whereas those who are grouchy and unhelpful are most likely to be cast aside.

So now that we've established that every action, even putting ourselves down for another person's benefit, is at least partially--and usually

subconsciously--fueled by self-interest, does this truth make us inherently selfish? Is kindness motivated by our genuine concern for others, or are we do-gooders because it makes us look good and feel good? Probably both. In my opinion, just acting out of self-interest does not automatically make you a selfish person. Most of us enjoy benefiting ourselves as well as benefiting those around us, and there is nothing inherently wrong or selfish about that. Perhaps humans, and even many animals, have evolved to feel pleasure and satisfaction in helping others, thus making kindness the natural option. This evolution would make sense, as the cycle of people being kind to one another inevitably makes the world a better place.

So what if we humans are driven by self-interest? Maybe, at first, this conclusion seems like it takes away value from acts of love and kindness, but it doesn't change the outcomes of these actions. The idea of people always doing things that benefits themselves doesn't have to be selfish or dangerous. Of course it can be; truly selfish people have done truly selfish things that benefit themselves but take away from the people around them. But in the vast majority of situations, self-interest can serve as an evolutionary advantage, driving us to give up time, effort, or money to lift up another person, in turn giving happiness to both parties. So the next time you think of doing something kind, don't let the fact that doing it benefits you deter you, but rather let it make you even more willing to go the extra mile.



Taylor Swift Bejewels Her Turbulent Past With *Midnights*

ANDRE LEUNG '25



ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

Taylor Swift has prospered despite taking on a dizzying array of identities at once. A singer-songwriter, a media personality, and a deity to many, Swift also loves and worries like everyone else. With the release of her 10th studio album, *Midnights*, Swift took advantage of her creative prowess to promote its debut. Leading up to the album's release, Swift fed cryptic hints to fans through a TikTok series named "Midnights Mayhem" over a span of two months. Fans obsessed over these clues with wild hypotheses, generating immense fanfare on the internet. As a result, the album has been an unparalleled success for Swift, selling more copies of *Midnights* in its first week than any of her previous albums.

After lofting into the clouds with the playful ballads of *Lover* and traversing into the woods with the indie-folk-leaning duo *Folklore* and *Evermore*, Swift continues with her personal storytelling. Revolving around the sleepless nights throughout the artist's life, *Midnights* feels much more like an evolution than a revolution. The pop mood of 1989, the powerful bass and synth of *Reputation*, and the endearing poetry of *Lover* and

Evermore are all there in *Midnights*: these defining features of Swift's earlier albums have been amalgamated into a familiar, yet distinctive sound signature. Keeping with the spirit of the late-night, Swift experiments with moodier, more sombre colours. This tint casts a gloomy tone across the entire album, allowing Swift to tie *Midnights* all back together.

The opening track "Lavender Haze" is the album's most daring track, referencing the constant media scrutiny during her relationship with Joe Alwyn. This track epitomises how her love triumphs over all opposition, criticism, and expectations that have been troubling her career. Swift reveals a playful side of the album with "Anti-Hero," as Swift depicts herself as an oversized figure stomping a city of gorgeous kids and an overly altruistic politician. She wagers that acknowledging the issue isn't the same as taking action. "Snow on the Beach," the only collaboration of the album, is exquisitely performed with Lana Del Rey. The flawless blend of Del Rey's melancholic musicality and Swift's lyricism depicts a story about young love in its infancy, when one is afraid that it may break with the least

touch.

The rest of the album is mostly concerned with the obstacles lovers encounter as their relationship progresses. "Maroon" and "Labyrinth" are Swift's simple reflections on past love, showing the struggles of wounding up with an incompatible person. In "You're on Your Own, Kid," Swift talks about how these devastating past-times will eventually return in one way or another. Making a complete U-turn, Swift positions herself as the grand prize in "Bejewelled" as she has her lover in her clutches. She praises how much she enjoys watching her enemies receive what they deserve in "Karma," a lullaby of pettiness.

Although *Midnight* itself lacks the thematic coherence of her previous albums, Swift shines here with the nuanced interconnectedness between the tracks. "Maroon" could be a sample from "Red" or "1989's" upbeat tracks; tracks such as "Vigilante" and "Karma" fit seamlessly into "Reputation." These tracks represent time capsules of restless nights—midnights where emotional upheavals dawn upon Taylor Swift.

Three Movies to Match Your Mood

SAM GOLDINGS '24



DIM THE HOUSE LIGHTS

Almost everyone loves a good movie, but living a busy Milton life doesn't make it easy to watch many. If you want a memorable film experience for your next movie night, consider the following 3 picks for when you want to laugh, think, or cry.

My pick for laughter is the 2004 film *Little Miss Sunshine*, starring Steve Carrel, Paul Dano, and Toni Collette. The movie follows a dysfunctional family as they travel across the country, bringing the nine-year-old Olive to a beauty pageant she got into. Each with their unique selection of problems, the family members include Olive, her unsuccessful workaholic father, her mother stressed over a suicidal brother, an older son who's taken a vow of silence, and a Grandpa addicted to drugs. Despite the characters' collective struggles through addiction, body image, heartbreak, and loss, the movie maintains its comedy throughout, painting both a beautiful and hilarious image of the Hoover family. Through fantastic acting and writing, the movie is a nonstop parade of excitement and emotion, culminating in a worthwhile watch.

Next, if you're searching for a complex movie to ponder over, powerful in its deep exploration of the human condition, look no further than Charlie

Kaufman's *Anomalisa*. A stop motion animation, *Anomalisa* follows Micheal, a motivational speaker, as he visits Cincinnati. One of the glaringly strange parts of this movie is its cast, namely that there are only three voice actors. Micheal (David Thewlis), Lisa (Jennifer Jason Leigh), and everyone else, all played by Tom Noonan. Not only do all side characters have the same voice, but they also have the exact same face; they present Micheal with his main obstacle: finding someone whom he can connect to, someone who is different. That person appears at first to be Lisa, who has a unique face and voice. This sparks an obsession in Micheal, who strives to woo Lisa simply because she has a distinct voice. As the movie progresses, it becomes increasingly clear that Micheal has a severe mental illness. His actions grow more and more irrational in his desperate endeavor to find someone with a unique face and voice. Also not without its comedy, the movie balances its most tense moments with a special sense of anti-humor. A rich tapestry of the human mind, *Anomalisa* takes the viewer on a journey through the mind of a clearly unhinged protagonist, leading to a fantastically thoughtful movie.

Finally, if you're in the mood for a sad, romantic movie, try *Eternal Sun-*

shine of the Spotless Mind. Another film by Kaufman, *Eternal Sunshine* centers around a brand new clinic that offers a memory removal service designed to lessen the impact of a difficult breakup. The main character, Joel (Jim Carrey), discovers that his ex-girlfriend, Clementine (Kate Winslet), underwent this procedure, completely erasing their history together. Heartbroken, Joel elects to have his memories removed as well. During the memory removal, Joel suddenly decides to hold onto his past with Clementine. The movie covers Joel's journey through his own subconscious fighting to keep hold of the memory of his broken relationship. As Joel battles his own mind, Patrick is dating Clementine and using details from her forgotten relationship with Joel to trick her into an irresistible sense of love. Tackling themes of love, heartbreak, and empathy, *Eternal Sunshine* is the perfect love story and a profoundly sad movie.

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Updates on Brittney

CAROLINE BLAKE '25



USA TODAY

Last February, news of Brittney Griner's detainment in Russia shocked the U.S and caused uproar not only within the basketball community but also throughout the entire country. The thirty-two-year-old Phoenix Mercury player, two-time gold medalist, FIBA World Cup winner, and WNBA and NCAA titleist was arrested while attempting to enter Russia on February 17th at the Sheremetyevo International Airport. Griner was heading to Moscow where she plays for UMMC Ekaterinburg during the WNBA offseason. According to airport officials, Griner's luggage was found to contain two vape cartridges with traces of cannabis and marijuana oil. Griner claimed she uses cannabis oil to treat her chronic pain and didn't realize she had packed it in a rush before leaving the U.S. However, in Russia, the use of marijuana whether medical or recreational is illegal, and

despite her claim of accidental possession, she was convicted and sentenced to nine years in prison. According to CNN, the U.S government announced in July their "substantial proposal" to bring Griner back home. However, since then, there has been little to no news from the government concerning Griner's release.

Last week, Griner celebrated her 32nd birthday in a Russian jail and released a message saying, "thank you everyone for fighting so hard to get me home. All the support and love [is] definitely helping me." Since her detainment, Griner's wife, Cherelle, as well as other friends and family members, have initiated the #WeAreBG campaign to push the U.S government to persuade the Russian government to allow Griner's return home. A video released by the campaign featured Cherelle saying, "I've felt every moment of the grueling

seven months without her." Griner's teammate Breanna Stewart also showed her support, tweeting, "we are not a family without #BrittneyGriner. BG - we have not forgotten you, and we will not rest until you're home." Team USA ended up winning the FIBA World Cup this year, a victory Griner would've been a part of if she hadn't been imprisoned. Many other Team USA players have stood in solidarity with Griner by not playing in Russia as they usually do during the WNBA offseason.

Griner's detainment has not only sparked outrage in the U.S but also in Russia. According to the Washington Post, cannabis advocates held a "smoke out" outside the Russian Embassy on Thursday, October 27th to protest Griner's arrest. The detainment of Griner also came just one week before Russia's invasion of Ukraine and many believe Griner is being used as a tool against the U.S in the war. Adam Eiding, a longtime cannabis activist and planner of the "smoke out" protest, condemned the actions of the Russian government, saying, "we feel compelled to protest the Russian Federation and President Putin, who's clearly using an American citizen as a pawn in his war against Ukraine." Despite the evident outrage among both Americans and Russians around the world, the Russian government has failed to relent in their detainment of Griner, and given its harsh and unyielding stance, Griner's release date remains uncertain.



Weekend Athletic Schedule

Friday, November 4

- 1 pm → 2nd Girls' Cross Country ISL Championship
- 1:45 pm → 1st Boys' Cross Country ISL Championship
- 2:30 pm → 1st Girls' Cross Country ISL Championship
- 3 pm → 1st Boys' Soccer vs The Governor's Academy
- 3 pm → 1st Field Hockey vs The Governor's Academy
- 3 pm → 1st Football vs Belmont Hill School
- 3 pm → 1st Volleyball vs The Governor's Academy
- 3 pm → 2nd Boys' Soccer vs The Governor's Academy
- 3 pm → 2nd Field Hockey vs The Governor's Academy
- 3 pm → 2nd Girls' Soccer vs The Governor's Academy
- 3 pm → 2nd Volleyball vs The Governor's Academy
- 3:15 pm → 2nd Boys' Cross Country ISL Championship
- 3:45 pm → 2nd Boys' Soccer B vs Middlesex School
- 6 pm → 1st Girls' Soccer vs The Governor's Academy

Saturday, November 5

- 3:30 pm → 1st Volleyball vs Phillips Academy
- 3:30 pm → 2nd Volleyball vs Phillips Academy
- 4 pm → 1st Field Hockey vs The Hotchkiss School

Meet the JUNIOR Board

Alexa “Xandra” Burton

Position: Associate Editor

Hometown: Boston, MA

Senior crush: she’s too tall for all of them

Strength: being related to Jack Burton

Weakness: being related to Jack Burton

Jubi Oladipo

Position: Opinion Co-Editor

Hometown: Canton, MA

Senior Crush: Nina Shah

Strength: professional chef

Weakness: Can’t stay up past 10:30...

Ruby “rootbeer” Tsai

Position: Associate Editor

Hometown: Taipei, Taiwan

Senior Crush: Nina Shah

Strength: 24/7 grind

Weakness: non-slip socks

Scarlett “Disney adult” Eldaief

Position: Associate Editor

Hometown: Boston, MA

Senior Crush: Mr. Head Monitor

Strength: makes quality feta pasta

Weakness: peaked in 8th grade

The screenshot shows an email inbox interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'us_lostandfound@milton.edu'. To the right of the search bar are icons for 'Active', a help icon, a settings icon, and a menu icon. The Milton Academy logo is visible in the top right corner. Below the search bar, there are filter buttons for 'Messages', 'Spaces', 'From', 'Any time', 'Has attachment', and 'To', along with an 'Advanced search' link. The inbox list shows 1-50 of many messages. The messages are filtered by 'Lost & Found' and include the following entries:

Sender	Subject	Date
Kaan Inanoglu	Lost Nike soccer bag - Hi, I lost my soccer bag Thursday. If anybody has seen a Nike black backpack in an...	Oct 29
Milton Seniors	Lost sanity - I cant find my sanity, if you find it please let me know.	Oct 27
Nicholas Mack 2	Lost a vineyard vines raincoat at Beatnik on Friday - On Mon, Oct 17, 2022 at 6:32 PM Nicholas Mack wrote:...	Oct 17
BTS Stan	V card - Hi All, Hope you are well! I lost my v card on the quad a couple weeks ago -I would really appreciat...	Oct 17
TMP Juniors	Lost humor - Hi, I was wondering if you have seen the humor of the TMP board's juniors in any of the lost a...	Oct 17
Nick O'Teen	Lost inhaler - Hi everyone! I lost my inhaler in the stu bathroom yesterday, and still can't find it ❤️It	Oct 14
Kem Kids	LOST DR. MOORE - Hello, WE WANT DR. MOORE BACK	Oct 13
Yaman Habip	Lost Water Bottle - Hi, everyone. I recently lost my water bottle; it's a dark blue tall and thin hydro flask. Ple...	Oct 12
CAMPUS SECURITY	Found Harvard admission letter! - Hi all, I found this Harvard admission letter on the ground. Please let me ...	Oct 11
A.S. Moncher	Lost IA - Hi everyone! I lost my IA last night in the adult only bathroom of the cox basement Please let me k...	Oct 7
Joe Mama	Lost socks - Hi all, Did anyone loose these sox? I found it today in Pritzker 210. I may	Oct 3

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Thank you in advance for allowing us to have another terrific year.

Sincerely,
The 40th Editorial Board