



Satire: An investigative report on the OSS

By TAYLOR OWENS '20

As you are probably realizing, Lawrenceville Weekend traditions are an integral part of the Hill community experience. Whether it be spoon banging, seated meals, or wearing blazers, Hill would be wildly different without its traditions. One of these traditions that we indulge in is our notorious secret society, the OSS.

The OSS, which stands for the Order of the Sword and Shield and possibly Our Secret Society (unconfirmed), is known for doing mysterious things around campus like hanging up banners or sending emails in Latin. But still, I've found myself with a lot of questions regarding the OSS. What is their purpose? Who are they? And why haven't they asked me to join them (seriously, I am a pleasure to be around)? So, I decided to ask around campus to get some answers.

I began with Edward Tuck Hall Instructor of English and class of '00 alum Courtney Neese, because anyone who can hide a bunch of colored rocks around campus while keeping their location a secret is most definitely associated with a secret society.

"Perhaps you're getting it confused with the OSM?" Neese said when questioned about the OSS. Upon further questioning, Neese insisted that she did not know of the OSS.

Next, I spoke with Chair of the Science Department and class of '95 alum Bill Yinger, because he has seen a lot of movies, so he could have possibly seen movies on secret societies.

"Nope, the OSS is not a secret society," Yinger said. "I saw a movie about a secret society once. You have to murder someone to be a secret society, bud. Secret societies don't just make banners and hide Easter eggs."

Trying to learn more about the organization, I reached out to Associate Headmaster Len Miller. Suspiciously enough, Miller did not reply to my email, which says more than a quote ever could.

On the other hand, Headmaster Zachary Lehman was more than insightful regarding my investigation into the OSS.

"The OSS, which stands for the Office of Strategic Services, was a wartime intelligence agency during World War II and eventually became the

CIA, which is also known as the Culinary Institute of America, the premier culinary college in the world. To my knowledge, neither the Office of Strategic Services nor the Culinary Institute of America has every operated within Pottstown or on The Hill School's campus," Lehman said. "Moreover, the mere fact that you are investigating either organization demonstrates that you neither have intelligence nor are you a good cook." While it was hurtful and somewhat confusing, I appreciated illuminating information he provided.

Finally, I spoke to Ellen Nelson's husband and Philip Rogers Mallory Instructor of Science Mark Nelson because he has been teaching here for a few years now. And quite frankly, what Nelson had to say was the most promising out of everything I had heard thus far.

"The OSS is the ultimate secret society," Nelson said. "As such, its own members don't know and will never know that they are in the OSS. Members that think they are in the OSS aren't actually in the OSS. They just think and act like they are OSS members."

So ultimately, what do we know about the OSS? Very little. But my possible role as the president of the OSS is something I will be sure to bring up on my college applications.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OSS FROM A PREVIOUS EMAIL

Afternoon Arts showcases talent and self-discipline

By ELIZABETH HUDAK '21

On October 30, musicians and artists took part in the Fall Afternoon Arts recital held in the Music House. Every semester, the recital is held for the students in the Afternoon Arts program to perform or display what they have been working on all term.

The instrumental musicians included cellist Johnny Dai '22, trumpeter Henry Chen '21, flutists Leo Shi '21 and Rachel Liu '20, and violinist Carolyn Tsiang '20. Max Qiao '21 is using the time to compose his own original music. Dai, a first-year member of the program, has been using the program as a chance to work on his audition piece for Districts which will take place in December.

"Afternoon Arts provides a unique opportunity for musicians and artists such as myself to focus on our skill sets and to do what we love to do. It gives you enough time to experiment with different musical and artistic ideas," Dai said.

From the other side of the CFTA, visual artists Tina Wang '22, Shannon Quintana '21, Lauren Yingling '21, Jessie Li '20, and Eva Wu '20 also presented their fall term portfolio.

Afternoon Arts program is a special activity for dedicated and skilled arts students, who are given the opportunity and time to work on their specific area independently.

"This year's group has been the strongest in the program's history," said Yoon Soo Lim, director of the program. "I'm really proud of all 10 artists and the work they have accomplished."



Work by Lauren Yingling '21(Top) and Eva Wu '20 (Bottom)

PHOTO COURTESY OF HILL NEWS

Breaking tradition with two L'ville shirts

By MOFE AKINYANMI '21

The T-shirt design contest for Lawrenceville Weekend took place two weeks prior to L'ville Weekend. Students submitted their ideas in hopes of having their design printed on a shirt worn by the entire school community. Traditionally, only one design is printed. But this year, there were two.

Designed by The Dial staff, the first shirt said, "Respect the Drip, Larry!" with a logo honoring our 132-year rivalry with Lawrenceville. After a vote by the Student Life Office, it was decided that the "Respect The Drip, Larry!" design was the one that the students would like the most. However, Claire Hartemink '21 and Lindsey Coffey '20, two participants in the contest, thought otherwise.

Hartemink and Coffey's design is based on the "Storm Area 51" meme that circulated this past September. Coffey came up with the idea after looking through the internet to find the "biggest meme of 2019." After deciding on Area 51, Coffey went to Hartemink to collaborate on the design.

"The UFO concept came from the well-known theory that there are aliens in Area 51," Coffey said. "And the person in red being kidnapped by the UFO is meant to represent a Lawrenceville player."

Coffey and Hartemink were quite surprised when they did not win the contest because they had received great feedback from their peers and also believed that their design was well-drawn. At first, a few people suggested that Coffey and Hartemink turn their design into an underground shirt, but they did not want to go behind the backs of the administration. Instead, Coffey and Hartemink created a survey to determine whether the student body was genuinely interested in buying their shirt design or not. After receiving over 250 signatures of support, Hartemink and Coffey went to the Student Life Office to make the case that there were students who would purchase their design. Recognizing the positive response their design garnered, the office offered a

second round of shirts available for the student body.

This is not the first year that there have been two Lawrenceville shirts. In the 2016-2017 school year, there were also two shirts—one with a military-like design and another with a Dunkin'-Do-

nuts-themed motif. Student Life Office officials noted that, in the future, the Student Life Association will decide the winning shirt so that there is more input from those who will wear the shirt.

"We are excited to be making our mark on the school," Coffey said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE STUDENT LIFE OFFICE

L'VILLE WEEKEND



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Discussing Democracy Time to impeach?

Weeks ago, the American public witnessed the emergence of a whistleblower report that asserted President Donald Trump pressured Ukraine to investigate alleged corruption by former Vice President and political opponent Joseph “Joe” Biden in exchange for withheld military aid from the United States. Since then, the Democratic majority in the United States House of Representatives has opened an inquiry into the possible impeachment of President Trump, support for which among the American public has surged to approximately 49 percent (FiveThirtyEight).

YES

By BARRY WANG '20

In 993 days in office, the Washington Post counts that President Trump has publicly made over 13,000 false or misleading claims. That makes for an average of thirteen lies per day. As of this September, even the border wall that Trump so often declares is “being built out every day” is yet another lie as construction has not yet begun. Due to this alone, we have every right to not only question the competency and capability of Trump to serve as the President of the United States, but also to question his moral compass. Thus, I believe that Americans should support a presidential impeachment immediately.

There are other issues with Trump besides his tens of thousands of lies: his historically low approval rating, the legacy of Russian influence that helped to elect him, his instigation of government shut-downs. Now, we have recently been gifted another reason to impeach in the form of multiple whistleblower reports accusing the President of improperly accepting help from foreign powers to undermine his political opponent. This ought to be the last straw. Trump has been widely criticized (as he should be), even by some Republicans, for using military aid that strengthens Eastern European regional security as a bargaining chip to further his own political interests. At this point, where do we draw the line? As a general prin-

ciple, the United States should not allow its leaders to abuse the powers of their offices to damage and silence their political opponents. No compromises.

Thankfully, House Democrats agree, and thus they have embarked on an impeachment inquiry to investigate the wrongdoings of the President. It is likely that this inquiry will not just make official what we already know, but also uncover other impeachable or immoral conduct on behalf of President Trump. Not everything is perfect with the inquiry – it does not entail removal from office, but is rather just the beginning of a long, winding process that may lead to impeachment. This process probably will not end before the 2020 presidential election. Finally, even if representatives vote to impeach the President, it is difficult to see what develops next considering that the Senate is controlled by Republicans. However, standing in the face of tyranny is the only right move on the table. We need to impeach.



ILLUSTRATION BY ROBERT TWOMBLY '20

NO

By LOGAN PUNZONE '20

The question of whether to impeach is incredibly complicated. As outlined by the U.S Constitution, impeachable offenses include “Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.” Following this definition, there is a constitutional backing for President Trump to be impeached. I could break my stance into two simple questions. Has Trump committed impeachable offenses? Yes. Should the American people want his impeachment? Probably not.

There exists a laundry list of reasons that support a presidential impeachment. Most importantly, President Trump is as corrupt as they come. From what we know, Trump has an appalling financial history. He repeatedly violates the Constitution’s anti-corruption Emoluments Clause, from his dealing with Saudi Arabia on the campaign trail to his Washington hotel that has been used by foreign leaders to laundering money to the leader of the free world. When Jimmy Carter was elected President, he had to forfeit his peanut farm in fear of foreign governments using it to buy political favors. Not President Trump, who has been allowed to more or less hold onto all of his businesses. Interesting. This corruption is a serious problem.

The most recent reason for impeaching President Trump has been the “quid pro quo” that he allegedly arranged with the Ukrainian government to get dirt on his political opponent, Joe Biden. I find this hypocritical and slightly funny. Previously, I outlined the pitfalls of someone (Trump) using their public office to financially benefit them and their family. But it seems like the media forgets this when it comes to Biden.

The alleged quid pro quo is bad, and it is definitely not the job of the President to investigate Biden’s corruption; however, it is noticeably funny that Trump is actually entirely correct about the corruption of Biden and the defense of him provided by the mainstream media. The possibility of a quid pro quo did not seem like a crazy concept to the public in 2018, when Biden bragged at a Council of Foreign Relations event appearance about withholding Ukrainian aid. This aid was frozen until the Ukrainian government fired a prosecutor investigating why Biden’s son Hunter was paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to work on the board of a Ukrainian energy company (when he doesn’t have a background in energy in the slightest). While this does not justify the actions of Trump, it does give context to the mainstream media frenzy currently going on.

But, that aside, there is a problem with impeaching Trump. His Vice President – the person to assume office upon his impeachment and successive removal from office – is Mike Pence. Pence has a troubling history of anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) beliefs and, separately, has said that his main inspiration to become involved in politics was conservative commentator Rush Limbaugh. That’s scary enough. Even scarier is that he is also more mild-mannered than President Trump, so the public probably won’t realize his more extreme social conservatism. While, yes, Trump has done a lot of things while in office worthy of impeachment, pulling the trigger leaves us with a debatably worse – much worse – option. What a dark time for American politics.

L'VILLE WEEKEND

If you're new to Hill...

By OLIVIA MOFUS '22



DO

1. Win.
2. Pretend you ACTUALLY know the melody of the Fight Song.
3. Wear your sexiest blue blazer.
4. Cheer with everyone else.
5. Chuckle at how the L'ville Grille is named "The Jigger Shop."
6. Storm the football field when we win (fingers crossed!)
7. Chant, but keep it PG ("Let's go Hill! but L'ville is a respectable school as well guys!")
8. Ring cowbells. Be as annoying with it as possible.



DON'T

1. Drink New Jersey water if you value your sanity.
2. Sit in the front @third formers.
3. Go shopping in their campus store, go to the game.
4. Post on snap every second (we are all there, too).
5. Be disappointed if we don't reach the magic number.
6. Wear or make underground T-shirts, no matter how cool they are.
7. Rub the golden foot (you'll know it if you see it).
8. Post all your bonfire pictures at the same time.

ILLUSTRATION BY CLAIRE HARTEMINK '21

School unites through 132-year-old rivarly

By RAINA SHAH '21

Lawrenceville Weekend is one of, if not the most exciting times on our campus each school year. School spirit skyrockets in a matter of days, and all members of our community join in festivities ranging from themed dress days to spoon banging to the annual bonfire. The colors blue and gray cover the student body, and school songs are sung loudly and proudly. In the days leading up to the weekend contests, the school comes together to "fight" against Lawrenceville. Whether it's your first L'ville Weekend or your last, you will feel deeply embedded in the Hill community after this experience.

Both on and off the field, a feeling of utmost competitiveness fills almost all Hill students as they either compete in an athletic event or cheer for their peers, especially when their rival is Lawrenceville. The rivalry between our two schools, that dates back over a century, is so deeply rooted in the Hill community that it becomes a part of everyone's Hill experience. When I was a third former, I remember not understanding why everyone felt such a strong distaste for L'ville – at the end of the day, it was just another boarding school somewhat similar to Hill. But after hearing chants and learning traditions from upper-

classmen, I quickly learned that L'ville Weekend is not just about winning every game. Rather, it is more about bringing our school community together on a unified front.

Throughout history, rivalry has brought different types of people together based on the fact that they have a common enemy. Whether you belong to the cross-country or tennis team does not matter once L'ville Weekend approaches. You are a Hill student, you are automatically part of this great rivalry no matter your individual differences.

"This weekend inspires the best out of our Hill athletes and brings everyone together through its events that demonstrate the significance of rivalry," Andrew Chirieleison '21 said.

The excitement and spirit of L'ville Weekend is a feeling that is unforgettable. Be ready to bang your spoon, chant our songs, and cheer louder than before, because Hill is coming together once again to defeat L'ville.



ILLUSTRATION BY ELIZABETH HUDAK '21

The L'ville traditions you didn't know about

By DEREK SCHMAELING '21

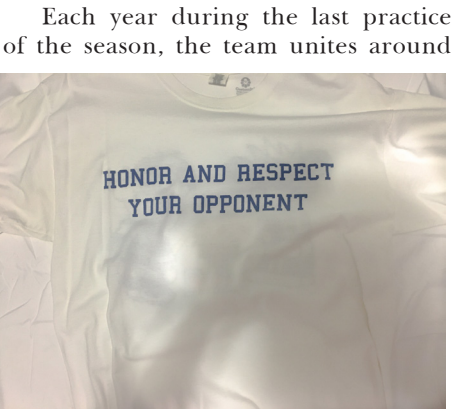
Spoon banging, pep-rallies, dorm banners, red meat dinner, and the annual all-school bonfire: these are all the L'ville Weekend traditions well-known to Hill students and alumni. The Hill School flaunts a colorful history with exciting traditions, but what about the ones unique to the student body that the school would prefer you didn't know?

The Mud Slide, a retired Bonfire tradition

The mudslide, a tradition few students know about, was a student-led, faculty endorsed extension of the annual bonfire. Students, who were encouraged to bring buckets, would grab Dell water and empty them down the hillside. Then, spirited students would slide down the makeshift slide, almost ending up in the Dell. To the relief of many, the tradition no longer takes place during the annual bonfire.

"One of the grossest Hill traditions in my mind was the Mud Slide," said Nate Yinger, class of '05 and sports information director. "I have no idea when the tradition started, but I have a very vivid memory of it ending poorly almost every time. It's good we don't do it anymore."

The annual burning of the cleats, one of The Hill School's football team traditions



a pair of burnt cleats in preparation for Lawrenceville Weekend. Introduced by former Football Coach Ned Ide and run by the captains, it's an excellent way for student leaders to inspire the team in the hope of bettering their chances of defeating the Lawrenceville football team.

"Each year, the day before we play Lawrenceville, the team burn cleats together," Assistant Football Coach Ernest Higginbotham said. "The seniors and leaders of the team use this time to talk about whatever they want; it's all about the students and the players."

L'ville underground shirts, black market T-shirts with vulgar or suggestive designs

The underground shirts date as far back as the first L'ville Weekend over 130 years ago. The shirts were once a big part of the weekend, staying prevalent up until two years ago when Hill administration became stricter about them.

"When I was here, the black market L'ville merch was huge," Dave Hoffman, class of '01 and current director of student enrichment said. "Every shirt anyone was wearing sported a phrase like 'Kill the 'Ville,' and some shirts had other phrases that I can't really talk about."

Lawrenceville weekend is an extraordinary time for Hill students. Whether engaging in student or administration-led L'ville traditions, students are participating in a rich and unique legacy of school spirit.



Past designs of underground t-shirts

L'VILLE WEEKEND GAME SCHEDULE	
V Girls' Tennis JV Girls' Tennis 3rds Girls' Tennis	1:30 PM
V Girls' Soccer V Boys' Soccer JV Boys' Soccer 3rds Boys' Soccer	1:30 PM
V Football V Boys' Cross Country JV Boys' Cross Country	2:00 PM
V Girls' Cross Country JV Girls' Cross Country	2:10 PM
JV Field Hockey JV Girls' Soccer	3:00 PM
V Field Hockey	4:00 PM

SPORTS

Voices on the Hill

By ELLA SCOTT '22



BOYS' GOLF

“IT’S GONNA BE TEE-RIFIC WHEN WE DESTROY L’VILLE.”



BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY

“WE’RE GOING TO RUN OVER L’VILLE.”



BOYS' WATER POLO

“WE’RE GOING TO LAWRENCEVILLE’S POOL. NOTICE HOW THERE’S AN L IN IT, WE’RE GOING TO KEEP IT THAT WAY!”



BOYS' SOCCER

“WE ARE GOING TO WIN. ACTUALLY.”



GIRLS' TENNIS

“L’VILLE CAN KISS OUR ACES.”



GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY

“WHAT DO WE EAT BEFORE THE L’VILLE MEET? RED MEAT!”



GIRLS' WATER POLO

“LET’S DROWN SOME IRRELEVANT LARRIES.”



GIRLS' SOCCER

“WATCH OUT L’VILLE, WE DON’T SKIP LEG DAY.”



FIELD HOCKEY

“WE’RE GOING TO DRIVE L’VILLE OUT OF TOWN.”



FOOTBALL

“OH, SNAP. WATCH OUT L’VILLE.”

GIRLS



BOYS

CROSS
COUNTRY

CROSS
COUNTRY

15-2-0

FIELD
HOCKEY

9-2-0



0-7-0

FOOTBALL

1-7-0

4-7-0

WATER
POLO

7-3-0

12-2-0

WATER
POLO

9-3-0

4-11-0

TENNIS

14-0-0

12-4-0

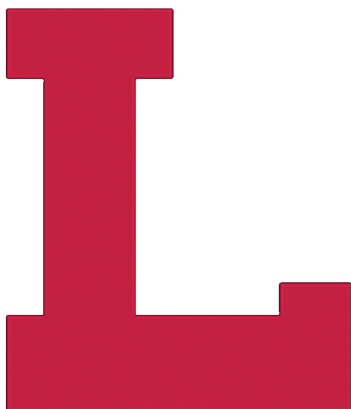
SOCCER

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SOCCER

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SCORES AS OF OCTOBER 30 2019