

# Verbatim

adjective | ver·ba·tim | 측 어적으로 | literalmente | 逐字 | doslovne | 逐語的 | tùng tiếng một  
: being in or following the exact words : WORD-FOR-WORD  
// a *verbatim* report of life at Cardigan

<b>Monday</b>	Victor Zhu Reporter
<b>November 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Mike Lee Photographer
<b>Verbatim Staff</b>	Pi Mongkhonvanit Formatter
Franklin Chow <i>Editor-in-Chief</i>	Thomas Oh Formatter
Deegan Blasko <i>Editor</i>	Ms. Kidder Faculty Advisor

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AUGERE VIRTUTEM-DIRIGERE MENTEM

62 Alumni Drive, Canaan, NH

## Mr Franco: Ending Fall Season with the Gift of Music

Victor Zhu '20

Reporter



Students practicing for the Fall Concert

Photo Smugmug

### How did you feel about the concert two days ago?

Friday night's concert was one of the best I have ever seen—yes, all of the performers were fantastic, but what truly made the concert an event to remember was the commitment from all those who were on stage. Over the past month, everyone rallied around a single goal: to present something they all loved to the school community through music. Not only did everyone want to have fun, but they wanted to set a very high standard for the performance, and thus pushed themselves to do better every single day. They had the same growth mindset your coaches tell you to have in sports: do your job, ask yourself how to get better and fix your mistakes, help your teammates who are struggling, and fight through adversity. On Friday night, they followed through. I could not be more proud of them.

### What parts of the concert did you like the most?

While each act was special in its own way, I was thrilled to have so many boys perform on their own. There were twelve acts in the concert, and six of them were from students who worked on them during their free time. We do not have a lot of free time around here, so it is not just difficult to prepare for a concert that way, but it is also a true test of how badly someone wants to perform. John, Figo, Tommy, and Kevin did this while on four different schedules! Additionally, the concert is not just about performing and listening, but also about teaching and learning. It was fantastic that Mac Wang introduced his own pieces and shed some light on classical guitar music, and when everyone recognized the piece that Harrison played—it reminds us of the true impact music can have on our minds and our society.

### Would you like to give more history on one piece of music that was performed at the concert?

In order to avoid turning Verbatim into a sixteen-page broadsheet newspaper, I will keep my comments brief. As I mentioned last night, "The Pink Panther" theme is from a fantastic movie of the same name. It is an epic and unpredictable mystery-comedy film from 1963 and stars a very famous actor named Peter Sellers as the renowned, dedicated, yet clumsy detective Jacques Clouseau.

Inspector Clouseau's antics often interfere with his quest to stop a jewel thief known as "The Phantom." While everyone should see this classic film at some point, I would certainly recommend that you watch it with a friend to make sure you both catch every element of the plot—quiz each other about the characters and their actions—and enjoy the music and laugh, of course!

### ***Is there anything that stood out to you?***

Many different parts of the concert stood out to me, some of which the audience may not think about. While everyone on the stage took a risk, some truly forced themselves to do something they never thought they would do. Singing is one of the hardest jobs, and many of the boys singing on stage on Friday had never sung before, let alone sung with a full group of musicians accompanying them. Hitting the right notes, words, and rhythm is just a fraction of the job description—you need to be able to sing into the microphone properly and project over the musicians—trust me, it's not until you stand next to them that you realize how loud Bryce Terry, Connor Pollard, and Dylan Biggs are when they play! Most of all, you need confidence. You need to eradicate the mentality of "singing is something I did when I was younger and I hated it," and replace it with "singing is an opportunity to have a huge leadership role within a larger group." Meanwhile, Tommy, Kyle, and Jerry are all seasoned performers on piano and can read sheet music, but they have acclimated themselves to "jamming," which basically means being given just a small amount of information about the chords and rhythms and determining what to play on the spot.

### ***Are there any areas of improvement?***

Yes—in my quest to maintain a high standard of student performance and presentation, there is always room for improvement on my end. I am perpetually exploring new solutions to ensure the concert runs as efficiently as possible, even with a record number of performers—my goal is never to reduce the number of participants due to the length of the concert. Rather, the transitions add unnecessary time to the concert, and I try very hard to make them as fast as possible. For every concert I have ever done, I have tried a different method of setting up the stage and moving equipment. In a notebook, I draw a picture of where every single piece of equipment and student will be on stage for each act, and what I need to change for the following act—I call it my "offensive playbook" because a student at my old school thought the symbols and arrows in the drawings looked like football plays. I also always practice them after dress rehearsal is over, and early on the morning of the concert. So far, no system has been perfect. If you have any ideas that might be helpful, I would appreciate any feedback.

### ***Are There Any Special Plans for the Winter Concert?***

Not at this point—the only things I "plan" for the concert are where the equipment goes, who sits where, and seldom what movie quotes to use when introducing a group of performers. The rest is in the hands of those who want to perform at the next concert. If you are interested in sharing a musical talent at the concert, I strongly encourage you to start preparing for it now and let me know what you want to perform as soon as possible. You will not have enough time to be ready a week before the concert. If you are thinking "I do not know if I am good enough to play in the concert," I encourage you to speak with me as well so that I can listen to your piece and determine what you need to do to be ready. I look forward to seeing what the program will be for the winter concert on March 4, 2020.

# Culture

## *The World: According to Mr. Gartner*

Mr. Gartner  
Ph. D in Knowledge

- 1) 84% of New Hampshire is covered in forest
- 2) In 2001 Taylor Swift attended summer session and lived in French
- 3) There are more dogs in Alabama than people
- 4) It takes more muscles to frown than to smile
- 5) Geese are the most aggressive type of bird
- 6) You can't lick your own elbow
- 7) Reese's are the best chocolate candy
- 8) Kermit the Frog accidentally swallowed a LEGO® as a child, which caused his unique voice
- 9) Left turns are illegal in New Jersey
- 10) CM is haunted by the ghosts of all the former all school leaders

## **Transition Week**

Diego Escalante '20  
Reporter

Fall sports have ended and the winter season is on the horizon. This week though is transition week. Transition week is made up of a series of fun-filled events that include the lake run, fitness day, faculty vs student games (look out faculty). It is a great way to remain active while also enjoying your time heading into your winter sport. Not only do you get to participate but also keep in mind that this is a way that you can test your limits. On fitness day you will be able to set the bar high for your personal fitness and then to smash that goal during the winter fitness day. Whether you play hockey and football, basketball or soccer, transition week is an amazing time. Another upcoming event that wraps up the fall season is the Fall Sports Awards Assembly which is when all of your team's hard work is recognized. So get ready because we're heading into the transition of the year!



Transition Week

Photos Smugmug

## Opinions on the new cups?

“Fantastico! It is really different.”  
~Kenny Chen

“I don’t see the difference...”  
~Lucas Ding

“Guacamole.” ~Logan Huetter

“You get much liquid.” ~Renzo Martinez

“Much more easier for kitchen.”  
~Justin Lee

“So good.” ~Bill Ke

“What cup? ‘Cause it’s transparent. Get it?” ~Santi Bueno

“I like how the new cups are blue.”  
~Luke Litowitz

“Wait wait wait wait wait wait wait...WAIT.” ~Cillian Clark

“It’s pretty nice, It makes the drink look much more appealing.”  
~Tiger Yang

“I like how it’s clear so you can see if it’s clean or not easier.” ~Heewoo Jung

“I hate that they’re clear.” ~Michael Brannan

“No opinion.” ~Tommy Xi Li

“They’re better. It will be better if it was glass cups or metal cups because of thalidomides.” ~Ian Hede

“I like them. They’re bigger, and it is easier to see if they’re clean.”  
~Mr. Nevins