

Thank you all for being here as we celebrate the winter season on the island. Some housekeeping for the night – Due to COVID restrictions, we will not serve refreshments afterwards. Athletes, as each coach is introduced, please follow your coach down to the floor. Coaches, please introduce the coach that will follow you.

I want to start by thanking a few key people who play a critical role in helping support LC athletics. The operations in running the department are pivotal to supporting our coaches, athletes and programs . Join me in giving a hand and a special thanks to our Athletic Department and student helpers. Ms. Marquis, Coach Mckillop, Coach Bissett, Coach Cunningham, Coach Mai, Craig for work on the facility and the clock and Dan in the Rink with Ryan and Craig assisting game days and Cathy in the cage. I would also like to thank a number of student athletes for their help working on the clock and some behind the camera.

March is National Athletic Trainer Month, at this time I would like to recognize our Athletic Training team for your compassion caring for our athletes injuries and getting them back on the ice, court or in the pool,as quickly as possible. Your commitment to the health and well being of our student athletes is essential to the success of our programs. A shout out to McG, Ms Sapula and Coach Stew and Alex.

I would also like to take this time to thank all the parents for supporting our athletes, coaches, and the athletic program throughout this season. Your presence in the stands, the many snacks and meals that you have provided teams and for your love and commitment for everything LC athletics.

Last but not least, a special thanks to our coaches. I am grateful to work with such a passionate, caring and dedicated group of talented teacher coaches. In their own way, they have all demonstrated the importance of good sportsmanship, building character and

relationships, humility and fun through sport as they share their love of the game, their commitment, their passion and their dedication to making our teams better and making sure that Loomis athletics is an important component of your educational experience.

It was great season to be a Pelican! While we were masked all winter, protocols eased up and felt a lot like a normal season which was fantastic! the season will carry with it many fond memories and experiences and one we can all say has been a successful winter. It was one that was rich with participation, victories, championships, postseason play and individual recognition, personal growth and one that demonstrated the character of Loomis Chaffee's student-athletes and coaches. When we began the season in November (5 months ago) the focus was on building relationships, practice, skill work, team culture and working together toward common goals and giving your best self for the good of your team, all with an eye on renewed competition and NE's. With that work, you accomplished big things! Our JV teams took your lead and had spectacular seasons – Boys and Girls JV Basketball teams finished undefeated, JV Girls Hockey did as well, Thirds basketball, BJV Hockey and the Squash teams all had tremendous experiences and growth. 6 of our varsity teams finished in the top 8 of the Class A/Division I NEPSAC schools and we are the only Founders League School to have 10 teams compete in the post season. The Girls Basketball team won its first NEPSAC Class A championship in the history of the program, the Girls Swimming and Dive team won the Founders League meet and finished 8th in NE; Boys Swim and Dive came in second in the FL and 5th in NE, while Liam Hochman and Henry Wang captured gold and bronze respectively in NE Dive. Girls Hockey qualified again for the Elite 8 tournament and Girls varsity Squash finished 3rd in their division at US High School Nationals in Philadelphia. Aside from the competitive excellence of our teams and athletes, each day our athletes competed hard, played with

intensity and represented the school with the highest ideals of good sportsmanship. There are many memorable moments, shared accomplishments, friendships forged and reasons to celebrate success in each of our programs this winter, very shortly you will hear from our coaches as they capture this past season.

Throughout this year our student support of our teams has been tremendous and this winter at an all time high. While not always the most positive, each game and opportunity came with improvement. When we say all teams had a following, 3rds, JV games and varsity! How many schools can say they pack the house for a 3rds Boys basketball game? Lets continue the Pelican Pride, Spirit with good Sportsmanship through this Spring. Lets Go Pelicans.

Now what you have been waiting for – Mr Cunningham, bring on the slideshow.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Thank you coaches for sharing your seasons with us. Congratulations to the athletes coaches. I hope you all find ways to express your gratitude to those who made a difference and helped shape this season for you.

- All Award winners – please meet Coach Cunningham down here for a quick photo
- Please make sure any garbage is removed before you leave.

Lets finish this spring out strong!

Ski team award speech

The story of the 2021-2022 Loomis Chaffee Alpine Ski team is perhaps best represented by a moment of difficulty and frustration. On the morning of our NEPSAC finals race at Waterville Valley, our team woke up early and ready to send it in a hotel in Plymouth, New Hampshire. After eating a decadent meal of hotel scrambled eggs and waffles, we headed outside to board our bus to the mountain. There was just one problem—the bus wouldn't start in the 5 degree weather.

I thought—no problem. Taft's ski team was staying in the same hotel and I could ask their coach if we could hitch a ride to the mountain. Surely he'd say yes. This was when we found out about the real kicker. Without power from the bus, we were unable to open the storage bays underneath, meaning all of our ski equipment was locked inside.

The next two hours dragged on as we sat in the lobby of the hotel waiting for our bus to get fixed, counting down the minutes until the race would start and we'd officially miss our chance to compete in NEPSACs. I expected to look around and see frustrated faces, but saw nothing but positivity. Through some much-needed gallows humor, we survived the wait for the mechanic and were eventually able to get on the road, making for Waterville Valley as fast as possible. We arrived at the last possible moment and just squeaked into the morning's giant slalom race without being disqualified.

Skiing at Loomis requires patience and dedication. We board a bus every afternoon and drive 45 minutes to the mountain and train for just over an hour before making the trip home. Every practice is an away game and the team fights through the struggles of being away from campus for nearly 4 hours every time we get on snow. However, if you were to look around at our team, you'd never know it. The camaraderie of high school ski racing is one of my favorite parts of the sport and this is created in the crucible of our difficult schedule. Every day, Loomis skiers show up ready to go and with a smile on their faces.

This year, we resurrected the program after a winter lost to Covid and had perhaps the biggest roster the team has ever carried—getting new skiers hooked on the sport. This is a testament to the incredible culture that our athletes have built. In every way, this season was a success and I'm glad to have been a part of it.

Male Most Improved: Wyatt Abrams:

This skier came to our team with a wealth of skiing experience, but having never done any serious racing. No matter how talented of a skier you may be, it takes time in courses to understand how to adapt to skiing gates—something that we don't have a lot of before our races begin. In the early part of the season, he practiced his technique while racing for the JV team, earning solid finishes and impressing Coach Gary and myself with his quick progression and willingness to send it every day. By mid-season, he cemented himself as a varsity skier and earned a spot racing in both slalom and giant slalom at the NEPSAC championships—not bad for a freshman who'd never raced before 2022.

Congratulations to this season's most improved male skier, Wyatt Abrams.

Most Improved: Hannah and Grace

When Ms. Cabot sent out the email asking for our award choices, she wrote that only in special circumstances should we choose co-winners for an award. I responded immediately that I had such a

special circumstance, and am happy to announce that we have two winners for most improved on our girls' team. These skiers, like Wyatt, came to the Loomis ski team with a strong skiing background but no prior racing experience. As I constantly shuffled our lineups in the first half of the season, I came to realize that no matter where I slotted these skiers in the running order, they were consistently neck and neck and continued to get faster and faster. By the time NEPSACs came around, it was a no-brainer who should represent us, as each earned a spot in one of the events—again, an impressive accomplishment for first year racers.

Congratulations to our two most improved female skiers, Hannah and Grace Lund.

Coaches' Award: Oliver Vulliez

As much as I love to give this skier a hard time, he showed up day in and day out and worked hard to improve. Throughout the season he proved himself one of our very best and most consistent skiers, even winning a race on perhaps our most fun day of the year. Not only did he consistently put our team in a position to compete, but he also helped to keep our team close-knit and welcoming, working to set a tone of friendly competition and joy. Put simply, he's a joy to coach.

Congratulations to this season's coaches' award winner, Oliver Vulliez.

Coaches' Award: Donatella DeFazio

The other winner of our coaches' award should come as no surprise to anyone. From the beginning of the season, her passion and dedication to the sport was evident to anyone who was paying attention. After missing out on a ski season last winter, she worked hard to build a culture of hard work and fun, pushing her teammates to succeed while creating an atmosphere of positivity. All of her work came to a head in the NEPSAC slalom race, where she earned a top-ten finish and All-New England honors, the only Loomis skier to do so this year. Quite an accomplishment and a great way to conclude her Loomis ski career.

Congratulations to this season's coaches' award winner, Donatella DeFazio.

Equestrian Speech

The Loomis Chaffee equestrian team had 8 members on it this year, senior and captain Lillie Szemraj, juniors Drew Billar and Zoe Santilli, sophomores Nessa Tang, Leah Ozgun and Jamnia Ai and freshmen Lauren Berger and Michaela Howe. The team attended five preseason horse shows, and three riders, Drew Billar, Nessa Tang and Michaela Howe qualified for post season regional finals.

Michaela was the high point rider in her her division, accumulating the most points out of the entire region! Quite an accomplishment!

The team comes out to Valkyrie equestrian center in Granby 3-4 times every week, while also supplementing their riding with lift 2 times per week.

Each season brings a new dynamic amongst the team, and this year the riding team had fantastic energy and camaraderie. The riders are supportive of each other, standing ringside during the rain and wind and cold, to cheer their teammates on! Each student brings something to the table with the team. Lillie with her constant smile, eager to be of help to the other students, Drew and Zoe are both the most positive and supportive kids any coach could ever dream to have! No one can beat Nessa's work ethic! She struggles to work through a challenge over and over again, somehow without ever showing frustration or disappointment. Incredible! Jamnia brings the charm and wit to the group! She's always up for a good laugh which often helps to lighten the mood! Lauren, Leah and Michaela have all had their own mounts at the farm, and bring a level of commitment and fortitude that is necessary to really progress in riding. They are great role models.

Overall, this season has brought back hope and excitement after a year of isolation. The riding team feels refreshed and invigorated! This group of riders in particular, lays a great foundation and sets the perfect tone to build on next year. I couldn't be more proud or excited for the future!

MVP: Michaela Howe- Michaela was a key member of the riding team, both on and off the horses! She came to each lesson and horse show eager to learn and supportive of her teammates. Michaela qualified for regional finals in her division, and was the high point rider earning the most points throughout the season in the entire region!

Coaches Award: Nessa Tang- Nessa showed a real passion and commitment to learning this season. Nessa has a desire to improve with each lesson, and follows

instruction impeccably. When she is not riding, Nessa is watching the other lessons, hoping to soak up more knowledge. She also made it to post season, riding in regional finals.

Captains for next year will be : Zoe Santilli and Drew Billar

Boys' Squash Speech 2021-22

I'd like to start by thanking the entire Athletic Department for all they have done for both Boys' and Girls' Squash this year. We are grateful for the time and effort they all put in to making our seasons successful.

There are many people who gave their time to help our program, but I'd like to highlight and make a special thank you to Coach McKillop and Ms. Corman. Both of whom were both incredibly generous with their time and joined the coaching staff for the respective New England tournaments.

Lastly, I'd like to thank my fellow coaches: Coach Struthers and Coach DeNunzio for a great season on the courts. On behalf of both teams, we all appreciated your time and coaching.

This was a season like no other for the boys' squash team; as a sizable number our of matches were cancelled due to covid. Despite this, the boys did well to focus on their own improvement and look to compete. Regardless of the opponent we consistently challenged and competed well as a team. Almost every single match included one or more tense five game battle from one of the seven here. All this to say that this team worked really hard to bring their best in every competitive opportunity they were afforded. As a group, they were supportive and hard working and through the excellent help of our two managers, Kayla and Jayden, we were able to focus on achieving our best. It was great to see our three seniors in Taku, Davis, and DQ lead the way in this and I wanted to thank them all for the superb and high standard that they have set for this team.

To the awards; the first is our Most Improved Player, which is awarded this year to the player who has demonstrated a strong commitment to developing their game. This is evidenced by the significant level of improvement between their first and last seasons (which, in this case is quite short); as well as the overall level of play attained. This player only lost three matches and led the team with wins for the season. Our most improved player this year is senior captain, Davis Hanson.

The final award is the Coaches' Awards which is given to the member of the team who best represents and exemplifies the ideals of the program. This award is also being given to the member of the team who has continually raised the level of skill and competition in the program during his time on the team; competing mostly at the #1-2 spots for his three years on the team. On behalf of the coaches, we award this to senior captain, Taku Noguchi.

Girls' Squash Speech 2021-22

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Lastly, I'd like to thank my fellow coaches: Coach Struthers and Coach DeNunzio for a great season on the courts. On behalf of both teams, we all appreciated your time and coaching over the season.

As a team, girls squash earned a winning record of 11-6 and finished at a program high of 14th in All New England Rankings, and ranking 34th in the nation. Our achievements as a team were made possible by the overall strength and depth of the squad, with each spot on the ladder being highly contested and leading to a competitive team overall. Through the immense help of our two managers, MK and Stef, we were able to focus on the task at hand on game days and in practice- thank you MK and Stef! This was a fun group to coach as they committed themselves to individual improvement for the course of the season. I'm proud to have seen each of these players achieve their goals and to have their hard work pay off this season. I wanted to mention two outstanding individual performances from the season; in particular: Angelina Amastal and Princess Davenport who both ended their seasons with 13-4 records. Both records were filled with huge wins for the team, and are indicative of each of their hard work this year. Congratulations to both of you, and to the whole team.

To the awards, the first is the Coaches' Awards which is given to the member of the team who best represents and exemplifies the ideals of the program. Through sustained leadership and hard work over four years, and particularly this season; as well as continually setting a high standard and fine example for her teammates. On behalf of the coaches, we award this to senior captain, Mariapaula Gonzalez.

The final award is our Most Valuable Player Award, which is awarded this year to the player who has demonstrated an unwavering competitive spirit that both set the example, but also led the way to numerous team victories; most notably at Team Nationals where this player went undefeated in the tournament. Through consistency in practice and resilience in competition this honor is awarded to senior captain, Maren Livingstone.

Boys Swimming

This year marked a lot of firsts for many of us on this team. It was my first “normal” season as head coach, it was the first year for Coach Winn, Coach Rubin and Coach Murphy, it was the first “normal” season for nine members of the team, and the first time nearly half the team had the opportunity to race at New England’s. Overall, we had a successful dual meet season with five wins and four losses. It concluded with a hard-fought 2nd place finish at the Founder’s League Championship, a fantastic 5th place finish at the New England Championship, Liam Hochman winning diving at New England’s, and throughout the season, five new school records-Matthew Eng in the 200 M Freestyle, Nick Guenther in the 100 M Fly (twice), Drew Boutry in the 200 yard Free (twice), and the team of Nick, Drew, Matthew, and Kaeden Freston in the 400 M and 400 yard Freestyle Relays (both records were 30 years old).

This season also marked the end of the Loomis Chaffee Swimming and Diving career for 10 seniors that are going to be greatly missed next year.

Kunal Kothari was our manager, personal videographer, and one of our best cheerleaders all season long. He even made the trek all the way to Hotchkiss to cheer us on during the Founder’s League Championship.

Lucas Lin came out for the team for just his senior year and was certainly the Most Improved swimmer of the team. Before Thanksgiving break, he swam a 1:16.59 in the 100 Freestyle and at our Founder’s League Championship he went a lifetime best of 57.70.

Ryan Fortani is hard to describe in just a couple sentences but his hard work, once he gets in the pool, and his competitiveness is easy to see. This was most evident at New England’s this year when he swam lifetime bests in the 200 Free and 500 Free and made it to the consolation finals in the 500 Free.

Karan Kothari has made a tremendous amount of progress in his four years on the team. This year, his friendly competition with some of the younger swimmers and his desire to improve helped propel him to lifetime best swims at New England’s in the 200 IM and 100 Breaststroke.

Shawn Meng has been a dedicated swimmer for four years and it will definitely be strange to not see him at the pool next year. He was always willing to challenge himself in practice and try out a new event in a meet when we needed him to.

Andy Seo is the “nicest person on the team” and one of the hardest working too. His sense of humor and leadership with the younger boys will be greatly missed next year.

Henry Wang didn’t actually start out as a diver but I’m glad he tried it out as a 9th grader. His hard work and dedication to the sport all paid off when he heard himself a strong 4th place finish at Founders and a 3rd place finish at New England’s.

Coach’s Award:

Liam Hochman has been a lot of fun to watch dive over the past four years. When he

first went off the boards as a 9th grader, he was already quite talented. He showed tremendous patience, control, and a desire to keep getting better with each practice and meet he competed at and has steadily improved his strength and degree of difficulty with each year. Coach Murphy commented that when you first meet Liam, you might be fooled to believe that he is quiet and reserved. But once you get the pleasure of spending time with him you are able to see some other sides of Liam – funny, fearless, accountable, modest, and kind. His sense of humor kept everyone smiling and you could often find him starring in the loomisdiving Instagram stories.

On the boards, he holds himself to an incredibly high standard. This high standard served the team well as he earned either 1st or 2nd place in every dual meet, dove to a 2nd place finish at the Founder’s League Championship and a well-earned 1st place finish at New England’s. His effort, attitude, talent and competitive nature are hard to find altogether in one athlete and we have been lucky to watch him dive for four years. For his dedication to the program and stellar senior year, we are awarding Liam with a Coach’s Award.

Robert W. Hartman MVP Award:

The Robert W. Hartman MVP Award is awarded to the upperclassman who best demonstrates leadership by example, consistent effort, steady improvement, positive spirit, and devotion to his teammates and the sport of swimming. This year we are awarding the Hartman Award to Nick Guenther.

It doesn’t matter who you ask up here, if posed the question, “who is the most devoted swimmer”, it would, without a doubt, be Nick. In every practice, he is competitive and hardworking and is always striving to challenge himself and his teammates. During the dual meet season, there was no one you would rather see up on the blocks for Loomis than Nick. He was a force to be reckoned with and NEVER lost a close race. Whether that was an individual swim or anchoring one of our A-relay teams, if the race was close, Nick was going to win. As co-captain, Nick clarified and modeled the standards of self-discipline, generous sportsmanship, concern for all of his teammates, and fiercely competitive racing. His dedication to the team for four years and his leadership in the pool as a co-captain was an integral part of the team’s success over his career as a pelican. He has made his mark not just with school records and top 10 swims, but he has also left a fantastic legacy of hard work and dedication for the younger boys to live up to. We thank Nick as we honor him this evening with the 2022 Robert W. Hartman MVP Award.

Anthony M. Riccio Award:

In the mid-1990s, teammates of Tony Riccio, who died tragically while spending a year abroad during college, dedicated a special trophy to his memory. Tony was an effusive, bright, committed young man whose impact upon our program continues to this day. The Riccio award is given to a member of the boys’ team who personifies the spirit of Tony through dedication to his teammates, enthusiasm for the sports of Swimming and Water Polo, and joy in living. This year we award this honor to Drew Boutry.

When Drew came onto campus as a freshman, he was probably six inches shorter and 40 pounds lighter, but he immediately made an impact on the program. His hard work, positive energy, great sense of humor, and laid-back nature have pushed both the water

polo and swim team to be better. His impact this year, as a senior and captain of both teams, is hard to put into words. Coach Pond remarks that Drew's enthusiasm for water polo, positive attitude, good work ethic, and ability to connect with and support his teammates was instrumental during the interrupted season of 2020 and the reestablishing of the program in 2021.

His leadership in the pool, the locker room, and the weight room helped the swim team reach great milestones this year and helped him reach personal milestones at New England's. Not only did he break an individual school record twice, but he swam lifetime best times every time he dove in the pool (including a very awkward dive that one time). We thank Drew as we honor him this evening with the 2022 Anthony M. Riccio Award.

Thank you to all the seniors for your years of dedication to the Swimming and Diving program. Even though you will be missed next year, we have a tremendous group of swimmers who will be returning who also had great seasons this year. They worked hard each day, got faster with each race, swam lifetimes bests and will be ready for another season next year. Thank you to the parents for your support and cheers both at the pool and while watching the livestream. And finally thank you to coaches Winn, Rubin, Murphy, Deconinck, and Fergus for all of your time and energy spent down at the pool this winter. Congratulations to each of these boys standing up here for a great season!

Girls Varsity Swimming and Diving

After last year's COVID season with no outside competition, the hope was that this season would be normal. Well, I guess we could say that it was MOSTLY normal. Despite all the craziness and uncertainty of the winter, the team managed to make the best of the situation, working hard during practices, embracing the competition, and relishing in the camaraderie of just being together in a shared experience. The team, with strong leadership of the captains and seniors, and the positive attitude of all swimmers and divers, made the best of whatever twist and turn that came their way.

Overall, the team enjoyed a very successful season, finishing with a dual meet record of six wins and two losses. The strength of this team was its overall depth and it showed with its dual meet record and a convincing first place finish at the Founders League Championship, the 30th in program history. At that meet, twenty girls scored points towards our 130-point margin of victory over second place Choate. In a highly competitive Division I New England Championships, a meet which focuses not on depth but on the higher end athlete, the Pelicans dove and swam their way to an eighth place finish. Most importantly, the athletes had fun, worked hard and saw significant personal improvement throughout the season.

From pre-season, through the gauntlet of our dual meet schedule, to the championship meets at the end of the season, the girls arrived to the pool each day to give their best efforts, swimming and diving with enthusiasm and a positive attitude.

The team was led by a wonderful core of veteran returning athletes, and with the addition of a hard-working group of new swimmers and divers, the bar was raised in workouts from the very first day and the athletes accepted this challenge. With Coach Mai's dryland program supplementing the time spent in the water, the girls understood that all this hard work was necessary to swim fast and dive well at the end of the year. During dual meets, the girls learned to race and to compete, learning to focus and pay attention to the details of their race strategies, starts, strokes and turns. New dives were attempted and old dives were fine-tuned. The improvement that all the girls showed in the pool and on the boards throughout the year was awesome.

Highlights of the dual meet season included

- Watching the seniors commit themselves to leading the team each day
- The development, improvement, and impact of our younger swimmers
- Huge dual meet victories over Choate and a Senior Day victory against Deerfield.
- And of course, our 2022 Founders League Championship

At our two championship meets, the girls really shined, with Laura Brawley winning the Founders League Championship in the 100 freestyle and the 200 Free Relay team of Laura, Julia Grant, Paige Davis and Jessica Zhao finishing first as well.

At New England's, senior Eleanor Zhu, juniors Zoe Sorensen and Campbell Brode, sophomores Kayla Zeng, Julia Grant, Charlotte Sorensen, Bella Flowers, and freshmen Maren Forrest,

Jessica Zhao, and Delaney Pece, all scored either valuable individual points or helped to make a significant contribution to our scoring relays.

The team will miss the fine leadership of our seniors. Our great tri-captains Kamy Collins, Pilar Wingle and Chloe Chen led the team through this season with their talents, leadership, and sage wisdom and guidance. Senior classmates Laura Brawley, Paige Davis, and Eleanor Zhu have been integral parts of our team from the day they arrived in Hedges Pool. Cori Schmidt, our lone senior diver, Emma Dear and Evelyn Tang, have been great and loyal Pelicans, putting forth their best efforts each day, helping to set a positive and hard-working atmosphere in the pool. These nine young women will be tough to replace. Their dedication to the program, their work ethic and competitiveness has been a great model for others to follow and certainly appreciated by coaches and athletes. They will certainly be missed. Thank you seniors and good luck!

Thank you to all the swimmers and divers for all your effort and hard work throughout the season! You were a great group to coach! We worked hard yet along the way had many laughs and great memories. Even though we are losing a large group of seniors, the Pelicans are in good stead with a solid group of returning swimmers and divers next year. It is time to get back to work!

COACHES AWARD:

Eleanor Zhu:

Quick story. At New England's, Eleanor Zhu made the finals of the 100 breaststroke, which is the second to last event and just prior to the final relay. It is the end of a long season and a long two days of swimming, but I knew that by the way that Eleanor was swimming that she was certainly able to go back to back but I needed Eleanor to buy into it. I sat her down mid-finals and walked her through the time line and how many minutes of rest she would have, etc. I looked at her and asked her if she felt she could do what I was asking. She looked at me and immediately said, "Yes". Freshman and sophomore Eleanor might not have said yes. Junior Eleanor might have said yes but thought about it a bit more. Senior Eleanor, filled with confidence and determination, did not hesitate and of course, came through with a great swim. Eleanor is quiet yet over the past four years has, without fanfare, moved her way up the swimming ladder, becoming one of our most consistent and dependable athletes. Each time Eleanor gets on the blocks, good things happen. Her improvement this year has been phenomenal, swimming season or personal best times almost every time she raced. Why? Work ethic. Determination. Attitude. Confidence. Eleanor had the tools in place and with a proper mindset put herself in a position to be successful. A quiet role model, Eleanor has certainly made an impact on me and on her teammates. Congratulations and thank you Eleanor for all you've meant to Pelican Swimming.

GVH 2021-2022
Podium Speech

If I had to sum up our hockey season this winter in one word, the word would be grateful. I am grateful that we had the opportunity to have a full hockey season this winter, that we have a team that loves to be together, and that hockey was able to be the something that felt normal for all of us in a year when so much has been abnormal. And I am grateful for all the people behind the scenes who are instrumental in making our season what it is. Dan Lessard as rink manager, Coach Mai, Mr. MacG and Ms. Sapula, the Post Road drivers, Ms. Cabot, and our managers: Dito, Turner, and Kori. Thank you!

I am glad we were able to have a real season and while the team was absolutely a lot of fun to work with and coach this season wasn't easy. This winter was one of growth – in a myriad of ways. Just like every other team, not having a season of games last year meant that this winter began with many question marks. The commitment to skill development over the past year and half has been tremendous, and at the same time opportunities to play games and compete with the team limited. Every single grade experienced unique challenges and the learning curve steep. And on top of this we had a revolving door of injuries and quarantines throughout the season that meant that our line up continually changed. Indeed, one of the things I am most proud of is this group's ability to roll with the changes and make the most of the present situation. Through all of this we had fun. And everyone learned the importance of being "Better Together." I hope that when each player on our team looks back on this season they will think about our motto "Better Together" and will remember times when this led us to be our best. Whether it was a signature win (our 6-0 Win on Valentine's Day over Deerfield comes to mind), or a single play that epitomized this (like when, in February vs Choate freshmen trio Presley, Chloe, and Grace scored our team's first goal off of a faceoff play – something our team had worked on since December), this team learned how to play for each other and authentically support one another in the hard moments. And I also hope they will remember the fun. This group is fun! And funny. And grew into a family where love and care for one another shine bright.

On the ice our team was fast and skilled and relatively inexperienced. Over half of the team never played a prep school season prior to this winter. And we played the most difficult schedule in New England. We played more playoff bound teams more times than any other team in the league; no game was easy. I am proud of earning the #5 seed in the Elite 8 tournament. Making this tournament is tremendous. It's not a given and is one of several goals we have annually for our team. We worked hard to earn a place in this top tournament. Further, we won Founder's League this winter. This is another annual goal and the annotation on the rink banner is always special.

The Class of 2022 was charged with a task of re-affirming the Loomis hockey culture this winter and each girl took this to heart and did their part. As a PG Taylor Hyland brought her experience and perspective to the team and *invested fully* as a Pelican. Camryn Kaleugher pushed herself daily and became one of our most improved players showing how much *perseverance* matters. Lia Ernest embraced whatever role she had on game day, supported her teammates enthusiastically and *always showed up with a smile*. Zoe Pincelli unfortunately had a season ending injury and yet still found ways to profoundly impact teammates and the culture through her *care and commitment to the team*. Amanda Quan's *work ethic and her will to succeed* stood out all winter and drove everyone to bring their best. Sophia Testa learned *how to push from behind*, finding that encouraging others benefited their performance as well as her own. And Cally Dixon's *motivation and determination* to bring her best inspires others to strive to new heights. For one, two, three, and four years, all seven of these players have profoundly impacted

our program in positive ways. I am immensely grateful for their time, commitment, and effort. Thank you, seniors; you leave our program in a good place for years to come.

We had several players recognized this winter for their strong play. Junior Molly Jordan earned All-NEPSAC First Team honors, Taylor earned a spot on the All-NEPSAC honorable mention team, and Amanda and Cally earned All-Founders League honors. Congratulations girls.

We will be giving two awards tonight.

Annie Sun earns the Coaches Award. Quite simply, Annie Sun gets it done. In an unassuming manner she shows up to the rink daily with a positive demeanor and a consistent attitude, mentally prepared to make the most of training. Annie observes, listens, absorbs feedback, learns from others, and pushes herself. Her consistency is remarkable, and it has allowed her to develop into an elite defender in the league. All of these traits make Annie a player who is loved by her teammates. They trust her and count on her, as do we, her coaches. Thank you, Annie for your outstanding contributions this winter.

The second award is the Chuck Vernon Award. Established in 2016, this award is in honor of longtime Loomis coach, Bruno. Bruno coached Loomis hockey for more than 50 years and his contributions to the girls hockey program go back to the program's inception in the early 1980s. Across New England, he helped move girls hockey along in its infancy. The winner of this, in addition to receiving an award tonight, has her name engraved on a plaque that hangs in our locker room. The inscription reads: The Chuck Vernon Award - Presented annually to a member of the girls varsity hockey team who best demonstrates high character, commitment to team values, and leadership. She, much like Chuck Vernon, has undoubtedly created a positive mark and lasting legacy on the Loomis Chaffee girls hockey team

This year this award goes to Zoe Pincelli. In her four years as a Pelican Zoe has consistently bought in to Loomis hockey and all that it entails. Her growth as a person in this time has been tremendous and shows what dedication, continual effort, and faith can do. Zoe leads by example as well as vocally. Teammates respect and look up to Zoe, they trust her on and off the ice. As mentioned, Zoe's season was not what she or we would have hoped. A season-ending injury is never wished for. But when Zoe first told me she was done playing at Loomis, she also asked what she could do to help the team. In the times when her own physical pain was tremendous (and she was perhaps supposed to be doing her own physical therapy) Zoe chose to be in the rink, watching practice, chatting with players, encouraging them, and providing insights. Zoe asked how she could give more to the program on multiple occasions this winter, and her love of Loomis hockey and her commitment to each member of the team makes her deserving for this award. Congratulations and thank you Zoe.

It was a pleasure to coach this group of impressive student-athletes this winter, and I close how I began. I am grateful for this hockey season and this team. Thank you.

2021-2022 Loomis Varsity Boys Hockey Season Recap and Awards

The '21-'22 Boys Hockey team had another great season. While the team's performance certainly represents a certain level of success, it was the team's togetherness that truly made this a season to remember. It was the tightness of the team and the common belief in the mission that helped them overcome a variety of adverse occasions over the course of the season and earned them key wins and a playoff berth. Overall, the group finished with a 14-11 record, but as always, that doesn't tell the entire story. This group was not reliant on one individual: 18 guys scored goals this year, 24 got at least one point, and 17 ended the season in the positive +/- column. It was a team effort each time out. One of the biggest highlights of the season is representative of the character of this group. At AOF, in the final game of the regular season, the team went down 2-0 early but rallied in the second to tie the game. In the third, the boys pulled ahead, as Michael Karvelas notched his second goal of the season. But Avon tied the game with a little more than a minute to go. With the collective sense that we would settle it in OT, Hunter Drouin felt differently and sealed the win with a mid-range shot with forty seconds to go. Key to the effort was the penalty kill coming up huge, killing an important penalty when down 2-0 early in the second and again to preserve the 3-2 lead late in the third. In goal, Andy Heinze made a several huge saves, but was helped by 20 blocks from the D-unit. The building was electric with the presence of so many members of our school community and it will be a night that will not be soon forgotten for all fortunate enough to be there. It should be noted too that Larry the Lobster, and a few cousins, made his first appearance in two years; he once again made a difference in the game and extended his lifetime record to 4-1-1. Just remember to boil them first next year. Look for a tweet from @LCBoysHockey at the start of next season with "How to cook a Lobster." But, despite a great effort, the season ended too soon in the first round of the Large School Playoffs, against Kent, in overtime.

Now to the individual awards.

Oliver Flynn—Offensive MVP—Oliver, being an essential piece to our offense this year made him the easy choice for the offensive MVP award. Over 24 games played, he accumulated 15 goals and 13 assists, for 28 points on the season. He also finished the year with our highest +/- rating at +20. He had nine multi point games including two three point games against Canterbury and Westminster. Oliver was also a key part of our power play unit as well as our penalty kill unit which saw more production this season than ever, to which he added one shorthanded goal. As a senior, Oliver's career should also be noted, having played in 46 games and averaging over a point a game over that span. The acknowledgment of Oliver's offensive prowess goes beyond this team as he was recently named to the All NEPSAC Team. I'd be selling Oliver's performance this year short if I didn't also acknowledge the importance of his leadership. He cared deeply about this team, and as a captain, did everything he could for it. He always pushed the pace of the game and set the example for compete level on a daily basis. It's been a pleasure working with Oliver during his time here and we wish him the best as he moves on to the next stage of his journey.

I'd like to call our defense coach, John Cunningham, to the podium to present the Defensive MVP award.

This year our defensive MVP goes to senior Charlie Andriole. Charlie played a huge role over the course of the season, as he was third on the team in points, with five goals and twelve assists in 25 games played. He quarterbacked our first powerplay unit and was one of the best puck moving defensemen in the league, without question. Charlie's offensive play showed early in the season when he posted six points through six games to open the season, and ended the year with a goal against Avon in our final regular season game of the year (shoutout to all the fans who showed up and made that such a special game for everyone), as well as an assist in the playoffs against Kent.

Aside from the points though, when Charlie played well our entire team played well. When Charlie played with pace or was physical or communicated well, our entire team played with pace and was physical and communicated well. Charlie set the tone for us each and every day on and off the ice and that is why he earned our defensive MVP award.

Chris Hibson—Golden Buoy—The lobster buoy in its intended use offers a sense of place and a sense of direction. While doing such it takes a beating from the ebbs and flows of the tide and the crashing of waves. Lobstering in and of itself is hard work as lobstermen brave cold weather, fog, and haul heavy traps hopefully filled with strong pinching crustaceans. With that in mind, after every win, we have a tradition of handing out a buoy to the game's hardest worker or biggest difference maker. The player who won it previously hands it out after a victory. The *Golden Buoy* is an award voted on by the team and acknowledges the hardest working and most spirited player who best represents the ideals of Loomis Hockey.

I'd like call to the podium, one of our Captains, Rory Andriole, to present the award:

The Golden Buoy Award for this season goes to Chris Hibson. Chris has been a great captain as well as a even better teammate. A four-year guy, Hibby has gone through more than anyone else on the team and had the most experience, using what he learned from past experiences to benefit the team in the greatest ways possible. The part of the Golden Buoy description stated before that best describes Hib would be, in my opinion, the opening lines; "the buoy (goes to someone who) offers a sense of place and a sense of direction while taking a beating from the ebbs and flows of the tide and the crashing of waves." Hib has persevered through many crashing waves that not many of us had to persevere through, whether it be his hip surgery or bouncing back from a scary head injury. I believe that his consistent battles through difficult situations built the type of hockey player that he grew into this year; someone who battles 100% at all times and never quits while keeping a steady head, affecting the entire team positively. Watching him on the ice inspired the team to up their games and bring it regardless of the situation. Hibby, one of my best friends, has a personality that is likeable, whether it be his humor or kindheartedness. He's truly a guy that myself and the team looked up to on and off the ice, and is the most deserving of this award. Congratulations Chris.

To present the next award, the Joe Birarelli “Living the Dream” Scholarship Award, I’d like to invite Mrs. Murphy to the podium, whose son TK won the award in 2016, and who remains close with the Birarelli famil.

Hunter Drouin—The Joe Birarelli “Living the Dream” Scholarship Award—The Joe Birarelli “Living the Dream” Scholarship Fund was started in 2014 in honor of Joe and his love of watching his son Tim, Loomis class of 2016, play hockey, and the place Joe earned in the Beverly, MA hockey family before his passing in 2014. Joe's motto was "Living the Dream". He felt everyday was a gift and lived and raised his family to live with no regrets. His passion for life, work & family was undeniable. The ability to be a commercial fisherman and to be out on the ocean and do what he loved was his way of "Living his Dream".

This year’s “Living the Dream” Scholarship goes to **Hunter Drouin**. The hard work, dedication, and commitment that Hunter showed this year is very much in the spirit of Joe Birarelli. Hunter was not a recruited hockey player but showed up to campus with a great attitude and a desire to give it his all. It didn’t take him long to make friends or to gain the attention of the coaching staff. By the year’s end he had earned a tremendous level of respect for his leadership and embodiment of the team’s culture and identity; not to mention his emergence as a key contributor on one of the hottest and most consistent lines down the stretch. UNC Women’s Soccer Coach Anson Dorrance has a phrase he uses to challenge his players: “be a positive life force,” and to “make everything better because you’re in it.” Without a question Hunter has done that not only in his efforts on this team but his efforts within the greater Loomis community. It is the honor of the Birarelli family and the Loomis hockey family to give this year’s scholarship to Hunter and hope that it helps him to "Live his Dream."

Finally, we have this year’s...

Claw Dedication—Dan Lesard—In honoring the great tradition of tossing lobsters onto the ice and acknowledging people who have played an important role in our season, we’d like to dedicate Larry’s claw this year to rink manager Dan Lesard. In his three years at Loomis, Dan has been a tremendous difference maker. He is an expert at his craft and takes great pride in all the details that go into executing practice and game days. Our rink runs through Dan’s soul as is evidenced by “the feeling” that he had one Sunday on an off-day that prompted him to drive in and solve a huge problem with the ice, and save our game against Andover. This claw is a small acknowledgment for the time and dedication that Dan puts forth on behalf of all our hockey teams. Thank you, Larry, and thank you, Dan!

Before I close, I want to be sure that the acknowledgement of a few individuals here tonight, does not take from the essential contributions that every player and coach made or the important contributions from others in the Loomis Community including parents, students, and the school’s faculty and staff. The truth is, what those individuals honored tonight did was made possible only by everyone else on this stage

and with a lot of help from many people off this stage. And I'd like to note that while we do what we do for us first, we also do it for all of you too. So I want to take a moment to thank EVERYONE, on stage and off, for all of their support, both seen and unseen, this year, in previous years, and beyond. It's a team effort—thank you.

I'd like to begin tonight by thanking those that made the accomplishments of this team possible. Parents, thank you for sharing your children with us, trusting that what we do every day is in the best interests of your child's development as athletes and people. Athletic department: Sue, Brenna, Donnie, Steph, John, Craig, Cathy, Dan, Don, Jean, Nhat. The "behind the scenes" work that you do to keep our strong athletic program running smoothly on a daily basis cannot be appreciated enough. Huge thank you to Coach Kamrath and the JV boys basketball team. We appreciate your help this season.

Thank you to our 3 managers: Mattie Wright, Liz Winemaster, Maddie Peter. Your commitment and organization helped the coaches focus on coaching and the players focus on playing.

To coaches Bissett, Alexander, and Cotton, I cannot thank you enough for the support you gave me and this team all season. Your insight, and care for the athletes on this team directly impacted our success. Without all of you this team would not have been able to accomplish all they did this season.

The best way to describe coaching this team was like being in one of those escape rooms. Each time you solve a puzzle, it leads to another puzzle or challenge and then another and another one after that. This team faced a variety of challenges or puzzles which we had to solve. It started with being down by 25 in the second half vs one of the top teams in NE in Brooks. We figured our way out of what would have been a disastrous blowout clawed back only to lose by 2 with a chance to win on the last shot of the game. Finishing the first portion of the season prior to winter break 4-2, we felt pretty good about where we were. We returned from winter break, started 0-4, and

headed into Head's weekend with an overall record of 6-8. During that tough stretch we knew we were good enough to beat the teams we had lost to, we just had to play with a few less mistakes. What I didn't tell the team was that at that point with an under .500 record we weren't even eligible for the NEPSAC tournament. Never losing sight of our goal, understanding that there was still plenty of basketball left in the season and February is the month where teams either come together or fall apart, this team dug in and stuck together. Tough "must win" games vs Suffield, Williston, Kent, Hotchkiss, Deerfield, Porters, and Marianapolis helped us to an 8-2 record in February and the #3 seed heading into the NEPSAC tournament. A convincing home win vs Andover in the quarterfinals and a gutsy road redemption win over Choate in the semis set us up for the girls basketball program's second trip ever to the NEPSAC finals. Having coached the previous team to make it to the NE finals, I could feel that the energy with this group was different. This group was not just happy to be there, they were determined to prove that they were and are the best team in Class A. With a very Loomis style of smothering defense, these girls dominated Thayer for 3 quarters, hung on for dear life in the 4th and brought the school's first NEPSAC girls basketball title back to Windsor.

The success of this team is truly a function of the work of our 3 captains: senior Emily Collins and juniors Carys Baker and Syd Hanley. They never lost sight of our goal and refused to lower our standards even when it seemed that we could not reach them. They were joined by juniors Ellie Ross and Trin Buckrham. Sophomores Sam Mancini, Ke Odume, Sofia Rincon, and Jess Roy, Freshmen, Catherine Chadwell, Abby Congdon, and Izzy Cruz.

And now the accolades and awards:

We have 2 NEPSAC All Stars and all-NEPSAC honorees. Carys Baker and Emily Collins. Carys' ability to effortlessly score, and Emily's domination in the paint earned these 2 the respect of the NEPSAC girls basketball coaches association this season. Congratulations.

We have 4 athletes to recognize with team awards:

Most Improved goes to Abby Congdon and Ke Odume.

The growth of these 2 this season happened virtually at the same time. Both Ke and Abby began the season as role players and finished the season as starters providing key performances through February and March. Abby's 18 points on 6/6 shooting from 3 vs Marinapolis and her pesky defense while playing 92 out of 96 minutes through the NEPSAC tournament are just a few of many significant moments. Ke's growth included a better understanding of how to control our tempo in transition, find the open shooters and finish at the basket were key to our success down the stretch. The shot clock buzzer beater floater at Choate to put us up 3 late in the game, and 16 points, 4 assists and 17 rebounds in the NEPSAC title game helped us secure the win. Congratulations to both of you.

Our Coaches Award goes to senior captain Emily Collins. NEPSAC coaches association All-Star, All-NEPSAC recognition Emily was basically a walking double double, Em dominated the paint this season shooting 55% from the field. Em quietly set and maintained the high standard by which our team operated this season. A selfless teammate and servant leader, Em's experience, consistency, and hard work were key components to the glue that kept us together this

season. Em's presence created matchup problems for our opponents all season. Em, your toughness and leadership will be missed. Thank you for all you have done for Loomis girls basketball.

MVP: It's no surprise that our MVP goes to junior captain Carys Baker. 2-time NEPSAC coaches association All-Star, 2-time All-NEPSAC recognition, NEPSAC Class A tournament MVP, Averaged 19.4 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 steals and 2.5 deflections per game, 39 points vs Putnam Science, 29 vs Ethel Walker, 30 vs Brooks, 37 vs Winchendon, 31 vs Kent, 29 vs Andover, an absolutely lethal scorer from all over the floor. Anyone who watched us play this year knows that there isn't a shot that Carys cannot make. Chances are that when we walk into a gym, we have the best basketball player in the building in Carys. In addition to being an elite athlete, anyone who knows Carys would agree that she's an equally elite teammate who has truly earned all she has accomplished. Here's an example of that: less than 12 hours after returning home from winning the NEPSAC title I get a text message from Carys saying, "can we just acknowledge the fact that Ke had 17 rebounds?" So she's already been up, I'm sure she watched the film, checked the stats and wanted to celebrate her teammate. The 2nd text came in a minute later. "When are you available this week to open the gym?" Enough said. Carys is the type of teammate everyone wants to play with and nobody wants to play against. Congratulations Carys well deserved.

Boys Basketball

I would like to thank Sue, Donnie, Steph, Brenna, John, Craig, Kathy, Don and Jean for all of their hard work, support and guidance.

To my assistant Coach Elliott Dial, for taking the reigns at Taft and coming home with a big W. The basketball Gods owed us one...

Our awesome managers; Nia Hardaway, Rachel Cranston and Dalia Brown. You did an unbelievable job all season long. Thank you so much.

Recap:

The 2021-22 season will be memorable simply because we were able to play a full season. Little time was wasted as from day one this team was ready to compete at a high level. Our Strength of Schedule was the most challenging withing Class A and it is something we pride ourselves on. We won at the buzzer, lost at the buzzer, and experienced everything else in between. We put ourselves in position to compete for Founders and for the 6th year in a row, made the New England Championships. Although we fell short, the pieces are places to play at a high-level next season.

This year class A all-nepsac only selected 20 athletes for recognition. Voted by opposing coaches we had two pelicans selected: Kahlil Singleton was voted all NEPSAC and Caleb Crawford was voted all NEPSAC honorable mention. Kahlil and Caleb Congratulations.

Awards:

Most Improved Player: In his third year on the island, this individual has shown tremendous growth in his game. He is an impressive athlete who possesses a great motor. Everyday he comes ready to practice to try and get better. Whether he was starting or coming off the bench, he was always ready to do anything to help the team win. I know that he will continue to improve and is on track to have a great senior season. The most improved award goes to Justas Bardauskas

MVP: Joining a new team as a post grad is never easy, but this individual's transition was seamless. From day one he had a positive impact both on the floor and in the locker room. From game to game we asked a lot out of this individual as he usually had to defend the other team's top player. A tough competitor who will defend all five positions, a sleepy talented offensive game, if we did not have him as an anchor in the middle, our final result would have suffered. I know he will continue to grow as a player and is on course to have a great college career. The most valuable player award goes to Deandre Smart

Coaches Award: I apologize if a go a little longer with the final award. This quick story sums up this individual, four years ago we traveled to a showcase in Rhode island and we were banged up with injuries and the flu. We traveled with 7 kids. This individual was sick, probably with the flu, but wanted to see if he could play that day knowing that we were short and facing a really good team. He was unable to play, in fact we made him sit all the way at end of bench to not get anyone else sick, but if you go back and watch the film, every bucket, every play he was cheering for his teammates.

A big part of his make up is be so hyped to see his teammates make a great play....its evident in all 101 games....From the countless coaches who have been through the doors recruiting Loomis players or opposing coaches having to face him, it is amazing how many have asked who that kid is or man he is

pain, or man I love that kid. He has played with elite level talent and played against NBA talent and he never backed down or showed fear. Also a great teammate and relentless competitor, I loved coaching him and also lost sleep coaching him, coaches award goes to Chase Collyer.....