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THE STANNER

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ARCHBISHOP MOLLOY HIGH SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2011

Lanyards are new Molloy accessory

By Matthew Spataro '14

Molloy added a new accessory to its school uniform ensemble this year and it's a "must have" for all Stanners — the lanyard.

Worn around the neck, the lanyard sports the school name and colors and is designed to hold the school ID card plus other optional items such as a Metro Card.

The lanyards are the administration's response to the fact that the new girls' school uniforms do not feature pockets for Stanners to carry their ID cards.

So the idea of having all Stanners wear lanyards containing their ID cards was born in order to keep people safer by making outsiders in the building easier to identify and to have the ID Card at the ready in case a student's behavior merits detention.

Assistant Principal for Students, Mr. Kenneth Auer, who was the driving force behind the decision to make lanyards part of the uniform, said, "I believe it is going well."

Mr. Auer admitted that the new policy got off to a rough start as students were losing their ID Cards at a higher rate than normal.

"The reason that happened was that the ID Holders were not the best," he said. "They became loose and dropped the ID's."

Some Stanners ask if lanyards are going to become a permanent part of the Molloy school uniform.

Mr. Auer said, "We always re-evaluate the rules to see if they

worked well during the year, and since the ID's have been doing well, they will probably stay."

Mr. Auer knows that Stanners have mixed feelings about the lanyards.

"Some kids like it, some kids don't," he said.

One possible problem the teacher

assistant feared was that students would start pulling the lanyards off each other but that hasn't been a major problem.

"Only one kid has done it so far," Mr. Auer said. "No one else has."

The teacher assistants said the problem with the lanyards stems from students not wearing them.

"The most detentions we have given out involved students not wearing their ID cards," said Ms. Jessica Pastore. "We have given out more detentions for not having it around your neck. [Students] put it in their bags or pockets."

But the new rule about lanyards hasn't resulted in a major increase in detentions.

"It's been pretty steady," said Mr. Keith Hahn.

Students agree with the TA's. "Most students follow the rules," said frosh Joanna Troyanos. Sophomore RoseAnn Sapia follows the rules but says she doesn't like wearing the lanyard.

Senior Tiffany McCue said, "I really like it. It helps to have your MetroCard as well as your ID around your neck so you don't forget it."



Under Mr. Ken Auer's watchful eye, juniors Jennifer Foley loves the lanyard but Melissa Foley doesn't. (Photo by Monish Pahilajani '13)

AM has first Solidarity Sleep Out

By Camille De Vera '12

Ever thought it was impossible to sleep overnight at Molloy?

Well, that's exactly what some Stanners did on Nov. 18 by participating in Molloy's first-ever Solidarity Sleep Out.

The event benefited Covenant House, a non-profit organization that helps homeless youth up to age 21 get off the streets, while also providing them with long-term options to escape poverty and the difficult issues in their lives.

Ms. Elizabeth Reichert organized the event for which 85 students and 12 leaders slept either outside on the baseball field or inside the Marsloe Gym.

If the weather conditions became too severe, Ms. Reichert said she would have all volunteers sleep in the gym.

Nevertheless, many of our Stanners were ready to fight whatever Mother Nature brought that night.

"I'm not really nervous for the weather conditions, whether it snows or rains," said senior Joel Antolijao. "I want to try to sleep through it regardless so I can experience the realistic hardships of sleeping out."

"It will be a fun adventure, because you share the experience with your friends, and realize the difficulties of those less fortunate,"

Antolijao said.

Senior Noelia Morales said, "I hope to gain more knowledge of how the homeless deal with sleeping outside and what I can do to help. I hope this is something I will remember for the rest of my life."

Because of last year's successful 30-hour fast to raise money, Ms. Reichert wanted to do an even bigger event this year, requiring only a shorter fast of 24 hours, and adding the element of sleeping outside.

"I wanted to get Stanners to gain a greater awareness of what it's like to be homeless," she said. "There are lots of common stereotypes and misconceptions [about homeless

people]. I hope this will give them a better understanding of the causes of homelessness and the difficulties people face to overcome poverty."

Senior Karla Hernandez, who participated in the Sleep Out said, "This experience will help all the students who participate to become more socially aware of the poverty in our city. Usually you see old men and women begging for money on the street corners, but what a lot of people don't realize is that there are kids just like us who have no homes and feel lost and abandoned."

Stanners received their parents' **Continued on Page 3**

Giving thanks not just an American tradition

If you were to ask a typical American why we celebrate Thanksgiving Day on the fourth Thursday of every November, she'd most likely tell you the story of the Pilgrims, who had a feast at Plymouth, Mass., in 1621 as a way to give thanks to God for a good harvest and to the Native Americans for providing the seeds.

However, the idea a harvest celebration was nothing new even then to either Europeans or Native Americans. And there is evidence of earlier "thanksgiving" feasts in 1565 by Spanish explorers in Florida and in 1619 by English colonists in Virginia.

Despite its local roots, Thanksgiving Day didn't become an annual holiday in New England until the 1700's and for more than 100 years, Americans celebrated Thanksgiving Day on dates that varied from state to state, although the final Thursday in November was most common.



Illustration by Giovanni Vittozzi '15

In 1863, during the height of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln named the final Thursday in November a national day of Thanksgiving.

In 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed federal legislation which moved the date to the fourth Thursday of November, making Thanksgiving Day the official national holiday we now all know and love.

Just as the Pilgrims weren't the only colonists to celebrate Thanksgiving Day, America is not the only nation to do so.

Canada's Thanksgiving Day on the second Monday of October comes from the explorer Martin Frobisher, who held a feast to give thanks for the safe journey across the Atlantic Ocean in search of a northwest passage to the Pacific Ocean. The earlier

date stems from an earlier harvest due to Canadian winters.

Liberia, founded by former American slaves on Africa's west coast, celebrates Thanksgiving Day on the first Thursday of November.

Australia's Norfolk Island has celebrated Thanksgiving on the last Wednesday of November ever since American whaling ships brought the holiday to the island.

The Puritans, meanwhile, are responsible for many of Thanksgiving's traditional foods because four wild turkeys were served at their meal along with corn and pumpkin.

So when you sit down to dinner on Nov. 24 to enjoy food, family and friends, to count your blessings, and to give thanks, remember that you are taking part in an American tradition that began even before the Pilgrims ate their turkeys 390 years ago.

— Kirsten E. Paulson '13

Gaddafi's murder ruins noble cause

As I flipped through magazine after magazine last month, I was met by the same haunting image: a 69-year-old man lying on his back, his eyes glazed over, a bullet hole in his forehead, engulfed by throngs of men with

cell phone cameras and laughing eyes.

I still can't help thinking: Is this not wrong?

The world was abuzz the week of Oct. 24 with the news that the ruthless dictator Muammar

Gaddafi had finally been overthrown. The rebels rejoiced, ready to take back their country.

The rest of the world watched and wondered what was to come, often glazing over the fact that such a gruesome murder had ended this modern-day revolution.

Did no one else linger on Gaddafi's lifeless face and find it sickening?

The Libyan people for years had lived under the thick air of oppression and a fervent fire to breathe free burned within them during their rebellion. That image of the murderous, dead dictator for them represented a moment of exultation, of victory.

But as Ruth Dayan, widow of one of Israel's founding fathers, Moshe Dayan, said of Gaddafi's murder in an article in Newsweek magazine, "This is barbaric. Even the worst criminals deserve a fair trial. Why start the new Libya with bloodshed?"

Libyans had gained their

independence from a murderous tyrant, yet by parading around Gaddafi's bloodied dead body, they behaved in a fashion parallel to the very actions they were rebelling against.

When I look at images of crowds taking photos of the fallen Gaddafi, his body trampled and mocked, I see an act that is immoral and inexcusable. Where is the regard for the sanctity of human life?

It is disappointing to know that the Libyan people failed to grasp such a great opportunity to end the cycle of violence and take the first steps in rebuilding a more just and positive nation by not putting their former ruler on trial for his crimes.

—Victoria Tan '12

Kim's fairytale really a horror

We just can't seem to escape Kim Kardashian, or her overly large family, her overly large lifestyle, even her overly large derriere.

Last summer, your computer, TV, and newspaper were filled with ads screaming for you to watch "Kim's Fairytale Wedding" on E!. Even if you lived under a rock, under that rock there surely was a poster for "Kim's Fairytale Wedding."

So like many others, I watched and have to admit the wedding of Kim and basketball player Kris Humphries was an amazing, colossal, \$10-million spectacle.

But here's the problem: a fairytale wedding doesn't seem to result in a fairytale marriage, as Kim filed divorce papers a mere 72 days later, which is shorter than a season of "Keeping Up with the Kardashians."

For anyone who respects the institution of marriage, Kim and Kris are just the latest embarrassment.

With 50 percent of American

marriages ending in divorce, the vow "til death do us part" has been replaced by "til divorce do us part."

Is there no such thing anymore as commitment? Do vows have no meaning? Doesn't anyone sincerely fall and stay in love?

Obviously, people do as the 50 percent of marriages that don't end in divorce proves.

But highly publicized celebrity divorces make it seem as if divorce is becoming the norm.

Did Kim truly love Kris, as she and her mother claim? I think not.

What Kim is in love with, in addition to money and attention, is an idea of marriage manifested in romance novels, which 72 days later, Kim discovered isn't real.

But one positive thing came out of this "Katastrophe" of a wedding. I've decided to accept contributions and sign media contracts for my own future wedding extravaganza and I promise the marriage will last.

Feel free to send a donation.

—Rashanna Seymour '13

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Stanner Players do Shakespeare

By Sameera Kassim '13 and Dina Mangialino '13

The Stanner Players staged William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" for its fall production with opening night on Nov. 17 and the four-performance run ending with a matinee on Sunday Nov. 20.

Ms. Shannon Winters, who assisted the director, Ms. Jessica Petschauer, said the hardest part for high school actors trying to perform Shakespeare is grasping the language.

"Once they do that, they're good to go," Ms. Winters said.

For their first attempt at Shakespeare in their history, the Stanner Players staged a slightly shortened version of the play, which lasted over two and a half hours by slightly editing some of the longer monologues.

Ms. Winters expressed no fears about performing a play to students who are usually apprehensive about reading Shakespeare because his plays are "easier seen than read."

Junior Jillian Spataro, who played Peter Quince, the leader of an acting group putting on a play for newlyweds Duke Theseus (senior Kevin Singh) and Hippolyta (senior Melissa Gabriel), said, "Working in the past two Shakespeare Festivals helped me get the role of Quince because it helped me to experience Shakespearean language and get a feel for the rhythm of the verses."

Spataro said that learning to recite Shakespeare was quite daunting at first but as she got used to it, the words just rolled off her tongue.

Singh said the Shakespeare Festival was his favorite part of junior year and so he was really looking forward to performing a complete Shakespearean play.

While rehearsals were a struggle at first, they began running more smoothly in the final weeks before the show.

The actors said their goals were to have fun portraying their characters and for the audience to enjoy the play.



Angela Broderick, Joseph Estevez, and Joanne Raptis perform a scene from William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer's Night Dream." (Photo by Monish Pahilajani '13)

Liturgy to feature Marist Marks

By Ruthba Ahmed '13

Molloy's Thanksgiving Liturgy, which is one of the most anticipated liturgies of the school year due to the creativity of the student Liturgy Committee, will be held Wednesday, Nov. 23 at 8 a.m. in the Jack Curran Gym.

Although attendance is not mandatory for the Thanksgiving Liturgy, it is popular with students, faculty and recent alumni, who traditionally return to Molloy to

attend the mass in large numbers.

Frosh who attend the Thanksgiving Liturgy for the first time might be surprised at how innovative the committee can be.

"I'm hoping that the frosh will see how unique Molloy is when they attend this liturgy," said committee member Camille De Vera, a senior. "Our masses try to promote the idea of family so the committee takes time to see what students want out of these masses."

The theme of this year's Thanksgiving Liturgy is based on the Marks of the Marist student.

"These are the traits which make our students not just students from Queens or Long Island or New York City who go to a Catholic school but students who model themselves to be like Mary," said Campus Ministry Director Mr. Mike Germano. "In what ways can our students take on Mary's traits and affect the people that they come across in life in a positive way?"

Mr. Germano, who coordinates the Liturgy Committee, said its size expanded this year from 24 members to 37.

"The purpose of our Liturgy Committee is to come together with ideas on how to run each liturgy," said Mr. Germano, who said members are involved in planning every aspect of the liturgy.

"The most important goal we keep in mind when planning a liturgy is that we try our best to make each liturgy a worthwhile experience. In other words, we want people to come back for the next liturgy," Mr. Germano said.

De Vera, who joined the committee last year, helped design the Frosh, Sophomore, Junior and Senior Liturgies in September and is working on the Thanksgiving and Christmas masses as well.

"I enjoy helping the committee out in spreading the Molloy family spirit and portraying what Molloy

is all about," said De Vera. "All of our masses promote that."

Students who plan to attend the Thanksgiving Liturgy, as well as every other liturgy, are guaranteed to feel right at home.

"There will always be a large community of Stanners, from students to faculty members to alumni, who makes Molloy feel like home," Mr. Germano said, "and it's nice to have our Stanner community come together as a part of the Eucharist bond."



Alyssa Plaia receives communion from senior Eucharist Minister Caitlyn Ty at the Junior Liturgy. (Photo by Monish Pahilajani '13)

Solidarity Sleep Out

Continued from Page 1

permission to participate in the Sleep Out, and, if they so chose, raised money with the help of sponsors.

Morales started collecting sponsorship money two weeks before the Sleep Out.

"I think raising money can make the whole event more effective," she said.

Ms. Reichert hoped to raise \$17,500.

"A unique aspect about this fundraising is that Covenant House can help you make an internet page to have people donate via credit card," she said.

2E wonderstrucks Walk-a-thon '11

By Jayeda Newaz '13

Stanners participating in the 2011 Walk-a-thon enjoyed perfect weather on Oct. 21 and raised a record breaking \$165,000, which will be used to buy new bleachers for the Jack Curran Gym.

Walk-a-thon organizer Mrs. Maureen Kelly said that just like every other one in Molloy history, the 19th annual Walk-a-thon was "as smooth and problem free as it could be."

Sophomore William Kazmierczuk from Homeroom 2E raised raised the most of any student (\$15,000) to win first prize of free tuition for the year.

Thanks to Kazmierczuk's total, Homeroom 2E was the top homeroom in the school, raising a total of \$18,740 to win a day at Esopus as its prize.

The sophomores were the top fund-raising class with \$51,725, which was a huge surprise to Mrs. Kelly because frosh have usually won in the past.

All four grade levels met their quotas to receive their Walk-a-thon holiday on Dec. 9.

However, anyone who did not submit their pledges will have to come to school on that day.

Junior David Mieles, who raised

\$500 from his parents and grandparents, won a \$50 gift card to Land's End in the prize raffle.

"I was more interested in other raffle prizes," he said. "I guess it's an okay prize. I honestly wish I had won the Broadway or Taylor Swift tickets or free Driver's Ed."

Even though most students don't win prizes, most enjoy walking the route.

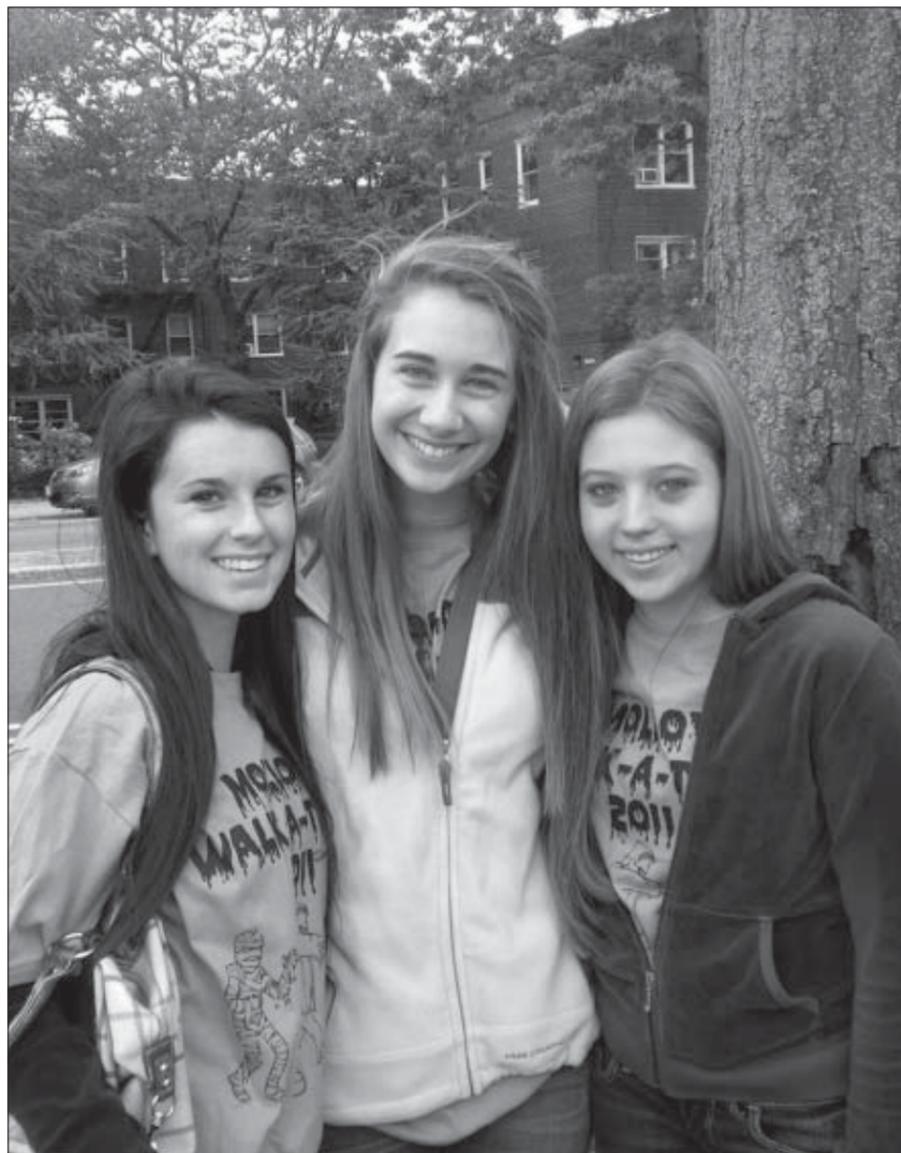
Junior Cara Salvatore said the Walk-a-thon is fun because she's able to hang out with friends outside a classroom setting and do it for a good cause.

Her favorite Walk-a-thon memory was English teacher Mr. Jim Sheehan telling her to speed the pace up and her replying with a Holden Caulfield quote: "I'm stopping to smell the roses!"

The weirdest thing to happen along the way was when an eccentric man stopped to take pictures of them.

"It was actually really creepy" said Salvatore.

Junior Gratiella Ferrera suggested that the Walk-a-thon would be more fun if students left by building by grade level rather than by homeroom, so it would be easier to find friends during the long walk.



Juniors Jessica Gerardi, Maria Calakos, and Erin Gander, above, pause along the Walk-a-thon route.



Walking the Walk with friends

The Walk-a-thon is time to get together with friends. At top left, are juniors Quinn Banks, Tyler Bennett, Amani Tatum, and Justin Thompson and, at top right, sophomores Madelein Glaeser, Rita Guglielmo, Samantha Sattler, Shannon Harris and Alison Vergara. The beauty of fall was showcased by the falling, colorful leaves that many Stanners crunched as they walked down Main St. (Photos by Monish Pahilajani '13 and Jennifer Hwu '12)

Seniors like Walk-a-thon options

By Michelle Rondon '12 & Victoria Tan '12

Many seniors opted out of the traditional Walk-a-thon on Oct. 21, choosing instead the walk to the World Trade Center, take a Zumba class, or play Flag.

Thirty-four seniors, twice as many as last year, took Ms. Liz Murdocca's two-hour Zumba class in the Jack Curran Gym.

"It's a Latin-dance based workout that is very high cardio, burns a lot of calories and is lots of fun," Ms. Murdocca said. "I am very impressed with how well everyone did and would like to hold another class during next year's Walk-a-thon. By design Zumba is very easy to follow, although it is a high intensity exercise."

Stephanie Olcese said, "I knew it was going to be a hardcore workout because it was led by Ms. Murdocca but it wasn't that bad."

Rosemarie Mulligan said, "It was a little tiring, but very fun."

Olcese was surprised to find that "people weren't afraid to actually



Mr. Chris Dougherty stops to pose with the seniors on the World Trade Center walk. (Photo by Adrienne Zhou '12)

dance," and wishes the class hadn't been "so short!"

Since most seniors had such a great time, Ms. Murdocca is now thinking of "offering a seniors-only Zumba class through the Dance Club every month."

Meanwhile, Mr. Chris Dougherty, Mr. Edward Cameron, Mr. Ted McGuinness, and two alumni, Joe Grauso and Julia Schramm, took 45 seniors on an 11-mile walk from Molloy to the World Trade Center.

Following the same route it has taken since 2005, the group stopped for lunch on Bedford Ave., then crossed the Williamsburg Bridge and zigzagged through Lower Manhattan to arrive at One World Trade.

Senior Eleni Mutafooulos said she "kind of" knew what she was getting into but said, "you don't know how far 11 miles really is until you actually walk it."

Lauren Miller said the walk was tiring but she enjoyed "spending time with my friends and seeing New York in a new perspective."

Samson Zachariah's favorite part of the trip was lunch because "the meatball store had really good food that tasted amazing."

Mr. Dougherty said his best memory was the shock and awe on the seniors' faces when he pointed out the new World Trade Center when they were on Metropolitan Ave., "knowing that's where we were walking to."

As Miller said, "It is a once in a lifetime experience."

Coat Drive aims to shatter record

By Noelia Morales '12

Campus Ministry is sponsoring a Coat Drive from Nov. 14-28 that will feature daily homeroom collections and a place for students go to donate clean, slightly used coats to the cause.

Campus Ministry didn't run a Coat Drive last year, focusing instead on its Toy Drive, but this year the Coat Drive is back.

Molloy has run a November Coat Drive for more than 30 years, as Campus Ministry Director Mr. Mike Germano remembers participating in the drive when he was a student.

When this year's drive ends, two different homeless shelters will pick up the coats.

Molloy's record for donated coats is 620 set three years ago.

Mr. Germano hopes to collect at least 700 coats this year.

For the goal to be reached, each homeroom must raise about \$60, which can be easily done if each student contributes \$2, Mr.

Germano said.

Just as important as donating money is donating coats by bringing them to Room 334.

Senior organizing the drive are Maegen Reed, Jarrett Sledge, Samantha Nostramo, Samson Zachariah, Mary Gallagher, Liss Mendez, Nora Soliman, Olivia Balog, and Alyssa Dolan.

"A coat can save a life, especially now since a cold winter is coming," said Dolan.

Mendez hopes Molloy can break the record.

"Every year hundreds of kids and adults die due to the cold," said Mendez. "A simple donation of one old coat can literally save a person's life. The Coat Drive is a great way for [Stanners] to help those in need and it is an opportunity for them to make a difference."

Mendez is confident Stanners are aware of the need for coats.

"If they were not, we would not have gotten as many coats as we got in previous years," she said.



Juniors Joe Maltaghati, Dylan Maraj, and Rashanna Seymour are donating coats to Room 334. (Photo by Monish Pahilajani '13)

"Many of us are able to put ourselves in the shoes of these people and are more willing to help them out."

Poll finds frosh feel all is well at Stanner High

By George Gulino '14

Two months into the school year, The Stanner conducted an unscientific opinion poll of frosh on various aspects of Molloy life.

Here were some of the questions:

How would you rate your experience at Molloy on a scale of 1-10?

Eighty-nine percent gave ratings of "8" or more, with 26 percent

giving a "10." The average rating was 8.8.

What's your favorite academic subject?

Social studies was the clear winner with 41 percent of the votes while math and science tied for second with 22 percent.

How do you rate the Land's End uniforms on a scale of 1-10?

Forty-eight percent gave them

an "8" while 15 percent said "9." The highest rating was a ten, the lowest a "0," for an average of 7.2.

How would you rate Freshman Field Day on a scale of 1-10?

Eighty one percent gave it a rating of seven or better with the average rating a 8.4.

What improvement to Molloy facilities would you like to see?

Few agreed on this issue, listing dozens of suggestions but three tied for the top spot with 15 percent each: improving the locker rooms, providing more air conditioning in the building, and replacing the hallway lockers.

So perhaps the Administration will take these suggestions into consideration when planning Walk-a-thon 2012.

Lovelace, Dyer rap up costume prize

By Stephanie Bonanno '13 and Jaclyn Eng '13

The Molloy Cafeteria on Oct. 28 was bustling with over 300 Stanners, almost all of them dressed in costume, for the Student Activities Committee's annual Halloween Dance.

Junior and senior SAC members were the judges for the costume contest and they chose frosh Jared Lovelace, dressed up as rapper Lil Wayne, as the winner of the best boy costume contest and sophomore Natalia Dyer, who dressed up as rapper-singer Nicki Minaj, as the winner of the best girl costume contest.

Frosh Matt Capp, who dressed as Ivan Drago, was runner-up in the boys contest.

The three winners won Molloy t-shirts as prizes.

SAC Moderator Mr. Pat Flynn said some of his favorite costumes included a "Cereal Killer" and a homemade robot.

Sophomore Matthew Spataro, who dressed up as a Chinese takeout container, said, "I was both sweet and sour at the same time."

One of Spataro's favorite costumes was junior Anthony Agosto's "Where's Waldo" outfit.

"I had more success finding him at the party than I ever did in the

books," Spataro said with a laugh.

Frosh Gabrielle DiDonato, who dressed up as a Yankee, said her favorite costume was Lil Wayne.

This year was the first time juniors were allowed to attend the Halloween Dance.

Mr. Flynn changed the attendance policy after several juniors expressed an interest in going to the dance and he said this policy will continue for next year's Halloween Dance.

"We will see how it works," Mr. Flynn said. "The more, the merrier!"

SAC member Marissa Sblendorio, a senior, who dressed up as a Gryffindor student, said, "They should have opened the dance up to seniors, too. The lunchroom didn't feel as filled [for the dance] as it was my freshman year."

Another change was that snacks, in addition to drinks, were sold at the dance by members of Molloy's softball teams.

Students liked the addition of snacks but complained that they sold out too quickly.

SAC member Jillian Spataro, a junior, who dressed up as a fairy, had fun working behind the scenes.

"The best thing about the dance

was the music and dancing," she said.

Mr. Flynn said the dance was a success.

"I was pleased with the attendance, with how the people came in costume, and with their good behavior," he said.



Frosh Jared Lovelace, right, as Lil Wayne, won one of the best costume prizes at the Halloween Dance. (Photo by Jordi Sevilla)

Gamers set to go

By Liana Liang '15

Molloy's second Video Game Tournament will be held Dec. 2 in various third floor classrooms that will have gaming consoles attached to Smartboards.

"We expect 75 or more students to sign up," said Mr. Glenn Mr. DaGrossa, the tournament organizer.

The tournament will feature three game competitions, Modern Warfare 3, Super Smash Bros. Brawl, and Ultimate Marvel vs. Capcom 3.

"We chose these games because of their popularity, playability, and intense competition," said Mr. DaGrossa.

Winners will receive Gamestop gift cards as prizes because, "gamers buy most of their games at Gamestop," Mr. DaGrossa said.

Mr. DaGrossa said this year's tournament will be better than last year.

"We learn something new every year and try to improve each competition," he said. "This year there will be modifications to some of the games."

All competitors will be denied any physical advantages this year such as being able to use special

controllers and will have to use the controller provided by tournament organizers.

Student referees will make sure every game is played fairly.

Several faculty and staff members, such as Mr. Rob LaRosa, Mr. Dan Charvat, Mr. Chris Dougherty and Mr. Brian Klimas, will help run the tournament but probably won't play.

Stanner gamers said there is a lot of excitement during the competition but the best thing about the tournament is that it gets together a community of gamers to do what they love.

Many players who competed last year will compete this year, such as sophomores Anthony Valenzuela, who finished second in Halo Reach and third in Ultimate Marvel vs. Capcom 3, Kristian Mosquito, who was third in Super Smash Bros. Brawl, and Justin Cinquemani, who was sixth in Brawl.

Most players said they play video games at least for 10 hours a week, mostly on weekends.

They said the keys to winning the tournament are skill, teamwork, a good leader and lots of practice.

Lantern's a little bit of Esopus on Thursdays

By Kristina Atienza '12 and Laura Tanzil '12

After an influential Marist Youth Leadership Conference at Esopus in May of 2002, Mr. Mark Sweeney, Bro. John Raeihle and the late Bro. Stephen Urban decided to bring the spirit of St. Marcellin Champagnat back to Molloy on a weekly basis and so Lantern began.

Lantern is a weekly, student-run prayer service that meets at 2:15 p.m. in the Chapel every Thursday for about 45-60 minutes.

Students meet to discuss many different topics, such as setting goals or overcoming fears, which was the topic at a recent meeting.

The meetings, which began on Oct. 20, have had an average attendance of about 50 students each week.

Lantern's student leaders, who are chosen after they attend the Marist Youth Leadership Conference, are: seniors Gracie Esposito; John Esposito; Caitriona Fox; Lukasz Kunicki; John Paul Meyer; Rosemarie Mulligan; Thomas Seubert; Sam Spoto; juniors Samantha Arena; Mitchell Cottrell; Elizabeth Governale; Aliasha

Grandison; Eddie Krische; and William Rabold.

Mulligan learned about Lantern at Freshman Camp and got involved after hearing that it was like a mini retreat.

"It's a great place to meet new people and learn a lot about them," Mulligan said. "The atmosphere of the Chapel is very soothing and relaxing, so it really helps you calm down and get away from all the hustle and bustle of school life."

Gracie Esposito, who joined as a sophomore, said, "I like that nobody is judged in Lantern and I can say whatever I want and I feel really welcomed. I think students might be surprised with how comfortable they will actually feel when they talk about the topic to their peers. They might not actually know the people around them but there's a sense of connection with your peers when you step into the Chapel and Lantern starts."

Bro. John said, "Students will develop emotionally, spiritually and have more confidence in themselves by going to Lantern."

Varsity Boys start season Nov. 26

By David Ramirez-Lopez '15

Molloy's Varsity Boys Basketball team will open the season with a non-league game against Bishop Kellenberg on Nov. 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the Jack Curran Gym.

The Stanners will be led by senior guard George Davis and junior forward Marko Kozul.



Junior Marko Kozul

"Marko Kozul was among the top rebounders from last year and I would really like to see it again this year," said Coach Jack Curran.

The other three starters for the season opener have not yet been determined.

"The team is very competitive and all of the starting positions are up for grabs," said Mr. Curran.

Three sophomores, C.J. Davis, Gabriel Kilpatrick, and Jayson Cethoute, have joined the Varsity team this year to compete for those starting jobs and Mr. Curran said, "I'm glad to see them step up."

None of the new players to the team bring much height to the lineup.

"This year we will be a short team, just like last year, but I've seen that they are faster and stronger than last year," Mr. Curran said.

Mr. Curran said defense is the area where he would like to see some improvement.

"I would like to see the team really work together so their defense will be better than last year. So far I've seen a little improvement, but after a couple more practices when we are in better physical condition, we should get better."

Molloy went 13-13 in the regular



Senior guard George Davis, driving to the hoop, will be one of Molloy's leaders this year. (Photos by Blue and White Yearbook staff)

season last year and was eliminated in the first round of the playoffs.

Mr. Curran is taking a wait and see attitude toward his team's prospects for this season, but he isn't afraid to dream big.

"What I would really love to see happen this year is winning all of our games so Molloy's Varsity Boys Basketball team could have another championship under its belt," he said.

Girls join football tourney

By AnnMarie Gaglio '13 and Rashanna Seymour '13

Molloy's Intramural Football Tournament was back this year for its second run with a new twist - a girls' competition.

Twenty-two teams participated in the two-day tournament on Oct. 26 and Nov. 3 on the baseball field, with 10 teams in the frosh-sophomore boys bracket, 10 in the junior-senior boys bracket and two frosh teams in the girls bracket.

Flo Po Flowers won the girls' championship by defeating the Rockaway Riptides.

Frosh Julia Brandt, captain of the Flo Po Flowers, decided to play when a friend and fellow Floral Park resident approached her with the idea.

Their team name comes from the fact that "all the streets in Floral Park are named after flowers, so we decided on the Flo Po Flowers," Brandt said.

Moderator Mr. Brian Kelly said that once two girls teams were formed, more girls wanted to play but they were too late to register.

But thanks to that late interest, Mr. Kelly thinks the girls bracket will have more teams next year.

A sophomore team, the Super

Duper Slammin' Bammin' Jumping Panda Cheetahs, won the frosh/sophomore boys division by beating the Revis and Butthead team in the finals.

Virgilio Jimenez, captain of the Panda Cheetahs, said his team was so successful because of its chemistry and easygoing attitude.

"We didn't take the games too seriously; we just had fun," he said.

A senior team, J-Bro and the Gun Show, won the junior/senior boys division by beating the Diddly Bops in the finals.

Mr. Kelly supervised the junior-senior title game and said "It was very competitive and spirited."

All winning teams got Intramural Champion t-shirts.

Mr. Kelly was pleased with the number of teams in the tournament and that there was only one forfeit.

"The whole tournament was a positive and fun experience," Mr. Kelly said.

Mr. Kelly gave credit for a successful tournament to his newly formed Intramural Committee, whose members ran the tournament by making brackets, refereeing games, and organizing the teams on the field.

In addition to ping pong, dodgeball, and basketball, the Intramural Committee plans to run Molloy's first Ultimate Frisbee tournament this year.

Jimenez said the Panda Cheetahs would participate again in the next team tournament. "Without a doubt," he said. "Even if we don't win, we will have fun."

Molloy's JV Girls win soccer championship

By Anna Poulakas '14

Molloy's Junior Varsity Girls Soccer team won the Nassau-Suffolk CHSAA Division "A" championship on Oct. 25, its first division title since 2009.

Molloy, which finished the season with a 10-4 overall record, defeated Holy Trinity on Oct. 24 in the first round of the divisional playoffs and then beat St. Francis Prep 1-0 in

the championship game.

Sophomore Nicole Weber scored in fifth minute by blasting a hard shot that the goalie couldn't handle.

Molloy held on to win thanks to its excellent passing, ball possession and defense.

Sophomore goalie Shannon Pizzella earned the shut out by blocking every shot that came her way.

Seniors forfeit first game vs. Faculty

For the first time in the 15-year history of Senior vs. Faculty Softball Game, the senior class was unable to field a complete team so forfeited the first of the four-game annual series that includes football, basketball and volleyball.

Mr. Chris Dougherty recruited five Varsity Softball players so the two sides could play an exhibition game, which the faculty won 24-2.

Mr. Brad Lyons' 250-foot line drive off the left field fence was one of the many faculty highlights.



Senior Kathleen Woods

Woods wins title #3

By Sarah Stiglianese '14

Despite being snowed out on its first attempt to win a third consecutive CHSAA Brooklyn-Queens Championship at Van Cortlandt Park, the Molloy Girls Varsity Cross Country team returned four days later to take home the title.

The meet was scheduled for Oct. 29 but after an unexpected two inches of snow fell on the Bronx, the meet was run on Nov. 1.

Led by a sweep of the top four spots in the 4-kilometer race by seniors Kathleen Woods, Paulina Stefanowski, Melissa Fesler and junior Rebecca Verrone, Molloy finished first with 28 points, 30 fewer than second place St. Francis Prep in the seven team field.

Woods won her third straight individual title in a time of 16:18:59.

"It felt nice to win the first place plaque," said Woods, who hopes to do just as well in the city championships.

Woods would have preferred to have done it four days earlier.

"It was frustrating to go all the way there and then not run" said Woods, who added that she and her teammates thought it would have been fun to run in the snow.

"The girls were ready to run on the 29th despite the snow," said Coach Austin Power, who added that while they were disappointed to have to wait, they still dominated on Nov. 1.

Unlike her older sister, Mary Ellen Woods, who won Brooklyn-Queens Frosh Girls individual title, said, "I was happy the meet was cancelled because the weather would have been bad to run in and

maybe even dangerous."

The race was postponed because the snow storm brought down several trees on the course and Mr. Power said "park maintenance had to saw through fallen trees," to get the course ready for Nov. 1.

Mr. Power thanked the Molloy maintenance staff, who donated its leaf blower to clear the course.

While Mr. Power expected the Varsity to win the B-Q title, he was happy to see his Frosh Girls team do so, too.

"They exceeded my expectations and showed a true team effort" Mr. Power said.

Even though Mary Ellen thought she could have done better, she said she was proud of her time for her first championship race and winning the first place plaque felt "very rewarding."

Girls lacrosse comes to AM in spring

By Darien Dey '14

Eighty girls from all grade levels crowded into Room 130 last spring to discuss the possibility of Molloy forming a Girls Lacrosse team.

So much interest was shown at the meeting that Molloy's first team will take the field this spring as part of the CHSAA Nassau-Suffolk County League.

The interest in the girls team was so high, said Molloy Athletic Director Mr. Mike McCleary, because it's a new sport and many girls are interested in playing lacrosse.

Sophomore Dominique Graham said, "I've never played lacrosse before, not until it was introduced in gym class. I like lacrosse because it's something different and I am definitely going to try out for the

team this year."

But not all those 80 girls will show up at the tryouts this spring.

One girl who attended the meeting but won't be trying out is sophomore Pamela Decolongon.

"I attended the lacrosse meeting because at that time I was interested in playing lacrosse and wanted to see how Molloy would set up the lacrosse team," she said. "Right now, I'm more focused on school studies but I hear a lot of girls are going to try out."

Molloy will become the third Catholic high school in Brooklyn and Queens to play girls lacrosse but since most of the teams that play girls lacrosse are in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, Molloy must join that league.

Molloy has yet to hire a coach but

will use Alley Pond Park as its practice grounds.

Whether any more Catholic schools in Brooklyn and Queens also will add lacrosse teams will depend on the interest within those schools, Mr. McCleary said, so Molloy expects to play in the Nassau-Suffolk league for years to come.

Some Molloy coaches have wondered whether the addition of a girls lacrosse might take athletes from Molloy's spring sports of track and softball.

Students like Graham said they thought the lacrosse team team would most likely be made up of girls who aren't part of spring teams, such as soccer players who play in the fall.

Mr. McCleary hopes that there

will be enough girls to go around and that lacrosse will not take athletes away from the track and softball teams.

He said it would be okay if girls left a team to play lacrosse because it means they are more interested in playing lacrosse than the other sport.

But he believes Molloy should have enough athletes to continue being strong in track, softball and now lacrosse.

Mr. McCleary said the girls' team is the first step in introducing lacrosse to Molloy and if the team is a success, the school will consider forming a boys lacrosse team.

Graham said there should be a boys lacrosse team because it shows Molloy having a coed spirit sports wise.

Undefeated girls win tennis title

Led by three undefeated singles players, Molloy's Girls Varsity Tennis team went 8-0 on the season and won the CHSAA Brooklyn-Queens championship.

Sophomore Stefani Lineva at No. 1, frosh Ambrielle Machuca at No. 2 and sophomore Sarah O'Leary at No. 3 never lost a match until the state playoffs.

First year coach Mr. Don Mooney said, "It was a pleasure to coach this team. I was very lucky to have some incredible talent. My job was very easy: pick the right players to play the matches."

Frosh Lexy Stathis, undefeated in both singles and doubles, combined seniors Nicole Marino, Vasiliki Gliagias, Monica Nowak, Stephanie Olcese, junior Shanijah

Steele, sophomores Amanda Rodriguez, Lauren Nazarieh and frosh Vida Ekhlash to win 15 of 20 doubles matches.

Molloy's toughest Brooklyn-Queens opponent was the Mary Louis Academy but the Stanners beat them 4-1 and 3-2 during the regular season and 4-1 in the playoff finals.

The Stanners' season ended in the CHSAA State Semifinal, where St. Francis Prep, which plays in the CHSAA Nassau-Suffolk Section, beat Molloy 5-0 for its 200 straight victory.

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The Girls Varsity Volleyball team lost 3-2 to St. Francis Prep in the CHSAA Brooklyn-Queens Division 1 championship match on Nov. 2.

Molloy finished the season with a 10-3 record.

The Girls Junior Varsity Volleyball team won the Brooklyn-Queens title by beating Fontbonne Hall 2-0.

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The Boys Varsity Soccer team lost to Fordham Prep 3-1 in the CHSAA Intersectional Playoffs at St. John's University on Nov. 4 with junior Erick Jara scoring the lone goal for Molloy, which finished the season 8-4-5.

Molloy defeated Holy Cross 4-2 in quarterfinals at SUNY-Maritime on Nov. 1 as senior Mike Rodriguez, junior Nicholas Matuszewicz, and sophomores Sam Carter and Denes Kostel scored the goals.



Sophomore Sarah O'Leary was undefeated at No. 3 singles.