

The Stanner

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Archbishop Molloy High School

May 2009

Bro. Roy to leave AM in June

By Camille Dwyer '10

A major change is coming to Molloy in September when Stanners will have the pleasure of welcoming a new principal, Bro. Thomas Schady, who will replace Bro. Roy George.

Bro. Roy has been chosen to be the new Vice Provincial of the Marist Brothers Province of the United States.

Bro. Roy will be working in Bayonne, N.J. but plans to visit Molloy from time to time in his new role.

A Molloy graduate from the class of 1962, Bro. Roy leaves his current job at the end of June after over 30 years of school administration experience.

His work as an administrator began at Molloy when he became assistant principal for students.

After six years at that job, he left Molloy to work at St. Mary's High School in Manhasset for 13 years, six as assistant principal and seven as principal.

He then he returned to Molloy to become principal 11 years ago.

Bro. Roy has distinct memories of the many milestones he has experienced during his time as Molloy principal.

"I remember making the P.A. announcement to the boys that Molloy was going to go co-ed," Bro. Roy said. "The first day the girls came in 2000, there were television cameras everywhere.

"I also remember going into the city [last year] for the anniversary mass [at St. Patrick's Cathedral] and the Walk-a-thons," he said.

Bro. Roy said his most vivid memory is the day of September 11, 2001.

"I remember when I had to say to the student body during the P.A. announcements that planes had struck the twin towers," he said. "There were family members of students inside those

buildings. There was the big question of how we [in the school building] would all get home [with the subway closed down]. I even waited with the last students here at school to make sure that they got home."

Bro. Roy said he has no bad memories of his time at Molloy.

"My only regret is having to be in the position to ask students to leave Molloy," he said.

Just as Bro. Roy will leave Molloy with only fond memories, students will have many memories of him once he's gone.

"There's several things that I'll remember about Bro. Roy," said junior Benedict Joson. "I have three in mind: his thinking position; him with his camera; and his teaching students in his office.

"His thinking position is having his arms crossed and his hand rubbing his chin. He reminds me of a contemplative, steadfast, and supportive leader figure.

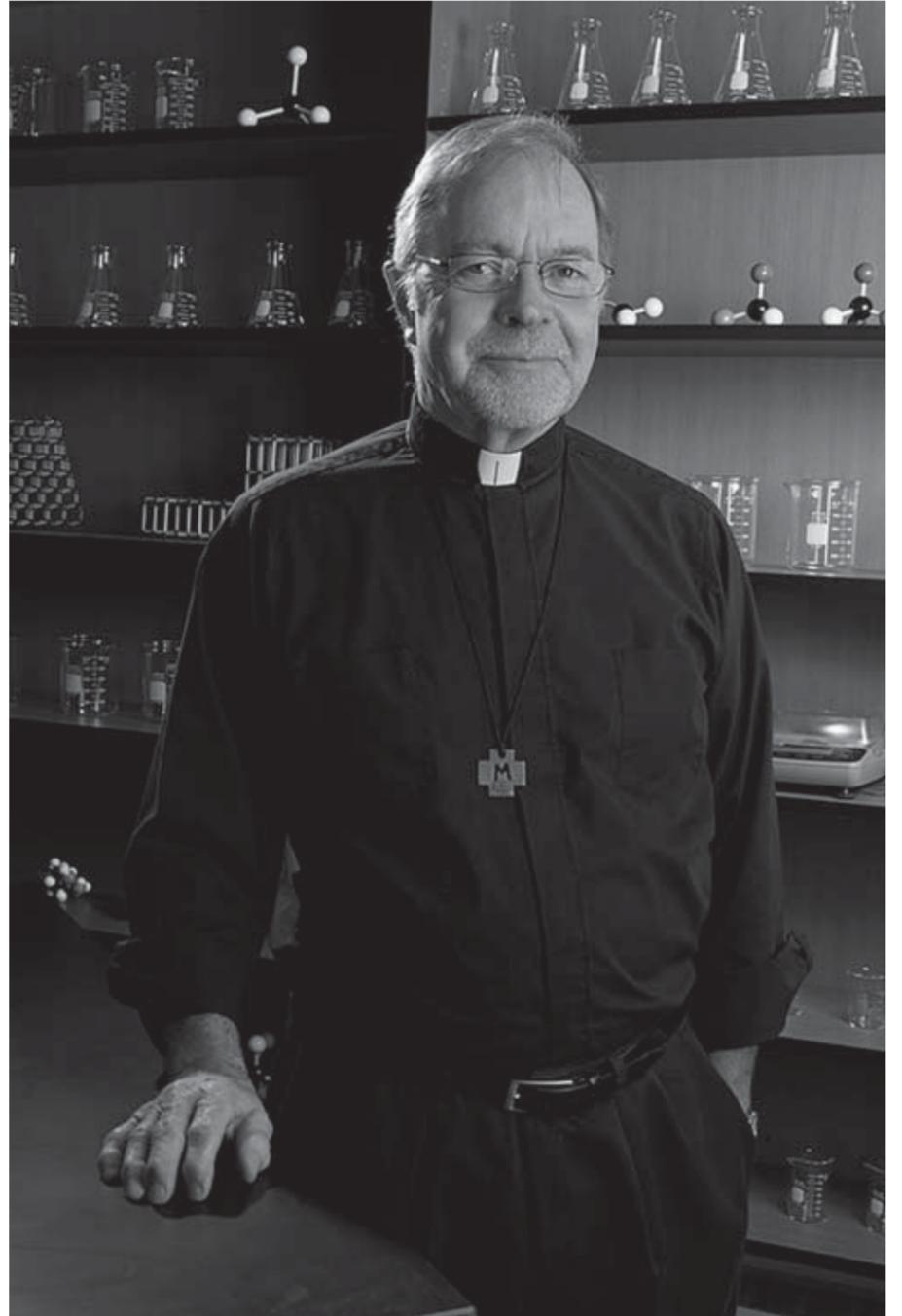
"I love taking photos, so it's great to see him taking shots of events and activities around the school, neighborhood, and Esopus.

"It is endearing and admirable to see Br. Roy be both a principal and a teacher. He's dedicated to us, staying late at school often. He is a person you can look up to and one you can speak to for guidance," Joson said.

Bro. Roy said one of the things he will miss most after leaving Molloy is teaching chemistry.

Many of his chemistry students, such as Varun Jotwani, Olivia Sell, Christina Ramasami, and Brent McDonnell, still remember his infamous daily quizzes, his Mole Day celebration, the Youtube videos, the fast-paced power point slides, and his dislike for ice tea.

His students will never forget his



Principal Bro. Roy George stands in his beloved Chemistry Lab. (Photo courtesy of the Alumni Office)

chemistry catch phrases such as "the cat is red" or "Prince Valiant works overtime."

They will never forget the "Periodic Element" song, the "Love and Marriage" song, his chemistry carols, and, of course, "Happy Mole Day to You."

Faculty members also will miss him. "There are so many good things to say about Bro. Roy that it is hard to boil it down to one or two things," said English Dept. Chairperson Mr. Jim Sheehan. "One thing is clear. Bro. Roy loves his students, supports the faculty, and is dedicated to a school that is so much a part of him."

Guidance counselor Mr. Chris Dougherty also had touching words about Bro. Roy.

"From laughing out loud with him to locking horns with him on issues, I, like most faculty, have developed my own relationship with Bro. Roy over the past 10 years," Mr. Dougherty said. "Given the fact that he was my dean of discipline for my first two years as a Molloy student [in 1987-1989], I feel a special connection to him. I will miss his caring

and compassionate ways, open door policy, and his support for the Guidance Dept."

Bro. Roy is excited for Bro. Thomas Schady because Bro. Roy believes he is passing a great school on to Bro. Thomas.

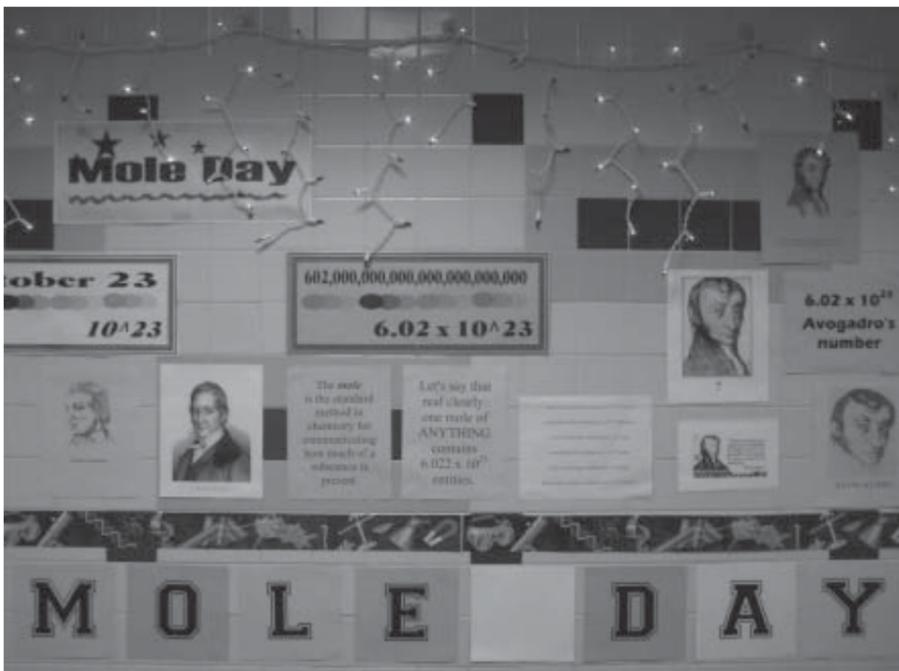
Although Bro. Thomas is the first principal to have never worked at Molloy before getting the job, he has a lot of experience in education.

For the past 16 years, Bro. Thomas has been the Associate Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of New York.

Before that, he was principal of Saint Agnes High School in Manhattan and served as a teacher and administrator in elementary schools in Massachusetts and New York.

While Bro. Roy is looking forward to his new responsibilities, he knows he is losing a big part of himself by leaving Molloy.

"I'm going to miss all the kids," he said, "because I've been in a school for most of my life."



Who will celebrate Mole Day at Molloy next year when Bro. Roy George is gone? (Photo by Benedict Joson)

Flag, bake sale hits of Spirit Week

By Leslie Corona '09

Spirit Week, the Student Council's annual event designed to encourage Stanner spirit throughout Molloy, had its biggest successes in sponsoring a game of Flag and a bake sale, said Moderator Ms. Kathy Loughran.

Events held from April 20-24 were a school song contest, a week-long bake sale, Flag, a recycling contest, a volleyball game, open mic and Talent Show preview, and karaoke.

It also featured for the first time three casual days instead of the usual two.

Ms. Loughran said the most popular event during the week was Flag, which attracted 114 students, probably because of its origins in Esopus.

The team of juniors and sophomores defeated the team of frosh and seniors.

The popularity of karaoke in the Theater on April 24 continued to grow in its second year as part of Spirit Week.

"Everyone had such a good time," said Ms. Loughran, "I had to kick them out [of the Theater]!"

Another popular event was the bake sale, which raised about \$1,800 for Molloy's annual summer student volunteer mission to Lourdes in France.

Ms. Loughran was pleased with the help she received as baked goods were provided by Student Council, the Environmental Club, the Track Team, Lourdes volunteers, and even some of Loughran's sophomore students.

"Even Mrs. [Nancy] Catalanotto's mother came in and helped with the bake sale," Ms. Loughran said.

Senior Lauren Ciuffo, who baked cookies for the sale, said, "We raised a lot of money and I'm happy because I'm going to Lourdes."

The bake sale fund-raising event tied into the theme of Spirit Week 2009: "The Spirit of Giving."

Almost every Stanner got involved in



Senior Marissa Castoro applies Stanner war paint on senior Anniela Vaccaro before the Flag game.

the unprecedented three casual days.

Students were asked to wear school colors on the first two dress-down days, with frosh and seniors wearing blue on Tuesday and white Thursday while sophomores and juniors wore white on Tuesday and blue Thursday.

Homeroom teachers tallied the number of students who dressed appropriately and frosh and seniors won the contest, earning a third casual day on Friday.

Senior Kerin Daly said Stanner spirit was evident during the week because everyone dressed down. "I was pleased, because we won!" she said.

However, the Administration insisted that sophomores and juniors be allowed to dress down as well on Friday.

For next year, Daly suggested Spirit Week offer prizes to the winning classes while Ciuffo recommended a senior picnic be added to the schedule.

The least popular events were the Talent Show preview and the school song contest, which didn't draw a single entrant during the karaoke day in the Theater April 24.

Ms. Loughran believes the lack of attendance at the Talent Show preview was because, "too many things were going on at the same time, like sports events, rehearsals for the Spring Concert, and the Improv Club."

ISA experiments with the practical side of the sciences

By Thomas Madden '09

The Integrated Science Association [ISA] finished a year filled with successful activities by holding an obstacle course competition throughout Molloy for its members on May 12, said Moderator Ms. Mary Mallia.

The competition, organized by club President Chris Hwu and Ms. Mallia, required members to complete a set of tasks at places throughout the school.

This event caps a year full of activities, ranging from making metal casting molds to creating basic circuits.

All activities are suggested by club members and Hwu decides which ones

are put into practice.

The club also had weekly activities, such as bridge building competitions or designing structures from materials like gumdrops and toothpicks.

Senior Kyle Hounsell's favorite activity was the metal casting, because, "It's just fun to work metal into things that you would normally see in a store. It appeals to the 'do it yourself' side of me."

Ms. Mallia said all the projects have gone well. "I'm very happy with how the club has developed throughout the year," she said.

Next year, the club will be researching new and more interesting activities to try.

"The ISA is a way to see how science is fun, to show how it relates to everyday life," Ms. Mallia said. "It's the practical side of science, the one that can't be seen inside a classroom because there isn't enough time."

Correction

Please note the following correction to an error made in The Stanner Vol. 52, No. 8: Members of Student Council helped organize, promote and run International Day. The Student Activities Committee was not involved.

The Stanner bids adieu to its exceptional senior editors

Senior Photography Editor Ray Ferreira and senior Layout Editor Allie Reisch are leaving The Stanner staff after three years of excellent work.

Our getting to know Allie better required frequent visits to the snack machines that took longer than necessary during long hours of editing, as well as long conversations about tennis and whatever shocking news occurred on

her favorite TV shows. She became not just a co-editor, but a valuable friend.

What can we say about Ray? Whether it was his fabulous neon green sunglasses or his immense knowledge of celebrity gossip thanks to Perez Hilton, his presence managed to make our newspaper FIERCE!

--Stephanie Almache '10 and
Melanie Dostis '10

The Stanner

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Frosh top List as senioritis strikes

More ninth graders than students from any other class qualified for the Principal's List in the third marking period by maintaining a 99 or better overall academic average.

Thirty-eight frosh, 28 sophomores, 37 juniors but just 16 seniors qualified.

Frosh: Maverick Alzate; Andreea Arama; Wilfrido Castillo; Stephanie Cruz; Agnieszka Czaja; Kristina D'Angelo; Jackelyne Diaz; Alexandra DiDonato; Alyssa Dolan; Stephen Eng; John Esposito; Claudia Fernandes; Jamie Giuntini; Vasiliki Gliagias; Victoria Goldbach; Myrna Hanna; Melissa Jo Hernandez; Jennifer Hwu; Christina John; Kaitlin Karcher; Nicole Kelly; Kaitlin Lauria; Kathleen Loftus; Simranjit Mangat; Nicole Marino; Shannon Megale; Nicole Pineda; Edward Pizzo; Michelle Rondon; Margaret Rooney; Pooja Shaam; Paulina Stefanowski; Raymond Sukhdeo; Niles Uy; Samantha Walker; Alexandra Woods; Samson Zachariah; Adrienne Zhou.

Sophomores: Arleen Aguasvivas; Noel Bello; Dylan Cepeda; Timothy James Darcy; Amanda Dhaneshwar; Melissa Evelyn; Gina Galizia; Kanad Ghosh; Lance Hipolito; Carolyn Jativa; Sundeep Kaur;

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Juniors: Joan Abelardo; Shawn Adam; Ginamaria Arena; Paul Bakoyiannis; Michael Carraher; Gabrielle Cassese; Katrina Colletti; Mark Crimmins; Karen Demarco; Monica Dluzniewski; Camille Dwyer; Kathryn Edwards; Frank Gentile; Nicholas Gliagias; Sabina Grech; Scott Hounsell; Christopher Hwu; Augustin Joseph; Raymond Kober; Louis Lamia; Grace Lisandrelli; Carla Marian; Jeffy Mathew; Brent McDonnell; Nicholas Merckling; Natalie Paret; Patryk Perkowski; Grace Perrotta; Joseph Pinckney; Gabrielle Rosato; Nicholas Scala; Olivia Sell; Andy Singh; Marilyn Sofiste; Jarrett Williams; Choong Leong Ye; Suresh Yhap.

Seniors: Kaitlin Carr; Nicholas Chan; Kyle Hounsell; Stephanie Kotnik; Kristen Lasak; Jonathan Mangar; Catherine Morreale; Mary Napolitano; Jaimie Patel; Peter Plaza; Adriana Rannazzisi; Dorota Sawicki; Kimberley Seoane; Laura Sonnylal; Emily Tansey; Anastazja Wojnarowski.

St. John's credits: worth the price?

By Adara Simonelli '09

This year, 325 seniors enrolled to take one or more of the courses offered as a part of the St. John's College Advantage Program with the hope of gaining college credit while still at Molloy.

Seniors paid \$275 per class that they wanted to take at Molloy to get the college credit they wanted.

Yet some students wonder just how many other colleges aside from St. John's accept these credits?

According to social studies teacher Mr. Bill Niklaus, about 70 to 80 percent of the colleges accept these credits, but the list fluctuates each year.

Senior Aquilah Nelson said, "All the colleges I applied to say they would accept my credit, as long as I average a B or better."

Senior Andrew Hubert said, "All of the colleges I applied to accept the credit. My intended major is Mechanical Engineering so Calculus and College Chemistry definitely correspond to my major."

Although these credits may transfer to many other colleges, Assistant Principal Mr. Ed Jennings said, "If you do not go to St. John's, call the college you plan to attend and ask if they take the transfer credits. [Even] St. John's may not accept the credits, depending on your major."

"For example, the pharmacy program at St. John's, which is a rigorous major with no room for elective classes, won't accept the

credits," he said.

About 20 years ago, Molloy joined the St. John's Advantage Program, which offers college credit for taking Italian, French and Spanish 4A and 4B, AP Spanish Language, English Language, Calculus, Intro to Calculus 1 and 2, College Algebra, Participation in Government, Psychology, and College Chemistry 1 and 2 Honors in the Fall, and French Italian and Spanish 4B, AP Spanish Calculus and English Language, Calculus 2, Intro to Calculus 2, College Algebra, Participation in Government, Psychology, and College Chemistry 2 Honors.

Next year, a new course, Public Speaking, will become the 25th course in the program.

Benefits of being a part of the St. John's College Advantage Program include a \$2,000 per-year grant if a Stanner eventually enrolls at St. John's, and the freedom to take electives in college if the transferable credits are accepted for a required course for a student's major.

"These credits are a good thing," said Mr. Niklaus. "They help parents by allowing them to save money. Colleges can charge \$3,000 for those credits against a \$275 cost at Molloy."

Senior Michelle DeSilva said, "In my junior year, I just picked classes I thought would be interesting. I never realized that they would be offered as college credit."

"When I did realize, I signed up for as many as I could afford. They're a

A bad economy makes for difficult college choices

By Lauren Kalma '09

The Class of 2009 is having a more difficult time than past Molloy graduating classes choosing which college to attend next year due to rising tuition costs and the decreasing amount of financial grants in aid being offered by colleges, Molloy's college guidance counselor said.

In the week leading up to the May 1 deadline for students to choose a college, many remained uncertain about their decision, said Mr. Kerry Hughes.

SUNY and CUNY schools have seen a rise in applications from Molloy students, with about 150 applying to SUNY schools and 250 applying to CUNY schools.

Mr. Hughes believes more students will end up choosing a SUNY or CUNY school or a college that was not their first choice due to costs.

Senior Peter Plaza said he ended up choosing to attend St. John's University because it offered him a full scholarship instead of going to his first choice, George Washington University, which would have cost him \$41,000 in tuition, room and board.

Many seniors found themselves unable to afford the tuition of their first choice college unless they received large scholarships.

Mr. Hughes said that more than ever, students are inquiring about how to qualify for a scholarship.

However, Mr. Hughes said there has been less "free money" being awarded by colleges this year in their financial packages. Colleges are less willing to offer grants that do not need to be paid back, but instead, there has been a huge increase in the amount of loan offers, which do have to be paid back, Mr. Hughes said.

He said that there is a lot more bargaining this year between students and college over the amount of financial aid being offered.

By comparing the amount of aid one school offers to that of another, students have received as much as \$1,500 added on to their scholarships.

However, Plaza was not successful bargaining with the University of Pittsburgh, which had a cap of \$10,000 in scholarships for out-of-state students.

Plaza's advice for juniors is prepare to do well on the SAT's because, "it's not just a score; it will determine your future."

Mr. Hughes is optimistic that as the economy gradually improves, financial packages could be better next year, making for an easier time for the Class of 2010 to choose a college.

great opportunity to start college early. I already have enough credits to drop a semester at college," she said.

But Mr. Jennings said some students, "think they can take the credits and graduate [from college] early. This is a rare possibility."

Mr. Niklaus, however, said it is possible.

"One can go into college with the credits that are transferable and can move them up to sophomore year," he said. "When the freshman then applies for the next year's classes, they might automatically be given junior year courses. The advantage is they can take all their classes and graduate early."

DeSilva said, "Now that I've finished some basic courses, I'll be able to move on to more challenging courses [in

college] that will be more beneficial for me. Also, it's not a bad thing to say that you're starting college with 15 credits under your belt."

Hubert said, "From what I've heard, I believe it is definitely worth the money being that a college course can cost around \$3,000 plus. I recommend that future students highly consider taking St. John's credits."

Mr. Jennings said, "Applying for these credits is a good thing. You'll never know where you'll end up, or what major you're going to choose. Some may change their major, and others may not know yet what they will major in. But the wide basic range of college credit courses like math, science, and language might fit in to your intended major."



Mr. Bill Niklaus teaches his Psychology class for which seniors can receive St. John's University credit. (Photo by Adara Simonelli)

Stanners enjoy Greece trips

By Andres Gallo '09 and Mike Ponce '09

Stanners took two different trips to Greece last month as part of Molloy's annual European vacation: a junior-senior trip led by Mr. Christopher Dougherty and a cruise open to all students led by Mr. Mark Sweeney.

Thirty two seniors and juniors, along with six chaperones, spent ten days in Greece during Easter vacation while 40 other Stanners from all four grades and six chaperones went on the alternate nine-day trip.

Both trips cost each student about \$4,000.

Senior Christina Damore, who was on Mr. Sweeney's trip, said, "It was definitely worth the price."

Mr. Dougherty said Molloy students visited Greece for the second time in three years because a better itinerary was offered for this trip than in 2007.

The junior-senior trip began right after school on April 8 with an eight hour flight to Germany and then a two hour flight to Athens.

The junior-senior trip featured tours of Athens which included a visit to the Parthenon on the Acropolis and trips to the Greek islands of Mykonos and Santorini.

After a two-day stay in Athens, Dougherty's group traveled for five hours via ferry to Mykonos, where Stanners enjoyed breathtaking views of the Aegean Sea for a day.

From Mykonos, the group traveled to the volcanic island of Santorini.

Senior Shannon McLoughlin said the most terrifying part of the trip was a boat ride in Santorini to an island hot springs when students disembark by jumping into the sea and swimming 30 meters to hot springs.

Santorini is one of Greece's natural wonders and senior Julia Karsten said it was the best part of the trip.



Mr. Chris Dougherty, alumni chaperone Joe Napolitano and seniors Julia Karsten and Shannon McLoughlin look fierce on the Greek island of Santorini during Easter vacation.

From Santorini, students returned to Athens for a few more days of sightseeing, visiting the oldest surviving home in Greece and sitting atop a lighted rock at night overlooking the city.

Mr. Sweeney's group, meanwhile, departed New York two days after Mr. Dougherty's group, and flew to Rome and then Athens.

Mr. Sweeney's trip included two nights in Athens, and a five-day cruise to the Greek islands of Patmos, Rhodes, Crete, Santorini, Mykonos and the Turkish port city Ephesus.

Upon arriving at their Athens hotel, they met tour guide, Mrs. Sue Brandonfield, checked into their rooms to drop off their luggage, and then took a cable car to the top of Lycabettus Hill, the highest point in Athens.

Mr. Sweeney said from there the group had an amazing view of the city, with houses built on top of other houses and the Acropolis in the center of it all.

After taking the metro train back to the hotel, the group feasted on a chicken and rice Greek dinner before heading to their rooms at 9:30 p.m. after almost 20 hours of travel.

Even though protest riots had broken out earlier this year in Athens, Damore says she felt very safe and not at all worried while in Greece's capital.

After spending two nights in Athens, Mr. Sweeney's Stanners departed for a cruise aboard the Aquamarine.

"We had to get used to the sea; it was a little rocky at first," said Mr. Sweeney, who admitted to having a little motion sickness himself.

After getting their sea legs, Sweeney said the rest of the trip was fine as the sea became smooth as glass.

Damore described Mykonos as being, "just gorgeous [due to] the atmosphere, the food, and all the cool little shops."

She said Mykonos and Turkey were her favorite stops.

With a 12:30 a.m. curfew, Mr. Sweeney's Stanners had plenty of time to explore the various islands and even stop at a few night clubs and discos, before returning to their ship each night.

Traveling in the midst of peacock mating season, Mr. Sweeney's Stanners adopted their own "Stanner call," and even affectionately referred to their tour guide as Ms. Peacock.

This was Mr. Sweeney's first experience taking Stanners abroad and he was pleased that his students cooperated 100 percent.

"I would definitely do it again," he said, despite their nine hour delay before their return flight home.

Onboard the German airline Lufthansa on the way back home, the Stanners learned their last favorite phrase of the trip: "Die schwimmweste ist unter dem sitz."

It means: "The life vest is under the seat."

Despite the cost, over 300 to attend the Senior Prom at Beckwith Pointe

By Shaun Persaud '09

Despite these harrowing economic times, fewer than 100 of the 414-member class of 2009 will not attend Archbishop Molloy's Senior Prom at Beckwith Pointe on May 20, said Mr. Pat Flynn, the moderator of the Senior Prom Committee.

With tickets costing \$135 per person, "there was a lot of complaining, but there was still a very good turnout," said Nikki Vairo, a committee member along with Stephanie Kotnik, Jasmine Williams, Melissa Alke, and Liz Shelley.

Mr. Flynn said, "If anything, I think the recession had an effect [only] on post-prom activities."

The committee took steps to keep the cost of the tickets down.

For example, instead of renting chair covers, the committee decided that the chairs looked fine as is and didn't spend the money to cover them.

Mr. Flynn said, "I think we have tried to manage [our] money."

A professional photographer will be at the prom to take pictures of couples with various price options: the Royal package for \$95, Elite for \$75, Premier for \$55, Basic for \$39, Economy for \$29, and Group packages for \$10 per person with a three person minimum.

The committee has hired "New DJ Chuck and JT" to provide the music.

Prom favors will consist of a glass saying "Archbishop Molloy Senior Prom, May 20, 2009" and a special surprise favor.

The menu will consist of eight types of hors d'oeuvres, an appetizer of penne a la vodka, and a "surf and turf" main course. Dessert also is a secret.

Vairo said her goals for the prom are that "everyone has a good time, it will be a memorable night, and no one gets Swine Flu."

Juniors go to Candyland

By Thomas Wengler '09

The Junior Prom on May 16 in the Jack Curran Gym and Cafeteria will feature a Candyland theme which was suggested in a poll of juniors by the Junior Prom Committee.

The Gym will be decked out with bright candy colored decorations.

Moderator Mr. Pat Flynn said that with 169 people having purchased tickets at \$60 per person, the committee did a fantastic job of increasing the attendance compared to previous years.

Mr. Flynn said the recession did not affect prom plans because attending the Junior Prom isn't nearly as expensive as the Senior Prom and after-prom plans aren't nearly as extravagant for the Junior Prom.

Samantha Hernandez, who is head of the Junior Prom Committee, is both excited and nervous about the event.

She is excited that so many tickets were sold but nervous about whether everything will go well.

"I just want everyone else to have a good time and enjoy the night that we set up," she said.

The prom will include a buffet style dinner and music provided by DJ Matt Carter, a Molloy senior.

12 seniors earn New York State scholarships

Twelve Molloy seniors won 2009 Series Scholarships for Academic Excellence that are awarded by the New York State Education Department.

The winners were: Nicholas Chan, Angela Dumlao, Michelle Eichorst, Julianne Keyes, Christopher Kosiewska, Stephanie Kotnik, Kristen Lasak, Jonathan Mangar, Mary Napolitano, Dorota Sawicki, Audrey Tung, and Daniel Waters.

Kilkelly's class 'Waiting for Godot'

By Stephen Oradesky '09

Mr. Matthew Kilkelly took 57 juniors and seniors to see the Broadway production of "Waiting for Godot" starring Nathan Lane, Bill Irwin, and John Goodman at the Studio 54 Theatre in Manhattan on May 8 so his students could see a play they read in class brought to life.

Bro. Eugene Birmingham and Mr. Mark Sweeney also chaperoned the trip. Tickets cost \$29.

"The play was excellent," Mr. Kilkelly said. "Nathan Lane and John Goodman did a fantastic job portraying their characters.

"Compared to the original text, the

play emphasized the humor more, which kept the show light and interesting.

"The show was very fast paced. While some productions of 'Godot' run over three hours, this show was only two," he said.

Mr. Kilkelly said students went to see the play not only because they read the play, "but because the play has a lot of good lessons that are important to teach kids. They get a lot out of it.

"It teaches you that you can't let everything be left to outside forces. You need to find some meaning in yourself," he added.

Junior Christina Perez said before

Political Science seniors hope club will continue next year

By Daniel Agosto '09

The Political Science Club, begun two year ago by Moderator Mr. Mike Harrison and Presidents Julien Martinez and Sarah Mauro to discuss political issues, might be in danger of extinction next year.

Mauro, a senior, said that there is a fear among the graduating seniors that the remaining members do not have the enthusiasm to keep the club going.

"I think it'll last at least another year but since a majority of our members are seniors, if underclass support for the group does not increase, there aren't going to be enough people to have a club anymore," said Mauro.

Martinez, on the other hand, thinks the club will survive.

"Barack Obama's presidency has

inspired a whole new generation to be active in politics and society," said Martinez, a senior. "As long as young people care about this nation's future, our club will survive."

Mr. Harrison is not worried because he believes there are enough juniors to keep the club going.

This year the club has gone on two field trips.

Mauro planned the first trip to Manhattan to go to the Tenement Museum, which studies the life of New York City's working class from the late 1800's to the 1940's.

Martinez planned the trip to the USS Intrepid Air, Sea and Space Museum.

The club also had Mr. Ed Cameron and senior Sean Hickey give an Irish history presentation in March.

'Best ever' Rock Aid

By Lucrezia Zanca '09 and Christine Sito '09

Rock Aid made its comeback May 8 in the Jack Curran Gym after a one year hiatus, and while attendance was down from previous years, the event raised several thousand dollars for the Marist Mission helping slum children in the Philippines, said Mr. Glenn DaGrossa.

Since a battle of the bands was not held to select student bands for the show, Mr. DaGrossa recruited the three bands that performed: senior Vic Starsky's band Single File to Bliss, plus J-Rad and DaGrossa's band, Lazurus.

Mr. DaGrossa estimated that about 700 tickets were sold but not all ticket buyers attended the show. The event also raised money by selling Rock Aid t-shirts.

Mr. DaGrossa said the light show and sound systems were, "awesome and the performances made it the best show ever, the biggest production yet."

Starsky said he was, "disheartened by the [low] turnout of the

upperclassmen but the underclassmen pulled through."

Aiding Mr. DaGrossa in putting on the show were four student organizers, seniors Julia Mielczarek and Emily Balkan and sophomores Danielle Catinella and Jonathan Becker, plus 100 students and 40 alumni.

seeing the show, "'Godot' was a great play to read and I'm looking forward to seeing how it was meant to be performed. I think it's going to be really good experience."

Mr. Kilkelly previously took his students to see a stage production of the novel "1984" at the 59E59 Theater in Manhattan in March.

Talent Show's audience smaller than in the past

By Alex Gobright '09

The annual Talent Show featured student, faculty, and alumni performers on May 1 in the Jack Curran Gymnasium but played to a smaller than usual audience, said show organizer Mr. Frank Gambino.

The Boys and Girls Step Teams, the Dance Team, 12 students, and five faculty members performed in front of a crowd of approximately 180 people.

The show attracted between 300 and 400 people in the past and Mr. Gambino said the reason for the low turnout might be other events scheduled for that week, including the Spring Concert and the Freshman Retreat.

Audience members still enjoyed the show.

Senior Cait Lawlor said one highlight was Connor Hubbard singing an original song. "It was very beautiful and his voice was amazing," she said.

Other highlights included original songs from Seniors Niccolo Pizzaro and Victor Starsky and a poetry reading by senior Janelle Boyd.

The poem "was very empowering to

Unlike "Godot," which was performed as a traditional stage play, "1984" was performed in a room not much bigger than a classroom, with about 70 seats surrounding the stage.

"It was very unique, being so close to the actors," Mr. Kilkelly said. "You really felt like you were a part of the play."

women," Lawlor said.

The other student performers were Cailin Chang, Angela Dumlao, Chelsea Emrit, Ray Anthony Gejon, Kanad Ghosh, Peter Kramer, Thomas Rotondo, and Jonathan Mangar.

Faculty performers were an "audible potpourri," said Mr. Glenn DaGrossa, who played "Mediterranean Sundance" on a flamingo guitar.

Mr. John Mecca sang Frank Sinatra's "Summer Wind," Mr. Eric Stoltz and Ms. Madelyn Dupre teamed up for "Killing the Blues," the Grammy-winning duet by Robert Plant and Alison Kraus.

The finale had Mr. Gambino and students singing his original song, "Non Scholae Sed Vitae."

Mr. Gambino estimated the show raised about \$600, with half the money going to the Robert Englert Scholarship Fund and half to help finance Molloy students' volunteer service trips to Lourdes and New Orleans this summer.

"It was a good night and I think people enjoyed the show," Mr. Gambino said.



Senior Victor Starsky's band, Single File to Bliss, opens Rock Aid 2009. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski)

"I enjoyed watching and meeting all three bands but the hardest part of working on the road crew was disassembling the set after the show," said senior Peter Mulligan.

Senior Nicholas Barranco, who attended the two previous Rock Aid shows, said this was the most

professional. "The entire show surpassed my expectations," he said.

Frosh Ashley Mayer enjoyed her first Rock Aid show and said, "I would definitely come back again."

Mr. DaGrossa said next year's Rock Aid, "will be bigger and more equipped. It's got to be a bigger show."

Club starts mini-Shakespeare Festival

By Cristian Sande '09

The Dramatic Arts and Improv Club performed a mini-Shakespeare Festival on May 13 in the Theater, something the year-old club hoped will become an annual event, the moderator said.

The festival, which included monologues from Shakespeare's plays, reading Shakespeare's sonnets, music and dance, featured 15 actors and another 12 club members in other activities.

Ms. Mary Ann Safrey, the club's moderator, said before the show, "We have been anticipating this festival for quite some time, and hope that

everything goes well.

"Monologues give a chance for students to shine and gives the Stanner Players a challenge," said Ms. Safrey.

The goal for the festival, Ms. Safrey said, "is to expose the audience to Shakespeare and give the students more experience with performing.

"The festival is a training ground for actors and is most importantly about the fun of doing it all," she said.

Senior Cosimo Commisso performed as Sebastian from Act 4, Scene 3 of the comedy "Twelfth Night."

"It is very difficult and more restrictive," said Commisso about

performing Shakespeare.

"You have to translate the language first so that you can understand it, then you have to understand iambic pentameter, then you have to memorize the difficult language," he said.

He was looking forward to the performance, however, saying, "it should be a fun challenge because it is something I have never performed before."

The students rehearsed for several weeks before the show, studying Shakespeare's language and the rhythm of his lines.

"Most kids just look at the language

and are immediately put off by it, but once you start to translate it, you see how entertaining the plays really are," said Commisso.

The club, which started in November, attracts between 20 and 40 students to its twice monthly meetings.

"At meetings we do improv exercises, acting skills, monologues, dialogues, and try to relate to one another and to space," said Ms. Safrey.

"I have some of the best senior performers [in the club] who are extremely generous with the younger kids, and who will make this year's festival even more exciting," she said.

Environmental Club saves up energy on Earth Day

By Tara Gildea '09

Environmental Club Moderator Mr. Chris Dougherty and his eco-friendly team created a school-wide recycling competition on Earth Day, April 22, as part of Spirit Week.

Mr. Dougherty also encouraged all Stanners to take public transportation, ride a bike, or walk to school on Earth Day.

Several seniors took his advice and rode their bicycles to school, parking them on the track.

Junior Sue Zheng, a member of the I AM Green crew, said Earth Day was a huge success.

The club also went to see the Disney documentary movie "Earth" on its opening day and helped contribute to Disney's tree planting campaign by buying tickets on Earth Day.

While enjoying an organic house smoothie, Mr. Dougherty discussed Molloy's recycling efforts.

"Many of the faculty have a good heart and recycle; however, some of



Seniors parked their earth-friendly bicycles in front of a gas-guzzling Jeep on Earth Day. (Photo by Benedict Joson)

them continue to put their mail in the wrong bin," he said with a chuckle.

Senior Emily Tansey hopes that students will be more environmentally conscious both as the school year comes to an end and in years to come.

"The school should put forth more of an effort to recycle at lunch and recycle paper," she said.

Tansey, along with other seniors, started the bottle and can collection during senior lunch periods.

This effort spread to other grades, with students volunteering to recycle at lunch every day.

Mr. Dougherty said the younger generation is more inclined to recycle because it grew up with green ideas.

He said the school is becoming more receptive to recycling and is slowly changing. He has a recycling bin outside Room 304 and students are filling it with paper more and more each week.

On the final day of classes, as part of the club's "Operation Clean Sweep," recycling bins will be put in the halls for students throw out recyclable material from their lockers.

The club will sell the used paperback books and other school supplies to Stanners returning to school in September and donate the money to two environmental foundations, the Natural Resource Defense Council and River Keeper.

In April, about 30 students continued a tradition started by previous club moderator Mr. Charley McKenna by visiting the Climate Change exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History.

The club is already planning a beach cleanup and tree planting for this month and in June.

Molloy joins UN Security Council

By Julien Martinez '09

Molloy's team prepared harder than usual for the annual Model UN Conference at UN Headquarters from May 14-16 because for the first time,

it will be representing an influential nation on the UN Security Council, said moderator Mr. Bill Flemen.

Mr. Flemen said that the team worked hard to know the procedures

and responsibilities of representing the nations of China on the Security Council and Dominica in the General Assembly.

The team planned to attend a training session, which is held on the first day of the conference at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, in order to be fully prepared to debate and work with other participants from high schools from across the country and the world.

Mr. Flemen was very optimistic about this year's conference because the students were very committed and really wanted to do a good job.

Each student spent \$84 to attend.

Mr. Flemen said Stanners have done very well in past conferences and enjoyed meeting students from different states who come to the event.

This year, all 32 spots for Molloy's two delegations filled up fast and many students were put on a waiting list.

"This is our biggest group in the history of Molloy's participation in the conference," Mr. Flemen said.

Mr. Flemen was very unhappy when six team members dropped out at the

last minute, but he thanked the students on the waiting list who stepped in and credited them for being willing to do a lot of work to catch up.

Senior Paul Alzate, who attended the conference last year, liked the enthusiasm of the delegates and their knowledge of international relations.

Alzate said that representing a great power such as China was a challenge.

"With such influence comes a lot of pressure, since many of the delegates will look to you on decision-making," he said. "Therefore, I've had to prepare more cautiously than before."

Molloy also faced tough competition from the delegations from other schools.

"I must give credit to high schools like Stuyvesant and Father Judge, who always come extremely prepared," Alzate said.

Alzate recommends students try out for Model UN before they graduate.

"Learning how to be a good cosmopolitan person, in addition to being a good U.S. citizen, is paramount," he said.



Molloy's Model UN team spent last week at United Nations where it represented China on the Security Council.

Step Team questions contest scoring

By Nick Toth '09 and Malik Dean '09

Molloy's Boys Step Team placed second in the Columbus High School Competition on Saturday May 2 but due to a scoring error discovered by Moderator Mrs. Anne Lonergan on the ride back to school, the team realized it had actually won.

Mrs. Lonergan was reviewing the score sheets, which had Molloy losing by five points despite receiving scores of 10 from nearly all of the judges, when she noticed that one judge's scoring sections were not all filled in.

If Molloy had received those 10 points, it would have won.

Mrs. Lonergan contacted the contest officials the next day but so far no change in the standings has been made.

She hopes that Molloy will be crowned the winner in the near future.

Co-captain Gavin Spence is happy with the way the six-member team performed this year. "They have unbelievable talent," the senior said.

Mrs. Lonergan agreed, calling them a "wonderful six."

The team finished fourth in both the Daily News competition Oct. 2 and the "Hot 97 Battle in the Apple" competition Nov. 2.

It won the Paramus (N.J.) Catholic High School competition April 11.

Mrs. Lonergan credited co-captains Spence and junior Kris Wilson with the team's success.

After its performance at the Hot 97 contest, the team auditioned for a place on "America's Got Talent" TV show at



The Girls Step Team holds up its third place trophy from the Paramus Catholic High School Competition, the highlight of what's been a difficult season. (Photo Courtesy of the Alumni Office)

the Jacob Javits Center.

"The preliminary judge was thrilled with our performance," said Spence, "as is anyone who sees us."

However, the team was not invited to perform on TV.

"The Boy's Step Team is exciting, fun and extremely competitive," said Spence. "The word 'team' is an understatement when it comes to describing the squad. Being on the step team is the best thing that I've done in high school and I wouldn't trade it for

anything else."

Meanwhile, Molloy's Girls Step Team performed for the last time this year at Molloy's annual Talent Show in the Jack Curran Gym on May 2.

Despite having six team members missing, the team performed well and was glad to end the season on a good note, said co-captain Jasmine Williams.

This year started off badly for the "First Ladies" when a team captain and many key team members quit.

A third place finish in the Paramus

Catholic High School Competition on April 11 was the highlight of the season.

Molloy failed to win a trophy at the CHSAA girls competition at Christ the King on April 25.

Co-captains Claire Mahon and Williams now are looking to the future.

"We hope the team will unite and find strong members in the incoming freshmen," Williams said, "and if the right work ethic is applied they'll be on top again and can represent what it means to be a 'First Lady.'"

Stock crash crushes Investment Club

By Charles Paszkowski '09

The Investment Club is finishing up the year in the annual Stock Market Game with no big profit growth this year, as the falling stock market has crushed Molloy's teams of investors, the moderator said.

The club started off the year with eight teams participating in the full-year

game, and then entered five more teams in the half year competition.

Each team gets \$100,000 in imaginary funds to invest at the start of the game and then keeps track of when its stocks go up or down. At the end of the competition, teams calculate their profits or losses.

With the competing schools broken

up into public and private divisions, Molloy is one of seven private schools in the game.

The club's Moderator Ms. Mary Pat Gannon said, "Nobody did well this year. Everyone is down on an average of 20 percent [in their portfolios]."

Club President Jayminkumar Patel, a senior, said, "It was difficult conditions

for a good performance and one can't be pleased with losses no matter how small, but it has been a tremendous year because it has provided invaluable experience that can't be bought. The twists and turns the market made have kept the club very busy and has provided much material for discussion." Patel added, "During the first half of the year, one was better off not investing at all. Now there have been strides towards recovery, but it will still be at least a year before the market will regain investor confidence."

Ms. Gannon was pleased that "People hung in there and didn't sell."

She said club members, "learned of the volatility of the market and that you can't trust anyone in the market."

Although Molloy doesn't think it fared well in its competitions, the Stock Market Game is set to reveal its final results on May 22, so there is always a chance that the teams from the other six private schools in the game did even worse than Molloy's teams.

The club is saying farewell to Patel as president, as two juniors, Christopher Hwu and Vinesh Raghoo, will lead the club's efforts in next year's game and hope for a quick economic recovery.

Anime Club plans trip to convention

By Amanda Marsico '09

Molloy's Anime Club will make its seventh trip to the Anime Boston Convention in Massachusetts on Thursday May 21.

Thirty-four members of the Anime Club, which started in 2001, will be driven to Boston in school busses by Moderator Mr. Chris Dougherty and art teacher Mr. Glenn DaGrossa.

Molloy alumni will meet the club at the convention after taking the Fung-Wah express bus from New York's Chinatown to the Sheraton Boston and Hynes Convention Center.

The annual convention, which is almost 20 years old, has gained popularity in the past 10 years, said

club Vice President T.J. Darcy, a sophomore.

The convention's attractions include: cosplaying, where people dressed up as characters from anime shows; video game tournaments; artist galleries; question and answer sessions with voice actors, artists and directors of anime films; karaoke; classes on drawing and cosplaying; a masquerade ball; and a rave.

There also will be a lot of Japanese anime souvenirs to buy, Darcy said.

"If I could describe the convention in one word, it would be: insanity," Darcy said. "People really get into it."

Sophomore Avery Villa-Gonzalez, who went to the convention last year

with the club, is very excited to return.

"I can't wait!" he said. "I'm really looking forward to getting myself drawn as an anime character by one of the artists."

The overall goal of the trip, Mr. Dougherty said, is just, "to have a great time. This convention is what the club has been planning and looking forward to the whole year. This is their Super Bowl."

The total cost of the trip, which includes the price of hotel, transportation and sundries is \$307 for each club member.

Students are expected to bring whatever money they think they will need to buy food and souvenirs.

Varsity Softball preps for playoffs

By Brigid Carragee '09 and Frank Toro '09

Molloy's Varsity Softball Team has managed to stay undefeated in league play this season despite having to



Senior pitcher Janelle Boyd

cancel some early nonconference games due to rain, said coach Mrs. Maureen Rosenbaum.

With a 9-0 league record and a 14-4 mark overall, Molloy does not have much to complain about this rainy spring.

"We haven't had many problems," said Ms. Rosenbaum. "We had to cancel many early non-league games, which won't be rescheduled, but league games are more important."

Senior third-baseman Emily Harms said of the rain, "We had to have more indoor practices, which are good because they give us a chance to work on our hitting."

These frequent hitting practices seem to be helping the team, whose top-hitter, junior Julia Lipovac, boasts a .448 batting average and senior shortstop Anniela Vaccaro is batting .377.

Senior pitcher Janelle Boyd, the

team captain, has been a force to be reckoned with this season.

She has a 9-0 won loss record on the mound and a .377 batting average.

"My pitching is going well," she said. "I train during the off season so that I'm always consistent and ready for anything."

Boyd added, "Our whole team plays well with each other. We have certain chemistry when it comes to the game and are there for each other on and off the field."

The team, which suffered an upset loss in city championship playoffs last year, hopes to win the city title this year.

"Our immediate goal is to take Queens," said Mrs. Rosenbaum of the CHSAA Brooklyn-Queens regular season title, "and if we beat St. Francis Prep on May 5, we should clinch it."

Molloy has defeated St. Francis Prep twice already this season, which was considered by Mrs. Rosenbaum to be

her team's most important victories.

For Harms, the Molloy-Prep games are still the most exciting.

"There is always a higher intensity to those games because they are our rivals," she said.

Ms. Rosenbaum said, "Even though the team suffered two tough losses to St. Joseph's by the Sea, the team is ready for the playoffs and our goal is to win Brooklyn Queens Championships."

The playoffs will start May 13 in Cunningham Park.

Molloy fully expects to see St. Joseph's again in the later stages of the playoffs.

"Our team beating St. Joseph's by the Sea would really put us on top," Mrs. Rosenbaum said.

Boyd added, "We made it to the championships last year, but didn't win. We have the talent and chemistry to take it all this year. We just have to play hard!"

Salas-Ali leads Molloy to girls city frosh track title

By Justin Travis '09

Molloy Frosh Girls Track team won the CHSAA Intersectional Outdoor Championship on April 18 at Ichan Stadium with 54 points, 11 more than second place St. John Villa.

Coach Mr. Austin Power said, "This victory was no easy accomplishment. We knew this was going to be tough. St. John's had some strong frosh, but we stayed confident."

Tiana Salas-Ali won the triple jump, and finished second in the long jump, and the 100-meter dash.

She did all of this while competing

with badly scraped knees due to a fall during the triple jump.

"I just stayed confident and did my best and it paid off," Salas-Ali said. "I'm just glad we won [the team title]."

Mr. Power said, "I wasn't surprised by her performance. She's been working hard all year."

Aside from Salas-Ali, two other Stanners won gold medals.

Paulina Stefanowski won the 3,000 meters and Rachel-Ipsen Riegger won the discus.

"Paulina performed extremely well, as did Nicole Kelly, Rachel Ipsen-Riegger,

and Melissa Fessler," Mr. Power said. "They all had really strong days."

This victory gave Molloy its third frosh girls city championship.

"I'm thankful for this team, as they've been working hard all year," said Mr. Power. "There's no doubt in my mind they have potential to excel as sophomores and varsity athletes."

Team scores: 1. Molloy, 54; 2. St. John Villa, 43; 3. St. Anthony's 39; 4. St. John the Baptist, 26; 5. Notre Dame Academy, 23.

Discus: 1. Rachel Ipsen-Riegger, 74-1.

Long jump: 2. Tiana Salas-Ali, 15-5; 4.

Ashley Mayer, 14-1.5; 5. Nicole Kelly, 14-1.5.

Triple jump: 1. Tiana Salas-Ali, 32-5.5; 2. Nicole Kelly, 31-3.5.

Javelin: 2. Rachel Ipsen-Riegger, 75-10.

Shot put: 2. Marissa Sblendorio, 24-4.75.

100-meter hurdles: 5. Ashley Mayer, 20.4.

1,500 meters: 3. Kathleen Woods, 5:22.2.

100 meters: 2. Tiana Salas-Ali, 12.8 (Molloy frosh girls record).

3,000 meters: 1. Paulina Stefanowski, 11:58.7; 3. Melissa Fessler, 12:13.2; 4. Kathleen Loftus, 12:38.7.

1,600-meter relay: 5. Molloy (Tori Halvax, Christina Martinez, Julia Rosa, Pauline Stefanowski), 4:49.9.

Tennis starts 8-0

By Maverick Palabasan '09

The Boys Tennis Team is off to an 8-0 start and is aiming to win the CHSAA B Division championship after losing in the playoff finals last season.

"The team has shown great improvement," said Coach Mr. Matt Hunter. "What helps improve the team's playing is the motivation that their hard work and determination might lead to finally winning the championship after coming close last year."

Senior Anthony Chan, who plays both first and third singles, is 8-0.

The other two singles players are senior Alex Tokarz at first singles and sophomore Kemet Dugue at second singles.

"Even though the team and the lineup is strong, there are always windows for improvement," Chan said.

The team's best victories were over Salesian 4-1 and Xaverian 5-0, two of the toughest teams in the B Division.

The playoffs started the second week of May with the semifinals on May 14 and the finals May 18 at the National Tennis Center.

AM handball rebuilds

By Matt Koziolk '09

Molloy's Varsity Handball Team started the season 3-2, which disappointed some players who had hoped for a better beginning.

"After all the practices we've had, I can't believe we have had such a bad start," said Charlie Gagliardo, a senior first doubles player.

Molloy defeated Xaverian 4-1, LaSalle 4-1 and St. Raymond's 5-0, but lost twice to Loughlin.

The team remains optimistic.

"I think we'll make the top four [in the CHSAA Brooklyn-Queens standings] at least," said Gagliardo.

Senior Andrew Zeni said, "It will be really hard to make the playoffs, but I think we can do it."

The team is hoping for a turn-around similar to 2007 when Molloy went from 2-2 to 8-2.

Beating Saint Francis Prep will be the team's biggest challenge. "It's been a long time since we defeated them," said Zeni.

Gagliardo added, "They usually take first place every year."

Coach Mr. Vinny Leonardo said this is a rebuilding year for the team

as Molloy lost six players from last year's team.

Mr. Leonardo praised the current squad, which has only one senior starter, for its hard work, especially the sophomore second doubles team of Kevin Kennedy and C.J. Schieler.

"They can handle playing on varsity even though they're only sophomores," said Mr. Leonardo. "They remind me of another great team I had a couple years back."

Golf's undefeated

By Stephn Leccese '09

After starting the season with an 9-0 record, Molloy's Varsity "A" Golf Team is looking forward to the playoffs which begin May 22.

The team is led by senior Dan Collins, who ranks among the league's top 10 players.

Joining him in the starting lineup are seniors Andrew Christ, Cody DeMarco, junior J.D. Lynch, sophomores Steven Bradley and Steven Schelfo

"I have a great team," said Coach Mr. Bill Niklaus. "Coaching them has been a pleasure and a lot of fun."



Senior Anthony Chan hits a backhand. (Photo by Blue & White Staff)