



European trip
to Paris and
Barcelona

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Annual henna
party makes
its mark

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THE STANNER

VOL. 55, No. 7

ARCHBISHOP MOLLOY HIGH SCHOOL

MARCH 2012

Feeling the pinch can save a life

By Darien Dey '14

Molloy's 11th annual Blood Drive will be held on Tuesday, April 3 in the Jack Curran Gym.

The Long Island Blood Centre, in conjunction with the New York Blood Center, is joining Molloy to help run the day-long Blood Drive.

To donate blood, students must be at least 16- years-old, weigh at least 110 pounds, have not donated blood within 56 days and not have gotten a tattoo within the last 12 months.

Students also must present two signed parental permission forms to the school nurse, Mrs. Kathy Forgione.

The forms can be obtained from the Nurse's Office.

On the day of the Blood Drive, students must bring with them a photo ID.

Donors will also be asked to provide basic information such as name, address, email, phone number and date of birth.

Donors will then be asked about their health history to ensure that they are eligible to donate blood.

Donating blood only takes about

10 to 12 minutes with the use of a new sterile, disposable needle.

Mrs. Forgione said it does not hurt to donate blood.

"No," she said. "It's just a little pinch, a little pinch to save a life."

Before giving blood, every donor must eat well before coming to

school and drink plenty of fluids.

Each donor will rest after his or her donation and be served refreshments.

The whole process will take about an hour.

Not everyone should donate blood. People who are not feeling

well for any reason on the day of the Blood Drive or are healing from a recent surgery or serious injury should not donate blood.

If students have any questions about donating blood, Mrs. Forgione said they should visit her in her office and ask for an information handout.

Last year, Molloy donated 181 pints of blood.

Mrs. Forgione was pleased with last year's total but she hopes for about 200 pints this year.

"Donating blood is an easy way to save a life, especially since about 2,000 people need blood each day," said Mrs. Forgione.

Sophomore Derrick Bwalya plans to donate blood this year because "there's always a shortage of blood in the world. It's amazing that just one pint of my blood can save a life."

Junior Cara Salvatore, who donated blood last year, plans to do so again this year.

She encourages other students to take part in the Blood Drive because "it really is an awesome experience."



Senior Donald Erdey chilling out while donating blood at last year's Blood Drive in the Jack Curran Gym. (File photo)

Adding a bit more math to Molloy in March

By Roberto Bertolini '13

Over 100 Stanners took part in the Molloy's Math Department's third annual "Math Awareness Week" on March 5-9 by participating in daily math-related activities and contests designed to be creative and fun.

The week kicked off with three Math Bowl contests on March 5 where teams or individuals competed to answer math questions without a calculator.

Senior Maverick Alzate won the Calculus Bowl.

The sophomore team of Samantha Sattler, Steven Cepeda, Kristian Mosquito, Samantha Grech and Nicole Korzeniecki won the Frosh-Soph Math Bowl

The junior team of Monish Pahilajani, Shubin Mathews, and Derrick Yuen won the Junior-

Senior Math Bowl.

The team of junior Daniela Gordillo and Pahilajani won the Math Scavenger Hunt on March 6, when students searched for

various items in the building by following clues obtained by solving mathematical riddles.

Pahilajani said, "What I really liked about the Math Bowl and

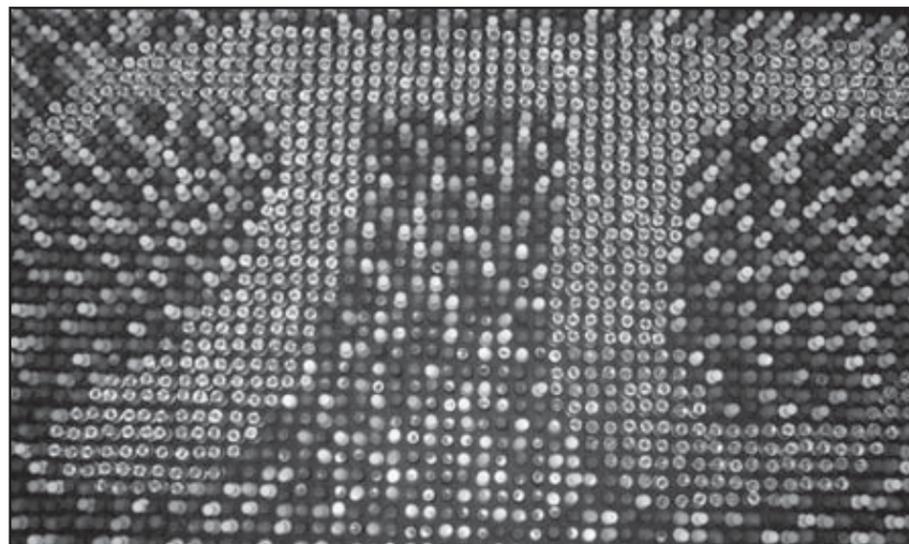
Scavenger Hunt was how my team and I worked together on the trivias with such voracious speed to complete our tasks. It was a total definition of being all out mathematicians."

Branden Warders won first prize and Matthew Tibo second prize in an art contest judged by the faculty which asked students to create art centered around the theme of "Pi."

A Sudoku contest on March 8 was won by frosh Izidora Bozic and sophomore Deanna Mayo came in second.

The week came to an end on March 9 with the best Original Song/Poem contest won by sophomore Reaz Jafri with sophomores Louiza Molohides second and Michael Mosco third.

Continued on page 6



Branden Warders' pi-themed push pin art won first place in the Math Awareness Week art contest. (Photo by Branden Warders '14)

SMS mission is help others

The Saint Marcellin Champagnat Society (SMS), begun by Bro. Pat Hogan, is one of many different programs at Molloy which offers students the opportunity for volunteer work.

I went to Boston in February with about 20 SMS members and Mr. Chris Dougherty, Mr. Ed Cameron and Ms. Elizabeth Reichert to team up with an organization called Habitat For

Humanity to help build homes for people in need.

Some of us didn't know each other before taking that trip but all of us came together as a family in just two days because of all the good hard work we did that weekend.

After we arrived in Boston, we were split into groups to work at two separate construction sites.

Some helped renovate an existing home, while others helped build a new one and each of us played an important role in making the weekend a success.

I personally was inspired by a few of the people we met who volunteer to work at these construction sites nearly everyday.

Working hard while knowing that what you're doing is helping out people in need is such a great feeling.

After a hard day of work, we rode the subway — which Bostonians call the "T" — into the

city to explore Boston.

We sang happy birthday to a girl in several different languages while riding the subway, had a scavenger hunt, and took quick tours of Boston.

We spent our nights at a local hostel, which was an experience in itself.

I was so grateful to be invited on the trip by Mr. Dougherty and be given the opportunity to enjoy such a fantastic weekend with everyone who went along.

It would be great to be able to participate in a trip like that again.

Everyone was inspired to do such great work that will help build a brighter future for people who are in desperate need of a place to live.

By going on this trip, I felt I was taking part in the true mission of Molloy, the thing that makes this school really stand out.

The weekend was one I will always cherish.

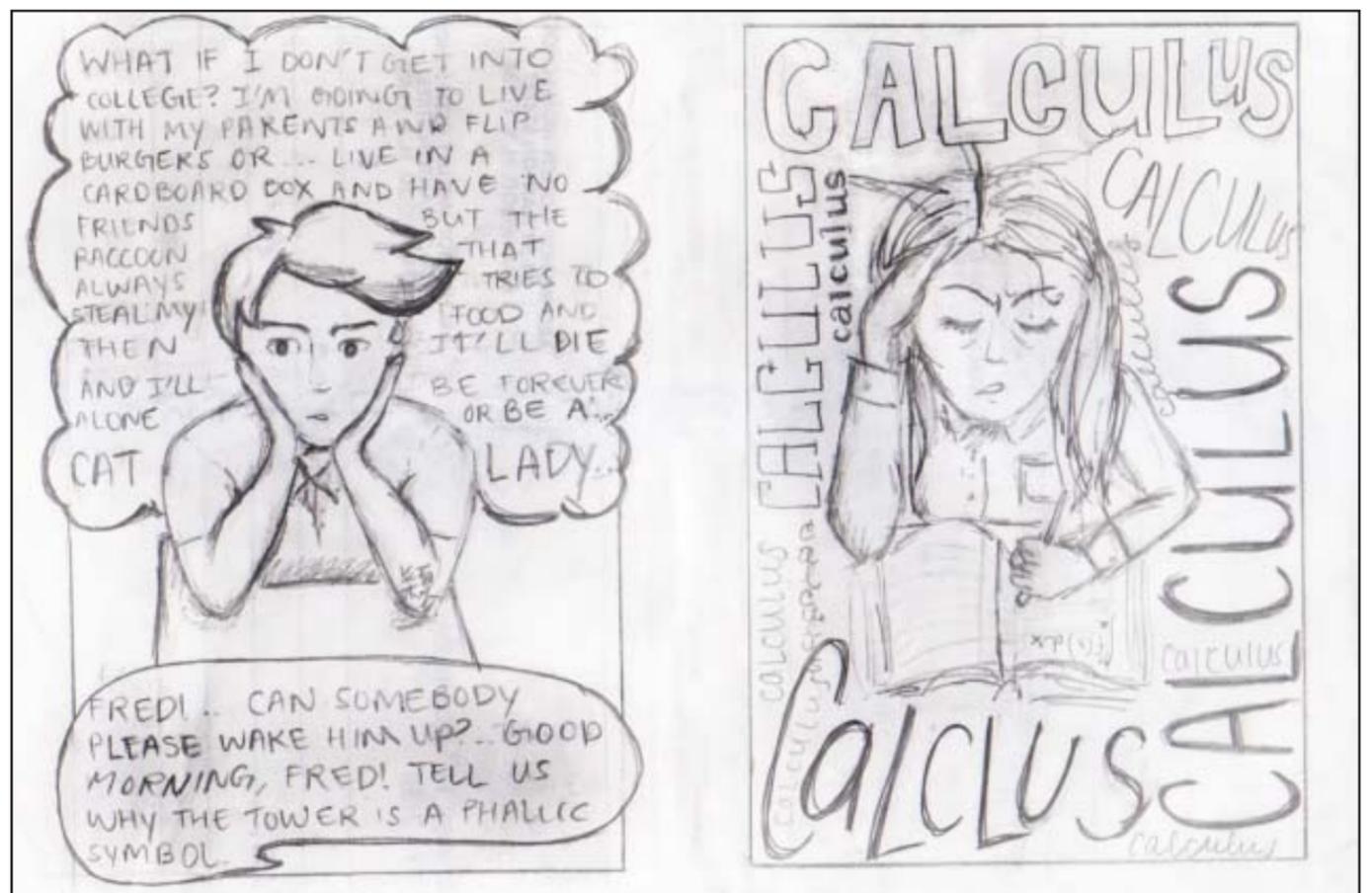
— *Conor Tuohy '13*



Conor Tuohy, left, SMS members, and a house they helped build with Habitat For Humanity in Boston during February vacation.

Ahh . . . the joys of being a senior

By Adrienne
Zhou '12



Write a letter to the editor

The Stanner welcomes letters to the editor that respond to any of the articles published. In a short letter, voice your concerns, comments or opinions.

Send letters to the Stanner at thestanner@molloyhs.org.

The Stanner reserves the right to edit all letters it receives to conform to space capacity and paper policy.

Thank you for your involvement.

Corrections

The Stanner aims for the highest level of accuracy in its stories. If you see an error, email Moderator Mr. Charley McKenna at: thestanner@molloyhs.org.

Please note the following corrections to errors made in Volume 55 Number 6:

Junior Victoria Khan was selected as a Peer Group Leader by guidance counselor Mr. Kerry Hughes. Her name was not included on the list.

Sophomore Kevin McCaffrey's name was not included in the byline for the Science Olympiad.

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Senior Prom moves to new local

By Jaelyn Eng '13 and Stephanie Bonanno '13

The 2012 Senior Prom, which will be held on Wednesday May 16, is moving to a new location at Russo's on the Bay in Howard Beach after being held for six years at Beckwith Pointe in New Rochelle.

While the prom's location will change, the cost of attending will not, as tickets, which went on sale on March 5, are still \$135 each.

This is the first time the Senior Prom has been held at Russo's on the Bay.

"We thought it would be nice to have a change in venue," said Student Activities Moderator Mr. Pat Flynn, "and Beckwith Pointe couldn't guarantee us the date we wanted for this year."

The 2012 Senior Prom will feature additional changes from years past.

The prom will take place in two

different rooms at Russo's.

The non-alcoholic "cocktail hour" will take place in a room with an outdoor deck that can be used if the weather is nice while dinner and dancing to a DJ will take place in another room.

The Senior Prom Committee is considering a few more new ideas for the prom, such as choosing a Prom King and Prom Queen.

"We are trying to think of more traditional prom ideas," Mr. Flynn said.

The committee includes seniors Karla Hernandez, Claudia Korzeniecki and Zulay Scottborgh.

"I'm excited for the new location," said Hernandez. "I can't wait to see what they have to offer. And I heard the food there is really awesome!"

One tradition that won't change is the fact that seniors can go to the

prom in groups rather than with a specific date.

"It doesn't matter, as long as you're there with your friends and you're having fun," Hernandez said.

The Junior Prom will be held on Saturday May 12 in Jack Curran Gym with tickets costing \$60, the same price as last year.

The theme and decorations for Junior Prom are still undecided.



These seniors, seen here at last year's Junior Prom, will be dressing up again to go to Russo's on the Bay on May 16. (File photo)

Changes made in Ring Ceremony

By Annamarie Gaglio '13 and Rashanna Seymour '13

Juniors looking forward to their annual Junior Ring Day ceremony, which in the past has been held in March, may be surprised to hear that the ceremony has a new format, date, and time.

Ring Day will be held on May 3 in the Jack Curran Gym and, instead of the ceremony being held in the evening as in the past, it will be held during the 8:05-8:46 a.m. class period.

For the past few weeks, Director of Student Activities Mr. Ed Cameron has been working with Student Activities Committee Moderator Mr. Pat Flynn, Ms. Mary Pat Gannon, Ms. Jeanne Longerano, and Mrs. Adele Solari to rework the ceremony.

The biggest change will be the inclusion of the entire junior class whether or not the students bought a class ring.

Each junior will receive a class pin to commemorate the transition to senior year. Students who purchased a ring will receive their rings and class pins.

Refreshments will follow the ceremony.

Despite the fact that juniors will have to go to class after the ceremony, they will be permitted to dress up in suits, sports jackets, and dresses for the day if they so desire.

Juniors have received their class rings in various ways at Molloy over the years, from picking up them at the Book Store or at a large ceremony in the evening.

Mr. Cameron said the change was made because fewer students are buying rings these days.

"Attendance at the ceremony has been dwindling in the past few years," Mr. Cameron said. "Gold is getting more expensive, so fewer people are buying rings."

Juniors Julian Leston and Ann Palathingal both didn't buy rings because of their cost.

"I have a habit of losing really important things and my parents didn't want to spend so much for something I would lose," said Leston.

Palathingal welcomes the new format, saying that she's happy she can be included in the ceremony with her friends, "even though my parents didn't let me get a ring."

The new Junior Ring Day plan is

not completely flawless.

Moving the ceremony to the morning may pose an inconvenience for some parents who wish to attend but have to go to work instead.

Mr. Cameron hopes to avoid this problem by ending the ceremony before 9:00 a.m.

Junior Odette Colangeli prefers the new version of the Junior Ring Day ceremony because her parents would have been unable to attend in the evening.

Colangeli also is looking forward to receiving her ring.

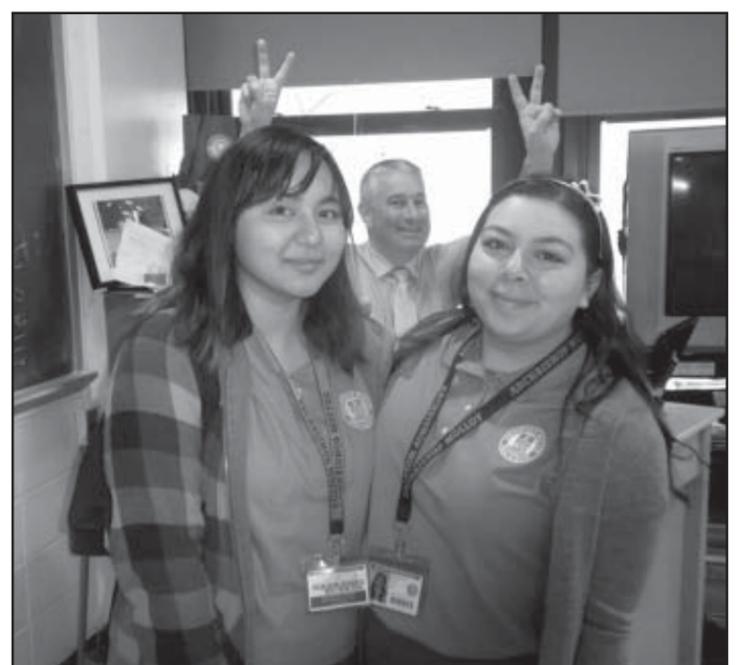
"It's a symbol of being a Stanner, and a souvenir of my time in high school," she said.

Mr. Cameron believes the new ceremony will "work very well and become a really nice tradition."



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Seniors Sandy Zaw, Marissa Sblendorio, (and Mr. Bill Niklaus) above, and Freddy Francois, Melissa Gabriel, and Manpreet Kaur, left, show off the different colored Senior Shirts for boys and girls as voted on by the Class of 2012. (Photos by Monish Pahilajani '13)

Clubs prepare for International Day

By Anna Poulakas '14

Stanners will be able to experience different cultures from around the world without having to leave Archbishop Molloy High School if they attend International Day on Sunday April 22.

The 32nd annual event is an opportunity for students, faculty, parents, and friends to enjoy the food and dance from many different cultures.

International Day will also serve as the start of Spirit Week at Molloy as it has in the past.

Last year the event was held on March 27, almost a month earlier than this year.

International Day co-organizer Ms. Sabina Kobinski said the extra time will give the various performers who are scheduled to appear more time to practice their routines.

Among the performers expected to perform at International Day are: the Pipes & Drums Band; the Dance Club; the Dance Team; the Asian Club; the Irish Club; the Spanish Club; the French Club; the Indian Club; the Boys and Girls Step Teams; and the Greek Club.

Each group will perform for about 10 minutes in the Jack Curran Gym.

Sophomore Louiza Molohides, a member of the Greek Club, said,

"We are performing dances from each major region in Greece, to represent each place's traditional dances."

Seniors Andrew Rozo and Kristina Atienza, who will perform the Tinikling, a Filipino dance, with the Asian Club, said the dancers want to work on their routine until the last minute to make everything perfect before taking the stage.

Sophomore Amelia Singh, who can't wait for International Day to arrive, said the Indian Club has been practicing since before Christmas for the big event.

Ms. Kobinski, co-organizer Mr. Luis Santos, who supervises the food tables, the maintenance staff, and faculty are all hard at work planning for International Day.

The food will be contributed by students in Molloy's various ethnic clubs and will reflect the student body's diverse backgrounds.

As in years past, hot food will be served in the Marsloe Gym and desserts in the Cafeteria.

"I hope our guests and students are open to new foods and cultures and enjoy the experience of having different ethnicities around them," said Ms. Kobinski, who thanked in advance the maintenance crew and Mr. Santos for all the hard work they will do to make the day a success.



International Day is full of food, fun and dancing as seen in these photos from last year's event. (File Photos)



The week that's abuzz with spirit

By Connie Zhao '15, Phillip Barsamian '15, and Sophia Savvides '15

Now in its sixth year, Spirit Week, which will be held April 23-27, is becoming a Molloy tradition as its Crazy Hat Day, Homeroom Door Decoration Contest and after-school events strive to create a unity among all Stanners.

Student Council, the National Honor Society and the Student Activities Committee have joined forces to plan Spirit Week 2012, which was moved to April because

March is occupied with other events such as the Stanner Players' production of "Oklahoma," said Student Council Moderator Ms. Kathy Loughran.

Led by President Jennifer Hwu, a senior, Vice President Cara Salvatore, a junior, and Secretary, Mario Stefanidis, a junior, Student Council has been working on Spirit Week since December.

The schedule is expected to include two events per day for a total of 10.

Activities such as the Teacher Tape

Up, casual days, and the Intramural Dodgeball Tournament again will be part of Spirit Week.

Karaoke will be replaced by an event called "Don't Forget the Lyrics" and the Talent Show will join Spirit Week for the first time.

Some tentative ideas for new events include "Telephone in Foreign Languages," "Molloy Jeopardy," and "Guess the Snack."

Hwu hopes some of the new events will become a permanent part of Spirit Week.

The final schedule of events will be determined next month.

Hwu hopes that students will have a great time and continue to participate in the large numbers they have in previous years.

The competition between Molloy's four grade levels will be the same as last year with points accumulated for the number of participants from each grade in each event. The winner is the grade with the most points.

In the past, the winner received a special casual day when its members can dress down while the rest of the school must be in uniform but the prize for this year's winner has not been determined.

Casual days are among the most popular events and the themes will be "Color of the Year" and the "Business Formal Day."

The theme for Homeroom Door Decoration is "Under the Sea."

"We hope the events will run smoothly," said Hwu, "People like Spirit Week because all the events leave a lasting impression on everyone. It also brings out more Molloy spirit — the family aspect and friendly atmosphere that is Molloy. The real life of Molloy happens after school."

Senior Pamela Ramirez's favorite part of Spirit week is Crazy Hat Day.

Junior Melanie Teylan said she will participate in one or two events such as the Teacher Tape Up.

Hwu said Student Council tried to diversify the activities so that all students will find something interesting to do.

Sophomore Student Council member Anna Poulakas said the council put a lot of thought into planning the activities.

She expects the seniors to try hard to win but hopes other grades will try to beat them to show their school spirit.



Andrew Mercatante wore an umbrella hat for Spirit Week 2011.

Stanners focus on Paris & Barcelona for Feb.

By Matthew Spataro '14

For the third time in the last four years, Stanners accompanied Mr. Chris Dougherty on a European vacation during Presidents' Week.

Twenty-five seniors and 12 underclassmen paid \$3,150 to go to Paris and Barcelona with six adult chaperones.

Mr. Dougherty wanted to take students to Hawaii this year but few expressed any interest, so he changed the destination to Europe.

Stanners left JFK Airport on Feb. 17 and returned Feb. 25.

"We spent three nights in Paris, one night in Nimes, a city in southern France, and three nights in Barcelona," said Mr. Dougherty.

Sophomore Jorge Olivera said, "I loved seeing the view of Barcelona from Mount Montserrat."

His favorite memory was, "the tour guide telling us a story about how a man climbed the mountain and pretended to be an animal to ask for forgiveness from God."

Senior Stephanie Cruz, who had visited Madrid last summer, said, "On this trip, Mr. Dougherty immersed us in the culture. He wanted us to experience everything Parisian and Barcelonian."

Stanners went to Italy in February of 2008 and 2009, but this was the first trip to France and Spain.

"The cold weather is a bother," Mr. Dougherty said, "but there also

aren't as many tourists going there in February, so that meant cheaper airline tickets!"

What Mr. Dougherty loved about the trip is "seeing the kids' faces when they gaze upon monuments of old and seeing their reactions to a [European] city's differences from the cities in America."

Mr. Dougherty told a hilarious tale about a tour guide in Barcelona whose accent made the word "focus" sound like "a very naughty word" and "us" in English.

Dougherty said, "The kids were giggling and we teachers tried not to but it was hard."

However, it was not all smooth sailing on the trip as at least 10 people caught a stomach virus, including Mr. Dougherty.

However, all bounced back and carried on.

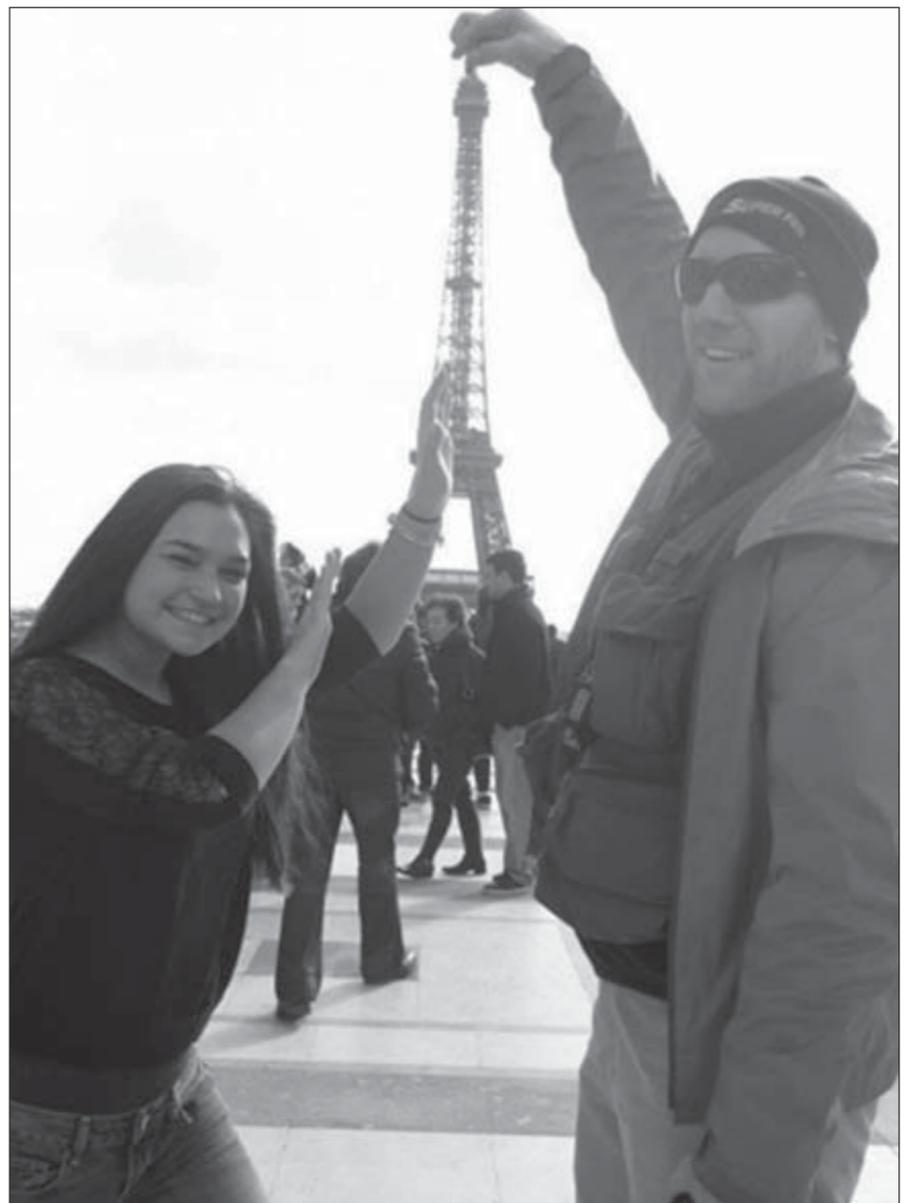
Mr. Dougherty loved visiting Careassonne, a little town in southern France.

"It was like a Renaissance Disney," Mr. Dougherty said.

Mr. Dougherty said he hoped all the students who went on the trip "caught the bug. Not the stomach variety, of course, but the one that makes them want to travel."

This will be Mr. Dougherty's last February trip, at least for a while.

"Other faculty members might be leading the February break trips for a while, as I plan to go on hiatus to prepare for my wedding and my



Senior Alex Bieber and Mr. Chris Dougherty fool around at the Eiffel Tower in Paris. (Photo Courtesy of Alex Bieber)

new life," Mr. Dougherty.

Both Olivera and Cruz said the only thing that went wrong on the

trip was so many people getting the stomach flu but otherwise the trip was pretty fantastic.

Campus Ministry plans a busy schedule for Lent

By George Gulino '14

Campus Ministry's theme for its Lenten celebrations is "Jesus Makes an Everlasting Mark," which is part of its Four Marist Marks theme for the school year.

"I'm hoping that through our multiple announcements and posters, Stanners will be motivated to get involved," said Campus Ministry leader Olivia Balog. "By attending these events, students will be able to witness each of the Four Marist Marks."

"All of these events are a great way to give back and experience God's love. Lent is a time for new beginnings. I hope that by attending some of the Lenten events, Stanners can start a new chapter in their lives," she said.

Lenten Prayer Services are held after school every Monday in March in the Chapel with each service incorporating one of the Four Marist Marks — Empowered Witnesses, Agents of Justice and Service, Servant Leaders.

"During the first Lenten prayer service, the Stanners in attendance were very touched by a moving video that [Campus Ministry Director] Mr. [Mike] Germano played emphasizing the role of selflessness in our lives," said

Campus Ministry leader Alyssa Dolan. "It was well received by the students, as many left the chapel with tears in their eyes."

"We, as leaders, look forward to leading the remaining prayer services and hope to make as significant an impact as Mr. Germano did," she said.

Campus Ministry will sponsor a Book Drive on March 19-23, when students can bring books to Room 334. All types of books are welcome but children's books are preferred.

The annual Fast-a-thon will be March 28 when participating students, who began signing up on March 12, will fast for six hours to raise money for a charitable cause.

Stanners are invited to attend a Taize Prayer Service on March 25 at Mount St. Michael High School with transportation provided any student wishing to attend the service.

Reconciliation will be held all day in the Theater on March 27 when students can leave their religion or physical education classes to receive the sacrament.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be held in the Chapel on April 2 at 2:10 p.m.

Twenty Briarwood Shelter volunteers will organize an Easter

Party complete with Easter egg hunt on April 2.

The Holy Week Liturgy in the Jack Curran Gym on April 4 will focus on the Marist Mark of being "Faith-Filled Disciples."

Some Stanners will attend on their own the Good Friday Stations of the Cross conducted by Pax Christi along 42nd St. in Manhattan on April 6.

Mr. Germano said Campus

Ministry senior leaders Dolan, Balog, Mary Gallagher, Jarrett Sledge, and Samson Zachariah have been invaluable in planning all the events.

"We encourage everyone to get involved in the various activities," said Gallagher, "because aside from giving things up, the Lenten activities serve as another way for Stanners to allow God to enter their lives during this season of Lent."

Indian Club henna party



Indian Club members, such as sophomore Amelia Singh, right, use henna to create temporary tattoos for classmates at the annual henna party Feb. 17. (Photo by Monish Pahilajani '13)

Knitting together an act of kindness

By Sarah Stiglianese '14

Maybe you were one of the many Stanners who came to the Jack Curran Gym on Feb. 3 to support "Justin Thompson Night" at the boys basketball triple header against Fordham Prep.

What you may not have noticed was another act of kindness — the Molloy Knitting Club giving Thompson a blanket it had made.

The Club's Co-Moderator Ms. Dorothy DeNoto had the idea to knit a blanket for Thompson after she found out about his serious spinal injury from a random act of gun violence last October.

"It was an automatic idea that everyone instantly agreed to work on," said Ms. DeNoto.

Giving him the blanket, she said, "helped us all realize we're one big family and truly care for Justin in his time of need."

Ms. DeNoto said that, "the blanket was a very simple project because a small square is the easiest item for a beginner to knit."

Club members each knitted different squares which were connected by Co-Moderator Ms. Mary Mallia into a three-by-five-foot, cream and beige colored blanket.

A backing was put on the blanket

by a volunteer outside of Molloy.

Ms. Mallia also incorporated the initials "AMHS" into one of the blanket's squares to show Molloy spirit.



Knitting Club President Maggie Goreczny holds up the blanket the club made for Justin Thompson. (Photo by Mr. Joe Sommo)

The Club members spent most of the second marking period knitting the blanket and finished in time to present it to Thompson at the basketball game.

Knitting Club President Maggie Goreczny thought the idea of making blankets for Stanners in times of crises was a great idea.

"When knitting alone, it becomes almost like a chore, but when you're doing a group project or working with friends, it can become much more enjoyable," said Goreczny, a senior.

She has used her knitting skills to help others in the past by making baby hats in her spare time to donate to hospitals.

Junior Ayana Tan, who has been knitting since fifth grade, loved being able to help a fellow Stanner who is someone everyone at Molloy knows.

At the suggestion of Molloy President Mr. Richard Karsten, the next blanket will go to Mr. William Murphy, the Library's benefactor.

The blanket will incorporate the school colors and put an "M" on each square, which Ms. Mallia said will be "a challenge for the members."

The club will also make scarves for Special Olympics athletes and booties, scarves, and hats for babies in hospitals.

The club has about 15 members but anyone is welcome at its weekly Tuesday meetings in Room 342.

Pipes & Drums set for St. Pat's

By Aaron Gallagher '13

St. Patrick's Day is an exciting time for many New Yorkers who love to go see the huge, televised parade up Fifth Ave. featuring green as far as the eye can see.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade has been an important annual tradition for Molloy's Pipes and Drums Band since it began marching in the parade in 1995.

Members are still excited about marching behind the Molloy banner every March 17.

Junior Eddie Krische, a three-year veteran piper and student co-leader of the band, said he loves the "atmosphere and the people" at the parade!

He said as the band marches, it always know when it is passing a pocket of Stanners along the parade route as they hear the cheers in the streets.

Another three-year veteran and student co-leader, junior Lauren Maldonado, said she loved the atmosphere along Fifth Ave., but her favorite part of the parade is that "we get the whole street just for ourselves" as they march along Central Park in Manhattan.

When it marches on March 17,

the Molloy Pipes and Drums will play traditional tunes such as "Minstrel Boy," "Scotland the Brave," "The Marine Corps Hymn," and "Boys of County Cork."

Once under the direction of Mr. Edward Cameron, the band has been passed on to the new moderator, Mr. Matthew LePre.

While marching in the Manhattan parade is the biggest event of the year for the band, it isn't its only March activity.

The Pipes and Drums bands kicked off the season on by marching in parades in Rockaway on March 3 and Garden City on March 4.

"It's always cold in Rockaway," said senior drummer Melissa Gabriel, "but this time it wasn't so bad. It had rained in the morning and we debated whether or not to wear our ponchos but in the end Mr. LePre decided not to wear them and it turned out to be the right decision."

The band also played concerts at St. Pancras and Our Lady of Mercy parishes on March 10 and then marched in the Ronkonkoma parade March 14.

Math Awareness Week adds up

Continued from page one

All contest winners were awarded gift cards for Dunkin' Donuts and iTunes.

Mrs. Adele Solari worked with Ms. Jeanne Longerano, Mr. Brian Klimas, and Ms. Lauren Kemmerer to organize the week.

"The purpose was to show how fun, enjoyable, and challenging math could be," Mrs. Solari said. "It also encouraged students to work together as a team to solve math problems."

Mrs. Solari said this week was designed not just for students who do well in math but to show that "math can be fun and enjoyable even for those who dislike it."

Junior Rashanna Seymour, who had fun at the Scavenger Hunt, said, "Even if students don't like math, they can find a way to make it more fun for themselves."

Mrs. Solari hopes that next year more students will participate since it is such a fun and enjoyable experience for everyone.

OOOOOOO-klahoma!



Kevin Singh and Joanne Raptis have the leading roles in The Stanner Players' musical this weekend. (Photo by Monish Pahilajani '13)

Boys Varsity hoops endures up & down year

By Kevin Fernandes '13

Mr. Jack Curran, in his 54th season as Varsity Boys Basketball coach, won his 953 game at Molloy this year as the Stanners finished the season with a 16-12 record.

The team had high hopes of doing well going into the CHSAA Brooklyn-Queens Playoffs because after a very rough start to the season, the team had turned things around and was playing well.

The fourth-seeded Stanners faced fifth-seeded Loughlin in the quarterfinals, a team Molloy had defeated less than a month earlier.

However, instead of maintaining their momentum, the Stanners came out flat, allowing Elisha Boone (20 points, 15 rebounds) and Kadeem Carrington (16 and 10) to lead Loughlin to a 61-51 victory.

Eliminated from the Brooklyn-Queens playoffs, Molloy joined the CHSAA Class AA Intersectional Playoffs, where the Stanners steamrolled past Fordham Prep 73-47 on Feb. 26 and St. Peter's 65-59 on Feb. 29.

Senior guard George Davis scored a total of 40 points in those two playoff victories.

But in the intersectional quarterfinals on March 4 at Fordham University, Molloy ran into a Holy Cross team who had Molloy's number this year.

The Stanners started well, leading

by 11 at halftime, but Holy Cross came out with guns blazing in the second half, as star guard Marquise Moore scored 23 points to go along with nine rebounds and six assists in the Knights' 72-61 victory.

Junior forward Marko Kozul led the way for Molloy in its season-ending loss with 18 points before fouling out in the fourth quarter.

Sophomore guard C.J. Davis added 14 points for the Stanners.

As disappointing as the season-ending loss to Holy Cross was, the Stanners can look back on their season with some pride.

After a starting league play with a 2-6 record, the Stanner won three straight games to improve to 5-6 and turn their season around.

Senior Morrell Gaskins dominated against Bishop Loughlin, pouring in 29 points while Kozul contributed 19.

Kozul, at 6-foot-4 and 216 pounds, gave an undersized Molloy team a steady presence in the post, as demonstrated when he stifled Christ the King standout big man, Jordan Fuchs.

"He's contributed a good amount to this team," said Mr. Curran, "but we expect even more from him going forward."

Kozul said, "I need to improve on my defense and shooting."

Gaskins, a 6-5 forward, also

Molloy with 20 points.

However, Molloy's season came to an end in the semifinals with a 52-49 loss to Moore Catholic on March 9. Junior Amani Tatum led Molloy with 20 points and Gallagher had 16.

The Stanner, who finished with a 19-10 overall record, will return four starters for next season.



Senior George Davis dribbles the ball up court for Molloy.

played well during Molloy's winning streak.

"He's been a great surprise," said Mr. Curran, "We hadn't really expected much from him heading into the season."

George Davis said of his classmate, "Morrell has really stepped up the most this season."

Said Kozul, "Morrell has definitely stepped up this season, without a doubt."

Mr. Curran said senior guard Brian Kruger also made a significant impact.

"He's a guy that you want out there because he can knock down shots," said Mr. Curran.

During the season, Mr. Curran tinkered with his lineup, at times starting Kruger in place of junior guard Christian Giles and Tyler Bennett in place of George Davis.

"The guys just weren't getting it done," said Mr. Curran, "so I figured we would give these other guys a shot."

C.J. Davis also proved to be a prime time performer and often paired with sophomore classmate Gabe Kilpatrick in the backcourt.

Kilpatrick had a great playoff game against Fordham Prep, scoring 18 points while C.J. Davis had 21.

C.J. Davis, who in the regular season scored the game-winning basket against Xaverian, already is being recruited by colleges such as St. John's, Seton Hall, and South Carolina.

As for the highlight of the season, Mr. Curran didn't hesitate.

"Justin Thompson Night, for sure," he said. "I think it's one of the best things that this school has ever done since I've been here."

"He's such a good kid and he's handled his situation with a great amount of courage."

Mr. Curran said the team played its best game of the season on Justin Thompson Night, defeating Fordham Prep 42-30 on Feb. 3.

Girls Varsity tops ranked team

Senior Kamille Ejerta hit the go-head three-pointer as Molloy's Girls Varsity Basketball team came back from a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter to upset nationally-ranked St. Anthony's High School 52-47 in overtime in the quarterfinals of the CHSAA Class AA State Tournament on March 4.

Junior Carolyn Gallagher led

Molloy with 20 points.

However, Molloy's season came to an end in the semifinals with a 52-49 loss to Moore Catholic on March 9. Junior Amani Tatum led Molloy with 20 points and Gallagher had 16.

The Stanner, who finished with a 19-10 overall record, will return four starters for next season.

Captain Jimenez wins a second IM team title

Sophomore Virgilio Jimenez has led two different teams to different intramural titles so far this year.

Team captain Jimenez's Panda Cheetahs won the Frosh-Sophomore Intramural Football Tournament last fall and now another one of his teams, The Hart Attacks, has won the Frosh-Sophomore Intramural Volleyball Tournament.

The Hart Attacks defeated Ball So Hard to win the 21-team tournament on Feb. 7 in the Jack Curran Gym.

Joining team captain Jimenez on the all-sophomore championship team were Nick Morici, Mike Mosco, Rosemarie Casano, Adem Sadik, and Mike Lamarca.

Sophomore Mary Lynch was the captain of second place, all-girl Ball So Hard team, whose roster included sophomore Olivia

McCarthy and frosh Kaitlyn Mahon, Emer Moloney, Kristin O'Grady, Niamh McGrath, and Ally Klesin.

Senior Pineda won the 11-team Junior-Senior Intramural Volleyball Tournament by defeating the Fighting Irish.

Captain and team namesake Nicole Pineda led her all-senior team of Sergio Rodriguez, Marco Rodrigues, Samson Zachariah, Cara Chow, Mareena Thottam, and Steven Troung to the title.

The second-place Fighting Irish were an all-junior team of Kate Gribbon, Alexandra Alimaras, Patrick Goldberg, William Millus and captain Barbara Goger.

The next intramural event will be the four-on-four Basketball Tournament, which is tentatively scheduled for March 20-21 in the Jack Curran Gym with the Frosh-

Soph Tournament on the first day and the Junior-Senior Tournament on the second.

Unlike volleyball, which featured coed teams, the Basketball Tournament will have separate brackets for boys and girls teams.

The games will be 15 minutes long with a running clock unless one team scores 15 points before time expires.

Molloy Varsity, Junior Varsity and Frosh basketball players will be allowed to participate in the tournament again this year but with a limit of either one or two players per team.

Last year the limit was one per team but the Intramural Committee is discussing whether to allow two players per team this year.

The Dodgeball Tournament will be held during Spirit Week which

runs April 23-27 and the Ultimate Frisbee Tournament will be held on the baseball field in May.

"The Intramural Committee has been happy with the turnout, lack of forfeits, and the competitive, yet fun atmosphere all year," said Intramural Director Mr. Brian Kelly.

"The only complaint is that it has been difficult to accommodate rosters that come in late, or interested students who want to get involved the day of the tournaments. None of us want to turn away someone that wants to play, but we put a lot of time and effort into creating the brackets and they are nearly impossible to change in a fair manner once they are complete."

"So if you want to play, get the rosters in by the deadline, everybody," said Mr. Kelly.

Morrison leaps into record book

Sophomore Niamani Morrison won three medals and senior Ashley Mayer won two to lead Molloy to a third place finish at the CHSAA Girls Intersectional Indoor Track and Field Championships at St. Anthony's High School in South Huntington on Feb. 18.

This was Molloy's highest team finish at the indoor city championships since it won the title in 2008.

Morrison set school and meet records with a leap of 18-feet-4.77-inches to win the long jump on her final attempt of the day.

It was the second best indoor long jump in CHSAA history.

"It felt like a normal jump," Morrison said of her record leap.

When the meet officials measured it and she found out it was a school record, "I was really surprised."

Morrison, whose previous best was 17-3, said her long-term goal is to jump 20-feet.

Morrison also finished second in the triple jump and third in the 55-meter hurdles.

"Niamani, if she keeps working hard, has the potential to be one of the best track athletes Molloy has ever had," said Mr. Austin Power, the team's coach.

Mayer cleared 5-feet-2 to win the high jump and 9-feet to finish second in the pole vault.

Junior Tori Taibe finished third in the weight throw.

Morrison competed in the the Eastern States Championships on Feb. 28 where she finished 29th in the triple jump with a leap of 33-8.25, the seventh best performance among sophomores at the meet, but injured her hamstring in the process.

Morrison's jumps at the city meet qualified her to compete in both the long jump and triple jump at the New York State Federation Championships at Cornell University on March 3 but she did not participate due to her sore hamstring.

"She didn't look right warming up at the state meet so I scratched her," Mr. Power said. "It was not worth risking what may be an exceptional career."

Molloy's boys, meanwhile, finished 13th in their city indoor championship meet, as second place long jumper Darren James and fourth place triple jumper Christian Hadjigeorgiou, both juniors, were the only Stanner athletes to score points.

Here are Molloy's results in both city meets:

Girls Intersectional Championships
55-meter hurdles: 3. Niamani Morrison, 8.82.

3,000-meters: 4. Kathleen Woods, 10:56.96.

4x800-meter relay: 5. Molloy, 10:24.79.



Niamani Morrison starts down the long jump runway to practice for the outdoor season (Photo by Monish Pahilajani '13)

Long jump: 1. Niamani Morrison 18-4.75; 4. Ololade Afolayan, 16-1.50.

Triple jump: 2. Niamani Morrison, 36-9.

High jump: 1. Ashley Mayer, 5-2.

Pole Vault: 2. Asnley Mayer, 9-0; 5. Alexa Grabowski, 7-6.

Shot put: 5. Victoria Taibe, 33-1.

Weight throw: 3. Victoria Taibe, 34-6.

Team scores: 1. Kellenberg, 60.5 points; 2. St. Anthony, 55.5; 3. Molloy 32; 4. Notre Dame, 22; 5. St. John Villa, 19; 6. St. John the Baptist, 14.5; 7. Spellman, 12; 8. Sacred Heart, 11; 9. St. Edmund, 7; 10. Loughran, 6; 11. St.

Francis Prep, 5.5; 12. Holy Trinity, 3.5; 13. St. Joseph by the Sea, 2.5; 14. Our Lady of Mercy & Mary Louis, 1.

Boys International Championships
Long jump: 2. Darren James, 22-1.

Triple jump: 4. Christian Hadjigeorgiou, 44-0.

Team scores: 1. St. Anthony, 45; 2. Chaminade, 33; 3. Kellenberg, 23; 4. St. John the Baptist, 18; 5. Xavier, 18; 6. Iona Prep, 15; 7. St. Joseph by the Sea & Farrell, 14; 9. Hayes, Fordham Prep, & Xaverian, 12; 12. Mount St. Michael, 10; 13. Molloy, 6; 14. Ford, 5; 15. Spellman, 3; 16. Regis & St. Edmund, 1.

Sophomore Rubiano wins 2 city swim titles

Sophomore Alexandra Rubiano won the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard butterfly to lead Molloy to a second place finish at the Girls CHSAA Class A Intersectional Swimming Championships at the Nassau Aquatics Center on Feb. 5.

Notre Dame Academy won its fifth straight title with 710 points, followed by Molloy with 611 and St. Joseph Hill with 485.

"We were actually beating Notre Dame halfway through the meet," said Coach Mr. Dennis Wresch. "This was a shock to Notre Dame, considering we have a smaller team."



Rubiano, who was Molloy's only gold medal winner, also swam on the second place 200-yard freestyle relay team and the third-place 200-yard medley relay.

Sophomore Aerin Toskas finished second in the 200-yard individual medley and third in the 100-yard backstroke while sophomore Bokey Wong finished third in the 100-yard breaststroke.

"All the girls swam great and really shined at this meet," said Mr. Wresch.

The future looks bright for Molloy, which last won the city title in 2007. Frosh and sophomores scored 328 of the team's 463 points earned in individual events and the team loses only two seniors who scored points at the city meet, Laura Banker and Paige Whelan.

Here are Molloy's results:

50-free: 6. Paige Whelan, 28.75; 8. Valerie Rico, 29.64.

100-free: 7. Paige Whelan, 1:03.20; 8. Laura Banker, 1:04.11; 20. Kathryn McCabe, 1:10.80.

100-fly: 1. Alexandra Rubiano, 1:01.52; 6. Kelly Whelan, 1:12.68; 12. Valerie Rico, 1:18.26.

100-back: 3. Aerin Toskas, 1:06.96; 8. Laura Banker, 1:12.32; 21. Danielle Segal, 1:22.13.

100-breast: 3. Bokey Wong, 1:16.51; 5. Teresa Mansfield, 1:19.46; 10. Kathryn

McCabe, 1:24.97; 24. Quinn Banks, 1:31.37.

200 free: 5. Kelly Whelan, 2:16.57; 6. Rachel Lana, 2:16.86; 7. Rebecca Wagner, 2:18.10; 22. Maria Figetakis, 2:44.29.

200 IM: 1. Alexandra Rubiano, 2:17.28; 2. Aerin Toskas, 2:26.21; 5. Teresa Mansfield, 2:35.51; 8. Bokey Wong, 2:36.31.

500-free: 4. Rachel Lana, 5:59.75; 7. Rebecca Wagner, 6:24.85; 20. Maria Figetakis, 7:23.98.

200-free relay: 2. Molloy (Bokey Wong, Kelly Whelan, Rebecca Wagner, Rachel Lana), 1:54.34.

200-medley relay: 3. Molloy (Aerin Toskas, Bokey Wong, Alexandra Rubiano, Laura Banker), 2:02.58.

400-free relay: 2. Molloy (Aerin Toskas, Rebecca Wagner, Kelly Whelan, Alexandra Rubiano), 3:56.30.

Team scores (top 5): 1. Notre Dame, 701; 2. Molloy 611; 3. St. Joseph on the Hill, 485; 4. Fontbonne Hall, 482; 5. St. Joseph by the Sea, 477.

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Sophomore Jonathan Asanjarani had the best individual performance for Molloy at the CHSAA Intersectional Swimming and Diving Championships at the Nassau Aquatics Center in Eisenhower Park on Feb 12.

Asanjarani finished 18th in the 500-yard freestyle and 19th in the 200-yard freestyle as Molloy failed to qualify a swimmer for an A or B

final in any event.

Molloy, which finished tenth among the 18 teams at the meet, was the second best New York City team, finishing 54 points behind ninth place St. Francis Prep.

Molloy's three relay teams, led by senior captains Thomas Dougherty and Kyle Pareja, turned in the best performances overall, finishing 11th in each race.

Here are Molloy's results:

50-free: 24. Mateo Giraldo, 24.01.

100-free: 23. Mateo Giraldo, 53.28.

100 fly: 21. Thomas Dougherty, 57.42.

200-free: 19. Jonathan Asanjarani, 2:00.99.

200-IM: 21. Thomas Dougherty, 2:13.46.

500-free: 18. Jonathan Asanjarani, 5:26.15; 21. Sean Morgan, 5:44.19.

1-meter diving: 19. Brian Sheehan, 246.50 points.

200-free relay: 11. Molloy (Raphael Jafri, Kevin Lenczewski; Jonathan Asanjarani, Kyle Pareja), 1:42.71.

200-medley relay: 11. Molloy (Ryan Budran, Thomas Dougherty, Kyle Pareja, Mateo Giraldo), 1:50.03.

400-free relay: 11. Molloy (Ryan Budran, Jonathan Asanjarani, Mateo Giraldo, Thomas Dougherty), 3:39.34.

Team scores (top 10): 1. Fordham Prep, 839.5; 2. Chaminade, 670.5; 3. St. Anthony 654; 4. Xavier, 412; 5. Iona Prep, 375; 6. St. Peter, 244; 7. Kellenberg, 210.5; 8. St. John the Baptist, 207; 9. St. Francis Prep, 175; 10. Molloy, 121.