

# The Stanner

Vol. 54, No. 8

Archbishop Molloy High School

April 2011

## New Spirit Week lineup

By **Stephanie Bonanno '13** and **Jaclyn Eng '13**

Students showed their Stanner Spirit during Molloy's Spirit Week April 11-15, which featured many new activities created by Student Council, National Honor Society, Student Activities Committee, Ms. Elizabeth Reichert and Mr. Ed Cameron.

"Spirit Week 2011 is different from Spirit Week 2010 because there are more events added this year," said

Student Council President Derek Sokolowski, a senior.

Student Council Moderator Ms. Kathy Loughran said she thought that students would enjoy the New York City Dance/Cruise around Manhattan from 7-10 p.m. on April 15 run by Mr. Cameron.

The cruise, a new addition to Spirit Week, sold only 200 tickets at \$35 each to cover the cost of the boat ride, bus transportation to and from the 23rd

St. Pier, a DJ, hot appetizers and drinks.

Sophomore Daniela Gordillo said her favorite part of Spirit Week is the casual days, which were scheduled for April 14-15 and were called Class Color Day and Molloy Day.

For Class Color Day, seniors wore college shirts, juniors blue, sophomores white, and frosh their grammar school shirt or yellow.

For Molloy Day, students could wear any Molloy shirt or sweatshirt.

There were also three "Special Dress" days when students could accessorize their school uniforms with hats on April 11, crazy socks on April 12 and flip-flops or slippers on April 13.

Sporting events have always been a big part of Spirit Week and this year a Faculty-Senior Ultimate Frisbee game was added to the popular Dodgeball Tournament which began last year.

For the first time in Spirit Week history, Flag was not included.

Sophomore Student Council member Mario Stefanidis thought the students would enjoy the sports events the most.

"This will give them an opportunity to show what they're best at," he said.

New performance contests in this year's Spirit Week were Stanner Feud, based on the TV show "Family Feud," the "Molloy Idol" Karaoke Contest, and Minute to Win It, based on the TV show of the same name.

Two of the three non-performance contests this year were new.

The Door Decorating Contest, which began last year, was joined by the Faculty Baby Picture Matching Contest, where students try to identify faculty members from their baby pictures, and the Guess How Many? Contest, where students guess at the number of small candy bars in a jar.

The Campus Ministry sponsored a

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Senior Eryka Morales wears a bonnet for Hat Day during Spirit Week. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)

## Sci-Research Stanners meet Obama

By **Ann Marie Gaglio '13** and **Rashanna Seymore '13**

Unless you're a high-ranking member of the government, it's not every day that you get to shake the hand of President Barack Obama.

But that's just what the four Molloy seniors at the New York City Science and Engineering Fair competition at the American Museum of Natural History did on March 29.

Those lucky students, who were part of Ms. Mary Mallia's Science Research class, had worked as a team or alone to create original science research projects which were on display at the fair when President Obama dropped in, much to the surprise of the students.

In his speech, President Obama mentioned his love of science and then shook hands with most of the students.

"No matter how you feel about politics, it's an amazing experience to shake the President's hand," said George DeMarco.

Jovi Rodriguez and DeMarco described meeting the President as a

once in a lifetime experience.

Ms. Mallia said that the presidential visit was an "incredible experience" for the four members of her Science Research class.

DeMarco and Judy Li, who worked as a team, and Derek Netto and Rodriguez, who each worked alone, all won third place awards at the fair.

Ms. Mallia said that she was very pleased with her students' performance because their achievements far exceeded her expectations.

DeMarco and Li created a new type of home insulation which is more environmentally friendly.

Netto constructed a delivery system that injects glucose, adrenaline, or saline into an astronaut's body in case of an emergency.

Rodriguez made a new, more powerful type of lithium battery.

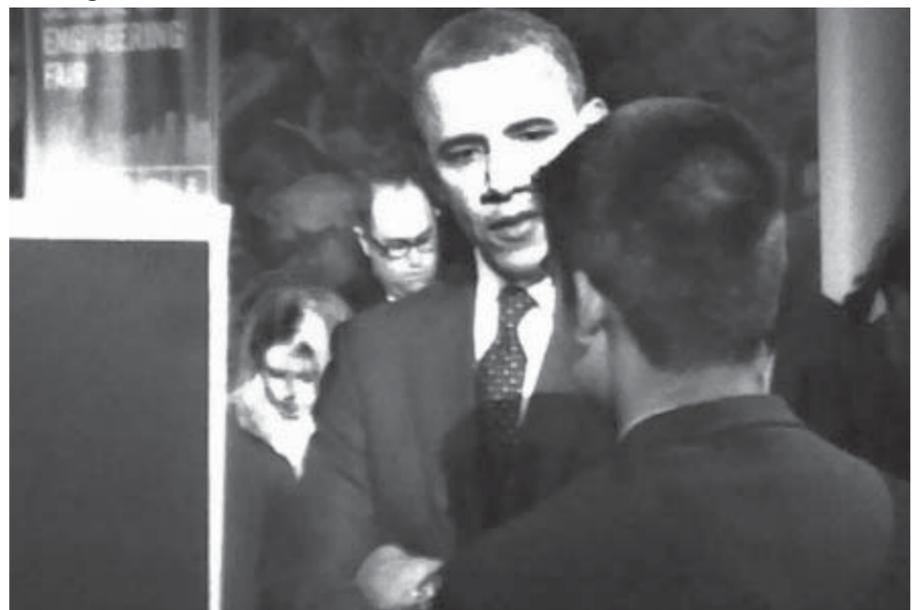
In addition, Netto won the Frank W. Stal Memorial Award for Technical Excellence, the National Society for Professional Engineers Award and the U.S. Army Award, while Rodriguez won U.S. Air Force Engineering Award.

Ms. Mallia praised all four for their outstanding original projects that they had been working on since their sophomore year. DeMarco, however, was not impressed with himself.

"It wasn't that difficult," he said.

Rodriguez, meanwhile, was a little surprised that they all did so well.

"There were a lot of people and a lot of competition," he said.



Jovi Rodriguez took this photo of Barack Obama with his cell phone.

# Eco warrior says: turn off the water!

I'm appalled whenever I walk out of a bathroom stall and see a fellow Stanner lathering her hands for 20 or more seconds...

With the water running...

With the hot water running!

Does that irk anyone else or is it just me?

I don't mean to come off as "all-up-in-yo-grill" green, but I'd just like to point out all the unconscious crimes against the earth that could easily be prevented.

For example:

Every time you leave the water running full blast while lathering your hands or brushing your teeth, you could be wasting as much as half a gallon of water. If you brush your teeth twice a day and wash your hands four times a day, you're wasting three gallons of water daily just by leaving the water running.

Is it really that hard to turn off the water when you're not wetting or rinsing your hands or toothbrush? Getting soap foam on the hot and cold taps while washing your hands is innocuous and it disinfects them.

So I'm asking you to simply turn the water off while lathering up and then turn it back on when it's time to rinse

If you think that's weird, well, you've caught me, clean-green handed.

I am that person who can be seen prancing around school in her gray, 44 percent organic cotton I A.M. Green hoodie inconspicuously turning off unnecessarily running faucets everywhere.

But that's not all that bothers me.

What's up with this non-recycling business at lunch?

Not sitting right next to those three lonesome blue bins in the Cafeteria can discourage Stanners from recycling a bottle or can. But is holding on to that bottle or can and walking 79 steps to deposit it in the recycling bin outside such a big deal?

If you insist on not recycling, you could help the environment by bringing your water to lunch in a fashionable reusable thermos, which will save you money and reduce the number of plastic water bottles produced by manufacturers.

But let's not stop there.

\* Turn off your battery-powered calculators to preserve their batteries' lives, save money on buying new batteries and reduce the number of batteries thrown into landfills (even though they should be disposed of as e-waste). Better yet, use

## Spirit Week filled with new events

### Continued from Page 1

fundraiser during the week called the Great Teacher Tape Up, in which faculty volunteers selected by a student vote were duct taped to a wall during halftime of the dodgeball tournament.

Ms. Loughran said she appreciated how NHS and SAC joined with Student Council to plan Spirit Week.

"We have so many new activities because a lot more people got involved this year," she said.

Participation in many of the Spirit Week events determined the winner of the competition between grades to win the prize of a third Casual Day for that class alone.

Participation by members of each grade in both dress down days, the Stanner Feud, Molloy Idol, Minute to Win It, Door Decorating contests, the dodgeball tournament and the fundraiser were tabulated and earned points for their respective classes to determine the overall winner.

Sokolowski said the goal for Spirit

Week is for "everyone to have fun and show their spirit."

### The Spirit Week Schedule:

April 11: Hat Day; Open Mic in the Theater at 2:30 p.m.; Door Decorating Contest, Faculty Duct Tape Collection; String Ensemble Performance in the Cafeteria at 2:15 p.m.

April 12: Crazy Sock Day; Stanner Feud in the Theater at 2:30 p.m.; Faculty Baby Picture Matching Contest; Faculty Duct Tape Collection and Vote; Senior-Faculty Ultimate Frisbee in Jack Curran Gym at 2:30 p.m.; Guitar Ensemble Performance in Cafeteria at 2:15 p.m.

April 13: Flip-flop/Slippers Day; Molloy Idol Karaoke in the Theater at 2:30 p.m.; Faculty Baby Picture Matching Contest; Faculty Duct Taping Fundraiser; Dodgeball Tournament; Battle of the Bands in the Cafeteria at 3 p.m.

April 14: Class Color Dress Down Day; Minute to Win It in the Theater at 2:30 p.m.; Guess How Many? Candy-Count Contest; Spring Concert in the Jack Curran Gym at 7 p.m.

April 15: Molloy Dress Down Day; "Playing With Power" in the Theater 2:30 p.m.; NYC Dance Cruise 7 p.m.

## Correction

The Stanner aims for the highest level of accuracy in its stories. If you noticed an error or have a concern about a story, please send an email to Moderator Mr. Charley McKenna at: [thestanner@molloyhs.org](mailto:thestanner@molloyhs.org).

The following error was made in the March issue of The Stanner: Kasper Kuzmicki and Jennifer Hwu are members of the Investment Club. Their names were incorrect in the story.

The Stanner regrets the error.



Choose to throw bottles and cans in the recycling bin, not the garbage to keep our planet clean. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)

rechargeable batteries, which are even more kind to the earth.

\* Use both sides of loose leaf and print on both sides of computer paper. After your parchment filled with notes on Newton's Laws of Motion or the romantic relationships in "A Streetcar Named Desire" is no longer needed, its next stop should be Mr. Chris Dougherty's recycle bin.

\* Use the two-sided button on the school copying machines. Teachers must stop distributing multiple-page handouts that use only one side of the page. A four-page, one-sided handout given to one class wastes 70 sheets of paper, 140 for two classes, 210 for three, 280 for four, and 350 for five.

Now multiply that kind of waste by the number of teachers there are in the school and the school Administration should see that eliminating one-sided tests and handouts would reduce the amount of paper and ink used and save the school a lot of money.

As beneficiaries of our earth's fruits, we are all responsible for protecting it from destruction and preserving it for our progeny. There are gazillions of easy ways to trim our use of resources and products, and many of the things we must use can be recycled.

You don't have to don a comfy, I A.M. Green hoodie to love and care for Momma Earth. But you should try to reduce, reuse and recycle.

— Adrienne Zhou '12

## Chess Club makes all the right moves

Led by frosh Kristian Mosquito's undefeated performance, Molloy's Chess Club finished second among the nine teams competing in The Right Move Chess Tournament at Brandeis High School in Manhattan on April 3.

Mosquito was 4-0 while senior

Garbriel Rodriguez and sophomore Sho Miyazaki were each 2-2.

In the Chess Club's round-robin Open Speed Tournament in March, junior Maverick Alzate finished first, Mosquito finished second, and senior Daniel Tavares finished third.

## The Stanner

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# Molloy's cultural variety on display

By Sarah Stiglianese '14

About 1,100 students, faculty, parents, and friends celebrated the 31st Annual International Day on Sunday March 27 by experiencing the variety of cultures that can be found at Archbishop Molloy High School.

This day showcased Molloy's national pride and featured the diversity within the school and how well students work and learn together.

The festivities began in the Marsloe Gym with a vast array of homemade multi-cultural dishes served by Molloy students and parent volunteers.

International Day Coordinators Ms. Kathy Loughran and Mr. Lou Santos, Language Dept. teachers and Ethnic Club moderators had asked students to bring in either an appetizer, main course, or dessert to represent their heritage at the food tables.

As they walked around the gym, guests enjoyed a wide variety of foods from a various regions and countries such as China, Cuba, the Philippines, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latin America, Malta and Poland.

The Irish table served corn beef and cabbage, soda bread, and shepherd's pie while the Latin American tables featured rice, beans and arroz con pollo.

Another big hit was the roasted whole pig at the Filipino table. The Italian table served antipasto, baked ziti, sausage and peppers, eggplant parmigiana, chicken rollatini, and ravioli.

Mr. Santos said, "As usual, the Italian table was the most popular" with the crowd and with Mr. Santos himself but he said he also enjoyed the foods from the Philippines.

He was glad the Irish Club brought other dishes aside from just soda bread.

Mrs. Martha Mancini, the mother of frosh John who worked at the Spanish Club's table, was impressed at how well organized the event was.

Mrs. Mancini, who made a Cuban dish consisting of pork ribs, black beans, and white rice, said she enjoyed working her first event at Molloy and looks forward to working next year's International Day.

After they finished sampling the main courses, the guests moved to the Cafeteria where there was a wide



Stanners, above, filled their plates with the various international dishes offered in the Marsloe Gym at Molloy's 31st Annual International Day. After eating, the crowd watched the Spanish Club dancers, below, in the Jack Curran Gym. (Photos by Derek Sokolowski '11)



selection of desserts including apple pie, cannoli, red velvet cake, and rainbow cookies.

Frosh Samantha Grech said her favorite food of the day was the dessert, especially the apple pie.

Grech, however, said she wished that "International Day wasn't during Lent because there were so many chocolate desserts I couldn't try because I gave chocolate up for Lent."

The next treat on the agenda for the

guests was the entertainment program in the Jack Curran Gym hosted by the senior comical duo Arleen Aguasvivas and Mavrick James.

The crowd went crazy for the opening performance by the Pipes and Drums Band with a medley of Scottish, Irish, and American tunes, which was followed by the the Irish Club dance and a beautiful violin performance by frosh Aerin Toskas.

Toskas, who has been playing violin

for seven years, said she "was very pleased with the reaction I got to my violin piece and was glad everyone enjoyed it."

The Indian Club wowed the audience with its Bollywood dance performance as did the Spanish Club with its Lambada, Merengue, and Salsa dancing.

Asian Club performer Kristian Mosquito was part of the Filipino stick dancing team and the modern dance performance to the song "I'll Make a Man Out of You" from Mulan.

Mosquito, a freshman, enjoyed performing but "I was upset I didn't have time for dessert because of our performance."

Mosquito did have time before his dance to sample shepherd's pie from Ireland, sushi from Japan, lo mein from China, empanadas from Latin America, pasta from Italy and to enjoy the Boys Step Team after his performance was finished.

Another Asian Club dancer, Albert Hasan, said that, "it was interesting watching all the other cultures and how different they were."

The biggest applause of the day went to the award-winning Boys and Girls Step Teams, who closed the show.

Toskas said her favorite performers were the Boys Step Team.

"After all I had heard about them, I wasn't disappointed," she said.

In the end, International Day was a great success as a cultural experience for teachers, parents, and students alike.

The only complaint came from Mosquito, who objected to the \$1 charge for the water.

"Good thing the school has water fountains," he said.

Though there were only a few leftovers after the event, even that food didn't go to waste.

Junior Maggie Goreczny donated the leftover food to a local soup kitchen.

Mr. Santos said he thought the day went exceptionally well due to the many parents, students, clubs, and the school Administrators who helped set up and work the event.

Mr. Santos especially thanked Ms. Loughran, his co-coordinator, for her great cooperation.

## Shakespeare proves popular at 3rd Festival

By Karen Zhou '11

Junior Joanne Raptis as Lady Macbeth won the Monologue Contest at the Third Annual Shakespeare Festival on March 15 in the Theater, while senior Arleen Aguasvivas as Hamlet and junior Tiffany McCue as Helena from "A Midsummer Night's Dream" finished second and third.

"They were all very well rehearsed," said Ms. Mary Anne Safrey, the festival's organizer. "Joanne's performance was very risky, gutsy and physically experimental. They mastered the trickiness of performing Shakespeare's language while moving

and acting."

Aguasvivas practiced a lot during the month leading up to the festival, including "once from 10 p.m. to midnight trying to get the right emotion for just four lines [of the monologue]," she said

The contest judges were Mr. Ted McGuinness, Mr. Dennis Vellucci, and alumnus Mr. Steve Apostalo assisted by Mr. Brian Kelly, Ms. Shannon Winters and Mr. Jim Sheehan. Bro. Tom Schady did the program and sets.

Ms. Safrey, moderator of the Theater Arts & Improv Club, said the festival drew a record audience and credited its success to the club's hard work since

November researching Renaissance costumes and practicing how to deliver Shakespearean monologues effectively.

Safrey was proud of the actors who worked really hard acting, directing, managing, and producing the festival.

She said the goal was to create "the sense that Shakespeare was a popular form of entertainment during his time."

Ms. Safrey hopes the Shakespeare Festival continues to be popular next year and the club expands to do more student-run performances, such as a children's theater performance written by Stanners for children at the Briarwood Shelter.



Joanne Raptis as Lady Macbeth. (Photo by Manpreet Kaur '12)

# Mathews, Woods win Sci Oly medal

By Kirsten E. Paulson '13

Molloy's Science Olympiad team once again was able to bring home an individual medal from the State Meet at West Point on March 18-19.

The team of sophomore Shibin Mathews and junior Alexandra Woods won a fourth place medal in the Anatomy and Physiology event.

"I felt really surprised and shocked because getting a medal in states is something incredible and we weren't really expecting it at all," said Mathews.

After Molloy placed second in the City Meet, beating out powerhouses Stuyvesant and Townsend Harris, it finished 41st at the State Meet.

Fayetteville Manlius and Ward Melville High Schools earned the top two positions.

Last year Molloy placed third in the City Meet and 32nd at State where then-frosh Joseph Ingrassia won an individual medal.

Molloy's 2011 team consisted of sophomores Ingrassia, Mathews, Derrick Adam, Marion Galvez and Chris DeMarco, juniors Woods, Tom Hackimer and Jennifer Hwu, and seniors Judy Li, Andrea Lai, George DeMarco, Serge Ostrowski, Will Vista, Mary Rooney, and Jovi Rodriguez.

"We may not have swept the medals at States like we did at Cities," said Ingrassia, "but we still had a really good time. I don't think I'll ever forget this group and I'll miss all of our senior members when they leave for college."

Galvez said, "Being on this team has



Junior Alexandra Woods

been one of my greatest experiences at Molloy and in my life. I feel like I've made very good friends on this team that I wouldn't have met otherwise.

"My most poignant memory of the trip was singing along with my teammates to 'Don't Stop Believing' by Journey as we drove up to the entrance of West Point and the early morning sun was filtering through the bus windows," said Galvez.

In its 25-year existence, Molloy's Science Olympiad team has qualified 20 times for the state meet.

Moderator Mr. Mike DeMarco said, "Our first goal was to make states and we achieved that. Our second was to bring home a state medal. We achieved that as well, and had fun doing it."

## Who'll win the door prize?

Some entries in Spirit Week Door Decorating Contest



2G creates a Molloy playlist. Señor Santos rules 4E. 4A honored the late Mr. John Mecca. (Photos by Derek Sokolowski '11)



# Blood Drive equals last year's total

By Cara Salvatore '13 and Derrick Adam '13

Molloy's 10th annual Blood Drive collected 183 pints of blood on April 5

in the Jack Curran Gym as 150 Stanners came out to donate the "Gift of Life" to those in need.

The 150 volunteers were equal to the

number of Stanners who donated blood last year. Thirty-one of the volunteers were able to donate blood using the Automated Red Cell Machine, and each of those donations is counted as two pints, raising the grand total to 183.

School nurse Mrs. Kathy Forgione said, "The number of sign-ups was slow this year. In years past, we have had over 200 donors and for some reason students this year waited until the last minute, but pulled through in the end."

A total of 180 students and faculty had signed up to donate blood but only 140 students and 10 faculty and staff members were actually able to donate blood on the day of the drive.

In the end, everything went smoothly and Mrs. Forgione was pleased with the overall amount of blood donated to the New York Blood Center's Long Island Division, which provided the equipment and personnel to conduct the blood drive.

Sophomore Sitara Patel decided to donate blood because she wanted to help others. "It didn't really hurt," said Patel. "The prick hurt most."

Sophomore Amanda Ramphal volunteered because her dad had done it and she wanted to experience what it's like to donate blood. She found out it did hurt a little.

Afterwards, Patel felt lightheaded and Ramphal said, "I felt like passing out, but never did."

Despite those side effects, both girls were happy to have donated blood and would be willing to do it again because it supports a good cause and it made them feel good about themselves.

Both Patel and Ramphal would encourage other students to donate blood next year because of the intangible rewards of the happy feeling and the sense of accomplishment donors get afterwards about supporting a good cause.

By participating in the annual Blood Drive, Stanners have expressed their compassion and willingness to help, especially during the Lenten season.

To the students who donated blood, Mrs. Forgione said, "I would like to thank them for their enthusiasm and cooperation and hope they will continue to give the Gift of Life in the future."



Junior Maverick Alzate seems ecstatic over being able to give blood. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)

# Senior spurs dress donations

By Kimberly Darbouze '11

While some Stanners were running around planning their own perfect prom, senior Jennifer Moncino was busy trying to give disadvantaged high school girls a chance to attend their own proms.

So she worked to bring the "Donate Your Dress" drive to Molloy, and by the time the five-day effort ended on March 28, she had collected over 100 formal dresses.

Moncino got the idea for the drive while reading a magazine article about "Donate Your Dress," an organization that collects used formal dresses to give to high school students who cannot afford a dress to go to their own prom. After reading the article, Moncino thought "Why not at Molloy?"

So she spoke about it to Ms. Elizabeth Reichert, who loved the idea and agreed to help.

So with the help of her friends Christa Ciuffo, Gina Galizia, and Opal Vadhan, Moncino started the drive.

The girls advertised it by putting up posters around Molloy and set up a display outside of Room 123.

The drive officially began March 24 but Stanners began donating dresses days earlier.

Senior Melissa S. Evelyn donated a dress because, "I thought it was a good cause. When I heard about the



Senior Jennifer Moncino, center, seen here at the 2010 Junior Prom, is the driving force behind Molloy's "Donate Your Dress" campaign. (Photo by Derek Sokolowksi '11)

fundraiser, I realized I had dresses I don't use and probably will never use again."

Vadhan said donating a dress "made me feel great knowing that I could be part of someone else's dream."

Students weren't the only ones donating.

English teacher Ms. Liz Murdocca also donated a dress to the cause and Teachers Assistant Mr. Keith Hahn donated his sister's old prom dress.

Senior Tonika Forrester hoped that the effort would continue next year.

"There are a lot of less fortunate girls out there who would greatly appreciate

the dresses that we have sitting in our closets," she said. "The dresses could mean so much more to other girls."

Moncino was very pleased that so many Stanners contributed dresses to make her effort a success.

"These girls deserve to feel like princesses on prom night," she said.

# Campus Ministry picks new leaders

By Vasiliki Gliagias '12 and Michelle Rondon '12

Nine juniors were delighted to learn last month that they had survived two rounds of eliminations to be chosen Campus Ministry Leaders for the 2011-12 school year.

Olivia Balog, Alyssa Dolan, Mary Gallagher, Liss Mendez, Samantha Nostramo, Maegan Reed, Jarrett Sledge, Nora Soliman, and Samson Zachariah were chosen by Campus Ministry Director Mr. Mike Germano from the 86 juniors who applied for the leadership positions.

"I was shivering and ecstatic when he told me," said Zachariah. "I wanted to be a leader because I felt like I owed something to the school for taking care of me. Helping others is my way of saying thank you."

Mr. Germano said he chose juniors who exhibited faith in God, spirituality, passion, leadership, but most of all, he picked students who could be seen as good role models for others.

After 86 candidates responded to a general call for leaders, the number was cut to 24 based on their written explanations of why they wanted to be leaders.

The nine leaders then were selected after their official application forms were reviewed by Mr. Germano.

The new leaders will have big shoes to fill, Mr. Germano said, as this year's

leaders have been outstanding.

The seniors who will complete in May their final month of service as Campus Ministry Leaders are: Arleen Aguasvivas, Evan Kearney, Victoria LoBosco, Christina Lucci, Diego Martinez, Marissa Morales, Valerie Proano, Richard Ramsundar, and Stephen Scelfo.

"They are a wonderful crowd," said Mr. Germano with a smile. "They get

along very well and really gelled as a group. They set the standard for future groups."

Zachariah said he hoped that next year's leaders "can be half as good as [this year's leaders] were. I'm inspired by seeing them work as one unit and how they sync up so well together."

The new leaders will spend the rest of the school year training to be retreat leaders and taking part in the Marist

Youth Encounter.

Mr. Germano said that sophomores interested in being chosen as leaders next year should stay involved with Campus Ministry and its affiliated activities and attend retreats.

But most of all, Mr. Germano said they should continue to be who they are as people because future leaders are discovered through their actions and by being true to themselves.



Both Campus Ministry Director Mr. Mike Germano and the new Campus Ministry Leaders for 2011-12 say that these senior leaders will be hard to replace next year. (Photo by Derek Sokolowksi '11)

# 2011 is a prime year for math

By Sameera Kassim '13 and Monish Pahilajani '13

During Math Awareness Week, which ran from April 4-8, Stanners had the chance to get involved in different types of daily math challenges.

The Sudoku Challenge, won by junior Michelle Miller with junior Jennifer Hwu as runner-up, kicked off the week.

Seniors Kim Darbouze, Melissa Evelyn and Kathleen Felisca won the Original Math Song contest and frosh Louiza Molohides was second.

Sophomore Sore Agbaje wrote the best Original Math Poem and sophomore Danny Marino was second.

Junior Karlovy Cruz won the Math Art Contest and senior Kanad Ghosh was second.

Frosh Zoe de Shong won the Internet Scavenger Hunt and sophomore Joseph Ingrassia was second.

The frosh team of Samantha Sattler, Rebecca Wagner, Kristian Mosquito, and Nicole Korzeniecki won the Frosh/Sophomore Math Bowl.

Juniors Jennifer Hwu, Alexandra Woods, and Vasiliki Gliagias won the Junior/Senior Math Bowl.

Senior Dan Morales, Justin Vega, Derek Netto, and John Peniera won the Calculus Bowl.

When asked how difficult the problems were, Mr. Brian Klimas, a Math Awareness Week coordinator, said, "Difficult is a bad word. Some events are challenging but all are fun. Almost every student in the building could find an event to be successful at."

For the Math Song and Poem contests, students had to perform their original songs or poems before a panel of math teacher judges.

For the Art Contest, students had to depict in their work the theme, "2011: A Prime Year for Math."

Molloy's Math teachers have discussed making Math Awareness Week an annual event but it currently takes place every other year.

Depending on the daily event, attendance varied from a handful of



Junior Karlovy Cruz won the Math Awareness Week Art Contest with this drawing. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)



## Stanners Poised to Start Feudin'

Ms. Sabina Kobinski oversees the start of Stanner Feud, a new event for Spirit Week this year. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)

# AM gamers to answer Call of Duty

By George Gulino '14

Molloy's popular Video Game Tournament [VGT] makes the move this month toward becoming a bi-annual tradition by holding its second event of the school year.

The second VGT, which is expected to attract between 60 and 100 students and faculty, will be held on April 20 starting at 12:30 p.m. with games being played in several third floor classrooms on consoles connected to Smartboards.

Tournament organizer Mr. Glenn DaGrossa will play but the list of other faculty and staff players has not yet been determined. In the past, Mr. Eric Stolze, Mr. Chris Dougherty, Mr. Brian Klimas, Mr. Rob Larosa, and Mr. Dan Charvet have participated.

Prizes for winners will be Gamestop giftcards paid for out of the entry fee of

\$10 per competitor.

While the first VGT of the school year featured five different games, this one will consist of three: Call of Duty: Black Ops, Super Smash Brothers Brawl, and Marvel vs. Capcom.

Call of Duty: Black Ops was selected because it is the best selling video game since 1995.

Super Smash Brothers Brawl "is a consistent favorite among the participants, and a relatively popular game in general," said Mr. DaGrossa.

Marvel vs. Capcom was chosen because it is a new game rising in popularity.

Due to having fewer games, the tournament will set up a "free-play" room where participants can play any game in a non-competitive environment.

This will be the fourth VGT at Molloy and Mr. DaGrossa is confident it will

run more smoothly than in the past as organizers have learned from their mistakes.

A variety of logistical problems prevented the fall tournament from finishing on time so the Call of Duty: Black Ops matches will continue during this tournament from where they left off on the second round.

Frosh Connor Martinez played Call of Duty: Black Ops in the fall tournament and will do so again.

"Call of Duty: Black Ops is my best game," said Martinez, who, like many hardcore gamers, plays for about 15-18 hours a week. "I don't think of myself as a MLG [Major League Gamers] player but I feel that since I've grown up with video games that I will be very good and show my skills."

Martinez, however, knows the competition will be tough.

students to as many as 60. The most popular event was the Sudoku Challenge.

Mr. Klimas hoped that Stanners not only learned about mathematics during the week but had fun, too.

Sophomore Rashanna Seymour participated in the Internet Scavenger Hunt because she thought it would be "interesting to experience a new range of academic enterprises."

Seymour hoped the exercise would be beneficial and convivial.

Sophomore Ashwini Chawla didn't want to go into the Sudoku competition with too high a set of expectations.

"When you expect something, you tend to get disappointed if things don't work out," said Chawla, who participated in Sudoku because she had the game on her 4G iPod Touch.

Chawla said she looked to her icon, Charlie Sheen, for inspiration.

"Even though I might have not won the game, I believe in my heart that I

was a champion because Charlie Sheen says 'I'm always winning,'" said Chawla.

Seymour likes math because it "has one answer at the end. It doesn't matter how you get there, just as long as you get there."

Mr. Klimas said, "the goal of this week was to give students a chance to experience math in a new light. There are many aspects of the discipline that are never examined within the classroom. This week allows everyone to see math in a non-academic light while giving interested students a chance to compete in something that they love."

Some Stanners would like to see other academic departments emulate the Math Dept. by sponsoring an awareness week.

"I'd love to see Mr. [Chris] DeSarno capitulate and create a World History Awareness Week," said Chawla. "I'd definitely stay at school longer for that."

"The kids here are hard core," he said. "They have all of their devices and stuff. So it will be intense. I hope to be in the finals in this tournament."

Frosh Mike Mosco, who plays casually for only a few hours a week, said he will play Call of Duty: Black Ops because "no other game can compare."

Mr. DaGrossa thanked VGT veterans Jonathan Becker and T.J. Darcy, both seniors, for all their help organizing the tournament and senior Danielle Catinella for her work in the area of "tournament logistics."

Mr. DaGrossa said of the tournament, "It's just a lot of fun. The students have a blast. It gives them the opportunity to put their unique skills to work."

Mosco said Molloy's gamers are ready to "put on their 'try hard' hats and destroy the competition."

# Chorus singing of love and longing

By Dina Mangialino '13

The theme of this year's Spring Concert by the Junior-Senior Chorus on April 14 in the Jack Curran Gym was "Music of Love and Longing."

Some of the songs featured in the show were "Seasons of Love" from the Broadway musical "Rent," love songs from the musical "West Side Story" and love songs by the Beatles.

In addition, the chorus performed numbers about immigrants desperate to come to America to start a better life from the Broadway musical "Ragtime."

Chorus Director Mr. Jim Sheehan said that with the exception of the "West Side Story" songs and "Seasons of Love," all of the songs performed this year were new.

A few days before the show, senior baritone Kirk Mayor said rehearsals were fun and he enjoyed performing the songs when all three sections of the



The Junior Senior Chorus performing its Christmas Concert in the Jack Curran Gym. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)

chorus (alto, soprano, and baritone) sing together, such as on Beatles songs or "Tonight" from "West Side Story."

Senior soprano Julianne Broderick agreed that rehearsals were going well

but while she was excited about performing at the concert, her feelings were bitter-sweet because she knew it is the last concert she will sing at Molloy.

The soloists in the show were:

Broderick, Michelle Constante, Daniella Antolos, Kate Pangilinan, Jennifer DeMaria, Ray Anthony Gejon, Eric Rivera, Will Vista, Gina Galizia, Jane Azarcon, Stefani Morscher, Matt Hunter, Thomas Hackimer, Lance Hippolito, Nicole Maniscalco, Mavrick James, Arleen Aguasvivas, Jovi Rodriguez, Joseph Smallwood, Gabriella Antonino, Jeannett Llave, Valerie Proano, Angelane Gonzales, Kathryn Christophorou, Julia Marsico, Sherise Bunche.

For the first time in years, the chorus performed its Spring Concert without the Stage Band sharing the bill.

Due Director Mr. Greg Leonardo's medical leave, the band's concert was pushed back to May to give the interim director, Ms. Ya-ting Yang, more time to work with the band. Molloy's String and Guitar Ensembles shared the stage with the chorus instead.

## Guitar, String Ensembles harmonize

By Andreea Arama '12 and Camille De Vera '12

Music teacher Mr. Glenn DaGrossa recently devised a classical music collaboration for the Guitar and String Ensembles that started at the Shakespeare Festival and continued through Spirit Week and the Spring Concert on April 14.

"Both groups are getting to the level they need to be at to entertain very well," Mr. DaGrossa said.

The Guitar Ensemble members are seniors Adam McClosky, Chris Vasile and John Rainone, juniors Andrew Chena, Brian Mollin, Julian Olbinski and Matt Swider, sophomores Jacob Borkowski and John Anthony DiMaria and frosh Matt Maneri.

The String Ensemble violinists are senior Kanad Ghosh, frosh Pamela Decolongon, Jordan Foster, Jonathan Roy, Abigail Singson and Aerin Toskas.

The two ensembles first performed together at the Shakespeare Festival March 15. Festival organizer Ms. Mary Ann Safrey said, "They set a good tone and ambience so it felt like the Renaissance period."

She said the ensembles acted very professionally and she hopes to

collaborate with them again next year.

Mr. DaGrossa said, "I am pleased with the way both groups performed, but there is still more work to do and more challenges to overcome."

McClosky, the Guitar Ensemble leader who has played for 11 years, said, "I enjoy showing how hard we've been practicing through our performances. I think the Guitar Ensemble plays very well but playing with the String Ensemble helps give a different perspective on other types of instruments."

Ghosh, who has played the violin for 11 years, leads the String Ensemble which was formed just last fall.

"I think we played well, considering how little time we had to practice," he said. "Everyone is a pleasure to perform with."

The ensembles' harmonic relationship is evident not only in their attitudes toward each other but in their music.

"I believed that these two groups should be complementary to each other, especially since the pieces they play are for any string instrument," said Mr. DaGrossa. "I intend for both groups to continue to play together, as well as do other things on their own."



Mr. Glenn DaGrossa, left, leads the Guitar Ensemble at the Christmas Concert. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)

It didn't take long for the two ensembles to harmonize.

"Though it started out rough, towards the end, it all started to get together and it keeps improving," said DiMaria.

McClosky said, "It went very well. The groups were focused and knew the task at hand."

The members of both groups are eager to play more concerts next year and the senior leaders are disappointed they will be graduating and miss them.

Mr. DaGrossa is eager for his harmonized ensembles to continue performing together but knows he must add more players after his valuable leaders graduate.

"Guitar ensemble is easier to gain members," he said, "but I'd like to push for more recruits in String Ensemble, especially with a greater variety of string instruments."

*Karen Zhou '11 contributed to this story.*

## Lineup set for Talent Show on May 6

By Anna Poulakas '14

Archbishop Molloy's annual Talent Show on Friday, May 6 in the Theater will showcase a variety of acts chosen by a student committee based on their performances at previous Open Mic shows.

The show's organizer, Mr. Frank Gambino, seemed excited about the show, whose main goal "is to have a good time and to showcase some Molloy student and faculty talent."

Tickets to the two and half hour show are \$3 and will be sold in the bookstore.

Two students who performed at

Open Mic shows this year said they were looking forward the Talent Show.

Frosh Reaz Jafri, who sang a "mash" of two songs at an Open Mic show, is looking forward to performing in the big show next month.

Frosh Deanna Mayo, who was selected to perform in the show after performing in Open Mic shows, is looking forward to seeing Mr. Eric Stolze, Mr. Lou Barbera, Ms. Madelyn Dupre and Mr. Gambino perform at the show.

One of Mayo's favorite things she saw at an Open Mic show was senior

singer/guitarist Ray Gejon dedicating a song to a friend and she wants to see more of that at the Talent Show.

The Talent Show's student performers will be: Jafri, Mayo, Gejon, Tiffany Adrien, Sore Agbaje, Arleen Aguasvivas, Jane Azarcon, Vanessa Agulo and L.D. Nagales, Kathryn Christophorou, Gisella Dionio, Angelane Gonzalez, Tom Hackimer, Abigail Singson, Laura Tanzil, Allison Terranova, Vinh Tran, Eric Vispo and Dan Toner, Kirsty Vista, Adrienne Zhou, the Boys and Girls Step Teams and the Dance Team.



L.D. Nagales and Vanessa Agulo are a duo. (Photo by M. Kaur '12)

# Girls win two state titles

By Ruthba Ahmed '13

After a 12-12 regular season record and a first round loss to Bishop Ford in the quarterfinals of the CHSAA Brooklyn-Queens Tournament, the Molloy Girls Varsity Basketball team was relegated to the CHSAA Class A State tournament bracket and was not feeling very confident.

"After the tough loss to Ford, the thought of winning an 'A' title was still there," said sophomore guard Amani Tatum, "but I never thought we would actually do it."

But they did.

The Stanners won six straight playoff games to win both the CHSAA and the

New York State High School Federation Class A State Championships.

"It was very exciting to have a big win for Molloy, and to share that experience with my teammates was a lot of fun," said sophomore guard Alexa Dietrich. "Both titles were exciting to win."

Tatum said, "The opportunity to even be able to get to that place was amazing and then to win was one of the best feelings I've ever had. Honestly, the feeling [after winning each title] was equal. Just the thought that we won both was a little overwhelming and it still feels a bit unrealistic now."

Sophomore 5-11 forward Carolyn Gallagher hit 9 of 11 free throws and scored 15 of her game-high 23 points in the second half of the Federation title game to lead Molloy to a 53-48 victory over Peekskill at the Times Union Center in Albany on March 26.

Gallagher, who also grabbed 10 rebounds, was named the game's MVP.

Senior guard Marissa Puzino and Dietrich also made clutch plays in the third and fourth quarters as Molloy handed Peekskill only its second loss of the season against 24 victories.

Had Molloy done better in the diocesan tournament, it would have been placed in the CHSAA Class AA tournament instead of Class A.

"I always knew that the team this year was talented," Athletic Director Mr. Mike McCleary said. "They had the opportunity to qualify for the Class AA tournament but instead they qualified for the Class A, which was still a great accomplishment."

Molloy won the CHSAA Class A State title on March 13 by beating Nicholas High School of Buffalo 63-48 at Holy Trinity High School.

Tatum led Molloy with 21 points and hit 8 of 11 free throws in the fourth quarter to clinch the victory.

Gallagher had 15 points, Dietrich had 12 and senior forward Elizabeth Lynch had seven.

Mr. McCleary said this team is the best girls team he's seen at Molloy since the Stanners won the Brooklyn-Queens title in 2008.

"This was a young team, yet they matured [in the post season] and they



Sophomore center Carolyn Gallagher shoots for two.



Amani Tatum drives to the basket. (Photos by Blue & White Staff)

realized what their abilities were," Mr. McCleary said. "I have high expectations for next year's team. Three sophomores (Dietrich, Gallagher and Tatum) were named to the All-Tournament team."

Both Tatum and Dietrich believe they can meet those high expectations.

"I'm positive that this team next year will be great," Dietrich said, "After this win, we look forward to winning the 'AA'."

Said Tatum, "Next year, we plan on bringing another championship to Molloy, but this time an 'AA.' It's time to do bigger and better things. We're going to progress, and we're definitely going to do great things."

# Molloy's boys step up into first place

By Roberto Bertolini '13

Led by senior captain David Polanco, along with junior co-captains Julian Tobias and Brandon Concepcion, Archbishop Molloy's Boys Step Team took first place in the "Hot 97 Battle in the Apple" competition on March 20 at Baruch College in Manhattan.

Molloy defeated 11 other teams from around the New York City area who had qualified for the finals through regional competitions.

The Step Team earned a seven-foot high first place trophy, a \$1,000 first prize check for Molloy and a photo shoot with Roco-Ware, gifts from Nike, and a free one-day pass to Six Flags Amusement Park for team members.

The members of Molloy's winning team were: Polanco, Tobias, Concepcion, seniors Brendan Erskine, Adrian Estrada, Ray Anthony Gejon, Juan Gomez, Patrick Pagba, Luke Trovese, Steven Paciga, junior Joel Antolijao, and freshman Allen Sanchez.

Moderator Mrs. Anne Lonergan, praised the "hard work" and "creativity" that her team put into

achieving this recognition and the "precision" and "effort" they displayed at the competition.

Tobias was very happy with the team's performance at the "Hot 97 Battle in the Apple."

"We reached our highest potential to achieve our highest goal," he said.

He said winning the competition took a great deal of time, effort, and practice from team members as they "strived to be the best to impress."

Mrs. Lonergan said that her team "is the best in the nation and the best in Molloy history."

She hopes that her diverse and dedicated team will go on to win the National Finals on May 28 and by doing so win another \$3,000 in prize money for the school. Molloy was second at Nationals last year and she said it has a great chance of winning this year.

The Boys Step won the Fraternity Step Competition at Lehman High School on April 10 and will appear at the June dedication ceremony of the new Highland Park in Manhattan, where it will earn more money for the school from its appearance fee.



After winning the Hot 97 competition to qualify for the Nationals Finals, Molloy's Boys Step Team, dressed in its "nerds" costumes, entertains the crowd at International Day. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)