

The Stanner

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Archbishop Molloy High School

February 2010

Come through in a pinch; give blood

By Erin Ballestry '13 and Amber Emmino '13

Archbishop Molloy High School will hold its 10th annual Blood Drive from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. on March 2 in the Jack Curran Gym in order to provide help for people in the New York area who are in need of blood.

Molloy's school nurse, Mrs. Kathy Forgione, said that one out of three Americans will need blood in their lifetimes so it is good for Stanners to do their part next month.

"Close to 2,000 people a day [in America] need blood to survive," Mrs. Forgione said.

Stanners who are at least 16-years-old are eligible to donate blood with their parents' permission.

Students who want to donate should send in the permission form that was emailed to their home or obtain a form from Mrs. Forgione in her office.

"It's a gift of life because they can be saving someone's life by donating," said Mrs. Forgione.

Last year, the Blood Drive collected 197 pints of blood.

This year, Mrs. Forgione has a new goal of "225 pints or more."

Senior Dominique Kalpakidou donated blood last year after overcoming the initial objections of her

mother to do so.

In addition to the age requirement, students must be in good health on the day they donate and fall within strict height to weight ratio requirements.

"I'm not eligible because I'm underweight," said junior Jeannett Llave. "I wanted to donate, but the restrictions are ridiculous,"

For students who might be concerned about feeling some pain when they donate, Mrs. Forgione has documents on the process of blood donation that will crush that myth.

According a pamphlet called, "A Pinch of Discomfort to Save a Life," the truth of donating blood is that "all you'll feel is a slight pinch for a few seconds" when the needle is inserted into your arm and the pamphlet assures that you'll feel fine after donating.

"I don't mind needles, so I was okay with it [last year]," said Kalpakidou. "I don't really mind [getting] shots. I just sat there and let them stick the needle in me."

Junior Sherise Bunche said she plans to donate blood because, "I like the feeling of helping someone out I don't know."

Bunche said she would absolutely encourage all Stanners who are eligible to donate blood next month.



Junior Andrew Bruder loosened his tie and snacked on candy after giving blood last year in the Jack Curran Gym. (File photo)

Senior shirts not considered a privilege by some



Seniors Karen Demarco and Dan McGahan laugh it up while checking out the new Senior Shirts in Room 123. (Photo by Benedict Josen)

By David Kane '10

On March 8, the members of the Molloy's Class of 2010 who ordered Senior Shirts will be able to put away their Marlou buttoned down Oxford dress shirts and put on an All Sports royal blue polo shirt with the Molloy insignia.

The shirts are considered a senior privilege by the Administration and while many seniors do see them as a reward for three years of hard work, others don't see it that way.

Senior Samantha Traslaviña sardonically quipped, "Ever since I was a small child, I've dreamed of the day

when I could walk down the halls of Archbishop Molloy High School sporting a brightly colored, ill-fitting golf shirt."

Senior Dominique Kalpakidou plans to order shirts, but said, "They should have been available to order in June of our junior year, so we could wear them all of senior year."

Senior Nicholas Merckling agreed, saying, "After all, we have around three to four months in which we can actually wear the shirt. I think it would be better if we could

have been given the shirts for September and actually gotten \$50 worth of wear."

Senior Patryk Perkowski doesn't plan to buy the shirt.

"Molloy hypes it up as being such a privilege, but really, what is the privilege if you can only wear it for two months?" he said. "If we were able to wear them for the whole year, which would actually

make it a senior privilege, then I would reconsider."

Assistant Principal Mr. Ken Auer, who kept the price of the shirts at \$25, the same as last year, required seniors to purchase at least two so as to allow for laundering of one shirt while wearing the other.

The deadline for ordering the shirts was moved from Feb. 12 to Feb. 5. They will be available to be picked up at the Molloy bookstore on March 1.

Mr. Auer, who said All Sports is "a brand we've been using for years," went around the cafeteria a few months ago with the company catalog, asking several senior girls what they thought of the colors and design of the polo shirts the company makes.

Mr. Auer didn't hold a grade-wide vote for color and style because, "too many cooks can spoil the broth."

Over the last few weeks, samples of the shirts have been available in Room 123 so seniors can get an accurate idea of what size to put down.

Senior girls are still being forced to pick from men's sizes because Mr. Auer said the women's sizes weren't cut in a school-appropriate fashion.

Senior Susan Zheng said, "They look

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What to do about those crowded AM hallways?

You've just finished a class in Room 330. Your next class is in Room 231. You have four minutes to get there.

Mission impossible?

It sure does seem like it sometimes while trying to get through Molloy's crowded hallways.

Trying to get to your next class can be such an incredible challenge because of the hundreds of students who clog up the hallways by standing outside a classroom to talk to friends or by opening their lockers in between classes.

"It's a problem," said Religion teacher Mr. Lou Barbera.

English teacher Mr. Jim Sheehan said, "The real problem is that there are too many students in this school [for what the building was designed to hold]. The hallways are always filled to capacity and everyone is moving to classes at one time."

Junior Kate Pangilinan said, "It's the worst on the third floor odd side. Ever since the computer lab was moved there, that hallway has been much more crowded. It was better when the lab was on the other side of the school in a different wing."

One of the biggest problems is the trend of students standing outside their next class, talking to their friends, rather going inside the classroom.

They do this knowing they won't be late for class because it will only take them a few seconds to get into the room

before the teacher closes the door.

But for the rest of us, who are still 100 feet away from our destination, this traffic jam these students have caused may force us to have to get a late pass and serve detention.

Mr. Ed Shannon, the Administrative Assistant for Students, said that hallway traffic is "an ongoing problem, but it's human nature to stop and say 'hi' to your friends."

Assistant Principal Sister Elizabeth Bickar tells students, "if you are in the halls, don't talk or congregate, especially on the stairs."

The teachers who don't have their own classroom and walk the halls between periods to get from class to class witness this problem firsthand.

"From what I see, the real culprit is people who go to their lockers and then get a swarm of friends [around them]," said Math teacher Ms. Lauren Kemmerer. "That annoys me!"

Mr. Sheehan said, "sometimes, if I'm late getting to my room because of the crowded hallways, I'm not there to let my students into my room, so they crowd around outside. That creates



Photo by Ray Anthony Gejon

more of a problem."

Some teachers grant students a little extra time to get to class because they know the hallways are congested.

"I usually give about 30 seconds to a minute of extra time, but not to those that are standing right outside the classroom talking," said Social Studies teacher Mr. Michael Harrison.

Mr. Barbera suggested that teacher assistants might patrol the hallways to tell students who are just hanging out to get to class.

"But then it becomes a matter of how many TA's you would need to enforce this," Mr. Barbera said.

The problem boils down to a lack of consideration for others.

"If students thought of others, it wouldn't happen," Sister Elizabeth said. "It's a case of being considerate."

So next time you're walking through the halls and want to stop to talk to a friend, think of the people behind you and where they might need to go.

Walking a little faster wouldn't hurt either.

— Julianne Broderick '11 and Natalie Kurzyrna '11

Valentine's Day: not just cards, candy

Everywhere you look, from your local supermarket to the Molloy bookstore, you will see red heart decorations, telling you that Valentine's Day is right around the corner.

Hallmark and other gift stores tell us it is the day that epitomizes LOVE.

It is the one day when we are all supposed to go out to buy that very special card for that very special person that says everything we feel for them but could never say ourselves.

Each year we find ourselves being equally fascinated and frustrated by this day.

Quiet guys and shy girls wish they had the "chutzpah" on Valentine's Day to leave a note in the locker of the person they like.

Romance is in the air as tiny Cupids shoot arrows at couples to make them fall in love but for many people Cupid seems to have very bad aim.

When all is said and done, Valentine's Day is nothing more than a commercial holiday whose real purpose is to make money.

Stores advertise things for you to buy for the person you love, stocking up on chocolates and Sweet Heart Sweet Tarts with sayings like "Be Mine" or "I Love You" on them.

Florists mark up the prices of their roses 100 percent because so many people send flowers to their loved ones. Restaurants offer special deals on Feb.



14, hoping to lure people in that night.

Hollywood premieres a movie based on the ups and downs of getting through this holiday.

The message of Valentine's Day has been misconstrued.

It is now all about the gifts and who got a Valentine from whom and, more importantly, who didn't.

We forget that St. Valentine was a priest who was condemned to death by Emperor Claudius for marrying couples in ancient Rome.

The emperor had forbidden marriages since men were not signing up to join his army because they did not want to leave their wives alone.

While in jail, St. Valentine had many visitors who showed their support by throwing flowers and notes at his jail

cell window.

One of his supporters was the daughter of a prison guard.

St. Valentine fell in love with her and the night before his execution, he left her a note expressing his love and he

signed it, "From your Valentine"

So Valentine's Day should really be about spending the day with the person we love and not about buying extravagant or expensive gifts.

Gifts can be bought or, even better, made yourself, just to express a sentiment of friendship or love without breaking your bank account.

We should forgo the stupid cards that we buy in a ten pack to send to everyone we know and focus on the real meaning of the holiday.

Take advantage of this day, or any other day, by spending time with the person you love.

Work up the courage to speak to that girl or guy whom you like and leave a note in her or his locker signed, "Your Valentine."

—Alyssa Boller '12

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Stanners dance for Haiti

By Ada Rodamis '12 and Victoria Tan '12

The Dance Club will sponsor a charity show in the Jack Curran Gym during Spirit Week to raise money for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

Ms. Liz Murdocca, the show's organizer, said all clubs are invited to participate in this opportunity to help others and to bring us closer together as a school community.

The charity show was suggested by senior Priscilla Velazquez, who is a member of Molloy's Dance Team.

So far the lineup includes the Dance Team, Dance Club, the Step Team, Indian Club and the Spanish Club.

Students have already begun choreographing and rehearsing their routines, and will continue to do so until

the performance. Ms. Murdocca would also like faculty members to perform a number but said, "I will have to see how many faculty members I can convince."

The price of tickets is still undecided. Ms. Murdocca said the willingness of so many clubs to perform "is tremendous. I really am looking forward to the show. It's really for a great cause."

The show will be a chance to increase school spirit, which is something "many students and faculty have complained there is a lack of here in Molloy," Ms. Murdocca said. "We should always support a good cause, but it is also important that the students support each other. We need to build a strong community and encourage each other to continue to perform and create."



The members of Molloy's Dance Team rehearse a number in the Theater. (Photo by Benedict Josen)

Students prep for future by engaging in engineering class

By Cara Salvatore '13 and Dina Mangialino '13

Five years ago, several students who had just graduated from Molloy were looking forward to attending NYU Polytechnic in Brooklyn in September to study engineering.

Six months later, they had to withdraw from the school because they were not properly prepared.

"We did not have the right mind set for engineering," said Jonathan Kulig, a member of the Class of 2005, who was one of those students.

Mr. Kulig returned to school the following year and will get his B.S. degree in engineering in June.

This experience inspired Mr. Kulig to return to Molloy to do his best to make sure what happened to him doesn't happen to other Stanners.

He believes that many Molloy students are capable of pursuing an engineering career if they are better prepared for its academic challenges.

So he, along with some of his classmates and Molloy faculty members such as Ms. Mary Mallia and Ms. Jeanne Longerano, have been planning for the past two years an Introduction to Engineering class with the goal of familiarizing students with the engineering field.

Introduction to Engineering, which will meet after school every Thursday until March 25, will use hands-on projects to teach the students about different topics each week.

Students who sign up for the class are not required to attend every meeting, just the specific ones that interest them.

"We want to teach them what they

want to know," said Mr. Kulig.

The teachers are all Molloy alumni, including Class of 1970 member, Mr. Charles J. Camarda, who has a Ph.D in aerospace engineering after he earned his B.S. degree at Polytechnic.

Mr. Camarda is a member of Molloy's Hall of Fame thanks to his engineering work for NASA and his participation in the 2005 Space Shuttle Discovery flight to the International Space Station.

Class sizes have been limited to approximately 40 so as not to make it a lecture class, "but actually teach," Mr. Kulig said.

Though homework will be assigned, it will be minimal, not requiring more than ten minutes of work.

Many Stanners showed an interest in this engineering class at the informational meeting on Feb. 4.

Among those students was frosh Robert Santana, who said he hopes to one day pursue a career in engineering and feels these classes will help prepare him for it.



Mr. Charles J. Camarda

Math League enters new competition: AMC12

By Camille Dwyer '10

Led by senior Patryk Perkowski's perfect score in the fourth meet of the season, Molloy's Varsity Math League team currently ranks fifth among the 15 teams in the Queens Division of the New York Mathematics League.

The team attracts some of the the best and brightest seniors who enjoy solving challenging problems outside the classroom.

"It's a group of students who like to do math for fun," said Perkowski, who is the team secretary. "Some play basketball, some play chess, we do math."

The seniors-only team competes six times a year by sitting down in a classroom after school for 30 minutes to solve complex problems without a calculator.

The competitors must use their knowledge of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and pre-calculus to score as many points as possible.

The test is then graded and Molloy's results are compared to that of the other 205 teams in the New York Mathematics League.

The Queens Division is comprised of 12 public schools and three private schools.

Molloy is ahead of Christ the King by three points and St. Francis Prep by eight after four meets.

The top four Varsity scorers are: Perkowski, Chris Hwu, Suresh Yhap and Jeffy Mathew.

Moderator Mrs. Adele Solari said this year's team seeks out challenges.

"They are entering new competitions which are more difficult," she said.

Since the Varsity has excelled in the New York league, Mrs. Solari decided to enter the team in a new competition, American Mathematics Contest 12 (AMC 12) after Perkowski pitched the idea to her.

"The group likes to find different venues to be challenged in," Mrs. Solari said. "Pat discovered the AMC 12. And in March, there is the Math Challenge sponsored by Moody Corporation."

The first AMC 12 meet took place place on Feb. 9 in Room 327 where the team spent 75 minutes working out the answers to 25 problems.

If any competitor scores over 100 in

the 150-point test, then he or she is invited to compete in the next round, called the American Invitational Mathematics Exam (AIME).

From there students can advance to the USA Mathematical Olympiad and then, the ultimate competition, the International Math Olympics.

Mrs. Solari's goal for students is to think on a new level mathematically.

Perkowski shares that goal.

"[The AMC 12] questions are challenging, but approachable," he said. "The highest math needed is Algebra 2 and Trigonometry, but the questions aren't like regular high school math questions. It's a more abstract way of thinking."

Perkowski has been practicing a lot for the meet.

"It doesn't feel like practicing though," he said. "It's more fun than it sounds."

"I've gone to Ms. [Jeanne]Longerano and Mr. [Brian] Klimas for help when I couldn't get some problems and we worked together to solve them.

"It's funny though. Ms. Longerano and I were working on a number theory

question and we couldn't get it. I went home, and while practicing the piano, the solution came to me.

"That's the beauty of math," Perkowski said.

Perkowski, who is considering majoring in math in college, said right now his favorite math includes number theory and geometry.

"Even though I haven't taken a formal number theory class yet, it isn't just plug and chug math," he said. "It makes you think. I [also] like hard geometry, angle-chasing questions. I can spend hours doing them."

The following students have signed up to compete in AMC 12: juniors Carina Bunnag, Navdep Kaur, Chris Koulouris, Arjun Logeswaran, Mary Rooney and Rob Thomas and seniors Pat Perkowski, Frank Gentile, Scott Hounsell, Chris Hwu, Varun Jotwani, Louis Lamia, Jeffy Mathew, Stephanie Ochoa, Shakti Ramsamooj, Olivia Sell, Priyanka Shaam, Andy Singh, Jarrett Williams, Gary Ye, and Suresh Yhap.

Give Blood!

Mock Trial team heading off to court

By Sameera Kassim '13

Molloy's team is preparing for this year's New York City Mock Trial competition Feb. 25 and March 2 at the Queens Criminal Courthouse on Queens Blvd., just a couple of blocks from school.

Molloy will be the prosecution vs. Bayside High School on Feb. 25 and will represent the defense vs. Yeshiva University High School for Girls on March 2.

If the Stanners win, they will advance to the second round of the competition.

A mock trial competition between two high schools requires them to prepare to try the same legal case and then go into court as either the defense or prosecuting attorneys and try to impress the judge with their legal skills and argumentation.

This year's case involves a securities fraud lawsuit, similar to the case of famous Wall St. swindler Bernie Madoff.

It is a case that the members of Molloy's mock trial team said is a very good subject for the competition.

"It's a very complicated case," said senior Ashley Anderson, a member of

the prosecuting team along with juniors Isobel Williams and Victoria LoBosco.

The most experienced members on the team are given roles on the defense and prosecuting teams, while those just starting out will appear as witnesses in the case.

Members of Molloy's defense team include senior Renee Pawaroo and juniors Gerianne Hayes and Danielle Catinella.

Students who will appear as witnesses are frosh Cara Salvatore and Jessica Cardiello.

It is not an easy task to argue a case in court, so preparation for this competition is very rigorous. Many meetings where the teams prepare and practice must take place before the teams are ready to stand before the judge.

Moderator Mr. Lou Barbera, a former attorney himself, said his two teams have looked very good in practice and hopes that Molloy will advance past the first round.

The students on the team believe in the justice system and most want to pursue law as their career one day.

"The members are extremely

passionate about this case and this is the first year [since I've been on the team] that the members are so dedicated and prepared," said Catinella.

These mock trials are highly competitive, said Salvatore and Cardiello, so in order for the Stanners to win, they must come prepared by

knowing their affidavit and being ready to defend their statements on the witness stand in any given situation.

Salvatore and Cardiello said it takes a lot of hard work to memorize their parts and to know the history of the person they will portray on the witness stand, but in the end, it is a worthwhile effort.



The Mock Trial team will go to the Queens County Criminal Courts Building on Feb. 25 to face Bayside High School in the opening round.

Williams and Chien are top players in Chess Club



Junior Gabriel Rodriguez looks confident looking over the board.

By Kirsten E. Paulson '12

Seniors Jarrett Williams and Michael Chien have emerged as the Molloy Chess Club's top players after the completion of the club's first four in-school tournaments.

The club's monthly tournaments divide up players based on their ability into seven four-person competition groups called quads.

In the October tournament, senior Michael Chien won in quad one, Williams won quad two, sophomore Andres Caamal won quad three, and

sophomore Elizabeth Chien won quad four.

Each player who wins in the lower quads is moved up to the next higher quad for the next tournament while other players are moved down.

Chien won again in the top division of November tournament with junior Anthony Iurcotta winning the second quad, junior Gabriel Rodriguez winning the third quad, and junior Sanat Patel winning the fourth.

Williams won the December "speed chess" competition between members

of the first and second quads while senior Christopher Kernizan won in third and fourth quads.

Williams won the first quad title in January, with Iurcotta winning the second quad, senior Choong Leong Ye winning the third and senior Philip Raghunath the fourth.

The winners of the first and second quads each win \$10, said Moderator Mr. Mike Harrison, while the third and fourth quad winners get \$5 each.

Top players in the fifth, sixth, and seventh quads win a chess instructional book which they can read to improve their playing skills.

The prize money, called "The Harrison Fund," comes out of Mr. Harrison's own pocket.

Mr. Harrison said that so far this year he was "impressed by Michael Chien and Jarrett Williams, the club's top players. I was also impressed by

William Perez, who only joined the club in his junior year. He's shown a good deal of capability."

As for what makes Chien and Williams so good, Mr. Harrison said that the two come to all the club's meetings to work on their games.

As a result, both have only lost matches to each other in club competitions.

"The competition at Molloy is pretty good," said Williams, who has been playing chess on and off since fourth grade. "After a while, you get used to the players' styles, but as they learn and get better, I have to learn with them [to beat them]."

The club is currently playing its February tournament which is open to club members only.

However, the club can be joined at any time by anyone who is interested in playing against Molloy's best.



Anthony Iurcotta considers his next move. (Photos by Benedict Joson)

SAC prepares for Junior and Senior proms

By Graziella Ferrara '13

Now that Molloy's February vacation is over, the Student Activities Committee and its Moderator Mr. Pat Flynn are getting ready to announce the start of Junior and Senior Prom ticket sales.

Ticket prices will remain the same as last year, that is \$135 per person for Seniors, and \$60 per person for Juniors.

The Junior Prom ticket price covers the cost of the dinner, the DJ, the prom favors and the decorations in the Cafeteria and Jack Curran Gym on Saturday May 22.

Tickets for the Senior Prom on Wednesday May 12 cover the cost of renting the hall at Beckwith Pointe, which overlooks the Long Island Sound in New Rochelle, the DJ, and the prom favors.

Beckwith Pointe has been the site of the Senior Prom for several years because it always seems to be available on dates convenient for Molloy.

A few changes will be made to this year's Senior Prom, including a new DJ and a new theme, which the Senior Prom Committee has yet to choose.

The Junior Prom will also feature some changes from last year including a new theme and menu.

Students don't need to have a date to attend either prom.

Junior Opal Vadhan, a SAC member, said, "It doesn't really matter whether or not you arrive with a date or with a group of friends. In the end, it's just the amazing memories that you'll remember."

Although there are still several components to be worked out, Mr. Flynn said the SAC Prom Committee members will make the 2010 Senior Prom a huge success.

"I have great expectations for this year's group of seniors," said Mr.



Flynn. "They did a fantastic job on making their Junior Prom last year one of the best that I've seen."

Seniors fool around or are more serious during at last year's Junior Prom which had a Candyland theme and was held in the Jack Curran Gym. This year's Junior Prom will have a different theme. (File photos)



New Peer Group leaders for next year chosen



Some of next year's Peer Group leaders pose in St. Ann's courtyard. (Photo by Benedict Joson)

By Stephanie Almache '10

Five of Molloy's guidance counselors announced this month their selections of the 65 juniors who will be the new peer group leaders for the 2010-11

school year.

Guidance Counselor Mr. Ted McGuinness had 50 juniors who applied but could choose a maximum of 16 to be leaders.

He said choosing the leaders is "the most challenging and unpleasant task, because there are just so many kids that would be great as leaders."

Senior David Kane, who is currently

a leader, helped in the selection process with Mr. Chris Dougherty along with other current leaders.

He described the application process as a "really interesting experience being on the other end. Last year it was me being asked questions and being interviewed, and it was fun being on the other end of the spectrum."

Some qualities Ms. Rachel Galla looks for when picking a peer group leader are, "good listening skills, someone who I can rely on, and someone who is not afraid to take the initiative."

Mr. McGuinness says he looks for someone who is, "looking deep at their own lives and has patience."

He also chooses his leaders to try to "reflect on the balance of the school."

Peer group is a chance for sophomores to talk about problems they are going through and confide in the peer group leaders and guidance counselor.

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More students make Principal's List

Led by sophomores, who put six more students on the Principal's List, Molloy saw an overall increase in the number of students who earned the honor for the second marking period than did for the first.

Three grade levels saw an increase in Principal's List membership, with only the frosh experiencing a decrease.

A total of 97 students achieved a 99 or higher weighted overall academic average to qualify for the List, four more than did so in the first marking period.

Juniors led the way for the second marking period in a row, putting 34 names on the List, one more than last time.

Sophomores had 26, while frosh had 22, four fewer than for the first marking period.

Seniors once again had the smallest number with 15 but that was one more than last time.

The second marking period saw several new names on the List and some missing, as 68 percent of students managed to qualify for the second

marking period in a row.

Juniors saw the smallest turnover, with 79 percent repeating the feat, while 68 percent of frosh and 62 percent of sophomores made the List for the second time.

Seniors saw the biggest turnover, with just 53 percent returning for a second time.

However, senior boys can take pride in the fact that they dominated the List, with 10 of the 15 members being male, unlike the other three grade levels.

Overall, girls continued to dominate as 66 percent of List members were female, an increase of four percent from the first marking period.

Here is the Principal's List:

Frosh: Roberto Bertolini,* Patricia Bober,* Maria Calakos, Alejandra Castano,* Ashwini Chawla,* Graziella Ferrara,* Carolyn Gallagher,* Andrea Garcia,* Calvin Garcia,* Joseph Ingrassia,* Sameera Kassim, Dina Mangialino,* Shubin Mathews,* Aislinn Messina, Soumya Misra,* Anna Maria Musso, Sitara Patel, Amanda Price, Tatiana Requiyo*

Cara Salvatore,* Rashanna Seymour,* Jillian Spataro.*

Sophomores: Maverick Alzate, Andreea Arama,* Olivia Balog, Agnieszka Czaja,* Kristina D'Angelo, Alexandra DiDonato,* Alyssa Dolan,* Stephen Eng,* Claudia Fernandes,* Thalia Guzman,* Melissa Jo Hernandez,* Jennifer Hwu,* Christina John,* Simranjit Mangat,* Eleni Mutafooulos, Marilena Orfanos,* Nicole Pineda, Edward Pizzo, Joanne Raptis,* Margaret Rooney, Sursehaj Singh, Raymond Sukhdeo, Mareena Thottam, Samantha Walker,* Alexandra Woods,* Adrienne Zhou.*

Juniors: Arleen Aguasvivas,* Katrina Bartolome, Dylan Cepeda,* Timothy James Darcy,* Amanda Dhaneshwar,* Melissa Evelyn,* Gina Galizia,* Juan Gomez, Amanda

Gonzalez,* Gabrielle Grancio, Daniel Holowiak,* Christina Jarosch,* Navdep Kaur,* Sundeep Kaur,* Evan Kearney, Malvina Klusek,* Judy Li,* Christina Lucci,* Kyle Mele,* Derek Netto, Carolina Ortiz,* Steven Paciga,* Sanat Patel,* Dhandevi Persand,* Mark Puglia, Stephanie Rey, Mary Rooney,* Jacqueline Shay,* Michal Skowronski,* Nancy Strbik,* Christopher Vasile,* Justin Vega,* Nader Yamout,* Karen Zhou.*

Seniors: Gina-Maria Arena, Michael Carraher,* Katrina Colletti, Sabina Grech, Christopher Hwu,* Augustin Joseph,* Raymond Kober, Louis Lamia,* Carla Marian,* Jeffy Mathew,* Brent McDonnell,* Stephanie Ochoa,* Patryk Perkowski, Andy Singh, Javed Yunus.

* second appearance of the year

Career advice: Teacher

In anticipation of "Career Day" at Molloy on March 11, The Stanner is running a series of articles featuring the career path taken by alums in one of the 27 different careers that will be introduced to Stanners that day.

This is the third in that series.

By Karen Zhou '11

Ms. Mary Pat Gannon, an honorary alumna of Molloy and member of the school's Hall of Fame, has been an English teacher at Molloy for more than half of her adult life.

She has taught classes ranging from AP Literature to lunchtime seminars in the 1980's and students ranging from ninth grade to college.

In an interview, she answered our questions about the teaching profession.

The Stanner: On a scale of 1-10, how much do you like your job?

Ms. Gannon: 11. Maybe 20! Here [in the classroom], I have absolute freedom of expression. Both colleagues and students keep me growing.

The Stanner: How does someone pursue this career?

Ms. Gannon: I do not think there should be education majors on an undergrad level, so I don't recommend students commit to that major in college. You should major in the subject you want to teach. At that level it should be all about content. I never took an education course; you learn to teach by teaching. In the year after college, you should work in a variety of schools to learn how to teach. Personally, I modeled myself after my teachers, Mary Leo, Sister Lafontaine, and Patricia Noon. Teaching is "plagiarism"!

The Stanner: How do you get started after graduating from college?

Ms. Gannon: There are teaching opportunities through Teach for America, AmeriCorps, and NYC Partnership. These programs take neophytes and stick them in some of the most challenging situations that a teacher can face. It does great disservice to both the teacher and the students. The programs know that most



Ms. Mary Pat Gannon

of the volunteers will not teach afterwards, but want more people to be aware of the flaws in the education system so they can work to create better education rules and laws.

The Stanner: What are the perks of being a teacher?

Ms. Gannon: Everything. The people, the peers, the material. Who could hate teaching Shakespeare?!

The Stanner: Are there any low points?

Ms. Gannon: The amount of people in front of you in the classroom and the difficulty of being able to reach all of them. The paperwork is a phenomenal task; if I assign an essay to several classes, grading those essays becomes my life for the next week! If I could change anything, I'd make the class size smaller so I could give more attention to my students.

The Stanner: What do you do outside the classroom to prepare?

Ms. Gannon: I read three newspapers, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, and Newsday, and the Chronicle of Higher Education website. For my classes, I'll cut out articles. Every week, I read at least two books. I always reread the material I'm teaching, and read another book for myself. During the summer, I read six or seven books a week.



Ask Nav

Junior Navdep Kaur answers questions from Stanners about life at Archbishop Molloy High School

Q: Do any of the faculty members have hidden talents?

~Senior Stalker

A: This is a question that I myself have been curious about since I heard my religion teacher, Ms. Elizabeth Reichert, a new addition to the faculty this year, sing in the chapel during a class known to her students as "Lord's Day." Her beautiful singing voice combined with her talented guitar playing creates an enchanting atmosphere. Ms. Reichert's inspiration for singing and playing the guitar was her family. "My whole family plays music, so it was unavoidable that I would eventually become interested," she said.

So do any of the other teachers we pass by in the halls have talents other than teaching?

Bro. James Vagan, a Spanish teacher, is the quintessential outdoorsman. "During the summer I teach canoeing at a camp in New Hampshire," he said. "I also hike barefoot. It's quite relaxing."

English teacher Ms. Mary Pat Gannon is an avid gardener, who makes beautiful art through her creation of bonsai plants. "I also pack suitcases really well and am handy with home repairs," she said with a smile.

Principal Bro. Thomas Schady said, "I love to cook and hold barbeques for my friends."

Math teacher Mr. Brian Klimas, who had a brief career as radio sports announcer, said he can blow up rubber gloves so they can fit over his head, and I've heard from some of his former students that he has actually demonstrated this talent for them in the past.

Mr. John Mecca, who has shown off his singing skills at Molloy's annual Talent Show, spoke about his passion for golf. "When I was younger, I used to caddy at a golf course and watch my father and the pros play."

Mr. Matt Kilkelly said he loves to box and is taking boxing lessons with a trainer.

The faculty is filled with talented musicians such as Mr. Glenn DaGrossa, who fronts Lazarus, a rock band which has played at Rock Aid, Mr. Frank Gambino, who displays his singer-songwriter talent at the Molloy Talent Show and at clubs on Long Island, Mr. Eric Stolze and Ms. Madelyn Dupre, both of whom have performed at the Talent Show.

If you have any questions about Molloy you would like answered, email them to thestanner@molloyhs.org

65 new Peer Group leaders selected

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Junior Martha Arellano, who was selected to work next year with Mr. McGuinness, said, "I never thought of it as a competition. I saw it more as something I really wanted to do. The interview process was very relaxed and I was able to share who I was openly."

"I remember peer groups being my favorite experience at Molloy. The leaders were there to listen and always give a helping hand. They made me feel accepted in a school where I thought I didn't belong. So as a leader, I want to be able to help sophomores feel as comfortable as I did," Arellano said.

Junior Marissa Puzino, who will also work with Mr. McGuinness, said, "In sophomore year, I remember the amazing time I had, and all the advice I received from my leaders. I still use the advice they told me sophomore year and I will never forget it, so I thought it would be a great experience."

"I would love to give back what I got sophomore year and I hope the students in my group benefit as much as I did last year. I hope we not only help them, but teach them different things. I also hope to learn from the sophomores and the fellow leaders, as well as from Mr. McGuinness," said Puzino.

The newly chosen peer group leaders have already started their training sessions with their guidance counselors by attending a 45 minute meeting once every six-day cycle at 1:15 p.m.

Senior Melanie Dostis, who is a Peer Group Leader this year, said "I try to reflect on how I felt in my own peer groups. All of us leaders try to incorporate things we would have wanted to see when we were sophomores, along with the things we enjoyed in our groups."

Dostis said her advice for new leaders is "Peer Group's one of the things sophomores are most looking forward

to, so try not to be nervous. It's important to have a good bond with your fellow leaders. You won't be able to share anything if you don't even trust your other leaders."

"It's a class you get to learn from but it's also one of those classes that can be fun sometimes," Dostis said.

Mrs. Galla said a sophomore who hopes to be a peer group leader in the future should, "continue working hard [in school], be honest with yourself, talk with others, share experiences, and always listen."

But Mrs. Galla said it's hard to say who will be chosen, "since they [students] grow so much from sophomore year to junior year."

Mrs. Galla said, "I am looking

forward to working with the new peer group leaders, but every year it's difficult to say goodbye to the last group. This year's seniors have been good leaders and I will be sad to see them go since they've grown so much since I first met them."

The following students were selected as peer group leaders for 2010-2011:

Bro. James Norton: Lianna Cocchi; Thomas Columbia; Tara Dillon; James DiMaggio; Erika Doyle; Alanna Gallagher; Lisa Giovinazzo; Rashawn Gopaul; Priscilla Lee; Diego Martinez; Eric Martin-Swenson; Matthew Mitarotonda; Stefani Morscher; Aliyah Muhammad; Emil Pape; Derek Perry.

Brother Francis Regis: Arleen Aguasvivas; Sebastian Altomarin; Thomas Bolan; Kathryn Christophorou; Kanad Ghosh; Carolyn Jativa; Julia

Marsico; James Miele; Maximilian Rief.

Mr. Chris Dougherty: Gabriella Antonino; Katrina Bartolome; Sherise Bunche; Kimberly Darbouze; Lauren DeMarco; Joseph DiRico; Brendan Erskine; Mavrick James; Sara Kissoon; Jennifer Moncino; Catherine Mulvihill; Kim-Lien Trotta.

Mr. Ted McGuinness: Martha Arellano; Gabriella Basile; Deborah DePinto; Christopher Dorgler; Randell Gaskins; Kristen Gruenfelder; Sean Harrison; Elizabeth Langer; Patricia Kelly; Stephen Kelly; Kyra Meli; Cheyenne Mohammed; Christopher Mosco; Steven Paciga; Marissa Puzino; Richard Ramsundar.

Mrs. Rachel Galla: Timothy James Darcy; Elizabeth Hartin; Evan Kearney; Victoria LoBosco; Moira Mansfield; Marissa Morales; Valerie Proano; Sukhdeep Singh; Joseph Smallwood; Nicole Stimitz; Catherine Terranova; Saudia Uanus.

Senior versus Faculty Football



Senior Mark Crimmins, far right, and the rest of the senior football team had the last laugh after coming back from a six touchdown deficit to defeat the faculty, 42-36, on Feb. 5. The seniors' victory tied the annual four-game competition 1-1 with basketball and volleyball still to come. (Photo by Ben Joson)

Seniors wish polo shirts were a full year privilege

Continued from page 1

like they fit better than the uniform shirts."

Senior Justin Ly has purchased his shirts and is satisfied with the choice of color, but said, "we should have had more choices."

Senior Nervana Singh was just happy that the shirts "weren't 'Smurf' blue,"

referring to the color of last year's Senior Shirts.

While Traslaviña isn't thrilled by the color, "arguing with the administration over the color of a shirt isn't one of my top priorities."

Senior Rosie Garlan was very turned off by the price.

"I was looking forward [to buying

them] until I saw that they were \$50!" she said.

Senior Benedict Joson also didn't purchase the shirts because, "despite my enthusiasm for them, I decided that purchasing the shirts would be unnecessary. I would wear them for only a few months and the money I would spend could go towards a new

suit for Prom and Graduation."

Joson said his choice is a personal one and still supports the idea of seniors wearing polos. "I think the senior shirts add a different touch to the norm of wearing dress shirts," he said. "I hope that this privilege will boost spirit and maintain the mindset [in seniors] that, 'We aren't finished 'til we're finished.'"

Team effort gives Varsity Girls the B-Q track title

Thanks to its superior depth, Molloy won the Brooklyn-Queens Girls Varsity Indoor Track and Field Sectional Championship Feb. 7 at the Armory Track and Field Center in Manhattan by 15 points over second place Bishop Loughlin.

Molloy did not win a single individual gold medal yet still managed to win another sectional title thanks, in part to winning the 4x400-meter relay and placing three teams among the top five in the 4x800-meter relay.

"The meet was a true team

championship," said Coach Mr. Austin Power. "Other schools had a really good day for individuals, such as setting three meet records and running the No. 2 time in the nation. But none of those other teams had 29 different girls score to dominate the team scoring."

Junior Tonika Forrester set a new girls varsity school record while finishing third in the long jump with a leap of 17-foot-4.5.

Forrester also finished second in the triple jump with a leap of 34-4.

Tori Taibe set a girls frosh school

record while finishing fourth in the shot put with a toss of 30-6.75.

Other silver medalists were senior Danielle Reddy, junior Sabrina Spataro and sophomore Kathleen Woods.

Here are Molloy's results:

55-meters: 5. Tiana Salas-Ali, 7.8.

55-meter high hurdles: 2. Danielle Reddy, 9.5; Dominique Kalpakidou, 10.5; 4. Cathryn Brown, 10.8; 5. Christa Ciuffo, 10.9.

1,000-meters: 3. Paulina Stefanowski, 3:15.3.

1,500-meters: 4. Ilsen Hernandez, 5:46.5.

2,800-meters: 2. Kathleen Woods, 10:16.4; 3. Samaria Filosa, 11:31.4; 4.

Gabrielle Rosato, 11:32.6.

Triple jump: 2. Tonika Forrester, 34-4; 3. Tiana Salas-Ali, 33-9.

Shot put: 2. Cathy Terranova, 34-0.25; 4. Tori Taibe, 30-6.75.

Long jump: 3. Tonika Forrester, 17-4.5; 4. Sabrina Spataro, 16-1; 5. Nicole Kelly, 15-10.5.

High jump: 2. Sabrina Spataro, 4-8; 3. Ashley Mayer, 4-8.

Pole vault (non scoring event): 1. Stephanie Rey, 8-0; 2. Ashley Mayer, 8-0.

4x200-meter relay: 3. Molloy, 1:55.1.

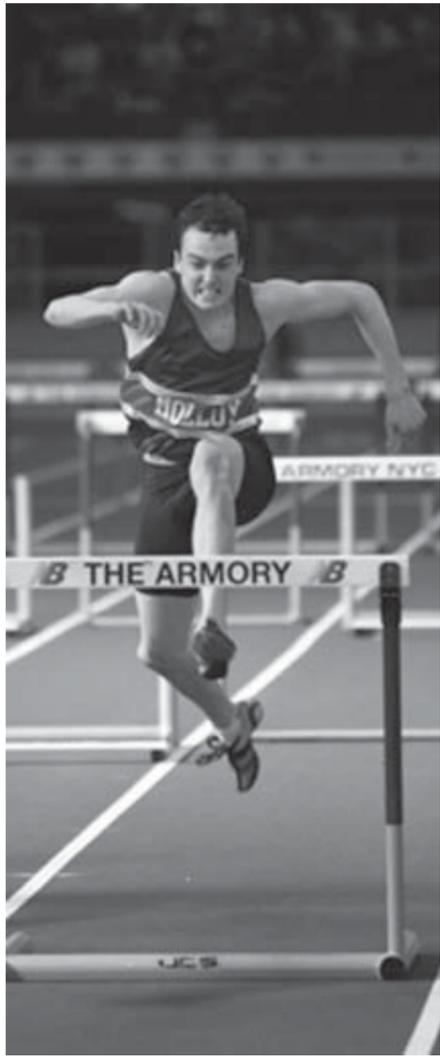
4x400-meter relay: 1. Molloy, 4:17.5.

4x800-meter relay: 1. Molloy, 10:25.2; 3. Molloy, 11:23.4; 5. Molloy, 11:39.2.

Frosh win B-Q title, Varsity does not

While Molloy's Frosh Boys Track and Field team cruised to an easy victory at the Brooklyn-Queens Indoor Sectional Championships at the Armory Track and Field Center in Manhattan on Jan. 24, the Varsity Boys team fell two points short of defending its sectional crown.

Bishop Ford upset the Stanners 52-



Sean Collins, above, and Matt Cetera, right, were medal winners. (Photos by Mr. Tom Harrison)

50 to win its first varsity sectional title in history.

The Molloy Varsity was unable to bring home a single individual gold medal on the track but had several athletes finish in the top three.

Molloy's four silver medalists were senior Devin Chowske in the 1,600-meter run, junior Pat Cooney in the 1,000-meters, senior Matt Cetera in the 300-meters, and senior Sean Collins in the 55-meter high hurdles.

Bronze medal runners were junior Tyler Bay in the 3,200-meters and senior Joe Pinckney in the 55-meter hurdles.

Molloy's field athletes won a bronze in the high jump (junior James Mercer) and swept the top three spots in the pole vault, an event that drew a total of only four competitors.

Meanwhile, the Frosh Boys team dominated its sectional meet as many of the events turned out to be more like Molloy intramural contests than interscholastic competitions.

Molloy entered the only four athletes to compete in the 55-meter hurdles, the only three teams in the 4x800-meter relay, the only high jumper, and three of the four pole vaulters.

Nick Matusiewicz was the top individual performer, winning the 600-meter run and the long jump.

Chris Hadjigeorgiou won two individual medals, winning the triple jump and finishing third in the long jump.

Molloy's results for both meets:

Varsity B-Q Championships

55-meters: 5. Matt Cetera, 7.02.
55-meter high hurdles: 2. Sean Collins,

8.04; 3. Joe Pinckney, 8.44; 5. Connor Davan, 8.68.

300-meters: 2. Matt Cetera, 37.11.

1,000-meters: 2. Pat Cooney, 2:45.42.

1,600-meters: 2. Devin Chowske, 4:42.06;

5. Brian Woods, 5:25.29.3

3,200-meters: 3. Tyler Bay, 10:53.71.

4x400-meter relay: 4. Molloy, 3:35.71.

4x800-meter relay: 4. Molloy, 9:13.50.

Long jump: 5. Kevin Ginter, 19-8.5.

Triple jump: 5. Matthew Lambert, 39-7.

High jump: 3. James Mercer, 5-6; 4. Marc

Ochs, 5-4.

Pole vault: 1. John Varsam, 12-0; 2. Nick

Tommaso, 11-0;

3. Pawel Sawicki, 9-

0.

Shot put: 5. Joe

Dionisi, 38-6.5.

Frosh B-Q

Championships

55-meter

hurdles:

1. Dylan

Foster, 9.71; 2.

Christian Ovalle,

10.46; 3. Roumesh

Persand, 11.27; 4.

Dylan Powers,

11.84.

600-meters:

1. Nick Matusiewicz,

1:36.08.

1,000-meters:

1. Jonathan

Toneatto, 3:12.19;

4. Patrick

Nowowiejski,

3:36.93.

1,600-meters:

2. Dillon Scibilli,

5:19.52.

3,200-meters:

1. Patrick Goldberg,

12:07.92.

4x200-meter

relay: 5. Molloy,

2:04.61.

4x400-meter

relay: 2. Molloy,



Skeivys leads Molloy to 2nd in city



Morgan White, Amelia Merker and Maria Skeivys swam well at city meet. (Photo by Benedict Joson)

Senior Maria Skeivys won two individual gold medals and shared the outstanding swimmer award at the Girls CHSAA "A" Championships Jan. 30-31 at the Nassau County Aquatics Center in Uniondale, where she led Molloy to a second place finish.

Skeivys won the 200-yard individual medley, the 100-yard breaststroke and

was a member of Molloy's third place 400-yard freestyle relay and third place 200-yard medley relay.

For her efforts, Skeivys earned the Millie Tavaras Outstanding Swimmer of the Meet Award, which she shared with Notre Dame Academy senior Melissa Mrozinski, who led the defending champion Gators to another city title.

Notre Dame finished with 703 points, while Molloy had 671.

Junior Agata Michalak won four bronze medals for the 100-yard backstroke, 100-yard butterfly, the 200-yard medley relay and the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Junior Margaret McCabe won three bronze medals for the 200-yard

freestyle, the 200-yard freestyle relay, and the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Here are the Stanners who scored points in the meet:

200-yard medley relay: 3. Molloy (Melissa Duran, Maria Skeivys, Agata Michalak, Shannon Neville) 2:02.71.

200-yard freestyle: 3. Margaret McCabe, 2:09.79; 10. Morgan White, 2:23.62; 18. Christine Hurley, 2:34.48; 19. Lauren Linares, 2:36.06.

200-yard individual medley: 1. Skeivys, 2:17.22; Amelia Merker, 2:42.59; 14. Kirsten McCabe, 2:48.10.

50-yard freestyle: 9. Neville, 28.38; 10. Caitlin Burns, 28.54; 18. Paige Whelan, 29.40; 23. Moria Mansfield, 31.39.

100-yard butterfly: 3. Michalak, 1:06.54; 6. Merker, 1:11.50; 8. K. Whelan, 1:14.89.

100-yard freestyle: 6. Duran, 1:01.84; 8. Laura Banker, 1:04.71; 9. Neville, 1:03.64; 12. P. Whelan, 1:05.82.

500-yard freestyle: 4. M. McCabe, 5:59.15; 9. White, 6:32.57; 12. K. McCabe, 6:38.17; 19. Linares, 7:07.86.

200-yard freestyle relay: 3. Molloy (K. Whelan, P. Whelan, Neville, M. McCabe) 1:55.07.

100-yard backstroke: 3. Michalak, 1:04.95; 5. Duran, 1:09.17; 10. Banker, 1:14.51.

100-yard breaststroke: 1. Skeivys, 1:11.43; 7. Mansfield, 1:21.37; 17. Burns, 1:24.78.

400-yard freestyle relay: 3. Molloy (Duran, M. McCabe, Michalak, Skeivys) 4:01.58.