

The Stanner

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Archbishop Molloy High School

January 2010

AM course catalog meets the Internet

By David Kane '10

The school year was not yet half over when the Junior Scheduling Assembly took place on Jan. 20, but it was already time for juniors to start making their course selections for next year.

While juniors will be the only ones offered new courses for next year, all three of the lower grades will be experiencing a Molloy first, an online-only course catalog.

In years past, juniors, sophomores and frosh received a printed course catalog and took it home to examine with their parents before choosing their courses for the next year.

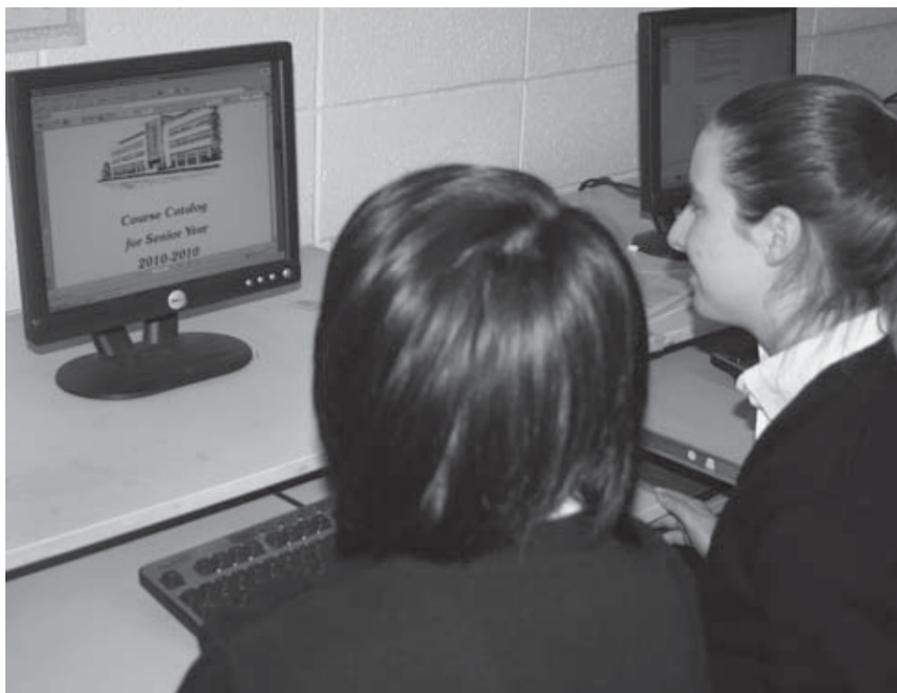
Now Molloy is going green by making its course catalog available exclusively online, which will save over 28,000 sheets of paper and \$1,500 each year.

Sister Elizabeth Bickar, Assistant Principal for Academics, said the financial and environmental cost of a printed catalog were the main reasons for putting the catalog online. It will also make the catalog more accessible.

Junior Karen Zhou said, "As a member of I Am Green [Molloy's environment club], I think that it is very laudable that Molloy now has an online course catalog. Thinking of all the trees and money Molloy will be saving makes me very, very happy."

Juniors have to log onto the official Molloy website (www.molloyhs.org), click on the course catalog icon and download onto their home computer a copy, which includes the practice course selection application sheet.

To actually apply for courses, however, juniors will be given a printed



Juniors Karen Zhou, left, and Mary Rooney use a computer to check out the Senior Course Catalog for 2010-11. (Photo by Ben Joson)

course selection application in homeroom on Feb. 8 to fill out.

While Stanners are computer savvy, can parents adjust to this change?

Junior T.J. Darcy said, "They never really looked at [the catalog] too in-depth, so there's not much difference, except for the fact that my dad doesn't know how to work computers, so it'd be hard for him to get to the catalog, let alone look through it."

Junior Deborah DePinto concurred, saying, "I like the idea of the course catalog being online, although I wouldn't mind if it was also distributed in school. My parents' computer skills aren't that adequate."

While there are no new courses being offered to sophomores and juniors,

there are a few additions to the senior offerings for 2010-11.

A new math course, "Probability and Statistics" and its AP companion, "AP Statistics," will make their debuts on the senior selection sheet.

DePinto said, "I would consider registering for [Probability and Statistics]. It useful to know for college."

Sister Elizabeth said a new course is added after a department chairperson presents it to her, who then presents it to the Administration, "to see if there's a reason why it shouldn't be offered and to make sure that there's a teacher at Molloy willing to teach it. We can't just offer a class and then find out that no teacher wants to teach it!"

In addition to the two math courses, three social studies courses, AP European History, Foreign Policy and International Law, will be offered again, despite failing to garner necessary support in terms of student enrollment to be taught in years past.

Seniors are required by the state to take one economics and one government class, so additional social studies classes must be taken on an elective basis, which is why many senior social studies courses don't attract enough students to be taught.

Zhou, however, seems keen on taking International Law, "because it's important as a citizen of an increasingly globalizing world to understand the laws that govern the world as a whole."

One change in the course catalog is the result of tweaking the prerequisites for existing science classes.

Starting next year, students are no longer required to have taken Physics to be accepted into the senior electives, College Physics I and II.

"This was done to prevent those juniors who opted to take AP Chemistry from feeling like they were being punished," said Sister Elizabeth.

Two more changes come from the English Dept., which changed Literature & Psychology and Shakespeare, both previously honors courses, into regular courses open to all.

Darcy looks forward to registering for Personal Finance Management, DePinto is excited to sign up for AP English Language and Composition, and Zhou wants to take Literature & Psychology.

Juniors urged to attend College Night

By Vimla Warslie '11

College.

The word suddenly hits juniors like a speeding bullet as they realize they are just one year away from going through the college application process.

Stonybrook, Hunter or Queens? St. John's, Fordham or Manhattan? Columbia, Cornell or Colgate?

All these college names swirl around juniors' heads like a foggy mist.

Yet there is no need for juniors to become overwhelmed by uncertainty because Molloy's College Guidance Counselor Mr. Kerry Hughes is ready to save the day.

College Night for juniors will be held on Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Jack Curran Gym where the various steps in the college application process will be outlined and explained.

For most juniors, the process of college applications can be, as Louis

Rizzo said, "very nerve-wracking and unclear."

Mr. Hughes will attempt to dispell all that confusion as he begins the night with his opening address.

He will be followed by Bro. David Van Hollebeke, the former Director of Admissions at Manhattan College, who will speak about how students can obtain financial aid for college.

"I plan to attend because I'm not sure what really goes on with the college process," said junior Catherine Terranova.

Mr. Hughes said the goal for the night, which usually attracts about 800 people, is to inform parents about the admissions process and the various application deadlines.

Every attendee will receive a packet that includes information on: the tuition costs of various colleges; the approximate prices for room and

board; financial aid opportunities; lists of the top business and liberal arts schools; and maps of colleges located in New York and bordering states.

Mr. Hughes hopes that these packets will help give parents and juniors a "general overview of college."

Molloy has two college nights every year: the Junior-Senior College night in October and this juniors-only event.

The main difference between the two is that one held in October allows parents and students to meet over 85 college representatives and discuss specific schools while the February event is more of an introduction to the college application process itself.

Mr. Hughes said this night can be a very vital first step in that process, especially for parents.

"Parents should come because they need to work with their kids in choosing their colleges," said Mr. Hughes.

He also recommended that juniors start thinking about visiting schools during Easter and summer vacations to get a feel for what the schools they might want to attend are really like.

If juniors have any questions about college, Mr. Hughes said they are welcome to come see him in his office in Room 207.



Mr. Kerry Hughes

Are you addicted to Facebook, too?

You get home from Molloy, give a sigh of relief to finally be out of your uniform and into comfortable clothes, and think “What now?”

So you log onto your computer for what you think will be five minutes.

Two hours later, you wonder where the time went.

The Molloy Student Handbook tells that that we should expect to do at least two hours of homework a night.

But thanks to Facebook, finding two hours to do school work is difficult.

The Facebook group which most of you have probably joined says it best: “I was doing homework, then I ended up on Facebook,” or “Facebook turns 30 minutes of homework into two hours.”

After logging off Facebook, you move on to Twitter to rant as much as you can in 140 characters or less.

After tweeting — yes, it’s a verb — it’s on to dealing with aim and your emails. Then back to Facebook.

After all, by now our live news feed must have at least something new that we didn’t read before.

“Where did all the time go?”

Social networking is addicting.

It’s so addicting that most of us don’t log off our accounts even when we’re trying to fit in time for the real world. This way we can return to Facebook at a moment’s notice.

We are bombarded with texts and emails throughout the day sent via Facebook, reminding us of our friends’ birthdays or who just virtually “poked” us.

Yet how can anyone not become addicted when social networking has become the dominant phenomenon of the 21st Century?

Suddenly, you find that you are receiving requests from your nine-year-old cousin to be your Facebook friend.

Later, you’ll see his relationship status has gone from “in a relationship” to “it’s complicated.”

Why does a nine-year-old need a Facebook?

More importantly, what kind of a “relationship” can a nine-year-old have in the first place?

But just as you are getting over the fact that you have a nine-year-old Facebook friend, your little cousin’s mom now requests you, too.



Illustration by Victoria Lane '10

Which is more shocking, the fact that little kids are on Facebook or that middle aged adults are doing it, too?

Sadly, it seems, Facebook addiction knows no age limit.

Facebook so dominates our lives that when we first meet someone, we end the conversation by asking if he or she has a Facebook.

We do it because in our minds there’s no other way to keep in touch if we don’t.

For example, Stanners now don’t get together to work on group projects in school anymore.

“Do you guys have a Facebook so we can talk about it there?” is the first question asked after any group assignment is made.

Facebook’s chat system makes reading the “Inbox(1)” messages seem harmless.

You’ve accepted some people as “friends” only because you have one mutual friend in common or, even worse, just because you want to increase the number of friends listed on your page.

But now these people you barely know can just chat you up whenever they see you’re online.

It can make for pretty creepy and awkward conversations if by chance you forget to switch to offline status.

These casual “friendships” seem to be the new way people get their Facebook relationship status to change.

Boy meets girl at school, can’t find the courage to talk to her face to face, so instead he does so from the safety of his computer by Facebook chatting with her.

Before you know it, he is talking to her on aim and via text messages. His new relationship status will be available to all as they log on; as will their break-up a few days later

When we hear that one of our friends doesn’t have a Facebook, we immediately want to come to the rescue. Take a picture of her for her profile picture and fill up her info, whether she wanted us to do it or not. Bam! She is now a member of the Facebook community.

None of us is immune.

I, of course, have a Facebook and

Twitter.

It helps me procrastinate about doing homework and, as a result, keeps me up way past my bedtime as I check my notifications and play Farmville.

Facebook does have its advantages.

It offers freedom of expression that teenagers don’t often have.

But that freedom often degenerates into a need to carelessly divulge every little thing about ourselves.

We post pictures of our weekend activities, no matter how embarrassing they might be.

We post expressions of hate for other people in our statuses for all to see without thinking of the consequences.

We forget that we have allowed our social networking circle to get so large that people we hardly know can see everything we post.

Often, that information can find its way to the eyes of people you least want to see it, such as the Molloy Administration, college admissions offices, “frenemies” and your parents.

Walking the hallways in school, we get upset when the person in front of us is moving slowly while discussing the earth-shattering news of how Tom likes Pam but Pam likes Bob?

But on the computer, the rules seem to be different.

Will we ever get tired of all the pointless pictures people post?

What about all those Facebook pages we become “fans” of?

Will we ever become impatient with our friends for acting like the world will end if they don’t update their status every five seconds?

What about those people, which includes most us, who log on constantly to comment on these changes?

We have a term for people like that. Stalkers.

Many proudly call themselves Facebook stalkers and know that they have gained even creepier status.

Let’s find a balance!

Take a break once in a while from Facebook and Twitter. They will still be there when you get back.

Wouldn’t it be nice, for once, to have your parents not yell at you to put your phone down or to be able to spend an entire night out with friends without once needing to check your notifications?

— Melanie Dostis '10

Corrections

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.

The following were errors in the December issue of The Stanner:

Vasiliki Gliagias’s name was misspelled.

The seniors will have three more chances to defeat the faculty in athletic competition this year in the football, basketball, and volleyball games.

Letters to the Editor wanted

The Stanner welcomes all letters to the editor from students, faculty, alumni and staff that respond to any of the articles published in previous issues.

Send your letters to the editor to The Stanner via email at: thestanner@molloyhs.org.

The Stanner reserves all rights to edit all letters to conform to space capacity and paper policy. Thank you for your involvement and we look forward to your input.

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Stanners get smaller gig at Model UN

By Joe DiRico '11 and Andrew Bruder '11

Molloy's Model United Nations Club began preparing this month to represent a European country, Norway, and an African nation, Senegal, at the annual Model UN Conference from May 13-15 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel and the UN headquarters in Manhattan.

Molloy's 32 delegates will discuss and attempt to solve some of the world's problems by working on resolutions with students from other high schools from around the world who are representing other UN members at the conference.

Molloy's delegation this year includes seven new members.

Club Moderator Mr. Bill Flemen said Molloy has never represented Norway or Senegal before at the conference and was surprised that his Stanners were asked to represent two of the world's smaller countries.

"I thought we would have been assigned a nation with a larger role in international policy and politics," he said.

Last year, for example, Molloy represented a superpower, the People's Republic of China.

Mr. Flemen believed the club did well representing China in both the General Assembly and Security Council last year and played a vital role in the sessions, just as China does in reality.

But he's not utterly disappointed that



Stanners will again join students from all over the world in the General Assembly at the United Nations Headquarters for the annual Model UN Conference in May. (Photo courtesy of Model United Nations)

Molloy was not assigned to represent a major world power again this year.

"The goal is to have fun and learn something new," Mr. Flemen said. "Our students do that regardless of the given nation they represent."

Mr. Flemen does not select delegation leaders but instead lets students take over leadership roles themselves by demonstrating a good work ethic during

preparations for the conference.

He said two veteran club members, seniors Javed Yunus and Olivia Sell, have emerged as students the others look up to because of their experience and interest in the conference.

Junior Opal Vadhan, who will be going to the conference for a second time, had a great time last year and said she enjoyed meeting students from all

over the world.

This year she is looking forward to seeing those students again at the conference.

Mr. Flemen said the goal for the Model UN Club is the same every year: each delegation member should learn something new, meet and converse with new people, and, most importantly, have a good time.

Frosh "How I Spent My Christmas Vacation"

By Kirsten E. Paulson '13

We've all been there.

Upon returning to our old grade schools after a vacation, our teachers told us to write an essay about what we did during our time off.

"What I Did During My Summer Vacation" is an assignment that is an elementary school tradition.

So in keeping with that tradition, here is what some Stanner frosh did during their Christmas vacations.

For the most part, they stayed close to home but still found something interesting to do.

"I was disappointed that it didn't snow on Christmas," said Steven McGuire, "but I was still happy to spend time with friends and family. I spent the vacation mostly relaxing. I didn't go on any elaborate trips."

Mary Ann Palabasan also stayed in the city.

"I went into Manhattan to go shopping and sightseeing with my family," she said.

Sightseeing with family was a popular way to spend the holidays.

"My family came down from Canada and we went to see the tree in Rockefeller Center since it was their

first time in the city," said Bobby Parag.

New Jersey, of all places, turned out to be holiday party central for some Stanners.

"I went to New Jersey and partied at my cousin's house," Melanie Serrano said.

Ayana Tan said, "I went to New Jersey and partied, but the rest of vacation I spent playing Final Fantasy X2."

Tori Taibe, who spent most of her time hanging out with her friends, did make one trip courtesy of the Molloy Athletic Dept.

"I went on a track trip to Rhode Island," she said.

Sophomores may be two years removed from grade school but they were also asked what they did during their Christmas vacation.

Megan Wenzler, who celebrated her birthday on Dec. 26, said, "I had a sleepover with my best friends on New Year's Eve. I wanted to go to Times Square, but I wasn't able to."

Stephanie Rupe said, "I stayed home with my family during the vacation, but I still had fun. We went out to dinner on New Year's Eve and later watched the Times Square celebration on TV."

Molloy faculty stayed home as well.

"I spent Christmas Eve with my wife's family and Dec. 26 with my family," said Mr. Patrick Flynn. "Overall, my vacation was very boring."

The one exception came on Christmas Day.

"It was our twins' first Christmas," Mr. Flynn said. "I have three kids, so on Christmas we just opened presents and let them play."

At least one person at Molloy did travel.

Mr. Donald Mooney, who was in Florida with his wife during the Christmas vacation, was surprised by one sight down there.

"I saw a boy wearing a Marist High School Walk-a-thon t-shirt," he said.



The Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center was a popular destination for Stanners during the break.

"It's a small world, but I wouldn't want to paint it."

But all good things must come to an end, and for some Stanners, the end of Christmas fun came too quickly for many of us.

"The last three days I spent writing my essays [for school]," said Tan.

Public Speaking class starts new AM tradition

By Camille Dwyer '10

For over a decade, Molloy's principal or an assistant principal has led prayer over the public address system each morning during homeroom period.

But now a new tradition has begun, as seniors from Ms. Mary Pat Gannon's Public Speaking class have taken over that duty.

So far this year, 10 seniors have spent a week giving voice to their prayers over the P.A system: Ben Joson, Marielle Duryea, Ginamarie Papia, Alyssa Shahzaman, Jorge Morales, James Maguire, Brian Gribbon, Dominique Kalpakidou, Maggie Kimball, Nick D'Angelo and Satwika Reddy.

Melissa Arias is leading the prayer this week as the first semester of the school year comes to an end.

Principal Bro. Thomas Schady initiated the move to break with tradition when he spoke to Ms. Gannon about allowing her students to use their knowledge of public speaking for the benefit of the entire school.

The students were given the option of writing their own prayer or choosing a selection from Bro. Thomas's book of prayers.

After students made their choices, Ms. Gannon proofread and approved them.

"I wrote about what I'm thankful for and would like to see happen," said D'Angelo. "If I saw something during the day, I'd write about it for my prayer. My creative writing class also helps with coming up with ideas."

Seniors in Ms. Gannon's class, which is new to Molloy this year, received extra credit for volunteering their time to say the morning prayer.

In the past, Molloy students would sometimes lead prayers on a few

special occasions.

For example, since 2006, students have led prayers in different languages to promote International Day.

But this is the first time students have led prayers on a daily basis and this new tradition will continue as long as the Public Speaking class continues.

D'Angelo said he has enjoyed learning the techniques of speaking publicly because, "I use this class everyday and put it into practice. The class is extremely useful."

Joson has learned that eye contact, body language, and enunciation are important when speaking to an audience.

Students also learn to incorporate PowerPoint and music into speeches delivered in class.

Speakers learn to observe their classmates in the audience to know if they are receptive to the topics in their speeches.

Joson and Duryea both thought it was their duty to lead prayers because of their roles as Eucharist Ministers.

They both thought they could inspire their peers and Molloy community by doing so.

"I felt that saying morning prayer will inspire others to become more involved," said Duryea. "I also want to set future precedents."

D'Angelo said he volunteered for the light-hearted reason of receiving extra credit and seeing what the inside looked like of the microphone closet, located on the first floor next to Assistant Principal Mr. Ken Auer's office.

Each of the students admitted to being nervous on their first day of saying the prayer but took it as a learning experience.

Joson and Duryea both received

positive reactions about their performances; however, D'Angelo said he was told to speed up his prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Gannon, who is teaching one Public Speaking class in the fall semester, will teach two more in the spring.

Each student in the class has to make four speeches: historical or a personal biography; a ceremonial speech or an interpretation of a monologue or childhood book; a group speech; and a personal persuasive speech.

D'Angelo recited a pep talk that General George Patton gave to soldiers

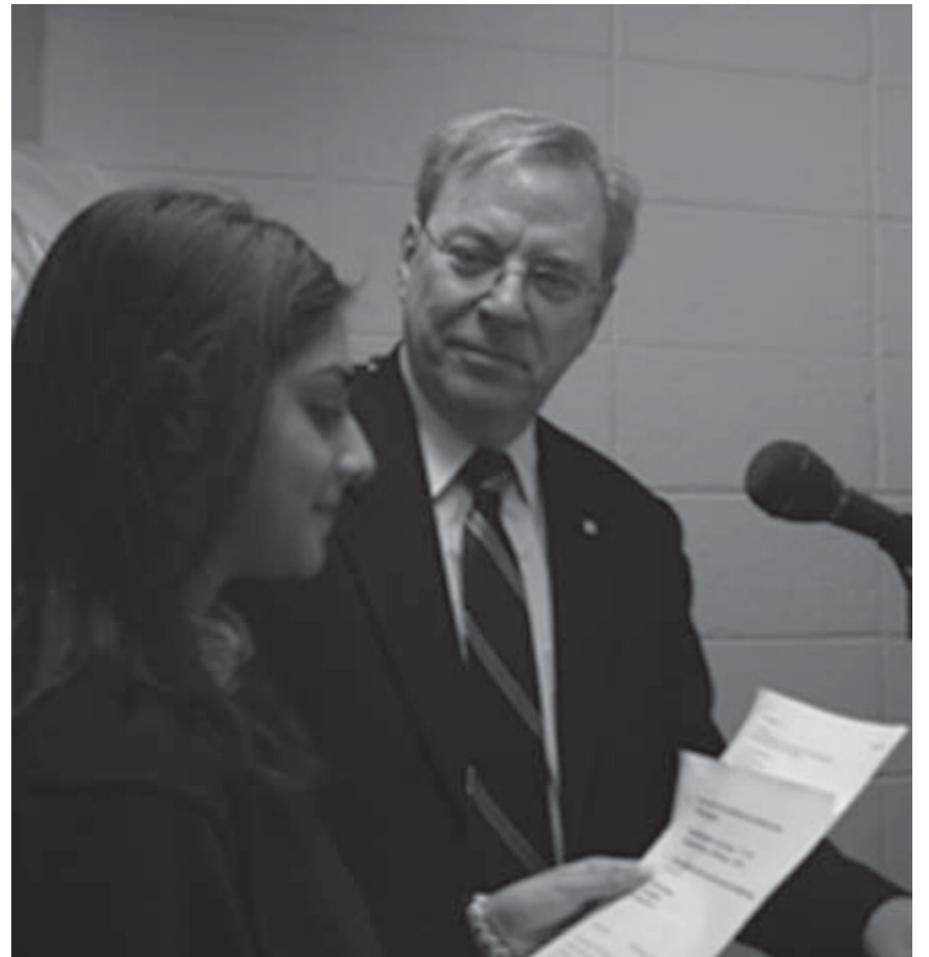
before D-Day for his historical speech.

Joson's persuasive speech talked about being proactive, upbeat, and positive for the community and at the end of his speech, he sang the song, "You Gotta Be" by Des'ree.

Joson finds public speaking an enjoyable class.

"It is the most stimulating and intellectual class I've experienced in my time as a student because I get to express my opinions and ideas as well as hear those of my contemporaries," he said.

Many students in the class recommended it to future seniors.



Senior Satwika Reddy, left, with Bro. Thomas Schady, reads the prayer over the public address system last week. (Photo by Benedict Joson)

Right to Life Club protests in D.C.

By Sameera Kassim '13 and Manpreet Sachdev '13

Molloy's Right to Life Club made its sixth consecutive trip to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 22, when about 48 Stanners joined thousands of other pro-life supporters to protest outside the Supreme Court on the anniversary of its Roe vs. Wade decision which made abortion legal.

The Stanners left Molloy at 6 a.m. by bus for Washington and returned around 11 p.m.

Club members paid \$30 to cover the cost of the trip.

About 12 club members who attended previous marches, such as sophomore Liss Mendez, junior Michelle Constante and senior Melissa Kump, made the return trip this year.

The students who attended last week's march are passionately anti-abortion and eagerly anticipated joining thousands of other like-minded individuals to help advance the cause.

"We look forward to having a good time in D.C., being with our friends and just being there to support this issue,"

said Constante.

According to Campus Ministry Director Mr. Mike Germano, previous marches have been peaceful protests to the Supreme Court to show how

displeased the marchers are over the court's lack of concern over right to life.

He hopes that students who made the trip realize the importance of being pro-life.

He said he hoped the march helped students recognize the passion that so many people have for this issue, despite the indifference that most of the media shows for the cause.



Members of Molloy's Right to Life Club pose last year on the Washington Mall with the U.S. Capitol in the background carrying the signs they used in the March for Life demonstration. The club returned to D.C. last Friday to protest the Supreme Court's Roe vs. Wade decision which made abortion legal.

Boy Steppers: ‘best ever’ at Molloy

By Stephanie Bonanno '13 and Graziella Ferrara '13



The Boys and Girls Step Teams often perform at Molloy basketball games this year. (Photos by The Blue and White Yearbook Staff)

Molloy's Boys Step Team has really been stepping up its game over the course of this year due to a great amount of senior leadership and team work in developing their routines.

Moderator Mrs. Anne Lonergan is completely confident that this year's team would perform well throughout the year.

"Absolutely!" she said. "This is the best step team so far."

The Boys Step Team has been competing in a series of competitions called "Step USA."

So far Molloy has won first place in the competition at Columbus High School in the Bronx and second place in the competition at Springfield Gardens High School in Queens.

The team competed in the State Championships on Jan. 16. If it finished first or second at that competition, it will advance to the National Finals of Step USA in Harrisburg, Pa.

Despite all its success in outside competitions, senior and team captain Kristopher Wilson said performing at the Molloy vs. Christ the King

basketball game in the Jack Curran Gym on Jan. 8 as part of "Ebony Club Night" was the team's greatest enjoyment.

"Stepping at competitions is cool," Wilson said. "But stepping for your school is even better because of the motivational screams and cheers [from the crowd]."

He said he is 100 percent pleased with the team so far but feels its potential to get even better is limitless.

The Girls Step Team, meanwhile, also has been performing at Molloy

basketball games.

Senior co-captain Claire Mahon said, "The season opener was the best performance yet. It was the newcomers' first routine and we were all excited to get back."

The girls have many competitions lined up in the near future, one of which is the CHSAA City Championships.

The girls are extremely proud of how far they've come as a team this year but, as junior co-captain Meliza Acoba said of the team, "There is always room for improvement."

Stanners prep for Sci-Oly City meet

By Amber Emmino '13 and Erin Ballesty '13

The 15-member Archbishop Molloy Science Olympiad team will compete in the City Championships on Feb. 6 at Grover Cleveland High School against 40 other Catholic, private, and public schools.

If Molloy can place among the top three teams, it will advance to the State Championships at West Point in mid-March.

"Last year Townsend Harris won and Stuyvesant came in a close second so they're our biggest competition," said Mr. Michael DeMarco, the team's moderator, along with Mr. Eric Stolze and Mr. Michael Nadeau.

The City Championships consist of 18 challenging events that cover the topics biology, chemistry, physics, earth science, and engineering.

"The most interesting is engineering," said Mr. DeMarco.

The team members' engineering creativity is taxed by the many rules and restrictions for each event.

For example, members must follow the specific instructions sent to the team on size and materials in designing and building their machinery.

"Two members must create a catapult that can't measure more than 30 centimeters cubed but [whose projectile] must be able to reach ten meters at the furthest distance," said junior George DeMarco. "Members may not use metal products but mostly

elastic solids."

During the competition, the catapult must shoot tennis balls and handballs at a target with accuracy.

Senior Justin Ly will be creating for the competition a clock which will include two different designs, one using a gear system, and one using a simple pendulum. The clock must be strictly mechanically powered, without using batteries or commercial clock parts.

Ly said his favorite project was the clock because it was more "thinky."

Doing his project, Ly said, "has been interesting and fun."

Another popular event at the Olympiad, Mr. DeMarco said, are the "Sumo-bots," where teams design robots that fight to try to push each other out of a ring.

Over the past 24 years that Molloy's Science Olympiad Team has competed, it has won five City Championships and have made it to the State Championships 18 times.

"It's been 25 years since a New York City team has been to Nationals," said Mr. DeMarco.

After losing seven seniors from last year's team to graduation, Mr. DeMarco needed to find seven new students to fill out his team. Students interested in participating had to take "tryout tests" to make the team.

As a result, Mr. DeMarco said the seven new members are "very talented."

One new member, Alexandra Woods,

the only sophomore on the team, is eager to learn what she can from the competition.

"My goals are to get to know what it's about because it's my first year," she said.

According to Mr. DeMarco, being a member of the Science Olympiad Team can make a big difference on your college transcript, too. Several former Science Olympians went on to attend Columbia University and MIT.

Here is Molloy's 2010 Science Olympiad Team:

Seniors: Louis Lamia, Paul Bakoyiannis, Augustin Joseph, Justin Ly, Susan Zheng, Frank Gentile and Christopher Hwu.

Juniors: Serge Ostrowski, George DeMarco, Andrea Lai, Judy Li and Mary Rooney.

Sophomore: Alexandra Woods.

Frosh: Christopher Demarco and Joseph Ingrassia.



Senior Frank Gentile works on his project in preparation for the City Science Olympiad competition on Feb. 6. (Photo by Jennifer Hwu)

Stanners have made their New Year's resolutions

By Cara Salvatore '13, Dina Mangialino '13, and Tatiana Requiño '13

Last September, the incoming frosh had many different expectations for themselves as high school students and for Molloy itself.

They wanted to do well in school, achieve athletic goals, join clubs, and make new friends.

Now that they have been Stanners for a while, many frosh have different ideas for improving themselves and the school in the New Year.

Academic goals are still high on the list for many frosh. Maintaining their academic scholarships is a source of pressure for students who have them.

Ashwini Chawla, Elizabeth Governale and Joseph Ingrassia all were both happy and nervous upon hearing the

news that they had earned a Molloy scholarship, happy to be saving their parents money and nervous about keeping the scholarship for all four years.

Not earning a scholarship also put pressure on those frosh who had not received them.

Some frosh said they were disappointed upon receiving their acceptance without a scholarship offer and so they are working hard to become members of the National Honor Society in order to prove themselves.

Sports goals are common New Year's resolutions for 2010.

Maria Grbic, a member of the track team, wants to improve her time management skills to be better in both sports and academics.

Dylan Penza and Dillon Scibelli, two

more track team members, hope to improve their performances in the new year.

Penza feels he is not as good as he could be, so in 2010 he wants to "become average or even above average at the sport."

Scibelli wants "not to just compete against myself [in races], but actually be able to beat others."

Daniela Arias was a member of the soccer team and is now playing basketball.

Though she enjoys playing both sports, she wishes there was less practice time so she'd have more time for other activities.

Many frosh, after having been here for five months, have ideas on improving different clubs and activities in the school.

Chawla said that a good addition to Molloy's list of clubs would be a badminton club.

Julian Lopez said a good change for the new year would be to allow students to wear Molloy sweatshirts in class.

Mario Stefandis wants to improve the clubs he has joined, including the Investment Club, the Integrated Science Association, and Student Council, by encouraging "more fun activities at meetings" to attract more people.

Each New Year, thousands of people start off by making great resolutions and have high expectations of achieving their goals, only to see them unfulfilled by year's end.

Maybe 2010 will be a year that the members of the Class of 2013 will have more success in keeping their resolutions.

Career advice: guidance counselor

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 second in that series.

By Karen Zhou '11

Mr. Chris Dougherty, Molloy Class of 1991, works as a Molloy guidance counselor and moderator for the I.A.M.GREEN, the Sci-Fi & Anime clubs and is director of S.M.I.L.E.

He has a B.A. degree in psychology from Mount Saint Mary College and a M.S.W. degree from Boston College's Graduate School of Social Work.

His extensive work and volunteer experience range from working with children with pervasive developmental disorders to building houses in Uganda with Habitat for Humanity International.

While eating a bowl of cereal in his office one morning, he answered our questions pertaining to the careers of guidance counseling and social work.

The Stanner: On a scale of 1-10, how much do you like being a guidance counselor?

Mr. Dougherty: 9.5. I work with a lot of friends on the faculty and they're warm people. At Molloy there are a lot of students who want to do volunteer and service work like the Lourdes and New Orleans trips, so we've been able to expand our service programs. The Administration encourages us to expand and they haven't clipped our wings.

Some days, however, you have to deal with a lot of pain and sadness, which is hard to sit through.

The Stanner: What necessary traits should a potential guidance counselor/social worker display?

Mr. Dougherty: Patience, the ability to listen, analytical skills, and non-attachment. While a teacher might take home tests and quizzes, a counselor takes away stories and emotions, and sometimes, you need to let go and have an outlet to release those feelings, such as exercise.

The Stanner: How does someone pursue a career as a guidance counselor both now and into the near future?

Mr. Dougherty: First, apply to be a peer group leader here at Molloy or become involved with S.M.I.L.E., the



Mr. Chris Dougherty

Esopus retreats, and Campus Ministry.

You also should look into taking classes here at Molloy like AP Psychology and Psychology, and Sociology. Many graduate schools of social work recommend or even require a year of "Human Biology" so as to better know how the whole person operates and also because many social workers at some point are discussing health issues with a client.

In college, you'd want to major in psychology, sociology, human services, or social work, and perhaps get an

internship at a hospital's psychiatry department.

On a graduate school level, you should get a master's in social work or, if you want to be a school counselor, in education with a concentration in school counseling.

The Stanner: While a lot of students know what you do for clubs and other activities, what do you do in a private session?

Mr. Dougherty: We usually discuss parental issues, anxiety, depression, life circumstances, relationship or friend issues. But, if a student is thinking about committing suicide or has been abused by a parent, I have to involve a parent or the principal. Other issues, like rape, pregnancy or suffering from a traumatic loss, are confidential.

The Stanner: Do you like your job?

Mr. Dougherty: Yes. Guidance counselors in other schools have to do scheduling and other administrative work, which fortunately at Molloy is taken care of by [Assistant Principal] Sr. Elizabeth [Bickar]. So, at Molloy, I'm actually counseling and doing what I was trained to do.

Theater Arts Club loves Shakespeare

By Alyssa Boller '12

The Theater Arts and Improv Club is getting ready for its Shakespeare Festival on March 15 in the Theater, which will include 15 Shakespearean monologues and improv skits.

The performance also may include some of Shakespeare's sonnets as well as dances.

Ticket information will be provided at a later date.

Moderator Ms. Mary Ann Safrey said the club has about 53 members but not all are participating in the festival or come to every meeting.

The club is different from The Stanner Players, who stage two productions each year at Molloy, because the club

is more of a training ground for all aspects of theater including acting, directing, production and even play writing.

"We're trying to help students develop performing skills to prepare them for auditions with The Stanner Players, community theater and college theater programs," Ms. Safrey said.

"Once The Stanner Players begin production of a play or musical, they have less opportunity to work on skills," Ms. Safrey said.

Her club, meanwhile, "gives students continual work from month to month."

The club meets three times a month and members do improv exercises, character development skills and scene

building exercises.

These activities help the students build up their acting skills and develop their confidence.

They learn by doing and watching others in the club.

A majority of club members are not part of The Stanner Players but some have appeared in their productions this year and in years past.

One student who is a member of both groups is sophomore Tiffany McCue, who will appear on stage in the Shakespeare Festival.

"Mastering the rhythm and language of Shakespeare is a challenge," McCue said, "but that's what makes it so interesting."

Ms. Safrey meets daily with the students who are going to perform at the festival.

They practice their monologues and she helps them learn how to scan Shakespearean lines to extract the important words and use the proper inflection on the count of the speech.

Shakespearean English is often hard to master because today's students no longer speak the way people did during Shakespeare's time.

The Theater Arts and Improv Club is still accepting new members so any one who is interested can attend any meeting publicized in the announcements in order to develop their acting skills or learn about theater production.



Ask Nav

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

Q: What's on the fourth floor? Is there really a pool up there?

~**Flummoxed Frosh**

A: I've heard many interesting and bizarre theories about what's really on the fourth floor: an Olympic-sized swimming pool, rooms for teachers to sleep in overnight, even a vortex. I have never been there myself. Yet some students and, of course, most teachers have been there and they were willing to go on the record and dispel any rumors about the mysterious fourth floor.

Junior Gina Galizia ventured up there during her sophomore year to sing in the choir for a mass in the fourth floor chapel room. Yes, there's a small chapel on the fourth floor.

"It was dark and looked like a hotel lobby," said Galizia. "It's really pretty."

There is also a kitchen, dining room and TV lounge in the center section of the fourth floor.

While most brothers on the Molloy faculty live together in small groups in their own apartments, some of the brothers teaching us do live on the fourth floor in individual rooms, most of which are located on the even side of the building.

Aside from the brothers' living quarters, faculty offices are also on the fourth floor.

"There are department offices, Scantron machines and a computer printing machine room on the odd side of the building," said Mr. John Mecca of the Social Studies Dept.

Q: Do teachers and T.A.'s really get paid \$5 for each detention they give out to students?

~**Curious Junior**

A: This is a rumor that just won't die.

Many students told me that they've heard that teachers do get "incentives" to hand out detentions.

Junior Toni Tobias is so convinced it was true that she said, "It's unfair to the students because it gives teachers and T.A.'s motivation to pointlessly give out detentions."

However, it's just not true.

"I wish," said Ms. Mary Braunstein, Molloy's newest T.A.

Mr. Jim Sheehan said he has never known of a teacher or T.A. getting paid for giving out detentions. "Not to my knowledge," he said. "I don't think so."

Mr. Charley McKenna said, "Come on, people, use your critical thinking skills. If I could earn an extra \$50 a day, \$250 a week, \$1,000 a month by handing out 10 detentions a day for Mickey-Mouse dress code violations, why aren't I doing it? The rumor is just absurd if you really think about it."

The rumor may have been started by a teacher joking around with a student and the student, taking the joke seriously, started spreading the bogus bonus money rumor.

But it just isn't true.

If you have any questions about Molloy you would like answered, email them to: thestanners@molloys.org

Second Open Mic show in Theater on Jan. 25

Molloy's second Open Mic show was held on Monday Jan. 25 at 6 p.m. in the Theater with 15 students and two faculty members performing.

Admission was free to the second of the three warm-up shows leading to Molloy's annual Talent Show on March 19 in the Jack Curran Gym.

The eight seniors performers were: Matt Garcia, Kristine Juntura, Peter Kramer, Justin Ly, Joe Pinckney, Gabrielle Plaia, Tom Rotondo, and Eric Treffeisen.

The five juniors who took the stage

were: Arleen Aguasvivas, Jane Azarcon, Ray Anthony Gejon, Angelane Gonzales, and Kate Pangilinan.

Two frosh, Motunrayo Agbaje and Joanna Pingol, round out the bill.

Six of the performers, Garcia, Gejon, Kramer, Pangilinan, Pinckney and Treffeisen, also performed at the first Open Mic show on Dec. 1.

In addition to Mr. Frank Gambino, the show's organizer, Ms. Madelyn Dupre also performed.

The final Open Mic show is Feb. 24.

Gallagher urges Stanners to aid Horses for Heroes

By **Ada Rodamis '12 and Victoria Tan '12**

A Molloy teacher is working to get Stanners involved in a new program in New York City to benefit wounded U.S. war veterans by introducing them to the art of horseback riding.

"Horses for Heroes" at the Seaside Therapeutic Riding in Brooklyn is a nonprofit organization that offers free equestrian instruction to disabled veterans adapting to amputations, physical impairments and traumatic brain injuries.

The first "Horses for Heroes" program was launched two years ago in Ft. Myer in Arlington, Va. but the branch in Brooklyn is the first of its kind in New York City.

Research shows that horseback riding helps to relax many veterans suffering from physical and psychological war wounds and eases their trauma.

For example, therapeutic riding can help to increase the sense of calm and independence in veterans who are suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Molloy social studies teacher Mr. Jeff Gallagher got involved in the program

at the request of his fellow Molloy graduate and friend, Mr. Tom Dwyer of the Class of 1962.

Mr. Dwyer is a retired police officer who works with Seaside Program Director Mr. Dan Cutler.

"He asked if I could help with fundraising for the organization and to help make the public aware of its efforts," Mr. Gallagher said.

Mr. Gallagher urges Stanners who enjoy horseback riding to get involved.

"I have developed a love for horses ever since I began riding with family members on a huge ranch in the Midwest as a kid and with the Boy Scouts in upstate New York," said Mr. Gallagher. "The Jamaica Bay Riding Academy has always been a great place to ride and now is wonderfully generous in supporting our nation's veterans."

"This free program for veterans needs financial support and volunteers to guarantee its success," Mr. Gallagher said.

Any student wanting to get involved can contact Mr. Gallagher or Mr. Dwyer through Molloy's Alumni Office.

Or they can visit the website SeasideRiding.org or call Mr. Cutler at (718) 812-8466 for more information.



Mr. Jeff Gallagher got involved this summer in the Horses for Heroes program seen above and he urges other Stanners to do the same. (Photo courtesy of Seaside Stables)

Woods sets record at Stanner Games

By Alexandra Woods '12

Sophomore Kathleen Woods, who was Molloy's most outstanding runner during the cross country season when she broke several records, has continued her record-setting ways during the indoor track and field season.

Woods first broke the girls school record for 1,600-meters on Dec. 5 and then, at the Stanner Games at the Armory Track and Field Center on Jan. 16, she lowered that mark again to 5:29.91 while finishing sixth in a race that attracted some of the top milers in the New York City area.

Woods first broke Lauren Diffendale's 2001 record of 5:38.6 at Fordham Prep, where she ran a 5:34.0

Girls Varsity Coach Mr. Austin Power said he wasn't surprised Woods broke the school record twice within six weeks as she had been running exceptionally well throughout the season.

While Mr. Power wasn't surprised, Woods herself did not expect to set a school record this year and was thrilled to do so.

She said she owes much of her success to her dedication in practice.

Woods's goals for the future are to continue to improve her times and to score well for her team at the Brooklyn-Queens and City Championships in February.

Woods isn't the only athlete to break school records this season as junior

Tonika Forrester set a new girls long jump school record of 17-feet-3.25 and tied the school high jump record of 4-10, as did sophomore Ashley Mayer and junior Sabrina Spataro.

Mr. Power is very proud of all of his record setting athletes, and has great hopes for a fantastic indoor season.

Sophomore Tiana Salas-Ali had the best individual finish among Molloy athletes at the Stanner Games, finishing second in the Sophomore Girls 55-meter Dash in a time of 7.87 seconds.

Other top individual performances were by senior Sean Collins, who finished fourth in the Varsity Boys 55-meter High Hurdles in 7.96, and Dylan Foster, who was fourth in the Frosh Boys 55-meter High Hurdles in 10.39.

Molloy's hurdlers were the stars of the meet as the Varsity Boys Shuttle Hurdle Relay team of Collins, junior Mark Liubicich, junior Connor Davan and Foster finished fifth in a time of 33.51 seconds.

The Varsity Girls Shuttle Relay team of junior Christa Ciuffo, senior Daniella Reddy, sophomore Cathryn Brown and junior Sherise Bunche was fifth in 44.72.

Other top relay performances were: the Sophomore Girls 1,600-meter Sprint Medley Relay team of Casey Collins, Nicole Kelly, Salas-Ali, and Paulina Stefanowski, who finished second in 4:33.65 and the Frosh Boys



Sophomore Tiana Salas-Ali had the best individual finish at the Stanner Games Jan. 16. (Photo by Mr. James Sheldon)

Sprint Medley Relay team of Jonathan James and Nick Matuszewicz, who Toneatto, Steven Neocleous, Darren finished fourth in 4:11.14.

JV Boys look for the right chemistry



Sophomore guard Messay Kassi drives by an opposing defender to get to the hoop for the JV Basketball team against Christ the King. (Photo courtesy of The Blue and White Yearbook)

By Kevin Fernandes '13

Over-matched.

That's probably the best way to describe the Molloy Junior Varsity Basketball team's 69-44 loss to Christ the King High School on Jan. 8 in the Jack Curran Gymnasium in what was the second leg of a triple-header against the Royals.

While the Varsity upset No. 2 ranked King 60-59 and the Frosh battled the Royals tough before losing by 11 points, it was harder to find a bright spot for the Junior Varsity as the Stanners were constantly pressured by Christ the King's defense.

The Royals, who had six JV players who were 6-feet-1 or taller, dominated the offensive and defensive boards all night.

Molloy hung around for a little while, trailing by just five points at halftime, but CK pulled away in the second half.

"The third quarter was really the turning point of the game," said JV Coach Mr. Ed Shannon. "They are a very good team and we just couldn't match up well with their big guys."

Molloy just relied too much on the three-point shot.

Although Ryan Winters went three for four from beyond the arc, the rest of the team did not shoot well and sometimes took very poor shots.

Winters' play was the biggest bright spot for Molloy.

"Ryan Winters hit big shots for us [in

the first half] when we needed them," said Mr. Shannon.

Christian Giles, who was the JV team's main sparkplug off the bench, said, "We played hard. We just weren't prepared for that type of game. They're a fast paced team and we just weren't ready for that. We could've played better defense."

Giles said that after the game Mr. Shannon told his players that if they continue to play hard and play good defense, "the wins will come."

In addition to Winters, the other leading scorers for Molloy against King were Morrell Gaskins with seven points and Ryan Cougar with six.

After the King loss, Molloy was defeated by Loughlin and Holy Cross to drop their overall record to 7-6.

Despite the losing streak, Mr. Shannon said, "[Guard] Brian Kruger has been shooting the ball well for us.

"We've been changing the lineup around, looking to find the right chemistry. When we find it, we'll be all right," Mr. Shannon said.

* * *

The Frosh Boys Basketball team is off to a 9-3 start this season, highlighted by a 70-61 victory at St. Raymond's that marked only the second time in 12 years that the frosh have won in the Bronx high school's gym.

Molloy's only losses this season were in double overtime to Holy Cross and twice to Christ the King.