

The Stanner

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Archbishop Molloy High School

February 2011

Too many 'snow days'?

By **Monish Pahilajani '13** and **AnnMarie Gaglio '13**

The announcement, "Due to inclement weather, Archbishop Molloy High School will be closed," has been made not once, not twice, but three times this year.

Many Stanners, such as sophomore Alyssa Plaia who spent her snow days sledding, feel exuberant whenever they hear this announcement.

Others have mixed feelings.

"I enjoyed the past few snow days," said sophomore Angela Broderick. "I got to make up work and had time to watch old movies, but too much of a good thing can be bad."

The large number of "snow days" Molloy had this year has the Administration talking about adding school days to the calendar if the school is forced to close due to bad weather many more times this year.

Stanners learned that school was closed in a myriad of ways from checking friend statuses on Facebook to the new Edline mass notification system about school broadcasts.

Including the day of Mr. John Mecca's funeral, Molloy cancelled classes four times in 2011.

Consequently, if this pattern of weather-related cancellations continues, Molloy will have to be open for school on days it normally would have off, such as Ascension Thursday on June 2, to compensate for the lost class time.

The decision to cancel school due to the ice and snow storms has been a tough decision for the person making the call, Molloy Principal Bro. Thomas Schady.

Three times this year, Bro. Thomas



Molloy's statue of St. Marcellin Champagnat has been covered in snow for too many days this year. (File photo)

announced that Molloy would be closed even before the storm had hit the New York area because he said the safety of the teachers and students was his main consideration.

"It's better to cancel school ahead of time, take a gamble, and do what's best," said Bro. Thomas said.

Before making that decision, Bro. Thomas consults with the principals of other Catholic schools in Queens, such as Sister Kathleen McKinney of The Mary Louis Academy and Bro. Leonard Conway of Saint Francis Prep.

"If we three talk, it provides a better conclusion because three heads are better than one," Bro. Thomas said.

The principals speak to each other

in a conference call after a major storm is forecast to discuss the projected effect of the snow upon the safety of students and faculty.

For example, if a snow storm started at 2 a.m. the principals of the three schools would talk to each other at 4:30 a.m. to determine together whether they should close their schools.

The principals sometimes get additional input from Bro. Leonard's friend, ABC-TV weather man Bill Evans.

"He is a beneficial person to confer with about the situation," said Bro. Thomas.

While the three principals usually make a unanimous decision to close their schools, Bro. Thomas said Molloy

retains the right to decide to close even if Mary Louis or Prep do not.

"Never say never," Bro. Thomas said. "We might get off when other schools don't."

While speculation about the size of a storm's projected snowfall does not automatically trigger a decision to close the school, Bro. Thomas said it is one of the factors given consideration. Another consideration is a prediction of icy roads.

Fortunately, the recent snow and ice storms did not cause any major damages to the school.

Bro. Thomas commended the maintenance staff of Brian Yusha, Pete Fierro, Aristides Barrios Bolano, and Brendon Cloonan for doing a masterful job of shoveling the snow from the sidewalks and parking lot to make them accessible for people to walk and park at Molloy.

Bro. Thomas hoped a series of warm days would melt away all the snow from the parking lot that was put into the athletic field with bulldozers from outside contractors.

"Unless we have a warm or hot day, the snow is here to stay," joked Bro. Thomas.

Bro. Thomas hopes for a snow-free rest of the year.

"We are getting tired of snow," he said.

"We already have a sufficient amount of days off in school with February break, the four day weekend in March, and Easter break. We don't need any more days off," he said.

Bro. Thomas said he endorses the sentiment he saw expressed on a sign outside a local parish church: "Whoever is praying for snow, please stop."

Stanner Players go in a new direction



The Stanner Players, seen here in last year's production of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," will put on a revue instead of a traditional play this spring. (Photo by Blue & White staff)

By **Anna Poulakas '14**

The Stanner Players' spring production, "Playing With Power," will be a revue made up of several short scenes that all relate to the theme of power.

A variety of performance styles such as acting, dancing, singing and even puppetry will be incorporated into a production that features original work and scenes taken from classic theater, modern musicals and popular plays.

The show will open on April 8 at 8 p.m. and continue on April 9 and 15 at 8 p.m. and on April 16 at 2:30 and 8 p.m.

Director Ms. Jessica Petschauer said she developed the show based on her knowledge of her student-actors' tastes

and talents, the limits of the Theater's performance space and the dramatic integrity of each piece.

"I wanted to do a show made up of multiple pieces in my first year as the director of the drama program" said Ms. Petschauer. "There is more variety and more opportunity for different talents to really shine in our show."

Ms. Petschauer ran many workshops this year and, after working with her actors for several months, she selected scenes she thought would suit them.

This kind of show also gives the Stanner Players a chance to be a little more creative and original with the costumes, sets and other special effects.

Ms. Petschauer said she was blown

Continued on page 6

Molloy should stop shirt 'sizism'

Archbishop Molloy is kind enough to offer seniors the privilege of wearing a fashionable polo, in lieu of the dress code Oxford shirt, for the last three months of their final year in school.

While there is no doubt that seniors appreciate this privilege, some are miffed about the fact that, for many students, the shirts don't fit.

Molloy offers polo shirts to seniors in six sizes: small, medium, large, X-large, XX-large, and XXX-large but not an X-small because the company from which Molloy purchases the shirts does not offer a X-small size.

Molloy offers three sizes of extra large but not even one X-small despite the fact that there many more senior girls who require an X-small than there are boys who need a XXX-large.

Is it too much to ask, especially when these girls spend \$25 per shirt, that Molloy let them buy a shirt that fits?

We understand that it's not Molloy's fault that the company doesn't offer a X-small size, but wouldn't it be very easy for the Administration to find a company that does offer an X-small to satisfy students on the other side of the spectrum from XXX-large?

In its letter sent home to our parents

about Senior Shirts, the school Administration stated that "oversized shirts will not be permitted," and so seniors had to be sure to get the right size.

Well, our right size is X-small.

When we tried on the size small polo shirt from among the samples hung outside Room 123 this month, it was too big and baggy on us — and we tried it on over our normal Oxford shirt.

So we asked a member of the Administration if he had any suggestions about what we might do to deal with this ill-fitting size small and he suggested we have the polo shirts tailored if the fit was not to our liking.

That is easier to say than it is to pay for when considering the cost of a tailor nowadays.

After paying \$50 to purchase two oversized shirts, we were being told to spend another \$50 or more to alter the shirts.

Suddenly, this privilege was becoming quite expensive.

And it's really unnecessary when the problem is so easily solved by switching shirt companies.

Why does Molloy have such trouble with the concept of shirts designed to



Julianne Broderick and Natalie Kurzyrna are perplexed by the large sizes offered in Senior Shirts. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)

fit girls?

For the first 10 years of its existence as a coed school, Molloy has required girls to wear boys Oxford shirts.

After a decade worth of protests, the school finally switched uniform companies and next year girls will be

able to buy shirts actually designed to fit them.

For the entire history of the Walk-a-thon, Molloy has never ordered enough size small t-shirts, much less consider having X-small.

If you are a junior or senior girl, for example, you probably received a nightgown sized Walk-a-thon t-shirt last October because upperclass homerooms only receive large, X-large, and XX-large sized shirts.

The frosh and sophomores are only slightly better off, with about half its Walk-a-thon shirts being size small and medium and the other half being large and X-large.

Doesn't the Administration know that girls don't really grow that much after tenth grade and if they're a size small as sophomores, they'll be a size small as seniors, too?

And girls aren't the only one who suffer, as many a medium-sized male has been given a XX-large t-shirt that goes down to his knees every October.

Are we the only ones who think this "sizism" on the part of Molloy is unfair?

All of us who are small and medium-sized want is for all our Molloy shirts to fit us a little better.

Is that really too much to ask?

-- Natalie Kurzyrna '11 and Julianne Broderick '11

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

BY: KEVIN HONG '11



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 newspaper 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.

Corrections

The Stanner aims for the highest level of accuracy in all its stories.

If you noticed an error or have a con-

cern about a story, please send an email to Moderator Mr. Charley McKenna at: thestanner@molloyhs.org.

The Stanner

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Common App confusion plagues the Class of '11

By James Morales '11

Members of the Class of 2011 were more likely to use the online Common Application than school-specific paper applications when applying to college this year said Mr. Kerry Hughes, Molloy's College Guidance Counselor.

The Common App has the advantage of only having to be done once, as opposed to doing individual paper applications for each different college, because the Common App is sent out to multiple colleges.

However, not all colleges and universities accept the Common App so some seniors had to do college-specific applications for certain schools.

Mr. Hughes said the Common App was a popular choice, with about 80 percent of seniors using the Common App at some point in their college application process.

Mr. Hughes said that most colleges use their own application forms and only 300 to 400 schools currently accept the Common App, "but that number goes up every year."

Mr. Hughes said that it's easier to use the Common App than the traditional paper application form but that doesn't mean it's better for students to use the Common App because colleges that

accept both don't have a preference for either method.

However, Mr. Hughes said that just because the Common App is easier to use doesn't mean it's perfect.

Using the Common App, Mr. Hughes said, can be very confusing and he has received many questions about it from seniors this year.

Many Molloy teachers find the Common App easier to use when it comes to writing recommendations and therefore prefer using it rather than writing out a recommendation on Molloy letterhead stationery and submitting it to the College Guidance Office.

Mr. Brian Klimas, a math teacher who wrote about 40 recommendations this year, said, "The Common App was much easier; I just clicked a couple of buttons and that's it."

Senior Kemet Dugue, who applied to most of his college choices by using the Common App, preferred it over paper forms.

"I thought it was much more efficient because you don't have to worry about retyping stuff for different colleges.

Dugue recommends next year's seniors use the Common App as much as possible.

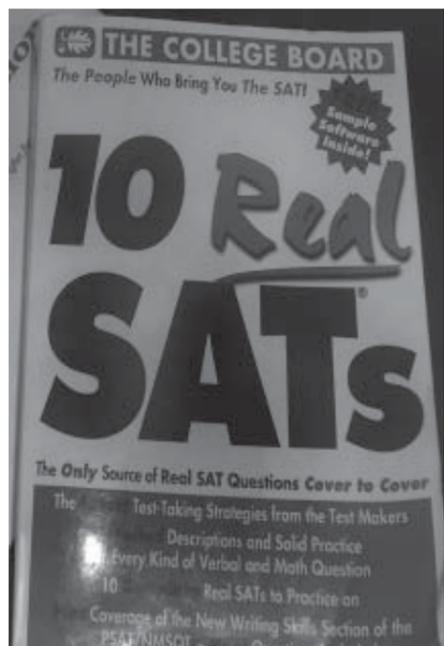


Illustration by Kevin Hong '11.

College Board changes SAT process

By Roberto Bertolini '13

The College Board has announced a new SAT Policy called "Score Choice" that allows students to send their best SAT scores or SAT Subject Test scores to colleges and universities and prevent schools from seeing their lower SAT scores.



Students will still have the option of sending all their SAT scores to colleges and universities.

The College Board also suggested that, in order to preserve a student's ability to hide low scores from a school, SAT or SAT Subject Test scores not be listed on a student's transcript anymore but be sent to colleges and universities via the College Board.

Archbishop Molloy has agreed to follow that suggestion.

Mr. Kerry Hughes, Molloy's college advisor, said that the new policy is more of a "money-making scheme" for the College Board rather than a change that will help most Stanners.

Under the new policy, students must pay \$10 to the College Board for every school to which they send their scores, unlike the traditional way of sending test scores via a student's transcript at no cost to the student.

Almost all Stanners take the SAT at least once with many taking it twice and some even taking it three times.

Now they all will have the option of sending one, two or all three sets of scores to colleges and universities, as the College Board website will ask if they want to use "Score Choice" or send all of their scores.

"This may be somewhat helpful for a certain number of students," said Mr. Hughes, referring to Stanners who might have done very poorly on one SAT but much better on their second try and don't want colleges to see the low score.

Mr. Hughes said Stanners should take the SAT more than once because they tend to be more relaxed and comfortable after taking the exam once and so their scores generally are higher the second time they take the test.

If colleges require a number of SAT Subject Tests in different areas, students can choose which scores they want to send or hide.

Mr. Hughes said that many colleges encourage students to take the SAT several times and to send all their scores

so the colleges can split the scores up to see where the students scored best on the Math, Verbal and Writing sections.

Juniors beginning the college application process find that the SAT and SAT Subject Tests put a lot of pressure on them because of the great emphasis that is placed on these tests.

"A bad thing may happen before a test and it can make you nervous and affect your score in a negative way," said junior Rosemarie Mulligan.

So Mulligan is considering using "Score Choice" because it "would give me a better chance of getting into the top schools."

However, junior Lauren Miller is considering sending all scores to colleges.

"This would show colleges how much I improved," she said.

This new "Score Choice" will be explained in more detail in the juniors' College Guidance classes in February and March.

NHS: Eat pizza to help the Marist Missions

National Honor Society member Victoria LoBosco, who works at California Pizza Kitchen in Atlas Park in Glendale, came up with a unique way for Stanners to help the Marist Missions.

LoBosco convinced her employer to donate money to the Marist Missions for every Stanner who ate at the

restaurant on Thursday Feb. 17.

"Victoria is the brains behind the event," said NHS Moderator Mr. Brian Kelly. "It's really an interesting idea."

NHS members distributed forms during homeroom periods on Feb. 15-16 to any students who were willing to eat at the restaurant in order to contribute to charity.

If the form was presented to a California Pizza Kitchen employee before ordering a meal, the restaurant will donate 20 percent of the check to the Marist Missions in the Philippines.

"Stanners can bring as many fellow Stanners, non-Stanners, and family members to help the cause and enjoy a meal together," Mr. Kelly said.

Nieves named finalist

Senior Stacey Nieves was chosen as a finalist in the 2011 National Achievement Scholarship Program for outstanding African-American high school students.

Nieves was one of 1,300 finalists selected from over 170,000 entrants who will compete for 700 college scholarships of \$2,500 each.

Stanners march in D.C. for Pro-Life

By Noelia Morales '12

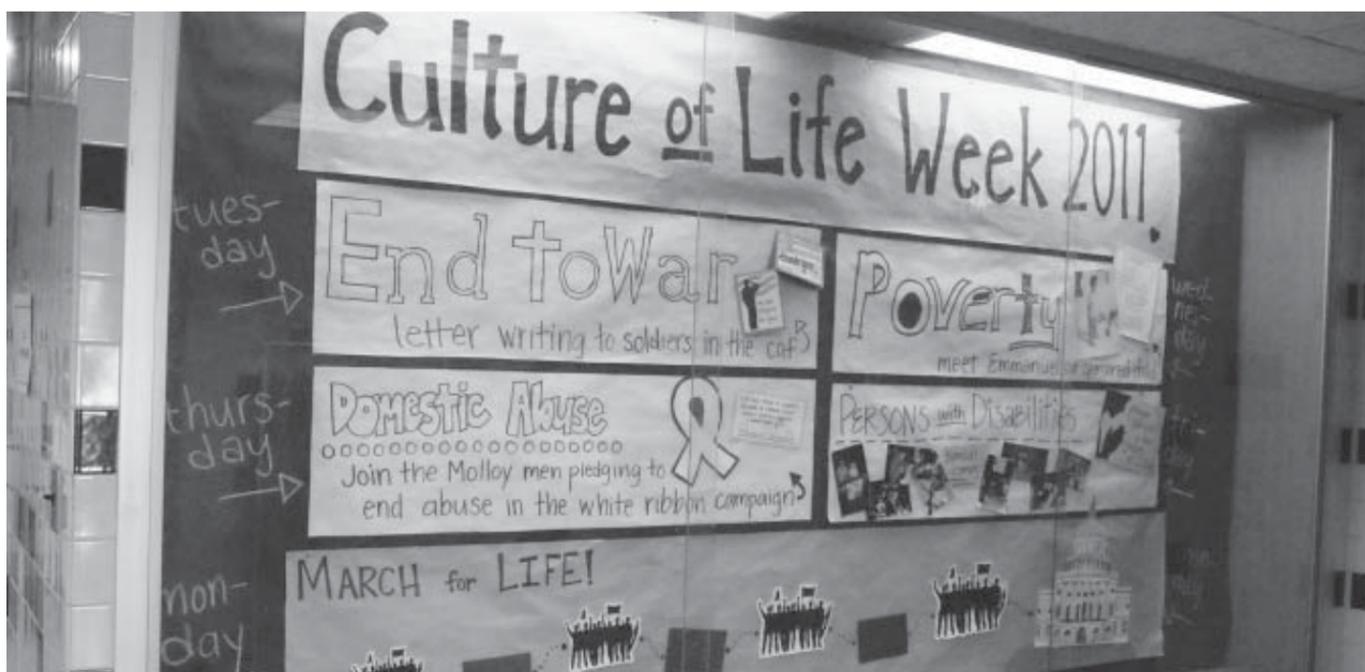
Fifty-one members of Molloy's Right to Life Club, along with Moderator Ms. Elizabeth Reichert and teacher Mr. Ed Cameron, joined the annual Pro-Life March in Washington D.C. on Jan. 24 to protest the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision which legalized abortion.

The Stanners, about 20 of whom had attended previous rallies, joined about 300,000 people from all around the country to march in weather that was cold but 10 degrees warmer than it was in New York City that day.

Junior Thalia Guzman, who attended the march, described it as being very inspiring and, in a sense, comforting.

"Sometimes you feel that you stand alone in your views," she said. "It is amazing to see all the people who participated in the common goal of taking a stand against abortion."

Guzman said the march was the highlight of the year in terms of what



The Right to Life Club put up an eye-catching poster in the display case across from Room 123 to promote its "Culture of Life Week" last month at Molloy. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)

the club stands for and was a great opportunity for club members to take action beyond the wall of Molloy to support their beliefs.

Senior Max Rief said he went because it is a one of a kind experience.

"To see so many people gathered together, all of whom were so kind, peaceful and passionate for change, is inspiring," he said.

Despite having attended two previous marches, Reif was still surprised by the general good vibe at the event because it's incredible to see hundreds of thousands of people marching in between some of our country's most important historical buildings.

Reif, who hopes to continue attending the march throughout his college years,

said his favorite memory this year was, "creating chants like 'Embryo is the way to go!' while we were marching and trying to be more creative than the Canadians next to us."

The bus to the march, which was arranged by the school and cost each club member \$35, left around 6 a.m. and returned to the school at 10:30 p.m.

The Pro-Life March, also known as the Rally For Life, is usually held on Jan. 22, which is the anniversary of Roe v. Wade; however, when the anniversary falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the march is held on the following Monday.

Club co-Moderator Mr. Mike Germano said he began taking club members to this march in 2005 so they

could see that there are many others who also believe in the sanctity of life from the moment of conception.

Several club members and Ms. Reichert designed a large poster which they placed in the display case across from Room 123 to publicize the club's "Culture of Life Week" leading up to the Pro-Life March.

For the first time at Molloy, several members of the Right to Life Club led prayers each morning during the week leading up to the march.

Mr. Germano hopes that the club's morning prayers will be an annual activity because it was a great way to bring light to its cause.

"And those students did a wonderful job," Mr. Germano said.

55 Group leaders picked

By Sameera Kassim '13 and
Stephanie Jaipaul '13

The class many sophomores most look forward to is Peer Groups because they enjoy the chance to have an open discussion with classmates and senior leaders that Peer Groups provide.

The number of sophomores who have positive experiences in Peer Groups is reflected in the number of juniors who apply each year for the job of senior group leader.

Five sophomore guidance counselors this month selected 55 juniors from a long list of applicants to work with them next year as senior leaders.

Guidance counselor Bro. James Norton said he is looking forward to working with the 12 juniors he selected to be his leaders next year.

"It's terribly difficult to select students because there are so many juniors who are capable of being leaders," Bro. James said.

The number of leaders selected depends on the number of groups that need to be created to accommodate the size of a particular sophomore class.

Juniors selected must have certain qualities to enable them to do the job. They must be natural leaders who are truthful about themselves and are concerned and compassionate toward others.

Leaders also must be involved in community service and extracurricular activities.

Counselors don't necessarily factor in an applicant's gender or ethnic background when choosing leaders but prefer just to pick students who, from their perspective, are the most qualified.

Counselors select their leaders only from those applicants who were in their Peer Groups as sophomores so the leaders are familiar with a counselor's methods.

The 55 juniors selected will start their training in March and will continue until the end of the school year.

Junior Tiffany Haniff, who will work with Mr. Ted McGuinness next year, wanted to be a Peer Group leader because as a sophomore she enjoyed talking about certain topics and sharing ideas and feelings with her group and wanted to give that back to next year's sophomores.

She said Peer Groups gave her the

chance to learn about classmates she probably wouldn't have taken the time to get to know if she had not met them in her group.

Haniff said what one of the most important parts of Peer Group is the confidentiality rule where everything said during group is not repeated outside the counselor's office.

"It made me so much more comfortable sharing things," she said.

She said that despite the competition for the job, she was pretty confident she would be selected.

Yet when she was chosen, she was very excited and surprised.

Haniff said her goal as a leader is to create the same comfort and confidentiality level that she felt when she was a sophomore.

"This sets a foundation to allow students to talk about any given topic and enjoy Peer Groups a lot more," she said.

Guidance counselors said that any

sophomores who are interested in becoming a Peer Group leader in two years should start now to become more involved in all aspects of Molloy life, from academics to extracurricular and service activities, to be better prepared for the competition to be chosen to be a leader next year.

Here are the 2011-12 group leaders for each guidance counselor:

Bro. James Norton: Kaitlyn Biscotti; Jackelyne Diaz; Thomas Dreyer; Stephen Eng; Graziella Esposito; Joseph Estevez; Michael Mesa; Erik Petschauer; Julianne Tracy; Ryan Vesey; Ryan Winters; Nicholas Yurisak.

Mrs. Rachel Galla: Laura Banker; Leanne Fahey; Kayla Karsten; Michael Kelcz; John Meyer; William Niklaus; Marc Ochs; Maegen Reed; Sam Spoto; Gabriella Vasquez.

Mr. Chris Dougherty: Rebecca Alberg; Alexandra Bieber; James Botwina; Christina Cepeda; Stephanie Cruz; Alyssa Dolan; Mary Gallagher; Victoria Goldbach; Erik Gustafsson; Angela Peluso; Jenna Rohrssen; Niles Uy.

Bro. Francis Regis: Olivia Balog; Brendon Concepcion; Claudia Fernandes; Michaela Gallagher; Christopher Guevara; Rachel Ipsen-Riegger; Ashley Mayer; Robert Rossi; Michael Siconolfi.

Mr. Ted McGuinness: Timothy Frenzel; Thalia Guzman; Victoria Hanczyk; Tiffany Haniff; Lauren Kelly; Geahna London; Edwin Ramos; Walter Rodriguez; Paul Senica; Jamal Waire; Kathleen Woods; Adrienne Zhou.

"It's terribly difficult to select students because there are so many juniors who are capable of being leaders."

-- Bro. James Norton

Sci-Oly finishes second in city meet

By Kathleen Felisca, '11

Led by double gold medal winners George DeMarco and Serge Ostrowski, Molloy placed second among 44 public, private and Catholic schools at the annual New York City Science Olympiad at Grover Cleveland High School on Feb. 5.

Molloy, which finished behind only Benjamin Cardozo High School, defeated such high-powered programs as third place Collegiate, fourth place Townsend Harris and fifth place Stuyvesant.

"There were gasps in the auditorium when we were announced as the second place team," said senior Mary Rooney, who won a first place medal in Experimental Design. "Some of the kids from the other schools looked like they might start crying."

The Stanners' performance should not have surprised their fellow competitors as Molloy is always the event's highest placing Catholic school and has finished first five times in its history and qualified for the State Championships 20 times in the last 25 years.

Molloy and the other top five teams advance to the State Championships at West Point on March 18-19.

The top two teams at state qualify for the national competition.

"I'm pleased with our performance," said Moderator Mr. Michael DeMarco.



The Science Olympiad Team poses with its second place trophy at Grover Cleveland High School. (Photo by Jennifer Hwu '12)

"Our goal from day one was to make it to the state competition and we achieved it."

Moderator Mr. Michael Nadeau said, "I wasn't surprised by our team's good performance. Dedication leads to the results."

The Science Olympiad is an interscholastic competition which consists of different events that cover the fields of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science and Engineering.

Seniors George DeMarco, Ostrowski, and sophomore Chris DeMarco placed first in the Mission Possible competition where teams build

a Rube Goldberg type device in which a quarter is dropped onto a mousetrap and ten steps later a flag is raised.

"The device has to operate totally automatically for as close to one minute as possible and involves each stage triggering the next stage in a chain reaction ending with the raising of the school flag," Mr. DeMarco said. "George, Serge and Chris handled the job admirably."

George DeMarco and Ostrowski also won a gold medal for MagLev Vehicles.

George DeMarco laughed sarcastically when asked if everything

went smoothly at the competition.

"No problems at all," he said. Ostrowski quickly added, "We promptly fixed all problems we were faced with."

Rooney, Judy Li, and Alexandra Woods won a gold medal in Experimental Design.

Jennifer Hwu and Joey Ingrassia won a silver medal in Ecology.

Molloy also finished third in four events: Anatomy & Physiology (Woods and Shibin Mathews), Chemistry Lab (Rooney and Li), Optics (Li and Jovi Rodriguez) and Tower Building (Will Vista and Tom Hackimer).

Andrea Lai and Joey Ingrassia finished fourth in Ornithology and Marion Galvez and Mathews finished fifth in Microbe Mission.

"This is my first year," said Vista, "so I wasn't expecting much. But finishing third was great."

It is safe to say the entire team is looking forward to the state championship.

"Absolutely, we're all ecstatic!" said George DeMarco.

The Science Olympiad Team for the state meet will consist of seniors George DeMarco, Lai, Li, Rodriguez, Ostrowski, Rooney, Vista, juniors Hackimer, Woods, Hwu, and sophomores Ingrassia, Galvez, Mathews, Chris DeMarco and Derrick Adam.



CSI: Molloy

Seniors Tyler Bay, above, and Sabrina Spataro, left, investigate the evidence at a crime scene on the second floor landing of the DeChiaro wing of the school as part of Mr. Jim Sheldon's Forensics class. (Photos by Mr. Jim Sheldon)

Big brothers, big sisters proposed for 2011 frosh

By Karla Hernandez '12

A new volunteer program might be available next year to the Class of 2012 and every senior class to follow thanks to the initiative of sophomore Cara Salvatore.

The Big Brother/Big Sister program proposed by Salvatore last October to Student Council would assign to participating seniors an incoming frosh to whom they would act as a guiding influence.

Student Council President Derek Sokolowski said the council will survey juniors to ask whether or not they would be interested in this type of program.

If enough juniors agree to participate in the program, the Administration will approve it, Sokolowski said.

The program's purpose is to make the process of assimilating to Molloy life easier for frosh.

If approved, Big Brothers/Big Sisters will begin with orientation on first day of school for seniors in September and the second day of school for frosh, Sokolowski said.

Seniors will primarily meet with the frosh after school regularly in the first three months of school and then continue on their own during the rest of the school year.

The frosh should be able to contact

the seniors with any questions they have and possibly establish friendships.

Sokolowski said Big Brothers/Big Sisters will introduce frosh to the school and erase the stereotype of seniors picking on the underclass students, particularly frosh.

Seniors can help frosh by giving tips on how to get to class on time and even how to reduce the size of those notorious frosh backpacks, some of which seem bigger than the frosh themselves, Sokolowski said.

In return, the seniors will experience what it feels like to "pass down the torch" to future Stanners and help them learn how to survive the halls of Stanner High, Sokolowski said.

Several students show an interest in this program.

Junior Alex Savva said, "I think I would have been helped as a freshman if I had had a Big Brother/Big Sister because I was teased, and I think this program will work because I know a lot of juniors who are willing to help a freshman in need."

Junior Alain Paul said, "I want to help freshmen feel comfortable because I got lost a lot."

Paul thinks Big Brothers/Big Sisters will be successful.

"Of course," he said. "Stanners have the natural mindset of helping others."

Chess Club's busy schedule

By Serge Ostrowski '11

The Chess Club, which is close to completing its third intramural tournament of the year, is on track to complete six tournaments for the 2010-11 season.

Chess Club members compete in three tiers: beginner, intermediate, and advanced, with each tier having three to five sections.

The winners of the October chess competition were: senior Sarah Prieto, frosh Francisco Cid, and frosh Christopher Nguyen from the beginner tier; frosh Kristian Mosquito, sophomore Sho Miyazaki, junior Raymond Sukhdeo, junior Jonathan Cortez, and senior Tom Connolly from the intermediate tier; and senior William Perez, senior Anthony Iurcotta, and senior Trevor Motylenski from the advanced tier.

Mosquito was the winner of the club's speed chess competition in November and Prieto finished second.

The prizes for beginners were books on how to play chess and chess strategies, with monetary prizes of \$5 going to intermediate players and \$10 to advanced players.

On average, about 30 students play in each tournament and there are



Senior Gabriel Rodriguez ponders his next move against Chess Club Moderator Mr. Mike Harrison.

always at least 15 people playing chess at the club's twice weekly meetings, said Mr. Michael Harrison, who has been the club's moderator for 22 of his 24 years at Molloy.

Chess Club members are very dedicated to their sport and love to play chess for fun, Mr. Harrison said.

Mosquito said that his chess skills have improved since he joined the club.

He said he also practices outside of school with his family and friends, which he said helped him to be proficient at

chess before joining the club.

For 18 years, Molloy had an interscholastic team that played against other schools in league play.

In 1993, Molloy was New York State Catholic school champion and finished among the top 16 Catholic school teams at the national meet.

Molloy's team competed at nationals eight times and never had a losing season, said Mr. Harrison.

Molloy's team became a club in 2008 when Mr. Harrison's duties as Social

Studies Dept. chairperson forced him to cut back on the time he could devote to running the team.

"Our school needs a chess team but nobody has the time," said Mosquito.

New members are always welcomed into the club, Mr. Harrison said.

Students can play one on one games, speed chess, or bughouse, a chess game played by four players in teams of two.

The club meets on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in Room 316.

Mock Trial hopes to advance

By Kirsten E. Paulson '13

Archbishop Molloy's Mock Trial team is set to go to court on Feb. 16 and March 2 with the goal of winning its case and advancing to the competition's second round for the first time in its history.

The team faced Queens Gateway School for Health and Sciences as the Defense team on Feb. 16 and will face the Ramaz School as the Plaintiffs on March 2 at the Queens Criminal Courthouse on Queens Blvd.

"This year's case revolves around a parking permit in a small upstate town that was revoked when the town board changed parking regulations around the high school in town," said Moderator Mr. Lou Barbera. "The question is whether the Mayor and town board overstepped their authority."

Mr. Barbera doesn't like this court

case as much as he did ones in the past.

"I find this rather dry and hard to get the students excited about it," he said. "The case committee has moved away from the personal injury type cases because they were seen as being too 'violent' and has gone to more of these civil suits. Most schools I've talked to do not like the change."

Prior to the competition, a set of facts about the case is given to each competing school and the team prepares by analyzing the facts and fashioning a case.

The competition itself entails each school alternately representing the defense and the plaintiff in action.

A "judge," usually played by an experienced trial lawyer, presides over the case and awards points to each team based on how well its lawyers and witnesses are prepared.

At the end of the trial, the team with the most points is declared the winner.

A team with two victories advances to the next round, while two losses eliminates a team from the competition.

A team with one win and one loss can either advance or be out, depending on whether its point total is high enough.

Although it had one win and one loss last year, Molloy did not score enough points to advance past round one.

The team hopes do so this year but it will be no easy task, as Mr. Barbera said all the teams in the competition are good and well prepared.

Molloy's Defense team is comprised of three lawyers, sophomore Cara Salvatore, juniors Frank Marino and Michael Mesa, and three witnesses, senior Mark Puglia, juniors Sean Ramzan and Josh Infante.

The Plaintiff team consists of three

lawyers, seniors Victoria LoBosco, Cristina Lago and Danielle Catinella and three witnesses, sophomores Patricia Bober, Jessica Cardiello and junior Brando Fermin.

"I joined the team because I wanted to get a sense of what it was like to be part of one of the basic rights of each American, a trial by jury," Bober said. "Mock Trial made me realize how much time and effort is put into trials and I have never been more appreciative of this basic right since freshman year when I first joined the team."

Sophomore Sitara Patel, a team understudy, joined the team with her future in mind. "I'm still debating whether I want to be a lawyer or a veterinarian," she said. "I thought Mock Trial would help me get a feel for what being a lawyer is like and help me get to know how the courtroom functions."

Stanner Players go in a new direction

Continued from page 1

away by the talent Molloy students displayed at auditions on Jan. 28, as they were far better than she imagined they'd be.

She also was impressed with their ability to take direction on stage, project their voices, and act.

About half the cast for "Playing With Power" has performed in previous Stanner Player productions while the other half of the cast is newcomers.

However, all cast members

participated either in Ms. Petschauer's acting workshop or trained with Ms. Mary Ann Safrey's Theatre Arts and Improv Group.

"The workshops are excellent training for these young actors to have," said Ms. Petschauer. "The workshops gave the students a solid base in acting. All actors continue to take new classes to work on their craft. I still take classes. Even Oscar winners take new acting classes."

The Stanner Players President Tiffany

McCue and Vice President Tim Frenzel, both juniors, said the workshops helped improve their acting skills such as movement, dance, expression and voice.

Although The Stanner Players are in the early stages of rehearsals for their spring production, they are very welcoming of Ms. Petschauer's new ideas and the way she operates.

"I love everything about Jessica," said frosh Mariyanthie Linaris. "Throughout our rehearsals we've had

lots of fun yet we got work done at the same time."

Frosh Deanna Mayo said being part of The Stanner Players is an amazing experience because they all work together and have a blast.

Ms. Petschauer hopes the show's audiences will have a memorable experience and take great pride in Molloy's wonderfully talented actors.

"The show has a lot of heart and shares an inspiring message with our audience," she said.

New Senior Shirts displease many

By Cara Salvatore '13 and Derrick Adam '13

The style and color of this year's Senior Shirts have been chosen and they should be arriving in time for seniors to start wearing them during the first full week of March.

The polo shirts will be light blue and, for the first time, will feature the school crest at the request of Molloy President Mr. Richard Karsten.

Before picking the color of the 2011 shirts, Assistant Principal for Students Mr. Ken Auer asked many seniors for their opinions as they walked by the sample shirts in six shades of blue that were on display outside Room 123.

Mr. Auer said he did this because it would take less time than holding a formal vote to poll the entire senior class.

Mr. Auer also met with members of the Student Activities Committee and Student Council to get their opinions.

After these consultations, Mr. Auer selected a light blue shirt.

Despite all his efforts to get input, Mr.

Auer's selection was not greeted with unanimous approval.

Many seniors booed the choice when it was revealed to them during a lunch period.

Seniors George DeMarco and Andrea Lai both don't like the choice because they see the light blue color as being un-flattering and childish.

Lai would have preferred wearing the "smurf-blue" shirts of the Class of 2009.

The shirts, which had to be ordered by Feb. 4, cost \$25 each and each senior was required to buy a minimum of two.

Even though many seniors don't like its light blue color, most, including DeMarco and Lai, will wear the Senior Shirt because it is seen as it is a highly coveted privilege.

Lai said the way the shirt is selected should change next year.

"Seniors should have a more direct and fair role in the selection process by being allowed to vote for their Senior Shirts," she said.

Shakespeare Festival set for the Ides of March in Theater

By Jaclyn Eng '13 and Stephanie Bonanno '13

The Third Annual Shakespeare Festival, sponsored by the Theater Arts and Improv Club, will be held on March 15 at 2:15 p.m. in the Theater.

"Last year, the theater was filled to capacity," said Moderator Ms. Mary Ann Safrey. "It was way beyond our expectations."

The free festival is set for the Ides of March. "Shakespeare recognizes this as the day Caesar is killed in 'Julius Caesar'," said Ms. Safrey.

Contestants, many of whom were in last year's show, will perform skits and monologues from Shakespeare's tragedies and comedies while dressed in period costumes.

Prizes, which last year were gift certificates, will be given to the best performers in the eyes of the judges.

"Last year, we brought in an outside judge, but this year we decided not to," Ms. Safrey said. "We are still working on choosing judges."

Frosh Matthew Spataro will

perform in a skit and deliver a monologue by the villain Caliban from "The Tempest."

"Shakespeare is pretty difficult because the language has hard, long, ancient, vague words," said Spataro. "Memorization is the hardest part. I spend a lot of time practicing my part."

Spataro got involved because, "I heard good things about past Shakespeare festivals. I hope to enrich my acting skills and show people what I can do."

Sophomore Rashanna Seymour returns to the festival to perform a skit with sophomore Maria Grbic and do a monologue from "Twelfth Night."

"I liked the costumes and enjoyed arranging the skit last year," Seymour said. "From performing in the festival, I hope to become a better actress."

Ms. Safrey said, "The purpose of the festival is to gain an appreciation for Shakespeare and recreate the English Renaissance experience. I hope the performers overcome their fear of Shakespeare and have fun."

SAC must cancel winter dance and look to spring

By Victoria Tan '12

For the first time in years, the Student Activities Committee decided to sponsor a second dance during the school year.

"Many kids complained that the Halloween Dance just wasn't enough," said junior Manpreet Kaur of SAC.

Opal Vadham, a senior member of SAC, came up with the idea for a Winter Wonderland theme and the dance was scheduled for Feb. 11.

Unfortunately, because only about 70 frosh and sophomores had purchased tickets by Feb. 4, SAC Moderator Mr. Pat Flynn felt he had no choice but to cancel the dance.

Mr. Flynn felt this was definitely a "learning experience" for SAC and he had several theories as to why tickets didn't sell, such as the multiple snow days during the sales period, insufficient promotion and Justin Bieber.

Mr. Flynn joked, "We might not have picked the best day. Some students came up to me and told me his movie is premiering the night of the dance."

Mr. Flynn said SAC members did a "great job getting the word out there, going to homerooms and the Caf during lunch," but perhaps more promotion will be needed if the next dance is to be a success.

Mr. Flynn didn't think the price of tickets was a factor in the cancellation.

"I don't think \$5 a ticket is too much," he said. "We don't look to profit from dances, but we don't look to lose money either. We've got to pay the DJ, maintenance staff, and eight to ten chaperones. We try to break-even."

Many students have wondered why school dances are limited to just the frosh and sophomores, especially when some upperclass students had expressed interest in attending the Winter Wonderland Dance.

SAC has had great success with its Halloween Dance even though it is limited to frosh and sophomores.

But the failure of the Winter Wonderland Dance might make SAC re-think its policy.

"Maybe more students would attend if dances are open to all four years," said Mr. Flynn.

Mr. Flynn said The Halloween Dance "is popular because it's the beginning of the school year, everything's brand new for the freshmen, and everyone gets to express themselves through costumes. So there's always a great turnout."

Students who were looking forward to the Winter Wonderland Dance can take solace in the fact that SAC is planning to hold a spring dance.

Mr. Flynn said SAC already has some ideas such as a dance to culminate Spirit Week or an indoor "Luau," which is a far cry from a Winter Wonderland.

If SAC does sponsor a spring dance, Mr. Flynn advises students to purchase tickets early because he needs "a solid number [of tickets sold] a week before the dance to work out all payments and bookings."

Kaur said that although the cancellation of the winter dance was a let down, she hopes the next one will succeed and Stanners find the time to fit it into their "hectic schedules."



Slammin' an Open Mic

The Theater was filled with poets and musicians on Feb. 10-11 as Molloy's Open Mic and Poetry Slam shows took the stage. A plethora of poets, above, surrounded Mr. Matt Kilkelly, who organized the Poetry Slam as moderator of the literary magazine. Senior poet Marissa Morales won the first prize of a \$30 Barnes & Noble gift certificate while senior David Polanco won the second prize \$10 Dunkin' Donuts gift certificate. Frosh violinist Abigail Singson was one of the many performers at the third Open Mic show of the year. (Photos by Manpreet Kaur '12)



Boys win varsity and frosh B-Q titles

Led by first-place finishes by seniors Pat Cooney in the 1,600-meters and Tyler Bay in the 3,200-meters, and juniors Pat McGibbon in the shot put and John Varsam in the pole vault, Molloy won the Boys Varsity CHSAA Brooklyn-Queens Indoor Championships on Jan. 23 at the Armory in Manhattan.

Two relays, the 800-meter team of Varsam, senior Christopher Mignogna, sophomore Darren James, and junior Jamal Waire and the 1,600-meter team of Bay, junior Robert Rossi, senior James Mercer and Cooney, also earned gold medals, as Molloy outscored second place Ford 67-44 to win the team title.

Molloy also won the Frosh Boys Sectional Championship as Quentin Dumerve, Benedict Harvey, Raymond Henry, Constantine Kokis and Branden Warders all earned gold medals to lead the Stanners to a 63-54 victory over second place Xaverian.

Varsity Brooklyn-Queens Championships

55-meter high hurdles: 4. Mark Liubicich, 8.7; 5. Conor Davan, 8.9.

300-meters: 3. Jamal Waire, 38.5.

600-meters: 4. William Burkhart, 1:33.0.

1,000-meters: 2. Robert Rossi, 2:45.6

1,600-meters: 1. Pat Cooney, 4:41.6.

3,200-meters: 1. Tyler Bay, 10:19.8

Shot put: 1. Pat McGibbon, 43-9.

Long jump: 3. Christian Hadjigeorgiou, 18-9.5; 4. Lorenzo Laing, 18-2; 5. Marc Ochs,

17-11.

High jump: 2. Marc Ochs, 5-10; 4. Darren James, 5-4.

Triple jump: 4. Matthew Lambert, 39-11; 5. Christian Hadjigeorgiou, 39-9.5.

Pole vault: 1. John Varsam, 11-6.

Novice sprint medley relay: 2. Molloy (Daniel Holowiak, Christian Ortega, Robert Ranallo, Steve Liu) 4:25.7.

800-meter relay: 1. Molloy (John Varsam, Christopher Mignogna, Darren James, Jamal Waire) 1:38.4

1,600-meter relay: 1. Molloy (Tyler Bay, Robert Rossi, James Mercer, Pat Cooney), 3:37.3.

3,200-meter relay: 4. Molloy (Christopher Guevara, Gerald Corrigan, Nicholas Yurisak, Dillon Scibelli), 10:22.8.

Team scores: 1. Molloy 67; 2. Ford 44; 3. St. Francis 33; 4. Holy Cross 26; 5. McClancy 15.

Frosh Brooklyn-Queens Championships

55-meters: 5. Oliveira, 8.0.

55-meter high hurdles: 4. Oliveira, 12.5; 5. Legall, 12.8.

1,600-meters: 1. Brandan Warders, 5:21.3.

3,200-meters: 1. Raymond Henry, 12:15.9.

High jump: 2. Daniel Murphy, 4-10.

Pole Vault: 1. Constantine Kokis, 8-0; 2. Sean Ryan, 7-6; 3. Matthew Cazilas, 7-6.

Long Jump: 1. Quentin Dumerve, 13-6.5; 2. Anthony Valenzuela, 13-6.

Triple Jump: 1. Benedict Harvey, 35-7.5; 2. David Stachnik, 30-7.5.

Shot put: 4. Justin Alonso, 30-2; 5. Jeremy Jones, 30-1.

800-meter relay: 1. Molloy (Ryan, Stachnik, Kokis, Harvey) 1:56.7.

1,600-meter relay: 5. Molloy (Dumerve, Murphy, Henry, Cazilas) 4:31.2.

3,200-meter relay: 4. Molloy (Doyle, Famighetti, Dolan, McBride) 11:41.4.



Senior Tyler Bay won the 3,200-meter Brooklyn Queens title.

Girls run off with B-Q title

Led by individual gold medal winners junior Kathleen Woods in the 3,000 meter run and senior Tonika Forrester in the triple jump, Molloy won the Girls Varsity Brooklyn-Queens Indoor Track and Field Championship at the 168th St. Armory Track and Field Center in Manhattan on Feb. 5.

Forrester, who finished second in the long jump, also set a Molloy varsity school indoor record of 7.3 seconds when she finished third in the 55-meter dash.

This was the second year in a row that Forrester set a school record at the Brooklyn-Queens meet, having set the school indoor triple jump record at last year's championships.

Molloy, with 90 points, more than doubled the total of second place Mary Louis to win the title.

Molloy has now won two sectional titles in a row.

"We have won every Brooklyn-

Queens title except one since Molloy went coed," Coach Austin Power said.

Relay teams won two more gold medals for Molloy.

Kristina Gabrielsen, Paulina Stefanowski, Melissa Fesler and Woods won the 3,200-meter relay race and Nicole Kelly, Kelly Michalak, Ololade Afolayan and Tiana Salas-Ali won the 800-meter relay race.

Here are Molloy's results.

Brooklyn-Queens Championships

55-meters: 2. Tiana Salas-Ali, 7.4; 3. Tonika Forrester, 7.8; 4. Stephanie Rey 8.1.

55-meter high hurdles: 2. Casey Collins, 9.6; 3. Sabrina Spataro, 9.9; 4. Shannon Pizzella, 10.1.

600-meters: 3. Kristina Gabrielsen, 1:46.1.

300-meters: 4. Niamani Morrisson, 44.4.

1,000-meters: 2. Paulina Stefanowski, 3:23.8.

3,000-meters: 1. Kathleen Woods, 11:07.80; 3. Melissa Fesler, 12:34.70; 5. Rebecca Verrone, 13:05.70.

800-meter relay: 1. Molloy "A" (Nicole Kelly, Kelly Michalak, Ololade Afolayan,

Tiana Salas-Ali) 1:53.9; 2. Molloy "B" (Sherise Bunche, Ashley Mayer, Julia Rosa, Niamani Morrison), 1:56.1.

1,600-meter relay: 3. Molloy (Casey Collins, Louise Pajor, Quinn Banks, Stephanie Rey), 4:28.6.

3,200-meter relay: 1. Molloy "A" (Kristina Gabrielsen, Paulina Stefanowski, Melissa Fesler, Kathleen Woods), 10:40.3; 3. Molloy "B" (Shannon Pizzella, Rebecca Verrone, Jeannett Llave, Alanna McCoy), 11:40.9; 5. Molloy "C" (Samaria Filosa, Emily Hanna, Molly Sasso, Cara Loftus), 12:16.2.

Shot put: 2. Tori Taiibe, Molloy 33-10.5; 3. Cathy Terranova, 32-1.5.

Triple jump: 1. Tonika Forrester, 35-1; 4. Tiana Salas-Ali, 32-1.5.

Long jump: 2. Tonika Forrester, 16-0; 3. Sabrina Spataro, 15-8.5; 5. Nicole Kelly, 15-3.5.

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

Pole vault: 1. Stephanie Rey, 8-6.

Team scores: 1. Molloy, 90 points; 2. Mary Louis, 44; 3. St. Francis Prep, 29; 4. Christ the King, 18; 5. Nazareth, 14; 6. (tie) McAuley and Kearney, 8; 8. Loughlin, 7; 9. St. John's Prep 6.



Junior Kathleen Woods, center, won the 3,000-meter run at the Brooklyn-Queens meet. (Photos by Blue & White Yearbook)

Frosh Rubiano leads girl swimmers to 2nd place

Frosh Alexandra Rubiano won the 100-yard butterfly and finished second in the 100-yard breaststroke to lead Molloy to a second place finish at the CHSAA Class A Swimming and Diving Championships on Feb. 5-6 at the Nassau County Aquatics Center.

Notre Dame Academy won its fourth straight title.

Senior Agata Michalak finished

second in the 200-meter individual medley and was third in the 100-yard backstroke.

Molloy's other top individuals were senior Margaret McCabe, who finished fourth in both the 200 and 500-yard freestyles, and frosh Aerin Toskas, who finished fourth in both the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard backstroke.

Molloy also had three relay teams place among the top three.

The 200-yard medley relay team of Toskas, Rubiano, Michalak, and Melissa Duran and the 400-yard freestyle relay team of McCabe, Toskas, Michalak, and Rubiano both finished second.

The 200-yard freestyle relay team of Kelly Whelan, Paige Whelan, Shannon

Neville and McCabe finished third.

* * *

Molloy's JV Bowling team won the Brooklyn-Queens Championship and finished fourth in the city meet

The sectional champions are: junior Jordi Escorcia, sophomores Ryan Debiase, John Maurer, Conor Leavens, frosh Jacob Bannon, Rocco Thomas, and John Ventura.