

The Stanner

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Archbishop Molloy High School

November 2009

“Forum” to hit Molloy in December

By Alyssa Boller '12

Senior Gabrielle Plaia stood out among the over 60 students who tried out for a role in The Stanner Players' fall production, “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum,” and in so doing won the coveted leading role of Pseudolus, the Roman slave yearning to be free.

While the script for this musical comedy calls for Pseudolus to be a man, in this production, Pseudolus will be a woman.

“I have enjoyed making some unconventional decisions when it comes to play selection and casting,” Director Mr. Kevin Schwab said. “Pseudolus is a narrator as well as a key figure in the piece. Either gender is appropriate for the role.”

“Gabrielle Plaia will bring something a little different to the play but primarily her acting and singing auditions earned her the part,” said Mr. Schwab.

Plaia is particularly overjoyed with her lead role because it is a comedic role, which she said is taking her out of her normal acting range.

Mr. Schwab said he chose to do “Forum” because he has wanted for years to produce a musical written by Stephen Sondheim.

“This one had a lot of the elements I was looking for,” he said. “The set design and costumes were also enough of a challenge that I thought it would be exciting to attempt.”

The cast seem as excited as Mr. Schwab is to be putting on this musical.

“It’s nice to do a comedy and try to lift people’s moods after last year’s

drama, ‘Our Town,’” said Grace Lisandrelli, who will play Protean Alpha in this production.

“A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum” is about a slave in ancient Rome who wants to buy her freedom. To do so, she goes about arranging a romantic entanglement for her owner, Hero.

The complications and mistaken identities become more and more confusing and convoluted as the plot moves along as different characters arrive out of the blue to generate mass hysteria and insanity.

The musical contains jokes that some audiences members might consider

sexist but Mr. Schwab said, “There is a bawdy aspect to this script but I am not going to alter the play at all. Far worse [sexist] commentary and depictions are present in 21st Century music, movies and television programs than this farce from the 1960’s.”

“Also, having a female Pseudolus alters some of the sexist humor anyway so the contrast is often times even funnier than the original intent,” he said.

Mr. Schwab and the cast agreed that rehearsals are going well so far.

Lisandrelli said, “The cast works really well together and we play off of each other’s acting skills.”

Mr. Schwab agreed.

“Rehearsals are going very well so far,” he said. “Gabrielle has a lot of variety in her role and a ton to memorize, so I am pleased with her progress so far.”

“Aaron Gallagher as one of the Proteans has some clever ideas and a great deal of energy. Hanna Ventura as Domina is coming across strongly, as is David Kane in the role of her husband, Senex.

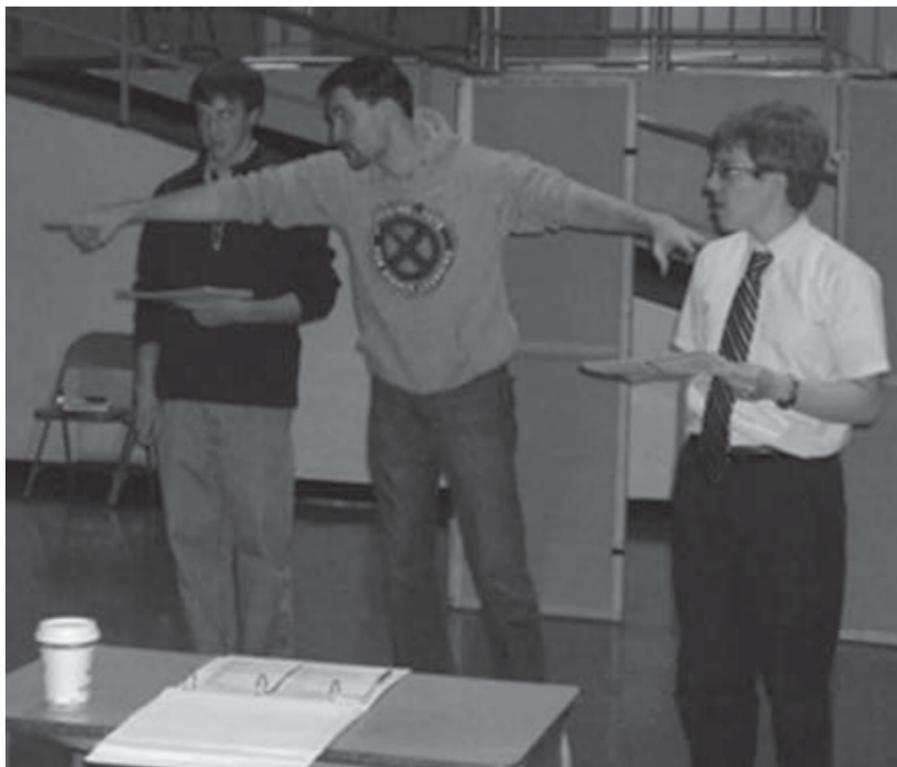
“The big personalities in this play require creativity from all of my actors and I haven’t been disappointed yet,” Mr. Schwab said.

The cast eagerly anticipates opening night on Friday Dec. 11 at 8 p.m. in the Theater. The show will be performed again on Saturday Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. and Sunday Dec. 13 at 2 p.m.

Lisandrelli said the show will definitely put a smile on the audience’s faces and Plaia concurs, saying the show will surely be a hit.

The Cast:

Gabrielle Plaia.....	Pseudolus
David Kane.....	Senex
Hanna Ventura.....	Domina
Patrick McCarthy.....	Hero
Erin Brady.....	Phyllia
Kyle Doherty.....	Hysterium
Timothy Frenzel.....	Marcus Lycus
Christopher Guevara.....	Erronius
Joey McGowan.....	Miles Gloriosus
Grace Lisandrelli.....	Protean Alpha
Aaron Gallagher.....	Protean Beta
Joseph Estevez.....	Protean Gamma
Julianne Broderick.....	Protean Delta
Marjorie Coello.....	Courtesan
Tiffany McCue.....	Courtesan
Rodelynn Orange.....	Courtesan
Jacqueline Cosse.....	Courtesan
Alyssa Plaia.....	Courtesan
Nicole Maniscalco.....	Courtesan



Mr. Kevin Schwab directs Kyle Doherty, left, and David Kane during a rehearsal in the Theater. (Photo by Mr. Charlie Flood)

Collaborative effort will make Coat Drive succeed

By Ada Rodamis '12 and Victoria Tan '12

The goal of Archbishop Molloy’s

annual Coat Drive, which began on Nov. 4 and ended on Nov. 16, is to provide the homeless people living in



Seniors Elise Lantos and Joe Pinckney of Campus Ministry are swamped by the coats piling up in the Campus Ministry Office thanks to Molloy’s annual Coat Drive. (Photo by Alexandra DiDonato)

the Briarwood Shelter with warm outerwear for the winter.

Stanners donated both used and brand new coats to the Campus Ministry Office during the drive and they contributed money to the effort during daily homeroom collections.

The Coat Drive, which is run by Campus Ministry Director Mr. Mike Germano, donated 494 coats last year to people in need around the city.

While the Molloy record for most coats donated in one year is 620, Mr. Germano said he didn’t have a specific goal this year other than to help as many people as possible.

Mr. Germano said, “If every student could bring \$2 or so, each homeroom would be donating about \$60. That would be really helpful.”

Bringing used coats in good condition from home, especially children’s outerwear, was just as important a way to help make the Coat Drive a success

as donating money.

“Why wouldn’t you want to give up something you don’t need and give it to someone who can benefit from it?” said senior Priscilla Velazquez, who has been involved in the Coat Drive for three years.

All of Campus Ministry’s leaders and some of its members will help out later this month by purchasing coats with the money donated by homerooms and then taking those coats to the shelter.

Velazquez said she hoped to get as many coats as possible this year because, as everyone knows, winters in NYC can be pretty cold.

Velazquez said she hoped that all Stanners would get involved, “once everyone is aware of how big the problem is.”

Mr. Germano said for the Coat Drive to succeed, it has to be a “collaborative effort” and every Stanner should take an active role in helping others in need.

How can we save the planet when we can't even keep Briarwood clean?

The writer, philosopher, and naturalist Henry David Thoreau wrote: "Me thinks that the moment my legs begin to move, my thoughts begin to flow."

I experienced a similar feeling while picking up trash along the Walk-a-thon route on Oct. 23 with "I AM Green," Molloy's Environmental Club.

Over the couple of hours it took to finish the walk at the end of a long line of Stanners, club members picked up enough garbage to fill a dozen big, plastic bags.

Most of the garbage, which ranged from tire hubcaps to flattened soda cans, had not come from the Stanners participating in the Walk-a-thon, but from people in the neighborhood littering their own city's streets.

I couldn't help coming to the conclusion, judging from the abundance of half-filled water bottles, beer cans, and coffee cups we collected while we walked, that we are a very wasteful society.

The current "green" movement puts an emphasis on protecting the rain forests and saving the polar bears. But how can we begin to care about the natural environment and the plethora of problems that plague it when we can't even keep our own man-made environment clean?

If we can't even stop throwing trash around in our own neighborhoods, how can we make the drastic efforts that will be needed to prevent catastrophic climate change?

Is there any hope for the planet if wasting resources and littering is so engrained in our society?

We not only waste on a small scale, like the person who left a Dunkin' Donuts flatbread sandwich to rot on someone else's lawn, but we waste on an epic scale as well, by driving inefficient, gas-guzzling cars and using



Illustration by Michelle Rondon '12

inefficient, electricity-sucking appliances and gadgets.

A few people have realized how wasteful modern living has become and have made personal lifestyle decisions to live less wastefully.

Some even take it to the extreme, such as the "freegans," who try to live without creating much waste or spending much money by using alternative strategies such as swap meets and dumpster-diving to acquire clothing, furniture, household items, and even food that other people no longer needed or had thrown away.

What does it say about our society if people can claim that they can live the good life by eating and drinking all the untainted food and beverages that they find in our garbage?

While dumpster diving and its

potential health risks might make it a radical approach to frugal, non-wasteful living, we can still think about ways to adapt their philosophy to shrink our impact on our man-made and natural environments.

The sad fact of the matter is that most of the garbage collected on the Walk-a-thon probably ended up in a landfill in New Jersey and was not recycled. Our neighborhood is now cleaner but the environment isn't. So how do we reduce our garbage output?

If we used fewer products and disposed of the ones we used properly, or if we recycled and upcycled, we could become less wasteful and do less environmental harm as a society. Food waste, especially vegetables and fruits, can easily be reincorporated into the soil by composting them.

We also could come up with ways to reinvent and reuse raw materials.

We can donate clothes, books, and CDs to various charities, including the popular thrift store, Housing Works, which uses 100% of its profits to combat AIDS and homelessness in NYC.

We can turn off the water when brushing our teeth at home and turn off lights and the TV when leaving a room.

Some people claim that climate change is a hoax or we are overreacting to a minor problem. Scientists say those people are wrong. Science tells us there will be a price to pay for the hedonistic way we live with our complete lack of consideration for other humans, our environment, our ecosystem, and our only home, Planet Earth.

—Karen Zhou '11

Letter to the Editor

I was thrilled to read your article about the Political Science and History Club ["Political Science Club debates the big issues," Oct. 2009].

Last year, I was co-founder and co-president of the club along with my classmate Julien Martinez.

I have since graduated from Molloy but was excited to stumble upon The Stanner today and see an article about the club.

At the end of last year, I was extremely nervous as to whether the

club would continue to thrive, seeing as a majority of the attendees last year were seniors.

But now I know not to worry. My club is in good hands and I'm glad to hear about all the progress the club has made since last year. Hopefully, the club can continue to grow and become more successful.

I wish them the best of luck and hope to read about all the great things they do in a later issue of The Stanner!

Sarah Mauro
Class of 2009

Wanted: Letters to the Editor from students

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 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.

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 October 2009 issue of The Stanner:
The title of IAM Green officer Susan

Zheng was incorrect. She is vice president. Due to an editing error, the beach clean-up statistics were misrepresented. They were the items club members picked up from the beach this year.

Production staff member Alexandra Mielczarek's name was misspelled in the staff box.

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SAC Halloween Dance is a ‘Thriller’

By Kirsten E. Paulson '13

The enthusiasm of the frosh and sophomores who turned out for Molloy’s annual Halloween Dance on Friday Oct. 30 made for a fun and eventful night.

About 370 students attended the dance and the overwhelming majority came dressed in costume. Some of the most creative costumes, according to Student Activities Committee [SAC] Moderator Mr. Patrick Flynn, were the student who came dressed as a

member of the band KISS, the several Michael Jacksons, and a Rastafarian.

Frosh Alexa Dietrich, who came dressed as Amy Winehouse, the British pop singer whose personal problems have made tabloid headlines, took first place in the costume contest.

She, along with the runners-up, won Molloy t-shirts as prizes for their costumes’ originality.

Frosh John Anthony DiMaria, dressed as a member of KISS, was the second place winner.

Third Place went to sophomore Lauren Miller, who was dressed as a Jamaican Rastafarian.

Frosh Emil Borzdynski won fourth prize for coming to the dance as the character Jack from “A Nightmare Before Christmas.”

Frosh Amani Tatum was the fifth prize winner for his costume of the Gingerbread Man from “Shrek.”

The costume contest was judged by SAC members, led by three seniors, Samantha Hernandez, Samantha Barbieri, and Mary O’Connell.

When asked if he was pleased with how things went, Mr. Flynn said, “Absolutely. One reason being the [student] turnout, and the second being the positive



Senior SAC members Mark Andriella and Stephen Tanico, above, came to the Halloween Dance dressed as Jay and Silent Bob from the movie “Clerks.” Frosh Emil Borzdynski, left, won the fourth place prize in the dance’s costume contest by coming as Jack from the movie “A Nightmare Before Christmas.” (Photos by Derek Sokolowski)

comments from both students and faculty members [about the dance].”

The students in attendance were also pleased with the music, as they danced to songs selected and played by DJ Matt Lovanco, an alumnus of Molloy.

Lovanco played “Thriller” by Michael Jackson because, “I don’t think this would be a Halloween dance without a little ‘Thriller.’”

But Lovanco also pleased the crowd by playing “Chicken Noodle Soup” by DJ Webstar and “Empire State of Mind” by Jay-Z.

“I thought the dance was awesome!” said frosh Gisella Dionio. “I liked the DJ. He was really good and he played a lot of great songs. The dance was fun because you got to see people out of uniform, and you also got to spend time

with friends.”

However, there were a few minor complaints about the dance.

“I didn’t like that they were charging \$1 for bottled water,” said frosh Jayeda Newaz. “I also think that they should have had air conditioning, since it was really hot in the cafeteria. They also should have had chairs on the sides of the room for people to sit. And since it was a Halloween party, I think there should’ve been food or candy available.”

Overall, however, most students agreed that the dance was fun and successful.

When asked what the next SAC event would be, Mr. Flynn said, “We don’t know, but we’re going to try to do something in December.”



Frosh Alexa Dietrich, right, dressed as troubled British pop singer Amy Winehouse, won the costume contest while other costumed Stanners, above, fill the dance floor. (Photos by Derek Sokolowski)



Walk-a-thon fun raises fun

Name of student, homeroom who raised the most money

By Carolina Ortiz '11 and Stacy Nieves '11

Archbishop Molloy's 15th annual Walk-a-thon on Oct. 23 raised around \$138,000 to pay for the summer renovations planned for the Library.

As usual, the frosh were the top fund-raising class this year, raising about \$42,321.

However, the top homeroom was not a frosh homeroom but juniors, as Mrs. Palmina Dionisi's 3B raised about \$7,643.

As a reward the members of 3B, each received a \$5 voucher for lunch in the Molloy Cafeteria.

Junior Stephen Bradley of 3B was this year's top individual fundraiser with \$5,000 in pledges while sophomore John Varsam came in second with \$2,520.

Varsam explained that in addition to the pledges he gathered himself, "my dad donated the \$2,000 from my sister's foundation."

Frosh, sophomores, and juniors all met their target goal of an average of \$70 per student and will receive a day off from school on Monday Dec. 7.

The seniors, meanwhile, struggled to meet their class fund-raising target and at press time was the only class to not have achieved its goal.

The Walk-a-thon, on a whole, was a success.

"Everything went great, even better than usual" said Mrs. Maureen Kelly, who organized the event.

Frosh Roumesh Persand said of his first Walk-a-thon, "It was a very fun experience for me. We get to have a nice time, talk to our friends, walk around the neighborhood, and we don't have to do any school work."

Junior Marina Camarena, when asked what her best memory of the Walk-a-thon was, replied, "The entire day. It was very awesome."

The Walk-a-thon took place on a cloudy but dry day, keeping alive a streak of good weather that began at the first Walk-a-thon in 1995.

But some Stanners wouldn't have minded if it had rained on Molloy's parade last month.

"It would be cool to walk in the rain," said sophomore Christina Martinez, "especially since I would get to see [junior] Avery Villa-Gonzalez's hair frizz."

Here are the 2009 Walk-a-thon prize winners:

First place overall (Free Tuition): Stephen Bradley 3B

Second place overall (Laptop): John Varsame 2K

First place senior (2 Prom tickets): Christian Chandler 4B

Second place senior (\$100 Gap Gift Card): Megan Crane 4B

Third place senior (\$50 Gap Gift Card): Julia Lipovac 4F

First place junior (Free Driver's Ed Tuition): Stephen Bradley 3B

Second place junior (\$100 Gap Gift Card): Emil Pape 3H

Third place junior (\$50 Gap Gift Card): George Mirisis 3G

First place sophomore (\$150 Gap Gift Card): John Varsam 2K

Second place sophomore (\$100 Gap Gift Card): Jenna Rohrssen 2J

Third place sophomore (\$50 Gap Gift Card): Michael Lipovac 2F

First place frosh (\$150 Gap Gift Card): Israel Matos 1H

Second place frosh (\$100 Gap Gift Card): David Mieles 1H

Third place frosh (\$50 Gap Gift Card): Mario Stefanidis 1L

Raffle Prize winners

i-Pod: Jenna Rohrssen 2J

Personal Computer: Anastasia Limogiannis 2F

2 Broadway Tickets: Antonia Arapis 3A

\$125 Gap Gift Card: Jenna Rohrssen 2J

5 Rangers Tickets: Christina Jarosch 3E

4 Rangers Tickets: Stephen Bradley 3B

4 Islanders Tickets: David Lozada 3F

4 Islanders Tickets: John Moravek 2G

4 Knicks Tickets: Marisa Puzino 3J

4 Mets Tickets: John Moravek 2G

3 Jets Tickets: Amber Tom 1L

2 Rangers Tickets: Chaz Watler 1M

2 Rangers Tickets: Danissa Williams 1M

2 Rangers Tickets: David Lozada 3F

\$50 Movie Gift Card: Joseph Guzman 2D

\$50 Barnes & Nobles Gift Card: Giselle Guerra 1E

\$50 Molloy Bookstore Gift Card: Stephen Bradley 3B



Stanners stay on the sidewalk, above, while walking through Briarwood but, at the directions of the police, do a massive jaywalk, below right, across the intersection of Union Turnpike and Main St. The drummers of Molloy's Pipe Band, far right, send Stanners on their way to see Mr. Jim Sheehan, below left, who stamps students cards along the route. (Photos by Chris Hwu, Ben Joson, and Derek Sokolowski)



ands for Library renovation

Sixty seniors stroll 10 miles to the WTC via Williamsburg

By Melissa Gazal '10 and Amanda Demenescu '10

As part of Molloy's annual Walk-a-thon on Oct. 23, 60 members of the Class of 2010 made the annual senior trek from the school to the site of the World Trade Center in Manhattan, with a lunch break in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

While students in the lower grades and faculty walk the official Walk-a-thon route together every year, seniors are given other activity options for the day, such as playing Flag or Frisbee or walking about 10 miles to the World Trade Center.

Three guidance counselors, Mr. Ted McGuinness, Mr. Chris Dougherty, and Bro. James Norton, led the seniors on their journey which began at 9:30 a.m.

Mr. McGuinness was pleased with the turnout of seniors for the walk and said the experience, "was fantastic."

The group walked through Forest Hills to Metropolitan Ave., which they walked all the way into Williamsburg, a different route from past treks.

The seniors stopped on Bedford Ave. for about 45 minutes to eat lunch at one of a variety of ethnic restaurants on the street that had them drooling.

Seniors David Kane and Samantha Traslaviña both agreed that the Thai Restaurant on Bedford Ave. had lunch that was "amazing."

Senior Camille Dwyer loved her choice of a Vietnamese sandwich purchased at another local shop.

"We usually stop for lunch in downtown Manhattan," Mr. McGuinness said, "but we decided to

switch things up this year."

After they finished eating, the Stanners continued south on Bedford Ave. to the Williamsburg Bridge and walked over it into Downtown Manhattan.

Kane said he thoroughly enjoyed the views of Manhattan and the East River that can be seen while walking across this "never-ending bridge."

Once the Stanners reached Manhattan, they walked west on Delancey St., then south on Broadway, and eventually reached the World Trade Center.

Upon reaching their destination, they had a brief prayer service at the Engine 10/Ladder 10 Firehouse and observed the progress being made at the World Trade Center construction site.

Students were then dismissed. Some stayed in Manhattan to enjoy the rest of the day while the rest returned to school by subway with the faculty.

Everyone got something different out of this experience.

While many seniors were proud of themselves for being able to walk 10 miles, others, like Kane and Traslaviña, said the walk, "didn't feel long enough."

"You didn't really feel the fatigue until you got close to the World Trade Center," Kane said.

The faculty, as well as the seniors, recommend this Walk-A-Thon alternative to the juniors for next year.

"It's one of the best trips Molloy has to offer," Dwyer said.

Traslaviña enthusiastically agreed that everyone should consider experiencing this walk when they are seniors.



Camille Dwyer, right, and her fellow seniors jump for joy while crossing the Williamsburg Bridge into Manhattan. (Photo by Ben Joson)



The Lantern's more popular than ever

By Leanne Vaccaro '13

Students at Molloy often hear friends and classmates talking about an after school group called The Lantern, but many don't know quite what it does.

The Lantern is a group of students who meet in the Chapel every Thursday from 2:15 to 3:00 p.m. to discuss topics such as family, friends, peer pressure, new beginnings, change, and any other things to which students can relate.

The meetings are open to all students and no one needs to have any type of membership card to attend. Students can attend just one meeting at any time during the year or come to every one.

The Lantern meetings began after the Marist Youth Leadership Conference in 2002 at Esopus when Mr. Mark Sweeney, Bro. John Raeihle and the late



Stanners gather in the Chapel every Thursday to take part in The Lantern. (Photos by Bro. John Raeihle)

Bro. Stephen Urban agreed that Stanners were in need of a frequent reminder of the Marist Spirit while in school back at Molloy.

They created a student-run weekly prayer service which would concentrate on subjects pertaining to high school students and chose a group of students to design each week's service.

"The Lantern has become a popular weekly 'get away' for the student body here at Molloy," said Moderator Mr. Sweeney.

Students who attend The Lantern meetings talk in groups about a new subject at every week.

Each group is led by a junior or senior from The Lantern's Planning Committee.

This year's committee has five

seniors, Karen DeMarco, Stephen Finn, John Moore, Stephen Tanico, Benedict Joson, six juniors, David Champlin, Thomas Columbia, Gina Galizia, Matthew Mitarotonda, Kate Mulvihill, and one sophomore, Marc Ochs.

These students are members of the Marist Youth Group at Molloy as well.

The Planning Committee members get together every Tuesday to come up with ideas for Thursday's meeting.

"The Committee has many great, creative ideas in store for Lantern this year," said Mr. Sweeney.

The first four Lantern meetings this year drew 80, 92, 72, and 60 students respectively.

"This year's attendance at The Lantern has been the best yet," Mr.

Sweeney said.

One project undertaken by the students who attended The Lantern meetings was planting 100 daffodil bulbs in the St. Ann's Courtyard, an idea suggested by Mulvihill.

The project was sponsored by the NYC Parks Department, which donated the bulbs to The Lantern.

The bulbs were used to represent the goals for each student at the meeting where they examined and exchanged views on their goals in their groups.

"Sometimes, in order to achieve our goals, we must weather harsh conditions," Mr. Sweeney said. "We need nutrients and support and, most of all, love."

The group hopes its flowers and its goals will both bloom in the spring.



Planting bulbs in St. Ann's Court

Nov. is write your own novel month

By David Kane '10

November is National Novel Writing Month, or NANOWRIMO, and its purpose is as straightforward as it seems, said Molloy English teacher Ms. Mary Ann Safrey.

Ms. Safrey, who has penned a novella of her own and has a daughter who is a professional novelist, recounted how she had heard about NANOWRIMO from a friend who suggested that it would be a good activity to introduce to high school students.

After Ms. Safrey announced a meeting for potential novelists, almost 30 students showed interest.

"I really didn't expect the turnout that I've gotten thus far," said Ms. Safrey, who hopes that further promotion through publicity and word of mouth will serve to generate even more buzz.

Each student at the meeting received a free workbook that outlined the different phases of the novel writing process.

During NANOWRIMO, each age group of writers is challenged to attain a word-count goal by month's end.

For young adults, the goal is 50,000 words by Dec. 1.

Ms. Safrey said that the main goal is to "build a community of writers," rather than have a person write a novel in just 30 days, because "writers write for the

love of writing."

She hopes that the students involved in NANOWRIMO will "develop an appreciation for the books that they read and develop a level of self discipline to the point where they can sit down and write every day."

At the meeting, Ms. Safrey gave several tips to the aspiring novelists.

"Ask yourselves: 'What would your character have for breakfast?' If you know what a person has for breakfast, it means you know them pretty well," she said. "In order to put your characters in any situation, you have to know them well."

To conquer writer's block, Ms. Safrey suggested that students eschew the traditional idea of starting to write a novel with the first chapter.

"If you can't think of a beginning, write a scene, or even write the ending first," she said. "When it's finished, the reader won't know what was written first or last."

Most of the students in attendance had the idea of writing a fantasy or a romance but a couple mentioned writing historical fiction or a memoir.

Junior Karen Zhou never thought about writing a novel before coming to the meeting, but said, "I wanted to challenge my creativity."

Neither Zhou nor junior Natalie

Kurzyna were certain of what they were going to write about when the meeting ended but Kurzyna planned to draw from, "my life and [my] personal experiences."

Both seemed awed by the 50,000-word goal but were undaunted.

"The idea of writing 50,000 words is a bit overwhelming," Kurzyna said, "but I will certainly try my best."

Thanksgiving Liturgy to say thanks for the memories

By Lexi D'Attille '13, Dina Mangialino '13, Tatiana Requiyo '13, and Cara Salvatore '13

The Thanksgiving Liturgy, the annual mass that gives Stanners the opportunity to show their gratitude for everything in their lives, will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 25 at 8 a.m. in the Jack Curran Gym.

Mr. Mike Germano, the Campus Ministry Director, runs the Liturgy Committee of 19 students representing all four grades.

Everyone on the committee works together to decide which readings will be used for the liturgy, as well as determining everything else that needs to be prepared for the event.

When planning a liturgy, the students and Mr. Germano work to try to create an event that will be memorable for those students who attend.

Mr. Germano said the committee

has decided that the idea of memorable experiences at Archbishop Molloy High School will be an important aspect of the mass; however, the main focus will be Thanksgiving related.

"We are brainstorming on different topics," said junior Victoria LoBosco, a member of the Liturgy Committee who has helped plan past liturgies for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Liturgy Committee members hope that all those who attend the Thanksgiving Liturgy will understand its message and try to carry it out in their lives.

Attendance is optional, but the committee hopes that this year's Thanksgiving Liturgy will attract as large a number of students, faculty and alumni as it has in the past.

The committee also hopes it will inspire students to attend the Christmas Liturgy in December.

Volleyball advances to Class A State Tourney

By Nicholas Capitelli '13 and Billy Rabold '13

Molloy's Varsity Volleyball team did not have as great a season as it had hoped for but with most of its starting lineup returning next year, the team is optimistic about the future.

The team finished the regular season in third place with a 6-4 record behind first place St. Francis Prep and second place Mary Louis.

However, Molloy lost 3-1 at home to Bishop Kearney in its first round diocesan playoff game on Oct. 25.

Molloy's season didn't end there, however, because, as the third seed in the Brooklyn-Queens diocese, it was eligible to compete in the CHSAA Class A State playoffs if it could defeat Bishop Ford in a play-in game.

Molloy defeated Bishop Ford 3-0 in that game played at Bishop Loughlin High School to advance to the Class A playoffs at Cardinal Spellman High School Nov. 14-15.

"I think they have done well this season," Molloy Athletic Director Mr. Mike McCleary said of the team.

Molloy's players agreed with Mr. McCleary to a point.

Junior Samantha Lynch said, "We did okay. We made State Class A playoffs but we could have done better [by qualifying for the State AA playoffs]."

Frosh Anna Pastina said, "We tried our best. But we will do better next season."

Mr. McCleary said the team's top players this season were two seniors, Christina Perez, the team captain and middle hitter, and defensive specialist Justina Dinko.

The team's biggest victory of the season was its 3-1 defeat of Mary Louis in the regular season finale to clinch third place in Brooklyn-Queens and qualify for both the diocesan and state playoffs.

After dropping the first set to Mary Louis in that game, the Stanners came back to win three sets in a row as Perez had 19 kills and seven service aces and junior Catherine Mulvihill had 17 kills and five aces.

Lynch credited Perez and junior Ariella Levine for their great team leadership during the season.

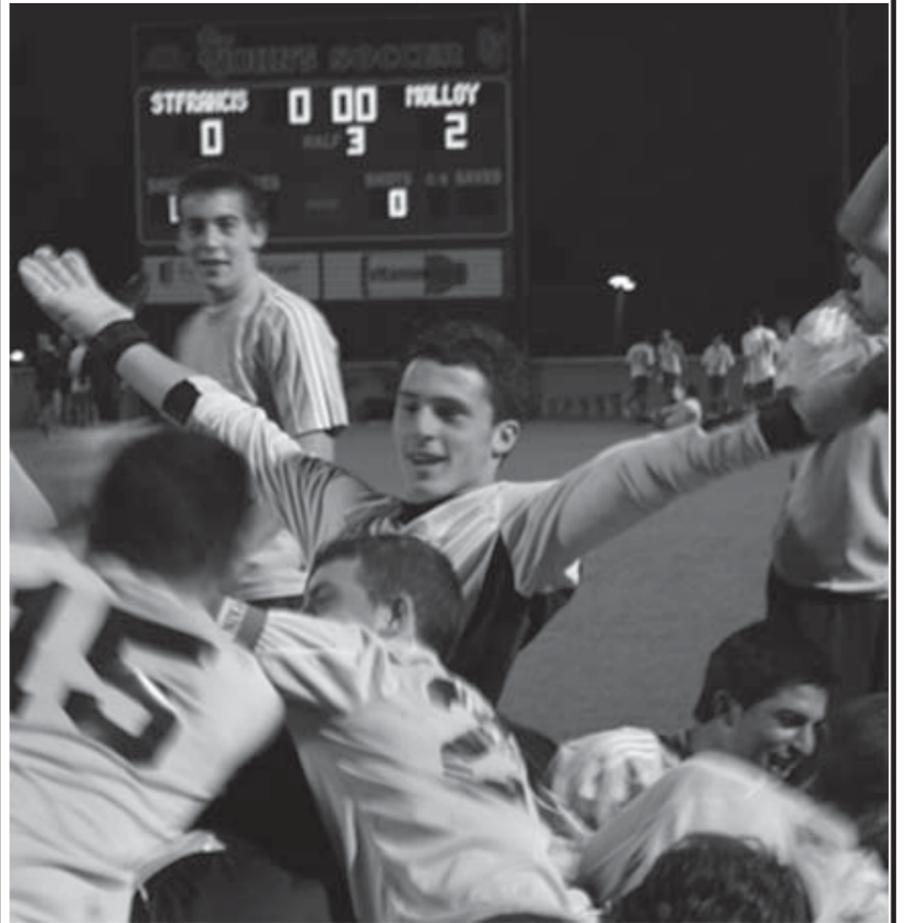
With so many of the team's starting players returning next year, Molloy looks forward to having a great season.

Mr. McCleary's expectations for the 2010 season are, "to win the [Brooklyn-Queens] Diocesan Championships and make the Class AA State Playoffs."

Pastina said, "We will be a very dominating team."

Lynch said, "I think we will be the team to beat if we practice hard."

Boys repeat as champs



Senior goaltender Joe Ruocco spreads his arms wide to celebrate atop a pile of happy Stanners after Molloy's Boys Varsity Soccer team defeated St. Francis Prep 2-0 in overtime on Nov. 8 at St. John's University to win the CHSAA Class A City Championship for the second year in a row. Senior captain Glenn Whelan scored Molloy's first goal on a header in the first overtime period and senior Patrick O'Grady added the final goal in the second overtime. With the victory, Molloy advanced to play St. Anthony's in the semifinals of the CHSAA State Championships at Adelphi University on Nov. 13. (Photo by Mr. James Sheldon)

Girls win JV soccer title; boys don't

By Kevin Fernandes '13

Molloy's Girls and Boys Junior Varsity Soccer teams had great seasons with the girls winning a title and the boys reaching the city championship game.

The Girls JV soccer team won the NSCHAA A Division championship

with a 4-1 victory over Our Lady of Mercy Academy.

The Stanners got strong play from sophomore goalkeeper Kaitlyn Biscotti and from forward Cathryn Brown, who had to take over as goalkeeper when Biscotti hurt her foot.

The Stanners racked up an 8-3-1 regular record, which included two victories over arch rival Mary Louis.

Their success from the regular season carried into the team's championship playoff run.

When asked if he was pleased with the team's performance this year, Molloy Athletic Director Mr. Mike McCleary gave a wide smile and said, "They won the championship. It can't get any better than that. I'm thrilled!"

Meanwhile, the Boys JV team, led by two talented forwards, frosh Giuseppe Barone and sophomore Ryan Winters, and a strong defense, posted a 9-2-2 overall record this year which included two victories over Holy Cross and three over Xaverian, the last coming

in the city playoff semifinals.

However, in the city championship game on Nov. 4, Molloy lost 3-0 to Regis, preventing the Stanners from reaching their ultimate goal. The two teams had tied 2-2 during the regular season but this time Regis was the better team.

The only other team to beat Molloy this season was St. Francis Prep, who beat the Stanners 3-1 on Oct. 20.

"We were hoping for a good season and we've been fortunate to have one," said Mr. McCleary of the JV Boys.

Said Barone, "I think our whole team was outstanding this year. Everyone on our team is very good and they completed their tasks. This is what makes great players."



Marc Ochs, above, has his eye on the ball. Cathryn Brown, right, gets ready to kick the ball upfield. (Photos by Mr. Jim Sheldon)



Stanners sweep all 8 B-Q XC titles

For the first time, Molloy's Cross Country teams won all eight Brooklyn-Queens Sectional titles in a single season.

After winning both the girls and boys



Kathleen Woods

sophomore championships earlier last month, Molloy completed its historic sweep on Oct. 31 in Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx.

Sophomore Kathleen Woods won the Girls Varsity 2.5 mile race in a time of 16 minutes, 21 seconds to lead Molloy to an easy 63-point victory over The Mary Louis Academy, which finished second.

Molloy's top five runners placed among the top nine finishers in the race.

Woods's best time this fall, a 16:12 run at the All Hallows meet, ranks as the second fastest in Molloy history, trailing only the 16:01 run by Natalie Lebron in 2001.

Woods continued her winnings ways on Nov. 8 when she added the individual Sophomore Girls City Championship to her resume with a winning time of 16:12.9, while Molloy finished fourth in the team standings.

Leading the Boys Varsity to its sectional title was senior Devin Chowske, who finished third in 14:19.67 behind the first place finisher, St. John's Prep sophomore Gabriel Vazquez (13:35.53), and runner-up, St. Francis Prep senior Carlos Roa (13:40.38).

Molloy's top five runners placed among the top 16 finishers as Molloy defeated second place McClancy by 32 points.

In the Junior Varsity races, Molloy sophomore Tom Dreyer won the individual boys title in 15:54.83 while

Teresa Governale won the girls title in 19:42.

Frosh Jacob Lascano finished second to St. John's Prep's Grant Barclay in the boys 1.5 mile race while third-place Patricia Dorgler was Molloy's top frosh finisher for the girls.

Here are Molloy's results of the 2009 Brooklyn-Queens meet:

Varsity Boys (2.5 miles)

Team scores: 1. Molloy 48; 2. McClancy 80; 3. Xaverian 94; 4. St. John's Prep 99; 5. Holy Cross 110.

Molloy results: 3. Devin Chowske, 14:19.67; 8. Tyler Bay, 14:50.55; 10. Sean Collins, 15:00.69; 11. Matt Powers, 15:01.97; 16. Dan Acosta, 15:14.80.

Junior Varsity Boys (2.5 miles)

Team scores: 1. Molloy 21; 2. St. John's Prep 71; 3. Xaverian 78; 4. Loughlin 170.

Molloy results: 1. Tom Dreyer, 15:54.83; 2. Brendan Fitzpatrick, 16:04.22; 3. James Mercer, 16:09.30; 4. Chris Guevara, 16:09.78; 5. Robert Rossi, 16:10.48.

Frosh Boys (1.5 miles)

Team results: 1. Molloy 34; 2. St. John's Prep 79; 3. Xaverian 98; 4. McClancy 104; 5. St. Francis Prep 126.

Molloy results: 2. Jacob Lascano, 9:52.13; 5. Dillon Scibelli, 10:03.74; 6. Giancarlo Mayor, 10:14.55; 10. Patrick Goldberg, 10:22.74; 11. Steven Neocleous, 10:29.27.

Varsity Girls (2.5 miles)

Team scores: 1. Molloy 28; 2. Mary

Louis 91; 3. Christ the King 136; 4. St. Francis Prep 139; 5. Ford 146.

Molloy results: 1. Kathleen Woods, 16:21; 3. Agata Michalak, 17:21; 7. Rovena Pjetergjoka, 18:02; 8. Melissa Fesler, 18:03; 9. Paulina Stefanowski, 18:05.

Junior Varsity Girls (2.5 miles)

Team scores: 1. Molloy 16; 2. Mary Louis 73; 3. St. Francis Prep 76.

Molloy results: 1. Teresa Governale, 19:42; 2. Samantha Traslavina, 20:10; 3. Tiana Salas-Ali, 20:15; 4. Jeannett Llave 20.49; 6. Ashley Mayer, 21:32.

Frosh Girls (1.5 miles)

Team scores: 1. Molloy 41; 2. Kearney 78; 3. St. Francis Prep 126; 4. McAuley 131.

Molloy results: 3. Patricia Dorgler, 11:19.56; 5. Samaria Filosa, 11:35.12; 7. Daniella Ortiz, 11:52.12; 9. Louise Pajor, 11:56.29; 17. Erin Gander, 12:58.94.



Agata Michalak

A 'great fall' for AM teams

Molloy Athletic Director Mr. Mike McCleary called this "a very good fall" for the Stanner sports teams as all of them had winning records and many won championships.

The Girls Varsity Soccer team won its second consecutive CHSAA Nassau-Suffolk Class A title on Oct. 30 by defeating Our Lady of Mercy 2-1 in overtime in Syosset.

Senior Laura Prendergast scored Molloy's first goal against OLMA and junior Michelle Sabogal scored the game-winner in overtime.

To reach the finals, Molloy defeated St. Mary's 2-0 on goals by frosh Victoria Antonino and junior Kyra Meli.

The Junior Varsity Volleyball team reached the finals of the Brooklyn-Queens playoffs where it lost to St. Francis Prep on Nov. 5 at Christ the King High School.

And as documented in other stories and photos in the sports section, the Boys and Girls Cross Country teams won eight sectional title, Girls Tennis team is a champion, the Girls Varsity Volleyball team is in the state playoffs, and the Boys Varsity, Boys Junior Varsity, and Girls Junior Varsity soccer teams all had great success.

"It's been a great season," Mr. McCleary said.

Tennis wins B-Q title

By Mark Puglia '11

Molloy's Girls Varsity Tennis team finished off an undefeated regular season by winning the CHSAA Brooklyn-Queens title and advancing to the finals of the CHSAA State Championships.

Leading the team to its 11-1 record was a starting lineup of senior Maria Duran at No. 1 singles, sophomore



Kisa Shiga

Monika Nowak at No. 2 singles, junior Elizabeth Lynch at No. 3 singles, the No. 1 doubles team of seniors Samantha Hernandez and Kisa Shiga, and the No. 2 doubles team of senior Rebecca Persaud and junior Meaghan Grimaldi.

Molloy started the playoffs as the No. 1 seed due to its undefeated record.

Mr. Mike McCleary, the Molloy Athletic Director, said the team accomplished that feat, "by having talented players, strong coaching and two victories over The Mary Louis Academy in the regular season."

Molloy started off the playoffs at Alley Pond Park in Queens by beating Fontbonne Hall of Brooklyn 4-1 in the first round and then defeating The Mary Louis Academy for a third time this season, 3-2, to win the Brooklyn-Queens title.

Molloy then advanced to the CHSAA State Playoffs where it defeated St. Joseph-by-the-Sea of Staten Island 3-2 in the first round.

The season came to a disappointing end when Molloy lost to rival St. Francis Prep, 5-0, in the finals.

However, junior Maya Suarez said that she and her teammates were very satisfied with their season and are proud of their accomplishments this year.

Mr. McCleary said he was "thrilled"

about the team's Brooklyn-Queens title, its second sectional title in Molloy history and first since 2007.



No. 1 singles player, senior Maria Duran, prepares to hit a backhand. (Photos by Ben Joston)