

## Molloy HS will Remember Karina Vetrano '04 with Event and Scholarship

by Sydney Bryant '19 & Lauren Klein '19

As many of us know, Archbishop Molloy High School is built on the foundation of a dedicated and loving community. We're Stanners – a family. We collectively rejoice in moments of happiness and grieve together when tragedy strikes. This explains the despair that was felt when we lost a member of the Stanner family last year.

On August 2, 2016, Karina Vetrano '04 passed away. Soon after her death, a GoFundMe page was set up to raise reward money to coax someone with information on the crime into coming forward. After a six month investigation, a suspect was arrested. Even after the arrest, generous hearts continued to donate to the GoFundMe page. To this day, approximately \$291,890 was donated by 4,616 people. Karina's father, Mr. Phil Vetrano '74, is determined to pass on the money to causes Karina would support. Mr. Vetrano says the options include St. Jude's Research Hospital, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and Molloy. Only a modest portion of these funds will be sent to Molloy.

In addition to Mr. Vetrano's efforts, Molloy's Stanner Alumni Center wants to do more to honor Karina. Hopefully, in the near future, there will be a Karina Vetrano Memorial Scholarship for "deserving female students." An approximately 18-hour fundraiser akin to the Relay for Life has been planned to raise the necessary funds, \$100,000, for a potential scholarship. Mr. Rizzotti and the Alumni Center encourage participants to sign up

for the specific times they want to join the efforts. The walk/run on the track will begin at 8 pm on Friday, June 23, 2017, and will go throughout the night into Saturday June 24th. On Saturday, there will be a morning Mass in Karina's honor and a brunch to follow. At that time, the school would like to dedicate a part of the campus to Karina.

Everyone is welcome to support the honoring of Karina Vetrano's legacy. The campaign to make this fundraiser a success will primarily be driven by social media, so be sure to spread the word! Sponsors are encouraged to donate on Molloy's website and runners should be sure to sign up there as well. Additionally, volunteers will be needed to help organize the event.

Although Karina is no longer with us in person, she will forever be with us in spirit. She will always be remembered as a valued member of Molloy's first historic co-ed class, the Class of 2004. While at Molloy, Karina was a determined student-athlete, leading the school to win the freshman Cross Country Intersectional City Championship. Most importantly, she was a beloved part our community, and will be dearly missed. The Karina Vetrano Scholarship is one of many ways her memory, and legacy, will live on.

Information on how to sign up for the event and how to donate to the scholarship can be found on Molloy's website at [www.molloyhs.org/karina](http://www.molloyhs.org/karina).



Karina Vetrano's senior portrait.



Vetrano running at Van Cortlandt Park as a member of Molloy's track team.

## Epic Night, Epic Game: Seniors Beat Faculty

by Peter Paolo '19



The energy was palpable in the Jack Curran Gymnasium on March 24th. The Senior/Faculty Basketball Game officially tipped-off at 7 PM, but the night began long before that, and lasted long after the final buzzer rang. The Girls' and Boys' Step Teams, the Dance Team, and the Sassy Seniors performed before, during, and after the game, with gymnasium-shaking performances by each. But the game was the night's main showcase, and it definitely didn't disappoint. The seniors jumped out to an early lead, but the faculty clawed their way back. From there, the teams mostly traded baskets, until the seniors gained and widened their lead in the fourth quarter. They would hold on for the win. Michael LaBella '17, who coached his fellow seniors to victory, was pleased with his squad's performance on the court. "They fought the entire way, they didn't give up. You saw the atmosphere on the bench, they were nuts the entire game," he said. He's right, but the faculty weren't going down without a fight. Coach LaBella said, "they came back, they fought, they took the lead, to be honest with you, I thought they were going to run away with the game if we didn't have that strong fourth quarter."

Both teams played a mostly uptempo game, with plenty of steals, interceptions, and fast breaks down the court. In addition, players on both teams showed skill on drives to the hoop with layups, fadeaway jumpers, and long

3-pointers. There were also some fan favorite players on both teams, accompanied by roaring chants. Fittingly, both teams displayed a high degree of sportsmanship, but everyone knew the stakes were high. Coach LaBella said this game, "definitely comes with some bragging rights, but it's just to have fun, and in my opinion, it's the best night at Molloy." He also explained why this game is so special for the Class of 2017. "This is the last big thing we do together as a group besides graduation, so the fact that a good majority of our grade came out tonight to support us, that really felt like we had them behind us. It felt like a home game for us at our own school."

Coach LaBella would like to extend a special thank you to Mr. Dougherty because "he is the man behind this whole night," the fans for coming out and supporting the team, and his own players "for not giving up." The fans did supply some tremendous enthusiasm, but they also did something else that is very important. All ticket and raffle proceeds raised were given to the St. Marcellin Champagnat Society. SMCS provides students an opportunity to aid underserved populations around the world. All in all, even though the faculty didn't exactly get the outcome they wanted, perhaps by now Mr. Penikas and company have finally remembered the game's score. Whether the faculty likes it or not, the seniors are the reigning champs this year!

Photos by Isabella Fazio '19 & Jermy Singh '20.

*Check out our latest comics on page 7!*



# Stressful Decisions Start Now for the Juniors

by Linet Jacome '18 & Sarinna Sung '18

The students of Stanner High recently completed the process of picking out their courses for the upcoming year. With new options added to the plethora of courses already offered, the process proved to be both exciting and stressful for most students, especially the juniors who have picked their final round of courses at Molloy.

After speaking to a couple of juniors on the matter, I noticed some popular trends. For example, several juniors opted to take Death and Afterlife and Christian Marriage for their required religion class credits. When asked why, several juniors said that the seniors had recommended these courses, describing Mr. Gambino's "Death and Afterlife" course as "a little challenging but totally worth it." Many opted to take Government and Public speaking, classes that were also highly praised by students who had already taken them. Science was the most popular subject with the most variety of courses to choose from.

The majority of students interviewed chose to take at least one science and math course. The most popular courses in this category were College Chemistry and Forensics. Juniors Konrad Markowski and Gabriella Ramlal explained that the reason science and math courses were so popular was because many colleges require (and prefer) to see four completed years of high school math and science. Students were

also excited about the new English courses added this year: Literature of the Immigrant Experience and Practical Philosophy through Literature. Markowski noted that these courses "sound more interesting and different than your average English." He chose to take Literature of the Immigrant Experience as one of his required English credits.

A number of juniors opted to continue to challenge themselves in their senior year and many opted to take at least two Advanced placement courses. AP Psychology was very popular this year followed by AP Biology, AP Physics, AP US Government and AP Calculus. AP Chemistry is another advanced placement course that gained popularity this year and next fall will actually be the first time in years that this course will be offered at Molloy. Many students have deemed the class one of the hardest AP courses. Junior Carl Ferreri chose to take AP Composition, AP Calculus, and AP Chemistry next year, "I think AP Chem will be the most interesting. I took mainly AP and college credit courses next year for a challenge and to get a jump on college credits." Sally Kremer '18, who is also taking AP Chemistry, noted that while she loves chemistry and has been wanting the class to run since her sophomore year, she is worried that because of its reputation and the fact that she has already loaded

her schedule with several with other AP courses that she will not be able to handle the demanding class.

While the juniors were happy to be given the opportunity to take a wide range of courses, many admitted that it has made their selection process harder than in the previous years. This is because there were so many options to choose from and not enough room to accommodate them. Juniors were allowed to take a total of 5 credits that at the beginning seemed like a lot, but after summing up their credits many Stanners found themselves going over this number. As a result, several juniors had to make the tough decision of cutting certain classes that they initially wanted to take. When asked what she thought was the most difficult part of selecting her senior classes, Kristen Mardenborough '18 said, "For me it was probably deciding which to take. There were so many options that I had a little bit of a hard time narrowing my choices down. Also, I had to decide how much I wanted to challenge myself in my senior year. Hopefully I made the right choices that will lead me on the path I want to take." Other juniors were also worried about being able to balance next year's courses with preparing for college applications. The whole process has really sunk in the reality that high school is almost over for the juniors and that college is right around the corner.

# Stanners Save Lives One Pint at a Time

by Angelica Foronda '18 & Sven Larsen '18

Archbishop Molloy's annual blood drive was held on April 11th in the Marsloe Gym. A total of 140 students and faculty signed up to donate blood, however 38 were deferred, leading to only 102 people able to donate. Despite this and the postponed date due to weather, Molloy generated 127 pints of blood in total. Our school nurse, Mrs. Forgione, hopes to reach 150 participants in next year's blood drive, which means at least 200 Stanners need to sign up since many people are turned down. Restrictions such as illness, tattoos, and piercings do help prevent any spread of disease, but it does cut down on eligible Stanners.

When asked about the efficiency of this year's blood drive, Mrs. Forgione believes it ran smoothly with the students. She hopes in the future, however, that the blood drive employees improve in assisting students more quickly to prevent them from waiting too long to donate or to be deferred, which takes time out of their classes or lunch periods.

Despite the waiting periods and other minor hindrances, many students thoroughly enjoyed the Blood Drive and were happy to help. Junior Diana Alvarado said, "It was really fun actually! At first I was nervous with all the worries about missed



veins and such, but the guy who took my blood was really funny and danced to the music while I was donating so he made it a much less intense moment for me." She was one of the many Stanners who did donate, but as for those who didn't, Diana says they should "try to donate if they ever get a chance. You don't really get the necessity until you or someone you know or love is in a position of need, and if that happens, you'd want them to have everything they need readily available. If you are healthy enough to provide that type of help, you should."

Donating blood is a selfless act that can save many

**Pictured: Students waiting to donate blood. Photo courtesy of the Stanner Alumni Center.**

lives. Hospitals and clinics are in constant need of donated blood to treat patients that require blood transfusions. Mrs. Forgione wants to encourage students to donate because it allows them to help those who are less fortunate and in critical situations. She states, "Giving the gift of life through a blood donation is something you can do for the rest of your life," which coincides with our school motto "Not for school but for life."



Photo courtesy of the Stanner Alumni Center.

*Correction: In our winter issue, Lauren Klein '19 was incorrectly omitted from the by line of "Open Mic Ends On A High Note". The article was written by Sydney Bryant '19 and Lauren. The Stanner apologizes for this error.*

## THE STANNER VOLUME LX, NUMBER III

Editor-In-Chief: Sarah Rodriguez '18  
Associate Editors: Kaitlyn Helfer '18 & Fiona McCaul '18  
Production Staff: Olenka Ballena '18, Maeve Boyle '18, Diana Diaz '18, Angelica Foronda '18, Michael LaBella '17, Dakota Racan '18, Olivia Schellenberg '18, Jermy Singh '20, Amanda Stachnik '18.  
Moderators: Ms. Laura Sawyer '07 & Mr. Joe Sommo '03  
Publishers: Mr. Richard Karsten '81 & Mr. Darius Penikas



by Amanda Liu '17 & Rebeka Bonilla '17

It's 2:30 pm, and **Robert John Ayroso Jr.** -better known as RJ- is in step practice, as he is everyday after school. But, that isn't the only thing he's involved in. RJ juggles step, sassy seniors, Spanish Club, Asian Club, Spirit Leaders, and Student-Advisory Board. He is definitely one very busy Stanner! Recently, RJ played in the senior-faculty basketball game, accomplishing his dream since his freshman year. "Playing in the basketball game and being a part of the win for the seniors" is RJ's favorite memory at Molloy. Another great memory of his is participating in International Day, where he danced with Asian Club, Spanish Club, Step, and Sassy Seniors. "I love dancing, and learning all the dances for each group was fun,"

Ayroso said. RJ wants to leave his mark on Molloy through dancing. He wants to be remembered as "dancing everywhere at anytime and making people happy." RJ's "crazy, but enjoyable," 4 years of high school have prepared him and has him feeling "more than ready to start college." Looking toward the future, RJ will use his love of taking care of people by becoming either a pediatric nurse or a nurse anesthetist. RJ's time at Molloy has taught him to "make the most out of everyday and to live everyday to the fullest."



Photo by Ms. Laura Sawyer

that I remain friends with." Friendship is how she would like to leave her mark on AMHS. Brittany wants to be remembered "as the friend people could always come to for good advice." When asked to share some of her advice to fellow stanners, the wise advice she bestowed was "to not slack off in senior year and to still work hard." As her time walking the Stanner Halls comes to an end, she knows she will miss the friends she's made that are moving away. Moving beyond her years here, Brittany wants to become a speech pathologist.

**Jenellyn Gorospe** is the definition of a Stanner. With less than a month to go before graduation, she'll miss Spirit Week, the Senior vs. Faculty games, and International Day. She "loves all the school spirit and performing within these events." Having been part of the step team since freshman year, she'll miss her team the most. She'll also miss Esopus, a second home to most Stanners. Her favorite Molloy memory is the Senior Disney Trip. "I got to spend it with my best friends and we had the time of our lives in the happiest place on Earth." Jenellyn is involved in the girls step team: the First Ladies, Campus Ministry, Asian Club, Intramural Committee, NYPQ, and more. She hopes to inspire others to be active in the Molloy community. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, her message to you is to "Find out what interests you and what you love to do! You will meet many new people who will guide you as the years go by! Continue to make the best memories at Molloy!" Jenellyn hopes to become a nurse or a pharmacist.



Photo by Sarah Rodriguez '18.

I regret not doing." Ruben will major in police studies at John Jay in hopes of becoming a cop in the future.

On most days, you can catch **Ruben Jimenez** pitching a fastball after school on the field outside of school. Having been part of the baseball team since freshman year, as well as being a three year varsity starter, Jimenez has learned the art of balancing academics and athletics. When asked about what he will miss about Molloy, he said he'll miss his "teammates and the teachers I became so close with." A favorite memory of his is the senior encounter, as well as "winning big games on varsity as a sophomore." With just days left before graduation, he hopes to have a lasting legacy in the baseball program for all future athletes. Advice he has for the underclassmen is to "join as many clubs and teams as you can because it's something I regret not doing."

# AMHS HOROSCOPES

by Danielle DePasquale '19, Angelica Foronda '18 & Sven Larsen '18

**ARIES:** *March 21 - April 19* This spring, don't be afraid to take advantage of new opportunities. Whether you take on extra help sessions to prepare for the Regents in June or apply for a summer job, make beneficial choices.

**TAURUS:** *April 20 - May 20* As we approach the end of the school year, make sure to focus on yourself and do things that make you happy. By thinking of yourself, you will have a strong finish and ease into the summer stress-free.

**GEMINI:** *May 21 - June 20* The start of a new season creates a perfect time for you to change up your life. Try honing in on what you want from the future and remember it's never wrong to ask for help. Don't let confusion stop you.

**CANCER:** *June 21 - July 22* As a change of weather comes about with spring, it might be best if you also warm up and allow optimism into your life. Try volunteering or even just hanging out with your friends to open yourself up to goodness.

**LEO:** *July 23 - August 22* Your voice is your strongest tool. Don't be afraid to let your personality and charisma shine through to others. Try speaking up in class and letting your unique opinion be heard among your peers and teachers.

**VIRGO:** *August 23 - September 22* As a sun sign, you can be very critical and meticulous with your work and self. Try using the time off or even one of the Esopus retreats as a much needed relaxing vacation from your hard work.

**LIBRA:** *September 23 - October 22* Springtime calls for growth. Focus on your communication and connections. Don't be afraid to speak your mind in class, present ideas to your peers, or ask questions. Try to speak to those whom you normally wouldn't; you might just make a new friend.

**SCORPIO:** *October 23 - November 21* This spring you will face many obstacles, but don't be worried because exciting opportunities are waiting for you. Continue to work hard in the classes you may find difficult because it will pay off. Keep friends who motivate you close.

**SAGITTARIUS:** *November 22 - December 21* Although the school year is coming to an end don't lose ambition or put off your goals. Write down the goals you want to accomplish and set deadlines for yourself. Try to stay organized in your school work and your thoughts; it will definitely pay off.

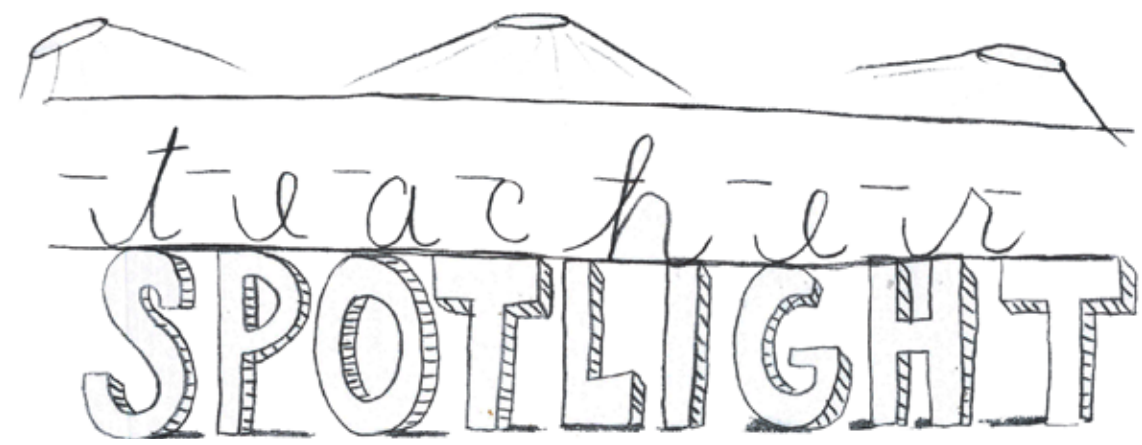
**CAPRICORN:** *December 22 - January 19*

This spring you have a lot on your plate, but remember to allot time to reflect on yourself. With final exams coming up and stressing you out remember to take a deep breath. Use time off to relax and remember to live in the moment.

**AQUARIUS:** *January 20 - February 18* It's important to have a good balance between school and fun. If there was a club you didn't get to join or team you didn't tryout for, take the summer to hang out with friends and think about how you'd like to be involved next year.

**PISCES:** *February 19 - March 20* Don't be afraid to take on new challenges and overcome obstacles. It is important to step forward and succeed; even if it isn't easy. Putting in a little extra studying time and putting down the phone will enable you to put an even better effort toward school work.





by Fiona McCaul '18 & Sarah Rodríguez '18

On March 25th, two of the most devoted teachers in Molloy history were inducted into the Stanner Hall of Fame. This honor is so distinguished, that out of Molloy's 22,000+ graduates, there have been only about 100 inductees. In this special edition of Teacher Spotlights, Mr. Santos and Brother Aquinas shared how they felt about receiving such an honor.

Mr. Santos started teaching in 1970 and has dedicated his life to education. From a young age, Mr. Santos knew that he wanted to be a teacher due to the influence of Catholic education and religious role models, such as nuns and priests. Santos has always enjoyed working with kids and has been coaching them for 54 years too. At the age of 16, Mr. Santos began coaching and hasn't stopped since. As our JV softball coach, he has led the team to two city championships and ten division titles.

Mr. Santos also works with the Greater New York Sandlot Athletic Alliance to assist the

“sandlot youths” and he is a founding member of the Brother Ronald Marcellin Committee, which provides scholarships to students who are prevented from attending Molloy for various reasons. To be inducted into the Hall of Fame “is a surreal feeling,” according to Mr. Santos. He tried not to focus on

the prestige that comes with being inducted, but he realizes that it's “an honor” to be pictured alongside the other inductees, such as Medal of Honor recipient Louis Willet, 9/11 first responders, and other people he described as “heroes.” In his own words, “To be in that realm, what I do day by day, working with kids, teaching, coaching, and taking care of my family, how much better can it be?”

If you took biology in freshman year, chances are Brother Aquinas helped you with your labs! Starting as a Brother in 1948, Br. Aquinas has been working at Molloy since 1961 and has always had a



Br. Aquinas Richard (left, photo by Frank Bailey '75) & Mr. Lou Santos (right, photo by Isabella Fazio '19).

passion for teaching. He especially enjoys biology and has been assisting in the lab for the past 10 years even after retiring from teaching. When asked about his favorite lab, he responded saying, "my favorite lab would have to be the frog or pig dissection." Besides assisting in the lab, Br. Aquinas also coached Track and Field for about twenty years, leading the team to many championship titles. While coaching, he implemented the “Jog 5, Run 5, Jog 5” workouts and always encouraged his team to never give up. Due to his determined attitude and accomplishments as a coach, Br. Aquinas was later inducted into the CHSAA Hall of Fame. Br. Aquinas says he feels “very honored” to be inducted into the Stanner Hall of Fame because there are “a lot of distinguished members so it overall has been a nice experience.”

Congratulations to Mr. Santos and Brother Aquinas on their prestigious achievement!

# CorAZones Abiertos: SMCS Service in Arizona

by William Kanellopoulos '19, photo courtesy of SMCS

With open hearts, heavy luggage, and broken Spanish, this past winter break, the St. Marcellin Champagnat Society set forth on a service trip to southern Arizona. The group of volunteers consisted of 18 students and four faculty members as chaperones. Molloy's delegation worked in coordination with BorderLinks, an education based non-profit organization that leads workshops in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands and in southern Mexico. Unlike previous trips, this year's winter service trip consisted of more instructional seminars than actual physical labor. That's not to say our Stanners didn't sweat in the Southwest. SMCS built a community garden in Tucson, Arizona, where BorderLinks will now have access to fresh herbs, fruits, and vegetables.

The Molloy students learned a great deal on issues concerning the United States-Mexican border, the North American Free Trade Agreement, existing immigration policies, and the history of the border. Members of SMCS, exercising their dedication to service, as well as strengthening their roots in faith, served the Tucson community by working at a soup kitchen and clothing pantry. Here, our students and chaperones served breakfast and distributed clean clothing to the local migrant and homeless residents.

Stanners also had the chance to see the border and border-towns, the communities most affected by changing immigration policy.

In Douglas, Arizona, where the local department stores accept Mexican pesos, and 80% of the local economy is dependent of Mexican day-tourists, Stanners had the honor of meeting the mayor. Mayor Uribe, who was raised in New York, had a sit down chat with our students, discussing how Douglas has adapted to the growing spotlight shone on the borderlands. Every night, the Molloy delegation reflected on their trip thus far. A large topic of discussion was how Stanners would apply their newly found information to their lives back in Queens. Students accepted that everything presented to them, in the media, as well as on the trip, has a certain bias, and so seeking their personal truths, and utilizing what they observe is important in making their own newly found opinions. Stanners were accepted warmly by the communities they met, from the mariachi Mass they attended, to the kind volunteers working at BorderLinks.

Mikesha Withanachchi '18 commented on the Arizonans acceptance of our students saying, “During our stay in southern Arizona, law



enforcement and everyday citizens in the area gave a respectful nod to our commitment to service. As so many Americans wish to alter the discrimination and injustices associated with our southern border, but do not have the time or resources to educate themselves.” It was through way of solitude, and newly-gained experiences, that Stanners gained a greater understanding of issues that may not directly affect them as New Yorkers, but most definitely affect their fellow Americans, and ultimately their fellow man. By way of this newly found compassion, through open hearts, SMCS continued Champagnat's vision of aiding the needy, particularly at a time when man needs it most.

## Author Haley Tanner Comes to Molloy by Justin Batista '20 & Sadie Lozano Micles '20

On April 26th, author Haley Tanner was kind enough to visit Molloy to discuss her novel, *Vaclav and Lena*; a story about two friends who meet in Brooklyn and become magic act partners, becoming separated only to reconnect seven years later. Students from all grades joined together to listen and ask the famed writer questions regarding her novel.

Most Stanners were eager to learn more about Tanner's controversial ending. Tanner explained that in her opinion, no matter what, every story ends with bad news. She gave her insight on how eventually some day we aren't going to be here

anymore and it sometimes feels like we're living blindly and in a “dumb hope.” We are oblivious to the fact that someday, the ride is going to end, and how many things we do are just routine. Tanner doesn't want to give readers a sense of false reality, so she chose the ending because that is how she feels things often work out in the real world. “Love ends in tragedy,” Tanner states. According to Tanner, every novel is like a mystery: you have no idea how it is going to end. “The whole time you spend reading the novel, you think you want to know the ending, but once you find out, that's it, and the mystery is over.”

In addition to answering questions about the plot, all students gained useful and insightful tips on both being an aspiring writer and being successful in choosing your career. Tanner advises that above all when choosing your career, you should not listen to what other people think about your choice. She feels that even while people will eventually praise you in the end, you will most likely face some judgment along the way, but in the end you should stay focused on what you truly want to do with your life, especially if your calling is more unique or less often seen.

# International Day Serves A Slice of Culture

by Jake Temkin '20 & Jermy Singh '20



Photo by Jennifer Marry '19.



Herbert Leona '12 and his family carve a whole roasted pig at the Philippines table. Photo by Jake Temkin '20.

Archbishop Molloy High School hosted its 36th annual International Day in the Jack Curran Gym on March 12th, 2017. Molloy President Mr. Richard Karsten '81 called the event a “major success, with over 300 people in attendance.” In 2015, International Day was cancelled due to the lack of interested attendees purchasing tickets and problems finding a moderator. This year, over 100 students and parents purchased tickets in advance, making it an immediate success. In the future, Molloy hopes to get 500 (or more) people to attend and enjoy the performances and food provided. “It is a fantastic opportunity to embrace our cultural differences and celebrate them together as a community,” said Mr. Karsten.

International Day offers a wide variety of homemade food from over 20 different countries and a chance for people to experience and try new, delicious dishes. One of the most interesting items is a full, fresh roasted pig that is donated to the event by an alumni family from the Philippines. It is considered a very special delicacy to the culture and has been an exciting part of the event for many years and will hopefully continue to please newcomers in the future.

Another exciting International Day tradition is its collection of dances and performances by the cultural

clubs and dance teams at Molloy. This year, there were performances from the Indian Club, Spanish Club, Dance Team, Boys and Girls Step, Chorus, and many others. Together they filled the day with entertainment from all corners of the globe.

Another highlight of International Day this year was also the attendance of Queens Borough President Melinda Katz. She presented Molloy with a Proclamation that said that March 12th, 2017 would be known as “Archbishop Molloy Queens International Day.”

“Molloy is a place where everyone is welcome and loved,” said Mr. Karsten. As a part of one of the most diverse cities in the world, Molloy hopes that International Day continues to grow and help students embrace diversity from all over the globe.



The Indian Club performs. Photo by Vassilia Plakas '18.

## The Pajama Game Earns Its “7 And A Half Cents”

by Peter Paolo '19

Molloy's very own Stanner Players performed “The Pajama Game” from April 6-9 as their Spring Musical. Appropriately enough, their first performance coincided with Pajama Day at school, one of many Spirit Week festivities. “The Pajama Game” tells the story of factory workers who manufacture pajamas, and their fight for a 7 and a half cent raise. For good taste, there is a love story intertwined into the play as well. The musical is currently relevant, relating to workers' unions and their influence, factory conditions, and what constitutes a living wage for workers.

Onstage there was a mix of toe-tapping musical numbers, free-flowing dialogue, and lascivious innuendos. Ms. Winters, an English teacher at Molloy and moderator of the Stanner Players, explained why she wanted to showcase “The Pajama Game” this year, and what goes into a flawless performance. She said, “We've done a couple of more modern musicals the last few years, and it's nice to switch it up a little bit” and “given the seniors we have, they were good with comedy, and I thought “The Pajama Game” was a nice fit for everybody.”

Practice makes perfect, and the cast rehearses two or three times a week, about two hours each day. Ms. Winters said, “The nice thing about us is that you form a bond and you become very close, and it's kind of like a family.” What happens offstage is as just as important as what happens onstage. Ms. Winters said, “Without crew you don't have the nuts and bolts” and “the crew is just as important as the cast.”

The Spring Musical is the last show of the year, but for senior Stanner Players, this musical is their last performance at Molloy. Senior Paul



Tibo said, “I'm really happy I got to do this for everyone, but I'm also sad that I have to leave.” Senior David Kemp said, “I've had the best time of my life here” and “there's no other club like the Stanner Players.” A number of Seniors also expressed their keen interest in pursuing theater after Molloy in college. All the Stanner Players talked about the concept of family and togetherness as being part of the play, and the ability to also have fun when putting on the show. Some talked about how they were shy before joining the Stanner Players, but gained confidence as they stood on stage alongside their fellow Stanners to perform. All the Stanner Players were unanimous in expressing their gratitude to director Ms. Winters, musical director Frank Auriemma, their parents, alumni who participated in theater before they did, and the crew who work behind the scenes. So as the curtain closes, and the cast takes their final bows, memories have been made on stage that will last a lifetime.



Photos by Jennifer Marry '19 & Isabella Fazio '19



# Molloy’s Annual Spirit Week: Best One Yet!

by Dakota Racan ‘18, Amanda Stachnik ‘18 & Vassilia Plakas ‘18. Photos by Vassilia Plakas & Mr. Sommo.

This year’s Spirit Week brought students together to celebrate our school pride. It allowed us to express our individuality, as well as promote friendly competition among the grades. This year proved to be particularly unique, as the Marist Day of Service began the point collections. Each item entered for the collection counted as one point. The juniors collected the most items, giving them a head start. However, the seniors swept away the competition, climbing to victory by the end of the events.

The school spirit started with an embarrassing subway ride to school in a mismatched outfit for the first day of fun! Students were encouraged to wear clashing patterns to earn points for their year. The event of the day was the Amazing Stanner Race, where teams used clues around school to finish the game. Students also had to guess the hobbies of teachers on Monday and Tuesday. Some matches shocked the student body.

Tuesday was a blast to the past with students dressing as people from different decades ranging from the 1900’s to the early 2000’s. From poodle skirts to denim jackets, the only thing missing was the vibe of the decade. Right after school in the

Jack Curran Gym, students were able to enjoy and participate in the day’s activity: “The Lip Sync Battle!” Music of the hour included “Hotline Bling” by Drake, “Don’t Stop Believing” by Journey, and “It Takes Two” by Rob Base and DJ EZ Rock, and many more hits from throughout the years

Wednesday was full of spirit with students dressing up as their favorite character or celebrity. Many students were able to display their diversity through their favorite shows and role models. This day gave us the chance to come together and collaborate to make a TV show or movie come to life! Directly after school, Stanners participated in a friendly, but heated, competition in a game of Kahoot. After an intense battle between the upperclassmen, the seniors rose to victory, collecting the points for that activity. Though many tried to win Wednesday’s candy count, no one was a match for junior Stephanie Nath, who guessed the number of candies exactly (203).

On day 4, Stanners were able to chill out in their pajamas during classes. The only catch was they weren’t allowed to sleep. Some took the simple-sounding day and made fashion statements

wearing themed onsies such as Pokemon and Stitch. Showing after school, and showing all weekend was “The Pajama Game”, a musical put on by the Stanner Players. The play was an absolute success in its entirety and well-liked by all who went to see it. Well done, Stanner Players! The last contest of the week, stretching from Thursday to Friday was the “Faculty Hobby Match 2.” This involved the matching of hobbies to the faculty, different from the faculty listed on Monday and Tuesday’s board.

To end the week, there was a battle of the Nerds and the Jocks. Students were encouraged to dress as either a “mathlete” or an “athlete” for the final day of spirit. The last activity of Spirit Week was the “Spirit Games” hosted in the Jack Curran Gym. Overall, Spirit Week was a week to remember, and students and staff will be looking forward to what’s in store for next year!

**Final “Spirit” Scores:**  
**Seniors: 2,610 points**  
**Juniors: 2,371 points**  
**Sophs: 1,543 points**  
**Frosh: 1,537 points**



# Marist National Day of Service

by Rebeka Bonilla ‘17, photos by Olivia Kunicka ‘18 & Ms. Sawyer.

The Marist National Day of Service was nothing less than success! This was the first time Archbishop Molloy ever participated in the National Day of Service, and they didn’t do it alone. Molloy teamed up with several Marist schools, nationwide, to participate in this special event. Marist Chicago, Marist Bayonne, Central Catholic Massachusetts, and Saint Joe’s Texas are just some of the schools that were involved. There were several events that students took part in.

Briarwood Shelter and Harlem tutoring, which meet weekly as part of our Campus Ministry, continued as always. In a collaboration with Mount Saint Michael Academy, twenty Molloy students went to the Bronx to do a park cleanup at Van Cortlandt Park. Another activity outside Molloy occurred at Rockaway Beach where ninety-five students cleaned the beach. A group of students at Briarwood Shelter rearranged the shelter by sorting books and even fixing a basketball hoop for the kids.

Andrew Wenzler, a senior, said “it felt good because you know you’re making a difference.” Carolina Jaime, a senior, said “the Shelter kids were surprised and happy.”

Inside of our school, many students participated in making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for people in need, while the collections that were donated by students were taken to Sisters of Life in Manhattan. “The purpose of this day was to promote the message of doing good and to show unification of Marist schools nationwide,” said Mr. Germano, the director of Campus Ministry, who had a huge role in organizing this day.

The Day of Service had been in the works for a year and it was also used to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Marist Brothers. Mr. Germano hopes to make this event occur bi-annually. In total, 350 students from all the grades participated as well as many teachers. He is “happy how the day went” and thinks it was very successful.



# (Don’t) Fake It ‘Til You Make It!

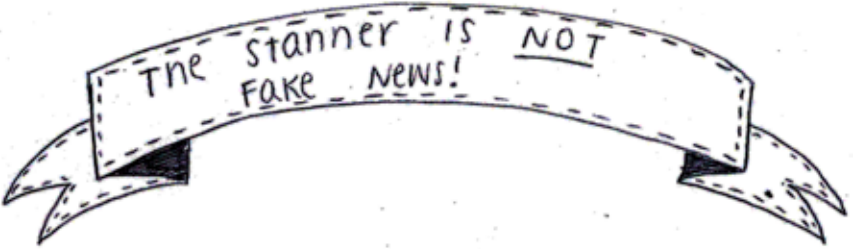
by Sarah Rodriguez ‘18, Uma Mohan ‘18 & Diana Diaz ‘18

On February 17, 2017 President Trump tweeted out an irreversible statement calling the press, “the enemy of the American people!” Over the course of his presidency, President Trump has referred to the media as the “opposition party” to his administration, and has blamed news organizations for obstructing his agenda. Sure, President Trump has a reason to dislike the media. Since the very day he was sworn in, the media ran extreme articles: impeachment campaigns, nitpicking his mannerisms, to even comparing him to dictators, but to say such an aggressive statement presents both factual and falsified information.

The media, defined as “the main means of mass communication”, brings information to all — including the students of Molloy. To put this to the

test, we asked 5 students from each grade who all acknowledged that the media plays a crucial role when formulating their views. “The media has impacted my views because looking at various points of views from people all over the world, I am better able to formulate my own opinion,” says an anonymous junior. Freshman Katelynn Persaud agreed saying “The media has one job: to inform the people. The media has opened my eyes, making me more aware of the world.” Overall, all students disagreed with Trump’s claims of the media being the “enemy of the people.”

It is important to remember that the most basic rights of self-expression was set into motion by our forefathers when the First Amendment was added to the United States Constitution in 1791. It was the first of ten amendments guaranteeing the individual rights of the citizens of America. Hundreds of years have passed, but the guidelines that have been left behind still impact us today. We use these guidelines as a way to carry our democracy through every hardship, ensuring that justice always prevail. In these times, with connections to every part of the world, media sources have been the outlet of our civilization. We trade, create, spread and are inspired by the ideas through the use of these sources. We turn to the media as a way to become informed of



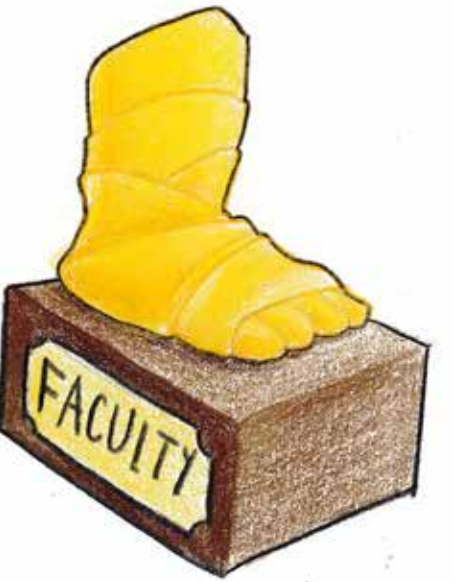
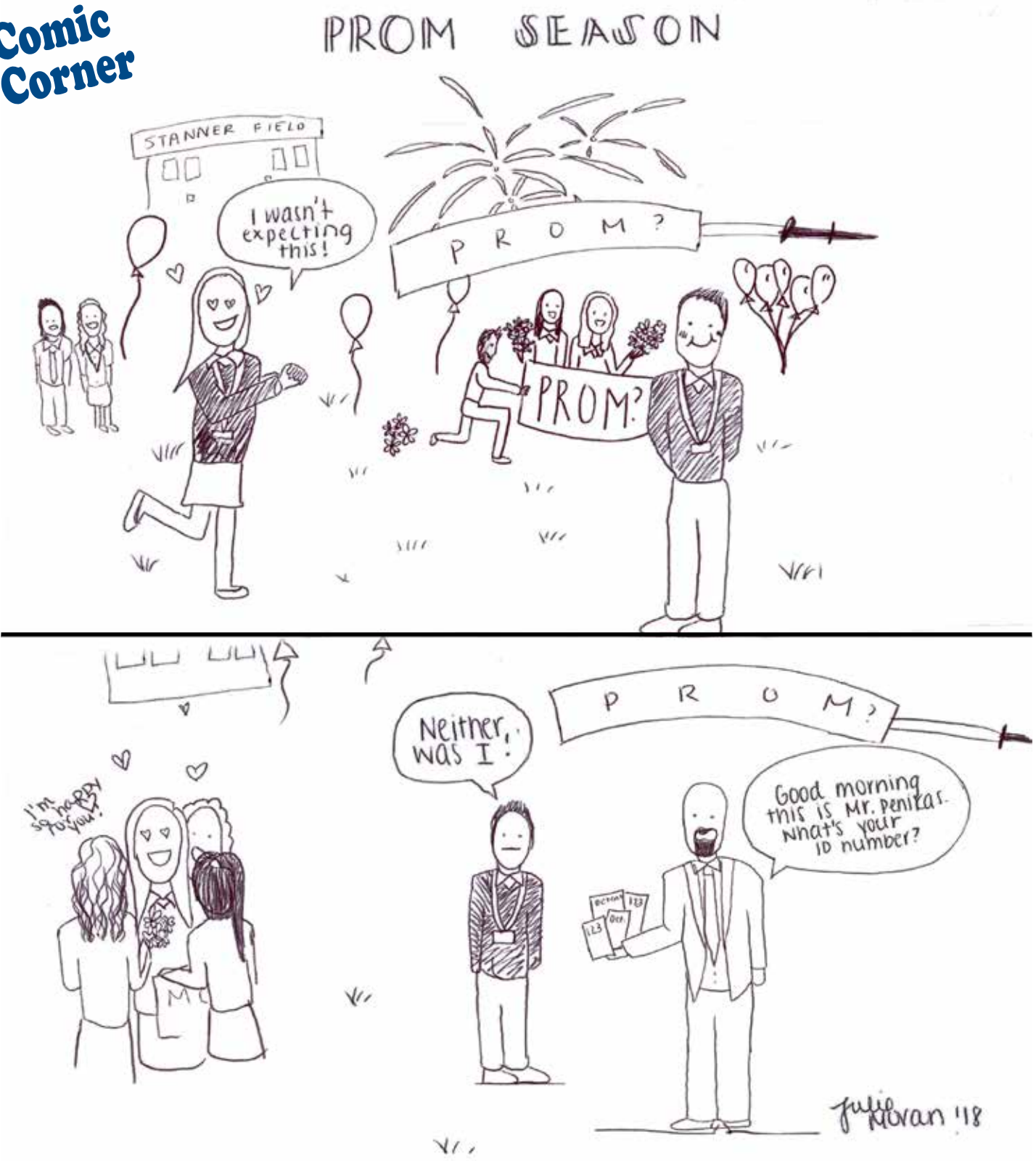
what occurs in the world we live in today and how the leaders we have chosen carry out guidelines affecting us all.

The media is not perfect. We are flawed. It has proved to be faulty at times, but has always taken responsibility for its actions. Take The Stanner, for example. There have been many times when we have spelled someone’s name wrong, or a missed score report, but that has never stopped us from correcting it on the next issue.

Nevertheless, we should be prudent in “fact-checking” the information when formulating our opinions. Instead of reading unverified accounts on social media, utilize trusted news sources that have countlessly proven accuracy in their reportings. In addition, seek detailed reports that have shown dedication to providing truthfulness and fairness to their readers. Overall, do not be discouraged by uncertainty because in the end, the truth always prevails.



Comic Corner





# STANNER SPORTS

## Spring Sports Recap

The Stanners continued their sports success from the fall and winter into the spring, scattering plenty of wins across different sports and teams. The Boys Freshman and Sophomore Track team recently won the BQ Championship title. As of May 9th, the Boys Tennis team was off to a 4-1 start and the handball team started 5-5 in their season. Varsity softball started a strong 13-3 including an undefeated 11-0 record in league

by Michael LaBella '17, photos provided by Julie Moran '18 & Ms. Massowd.

play, while JV softball started off equally as well, compiling a 17-7 record (6-3 in league play). Junior varsity baseball started their season 12-2, good enough for 2nd in the Brooklyn Queens Division. Varsity baseball kicked their season off with a 7-7 start and is currently in a tight race for the BQ Division lead. On May 10th, the golf team recorded their 300th career victory since the program's inception. Mr. Niklaus has coached the team since the beginning and boasts a 300-45 career record. This season they have a record of 7-2 with playoffs upcoming.



# Seniors Sign on the Dotted Line

by Diana Diaz '18 & Sarah Rodriguez '18

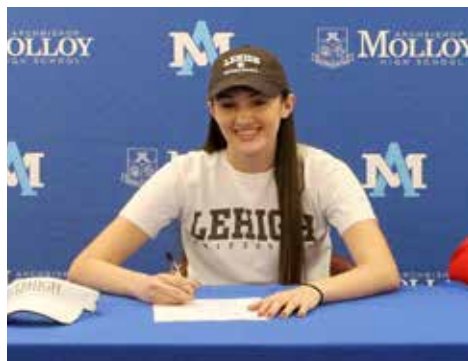
The Stanner congratulates all of the senior student-athletes who have signed to play their sport at the college level!



## Abigail Duvivier

Abigail will always be reminded of her high school days as she goes on to Molloy College. Surprisingly, this star player wasn't sure if she wanted to be continuing her basketball career into college, but "with the help of [her] teammates and the coaching staff...[she] is super excited to continue her journey."

**Words of Wisdom:** "If you're thinking about playing at the next level, make sure that you are self-motivated, and passionate for the sport you're playing."



## Emily Johnson

After a visit to Lehigh's campus, it became a university that she couldn't imagine turning down. She is extremely excited to begin her college career and stated that, "When I finally made the decision to commit to Lehigh, it was probably one of the best moments of my life so far."

**Words of Wisdom:** "Don't rush the recruiting process. I started playing basketball in 9th grade...If playing at a division 1 school, or even any school at all is your dream, then all you have to do is put in the work."



## Jenna Piller

The weight has finally been lifted off of Jenna's shoulders as begins her journey at Adelphi University. Being injured most of her off season, "it'll be nice to start competing again." She didn't think she would be running in college but is "beyond thankful to have the opportunity to do so."

**Words of Wisdom:** "There are many hurdles in life one has to overcome so no matter what happens, win or lose, keep going because it's a great experience in life."



## Jessica Hickey

Jessica is more than ecstatic to be playing at her dream school, Queens College. Queens College will be the perfect school for this softball star, since it's, "close, but far enough to dorm." In addition, Jessica is nervous, yet still excited because, "it's a great school and I'm close to home."



## Jenna Mastellone

This fall Jenna will be taking her superb basketball skills to St. Francis University. Although, "adjusting to the tempo will be the hardest part," she is happy that all of her hard work has paid off and "relieved that the recruiting process is over."

**Words of Wisdom:** "Keep working hard because there's always someone else working just as hard or harder than you."



## Samantha Persaud

Samantha's nautical skills have allowed her to swim her way to Lynn University. Attending a school in Florida is just one of the many exhilarating things Samantha loved about committing to this top University. Although she'll miss her high school days, she is still, "very excited for [her] college career to start, I can't wait!" Just Keep Swimming Sam!

**Words of Wisdom:** "Keep pushing to be the best you possibly can, the harder you work the better the outcome. Remember, it never gets easier, you just get better!"



## Keely McEachern

Keely McEachern is excited to sign to play women's basketball at Chestnut Hill College in Pennsylvania. She will be joining a competitive Division II program and hopes to take everything she learned as a Stanner with her as she becomes a member of the Chestnut Hill Griffins. As The Stanner went to press, Keely could not be reached for further comment.



## Tommy Alao

Congratulations to Tommy Alao, who has signed to join the men's Track & Field team at the University of Connecticut. Tommy will be a part of a highly competitive Division I program, but the discipline and skills he picked up at Molloy are sure to help him as he aims to reach the top of the talent pool. As The Stanner went to press, Tommy could not be reached for further comment.