

Molloy Myth Busters

by Sarah Rodriguez '18 & Uma Mohan '18, art by Julie Moran '18

What are the rules of Molloy after 3PM?

Over the years, we've become very accustomed to the "Mandates of Molloy" we must follow after the "bell rings": Ties tied, shirts buttoned, phones off. According to popular Stanner belief, the caf is lawless after 3PM, where phones and dress downs are encouraged. The Stanner reports that these claims are completely false. Phone use continues to be prohibited, however certain gaming devices seem to be allowed. Even after 3PM if one wants to use their phone, they must report to the Lion's Den and ask for permission. On the plus side, boys ARE allowed to take off their tie and unbutton their top button.

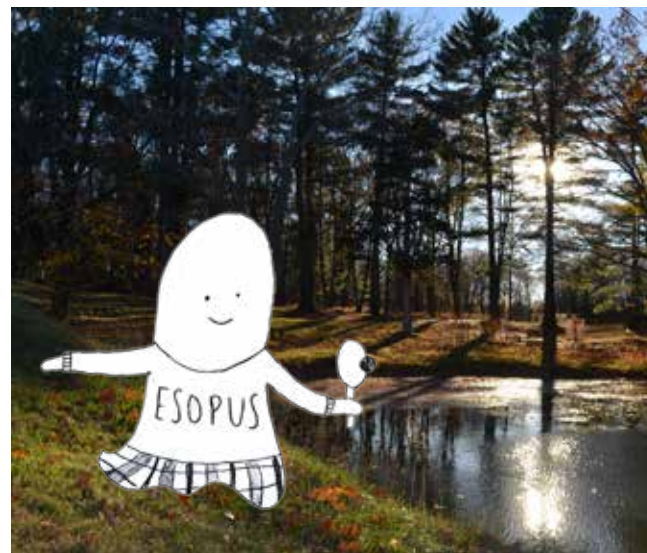
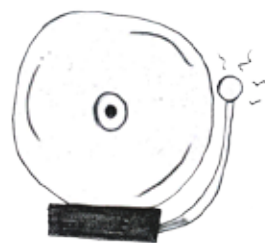
Why don't we have a football team or a boys lacrosse team?

One couple seems to be ubiquitous in the heart of every legendary high school movie: The Star Quarterback and the Head Cheerleader. But for Molloy, there's one tiny problem: we don't have a football team, nor a cheer squad. Why is that? Well, the answer is simple. Football requires a sizable field, which Molloy doesn't have the space for. The cost of the sport is steep as well. Between coaches, insurance, and video needs, having a football team is "just not feasible," according to Mr. Rodgers. Regarding the cheerleading team, after speaking with Mr. Auer, we learned vital information. He expressed his

aspiration for a cheerleading team has been growing. However, not many girls have been interested. In order to start a team, there must be a long-term interest from all grades, not just upperclassmen. For example, when the enthusiasm started to grow for girls' lacrosse, a number of freshmen showed sincere interest, thus having 4 years of continued devotion which still stands today. If enough girls or boys are interested, we can very well have our own Stanner Cheerleading Team. "It's just one more thing we can beat Prep at," said one junior. So even though our dreams of having a cinematic high school experience have been slightly busted, they are not completely shattered; and we still have some pretty phenomenal sports teams. Go Stanners!

Why doesn't Molloy have a bell?

While the age of cheerleaders may be ringing in, a school bell will not. For decades, the class schedules have not been in sync, rendering a school bell impractical. However, now even with the new schedule of all forty-five minutes classes, hope for change has come to an end due to the aged mechanisms of the bell itself making it impossible to function.



Anyone up for a game of ping pong?

Are there really ghosts in Esopus?

This has been one of the most debated myths between students and teachers. While Stanners continually conjure up haunting stories, the teachers are quick to exorcise these spirited tales. Seniors have revealed ghostly sightings in the infamous Room Number 2 and many have lived to tell the tale of the Native American sightings, however teachers completely deny these allegations, and immediately become cautious in their responses. When asked about personal ghouly experiences, the answer is always the same: "There are no ghosts in Esopus." How is it that the same place has spawned such divergent experiences? The only way to know the real truth is to pack your bags and find out for yourself.

Stanner Declassified: Self-Love Survival Guide

by Stephanie Nath '18 & Diana Diaz '18

Self-respect, self-worth, self-love. There is an important reason they all begin with "self." It's because you can't find them in anyone else.

Self-love is appreciation for yourself that grows from actions that support your physical, mental and spiritual growth. Self-love is characterized by a growing progress of actions that mature us. When we take part in actions that promote self-love in us, we develop a greater acceptance of

Naturally, these efforts are often challenged, either by ourselves, our shortcomings, or even the people who we think understand us best.

As high school students, many of us know too well that these waters are not always smooth sailing. Many Stanners agreed that a majority of their self-esteem has been at some point afflicted by social media, school, bullies, and even friends. A member of the graduating class spoke about this stress with us, saying, "Being a high school student adds a lot of pressure onto me because I'm always in competition with the rest of my peers. Everyone is competing against each other to get better grades, teachers pressure you, and we have to figure out what we want to do and who we want to be."

When you get to the point where you have allowed others to dictate how you feel about life, pause for a moment and take an internal survey. Ask yourself this: Am I happy? Is my lack of confidence holding me back from being the best (insert your name here) I can be? Know that at the end of every battle, we know ourselves best

and we can best take care of ourselves mentally, physically, and emotionally. Others may look at us from afar and make us question whether we are "enough," but who are they to say? Don't forget, however, that it's always ok to ask for help too.

The bonafide and simple truth is this: no one really gets us, like us. As teenagers, we're going through one of the most confusing, transforming stages of our lives and it's easy to get lost in all of these uncertainties that come with growing up. But if there is one thing we hope you take away from this article and your high school experience, it's that "you are forever becoming who you are." Whichever path you choose in life, beyond the hallowed halls of Stanner High, keep in mind that having confidence in yourself will always be the beginning to true happiness and ultimate success.

So, begin to accept your past as a blessing, forgive yourself, practice good self-care, do something you're great at, and continue to add another page in the "Book of You." Sometimes, all you need is to take a step back, look around, and, as cheesy as it sounds, be grateful for what you do have. Bridges burn, tables turn but who you are will always remain. Never forget to love yourself. As the legendary Notorious B.I.G. once said, "Stay far from timid, only make moves when your heart is in it, and live the phrase: the sky is the limit."



Sarah Quispe '19 stressing out. Photo by Jake Temkin '20.

our weaknesses as well as our strengths, and we are more centered in our life purpose and values.

Check out Senior Spotlight and AMHS Horoscopes on Page 3!

Opinion: Why Trump Isn’t SO Bad

by Sarah Rodriguez ‘18

For those of you who have managed to look past this controversial title you will learn that this is not exactly a “pro Trump” or an “anti Trump” article. The purpose of this article is to open your eyes to the many opinions on Donald Trump and his policies.

We get it. America has seemed very divided this year; you either feel angered or happy. Regardless, the one name on all of our minds is Donald J. Trump. Because of this infamous man, an increasing amount of teenagers are talking about politics rather than the latest celebrity feuds and rightfully so. Though we are unable to vote because of our age, we still have the responsibility to be aware of the current issues taking place in our country. We are the next generation who will be most affected by the actions of Donald Trump, so we should show interest. Teens have been posting on social media and joining protests to stand up for what they believe in.

Most agree that this election peaked their interests in political issues. Although teens remember watching the inauguration for Obama’s presidency, not everyone can name who was running against him or fully understood what was going on. However, if you go up to anyone at Molloy today, Odds are a student could name at least 4 of the 2016 nominees.

With the influx of users on social media, teens are able to read and learn more about President Trump’s policies. Teens are now following pages like CNN, the New York Times, and Fox News rather than celebrities like Kim Kardashian or Selena Gomez. More teens are reading newspapers and watching the nightly news so that their opinions can be substantiated by actual facts. Although learning

from the same outlets, Trump has turned teens’ opinions in two different ways. For example, two Juniors who have been following Trump since day one by listening to the *same* radio show in the morning have drastic opinions from one another. When asked whether they support Donald Trump one junior stated, “Yes, he loves the country and its people. He stands for strong borders, strong military, and lower taxes.” The other junior however said, “No. I don’t believe he is fit for the presidency as displayed through his previous actions toward women, minorities, and the disabled.”

It doesn’t matter what side you stand on, but one fact is the name Donald Trump has been heard around Molloy’s halls quite a few times. As for his reforms such as immigration, students opinions are drastically split between one another. People have looked to the Statue of Liberty as symbolic of a gateway into a world where happiness and hope can actually be the foundations of the future they couldn’t otherwise have. “Personally being a daughter of immigrants Trump’s executive order to ban immigrants hits close to home. America is supposed to be the land of the free. I think refusing the refugees totally contradicts that,” says one senior. However a pro trump student brought up a counterpoint by saying, “I think the media is misrepresenting the situation. Former presidents such as Obama and Carter have enacted similar bans. People don’t understand how complex intelligence gathering and national security can be.”

Teens have been taking their voices to the streets of Manhattan and Washington DC to stand up

for what they believe in. Senior Emma Dowhie who does not support Trump said, “I attended the women’s march. I really enjoy protesting because it’s nice to be surrounded by like-minded people who are all fighting toward the same goal I support.” Some students have tried to give Trump the benefit of the doubt, but “his executive orders, aside from being inhumane and unconstitutional, are just bad tactics.” Meanwhile Senior Michael Civita, a strong supporter of Trump, said, “I attended the Pro-Life March with Mr. Germano and other students. I proudly repped a Trump hat while there and also carried a Trump flag.” Although both sides strongly disagree with each other, all students agree voicing one’s opinion is crucial especially in today’s world.

Since the inauguration, the atmosphere surrounding the president can be described as being contentious. Trump’s initial reforms have struck a chord in our society that has led to mass protests not only in America but throughout the world. Nevertheless, one of the best things about being an American is our constitutional right to voice our opinions and it’s a good thing teenagers are enacting their rights to stand up for what they believe in. Before the rise of Donald Trump, teens weren’t debating about political issues, but now it’s a neverending discussion between peers and teachers. We shouldn’t live in fear of what people think when they hear our views. For those of you who are scared to voice your opinions for fear of others disagreeing, I say to you, “Rise up” and “Don’t throw away your shot!” (Lin Manuel Miranda’s Hamilton) because in the end we have the power to change the world we live in.

Open Mic Ends on a High Note

by Sydney Bryant ‘19, photos courtesy of the Stanner Alumni Center

The Stanner community is full of talented and passionate people. On December 14th, Mr. Gambino hosted the first Open Mic of the year, where many of our peers hit the stage showing off their talents. The Ralph DeChiaro Theater was busting at the seams with just a few of Molloy’s most dedicated singers, musicians, and comedians.

The audience was blown away by the wide array of talent from first time performers and veterans alike. Sophomore Sarah Quispe sang *Bright* by Echosmith, accompanied on the piano by her friend Taylor Garcia-Lawson. Another member of the Class of 2019, Taylor sang *How Far I’ll Go* from the film Moana, and a last minute original song titled *Leave*. Juliana Giacone and Vanessa Diaz harmoniously sang Ed Sheeran’s ballad, *Thinking Out Loud*. Junior Enrico Cecchi, who last year did a comedy routine, crooned the classic Beatles song *I’ve Just Seen a Face* accompanied by Spencer Szeto on guitar. Anesia Whitfeld delightfully matched the dulcet tones of

Beyonce’s *Halo*. Leelan Carbonell and Spender Szeto left the audience awed with their strings performance of *While My Guitar Gently Weeps*.

The Senior duo of Austin Budhram and Steven Palacios energetically sang a rendition of *Cheerleader* by Omi. Member of our next graduating class, Justyna Jablonska did a beautiful medley of *All of Me* by John Legend, *Stitches* by Shawn Mendes and *Hello* by Adele. Jeffrey Twumasi sang *Grenade* by Bruno Mars to an adoring crowd. And lastly, Kiah Moe dazzled the audience with her version of *Dog Days Are Over*, by Florence + The Machine.

But the talent at Archbishop Molloy High School, doesn’t stop there. Chairwoman of the Foreign Language Department, Ms. Dupre, and Mr. Gambino, Chairman of the Religion Department, both took to the stage. Ms. Dupre performed a powerful rendition of Neil Young’s *Heart of Gold*, and *Talkin’ Bout a Revolution* by Tracy Chapman. Moderator Mr. Gambino performed an original



Sarah Quispe ‘19 and Taylor Garcia-Lawson ‘19.

piece titled *Pope of Fools*, a song about the ending of the Hunchback of Notre Dame based on the original book compared to the ending of the well-known animated Disney version.

To top it all off, a joyful and energetic Christmas sing-along pieced the whole show together. Look out for future announcements about Open Mics and the Molloy Talent Show.



Anesia Whitfeld ‘18 sings her heart out.



Mr. Gambino performs an original tune to close the show.

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Editor-In-Chief:	Sarah Rodriguez ‘18
Associate Editors:	Kaitlyn Helfer ‘18 & Fiona McCaul ‘18
Production Staff:	Diana Diaz ‘18, Angelica Foronda ‘18, Michael LaBella ‘17, Christina Lleshi ‘18, Dakota Racan ‘18, Olivia Schellenberg ‘18, Amanda Stachnik ‘18
Moderators:	Ms. Laura Sawyer ‘07 & Mr. Joe Sommo ‘03
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by Amanda Liu ‘17 & Rebeka Bonilla ‘17

Austin Budhram embodies all the Marist characteristics of a Stanner. When asked about his favorite memory, he said it is hard to choose. One of his best memories was, “at track camp when the team was playing softball and Christian Lanzetta hit the ball high in the air in my direction. I had no idea where the ball was so I randomly left my hand out and the ball somehow landed in my glove. The whole team erupted in cheers and laughter.” Austin will miss all the teachers who made learning fun, all friends and all the memories and experiences shared, and all the clubs. Most importantly, he’s going to miss the family aspect of Molloy. Whether it be Esopus, chorus, or track, “everyone in these activities accepted me for who I am and have encouraged me to be a better person and that is what I believe family is all about.” Austin’s message to his fellow classmates is, “Don’t be part of the 2 o’clock club because time flies and you’ll be living in regret and wishing you did more. Continue to find who you truly are and what you love to do. Never let social status or the way you look or act limit your great potential.” Austin hopes to be an inspiration to future runners, singers, and students alike. “I want to be remembered for sparking a sense of hope in the abilities of those who don’t believe in themselves.” He plans to study biomedical/chemical engineering or law in the future.



Photo by Ms. Laura Sawyer



Photo by Mr. Joe Sommo

her as “someone who was always friendly and open to chat with anyone.” After graduating, she plans to study Speech Pathology at St. John’s University.

You may know **Francesca LaPinta** from her speech at the Junior Leadership ceremony last year. She leads by example by being the definition of a well-rounded Molloy student. During her years at Molloy she has juggled peer tutoring, Science Olympiad, being a Spirit Leader, and four years of playing soccer. Just when you thought there couldn’t be any more, she’s also an AP student and is on the Principal’s List. Francesca’s Molloy years have helped her come out of her shell. Her favorite memories are the Italian 4 trip to Little Italy and eating at Ferrara Bakery with her classmates, and scoring her first soccer goal in high school. “Having teachers who love what they’re doing and genuinely want to help students,” is what Francesca will miss most about Molloy. Her advice to students is, “stay on top of your work while you can because college stuff can be stressful.” Francesa hopes her story will show her fellow Stanners that “you don’t have to be one-dimensional and you can accomplish many things.” Francesca is excited for college and plans to major in engineering.



Photo by Mr. Joe Sommo

work, sports, extracurricular activities, and a job. What Nick will miss most about Molloy is free periods in the library, talking and playing chess with friends, and joking around in Mr. Santos’ Spanish class. His advice to students is “don’t stress out about the little things because everything is going to work out.”

Lauren O’Donohue is a name that people instantly associate with being a true Stanner. As she prepares to leave Molloy, she’s going to “miss the teachers who made everyday a unique and memorable learning experience.” Lauren said she made a lot of great memories at Molloy being in clubs that helped her “meet so many new people and opened up new opportunities for me.” One memory stands out in particular for Lauren: the senior trip to Disney. She said it was “so much fun being there with everyone from Molloy and making memories with my best friends that I’ll never forget.” Lauren is a Campus Ministry Leader, part of the Intramural Committee, and Lantern. When she leaves Molloy, she hopes people will remember



Photo by Amanda Stachnik ‘18

AMHS HOROSCOPES

by Danielle DePasquale ‘19

art by Julie Moran ‘18

ARIES: *March 21 - April 19* New opportunities are expected to present themselves to you. Don’t be afraid to embrace new things. Join any of the myriad of clubs Molloy offers and put yourself out there. There can be much to gain.

TAURUS: *April 20 - May 20* You will learn to share your creativity with peers and teachers. Don’t be afraid to express your ideas. You can have a positive impact on others and meet those who share your passions. Sign up for Open Mic or join the Theater Arts and Improv Club.

GEMINI: *May 21 - June 20* Take time to become an astute listener. Your smartphone isn’t going anywhere, so put it down every once in awhile! Listening to peers and teachers can be to your advantage. Speaking can be just as rewarding once wisdom is shared. Other people’s ideas can contribute to strong statements you may decide to make in life.

CANCER: *June 21 - June 22* Try to exceed your personal limits. Go for things you may not have had the courage for in the past. You can learn and grow from new experiences. Don’t be shy! You can start out simply by raising your hand in class more often or introducing yourself to new peers.

LEO: *July 23 - August 22* Time is very important. Use this year to improve your time management. Balancing school and a social life can become tricky. You can benefit from keeping track of your priorities and goals for each day.

VIRGO: *August 23 - September 22* It is suggested to get organized. Whether it’s your messy locker or gym bag, make things easier for yourself and rearrange. Having everything in place can give you more time to focus on many things instead of searching for one.

LIBRA: *September 23 - October 22* You can expect clearer and possibly better thoughts as to what you want in the future. This can pertain to college and career choices. You may uncover interests as you select new courses.

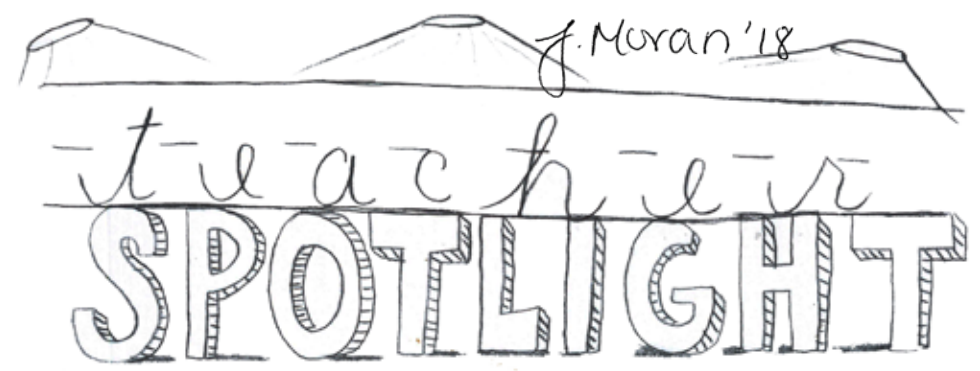
SCORPIO: *October 23 - November 21* Take time to revisit goals you have put aside. Don’t settle. Constantly create new goals for yourself. If help from peers or teachers is needed, don’t be ashamed to take advantage. Additional guidance can benefit anyone.

SAGITTARIUS: *November 22 - December 21* Changes may occur in your life. The new semester includes new classes and new schedules. You are prepared and will be very successful in adapting to new circumstances. New friends may present themselves.

CAPRICORN: *December 22 - January 19* You are reminded to enjoy all aspects of life. It’s easy to get caught up in the hectic moments, but keep happiness in mind. Busy hallways and studying for tests are things everyone goes through at some point. It is important to remain patient and positive.

AQUARIUS: *January 20 - February 18* It is suggested to become slightly more serious. Whether it’s your school work or a sport, keep in mind your goals. Take this year to improve and strengthen. Keep your focus and avoid distractions. The possibilities are endless with a hardworking attitude.

PISCES: *February 19 - March 20* Prosperity is in your future. Your determination and focus will guide you to success. Remember to surround yourself with positivity, in and out of school.



by Fiona McCaul '18 & Sarah Rodriguez '18

In 2008, Archbishop Molloy inducted the first woman into the Stanner Hall of Fame: long-time English teacher Ms. Mary Pat Gannon. Since arriving at Molloy in 1974, Ms. Gannon has taught a myriad of English classes, as well as the elective class Public Speaking. Due to the influence of a 4th grade teacher and the Sisters of Charity, Ms. Gannon's desire to teach began at a young age.

Ms. Gannon credits these women with inspiring her true idea of a teacher as being someone “involved, enthusiastic, multitasked, always recognizing where her students were and what they needed, and always being there with a hug and a laugh.”

One would expect that after teaching here for over 40 years, Ms. Gannon's students would each experience the same lessons every year. Instead, Ms. Gannon recognizes that every class is different and constantly changes her curriculum to adapt to each class. Her ability to work with the spontaneity of different classes and new ideas allows the students to “really get it.” Ms. Gannon credits Molloy itself for granting her the academic freedom of evolving her curriculum to accommodate some of the changes around the school over the years. These changes include Molloy's switch to co-ed, which Gannon considers “one of the best things that [Molloy] did,” and the addition of SMART boards and iPads, which she hopes will become “just another tool in our skillset to help kids learn.”



Ms. Mary Pat Gannon

Ms. Gannon lives and teaches in the Marist spirit: “interested in service, interested in educating young people, and interested in the recognition that the spirit moves in many different ways in the world.” Through her hard work, Ms. Gannon has educated and affected the lives of numerous students here at Molloy, furthering her continued belief in the “general happiness of Molloy and the general belief that we can change the world because we can send out educated and caring people.”

Over the course of 58 years Mr. Diorio has been laying down the law in room 312, teaching government to seniors and for the first time this year, juniors. Growing up on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, Mr. Diorio gives credit to his history teachers at the La Salle Academy for jump-starting his interest in the American government.

Mr. Diorio's knowledge expands further than the textbook, having been the right hand man to former Mayor John Lindsay, as well as forming campaign strategies for various senators and assemblymen. As a result of these experiences, he is able to help his students go beyond the curriculum when learning one of the greatest necessities, “Government is more than a course. It's actually a way of life. Everything we talk about in class has some meaning. Students should always ask ‘why?’ and ‘what if?’”

The greatest rewards of being a teacher at Molloy, Diorio says, include keeping others aware of current events, further studying the meaning of government and how it provides for us, knowing how to value the system we have, and most of all, having the ability to impart such important information to today's young adults. Having worked at Molloy since the early 60s, Mr. Diorio has seen it all, from new gyms, less parking spots, and heading into the 21st century the most drastic of all: welcoming female students into the Stanner family. Despite all of these changes, Diorio admits he wouldn't trade his job for anything else. “Molloy is the best school,” he says. “It's the best, and the reason is the students. They make the school and have overall been fabulous.”



Mr. John Diorio

What Time Does Next Period Start?

by Marco Vittozzi '18

“Ok, have a great day!” the teacher says as the class gets up to leave. You jump out of your desk and walk on to your next class. Actually, it's more of a battle than a stroll through the halls. If you consider the freshmen stopping in the middle of the hallway to go to their lockers, plus the sophomores clamoring about with their friends, mixed with the juniors trying to get to their AP classes on time and further adding the seniors stopping to talk to their friends in a large group, then you get one of the worst “traffic jams” that has ever graced the hallways of Molloy.

The times of each class have been changed so that every student, it seems, is in the hallway at the same time. In past years, there have always been crowded hallways, but now it appears to be especially crowded. This could be the result of the schedule change at Molloy. Every class is now 41 minutes (with 4 minutes to switch classes) compared to the half hour and hour classes that were previously in place. Even lunch is now 41 minutes. This is much to the chagrin of many students. One junior, however, likes the new changes. Enrico Cecchi says that it seems more organized that each class is 41 minutes exactly and not broken up with shorter classes. He does miss, however, leaving school at 2:00 instead of 2:15. Enrico said that, “If I could change one thing about the schedule, I would want last period to be shorter so that we can still get out at 2:00.” One particular thing he likes about the new schedule is the longer lunch because he says that he can “hang out and talk to [his] friends longer and enjoy [his] time with them.” Other anonymous students said they approved of the new schedule changes.

Many people may have different questions about this new schedule. The one person who could answer everyone's quandaries, the “man behind the curtain” you could say, would be Mr. Vellucci. He creates everyone's unique, intricately-made schedule. According to him, “While the old schedule worked, people, teachers mainly, were not happy with it because of the hour/half hour periods. The inconsistency during these periods made teaching and reviewing difficult and test giving was completely out of the question.” He also said that “Although it may seem that the

friends.” In regards to why the times may seem oddly out of place, Mr. Vellucci notes that, “The times may seem strange, but again, the increments are no different than past years. Before, classes started at 10:34 or 11:49, but this year they start at 10:29 or 11:59. It's not much of a change at all.” He also feels that this change is “Helpful, seeing as it makes test giving and review much easier. I can also schedule more classes of different variety into the classrooms which are empty, seeing as lunch is longer. This is a big advantage, because classes don't have to be canceled if there are only eight or ten students in each class.” Speaking of lunch, many students have stated that not only is lunch at a bad time, but it is much too long. Presenting this to Mr. Vellucci, he said that “Lunch has to be longer because then this makes all of the classes the same. If the classes were 41 minutes and lunch only 30 minutes, then the classes would be inconsistent and we would be back with the old schedule. I've only had one parent complain about the early lunch, to be completely honest.” He added, with a bit

of light-hearted humor, that, “It doesn't matter when people eat, if food is put in front of them they will eat it.”

Whatever students may feel about this new schedule, it doesn't look like it is going anywhere anytime soon. While many may dislike it, consider that maybe this schedule is for the better. Each class is the same, so no inconsistencies, and the new schedule makes classes more organized. In reality, students should not complain about the schedule, but in fact, they should focus on arriving to classes on time and not clogging up the hallways!



Students waiting for class to end. Photo by Stephanie Szpylka '18.

hallways are more crowded, they actually are, in fact, no different than before. For example, all classes during the period after homeroom always let out at the same time. For the lunch periods, hallways should not be significantly more crowded since 25% of the students are heading to the cafeteria on the first floor where there's never any traffic anyway.” He says that in order for hallways to be less crowded, “Students should go to their lockers before classes start and pack their bags for two or three periods, instead of going after every class. Students should also get to class quickly, instead of blocking the hallways and talking to

New Year...New Stanners: Resolutions for 2017

by Dakota Racan '18 & Amanda Stachnik '18

Everyone has welcomed 2017 with open arms, ready to redeem themselves from last year. Whether it was the mediocre grades they may have had or the diet they didn't follow, both students and teachers at Archbishop Molloy High School seem to want a fresh start.

One resolution that hardworking students and staff may agree on is to visit Mr. Sandman more often. “My New Year's resolution? To get more sleep,” Mr. Sheehan replied while being interviewed. Some other teachers have revealed their New Year's resolutions, including Mr. Sottosanti saying, “Giving up sweets. I am giving away candy to the students instead of eating it myself.” Mrs. Dionisi said, “To move out of my comfort zone and try new things, even things I don't feel familiar with.” These

ideas could be very helpful resolutions for students to have too. For example, these resolutions could encourage students to try to join new clubs, make new friends, be healthier, and maybe even study harder.

As we moved from classroom to classroom, interviewing teachers, we learned that not many teachers were able to come up with a resolution. When asked why, almost all had no explanation with the exception of Ms. Loughran, stating, “New Year's resolutions fall through quickly.” Ms. Pastore thought about it and was able to add, “I try to make improvements with things instead of having a resolution.”

Even though finding New Year's resolutions among teachers was not a piece of cake, it was

noted that most of the students interviewed did not have resolutions at all. After speaking with several Stanners, we concluded that they feel it “gives false hope,” and they would rather focus on everything in the year ahead instead of having just one goal. Two students we interviewed managed to have a resolution. Freshman Sanjana Dhand said, “My New Year's resolution is to go to track meets more often.” Junior Konrad Markowski stated, “I would like to improve my study habits in all of my classes.”

After following up with teachers and students, it seems that they are doing well keeping up with their demanding resolutions. Whether you have decided to make changes this year or not, let's hope you have the best year possible!

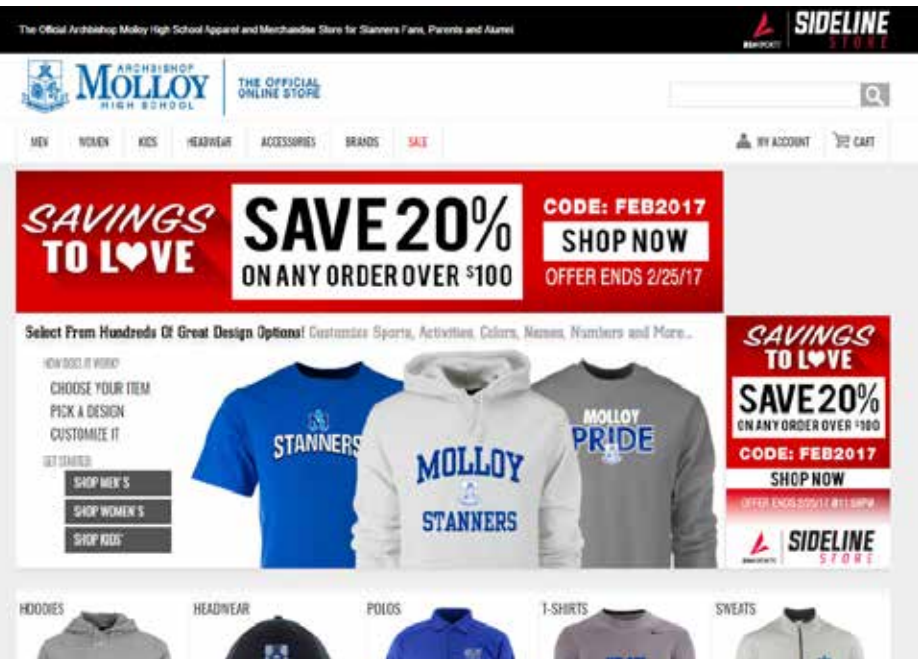
Now You Can Shop (Online) ‘til You Drop!

by Sebastian Germosen '20, James Galeno '20 & Jake Temkin '20

At the beginning of the 2016-17 school year, the Molloy website introduced a new online store where students, parents and alumni can purchase all the Stanner fan gear they need to show their school pride. Before this addition to the website, the only place Stanners could go to get Molloy merchandise was at the school store on campus. This was not only inconvenient for parents and other family members, but it also had a limited variety of items for sale.

The new online school store is open 24/7 and has over double the products and more options for fans to customize their gear to make it their own. “It's all about the options” said Mr. Kartsen, Molloy's President, during an interview about his feelings toward the progress

of the store. One fantastic customization option is the ability to add any phrase, name, or number to the back of most of the items available ranging from t-shirts to pullover sweaters. “It's a great solution for us to have with the growing Molloy Community,” Mr. Karsten added. Thanks to BSN Sports and Lids Headwear, the school has been able to explore new ways of spreading Stanner Nation and encouraging students and fans to do the same when they buy their merchandise. In addition, Mr. Karsten has invited any interested seniors to design a new class of 2017 shirt based on the options that are presented to customer's online for the senior apparel. You can find the school store on the homepage of the official Molloy website, next to the list of events.



Check out Molloy's online store at www.molloyhs.org.

JV Softball Donates

by Angelica Foronda '18, Sarah Rodriguez '18 & Michael LaBella '17

In late spring of 2016, Athletic Director Mr. McCleary, Coach Santos, and the JV softball team had collected and sorted used and excess Molloy athletic jerseys to be donated to underprivileged high school students in southern Dominican Republic. In December, Coach Santos was informed the jerseys had been put to good use. The jerseys are awarded to the DR students as an incentive for studying hard and earning good grades. “The kids are off the streets and staying in school,” said Coach Santos. Thanks to Coach Santos, Mr. McCleary, JV softball, and the local charities in the DR who made this possible.



Photo by Jermy Singh '20

Catch Me Out The Armory, How ‘Bout That

by Sarah Doyle '19

The wait! The tension! The exhilaration! The victory! All words that can be used to describe Molloy's phenomenal Stanner Games. It's been an annual event since 1995, and is one of the longest running track and field meets in the country. This exciting meet is anticipated by all who attend. Teams from all over the USA come to run their very best while representing their schools. Alumni also come back to watch and volunteer at this meet. No matter how long it has been since alumni attended Molloy, it's said that the thrill never leaves you.

The Stanner Games takes place in Manhattan at the Armory. Being part of the Stanner Games is like entering another world – a world of perhaps future Olympic athletes – all stretching, talking, and running as one. It's a place where all runners can feel accepted, knowing that everyone around them has the same love for an amazing sport. There is nothing like the rush of sprinting down that straightaway, the wind in your hair, knowing you are seconds from breaking your best time. At the Stanner Games, everyone there can relate to that rush, in a way that others cannot.

The Stanner Games are always unforgettable, and 2017 was no exception. In fact, this year we had Olympic athlete Sydney McLaughlin break her best 300m time, running a 37.11 and putting her at number two on the US all-time list. There was also Katelyn Tuohy, who ran a 4:48 mile, a US record time by three seconds. It was incredible to watch people who have already accomplished so much. Their successes give young athletes everywhere hope.

Another important moment during the Stanner Games was the moment of silence in remembrance of former coach Brother Patrick Lally, former volunteer George Arcarola '74, and former runner Karina Vetrano '04, a Molloy alumna that passed away tragically while running in Howard Beach in 2016. They will always be remembered and kept in the hearts of Stanners forever.

The Stanner Games were truly unforgettable. Seeing how many people come to support the school that they love and watching incredible athletes break personal records is awe-inspiring. There's nothing like the tell-tale bang of the gun, signaling the start of another race, to make your heart pound. Whether a runner or a spectator, there's nothing else like it.



Photo by Daniel Ramirez-Mendez '20

Meehan Breaks National Record

by Uma Mohan '18, photo by Isabella Fazio '19

Freshman year is cringe-worthy memory for most, summoning the ghosts of harrowing hair styles and miserable metal mouths. However, Class of 2020's, Peter Meehan has had a Freshman year that is anything but dreadful. As most recall, whether seeing it live or blowing up on your feed, back in September, Meehan broke a decades old high jump record on Freshman Field Day by clearing 6'0" – a phenomenal feat and great start to his Molloy career. But it doesn't end there. Meehan later set the Freshman High Jump record for not just Molloy, but the entire country. Standing tall at 6'3", Meehan broke the national competitive record by jumping 6'2" – one inch shy of his height. He is currently ranked 4th in the USA. Overwhelmed with the love and support of family and friends, Meehan aspires to clear 6'4" by the end of 2017.



Peter Meehan's record-breaking jump, Freshman Field Day '16. Photo by Isabella Fazio '19.

To Infinity and Beyond AMHS

by Jeffrey Twumasi '17

The senior trip to Disney World is one of many privileges for upperclassmen. This year, unlike past years, the trip was in December instead of March.

When asked if he preferred December to March, Mr. Auer said, "Christmas time was awesome at the parks. They were all decorated beautifully. The weather was comfortable and the parks were not very crowded. In March it is much hotter, almost too hot, but the crowds are the same. Overall I liked the trip a lot. We had a great group of students and faculty. And how could you not have a good time at Disney?"

Mr. Auer continued saying, "The students were great on the trip. We received many compliments on how well they acted. They were also on time which is very important for the trip to run smoothly."

Senior Anthony Milevoi said, "I loved the trip and had an amazing time. We visited Animal Kingdom, Epcot, Hollywood Studios, and Magic Kingdom. Hollywood Studios was my favorite park because it had many of my favorite rides. I thought we spent a good amount of time at each park, I just wish the trip was longer!"

Photos courtesy of the Class of 2017.



Upcoming Events:

Senior Show: March 3rd-4th
International Day: March 12th
Spirit Week: March 27th-31st
Spring Musical: April 6th-9th

*Correction: In our fall issue we incorrectly listed Hillary Clinton's vote total in the Quantitative Results from the Online Poll. The correct number of votes is 71 (43% of total), not 83 votes. The Stanner apologizes for this error.



Photo by Daniel Ramirez-Mendez '20



Photo by Jennifer Marry '19

Winter Concert Was Brrrilliant!

by Kaitlyn Helfer '18 & Sadie Lozano-Mieles '20

On December 12th, the Junior/Senior Chorus, directed by Mr. Sheehan, put on a spectacular set, singing songs in a variety of genres and themes including "Songs Inspired by the Birth of Christ," "Songs Inspired by the Christmas Season" and "The Meaning of the Season." Some favorites of the night were *O Come O Come Emanuel*, with a solo by senior Austin Budram, and *Hallelujah* sung by senior Kiah Moe.

The following night, the Freshman/Sophomore Chorus and Concert Band took the stage. Both ensembles were directed by Ms. Ya-Ting Yang. When asked about her favorite moment of the concert, Ms. Yang said, "When the chorus members were smiling at the end of a particular song because we'd nailed the trickiest part of the piece."

The chorus started with songs such as *Winter's Waking*, *The First Noel* and *Carol of the Bells*. There were solos performed by Juliana Mayor singing *Gloria Tibi*, Sarah Doyle and Sarah Quispe singing *When Christmas Comes to Town*, and Juliana Giacome

singing *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*. The final song, *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year*, made for a perfect ending for the first part of the concert.

Most importantly, both choruses genuinely enjoyed themselves during both evening's performances, making all the preparation and hard work worth it.

After the Freshman/Sophomore Chorus performed, the Concert band played several songs: *Ode to Joy*, *What Child is This?* (*Greensleeves*), *The Polar Express*, and *Do You Hear What I Hear?*.

A select ensemble played a jazz piece entitled *Funk O' Saint Nick*, a twist on *Jolly Old Saint Nick*. The piece included a solo improv section that featured a member from each instrumental section. The solo band members had to compose their own eight-measure improv piece, using a traditional blues scale as a model. Their creations were quite impressive, with Ms. Yang calling it one of her favorite moments of the bands' performance.

Both concert events were certainly a success, and we can't wait to see what each ensemble

What's New In The Cafeteria?

by Linet Jacome '18 & Sarinna Sung '18

There have been many big changes in the cafeteria this year. A new kiosk has been incorporated in the back of the cafeteria, and healthier food options have been added to the menu. However, it seems that with these new products came price changes as well. Many students have been wondering why there is a difference in the prices and quality in food since last year. By offering healthier options, the school has become more proactive in improving the students' regular diets. For example, regular soda has been replaced with diet, and vitamin water and tea.

Students believe that the installation of the new kiosk makes getting lunch quicker and more convenient. However, others still end up going to the main food service area because the kiosk doesn't have the meal options that they desire.

In regards to the subtle increase in the price of lunch options, one slice of pizza which cost \$2.25 last year has risen to \$2.40 this year. This and other price increases, even if only by a few cents, have been noticed by many of the students. While the prices of the meals themselves still seem relatively fair, students have complained that the prices of snacks and drinks seem unreasonable. "Before we could buy three cookies, now only two come in the

bag for the same price," said Konrad Markowski. Carl Ferreri ended up buying a 1.9 lb bag of sour patch kids on sale outside Molloy for about seven dollars because he found that the price for a small batch of sour patch kids the school provided was too expensive. "I only spent seven bucks and the bag lasted over two and a half weeks. I would have had to spend more if I had bought the sour patches from here every day. It made no sense." Troi Lucas complained that the price of bottled water, usually the cheapest drink, has increased from \$1.00 to \$1.25 "I know it's only twenty-five cents, but it still bugs me."

A n explanation for these changes is that the school's contract with last year's food service company, FLIK Food Services, expired and they decided to use a new company called Culinart Inc. We asked some of the kitchen crew about the new



Freshman lunch. Photo by Daniel Ramirez-Mendez '20.

company's meals and they said they liked that there are healthier options for the students. Contrary to popular thought, the price increases for items such as water and soda are not because of the new food company, but because the prices of the products themselves have risen everywhere.

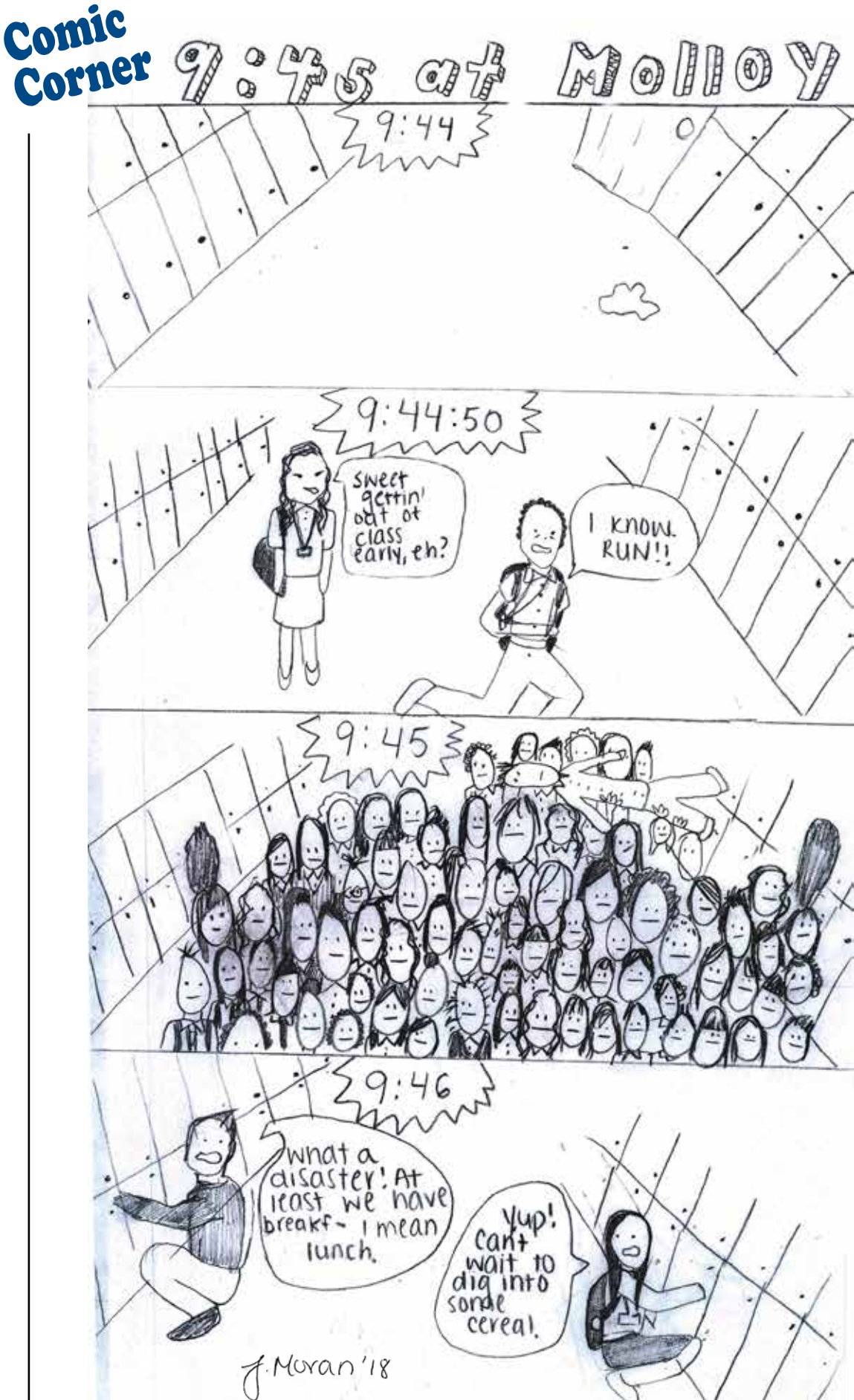
All in all, even though the prices of food may have risen, the school is actively trying to improve its students' diets and promote healthier living by making healthier and tastier lunch options available.

One Ingredient, Yet Thousands of Possibilities

by Sarah Rodriguez '18 & Uma Mohan '18,
Photos by Sarah Jagessar '19 & Ettiman Kaur '19



The French Club recently took a trip to the the French Cheese Board where they learned about the cheese making process in the best way: tasting. Over 15 French Club members along with their moderator, Ms. Rosamond, journeyed to lower Manhattan where The Cheese Board was more than happy to parade France's biggest and most renowned exports. Other than the usual cheddar and mozzarella, the French Club discovered that all cheeses, including the new cheeses they devoured that day like Bonde d'Antan, Comte, and Bleu d'Auvergne, are all made with the same ingredient: milk. Interestingly enough, the varying flavors of cheeses are due to the milk's origin and the animal producing it. These factors help create the thousands of cheese varieties we have today.





The Starting Five

by Michael LaBella '17



Photo by Isabella Fazio '19

Cole Anthony '19

The 6'1" sophomore point guard, Cole Anthony, who has been known for his emphatic highlight reel dunks and incredible ball handling, sits at fourth in the league with 21.2 points per game. He is currently ranked #16 in the nation and #1 in New York for Class of 2019 according to ESPN. Anthony has collected four college offers from Kansas, Georgetown, Iona and St John's with interest coming from many more to date.



Photo by Isabella Fazio '19

Moses Brown '18

Junior center Moses Brown towers over defenders at 7'0" tall and is likely the tallest player in the league. He's right behind Anthony, ranked 5th with 20.7 points per game. Brown is ranked #6 in the nation and #1 in New York for Class of 2018 in the ESPN rankings. He currently has 15 college offers including Maryland, Florida, Arizona, and Seton Hall.



Photo courtesy of Yearbook

Khalid Moore '18

The 6'6" junior Khalid Moore has the ability to use his height inside the paint or knock down a three point jumper from a distance. He's currently averaging 9.3 points per game and is ranked #9 in New York for Class of 2018 in the ESPN ranks. Moore has nine college offers at the moment including from Miami, Louisville, Rutgers, and Syracuse.

Soaring to New Heights

by Peter Paolo '19

There is a lot of hype surrounding the boys' Varsity basketball team. Yes, it is true that this season was one of the most highly anticipated in recent memory, and for good reason. The team's starting five are all highly touted college recruits (see *"The Starting Five"* by Michael LaBella '17). From imposing big men, to agile guards, to sharp-shooting forwards, the team is teeming with talent. Currently ranked 4th in NYC by News 12 Varsity with a 17-7 record and a BQ championship under their belts, Mr. McCleary, the Athletic Director and boys' Varsity Head Coach weighed in on his team. "They're young, so they still have some developing to do," but he also commented that "there is a ton of potential in front of them." However, talent alone doesn't win games. Mr. McCleary said "the team has to function as a group" as well. He also said "that all of our players are very good at thinking team first." It is also crucial for future and sustained success to keep improving. In order to do that, Mr. McCleary said, "we have to keep trying to work to become a better group" and "[the players] have to improve their individual skills, and that automatically helps the team."

However, as it so often does, character counts, on and off the court. Mr. McCleary said "they should be students first. They are student-athletes, not just athletes." He also noted that "it is most important that they learn how to behave as quality human beings." With



all of these points in mind, hopes are high that the Stanners will bring a City Championship back home to Briarwood.

Molloy has a long and distinguished history of excellence in its basketball program. Today's players follow in the footsteps of NBA champion Kenny Smith '83, NBA All-Stars Kenny Anderson '89 and Brian Winters '70, and Olympian Kevin Joyce '69. Some might say Molloy's current team harkens back to the good old days of yesteryear. They might argue that the 1970s through the 1980s was the era when Molloy was at its peak of basketball prestige, led by legendary Coach Jack Curran. This, however, is not true. Molloy's tradition of producing talented, team-oriented, and committed young student-athletes has never wavered. It has remained ever-present through good and bad seasons alike. Instead of feeling overly nostalgic, go to the games, and watch the team not only meet, but exceed the history that came before them.



Photo courtesy of Yearbook

Jackson Vertucci '17

Senior Jackson Vertucci is just one of two seniors on the roster this season, compared to the seven total last year. Vertucci cracked into the starting lineup on his second year on Varsity and became a starting guard. Standing at 6'0" he has the ability to drive to the hoop or pull up for a long distance shot.



Photo by Daniel Ramirez-Mendez '20

John Herring '17

John Herring, the other senior on Varsity, busted into the starting lineup this year and averages 11.4 points with a few dunks per game. The 6'3" two sport athlete has caught a lot of attention this year for his ability to work under the basket and throw it down. ESPN ranked him as the #15 player in New York for Class of 2017.

Winter Season in Review

by Michael LaBella '17

The Stanners carried their strong sports success from the fall into the winter, recording an 80-28 overall record in basketball and racking up multiple championships across track, bowling, and swimming. The boys Varsity "A" team finished as the BQ regular season champions with a 17-7 record. The boys Freshman team finished 17-5 overall and tied for 1st place while the JV team claimed the number three seed with a 16-6 record. The girls Varsity basketball team is currently 13-7, ranked in the top 100 nationally by USA Today, and top 10 in the city by MSG Varsity while the girls JV team holds a 17-3 record. Varsity bowling finished as BQ and City Champions while JV bowling finished as BQ champs and 2nd in the city.

The girls swimming team were 2nd place champs and Bridget Montgomery broke her own record in the 200 free this season. In track and field, the boys Freshman and Sophomore teams both won the BQ Championship along, while Peter Meehan set the Molloy high jump record at an amazing 6'2". Eight Stanners qualified for the New York State Federation Championship, the highest number of Molloy athletes ever to qualify for the meet. Aaliyah Josey (Triple Jump), Kristen Mardenborough (Long Jump), Meesha Samuels (1000 meter), Elvir Hot (Shot Put), Peter Meehan (High Jump), and Oluwatomide "Tommy" Alao, Joshua Titus and Chinemerem Ononiwu (55 meter high hurdles) will all compete in the meet on March 4th.



Girls Varsity Swimming Team. Photo provided by team.



Marcus Retegues '17
Photo by Isabella Fazio '19



Stanley cheers on Molloy.
Photo by Elizabeth Duran '20