



## The Women's March

BY EMMA BLANCHARD

This January, I traveled to the nation's capital to stand in solidarity with women of various backgrounds, immigrants, members of the LGBTQ community, people of color, and many others who believe in progress and equality at the Women's March on Washington.

Women dominated the streets and the news in recent months as hundreds of thousands stepped out to advocate for rights under President Donald Trump. The organizers of the Women's March predicted around 250,000 people would attend the Women's March on Washington. The turnout for this march, however, far exceeded that prediction. The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority announced they saw 1,001,616 riders the day of the march. I was overcome by the turnout as well as the diversity and enthusiasm of the marchers. Standing among colorful and rather clever signs, pink knit hats, upbeat music, and toothy smiles at every turn was a joyous experience, one very few will ever forget.

It is obvious that the relationship between the people and the government is shifting. The first few weeks of Donald Trump's presidency served as a much-needed reminder to the people that we do possess power and American democracy spans the nation's cultural, partisan, and ideological divides.

The most powerful message I took away from Donald Trump's inauguration speech was when he said, "We are transferring power from Washington, D.C., and giving it back to you, the people." The American people have become accustomed to major institutions and leaders possessing the power and controlling the ways in which our society and government function.

Upon arrival at the Women's March, I witnessed the people making strides to take back this power. Citizens' faith in American institutions and democracy is at an

## Inside The School, Outside The Box

BY ANIKA BUCH

A history lesson from 8th grade still resonates with me. My classmates and I read a passage about a woman who had a complicated cultural history and could not decide which box to check on an application. She did not fit in any of the boxes. And I thought: Is that not true for all of us? Aren't we all more than a small, cubic, confining box?

I am no stranger to the box. Currently a freshman, I try as many extracurriculars as possible to challenge myself. I take part in numerous clubs, productions such as *Macbeth*, and I try to get to know new people as often as possible. Despite my diverse involvement in the community, however, I am still characterized by preconceived cultural expectations. Americans and Indians expect me, as an Indian, to be good at math, to be technologically gifted, and to be immersed in academics and education. But I am so much more. I am eager to learn new things and challenge myself.



The Girls' Basketball Team shows trademark Crimson camaraderie.

Photo: Lilia Wieder

all-time low; we, the people, must be vigilant, actively engaged, and prepared to raise our voices. I believe that the Women's March did just that and will be a catalyst for future revolutions.

Never in my life had I felt prouder to be American. The strong American spirit I felt while marching among thousands inspired me and reminded me that regardless of our current political dysfunction, we are an unstoppable nation comprised of a diverse spectrum of powerful individuals. We have a voice and we are capable of instituting legitimate change within the United States government.

I marched in hopes that my presence, and the presence of hundreds of thousands of empowered individuals, will send a message to the new administration, to the Senate, and to the House that women will not back down. I will be watching very closely and be very active in speaking out against legislation or executive decisions I find unjust. I am willing to fight and defend the civil rights that we hold so dear in this country. American democracy is a great privilege and we, the people, must stand to protect everything that we have spent decades fighting to achieve. For me, this march was a true embodiment of the American spirit. We did not and will not stand quietly.

MBS is a world. This campus is home to hundreds of individuals with an array of talents and passions. But still there are boxes here. Rather than appreciate the well-roundedness of our community, some instead regard the athletic students as jocks, academically inclined students as nerds, and theatrical students as actors first and foremost.

But try getting to know an actor or an athlete, and you will realize that they are more than the box. For instance, Ryan Waters '17, an All-American swimmer, admits that he feels "as if I'm just 'Ryan, the swimmer,' and nothing else." Indeed, Ryan can also be admired for his leadership as SGA President. Fellow senior Dominique Diggs agreed with Waters: "I feel like all people know about me is my devotion and passion for music." According to senior Gio Guanill who recently played *Macbeth* in the fall play, "People definitely expect me to be good at making videos in class and acting for skits." (continued on page 4)



# OPINION/EDITORIAL

## THE CRIMSON SUN

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The *Crimson Sun* provides information and entertainment in addition to various viewpoints on debatable issues. We will not print anything that is deemed libelous, obscene or in poor taste. We reserve the right to edit or withhold anything submitted and correct spelling, grammar and punctuation when necessary.

## Loss of Ignorance

BY JOSIE KLINGEMAN

In the spring of 2016, I was overwhelmed. I spent a lot of time analyzing topics throughout the course of U.S. History and U.S. literature in Humanities English 11. The topic I found myself dwelling on was repetition itself.

I could not help but look back with awe at how incredible it was that our country could repeat its mistakes so many times. How was it that we as Americans could be so blinded by our fears in the present to forget our own past?

I finally wrote about two events in American history: the Salem Witch Trials of 1692 and the Communism Red Scare of the 20th century. Both events were tragic and detrimental. Both were rooted in terror and extreme fear of the unknown. Both were enabled by American citizens.

Despite being 200 years apart, both events unjustly punished people without evidence of their crimes. The Red Scare saw numerous people wrongfully labeled as communists and ostracized from their communities. These people lost their jobs and their dignity, all because Joseph McCarthy spoke out against them. Many Americans were petrified by the idea of communism, so they believed what they were told.

We as Americans are falling back into our old habits. Look around. Look at your phone. Look at social

media. Look at newspaper headlines or breaking news captions. We are repeating ourselves this very second. We are barring people from our country and wrongfully accusing them of being something they are not. Yes, radicals do exist. I cannot deny that. But radicals make up nearly every group of people. Are there not radical Christians? Radical white supremacists? Radical black activists? Radical feminists?

The answer is yes. ISIS exists. Radical Muslim groups exist. 9/11 was a tragic and horrific event we will remember for the rest of our future. But not every Muslim is a terrorist. Just as not every person of any group is a radical.

We Americans have been taught to associate the two. But that is not the reality. It wasn't when unexplainable, inexcusable things occurred in Salem. It was not during the Red Scare. And it is most definitely not true now. We listen because we are scared. We believe because we are scared. But fearing the unknown should not make you believe things just because. We have to read. We have to research. We have to understand, and gain knowledge. We have to challenge what we have been conditioned to think. We need to lose our ignorance because if we don't, we are all doomed.

## Letters to/from the Editor:

### Re: Cartoon in Poor Taste

Dear Ms. Land and Ms. Green,

This reader is offended by your inclusion of the cartoon by Josh Aracena depicting what I assume to be Mrs. Clinton heading toward jail with handcuffs on in your December 2016 issue of the *Sun*. Your editorial policy states that you will not print anything deemed to be in poor taste. This, in my opinion, definitely is in poor taste. You have essentially allowed the demagoguery of certain politicians shouting, "Lock her up," to make it onto your pages. I will remind you that Mrs. Clinton has a long history of public service--decades, in fact--that she has served

as First Lady, Senator of New York, and Secretary of State.

And despite questionable actions, such as the use of a private server to carry on state business, she has never once been found guilty of any crime. The FBI has thoroughly investigated Mrs. Clinton's behavior and they have found nothing to prosecute. Congressional investigations have grilled Mrs. Clinton for hours and even days at taxpayers' expense and have never found anything that would even come close to a prosecutorial offence.

Please think carefully before you allow your pages to be influenced by mob thinking. It is unbecoming of your editorial pledge.

Sincerely,  
Christopher Teasdale

### In Response:

### Re: Re: Cartoon in Poor Taste

The responsibilities of a newspaper go far beyond merely "reporting." Even at the scholastic level, publications such as the *Crimson Sun* are responsible for observing, contributing to, and shaping the dialogues that exist in their surroundings. The staff of the *Crimson Sun* takes this responsibility to heart. With each issue, we strive to provide our readers with a thoughtful, multi-faceted reflection of the perspectives and events on campus.

But while the staff writes, draws, and edits with the intention of drawing a response

from the community, it is never our intention to cause offense.

With that said, Mr. Teasdale's letter regarding a cartoon from the December issue offered the *Crimson Sun's* newsroom an opportunity to reflect on the attitude our publication presents to our readership. Indeed, the Morristown-Beard community is lucky to possess a healthy convergence of opinions--if the content of our previous issue damaged that dynamic in any way, the staff of the *Crimson Sun* sincerely apologizes. While we stand by our decision to print the cartoon, we appreciate Mr. Teasdale's contribution and welcome more letters-to-the-editor in the future.



# OPINION/EDITORIAL

## Expectations, Meet Lamentations

BY MOLLY MICHEL

We live in a society where people 27 and under are able to use their parents' health care if they do not have a job that provides such a service. This right is often defended by millennials while the people of the baby boomer generation as well as the parents of those millennials often regard those people as lazy.

Many do not understand why these different generations squabble over what people deserve, what they need, and what they've earned. How did we go from people believing that they were undeserving to a so-called "lazy" generation?

It seems many things have changed the American work ethic. War, famine, family dynamics, as well as other circumstances have been deciding factors of young people's lives. These environmental factors are notable throughout history, whether it be ten-year-old boys marching with cavalries for their independence from Britain, or men and women enlisting in the 20th century as nurses and soldiers against the Axis pow-

ers. The greater the threat that confronted people, the more initiative they had to prevent harm from coming to the ones they loved the most.

So what happened? Well, there is not much of a need to work so hard early on because wars are typically kept overseas; millennials of course have their parents to fall back on because the family dynamic is much more inclusive than in the early 20th century, and there is sometimes no need to work that hard. Of course it is expected for you to graduate high school and go to college and work from there, but a lot of the time, after graduating from college, students tend to fall short.

Work ethic develops from small things like walking to school. You often hear the expression from your parents, "I had to walk 5 miles to get to school in the rain, snow, and heat." The funny thing is, that is true for many parents of millennials. For example, my mom used to walk to school and back almost every day. For me, I have either been driven or taken a bus. Walk-

ing to school gets you used to having to put some effort into starting the day and completing tasks. Sometimes, I may feel too lazy to get off my couch because the remote is on the tv stand and not next to me.

But there are also some exceptions. There are those who want to truly make a difference in the world because of the things they see and hear, as well as their own personal expectations. Many women, in particular, are upset by stereotypes in the work force and put in the extra mile to prove a point. This is the same for kids who struggle with a certain subject, but put all their effort into mastering and conquering their struggles.

So what is the danger of expectations? It is the lack of understanding of why you accomplished something in the first place. It is the lack of perseverance and drive that pushes you to follow your dreams. Sadly many lose sight of this simple truth. I have been told countless times to "follow my dreams!" But unfortunately as evidenced by any dream, it

requires work, along with the proverbial blood, sweat, and tears. If you lose sight of a certain drive, what is to stop you from never finding a job, not being able to support a family, imposing these conditions on your children, and having the cycle continue?

Thomas Edison said, "Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up." I feel this is why we have so many failed athletes, failed entrepreneurs, failed actors, businessmen, etc. Having things handed to you not only deprives you of dignity, but it also makes your expectations unrealistic.

In short, lofty expectations can leave you high and dry when it comes to factors such as work ethic and problem solving. Misguided expectations and feelings of entitlement cause people to be unhappy with their lives, desperate to find a way out, lamenting that they never learned how to thrive on their own.

## It's okay not to be "okay"

BY OLIVIA LAND

A few days ago, I locked myself in a stall in a girls' bathroom, and cried silently for three minutes. I would say I don't know how I got to this point, but that would be a lie. In truth, I was overwhelmed, overtired, and just plain done. Sitting in the bathroom, staring at the cream-colored tiles, I was forced to admit to myself: "You, my friend, are in a bad place."

I am sure I am not the only person with a story like this (and, trust me, there's more where that came from). Even the most low-key among us have those moments, when the barrage of daily life becomes too much, and we "just can't" anymore. Sometimes, these struggles bubble over to the point that, as I did, we are forced to recognize that we let things go on too long, and we find ourselves in an aforementioned bad place.

Sound familiar? I thought so. Give or take a few moments of self-denial, it's easy to recognize our struggles within the privacy of our own minds. But what about owning these trials in the company of others? Much harder. After I had it out with myself in the bathroom, for example, I unlocked the stall, wiped my eyes, and walked into the hallway as if nothing happened. When people asked me how I was doing that day, I smiled and said "good" or even "great!" And for what? What, besides self-preservation and probably a bit of denial,

kept me from going to my friends and saying, "Guys, I need to talk"? At the time, my list of excuses was endless, but looking back I cannot name a single reason.

Lately, it's become trendy for celebrities to tout their battles with "depression" and "anxiety"--two very real, ongoing conditions that, when printed on a glossy tabloid, seem to lose their weight. Indeed, for every Carrie Fisher-type who shares honestly about their ongoing mental health struggles, there are five more entertainers who portray their own experiences as fleeting one-offs that dissipated with the flick of a switch. For as much as our society urges openness and acceptance around mental, emotional, and physical hardships, we are often only open to the conversation after the "healing" has already taken place. In other words, it's okay to open up about your debilitating panic attacks ... once you've used meditation to sort them out. Talk to us about your eating disorder, but only after you've lost fifty pounds.

On the Richter scale of *politesse*, coming forward and saying "This is an issue I have, that I'm dealing with right now, and I'm a little bit lost" still skews on the gauche side of things. And while it's true that a degree of separation between the height of difficulty and the moment of sharing makes the openness easi-

er, it also presents a distorted version of what these trials actually feel and look like.

My point in writing this piece is not to encourage us to hold communal friendship circles and sing "Kumbaya." I, for one, cannot carry a tune, and everyone knows that hand-holding is awkward. If anything, my reason for writing is mostly selfish. I recognized an issue I was having and wanted to get it down on paper. With that said, I also want to get this message across: In the words of a tired Internet cliché, it really is okay not to be "okay." If you do not want to talk about it, or would prefer to get yourself to a better place before opening up, I 100% understand and respect that. But if you are in the eye of a personal hurricane and do want to talk, please have no fear of doing so. In my experience, reaching out and telling someone about something I am going through is significantly more cathartic than, say, crying in the bathroom. The choice is always yours, but know that the option is there. Who knows? Reaching out about your struggles might even help someone else.

If you or anyone you know is ever in need of emotional support or counseling, please be sure to notify an advisor, administrator, or counselor trained to respond as necessary. There is always someone to turn to when the need arises.



# FEATURES

## All the way from Spain, catching up with José Buela

By RYAN GREEN

*A conversation with former exchange student José Buela. For logistical purposes and with the budget of the Crimson Sun, the interview was not conducted first-person, but through technology.*

**Ryan-** What's up?

**José-** I'm living in Barcelona and I am currently doing my last year of high school or, as we called it here, "segundo de bachillerato." I'm preparing for a big test at the end of the year which is called "Selectividad" (which I'm very stressed and scared [about]). Honestly, I thought senior year was going to be an easy and calm year, but unfortunately it has been the complete opposite: I have been studying and catching up [after] my exchange years in America and Ireland.

**R-** Have you been playing soccer, basketball, or pursuing any other interests?

**J-** Last year, I had one of my best sports experiences in my life. At the start, I played on the soccer team, which at the end of the season the number of wins didn't match how great of a team we were. Then, I got the opportunity to play on the basketball team. When I left Spain, I liked basketball, but during those months, an incredible team made me love this sport. I still remember how I couldn't pronounce the name of the plays and other names, how bad I sang the national anthem,

all the incredible games and all the amazing times in the bench. Honestly, I spend so many hours reminiscing about "The House that Franz Built."

I played lacrosse during the spring season. I had never played

that I miss the most are all the incredible friends I made at MBS. Morristown-Beard was like a big family to me, and I will always be grateful for everything. When I think about my experience in the US, it brings up memories



José Buela spent the 2015-16 academic year at MBS.

Photo: Ryan Green

or heard about lacrosse before, so the first week of practice was interesting to say the least. Being part of the CRIMSON was something I will never forget.

**R-** Since moving back home, what do you miss about America?

**J-** Since I have been back in Spain, I keep thinking about all the incredible moments I had during my year in America. But the part

like the Mennen Cup and Friday night lights game. But I have to say that this list is endless, because my experience at MBS was a dream come true.

**R-** What did you learn from your experience in America?

**J-** There are many things I learned during my year at MBS, but there is something that is unique to all of them. I learned that a school is

something more than just a place [to study]. MBS is a big family which encourages its students to participate and contribute to its community. In fact, MBS taught me that all students matter, all students have an opportunity and, most importantly, when all students come together they make a great community just like Morristown-Beard.

**R-** Do you have any thoughts on the recent political events in America?

**J-** My friends, family, and teachers are saying horrible things about how bad Trump is. On the other hand, during my year in America I met a lot of people who supported Trump and thought he was a good option for the country. The international point of view [believes that] the populist policies and the crazy things he has said to women, Muslims and Hispanic people are insane. One of my friends told me, "If you go to college in the US, you are going to get deported." In my opinion, I believe that Trump has been over-aggressive and confident during his presidential campaign, and that has made so many people afraid of what can happen the next 4 years. Being European, I am concerned about America's future, but I'm hoping Trump focuses on his duties and changes the opinion the world has on him.

## Gio Guanill '17 makes a powerful statement

By TERRI GREEN

Feelings of self-doubt plagued Gio Guanill '17 as he took the podium during the Martin Luther King Day, Jr. celebration on Friday, January 27.

Despite being very comfortable on stage, as he proved while starring in *Macbeth*, this was an entirely different scenario. This was not a fictional role; he was about to reveal his honest, raw truth to the entire community. However, his feelings of fear were unbeknownst to the audience. Guanill delivered his speech with a confidence and an urgency that emphasized the weight of his message.

Guanill's speech marked a departure from tradition, as the School typically hosts an external speaker for the annual event, which celebrates Dr. King's legacy by highlighting issues of diversity. However, this year Mr. Caldwell decided

to take a different approach by asking Guanill to present. Gio's perspective of Morristown-Beard is different from most other students. As Gio discussed in his speech, he does not fit the stereotypical "MBS kid" mold.

"Where I'm from, I'm normal. I'm not different, at least externally. But then you get dropped into a place where you're told it's going to open doors and give you a lot in the long run, yet you have to sacrifice the comfort of being like everyone. While I resented it for a long time, that resentment was the fuel to pursue my identity, without the pressures of fitting in with other people," said Guanill.

Diversity can dramatically shape students' experiences at MBS. However, diversity is often not discussed on an open platform, because it can give

rise to discomfort. Gio wanted to emphasize the importance of embracing discomfort. He said, "If I wanted to do something that would bring forward momentum to a cultural change in our community, I knew that I had to pry myself open." By granting the community access to his most difficult and private experiences, Gio left a palpable impact.

Gio's speech enforced the importance of welcoming diversity and breaking out of the comfort that comes with conformity. "It might be uncomfortable to empathize with different people than your community exposes you to, but if you choose to stay comfortable, then you might lose the possibility of learning and growing from the bond that the 'different' person could provide."

## Be more than

### The Box (cont. from 1)

By ANIKA BUCH

I know Gio from *Macbeth*, and it's true he possesses a rare talent. But as the MBS community saw at the MLK, Jr. Assembly last month, that is certainly not all there is to him. Similarly, while Dominique's voice is as melodious as Ryan's swimming is impressive, that is not all they do.

For anyone who is fighting to fit into the box, stop. Stop trimming yourself down to fit others' dimensions. Stop being crushed under the expectations of others. Stop letting yourself be defined by what "fits in the box." Will you try to fit yourself in the box and let yourself be boxed in? Or will you spill out of the box? Be more than the box. Defy the expectations. Be unpredictable. Do not be underestimated. Do not be contained.



# NEWS/ANALYSIS

## Get Quizzed Snug Sounds at Coffeehouse

By REBECCA TONE

By JOSH KATZ

Morristown-Beard prides itself on its diversity of clubs and opportunities. Some of these clubs, such as Adopt-a-Trail, Habitat for Humanity, and Future Business Leaders of America, are well-established and constantly draw loyal followings. Others have gone through a quick, meteoric rise to the top, such as the popular Ping-Pong Club, which has become an unofficial MBS Athletics program.

And then there are the clubs that lack the necessary support to be sustained long term, such as last year's Bird Watchers Club. One club at MBS is fighting that uphill battle to permanence: Quiz Bowl.

Many people know who Quiz Bowl includes without knowing what Quiz Bowl is. The club is run by faculty advisor Dr. Gregory and

student captain Josh Katz '18, who has gained attention in the MBS community for his sometimes comical announcements at Morning Meeting. Although the announcements make members of the MBS community recognize the importance of the academic club, it originally had not boosted attendance to meetings.

"Coming into the year, I knew we would have at least a couple of people who would be around for most of the meetings. The hard part would be replacing all the seniors we had last year, because I think we had six or seven of them, and only nine people around for a majority of the time," said Katz.

Luckily for the team, a couple of new members have joined. Now, they must focus on their next task ... going to a live competition.

On January 27, students snuggled into Wilkie Hall to perform acoustic, dramatic, and poetic works for an audience of peers. Coffeehouse, a collaboration between the Founders Keepers drama club and the *Mariah* literary magazine, provides a unique atmosphere for the community to exhibit their less publicly-acknowledged talents in front of a crowd.

Unlike CMW or the winter musical, Coffeehouse creates an intimate environment, with a microphone and spotlight providing the only visuals. Without the addition of flashing lights, electric guitars, and screaming crowds, Coffeehouse demonstrates the purest forms of the art on display.

"I wanted our Coffeehouse to be like events that happen in actual coffee shops: a casual night of sharing your work and talents with your peers and not worrying about being the best or messing up," says Sydney Morris, president of Founders Keepers and literary editor of *Mariah*.

At MBS and elsewhere, creative writers need to take advantage of every opportunity to share their craft. As stated by Leah Seldin, literary editor of *Mariah*, "While athletes have their games and actors have their performances, creative writing and art used to have nothing." Bringing literature to

the spotlight not only enriches spectators, but also creates a wonderful setting for creatives to receive long overdue appreciation for their work.

Although theatrical students at MBS have the chance to take part in large productions onstage, they are not usually able to work on smaller scenes with a partner or monologues they found on their own. By performing in a new setting, actors become more versatile and experienced in their field.

Perhaps the biggest success of Coffeehouse was the open mic session during intermission. During this time, actors Gio Guanill, Sydney Morris, and Lauren Mennen, who hadn't signed up to perform, stepped on stage to present monologues they never had a chance to share. In addition, members of the audience were invited to take part in an improvisational game, which was entertaining for all of the attendees.

At the 2017 Coffeehouse, people who normally wouldn't consider themselves close developed bonds over shared interests. Teachers and students alike sat and appreciated art in silence without any division between them. Over steaming cups of coffee and cocoa, a warm, communal atmosphere was created that brought members of MBS together in a way unlike any other event.

## More Praise for MLK Day

By BRIAN COLE

On January 27, MBS students immersed themselves into a time of liberation and hope.

To start off the powerful MLK Day Assembly, Kailyn Williams '21 read thoughtful poems about the history and freedom of African Americans. The poems set a respectable mood that prepared the audience for an eye-opening speech by Giovan Guanill '17.

Giovan Guanill is an icon for the performing arts program at MBS. He fearlessly and confidently stepped up to the podium and began his speech. He asked the students to raise their hand if they thought that the assembly was about diversity. He then quickly stated, "If you raised your hand, you're wrong. You're all probably thinking that I'm crazy or something, that I don't know which assembly that I'm supposed to be speaking for. But trust me, you'll understand where I'm coming from once this is over."

Gio hooked everyone's attention and preached his message. He spoke about the differences amongst peoples' lifestyles, specifically between the poor and rich. Gio spoke about his double lifestyle, and how no one truly knows him. He shocked the crowd speaking

about his heart-wrenching experiences living in Newark and elaborated on his struggles. He spoke with strength about losing his loved ones to the unfortunate violence that Newark's atmosphere brings.

Gio gave the audience an honest, engaging look into his life. He tied together his story to his overall message, beginning to elaborate on his relationships at MBS and elsewhere. He made a powerful statement saying that despite the huge differences in lifestyles between him and his friends, they still found a way to relate. This statement delivered a powerful message that we all can relate and come together regardless of our color, social status, and interests.

To finish it off, Dominique Diggs and Sundia N'Wadiozor performed a song by Beyonce beautifully while Kristen Catena and Kelly Tatulli performed an impressive dance routine along with it. The four worked together in harmony showing us all that people always have the power to connect regardless of any difference.

Overall it was a wonderful day that humbled many people's hearts. MBS is continuing to take the right steps towards a more diverse and loving community to all.



CARTOON: JOSHUA ARACENA



◆ CRIMSON SUN ◆  
**NEWS**

# “Forum” to Conquer Founder’s Hall

BY NICOLE WESTWOOD

At MBS every year there is a play and a musical. After last fall’s success with *Macbeth*, this year’s musical is *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. With music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, *Forum* is set in ancient Rome and tells the story of a slave named Pseudolus and his attempts to win his freedom by helping his master Hero win the girl in the house next door. The story includes puns, cases of mistaken identity, characters disguising themselves as other characters, satirical dialogue, and many hijinks while Pseudolus and Hero attempt to pull off their plans.

As with most MBS productions, the aesthetics of the performance play a key role. The costumes are a modern take on ancient Roman togas, with a lot of sandals and free flowing tunics. Dr. Speidel said, “Sondheim is my favorite musical theater composer so I love working on his shows. In fact, when I got my doctorate, I wrote my thesis on him.” The score is more traditional and includes many funny songs. The set consists of three houses on a street in Rome. Each house is different and major characters from the plot live in each of them. The original set design has been adapted from Broadway by Jim Ruttman. The set serves the comedy of the show as well as the songs.

The performances are “Lovely” and it will be “Impossible” to miss this “Pretty Little Picture” on March 1st at 3:30 and March 2nd through 4th at 7:30 p.m.!



Poster by Lauren Liroff

## Construction Update: Moving on Up



Photo: Jared Rosen

After months of eager anticipation, MBS students and faculty were delighted to return from winter break and discover the Math and Science Center beginning to take shape. A highlight of the building process, of course, were the two metal poles signed by the senior class, which are to be placed within the infrastructure of the building. Now that the site is complete with stairwells and windows, the community is all the more excited for the building’s opening, scheduled for Fall 2017.



Photo: Steven Patchett  
 Above (from left): Seniors Julia Papas, Claire Chipfield, and Dominique Diggs leave their mark on beams for the new building.



Photo: Robbie Karam



# SPORTS

## Girls' Basketball: Rebounds and Assists

By Jenna Racaniello

This season for the MBS Girls' Basketball Team set the stage for future success. Highlights towards improving last season's record included upsetting the second-seeded MKA in a thrilling overtime game in the Prep tournament. "We set our goals high this year and wanted to take steps forward as a team," said captain Sarah Bregna '18.

In addition to the team's accomplishments, freshman Addisyn Ibrahim was named one of the top fifty freshmen in New Jersey by NJ.com. Sophomore Bridget Monaghan was awarded the same honor for her class. "It was exciting to get to experience such a great season with this group of girls," said Ibrahim, who leads the team in rebounding. "I had heard about preps and counties from other people, but getting to play in them was really special."

Indeed, a second-place finish in both the Prep B tournament and the conference left the team hungry for more. Said junior Katie Mackin: "It was our goal to

win this year, and coming up just short made us realize what it's going to take and we have to push ourselves to take that next step."

In order to prepare for the coming season, the team practices together during the summer and participates in a fall league. "It's really important to get in the gym and work hard before the season actually starts," said Bregna.

The team will return the large majority of its roster next season, including its top eight scorers. Led by returning captains Bregna and Monaghan, the girls are excited about what they can accomplish. "We know we can do better than we did this season because of the strength of the group we have," said Monaghan.

Among the team's goals are prep and conference titles. "The program has won both titles before, but never in the same year," said Hailie Cadeau '18. "We're in a position where we can win both if we work hard in the off-season, and that's something everyone in the gym wants to do."

## Boys' Hockey: The Icing on the Cake

By Isaac Davison

On February 16, the Boys' Hockey Team secured its fourth straight Mennen Cup championship, maintaining the School's enviable possession of the coveted trophy. Boys Hockey stands with an overall record of 18-8-1. Highlights from earlier in the season include a 3-1



Photo: Jared Rosen  
Michael Della Torre '17 faces off against the Hun School.

victory over LaSalle Prep and a 4-1 win over Morris Knolls.

The team has had many memorable moments, such as Gavin Puskar '19 scoring with 11 seconds left to defeat cross-town rival Morristown and coming back late to beat Mennen conference oppo-

nent Kinnelon. The team's top point scorers are Isaac Davison '17, Brayden Patricia '18 and Gavin Puskar '19.

Looking ahead, the team plans to build on its success in the prep tournament and the Mennen Cup as it faces off against the state's best teams with the hope of making it to the Prudential Center to compete for the state championship.

At the print deadline, Boys' Hockey was savoring a 4-0 victory over St. Peter's Prep and was skating into a showdown against Pope John on February 27, with hopes of even more hockey to come.

## Ski Team: Slaloming to Victory

By Charlie Naples

Morristown-Beard is home to 21 sports teams; one of the most recently successful is the Ski Team. Four times a week the team of eleven boys and five girls piles their gear into the bus and sets off on the hour trek to Mountain Creek, returning to the school anywhere from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Senior captain Jamie Reddington said, "Skiing is one of the most gruelling sports. You rush out of your last class, throw your stuff in the bus and we're off." After that, Redington shared, the work is just getting started: "Once we get to the mountain the race begins. After standing at the top of the course freezing for what seems like forever, you take your two runs, which is all you get. You have just about a minute and a half to prove yourself, then we change and get back on the bus. When I finally get home, I'm exhausted."

Unlike most sports, skiing conditions are entirely up to Mother Nature. Senior Billy Naples said, "We have had several practices cancelled from rain and races postponed because of bad conditions. Also the volatility of the conditions is extreme in New Jersey from soft snow to slick ice. These unique conditions are not

easy learning conditions and when you get to the mountain you have no idea what to expect when you click in your skis and go."

You stand at the starting gate, your heart pounds like a drum, you hear the words, "racer ready," and you're off. Your journey towards perfection begins. For your score to be counted, you need to complete two runs successfully. If you fall or miss a gate, you're done. After each team made up of six racers completes the course, the best four scores from each team are added up and the lowest score wins. Each race is made up of eight teams.

So far the Ski Team has been fast. The Boys' Varsity team had two first-place finishes and one third-place finish in Giant Slalom. The Girls' Team had one fourth-place finish and two fifth-place finishes in Giant Slalom. The team also performed impressively at the Slalom race, one fourth-place finish and one third-place finish for the boys. The girls have two fifth-place finishes. At press time, the Ski Team is looking ahead to States and the Race of Champions for the top skiers.



# SPORTS

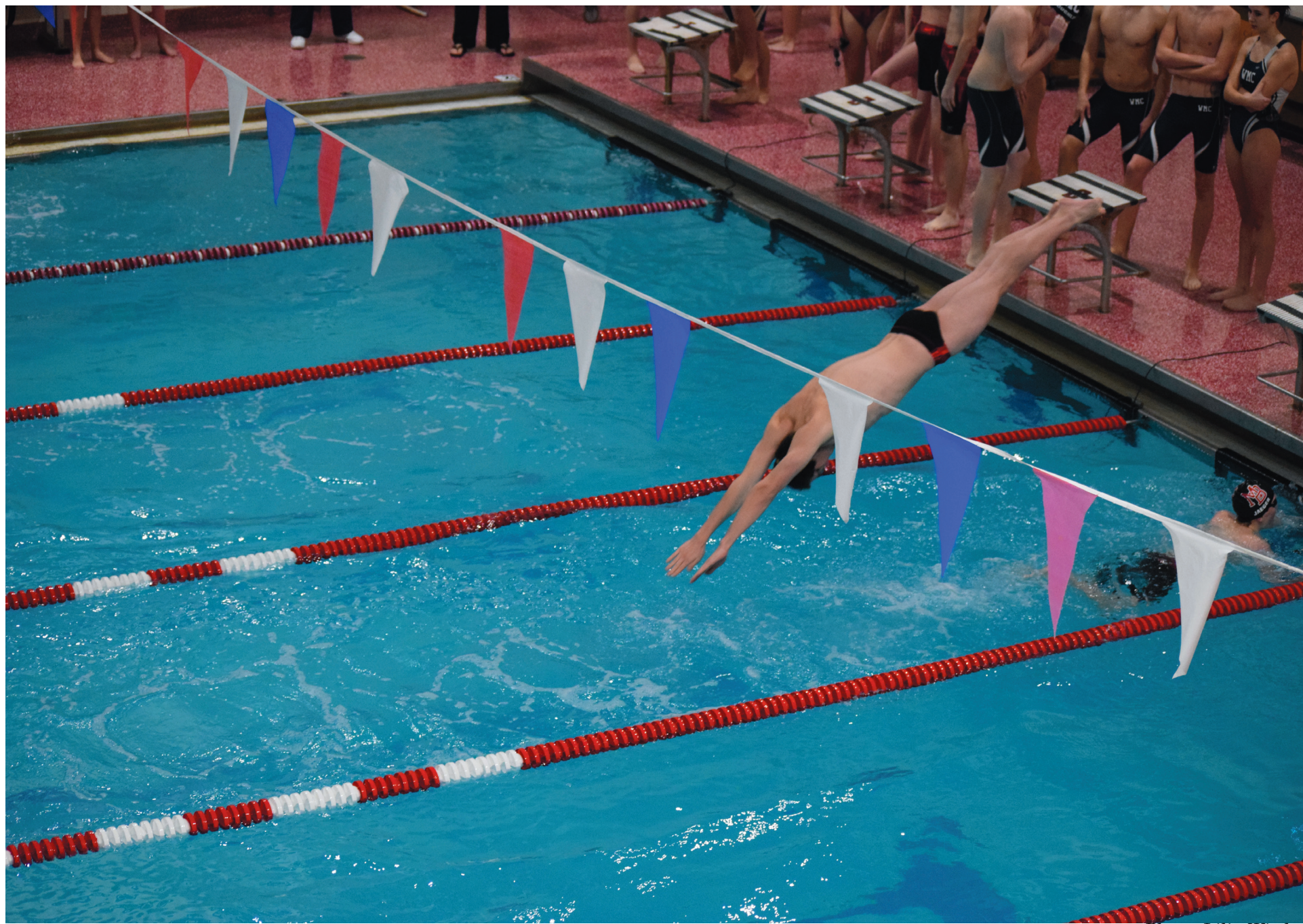


Photo: Lilia Wieder

Crimson Swimming enjoyed a historic 2016-17 season, with the boys' cohort winning the Prep Tournament. Leading the way was the relay team of Ryan Waters '17 (pictured above), Jack Hughes '17, Jack Armstrong '19, and Aidan Hughes '19, which placed third and fourth in the free relay and medley relay, respectively.

## Ping-Pong Club: Ping-Pong packs the stands

By MIKAEEL JAN

On Friday, February 3, The MBS Ping-pong Club held its first official interscholastic match against Montville High School.

Founded by Drew Loughran '17, the Club wields a strong group of six singles players, including Drew and Kyle Loughran '17, Mikael Jan '17, Lucas Fagan '17, Mark Timcenko '17, and Ethan Davison '20. Montville was headlined by Christian Lizardi, a nationally-ranked tennis player, as well as several Varsity tennis players.

MBS students got a preview of the afternoon competition via a mini-doubles showcase on stage at Morning Meeting. Only hours later, the Student Center was filled with over 100 spectators.

After brief warm-ups, the matches began. Ethan Davison quickly defeated Ian Benson 14-12; 11-3. On the other end of the room, MBS suffered a shocking defeat with Christian Lizardi edging Drew Loughran in straight sets 11-9; 11-6. Kyle Loughran swiftly disposed of Nick Awershenko, with a score

of 11-7; 11-4. The fifth singles match was the first match to go the distance, with Mark Timcenko and Zain Amer splitting the first two sets 11-6 and 11-8, with Amer eventually capturing an 11-5 win in the third set.

With the overall score tied 2-2, the pressure was on the third and fourth seed matches to give their teams the win. A closely contested third singles match went to Montville, with Cyrus Dastparvardeh defeating Mikael Jan 11-9; 11-7. With tensions rising, the final point of the three-set match was fought between Lucas Fagan and Dylan Tarlowe. Montville edged MBS once more with a final scoreline of 5-11; 11-7; 11-4, ultimately earning Montville the win.

Although Montville may have won the day, MBS still took many valuable lessons away. In a post-match interview, captain Drew Loughran said, "We definitely competed well as a team. It really could have gone either way. I'm looking forward to our next match."

## Boys' Basketball: Historic Hoops

By RYAN GREEN

The Boys' Basketball Team continued to improve on its historic season with recent wins over Doane Academy, Morristown, Whippany Park, and Princeton Day School. The team has tied the all-time wins record in school history. Leading the team to success are captains Brian Monaghan '17 and Justin Rodriguez '18, who average 16.1 and 17.8 points per game, respectively. Other major contributors include Raphael Castillo '18, Ryan Russo '18, Zachary Dees '18, and Tyler Faccenda '17.

On February 7th, the team clinched the conference title with a revenge victory over Mountain Lakes, 51-43. At press time, the team looked to capitalize on their recent success and make a run in the finals of the Morris County Tournament. Success in this arena is a significant improvement from last year, when the team lost in the quarter-

finals to Morris Catholic.

Leading up to the Morris County Tournament, the team boasts victories over Madison and Kinmelon. A particularly exciting win against Morristown in the semifinals of the tournament saw junior Raphael Castillo hit a game-winning fade-away jump shot to give the Crimson a 52-51 victory.

The team also captured a victory in the Prep Championship in a 92-85 victory over Doane Academy. It is the first time the team has won the Prep Championship since 2003.

All of this led up to Saturday, February 25th, when the team played Chatham for the county title. Although aware of the challenges still ahead, as of press time, the Crimson are confident: In a previous meeting this year, Morristown-Beard was triumphant over Chatham, with a 69-62 victory.