



THE CRIMSON SUN



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Photo: Alexa Rojek

Senior girls reflect on their high school years on Yearbook Dedication Day on May 2. See what seniors are doing for their senior projects on Page 9.

Honors program getting revamped

“Student-centric” changes to begin in grade 9

BY WILLIAM MALLEN AND MEGHAN NELLIGAN

Major changes to the freshmen honors program will be initiated next fall, only affecting ninth grade English, history and science classes at first. Currently, students are placed by teachers into honors before

the school year starts. In this new program, students will be able to decide for themselves whether or not they want to pursue honors credit.

“We want to put the students in the driver’s seat and

make the program very student-centric,” said Dr. Jack Bartholomew, Science Department Chair.

The new honors program will help avoid misplacement and give more students a

chance to try honors, said Dr. Bartholomew. Presently, he continued, students who have the capability to perform at honors level, but are placed in a regular class, conform to the level of expectation established in the course. They are not given the opportunity to rise to a higher level, he said.

After the first quarter, students will be given the option to work toward an honors track in a given course. This will entail more challenging assessments, higher level of analysis, and more independent thinking.

“We think it will increase the level of engagement,” said Dean of Faculty, Dr. John Mascaro, “since the students will be making important decisions on their own.”

Students have mixed feelings about the new program.

Sophomore Zain Asif likes the change.

“The new honors program is a great idea because it can help motivate students to strive for success,” he said.

Senior Kirsten Stainer discontinued on Page 8



Photo: Alexa Rojek

Dr. Jack Bartholomew, an honors program leader, teaches AP physics to Tyler Schicke and Eric Fernandez.

Students grumble about extra days

BY EMILY BRUNO

When students found out that the school year would be extended for three days in June to make up for the seven snow days during this past rough winter, some were upset.

“What!” said Junior Allison Reiling.

“That’s horrible!” said Junior Vineeta Maddali, “No, seriously, are you joking?”

Darren Burns, Head of Up-

per School, explained: “Usually we have about four snow days a year, so we had to do something.”

Instead of school ending as usual with finals’ week during the last week of May, the MBS administration decided in February to add full school days on June 3,4,5 to the calendar to make up for lost time.

“We will work with faculty

and department chairs to ensure that this extra time is used productively,” said Headmaster Peter Caldwell, “whether for final exams, other final assessments or class-oriented activities.”

In the fall of 2012, the MBS community was ravaged by Hurricane Sandy. The school missed six school days due to the storm’s effects. The solution

to Sandy was to add full days to finals’ week in May, instead of adding extra days in June, in addition to taking away an in-service day for teachers.

For the past 2014 winter, the options included the Sandy approach, and others, including taking time away from Spring Break and adding Saturday classes.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL

Editorials: The new honors program: The downside

The new honors program is democratizing the process of getting into honors classes—but this is not something that should be democratized. The typical ninth grade student, terrified of everyone and unable to talk to their teacher without breaking a sweat, should not be required to make such a large decision early in freshman year.

Teachers, as they teach and grade the class, know better than anyone else if a student deserves to be in honors. Of course, some students might want to move to honors, but they might not be ready. And how should a student even know if they are ready? Looking back to my freshman year, we hardly knew the difference between honors and regular classes, coming from a school without honors. Having to decide whether or not to pursue honors would have resulted in immense stress.

We don't believe that is the point of the new honors program; teachers hope to make honors more equalized and stu-

dent led, but I would not want the responsibility of deciding my future.

The faults with the new honors program are not only with the process of getting in, but with the way the "H" is achieved. The new program has mixed classes where students in the honors program will do more demanding work.

However, the pace of a mixed class may be slower than that of a current honors-only class at MBS.

At our great and privileged school, we should not make teachers teach to the average of the class when we have the ability to better divide students. The new honors program increases the range of student skills in one classroom. In a sense, this new program is mainstreaming the Morristown-Beard education.

After next year's experience with the new honors system, students and teachers can decide whether this is an effective program or one that causes more issues than it solves.

A chance to start fresh

Editors' note: While the following piece is from a personal perspective, the ideas represent the views of several editors and is therefore our second Editorial on the subject.

I come from a town whose public school system has continually been ranked one of the best of the state. Many, including my close friends, were puzzled as to why I would possibly leave to attend another school.

Several factors influenced my decision. However, the most overwhelming was a chance to start fresh. At my former school, the distinctions of class levels began in seventh grade. At this tender age, peers are already divided up. Due to a combination of disorganization and a lack of attention from teachers, I found myself stuck in classes where I knew I didn't belong. However, since we were part of a rigid, conveyor belt-like system, there was little to do about my situation.

When I arrived at Morristown-Beard, I had the option to switch to honors in two classes in which I had been previously

stamped as standard-level. Since I am passionate about subjects, I wanted to challenge myself. I was amazed by the flexibility and cooperation of the school, and the opportunity I had been given to thrive. I subsequently did, and gained some very much needed academic self-confidence.

On the other hand, this year I found myself in a class with a level admittedly too high for me. After a period of denial and apprehension, I came to a decision and eventually switched out of the class. This was, overall, quite a hassle, even though the standard-level class I switched into met during the same period.

Upon hearing of the idea for next year's freshman classes, while I too found flaws in the ambiguity, I also saw the reasoning behind it. Next year, incoming students will not have

to feel pressure in ninth grade to transfer the levels of their classes from their middle school to MBS. This will be a relief for many, because, as in my case, many have been disadvantaged. They will begin in a pressure-free environment where they can choose to continue with the honors-level work, but are not forced to. Their experiences in these freshman classes will offer them a taste of both an honors and standard level style, and by sophomore year, they will better understand their abilities, and have developed their skills. From there, they can choose which path to take.

And, of course, for the sake of scheduling, despite MBS's patient and understanding faculty, this program will save many a headache.

Honors: Concerns about "the conversation"

By KATIE SIDLOWSKI

With discussion-based classes and small student-to-teacher ratio, courses at Morristown Beard are designed to breed conversation. Animated discussions are a staple of our community, whether they be about history or physics, Batman or Jane Austen. That is why, when I first head about the new Honors program, my immediate concern was for the conversation.

This new Honors program is about to entirely change our classroom conversations. Teaching should be inclusive. Every student should be engaged. However, by mixing both higher and lower level students, we are, in fact, ensuring that only a small percentage of students will be engaged. This program is going to give honors students the chance to shine, at the expense of their classmates.

Freshman year is about establishing yourself. What you want to wear, who you want to be friends with, and most importantly: what kind of student you want to be. Do you want to be a major class contributor, or only give your two cents when necessary?

In my experience, honors students tend to dominate

conversation. Where does this leave the other students, in the wake of the would-be-honors kids? If regular level students are placed in an environment where they are constantly overlooked in favor of other students, they are likely to become withdrawn, timid conversation contributors.

Teachers will have to adjust to this new program as

"It allows students toeing that honors line to cross it"

well. It seems that they will have to teach every student differently. In an honors course, there are certain expectations: heavier reading, quicker deadlines and work of a certain quality.

How do you teach a class that is divided? What do you do if half of the students are producing honors-level work and the other half is not? Do you slow the class down to address the students that are lagging behind? Is that fair to the students

who are handling the material without any problems? It seems as if the program will result in unbalanced classes, with students stuck on either side of a barrier.

The program has one bright spot. It allows students who are toeing that honors line the chance to cross it. Students who are in the 'middle' now have a greater opportunity for academic mobility.

Still, if the program is only beneficial to one group of students, is it really the best thing for Morristown-Beard to pursue?

Perhaps this program would be better instituted in upperclassmen elective classes, rather than the core freshman courses. Freshmen undergo a massive transition. They should feel secure and confident in their classes. They shouldn't be intimidated by their classmates or, on the other hand, feel that they are being held back by them.

I fear that this program will cause our campus conversation to suffer, possibly stunting the intellectual growth of the freshmen before they even get to experience the merits of a discussion-based class.

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The Crimson Sun corrects its factual errors and accepts corrections.

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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.

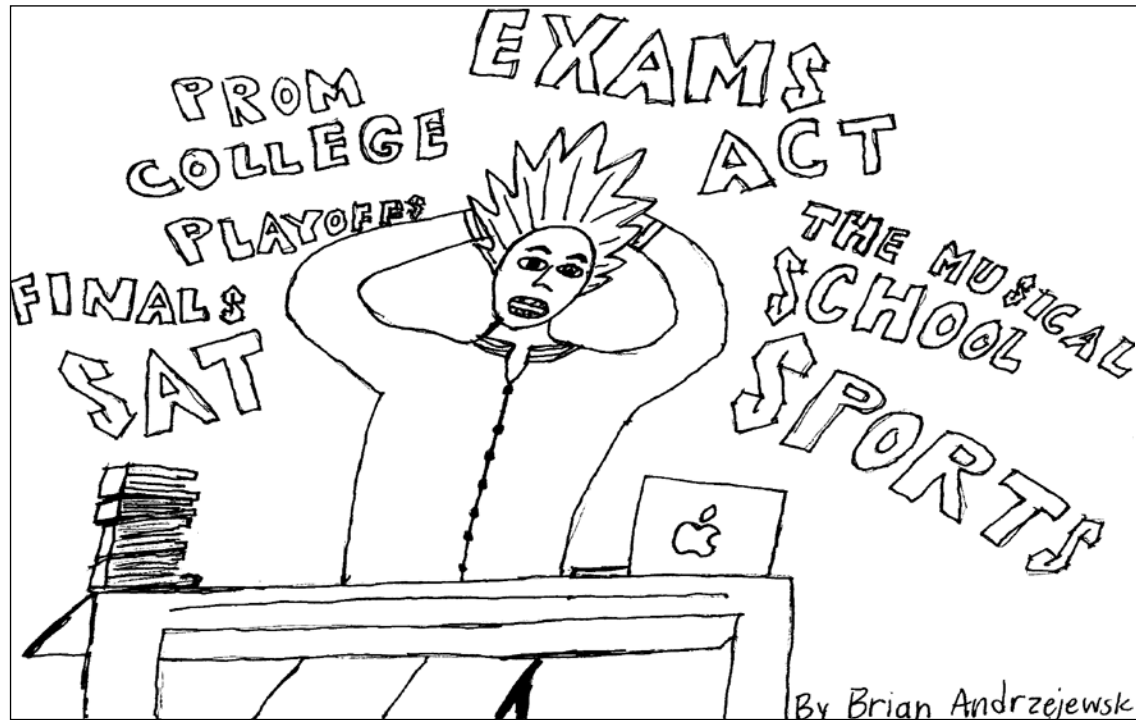
OPINION/EDITORIAL

Boyfriends and girlfriends come and go but stress is forever...

BY BAILEY RECHLER

One of the side effects of high school is a nail biting, headache-imposing, sleep stealing pressure resulting in long periods of crying, also known as stress. The relationship between a high school student and her anxiety is the most unshakable relationship a student will have. Boyfriends and girlfriends come and go, but stress is forever. And until the day that heavenly diploma is placed into your hands, which may be plagued with an early onset of carpal tunnel syndrome from over-usage of iPads, the stress will stay.

I have always been a stressed out student. But when I started high school last year, a newfound anxiety rose out of me that I did not even know existed. Not only was I tasked with managing the social impossibilities of high school, but I had to achieve good grades, have a diverse list of extra-curricular activities, and somehow wrap my head around the idea that in four short years I was going to have more independence than I



Just a glimpse of the many stresses bearing down on teenagers.

could even imagine. That is if I could get into college.

It wasn't until this year that I realized that I wasn't the only one on planet Earth that was this stressed out. Stress is a very isolating emotion. There is no time lonelier than sitting in the middle of your room,

surrounded by mountains of homework, while the only thing you can think about is that your friend did not text you back.

But now, rather than logically complete that homework, that thing that none of us could live without is pulled

out: the iPhone. Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. We check them, then check them again. Procrastination cures stress like no other strategy, and what better way to procrastinate than social media? For once, I'm envious of the generations of high school

students before me who had none of these addictive distractions.

Before technology, teenage stress levels were lower. Bikini pictures with an impossibly beautiful sunset in the background, announcements that your old neighbor made it into Harvard and Yale, these and other images or bulletins surface. Then your classmate posts that her research paper, due tomorrow, has not been started yet. Social media websites create a competitive and anxiety-provoking environment.

And it will get worse. The next generation will be on social media while doing their homework, with the help of Google Glass. Technology will advance to levels unimaginable and so will the stress of the teenagers who possess it. It is the job of all of us high-strung, stressed out students to help these future nail-biters. But in the meantime, before we all go out and change the world as society and our parents expect us to do, we are plagued with stress. So, good luck.

Extra days, no problem

BY EMILY BRUNO

When news got out that the school administration was adding three extra days in June, many students were very upset. One of the many perks of being an MBS student is getting out of school before the month of June and having three full months of summer vacation. Also, hav-

ing Junior/Senior Prom after the end of the school year is another perk. But with prom now on a school day and night, plans to skip these extra June days were already in development.

But taking another look at the situation, it is really not

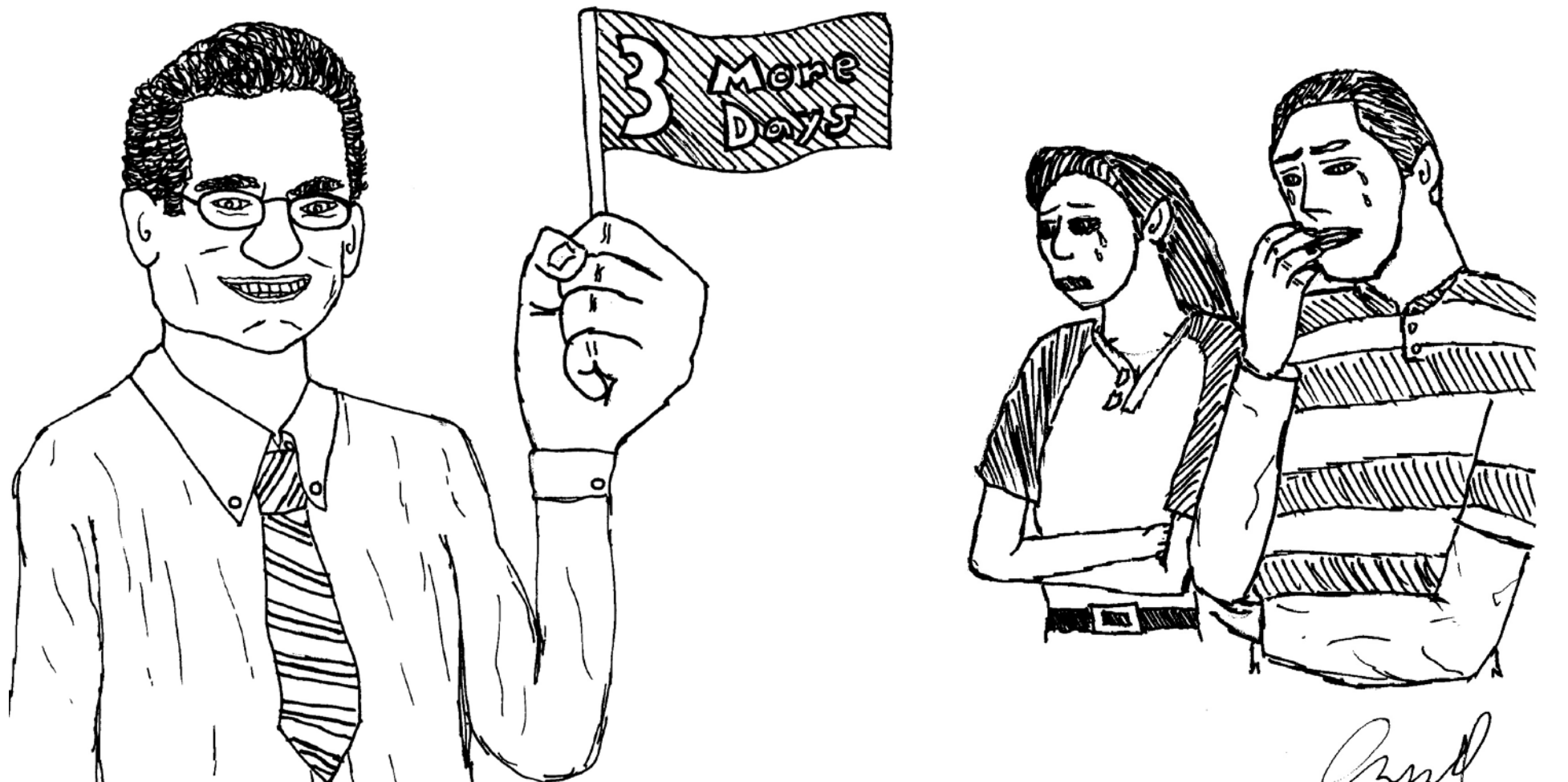
that bad at all. Are three days really going to hurt us? We are still getting out almost a month ahead of the majority of schools and will still be able to maintain our three month summer. And the faculty may be lenient to the Juniors to make sure they enjoy their full

prom experience.

So is there really an issue? The answer is no. The only problem that came out of these snow days was the actual days when the snow was falling and accumulating in feet and we would all have to shovel for hours, over and over again.

Actually going to school only three days more than usual on a warm summer day would be much better than having to go to school on a below freezing, snowy day.

Extra days? Bring it on.

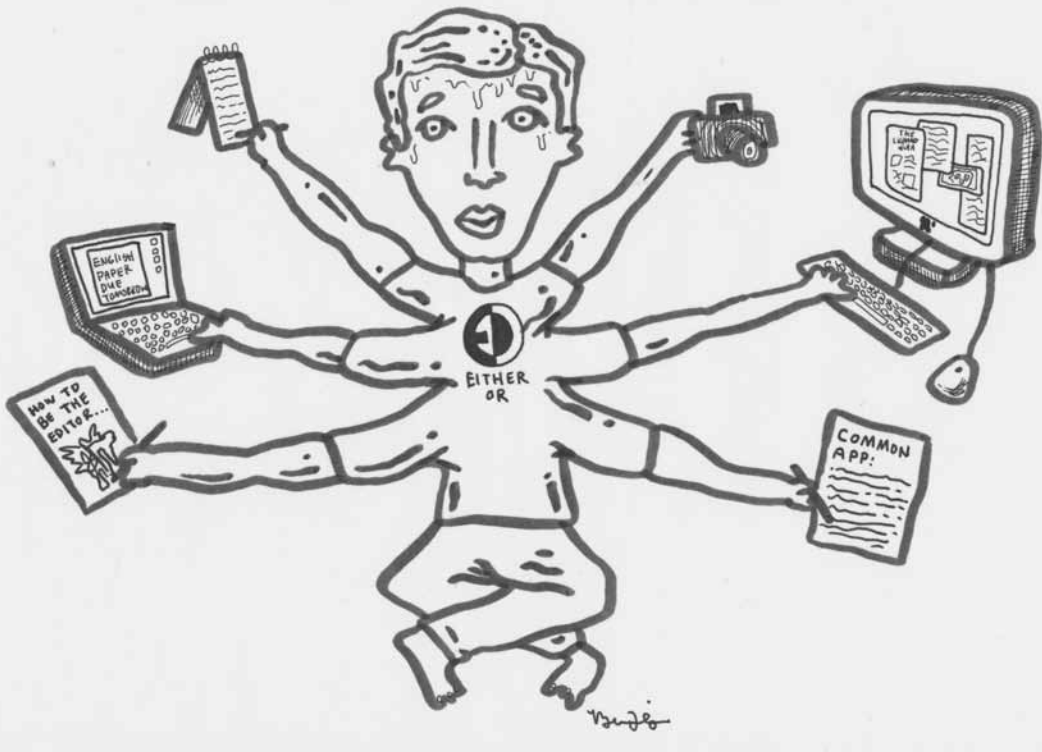


Upper school head, Darren Burns announces the three extra school days to weeping students.

Cartoon: Sam Aronwald

OPINION/REVIEWS

HOW TO BE THE EDITOR...



Cartoon: Benjamin Leigh

Editors need at least six arms to manage the simultaneous tasks they face.

Saluting Ben Leigh and Ashley Young

The editors want to thank our long-time editors-in-chief of the Crimson Sun, Ashley Young and Ben Leigh, who have been toiling away at their positions for the past two years and as managing editors the year before when they were only sophomores.

In that time, the Crimson Sun has won three Gold Medalist awards from Columbia University's Student Press Association. Quite amazing -- but not a coincidence.

As Ben Leigh's cartoon (on left) demonstrates, the job of editor-in-chief means having a hand in many pots—at the same time.

After school in our basement office, during free periods, and sometimes in a crunch at home, they put the paper together, laying out all the stories and photos, photo-credits, writing captions, figuring out how to put this puzzle together that is our school newspaper.

As for content they can both do just about everything from photos to stories.

Ashley has taken numer-

ous photos, written major news stories like the complicated introduction of the Humanities program, a story that took six months to get fully reported, as well as features, editorials signed and unsigned--reviews, whatever needs doing.

And when we're running late on finishing the issue she can whip six pages together in an afternoon with perfection.

Ben Leigh has also written numerous stories, from reviews of his favorite artist's show in New York, to editorials to quirky opinion pieces on New Jersey drivers throwing sandwiches at his car.

He has often run out at the last minute to get a photo when an assigned photo didn't get done. And he re-designed the issue. Several times.

They did it all with professional skill, humor and amazing grace.

Thank you, Ashley and Ben for a spectacular job for three years.

--the Editors and Faculty adviser

Mysteries of fruit water

BY MOLLY GLICK

Arguably the most controversial attraction found in the school's cafeteria, the flavored water jug is bound to catch the passing eye. Nestled next to the tea and coffee station, mysteriously lacking a placard displaying the flavor, this lunchtime staple contains mysteries. Is that watermelon? Tomato? Who even knows? The only way to find out is to simply

drink it. Who could be the creative genius behind all of this?

The man himself is Thomas Wilinski, the head chef at the MBS lunchroom. He informed me that the water was proposed by the company that manages the school's lunches, as an alternative to sugary drinks. To the question lingering in everyone's mind, how exactly he curates the array of contents

in the jug, Wilinski said,

"It depends on how I'm feeling that day."

Like all great works of art, the community is divided over the drink. Teachers are most often spotted lining up next to the jug.

"The [fruit] water is something unique in an otherwise machine-like, staid system," said English teacher Brian Crowe.

Mr. Crowe said he enjoys the daily variety in flavors and how he can always depend on a unique selection.

"I'm a big fan," said English teacher Mike Kelly. He does admit, "It can be frustrating with certain fruits because they collect at the bottom and block the passage of the water."

The students, however, are not all as keen on the subject as the teachers. Jessica

Babb, a sophomore, complains that she would rather be served the contents of the jug, because "they have such good fruit in there!"

Meghan Nelligan, also a sophomore, sees room for improvement.

"It doesn't have flavor. It was just, like...water. I wanted it to be fruitier."

Junior Alexa Rojek, said she hates the constant inclusion of pineapple due to her allergy to it. On the other hand, Danielle DiRaddo, a senior, is disappointed by the lack of lemon.

I agree with such aversion to the refreshment. I am admittedly pulled in by the alluring, refined selection of fruits within the jug. When it comes to flavor, I am left unsatisfied.

Perhaps Jessica Babb is right, that such an array of

produce is eventually going to waste. No matter what has been stuffed in there, I simply taste water. Admittedly, there is always a slight tartness, a pinch of citrus flavor. Still, to me, the drink is always lackluster.

Maybe my fellow students and I are simply expecting too much. We gaze at the fruit and assume that the vivid zests will be directly transferred into the cup. The teachers, however, with far more life experience, have learned over the years not to rely on unrealistic expectations. They know that not everything lives up to one's ideals. They know that life is not perfect. They contentedly sip away at the beverage and enjoy the taste of reality.



Cartoon: Sam Aronwald

The fruit looks tempting, but the bland drink tastes more like reality.

Gaga: queen of eccentricity

BY KIRSTEN STAINER

Sometimes I can't help but think, how does Lady Gaga not run out of ideas? What can she possibly do next to maintain her place on the pop music throne?

Love her or hate her, there is no denying that she has come a long way from her disco pop music debut in 2008, decked out in a Muppets ensemble and often compared to Madonna. Although I was unfortunately

born in the wrong era, I know I would have been a Madonna girl in the 80's. As a Lady Gaga fan as well, I think it is safe to say that just like the Material Girl, she is our generation's provocateur and an icon for the bold and fearless.

After a hip injury, Gaga took one-year hiatus in late 2012 resulting in the cancellation of her global Born This

Way Tour. She resurfaced in summer 2013 with an entirely new look. She abandoned the platinum blonde wigs and the twelve-inch Alexander McQueen Armadillo platforms for a shockingly down to earth, more raw aesthetic. This was only the beginning for the ever-evolving artist. It marked the birth of the ARTPOP era.

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FEATURES/REVIEWS

Tracking down Dr. Cooper in the basement

BY MAX WEINSTEIN

There's someone lurking in the basement of Alumni House. He's been there for a year, but few have dared to descend the creaky staircase, maneuver in the dim lighting, and confront him. Until now.

That man isn't some sinister recluse from MBS lore. He's Dr. Alan (Doc) Cooper, a retired, 30-year veteran Latin and History teacher at MBS turned part-time Archives Director.

Dr. Cooper started his work approximately one year ago, carving out a Spartan office consisting of two plastic fold out tables at right angles to each other in the center of the basement.

The room is on a very different aesthetic level than the rest of campus. Cracks run through the bare floor, and wires climb up a corner of the wall like ivy. Boxes full of documents run the margins.

It is Doc Cooper's job to catalogue these archives.

"My first and foremost job is to get this archive in order so people can access things," he

said.

Not everything comes from Morristown-Beard School. Alumni, the three previous schools—The Beard School in Orange, St. Bartholomew's and Morristown School at the current campus—and the town of Morristown, all have sent documents, which date as far back as 1891.

"This is fun stuff," Dr. Cooper said, as he held up a picture of a former headmaster sitting in a model-T Ford in the 1910's. "I assemble what we have here on campus and elsewhere, and then put it in a usable form."

The material is divided into boxes by school, but beyond that there is no systematic organization to the physical arrangement of the archive. However, Cooper indexes everything on Microsoft word, so a computer search will turn up a document.

Everything in the archives is open to the public. And most of the collection is pictures.

"Pictures give a really

good idea of what people looked like, what they were wearing, what were they doing at that time. Which you can describe, but it's hard to imagine without a picture," he said.

The itemizing process is a massive undertaking. "It's like we have a full library in here, and it's like indexing every chapter of every book," he said.

Dr. Cooper estimates that there are hundreds of boxes containing documents "in the thousands."

And part of its purpose is to self-perpetuate. The school uses social media to promulgate particularly evocative documents, and alumni who see it might deliver their own memorabilia.

"If we do it right, it won't ever end," he said. Even though the task at hand is enormous, Doc Cooper doesn't want students worrying about his sanity.

"They let me out for lunch occasionally," he said.

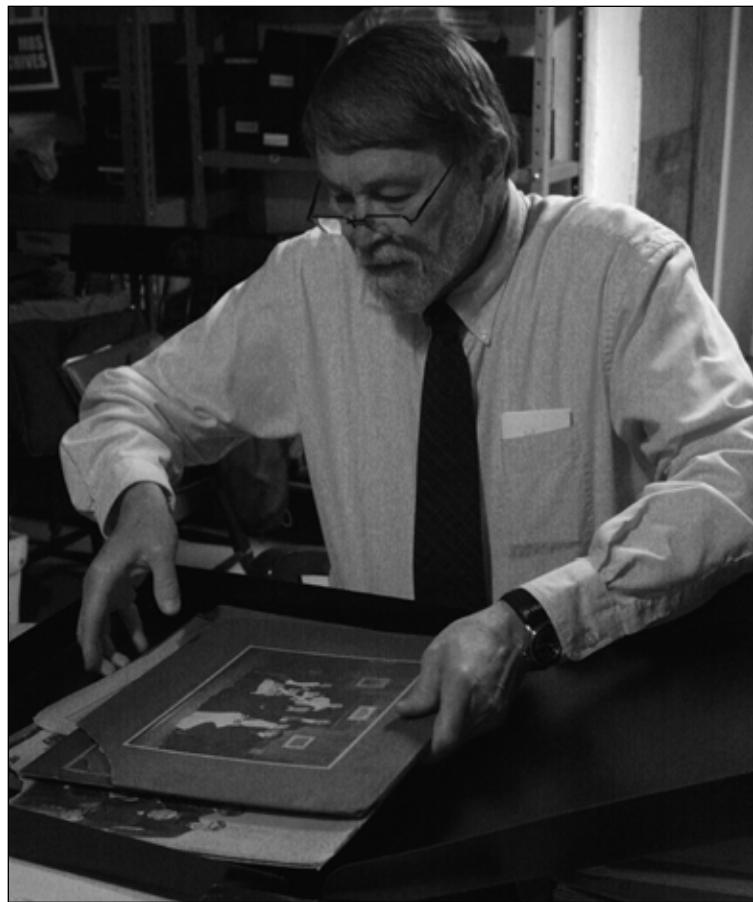


Photo: Alexa Rojek

Dr. Alan Cooper sorts through old photographs of the Beard School, Morristown and Morristown-Beard school's in his basement office.

"Wicked" secrets revealed at MBS

BY CARLYE CORDING

The cast and crew of the Broadway musical *Wicked* took the stage in Founders Hall on April 1 for this year's Lehman Lecture to discuss what they do and how they got to do it. Tiffany Hass, stand-in for the lead part Glinda, told her story of coming to New York, and how in a span of 6 months she went on 72 auditions before getting a small part in *Wicked*.

"72 auditions. That's awesome," said Music Director Bryan Perri. "I know people who have been auditioning for 6 or 7 years without getting a part."

The panel of speakers included Production Wardrobe Supervisor Alyce Gilbert, Music Director Perri, Glinda Standby Hass, and Orchestra Member and MBS Strings Instructor David Gold.

As Production Wardrobe Supervisor, Gilbert oversees the daily repairs and manages the dressing crew. She has worked on *Wicked* since its start in San Francisco and has watched as the costumes have transformed. She spoke about the "unusual and eye-catching" designs and how the costumes define what is going on onstage.

"It's amazing the detail people see," she said.

Musical Director Perri conducts the show's orchestra and oversees the maintenance

of instruments and musical equipment. He teaches the new cast members the music and directs the actors, musicians, and stage managers during the duration of the show. To keep the music fresh for himself, he watches the reactions of the audience members.

Hass, the Glinda standby, started in the show as an ensemble swing, going onstage only when an ensemble member was out.

"I kept pushing and pushing and persevered" to get a larger role in the show, she said. Since 2005, she understudied as Glinda on tour, and she has been in and out of the Broadway production as the Glinda standby, developing a personal connection to the character.

"I feel I have a lot of [Glinda] in me," she said.

Both spoke about the importance of being true to yourself. Ms. Hass explained how she wasted too much time on trying to be what other people wanted. She emphasized the importance of finding yourself, fine-tuning your work, and getting as much experience as you can.

Perri added, "Listen more." Listen to teachers, music, the beauty in art, and "spark your creativity."



Photo: Steve Patchett

David Gold, Bryan Perri, Alyce Gilbert and Tiffany Hass talk about what it is like behind the scenes of the Broadway show, "Wicked", to the MBS community in Founders Hall.

Lady Gaga (cont'd.)

When ARTPOP made its debut, I, like a majority of Lady Gaga's followers and critics, just did not know what to think of it at first. I don't know about you but I have never listened to an album that consists of four genres completely different from each other. Name any artist who courageously put out an album embedded with Europop, rock, rap, and a heavy hearted ballad. I agree with many that this may not be her best album to date. However, it is undeniable that ARTPOP has personality.

True to its name, Lady Gaga infused ARTPOP with aesthetics of futuristic as well as traditional art as a way of depicting life and music as the art form it is. In the music video for 'Applause', she brought Botticelli's Venus to life, posing as the ethereal goddess herself. As for the vibrant, space world -esque design of the album cover, she collaborated with renowned contemporary artist, Jeff Koons, to create an uncannily lifelike sculpture of her. The elements of risk and creativity are what define ARTPOP, setting it apart from the trademark look and sound of Gaga's that we

became used to getting shocked about.

Unlike her earlier albums comprised of edgy and techno rhythms that dominated the music charts, she openly admitted that the true foundation of the ARTPOP album was to release her creativity in a way that she never had before. I don't think there has ever been a number one pop star who has publicly defended the rights of artists as opposed to the music corporations.

"I don't care if this album tops the charts," she said. "I don't care if it hits rock bottom. The truest way to maintain the music industry is to put all of the power back into the hands of the artists. If we are not telling our artists to be creative, what are we? What are we doing? Why is it a prison, and why are we allowing it to be a prison?"

There is a reason why Gaga remains on the highest echelon of pop music. It's obvious that mundane, bubble gum pop stars with empty lyrics no longer appeal to people. They are predictable, an adjective that will always be foreign to Lady Gaga.

FEATURES/REVIEWS

Peter Pan takes off

BY KATIE SIDLOWSKI

A certain air of anticipation surrounded this year's Upper School Musical, *Peter Pan*, based on the book by J.M. Barrie. We'd caught bits and pieces of the show all winter, from peeking at set designs to learning that the cast would, in fact, be flying. The question on everyone's mind, come February was—will the cast and crew deliver? Without question. *Peter Pan* was a delight; an inspired take on an old classic. The cast and crew worked hand in hand to create a show that exceeded my expectations and kept us thoroughly entertained. Directed by Susan Speidel and music director Ben Krauss, *Peter Pan* was an unforgettable.

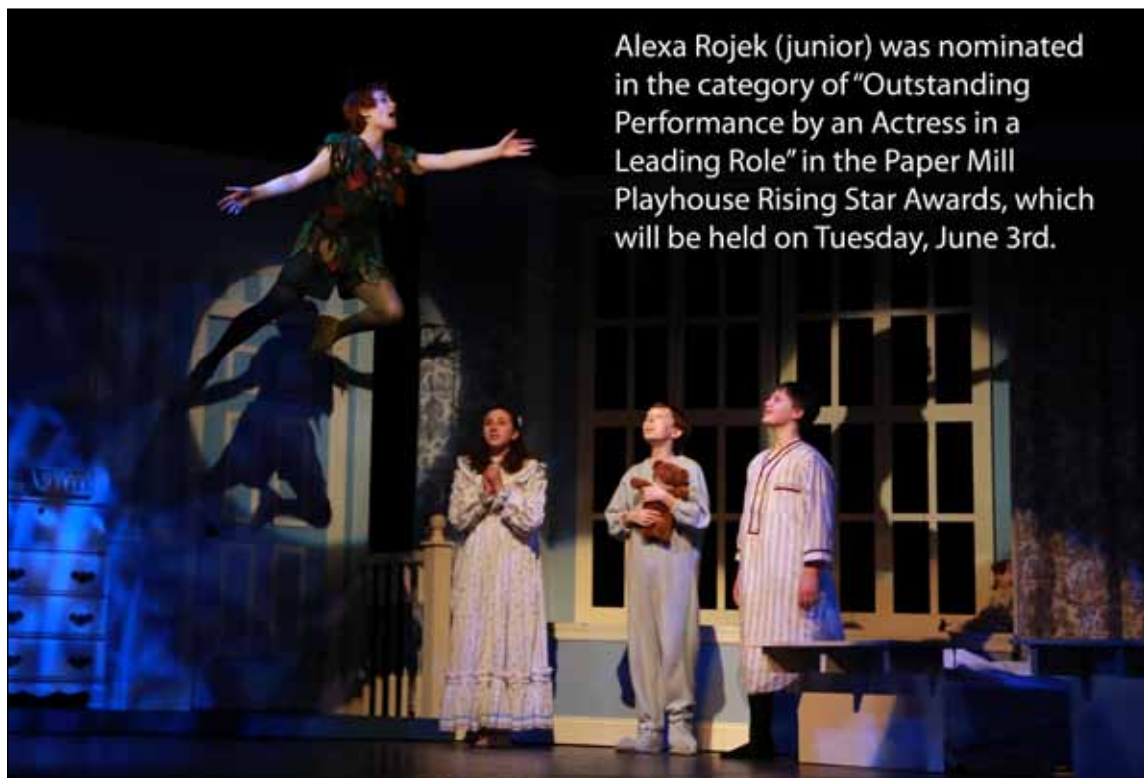
Led by Alexa Rojek as Peter Pan, the hard work of this cast was evident. From choreographed dance numbers, to mastering the wires that allowed for flight, every detail worked. Rojek, a junior, filled a major role with grace and humor. Her interpretation of the character Peter Pan was traditional yet distinct and she adeptly kept the show moving. Veteran actors Pooja Aggarwal, Eric Fernandez and Erin Hargrave-Kerns (seniors) all gave excellent performances, a fitting way to say goodbye to the Founders stage. Aggarwal, as

Tiger Lily, brought impressive stage presence to the production.

Humor is something we can always count on Erin Hargrave-Kerns to deliver and he certainly elicited chuckles for his performance as Curly Fernandez, too, continually made the audience laugh as he revived everyone's favorite first mate, Smee.

Other noteworthy players included sophomore Bailey Rechler as Wendy Darling and eighth grader Richard Carchia and freshman Harrison Kern as John and Michael Darling, respectively. Hailey Winterbottom took on the role of mature Wendy, a nice foil to Rechler's character. Natalie Kirby played Liza and Molly Glick was a convincing Mrs. Darling. Filling the role of both Mr. Darling and Captain Hook was junior Tyler Smith. Smith, as Hook, led his band of pirates through Neverland in search of the mischievous Pan and Tiger Lily's band of Indian warriors. His biggest enemy, however, wasn't in the form of a lost boy but a hungry, ticking crocodile, played convincingly by senior Ben Verchick.

Adding to the overall spirit were the many dance numbers. Choreographed by



Alexa Rojek (junior) was nominated in the category of "Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role" in the Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Awards, which will be held on Tuesday, June 3rd.

Photo: Steve Patchett

Alexa Rojek flies above the audience, while Bailey Rechler, Harrison Kern, and Richard Carchia gaze.

Jim Ruttman, these energetic moments showcased the talent of the cast. It seemed everyone, including the audience, was dancing at some point. Tiger Lily's warriors, played by Jessica Babb, Dominique Diggs, Carlye Cording, Ryan Fisher, Emily Hromin, Madeline Larson, Rachel Leung, Annabel Pruitt and Amanda Sit threw down with the lost boys, Charlotte Seltzer, Meghan Nelligan, Tatiana James, Leila Curtis, and Pamela Burke. Even Captain Hook's Pirate Band, consisting of James Cocuzza, Molly

Glick, Will Hunt, Natalie Kirby, Arielle Moss, Tiernan Mullane and J.D. Parker, danced a little!

Again, this performance relied also on the outstanding work of the backstage crew, led by senior Christopher Monaco and junior Carina Steficek, assisted by Taylor Jaskula. The electronics crew, comprised of Jack Collins, Will Segal, Riya Patel, Dylan Iuzzolino and Steven Karbachinsky, worked closely with the backstage crew, Ray Namar, Aidan Wood, Eric Fernandez, Carina Steficek, Jamie Cocuzza and

Ian Winslow to ensure that the actors' flight was as enchanting (and safe!) as possible.

Beginning with rehearsals in early December, the hours and hours of hard work that went into this show turned it into an absolute success, perfectly executed. From the dance moves to the flickering stars as a backdrop, to Nana the dog, everything in *Peter Pan* impressed. I'm sad to have seen my last Upper School Musical though it appears, with this production, the cast and crew had saved the best for last.



Photos: Alexa Rojek

Sundia Nwadiozar and Pooja Aggarwal (left) belt out their songs, Dominique Diggs (middle) sings a solo, and Valentino Della Pello and Brian Schmitt (right) showcase their DJ set.

CMW showcases wide range of acts

BY ALEXA ROJEK

The final Contemporary Music Workshop (CMW) of the school year on April 11 proved to be the most diverse in years, from a string quartet to a duo of electronic DJ's to senior Hassiem Bey tapping for a CMW audience for the last time, and a bitter sweet rendition of "Home" by the seniors in the show.

However, no CMW is complete without a dedicated group of seniors to carry the show on

their backs. This year, Chris Monaco, Pooja Aggarwal, Eric Fernandez, and Danielle Diraddo concluded their CMW careers with this spectacular show, after four years of dedication to the club.

"CMW has exposed me to a more professional concert setting," Aggarwal said.

"I've learned about the importance of all the nonperformance jobs that are needed to put on a successful show," she

added.

"It (CMW) has pushed me as a musician and given me a unique leadership position," Monaco said.

Highlights of the evening included the House Band of rockster faculty, including Senor Troy Rusnack, Dr. John Mascaro (Dean of Faculty), Chris Finn (head of Visual Arts), Sara Greenberg, David Gold (strings teacher) and Bruce Van Hoven, choral director.

Upper School performers featured Ashley Young, Dean Grogg, Ben Leigh, Erin Hargrave-Kerns, Jack Hughes, Mikael Jan, Gracie Goldy, Dominique Diggs, Valentino Della Pello and Brian Schmitt.

In the past four years, CMW has seen a surge of middle school participation. Some MS veterans of the CMW shows came back out to stun the audience with their talent yet again: Sundia Nwa-

diozor, Blake Kernen, and Courtney Ober, to name just a small handful of these impressive younger performers.

Clearly, CMW, more than just a club, plays an important role in campus culture and gives students opportunities to enhance their performance and technical skills. The MBS community is already buzzing about next year's show in the fall. Based on the club's history, it will not disappoint.

FEATURES/REVIEWS

The smiling woman behind the desk

By Emily Bruno with additional reporting by Molly Glick

At 7:15 a.m. every morning, Kathleen Hemmer walks through the senior door straight to her desk in the entry room of Beard Hall. She sets out her collection of candy, pretzels and mints for guests to take at any time neatly on her desk. She takes some faxes to the mailroom, gets her daily cup of coffee and comes back at her desk to have breakfast. As she prepares for her day to begin at 7:30 a.m., she savors the peace and quiet. Then the first phone call comes in.

Ms. Hemmer has been completing this routine as MBS receptionist since April 1, 1998, when her daughter's Girl Scout leader, Janet Crowley, the school's book store manager, told her about the opening.

"I always wanted to work at a school," Ms. Hemmer said. "I love being around people."

The mother of three was a stay-at-home parent for 20 years when she decided to make the switch to Beard Hall's front desk. She used to live in Munich, Germany, due to her former husband's job transfer. There, her children attended the Munich International School.

Now her children are all

grown up. Her daughter Kimberly, a former Captain in the Marine Corps who served two tours of duty in Iraq, is now

insurance company in Flanders, is also a member of the MBS community as the JV boys' basketball coach.

100 phone calls a day. She helps with admissions by greeting and interacting with families, works for Bruce Adams,

very stressful," she said. Still, she is never without her smile. How does she stay unruffled through all these demands?

"I love my job," she said.

Outside of the main office, Hemmer loves to take walks, visit her children and three grandsons, cook and complete Word-finds.

Throughout her 16 years here at MBS, Hemmer has made many friends and memories.

"She always has a smile and kind words for everyone who walks through the front door," said Dr. Patrick Horan, a longtime friend and English teacher.

"It is amazing how she can stay cool, calm, and collected on those busy days when she is juggling so many tasks," he said.

Ms. Hemmer was at her post on September 11, 2001, a day she recalls as the most anxious moment of her career. But through it all, she has been one of the most hardworking, friendliest staff members at MBS. To top it all off, she loves getting to work every day at 7:15 a.m.

"I am here as much as I am home," says Ms. Hemmer, "This is my home away from home."



Photo: Alexa Rojek

School receptionist, Kathleen Hemmer, easily handles a million tasks smiling.

working for the FBI. Both of her sons, Matthew and Daniel, work for Geico in Chevy Chase in Maryland. Matthew, in addition to his work in a small in-

"I never miss a game," said the proud mother, "I am his biggest fan."

Ms. Hemmer's job involves more than responding to about

the business manager, as his receptionist, and serves as liaison for student bus transportation.

"I deal with busing situations in September, which can be

The Pirates of Penzance descend on Founders Hall

By Bailey Rechler

Inside Founders Hall, the Middle School cast has been rehearsing intensely for their performance of *The Pirates of Penzance* on May 20.

"I love this musical- it's really one of my favorites," said Director and head of the MBS theater department, Susan Speidel, describing the show as "classical musical theater."

"It is a way to introduce a new style of music [to the middle school students]," she said, including classical elements with a contemporary feel.

Ms. Speidel leads the cast as Director, along with technical director Nicholas Marmo, choreographer Jim Rutman, and musical director Bruce Van Hoven.

The musical follows the Pirates of Penzance and their conflict with General Stanley and his daughters. Filled with humor, dancing and singing, the show even includes a special rap number performed by Rylan DeStefano '19, Lisa Leever '19, Anoushka Shah '19, and Quiya Harris '19.

"It's amazing being in the

tap number," Rylan DeStefano said. "I love working with Jim and Ms. Speidel. They always want me to try my best."

The Middle School cast is headed by Pamela Beniwala '19 as Polly, a daughter; Anika Buch '20 as Thomasina, a Pirate maid; Richie Carchia '18 as The Pirate King; Michelle Corcoran '19 as Piper, a Pirate; Rylan DeStefano as The Sergeant of Police; Perri Easley '19 as Mabel, General Stanley's eldest daughter.

There are more servants, daughters and officers: Quiya Harris as Ginny, a maid from General Stanley's house; Ryan Heffernan '19 as Major-General Stanley, Rachael Kelson '20 as Sophie, a daughter; Blake Kernan '18 as Isabel, a daughter; Liza Leever '19 as Minnie, a maid from General Stanley's house.

And more pirates and more daughters. Kenny Lavoie '18 will be Frederic, a Pirate Apprentice; Lauren Mennen '19 as Ruth, a Pirate maid; Courtney Ober '18 as Kate,



Photo: Alexa Rojek

Anoushka Shah, Quiya Harris, Liza Leever, and Rylan DeStefano learn new choreography from Jim Rutman.

a daughter; Natalie Pruitt '18 as Jenny, a Pirate maid; Anoushka Shah as Cynny, a maid from General Stanley's house; Matt Smith '18 as Samuel, a Pirate. and Rebecca Tone '18 as Edith, a daughter.

Pirates will be Stage Managed by Taylor Jaskula '17. Assistant Stage Managers include Molly Barnett '17, Natalie Kirby '17, Arielle Moss '16, and Charlotte Seltzer '17. Carina Steficek '15 will be lighting designer. The Middle School crewmembers are Katharine Bernstein '18 and Grace Hromin '18.



Photo: Alexa Rojek

The ensemble of *The Pirates of Penzance* rehearses the song "Hail Poetry," accompanied by chorus teacher Mr. Van Hoven

◆ CRIMSON SUN ◆
NEWS



Photo: James Fort

Students cast their ballots for the Student Government Association president as SGA advisor, Katie Cannito, and Senior Class Vice President, Graham Dyer, oversee the election in the board room.

New SGA president Laud names cabinet, makes plans

BY MADALYN BRAUNSTEIN

Competing against Trip Ewig, Brian Andrzejewski, and Kyle Maslan, Will Laud won the SGA Presidential election on April 4 and chose his cabinet for the 2014-2015 school year. He named Brian Andrzejewski, a fellow candidate, vice president; Trip Ewig, another fellow candidate, Treasurer; Valerie Becker as Secretary; and Maddie Braunstein (this reporter) as Public Relations. "I didn't know what to think. I was happy and stunned at the same time," Laud said, regarding his response to the election results.

Laud succeeds current SGA President Jake Beeber, who has made major accomplishments, including raising school spirit and amending the SGA Constitution for the first time since 1967. Beeber introduced and organized a Pep Rally during Spirit Week which students responded to

enthusiastically, especially Middle School students, who were more included with Upper School students during the Rally.

"Stay on top of things and stay organized. Make as many appearances at morning meeting as you can," Beeber advised his successor, in response to a question.

Laud's first goal as incoming president is to replace the lockers in the locker rooms. To do this, he said he will first find out the cost to replace the lockers and if it fits in the SGA budget, he will replace them. His second goal is to create a team for his "Gold Medal Task Force," whose job will be to organize and prioritize a list of school advancements and achievements to accomplish next year.

Laud appointed four seniors, Olivia Schreiber, Jojo Caruso, Danielle Sclafani, and

Colin Waters, to be a part of this group, called GMTF for short. Laud plans to appoint one or two students in the middle school, as well. He had to clear his chosen GMTF members with Kathy Cannito, SGA advisor, as well as Darren Burns, Head of Upper School.

Laud expressed interest in continuing the innovations made by Beeber, including the Pep Rally during Spirit Week. In addition, Laud said he plans to advertise the sporting events and Pep Rally more so than before, and gain insight for improving the Rally from his GMTF group.

Outgoing SGA President Beeber offered a few more words of advice to his successor. "Keep a good relationship with teachers and the administration," he said. "And don't get too caught up in the little details."

Honors program (cont'd. from page 1)

agrees.

"I don't think they should be mixing kids in the same class because students have different academic capabilities," she said.

When students complete the honors course, they will receive honors credit and the class they took will appear as an honors class on their transcript. However, once a student has chosen the honors path, whatever grade they earn will appear on their transcript.

A shared rubric and set of expectations will be established throughout the English, history, and science departments.

With many different types

of students mixed in one class, "teachers will have to be conscious of taking responsibility of the learning styles of every single student in the classroom," said Dr. Larch Fidler, English Department Chair.

For the science program, even though there will not be designated honors classes, entering freshmen will be placed in either mathematical physics or conceptual physics depending on their mathematical capabilities. The new program will allow prospective honors students to explore and analyze physics topics that interest them. As a piece in their honors

portfolio they will be able to expand and experiment with subjects they learned in class that they find fascinating.

"By mixing classes, students will encounter an array of learning styles and develop approaches to reading and writing that work best for them," said Kate Sheleg, Director of Academic Writing.

Even though this program will be exclusively for freshmen next year, departments will meet together as the upcoming year progresses and decide whether they will continue this program for tenth and even eleventh grade.

Students grumble about extra days

(cont'd. from page 1)

After consideration, June 3,4,5 seemed like the most fitting option.

"In the end I felt such choices might be unnecessarily disruptive to our families," Mr. Caldwell said.

These additional three days have been met with some concerns. The Junior/Senior Prom, for example, is still on for Tuesday June 3. Although Seniors are not affected by this, due to their Senior Projects, the Juniors were worried that they may have to crack open the algebra books in the middle of prom to study for the following day. This will not be the case.

"We are going to manage to lessen the sting for Juniors," said Mr. Burns, who plans to give Juniors some leeway for the day after, regarding rearranging finals' schedules.

Another concern was the third marking period. With all the time being taken away, there were very few assess-

ments so overall third quarter averages were not a solid reflection of the majority of students. Of course there is another quarter to go, but the teachers were inconvenienced with the change in lesson plans, especially in the humanities, where there are themes during specific quarters that have to be addressed. As for students planning on vacationing the first week of June, rescheduling is in their future.

"I have to take all my finals three days earlier which will cause me a lot of stress," Freshman Allie Goldberg said.

For most students, however, the extra days are not a problem.

"It's only fair," said Junior Alexa Rojek. "Public schools have to go to the end of June, so I'm not complaining."

Adds Freshman Madly Larson, "Coming from public school where our last day was June 26, getting out on June 5th is a miracle."



Photo: Alexa Rojek

Special Olympics player Bobby Fredericks tries to get past Special Olympics player Teresa Pedoto and Ben O'Connell, an MBS varsity basketball player during the game.

Special b-ball triumphs

BY MEGHAN NELLIGAN

At the start of the game, each special needs player was introduced, the other athletes cheering them on. At that instant, one could feel the electricity in the air, which continued during the jump ball, when senior and varsity player, Ben O'Connell, allowed Sean Nelligan to get the ball, something he wanted to do all season.

The Special Olympics benefit game on Friday, March 28 helped raise over \$1,200 for that community, as well as awareness, which became evident, after the final basket was made. Tiny, chalkboard signs suggested inspiration, like "Go big or Go Home" or "Inspire Greatness," which was also written on bracelets given out with each ticket.

Each second of the game was full of happiness. The Special Olympics players came out of their shells, going for the ball, shooting baskets, doing

things they had not tried to do during the regular season. Maybe this was because of the way the MBS students treated them. Pat Davis, an MBS sophomore and varsity team player, greeted this reporter's brother with the biggest smile.

Teachers and coaches who helped included MBS dance teacher Andrea Deventer, math teacher Jessica Weinberger, and MBS rentals coordinator Eric Shea, along with coaches Greg Williams (assistant Director of Admissions), Eddie Franz (history teacher and varsity basketball coach), and Matt Hemmer (JV coach).

"It was a terrific night," said Coach Williams. "I left feeling on top of the world."

Editors' note: Meghan Nelligan, an MBS sophomore, helped orchestrate this event. Her brother Sean, who is on the Special Olympics team, inspired her.

FEATURES

Thank Facebook for your stress

BY BAILEY RECHLER

Most MBS students—and nearly every high school student in the country—have something in common: they are stressed. They have demands from school, sports, theater productions, clubs and a multitude of other extra-curricular activities and the expectation to succeed in all of these areas in order to achieve a spot in a competitive college.

Over the past few years, the stress on students has gotten worse, largely due to social media.

“[Social media] makes me more stressed,” said Maddy Larson ’17, “because when I procrastinate, I usually go on social media. After going on for a while, I feel even more stressed that I have a lot of work and it’s late at night and I didn’t get it done.”

An August 2013 study by The American Psychological Association measuring teenage stress found that the average stress level for adults was 5.1 out of 10, but students reported 5.8 out of a 10 point scale. This is one of the first studies focusing on teenager stress and anxiety.

“It is alarming that the teen stress experience is so similar to that of adults,” Norman B. Anderson, PhD said CEO and Executive Vice President of the American Psychological Association, writing about the study.

“It is even more concerning that they seem to underestimate the potential impact that

stress has on their physical and mental health,” Dr. Anderson wrote.

Among many possible causes for the rise in stress rates, the strongest contributor seems to be social media. Twitter is over abundant with complaints about homework and studying. On Facebook, people share what university they will attend in the fall. Pictures of everyone else’s “perfect” life can be found on Instagram.

Social media creates an atmosphere of hysteria contributing to teenage stress, said Edward Franz, director of the MBS wellness program. He does not remember discussion and fear of the SAT when he was a high school student. He noticed a rise in anxiety “specifically in the last eight to ten years with social media,” he said.

Social media allows for a domino effect with stress, Mr. Franz explained. One anxious person tweeting about their feelings can lead to collective anxiety among a group of students.

With this new atmosphere of anxiety, rather than solve their problem, Mr. Franz believes students feel the need to be anxious.

“It’s a pretty destructive approach to dealing with issues. The issue isn’t the focus, it’s the anxiety,” Mr. Franz said. Rather than work to solve their problem, people share their stress on social media websites.

Sara Greenberg, MBS website manager, discussed the problems with constant sharing on social media websites.

“[Everyone] can’t emotionally keep up,” she said.

Then there is the distraction factor.

“Getting into the habit of being distracted by social media can be damaging,” Ms. Greenberg said. “You are what you cultivate— if you practice being swept up in distraction, [how] will you achieve focus?”

Twenty Morristown-Beard Freshman, Sophomore, and

Juniors were surveyed about their stress for this story. Each student said that school caused them to become stressed, in particular sports, arts, and extra-curricular activities, with family and friends close behind. Fifteen students said that procrastination was an effect of their stress. Inability to sleep and lack of appetite also were common consequences.

Regarding whether social media made her stressed, Molly Glick ’16 said, “Yes, because people post the colleges they are admitted into.”

On the other hand, Daniel Tejado ’15 said social media stressed him.

“It is a place I use to escape from school,” Tejado said, “by allowing me to socialize with others and helps me.”

Gracie Goldie ’16 also reported less stress from viewing social media.

“I feel better because I know I am not alone,” she said.

As for the future of teenage stress, Mr. Franz said, “I don’t know what would stop the rates of stress from rising.”



Photo: Alexa Rojek

Pooja Aggarwal ’14 takes a stress induced nap in the middle of studying.

Senior projects: From New York City to Africa

BY CARLYE CORDING WITH ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY EMILY BRUNO, ALEXA ROJEK, AND BAILEY RECHLER



Photo: Alexa Rojek

Jackson Becker, Robert Chiperfield, and Peter Daly look back.

As the spring air enveloped campus, seniors were eager to head out of school. Some yearn for summer vacation, while others are enchanted by the chance to follow their dreams. This year’s senior project internships range from production assistant for Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn to intern for Donna Karen in Manhattan to local New Jersey municipal courts to refugee work in Uganda.

Senior Kathryn Sid-

lowski is “ecstatic” about returning to Africa to volunteer for Hope Of Children and Women (HOCW). She will travel to Ndejje, Uganda to spend ten days learning and living with Ugandan and Congolese refugees. She plans to compile stories of refugees and pictures to draw parallels between Ugandan refugees and American teenage life. While there, she will teach English, live in the village, catalog and sell their crafts through an Etsy account.

Since her first trip, she has been able to keep in touch with Ugandans through social media at a community compound where inhabitants can use computers. “They chat you at odd hours,” she said. Africa feels like “her place,” Sidlowski said.

Back in the United States, Kirsten Stainer will intern with Donna Karan International in Public Relations in Manhattan. After applying and interviewing, she landed the job even with no prior experience in the fashion industry. Her internship entails assisting in scheduling major events, promoting brand exposure, and moving and organizing clothes from showrooms. Her excitement was visible as she described her passion for fashion and its role in society.

“... Donna Karan is a prime example of a brand that is iconic yet ever-evolving, and I’m thrilled to be a part of the DK team,” she said.

Amid the excitement and buzz about projects, each senior has a sense of passion, especially for projects related to

their “dream job.”

Chris Monaco, who hopes to pursue Theatre Tech and Production, will be a production assistant on the show GREASE at Paper Mill Playhouse. He will be considered an “extra set of hands” during the process, he said. From rehearsals in New York City to tech week at the theater itself, he will work closely with the stage manager. Unfortunately, he broke his ankle this spring.

Given his injury, “Keeping up with the professionals and being able to execute their orders exactly how they want them should be an interesting challenge,” he said.

In a very different position, Kelly Dolan will be interning at the Morris County Probation, observing meetings with clients, reading drug tests, taking the clients to work, and filing paperwork. She will even get a tour of the jail. Dolan’s mom works for probation and has sparked her interest in the field.

“I have always been intrigued about the work that my mom does, so now I will be

able to see what it is really like,” Dolan said.

In a similar position, Erin Hargrave-Kerns will work at the Maplewood Municipal Court, traveling between the court house and Essex county jail to talk about clients’ next steps before trial.

“I am interested in criminal justice” as it relates to studying Biological Forensic Science, she said.

Another senior interested in science, Erin Saunders will intern at a private practice called Salerno Medical Associates in East Orange. The doctor specializes in heart conditions, a step to her dream to be a cardiothoracic surgeon.

“This goes perfectly with my future career path,” she said. Saunders will shadow the doctors and practice manager throughout their days.

Benjamin Verchick will also focus his senior project in a future pursuit, personal training, working at a gym called Definitions, in New York City. His job will mostly entail shadowing the trainers.

CRIMSON SUN

SPORTS



Photos: Jared Rosen

Patrick Davis (right) throws a strike in Varsity Baseball's 14-2 victory over Morris Catholic High School. Drew Jansen (left) steals second base in Varsity Baseball's 14-2 win over Morris

Boys' Baseball:

Young team makes solid start

By NICK RELLA

The Varsity Baseball team has been seeded #1 in the Morris County Tournament, thanks to their solid and impressive record of 6-0-1. Even so, they have achieved a tough act to follow after the very successful 2013 season, winning the conference championship and making an appearance in the North Jersey Non-Public B State Championship.

Even though they lost Cory Betz, Shane Carpenter, Nick Ferry, Nick Naples, Matt Downey to graduation last year, the team is pumped for the season.

"I couldn't be more excited about the upcoming season.

We have great talent on this team and the potential to do big things," said captain Travis Nardin, a senior.

Unfortunately, the team fell short to the Crusaders of Morris Catholic last year in the State Sectional Finals 7-1, but seniors Travis Nardin (Union College commitment), Ben O'Connell, Kyle Vanderhoof, and Chris Bernardon are playing their hardest in their final year on Crimson Diamond in search for of a state championship ring.

This is one of the youngest Crimson teams in history with four sophomores starting, but these underclassmen are able to hold their own and

then some. Covering the infield are Patrick Davis ('16) at first base, veteran Vanderhoof at second, Brett Brophy ('16) playing short-stop, and Dean Grogg ('15) controlling third, and Max Matilsky ('14) filling in.

Additionally, the Crimson bullpen is stacked with ace pitcher Jeremy Westaway ('15), and other impressive pitchers, including senior Ben O'Connell, 6'-5" Colin Waters ('15), freshman Tyler Faccenda, senior Chris Bernardon, and sophomores Davis and Brophy in infield.

The team's promising younger players follow the lead of the senior play-

ers who hosted 6 a.m. Captain's practices throughout the Winter. On top of that, Nardin, Bernardon, and Vanderhoof were in the weight room getting in shape three times a week.

The team has a tough schedule upon them, going up against Morris Catholic, Whippany Park, Hanover Park, Madison, and Chatham. Their goals for this year are to win their conference again, win Preps, Counties, and lastly, make a run for the State title again.

Head Coach John Sheppard was named to the NJSCA Hall of Fame for his outstanding dedication, leadership, and

reign as coach, athletic director, and teacher. He also won his 300th career game in 2012. The rest of the fine coaching staff includes Kevin "Mac" McDonald, Mike Sturgeon, and Eric Shea.

The team would greatly appreciate it if every student could attend at least one home game and cheer on the Crimson faithful because they know, the county knows, and the school should know that there's something special brewing over on Feddeson field, and we as a school should not miss the opportunity to witness it.

Unsung (sports) heroes

By BRIAN ANDRZEJEWSKI AND JAKE RAIMER

Every team has their go-to players and their bench players whom they look to for moral support, but the players who get least recognition are the unsung heroes. Here at MBS, in the spring, we recognize our lacrosse teams and our baseball team, which are both loaded with NCAA commitments. Still, there are terrific athletes in sports that get less attention: track, golf and softball.

In Track and Field, Halia Rosemond ('15) holds the school record as the top discus thrower. Her success reminds us of an additional element in the formula for athletic success: perseverance. After an injury her sophomore year, Halia still pushed on, refusing to let the injury ruin her spirits or her competitive spirit.

"Just try your hardest and if something is challenging, don't just quit: fight through it," Rosemond advises student athletes. "Those challenges will make you stronger mentally and physically—and bring you success."

Rosemond is the kind of student-athlete that everyone in the Morristown-Beard community admires. Then there are the largely unrecognized golf players.

The varsity golf team relies heavily on its dynamic duo of Spencer Shepperly and John Shay. The number one golfer on the team, senior Spencer Shepperly, has been in the top two ranks throughout his entire high school career. A highlight in his game was shooting a 66, five strokes under par, and clinching second place at the NJPGA Architects Junior Cup.

Shepperly has been playing golf his entire life, but only competitively since eighth grade. So far, Shepperly has averaged a 39 this season.

"I really turned my game on last year," he recalls. "I went through some swing changes freshman/sophomore year so I didn't play too well, but last year was my breakthrough."

The number two golfer at MBS, junior John Shay says, "Golf is my passion. Maybe I am even addicted to it."

Shay has been playing golf since the age of three and has been working at it since then. This past fall, he won a NJPGA Junior Tour event at Ramsey Country Club.

The best part of Shay's game is the power and distance that he gets on his shots. His average drive is 295.69 yards. As a sophomore, Shay hit one of his drives 350 yards, sending it past the green on a par four. For those of you who do not know much about golf, that is far. Really far.

Both Shay and Shepperly have already qualified for the state tournament as individuals and seek to lead their team to a County and State Title.

In softball, sophomore Sara Seuffert has really made a name for herself. Although it is uncommon for a sophomore to be the number one pitcher on the team, Sara can claim that position.

"Seuffert starts almost every game and is really consistent," said Christina D'Alessandro, a junior.

She always comes up with big hits in crucial moments and is a very consistent pitcher who is con-

stantly getting stronger," adds junior Lindsay Reeth.

Seuffert currently leads the team in at bats with 19, runs scored with 9, and hits with 6. She is full of potential and she still has two more years ahead of her.



Photos: Jared Rosen

Sara Seuffert gets ready for the ball during a game against Dover with MBS winning 7-1.

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SPORTS

Boys' Tennis:

Swinging for dominance, missing players

BY BEN SCHREIBER



Photo: Jared Rosen

Peter Daly prepares to smash back the ball helping the team win 5-0 against Boonton High school on May 1.

After the loss of two key singles players, Edward Gordon and Hugh Daly, to graduation, the boys' tennis team relied heavily on returning first-singles player Peter Daly to continue his dominance along with other players to win their matches to try to meet last year's record of 11-7.

Filling the second singles spot and third singles spot left open by Gordon and Daly are Junior Ben Schreiber (this reporter) and Senior Jacob Beeber. Additionally, Senior Kyle Heffernan and Freshman Jared Rosen have filled the first-doubles spot and compiled a 10-7 record against their opponents.

"Jared has improved a lot since the beginning of the season and has really helped us win some close matches," said Heffernan.

At press time, this year's record is 8-8, but team mem-

bers have recorded many accomplishments. In the Morris County Tournament on April 26 at County College of Morris and at Brundage Park, the Crimson finished tied for ninth place with Parsippany High School out of 21 teams competing.

"I am pleased that four out of five positions won at least one round of the county tournament with Pete Daly advancing to the semi-finals" said Coach Franz.

Senior Peter Daly advanced to the Semifinals but lost to Mitchell Sanders of Randolph 4-6, 1-6.

The team is now focused on winning the Prep B Tournament where they will face difficult competition.

"Even though we didn't do as well as we would have liked in the Counties, we are determined to finish the season strong in the Prep Tournament," said Daly.

Girls' Lacrosse:

Winning Prep B with extreme dedication

BY KAITLYN TATULLI

Despite their tearful, double overtime loss to Montclair Kimberly Academy last year in the Prep B tournament finals, the girls' varsity lacrosse team is determined to mine all their talent in the 2014 season in hopes of finally claiming the Prep B title.

This season, the girls have moved up two conferences. Despite competing at a more aggressive level and facing tougher opponents, they are still coming out victorious, with a 9-8 record at press time, losing two games by only one point. They're aiming to meet or beat last season's impressive record of 18 wins, 6 losses.

"The experience of the returning seniors has helped us when we face our toughest opponents," said Carolyn Cham-

bers, a senior.

For the first time since 2011, girls' lacrosse has an older, more experienced team led by eight strong, senior leaders: Devon Flinn, Delaney Flinn, Carolyn Chambers, Ashley Magner, Chelsey Howarth, Kathryn Bregna, Bridget Finnegan, and Kaitlyn Fitzgerald. In an unusual move, the team decided not to choose captains.

"We wanted to see, at the beginning of the season, who would... show leadership, but every senior, in their own way, has stepped up and shown... the leadership qualities we need," said Coach Meredith Locasto.

Returning coaches of two years Ms. Locasto and Suzie Sweeney both brought major change to the team last year

by helping the girls completely turn around their dismal 2012 season record of 1-15.

Aside from freshmen, most of the team consists of returning players.

"We really have no new players this year," said Devon Flinn. This represents a huge strength since, in last year's rebuilding season, the players already developed the fundamental stick skills and bonds needed to attain a strong winning season.

And yet, those freshmen are important.

"We have a TON of freshmen," senior Bridget Finnegan said.

In addition to the freshmen on the large JV, three freshmen made varsity: goalie Chloe Diamantis, and players Emma Polaski and Renee

Dorwart.

Regarding the goalie position, Coach Locasto acknowledges the skills of varsity goalie Kiki Fitzgerald, but has been noticing freshman goalie Diamantis.

"She is really the future of the program," Coach Locasto said.

With the abundance of seasoned and new talent, girls' varsity lacrosse has developed into a poised, close group.

"We are really coming together as a team this year, working together, pushing each other to do our best," said senior Finnegan. This togetherness has helped them win many close games. At one of the team's earlier games at New Providence the girls went into overtime and came out with a sudden victory.

The defense worked seamlessly together, making six consecutive stops so that the offense could not score. By herself, goalie Fitzgerald made five saves. On her fifth save, she threw the ball to sophomore Alissa Masini, who then ran the ball up the field and passed it to senior, Chelsey Howarth. At that point, by moving the ball down the field, Chelsey was able to score, winning the game.

Through experience, teamwork, and hours of practice, the girls' lacrosse has managed to transform the team and make their marks. This season, as a strongly competitive team, they have a good shot at winning.



Photos: Bridget Finnegan

Junior Jill Burke (left) battles Montville on MBS turf on March 31 losing 11-12. Chelsea Kramer (right) scoops up the ball against Rutgers prep on April 29 winning the game 18-6.

SPORTS

Boys' Lacrosse:
Off to Their Best
Start in Years

BY BRIAN ANDRZEJEWSKI

The Boys' varsity lacrosse team, ranked 12th in the state by MSG Varsity and 17th in the state by The Star Ledger, is off to their best start in years. Since last season, the Crimson lacrosse team has had six of its players commit to an NCAA Division I program. (see box). This is a big leap from past seasons and past expectations.

"During my eighth grade year, I think the team went 3-17 and was viewed as a complete joke," said Junior Teddy Hatfield.

Now, the team stands at 16-2 with big wins over Mendham High School and Madison High School. Their rejuvenation as a program is due to several factors: the power class of 2015, the signing of Coach Sal Tromonda, and the new captains who have taken over the leadership roles on the team.

Calling the class of 2015 the 'power' class may be an understatement. With four Division I commitments already, and possibly more to come, the junior boys are clearly major contributors to the team's success. The three starting attackmen, Teddy Hatfield, Thomas Rago, and Chris Glancy (all D1 commits) are responsible for a most of the team's scored points.

Both Rago and Hatfield have surpassed the 100-point mark during their short careers and

still have one and half seasons to go.

Additionally, the junior class includes plenty of strong players, including captain and midfielder, John McDonald, goalie Matt Sefcik, and defensemen Nick Rella, Cole Steinfeldt, Jimmy Kellogg, and Matt Reilly.

Then there's the coach. Head Coach Sal Tromonda is very focused on keeping his players in the best shape possible. Sometimes, the players complain about his conditioning drills or the weight lifting routines, but it looks as if all that sweat is paying off.

For this season, Coach Tromonda selected two very qualified leaders as captains. Senior Trevor Baptiste, and junior John McDonald are both natural leaders, student-athletes who can lead on the field and off. Both were peer group leaders at MBS.

Confident in his team's ability, McDonald says he seeks to "win the County Championship, and - it may be tough-but also the Tournament of Champions."

With their 16-2 record, the boys' varsity lacrosse team is rolling and continued that streak against Hanover Park on May 13th winning 19-3 and Morris Catholic High on May 17th winning 19-2.



Photos: Chelsea Kramer

Boys' varsity lax team celebrates their 9-8 victory against Mendham High School in the home game on April 3.

Six boys' LAX players commit

BY BRIAN ANDRZEJEWSKI

In a stunning sign of the boys' LAX team's strength, six varsity players have committed to playing in college, and only one of them is a senior.

Senior Trevor Baptiste (see lower photo to above) de-committed from Franklin & Marshall College and decided to take his talents out west to the University of Denver, a top five lacrosse program in the country.

"I really liked the players, coaches, and campus at Denver," Baptiste said.

Denver would push him to the next academic level, he said, and would help him with time management. Additionally, Trevor has had a very successful swimming career, but likes lacrosse even more. He said he is very

confident that he made the right decision in playing lacrosse at Denver.

In the class of 2015, goalie Matt Sefcik has committed to Wagner College (New York), attackman Teddy Hatfield has committed to the University of Richmond (Virginia), attackman Thomas Rago has committed to Marist College (New York), and the third and final starting attackman, Chris Glancy has committed to St. John's University (New York).

Not to be outdone by upperclassmen, freshman midfielder Kevin Gill (a transfer student from Chatham High School) has committed to the prestigious University of North Carolina.

Track and Field:
Stellar athletes,
but not enough
of them

BY OLIVIA SCHREIBER AND BEN SCHREIBER

The skills we measure in Track and Field are all components of other sports with more complex rules, but track is boiled down to its essence. It is purely objective - there are almost no instances of being able to attribute performance to luck or "bad reffing". Track is the foundation of practically every other sport.

"There is no room for doing things half-effort or taking a play off. You do that, you lose," Coach Scott McCormick said.

With a 0-3 for both the boys' and girls' teams, the 2014 season for Track and Field is going to be more focused on individual improvement than team overall wins

and losses.

Senior Michaela Reilly had a spectacular fall track season where she medaled at the county championships, placed third at the state prep championships, placed first in the conference championships, finished sixth in the state championships, and earned a trip to the Meet of Champions. This season, Reilly has set a high bar for herself.

"My goal is to break 2:20 minutes in the 800m and finish under 5:15 minutes in the 1600m," said Reilly.

Senior Kyle Larsson, a standout runner and leader of the team, desires to set the school record in the 800m, which is

about half a second faster than his best time from last year.

Max Borchert has also made a strong impression this season with his hard work in practice and excellent sprinting. He has potential in the 400 meter race because he ran an impressive 56.2 seconds in his first ever race at this distance. Also, Corey Juskowitz has shown great potential in javelin, with a throw over 114 feet in only his second meet. For the girl's team, Kathleen McNamara impressed with her sprinting and throws. After a week of practicing, she has thrown the javelin over 85 feet.

Discus thrower Halia Rose-

mond has set her goal of winning Counties, and probably finishing in the top five at Meet of Champs - performing well at the prestigious Penn Relays in Philadelphia, where she will compete against some of the best throwers in the US (and Jamaica!). She will be striving to throw over 140 feet this season.

With new Coaches Julie Guempel (an MBS grad of 2009 and school record holder in the 100m and 200m), and returning coaches Kate Alderman, McCormick, and Stephanie Puchalski (former MBS teacher) the track team has experienced guidance.

Even so, with a shortage of team members, it is difficult to make a big team splash. Coach McCormick sees the season differently.

"We do not have the numbers or enough events filled to be really competitive in most of our meets, so I expect we will be on the losing end of most competitions," Coach McCormick said. "But if people continue to work hard and focus on getting themselves to the next level, the season will be a success."

"I don't care what our Win/Loss record is," Coach McCormick added. "I care about how much our athletes improve as the year progresses."