

'Law & Order' comes to Marymount



Fictitious headmaster Wyatt Scofield is arrested in the Marymount auditorium during a "Law & Order" episode filmed over spring break. See page 4.



Elated juniors show off their new class rings during Ring Day on May 23.

In one final courtroom drama, Mock Trial nearly wins NYC title

By Kate Lee and Kathleen Zafra

Not only has the Upper School brought "Law & Order" to its classrooms in recent weeks, but it has also created its own courtroom drama. The Mock Trial team made it all the way to the final round of the regional championships and was narrowly defeated by Hunter on May 8. This is the furthest the team has ever gotten in its fifteen years of existence.

Moderator Mrs. Catherine Koller couldn't have been more proud. "The team deserves highest marks for initiative, dedication, intelligence and courage," she said.

"When I heard the judge's verdict I was shocked," said Lorraine Riley (XI), one of the prosecution's three attorneys, "because I felt the case effort, skill, argument, articulation, and poise went toward us. Some of the Hunter team's parents even approached our team to compliment our performance and tell us what a surprise the verdict was to them."

"The Hunter trial was compelling from start to finish, Mrs. Koller said. "Marymount did an excellent job and Hunter was a worthy adversary. It was a very close competition and the judge had a difficult call."

The championship trial took place in the U.S. District Courthouse in downtown Manhattan, in the room

Photo by Verne Becker



The Mock Trial team: (back row, l-r) Christina Bailey (XI), Andrea Marpillero-Colomina (XII), Alison Keavey (XII), Lorraine Riley (XI), Maria Kim (XI), Bridget DiPrisco (X), Daphne Rubin-Vega (XII), (front) Debra McElligott (IX), Charisma Loney (XI), Riana Positano (XII), Jessica Frisina (IX), and Laura-Lynn Dunleavy (XI).

where the Supreme Court would meet if it convened in New York. The teams and the spectators assembled in the lavishly decorated Ceremonial Hall, with green marble, leather and mahogany.

This year's case involved a charge of third degree assault by "C.C. Rider" on "Purify Appleton" in a stairwell during a fire drill. Mock Trial members serve as either attorneys or witnesses and, depending on the round, the defense or prosecution. For the championship, Marymount was the prosecution.

After Lorraine gave the opening remarks, Jessica Frisina (IX), an attorney, presented her witness, Debra McElligott (IX), who played an eye-

witness to the confrontation. This was the first time that two freshmen were on the Marymount team.

Next, Laura-Lynn Dunleavy (XI) and Bridget DiPrisco (X) approached the stand as witnesses. During Bridget's direct, a defense attorney from Hunter objected. An argument ensued between Lorraine and the opposing attorney, and the judge dismissed part of Bridget's direct as hearsay. This posed a problem for Marymount, because Bridget's testimony was critical to the prosecution.

Finally, Allison Keavey (XII) made her closing remarks, which Lorraine described as "excellent, because Allison really captured the case

Continued on page 2

Pulitzer Prize-winning author reads from her upcoming novel

By Adara Meyers

"It was harder to choose names for my characters than choosing my son's name," said author Ms. Jhumpa Lahiri. "I've even resorted to the phone book."

Ms. Lahiri, author of the Pulitzer prize-winning short story collection, *Interpreter of Maladies*, visited Marymount on April 11 to read from her forthcoming novel, entitled *The Namesake*, to answer students' questions on writing and inspiration, and experiences in her life.

Born in London to Bengali parents, Ms. Lahiri traversed continents as she grew up in Rhode Island and visited Calcutta, India several times.

A common theme in Ms. Lahiri's work is what she described as her "experience of growing up with two cultures on each shoulder," in which the characters experience and grapple with their Indian heritage and cultural differences in American society.

"All my material is inherently from that world," she said. "It's not a conscious effort for me to incorporate my background into my writing."

Photo by Verne Becker



Author Jhumpa Lahiri shared more of her writing experiences with Joritan and Muse staff members in the Butler Library after the Upper School assembly.

"Things that seem ordinary to me seem extraordinary to others. It's an interesting feeling, because it's just my life."

Ms. Lahiri made the jump from writing short stories to a full-fledged novel out of curiosity.

"I took it as a hint that my stories were getting longer and more complicated," she said. "I had to write the book in chunks, and it was more unwieldy. Short stories only contain the most essential details. Both are difficult to write in their own ways."

Although she has been published in various magazines and has won other awards (including the O. Henry Award), she debunked the myth of the writing process being an idyllic, easy one.

She described writing her short stories as a "torturous" process, and the development of her novel "thirty times more difficult."

"I usually like sticking to one story unless I'm totally frustrated. Some stories take months; others take years."

She also described her relation-

ship as a writer to the fictitious characters and settings that she creates: "I feel drawn to write from a male point of view because it puts a distance from myself and my stories," Ms. Lahiri noted. She also draws some of her story ideas from "stories my father used to tell me about himself." In one story from *Interpreter of Maladies*, entitled "The Third and Final Continent," basically retells her father's experience of moving to America from India.

Often, authors experience pressure from publishers, publicists, and fans to write a second work that meets or exceeds the success of their first book. Ms. Lahiri seemed to have a calm and accepting view about the stress.

"There are always expectations; I just have to accept it," she said matter-of-factly. "I can control my work, but I can't control the opinions of others."

As the assembly drew to a close, Ms. Lahiri imparted one last piece of advice.

"You have to be patient and persistent, and really focus. If you have a story to tell, you will."



Jean Kilkeary (X), Oona Curley (IX), Caitlin Hutchinson (IX), and Leila Swartrauber (X) beam after defeating Nightingale 15-0 in the league championship journey.

Softball wins league, reaches 2nd round of state tournament

By Alexia Butcher

Although the Varsity softball squad lost to Packer 12-6 in the AAIS finals, the Lions still walked away with a 11-4-1 regular season record and a first place finish in the league.

"The team was disappointed," commented Captain Elisabeth Rennell (XI). "But our season wasn't over. The selection committee recognized our excellence and seeded us fifth in the state championships."

In the first state tournament game against Riverdale, the score remained close for the entire seven innings. "Our victory of 9-8 came down to the last out," Elisabeth said. "Thankfully, we had excellent defensive fielding."

In their second and last tournament game, the Lions' roar was quieted to a purr as they were humbled 12-0 by Horace Mann.

"Their pitcher was unbelievable," said Elisabeth. "Plus we were up against the top-seeded team."

Though the stakes were higher in the state championship, the AAIS loss to Packer on May 17 hurt the most, since the Lions had beaten Packer

during the regular season.

"That final game was uncharacteristic of the team," said Elisabeth. "We made errors that we normally don't make."

The team hit well and jumped to an early lead, but a series of clean hits by Packer erased Marymount's advantage and put Packer ahead. The Lions managed to score again in the bottom of the seventh, but still fell short of victory.

"I think we might have been a bit over-confident," said Oona Curley (IX).

"Our season could not be measured by the outcome of one game," Elisabeth said. "The fact is, we proved to ourselves all season that we were the best team in the league."

Before the Lions could become league champions, however, the team had a few adjustments to make and challenges to overcome.

"Karl France departed from the head coach position after a long stint, so the team had to get used to me as their head coach," said Mr. Matthew

Continued on page 7

Editorial

Straight talk about an overlooked prejudice

"Oh, that's so gay!" exclaims a student from the locker room, expressing her dismay on some subject.

"Yeah, really," her friends say, as they shake their heads in collective assent.

They move on in their conversation, discussing the annoyance of having two major tests in the same day, or a class placement for next year with which they are not happy, not recognizing their "gay" reference as anything out of the ordinary. Perhaps it's because, for them and many other students at Marymount, it is nothing out of the ordinary.

The expression "That's so gay" is typically understood as, "That's so terrible," but we all know that the word gay refers to the sexual orientation of a human being. To use the word casually as a synonym for "terrible" is to denigrate a core component of a person's identity -- of someone who may be sitting in the desk next to you or holding an Expo marker at the board.

"It's just easy to say. Everybody else says it," students have responded when asked why such a phrase is perpetuated.

But there are thousands of other words that are easy to say. Why was the word gay chosen? If "easy to say" is the only reason for choosing an expression, why not just say whatever comes to mind? Wouldn't it be just as easy to exclaim, "That's so Irish!" after a particularly hard test or "He acts so Episcopalian sometimes!"

Recently, a handful of Upper School students spoke out about discrimination against homosexuals . . . by not saying a word. On April 9, these students protested by demonstrating the silence many homosexuals are forced to live in. Participants wore signs of explanation pinned to their shirts or skirts, advocating an end to discrimination and promoting the tolerance that is so vital to a healthy working/living environment.

To further promote tolerance, Cultural Awareness presented an assembly on May 16 in which Upper School students and faculty were placed into groups to discuss the problem of homophobia and the general attitudes of the participants toward homosexuality.

These events were a good start, but more needs to be done. We must do more than simply raise the issue; it is not enough merely to say, "Yes, gay people exist."

To bring about change, we need not march on Washington D.C., waving flags and chanting clever rhymes that we made up on the bus. There are simple, perhaps more important things we can do in our daily lives and even right here in our school.

We can begin by refusing to utter hurtful sayings such as "That's so gay," and by banishing derogatory words from our everyday vocabulary.

Want change? Try a little passion

By Avery Hayes

As teenagers, we tend to get caught up in our cycles of school, friends and homework. We cry, we fight, we fail tests or we ace them. It seems that everything real, everything we have control of, exists only in our immediate proximity. So perhaps it's scary to realize that there are people in authority who at this moment are making decisions about life and death, about our country, our future, our children.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority just increased our subway fee to two dollars and our commuter train fares even higher. President Bush led our country into a war in which some of our friends and relatives have been involved. And at least in part because of the war, we see armed guards in the subways wearing camouflage and holding huge guns. What is going on here? With all that we know from the news media, there is so much we don't know.

Oh no, you may be thinking, not another boring speech on how I should care about the government and fret over countries with names I can't even pronounce. I don't want to preach. I certainly don't know it all. But I want to stress how important it is to be passionate about our world.

Often it seems that public opinion doesn't really have an effect on our country's leaders, but it's the voting public who put these leaders into power. If we don't pay attention to who's running for what, we won't have a chance to be deciding factors in who is representing us.

Most people in high school

can't vote, but we must still educate ourselves and decide what we want in a candidate, so when the time does come to vote, we will be familiar with the electoral system. We should get to know who is representing us in government, both at the state and federal level. We will never get our ideas across without seizing our right to choose our representatives.

"You can spend your life at home, blissfully unaware of world issues, and believe that everyone will take care of everything for you, or you can get out there and start to change the things that you don't like."

What's more important, however, is whether you care. Do you care what goes on with our country? Are you happy with being a passive spectator, watching others make important decisions that affect your life? You can spend your life at home, blissfully unaware of world issues, and believe that everyone will take care of everything for you, or you can get out there and start to speak up about the things you don't like.

It doesn't have to involve getting arrested, or even joining a protest. You could do something as simple as reading different media sources with a variety of viewpoints, so you can make

informed decisions on the issues.

There are plenty of people in recent history whose example you could follow, who did things that were radical yet simple. Rosa Parks' refusal to move from her seat on the bus was a nonviolent action that sparked a revolution. Gloria Steinem managed to invoke feminism in women everywhere with a pen as her only weapon.

By simply having a passion for what they were doing, they managed to change the world.

I'm not telling you to fight for my ideals or subscribe to my theories. What I'm trying to evoke in you is passion. The same kind of passion you may have for dance, food or music. It's time to take a stand for what you believe in. Get educated; get involved.

It's not that hard. Protest.net has great guides to getting started, and there are many youth organizations that encourage kids to get involved in politics. Code Pink (codepink.utne.com) is a new organization for women who care about peace and justice issues. Try interning at a newspaper you like or participating in Amnesty International. Websites such as workingforchange.com and media resources such as indymedia.org are extremely helpful.

It's time to think for yourself. What do you stand for? What do you believe in? What is right? As author Emma Goldman said, "Whatever your decision, the struggle must go on. We are but the atoms in the incessant human struggle towards the light that shines in the darkness -- the Ideal of economic, political and spiritual liberation of mankind!"

Protests persist despite war's end

By Jessie Clark

Though the official war against Iraq has concluded, millions of people around the world and in the U.S. still flock to protests against continued U.S. involvement in Iraq. People feel the need to express their voices, and rightfully so.

However, the protests do not seem to have brought about any change in government policy, so many are beginning to wonder, "What is the point of speaking out?"

One reason the rallies should go on is that people's still voices in a democracy must be heard.

It's bad enough that anti-war views are being ignored, but even worse is the possibility that they are being suppressed. A message posted by "Liz" on a web bulletin board gives a good example of what I mean:

"A large percentage of the American public is opposed to this war, but the (corporate controlled) media is trying to make it seem like we are a radical 'fringe' minority. The last big NYC antiwar rally, on March 22, had close to a million people, according to

WBAI (99.5 FM -- worth checking out for any person in search of REAL information). At first the news said there were 300,000 people, then 250,000; by the 11 o'clock news they said 100,000. Go figure.

"I think it would be dangerous for the system if people knew they weren't alone and 'strange' or 'pro-terrorist' or 'paranoid' for opposing the war. Most people are too frightened of the social ramifications to be associated with a 'minority' group. Since the people running this war own the media, taking to the street is one of the only means of having a voice we have left."

Liz's opinion is shared by many around the tri-state area, including me. Organized protests or rallies allow people with varying positions on current issues to come together and speak out. Their views need to be accurately and fairly reported.

"This is Bush's war. I'm definitely not for this," said one young participant at the March 22nd peace rally in New York.

A second reason to organize peace protests is that the U.S. continued military operations in Iraq.

But isn't the war is over? Why bother?

Ongoing military action in Iraq is facing greater scrutiny as looting and lawlessness go unchecked in many areas.

The protests focusing on the conflict in Iraq are also in response to U.S. policy toward non-democratic countries. Some protestors oppose current U.S. policy and want their voices to be heard. Some want to discourage all governments from intervening in situations that do not necessarily involve them. Peace protests are a great forum to state your political views and work toward the goal of world peace.

Discouraged by the evolving events in Iraq, many are backing down from the front line of the protests. Although the government is not necessarily adhering to our opinions, we still should exercise our right to state them and hope that we will one day be heard? Whatever your views are on the war and today's military occupation, let your voice be heard, so the dialogue will further the goal of cooperation among nations.

Mock Trial, continued

of that day."

After delivering the verdict, Judge John G. Keoltl told Marymount's prosecution that the decision between the two teams was difficult because they had given a "brilliant" and "passionate" presentation.

The Mock Trial tournament, sponsored by the New York State Bar Association places the defense and prosecution teams of different schools against each other in simulated court cases, in which the teams earn points for skill and accuracy.

The trials initially take place on a regional level, in which the schools compete against others in their area. Teams are eliminated until each of the six regions is left with a winner, which then competes in the New York statewide competition in Albany.

"Preparing for the competition calls for hard work and many hours, but the results are well worth the effort," said Mrs. Koller.

For the Marymount team it seems that their hard work and a little luck gave them an edge against their competition. After defeating Martin Lu-

ther King Jr. High School in the first round, the second opponent dropped out. The team's high scores gave them a pass-by in the third round. Marymount then defeated Packer Collegiate and Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in the fourth and fifth rounds, respectively.

"We didn't think just about ourselves. We went over everyone's strengths and difficulties in order to perfect every aspect of our case," Debbie remarked. "Our attorneys always listened to any constructive criticism and were open to everybody's thoughts."

As the field narrowed, the game grew "increasingly more competitive," said Lorraine. "We wanted to win and they wanted to win," added Charisma Loney (XI), a witness for the defense.

Triumphs over St. Joseph Hill and Browning, Marymount's "brother school," brought the team to the final trial against Hunter.

In spite of the unexpected final loss, Christina Bailey (XI), a witness for the defense, described the last trial as "a phenomenal performance by our dedicated team."

Ambassador shares perspective on world tensions

By Adara Meyers

On April 1, former Ambassador Nancy Soderberg spoke of her political career and experiences, as well as pressing current international crises. She also answered student's questions about war and foreign policy.

Ambassador Soderberg served in high-ranking occupations in the National Security Council and the United Nations for nearly twenty years. Now, she works at the International Crisis Group, which advocates policies to prevent and contain conflict.

Mrs. Soderberg talked

about both sides of the debate over whether to wage war, but she felt that diplomatic efforts to avert war were

more favorable.

"They pulled the plug on UN inspection sooner than needed," Mrs. Soderberg said. "I would have given investigation more time, because the case of imminent danger was never made. Now, the United States needs a strong relationship with the UN to resolve the conflicts."

At one point during the assembly, Ambassador Soderberg stood up to the microphone and said, "I want to get you thinking about the world that this generation is leaving for you. It looks like a big mess, but I'm an optimist."

Photo by Verne Becker



Ambassador Nancy Soderberg speaks with Joritan reporters.



Khin Ohmar: Her story and her call for help

A victimized Burmese citizen challenges students to raise awareness for a forgotten cause

By Kathleen Zafra

"There are three things humans, including women, need in order to live," said Khin Ohmar, a Burmese refugee living in Thailand. "They need education, health care, and freedom from all forms of violence."

Surrounded by a circle of about 20 Upper School students in Room 1A, Ms. Ohmar spoke about sex trafficking and violence against women in Burma, her home country.

Burma had a democratic government from 1948 until 1962, when a military regime took control of the country. The world did not come to the country's aid because it was geographically and economically isolated from the global community. The military regime changed the country's name to Myanmar instead of Burma and began to ignore the people's civil rights.

"Many minorities, including children, are gang-raped, beaten, and abused in front of their families, even to the extent that their internal bleeding

does not stop for weeks," Ms. Ohmar said, with the victims' suffering in her voice. "There are no medical clinics in the town to help."

Ms. Ohmar was only 20 years old and a senior in college studying chemistry when the military dictatorship staged a military coup by declaring martial law.



Khim Ohmar

In 1988 several students in her college revolted on campus. The military suppressed the demonstrations by shooting and killing thousands of innocent people. Parents of the dead students were not even allowed to bury their children's bodies.

"Everyone knew about Tiananmen Square," Ms. Ohmar remarked, "but no one heard about the thousands killed in Burma. Newspapers and radio stations weren't allowed to report on the killings."

Ms. Ohmar's mother did not want her to join the uprising against the government and tried to stop her. Her brother was arrested by the military and told that he would lose his

job or go to jail if he did not stop his sister from spreading the word about the revolt. But she did not want to stay at home. Since the government could not find Ms. Ohmar, they exiled her from Burma. As a result, her family had to destroy all of her baby pictures. Her name has been removed from the family, and she hasn't seen her family since she left Burma in 1988.

"Forty thousand women are in the sex trade in Thailand alone," she continued. "In Burma you cannot speak about unions or politics or else you are put into jail."

Khin Ohmar continues to spread her own stories and the stories of two of her friends who survived gang rapes in Thailand. The three women were scheduled to speak at the UN about human rights the evening after Ms. Ohmar visited the Upper School.

Unfortunately, according to Ms. Ohmar, "Since the adoption by consensus on November 5, 2002, of the United Nations General Assembly's (UNGA) resolution on the human

rights situation in Burma, there has been little evidence of positive developments."

According to Ms. Ohmar, in response to all humanitarian crises, Burma's generals have been mute. Other countries have ignored Burma's pervasive need

ted a democratic future.

After hearing Ms. Ohmar's personal accounts about the hardships the people of Burma and Thailand face, Keri Clarke (XII) felt inspired.

"Her situation made the problems more personal," said Keri. "The Marymount mission statement says that we should grow, learn, and shape the world; stories like hers makes me want to take risks."

"I've told Cultural Awareness about her story to help spread some mindfulness to others," Keri added.

Ms. Ohmar urged students to visit www.FreeBurmaCoalition.org to learn more about the country's devastating situation. They can also write letters to the UN Secretary General, to the military regime in Burma, or join the Free Burma Coalition by contacting Jeremy Woodrum, whose email address is: jeremy@freeburmacoalition.org. Donations of toys, clothes and other materials for children in refugee camps, civil war victims' orphans, and children's nutrition are greatly appreciated as well.

"Everyone knew about Tiananmen Square, but no one even heard about the thousands killed at Burma. No newspapers or radio stations were allowed to report on the killings."

for humanitarian assistance for decades. If conservative political forces in Burma allow structural and institutional reform, economic and technical aid could bring some benefits, but first the Burmese people must be guaran-

Asian/Pacific youth conference inspires Upper School delegates

By Kathleen Zafra

The conference room at NYU hummed with the excitement of more than a hundred high school students from independent schools across the state, including juniors Maria Kim, Kathleen Zafra, and Yi Zheng, and seniors Nicole Germino and Ying Huang.

"Grab the mic and speak the movement," urged the official members of the Asian/Pacific American Youth Alliance (APAYA) Club, a diverse group of teenagers of every race.

For the fifth annual APAYA conference, the theme was to "make a statement, spread your vision, turn off the stereotype, and then turn up the volume."

Since September the club, with members from Xavier, Collegiate, Regis, Fordham Prep, Sacred Heart, and many other schools, met weekly to organize, advertise, and plan the conference. APAYA's goal is to increase awareness of the achievements, tribulations, and plights of Asian/Pacific Americans.

"Before I attended APAYA, I thought everyone there was going to be Asian," Ying said, "but what I found was more of a focus on dispelling stereotypes. There are so many things that make up who we are, and race is just



he "really wanted to learn about and become more aware of the Asian culture with [his] peers, learn about their experiences and, put [his] own experiences in the mix."

As the day began, everyone was split up into discussion groups of about eight people led by two APAYA club members.

"I learned a lot in my small discussion group about a culture that I wouldn't at school," said John Sanger (XII) of Xavier. "For example, Dr. Lee, a Chinese man, was put in solitary confinement for a terrorist crime that he didn't commit, but he did not receive as much press as he deserved."

Next, the club performed various skits showing the absurdity of stereotypes about Asians.

"I loved the skits," said Yi Zheng (XI). "The stereotypes they presented about Asian culture are very common, and they made many people more aware."

After the skits, each student chose two focused workshops to attend.

"The workshops raised awareness for me," added Yi. "I was in the Anti-Asian Sentiment Group, and we went over extreme cases of abuse against Asians. I never realized they were that extreme."

In the Spoken Word Group, Beau Sia, a Chinese poet from Oklahoma currently performing in "Def Poetry Jam" on Broadway, had inspiring words to share.

"A lot of change has come from one courageous act," said Mr. Sia. "Little things did change the world."

Attending the conference for the third time, Ms. Cynthia Montes, Upper School librarian, attended the faculty roundtable discussion with some college students who were former APAYA members and faculty members from New York independent schools. Just as several students at the conference were not Asian, not all of the teachers were Asians.

"We discussed the issues Asian-American students face today, including attention to self-identification, marginalizing, and tension from generational values," said Ms. Montes. She suggested that forming affinity groups could raise awareness and support for both students and teachers.

Letter from Saudi Arabia:

Former student escapes death from bombings

Leslie Lim, a former Marymount student who would have been a freshman this year, was present at the bombing in Saudi Arabia on May 12. Her father was transferred there last year, and the whole family lives in one of the "compounds" that was bombed. She wrote the following letter:

Dear Dr. Cunningham, and everybody else at MM,

Thank you for all of your concern. What happened here was extremely shocking and I still feel as if it was not real. Right now, my family and I are all OK, and the house is being fixed and cleaned up.

My school (American International School--Riyadh), has decided to close early and we will have just one day to clear our lockers, say good-bye, etc. This is a sad end to the school year, and I am especially sorry for the seniors here who will not get a proper graduation with caps and gowns.

As you all heard, three compounds were hit. They were Jedawel, Al-Hamra, and a U.S. firm compound called Vinnell.

I live on Al-Hamra. Vinnell was the worst hit, from what I heard, and an American classmate of mine living on Vinnell left immediately for the states that night. I do not know of anybody living in Jedawal, so my main concern was the people I knew on Al-Hamra.

That night, I went to bed around 10:45 p.m., and was listening to music while drifting off to sleep. When everything started around 11:25 or 11:30 p.m., I wasn't fully asleep. I heard a string of shots, which woke me up. I immediately thought it was shots, though my mother later told me she thought it was hail. Other people I asked later thought it might have been fireworks. I got up, praying to God that I was dreaming or that it was just some drilling.

My compound is shaped like an oval, with another small oval in the middle. Inside the small one are pools, mini-mart, tennis courts, etc. Our house faces the small circle border. My brother's and my room faces the small circle.

I got up and walked towards my window-balcony. Then the first explosion blew the glass. Luckily, the heavy curtain kept the broken glass near the window. I ran to my door, on the other side of my room to yell for my mother, but I didn't step over to her because the glass from our skylight had fallen.

Now though, most of the glass windows are boarded. The doors are being fixed and everything looks OK from the inside. The bombs were on the other side of the compound, so some of the apartments on that side are really destroyed. We were lucky. There were so many more people who are doing worse.

A middle school secretary (I don't know her personally, but I heard), lost her husband and her house, as well as being wounded herself. She has a seven-

month-old baby. And I thought 9/11 and the Gulf War hit close to home.

Thank you for your kind thoughts and prayers, but please pray for the people, like the middle school secretary, whose experience was much worse than mine. I was lucky, but others were not. Please keep in your thoughts all those who were really hurt and affected by this event.

Thank you all again, Leslie Lim

P.S. This attack is definitely contrary to Islam and the beliefs of many Saudis. We know many Muslims who are expressing their deepest sympathy and condolences.

"Thank you for your kind thoughts and prayers, but please pray for the people whose experience was much worse than mine."

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'Law & Order' Prevails at Marymount

Cast and crew invade 5th Avenue building during spring break

By Alexandra Kotsovos

"Where were you on the night of December 17, Mr. Scofield?" demanded a familiar voice in room 1B. Actor Jerry Orbach proceeded to walk down the 1028 stairs and my jaw dropped in amazement. I was star struck in the halls of Marymount School.

Over spring break, I spent a day observing several scenes from an episode of "Law & Order" at school. Entitled "Kid Pro Quo," the episode aired on NBC on April 30. The entire Marymount segment required a four-day shoot at the school, one day to set up, two for the actual filming, and one day to break down the set.

In the episode, the headmaster of the "Knowles School" kills the admissions officer to prevent her from revealing a bribe he received to accept a student. The bribe came from a filmmaker who wanted his child to attend the Knowles School and contacted his real-estate tycoon friend, a member of the Board of Trustees. He offered the realtor money towards his daughter's acceptance. The realtor along with the headmaster of the Knowles School, who is getting a percentage of the money, accept the offer.

As I stepped into the lobby of the "Knowles School," I saw that the Alumni Parlor had been completely remodeled into the admissions office. Three desks were placed in it with papers strewn about. Continuing up to the library, I saw actors preparing their lines and adjusting their costumes in the "holding areas" of the Tech Center and 1D. In 1B, classroom tables had been removed, replaced by the desk and library of headmaster Wyatt Scofield. The auditorium, known that day as the "Waldorf Astoria," seated dozens of extras dressed in ball gowns acting in an auction scene.

Throughout the shoot, I was paired with the locations manager, Mr. Derek Argobright, who gave me the inside scoop on the creation and filming of an episode of the longest running drama on television to date.

"Each shoot uses a ton of equipment," explained Mr. Argobright. "We have four trucks: one for cameras and stands; one for props and grips, which hold and bounce light; an electrical truck, which holds all of the electrical supplies and generators the show needs; and a crafts and service truck which holds food for the cast and crew."

"Along with these trucks, the show has trailers for wardrobe and makeup, production offices, rest-rooms, and campers for actors to stay in between scenes."

Photo by Verne Becker



Actors Jesse Martin and Jerry Orbach, surrounded by additional cast and crew, prepare for a shoot in the 1027 lobby.

Each episode also took a lot longer to shoot than I expected.

"It takes eight days to prep an episode and sixteen days to shoot one. A one-hour episode runs for about 43-44 minutes on television because of credits and commercials," said Mr. Argobright.

"Three to five days are spent at a time on a location shoot; two days to shoot are needed along with another two days to prep and wrap shooting," he added. "A day for an on-location shoot runs from about 7 in the morning until 11 at night. Typically there are 40-60 people in a crew and 100 extras per episode."

Mr. David Platt, one of the seven "Law & Order" directors, chose Marymount for the location of "Kid Pro Quo." He explained that although Marymount had allowed them to use the school, "Law & Order" did not have legal rights to use the school's name. Mr. Platt, who directs four episodes per year, described how he works with each script and the actors in the story line.

"After the writers compile a script, my job as director is to interpret what the script is trying to say in my vision," he said. "I also must mold the actors into conveying this message; all of the actors are adjustable."

After the scene in the headmaster's office, I was able to talk to lead

character Mr. Jerry Orbach and learned interesting details about his career.

"I didn't always want to become an actor," he explained, "but I have acted since the age of 16."

Mr. Orbach has been in a few movies, including *Dirty Dancing*, in which he played Jennifer Grey's father. He was also in *Prince of the City* and provided the voice of "Lumiere" the candlestick in *Beauty and the Beast*.

I also learned that Mr. Orbach had appeared with the show since it was one of the newer dramas on NBC. "This is my 11th season with "Law & Order," so I guess that makes me a junior," he joked. "Right now I'm only planning on staying another year or two."

He also stressed the importance of education in his professional career.

"You need as much education as you can get and everything you know helps. For example, if the director wants me to make the scene look like a Matisse painting, I'm expected to know what that is," he noted.

After filming wrapped early at 6 p.m., I thanked my new friend Derek. The Marymount segments for the episode had been completed. All that was left for tomorrow was the breakdown of the set.

Photo by Verne Becker



Director David Platt plans the next scene in the Alumnae Parlor, which has been transformed into the admissions office of "The Knowles School."



Screen shots from the "Law & Order" episode "Kid Pro Quo" showing various rooms in the school. From top to bottom: Room 1B, which became the headmaster's office; the 1027 lobby, used for an opening scene; and the Alumnae Parlor, which housed the admissions office.

Photos by George Sisting

Drama club's musical triumph



Joseph, a multicolored coat, and a dazzling cast take the stage

By Jackie Bessey

As the prologue of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* opens, seniors Betsy Kana and Mia Rohrer process down the aisle with candles, then take their place at each end of the stage. The drama club's humorous musical performance of an old Bible story has begun. As the show unfolded on April 3 and 4, people found it hard not to sing along.

The many costumes, the props, and the elaborate set brought the show to life. In the song "Go, Go, Joseph," black lights ignited the fluorescent paint on the set. The cast donned brightly colored, glittery wigs and

many put on large shades, adding to the upbeat tone.

The performance could not have been as good without the technical and artistic talents of many people. The lighting, worked by Mr. Kevin Hardy, changed according to the mood of each scene. Musical director Mr. Tom Kitt expertly transposed the

music (raised the pitch of the male parts) for the girls who played some of Joseph's brothers, as well as for Lillian Ritchie (XI), who portrayed Joseph. Ms. Laura Pietropinto, who acted in the same play when she attended Marymount, did an outstanding job directing, making sure that all actors performed to the best of their ability.

Many of the girls in the cast showed promise for the future. In particular, Geneva Le Voci (X) played her roles of Jacob and Eve extremely well, and Lauren Rogener (X) and Olivia Whelan (XI), two of the brothers, stood out because of their strong voices and the emotion, attitude, and effort they put into their characters.

Because this musical consists of all singing and no dialogue, it was difficult to perform. However, the cast and crew pulled out all the stops, and were able to put on a great show.



Lillian Ritchie (XI) stars as Joseph, who in this scene is an Egyptian ruler.



Mia Rohrer (XII)



Betsy Kana (XII)



Finger snappin', hip shakin', foot stompin' delirium flooded the auditorium as the Joseph cast sang and danced to the whimsical trials and tribulations of Joseph and his eleven brothers.





At the second annual coffee house, Mr. Jesus Perez (left) and Mr. Vincent Vitek (above) played in their band known as "The Staff" with Mr. Anthony Wartel. Other performers included students from Marymount, Collegiate, Regis, Browning, Xavier, Sacred Heart, and more.

Crowds perk up at coffee house

By Caitlin O'Connell

"Make it clap!" boomed Sean Paul. The audience clapped their hands in time to the beat of the music as the Harambee step dancers, Kathleen Zafra, Asia Washington, Stacey Lewis, Kim Rebello (XI), Tajaha Holder, Veronica Bennett (X), and Vanessa Paul (IX) took center stage.

"The Make it Clap dance was great!" exclaimed Catherine Honohan (IX).

The Harambee dancers were just one of the acts to wow the audience at the second annual Marymount coffee house on April 4. The coffee house attracted a diversity of talent extending beyond the Marymount student body. There were performers from Regis and Browning as well.

Marymount performances included: the Harambee step dancers; an cappella version of a Sarah McLaughlin song by Olivia Whelan

(XI); "Big Spender" performed by Julia Lindenthal (XI) accompanied by Margaret Pienzykowski (XII) on the piano; a reading of Tupac Shakur's poems by Stacey Lewis (XI); a guitar performance by Lillian Ritchie (XI); a reading of original poetry by Asia Washington (XI); and a group of freshmen performing "Time of Your Life" and "Stand by Me," led by Caitlin Hutchinson singing, Jessica Sutton (IX) on the guitar, Bernadette Blanchfield (IX) on the bass, and Oona Curley (IX) on the drums. There was even a performance by Marymount's own staff, Mr. Anthony Wartel, Mr. Vincent Vitek, and Mr. Jesus Perez.

"It was really nerve wrecking because it was the first time I've performed at Marymount when it wasn't club related, but it was very rewarding," remarked Olivia Whelan (XI) of her performance. "Hearing the people applaud was uplifting and encouraging, and the atmosphere was

very open so I didn't feel extremely intimidated."

"I like to perform, so it wasn't so hard for me to get up there, and being that it was an original piece of mine, it made me feel even more confident. I love poetry and definitely love to write it," said Asia Washington (XI).

"The acts were excellent and I liked our staff's performance. We should definitely do this again next year," comments Emilie Wolfson (IX).

Was the coffee house better than Marymount's winter dance?

"I like the coffeehouse much more than the winter dance after homecoming," said Jackie Bessey (IX).

Due to the overwhelming success of the coffee house (the school raised about four hundred dollars), dance committee has currently decided to change the Winter Dance after Homecoming into a coffeehouse.

School finds reams of reasons to use paper

By Jessica Walsh

A frustrated student waits on the long line, but not to get her lunch in the deli. She is waiting to make a photocopy. Unfortunately for her, the copier jams and her hopes of making copies rapidly fades.

This problem, however, has not been exclusive to the student body. Teachers and administrators have also been running into trouble with the copiers.

Mr. Anthony Wartel, director of facilities, has had a problem on his hands. Two years ago, he explained, Marymount entered into an agreement with the Ricoh Corporation to replace the troublesome five-year-old Xerox machines with newer copiers. They worked great. Too great, in fact, according to Mr. Wartel. Because of the copiers' speed, excellent quality and special features, students, teachers and administrators continued to duplicate their papers, projects, handouts, assigned readings and handbooks.

The result? "The two large machines were set to give us just over one million copies per year over a three year period," Mr. Wartel said. "Marymount exceeded that three-year allowance in under two." In only two years, the Marymount community has racked up nearly 3.5 million copies. That is 1.75 million copies per year, or 3,500 reams of paper on the two large machines alone.

Mr. Wartel quickly realized there was no single person or department to blame for the problem. Everyone seemed to be making more copies. The Parents' Association used to send out jobs to Kinkos, but when Marymount got good copiers, they brought the jobs in house. Additional stocks of copies have been used for admissions, alumnae and fund raising events. Many students also do not want to drag their heavy textbooks home and prefer to copy chapters from their textbooks. All of these factors contribute to the overproduction of copies.

Mr. Wartel came up with several solutions to the problem. First, the existing copiers are being upgraded to a

higher capacity. Second, Mr. Wartel ordered a digital Preport, a modern-day mimeograph machine.

"This machine will produce 120 copies per minute, about 20 more copies per minute than the larger copier in the 1028 lower level. It can make 100 copies from an original, and since it is not really a copy machine, it has less downtime for service and repairs." Mr. Wartel expects the Preport to arrive before the end of the year. Even with the arrival of the new machine, students and staff and still being urged to conserve paper. Biology teacher Ms. Michelle Cody, moderator of Environmental Awareness reminds students of the club's "Reduce and Re-use" campaign, which was developed in conjunction with the technology department. She said, "The recycling boxes come into play for the re-use portion."

"Because we are trying to emphasize recycling the paper instead of throwing it into the trash cans," she said, "the Environmental Awareness club has diligently worked to ensure each room has a box. For the reducing effort, the club has posted signs to reduce paper use on the copy machines, downstairs near the tea house, and along all computer areas."

"We should make a conscious effort not to waste paper," Haley Rutherford (XI) said. "I often use the backs of old printouts for rough drafts and homework I don't have to hand in."

Upper School librarian Ms. Cynthia Montes said, "When I first came to Marymount, I thought the great quantity of paper used was scandalous. Even now, I often find one-line e-mails or articles that have just been left in the printer, never to be used."

Although a lot of people were inconvenienced, Mr. Wartel hopes that with the new machine and heightened awareness, the problem will be solved.

"I believe that if we are just more aware of the things we copy and the e-mails we print, we will see a huge improvement," said Diana Rua (X).

Dr. Low gets students high on biochemistry

By Alexandra Kotsovos and Jessica Walsh

"The young male scientist came over to me and said, 'I thought you knew you had to leave with the rest of the ladies so the real scientists could speak,'" said Dr. Barbara Warton Low, Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry at Columbia University.

Throughout her career, Dr. Low faced many adversities. Beginning her studies in the 1940s, she faced sexism in her field; not only did she have to prove herself as a capable scientist, but also as a capable woman.

Dr. Low, 88, came to speak to ambitious students about her experiences as a woman in science at the annual Science Club luncheon. She worked on x-ray crystallography in the late 1940s with famous chemists such as Dorothy Hodgkin and Sir William Bragg. During her many years of research, she moved on to study Organic Chemistry with Linus Pauling and then independently studied snake venom.

Photo by Shayla McGhee



Dr. Barbara Warton Low shows slides of her work with x-ray crystallography

She told those at the luncheon to pursue their dreams of science, even though the playing field for male and female scientists is still not level. She also said she valued her single-sex education because it "taught me to be a person in my own account."

A professor since the 1970s, Dr.

Low explained the basis of her most famous study on x-ray crystallography. In layman's terms, x-ray crystallography is the study of microscopic proteins through dying crystals. Radiation is beamed through a crystal, which then reflects the molecule's composition in order for scientists to study them more clearly.

A mouthful, yes, but this information easily slid off of her tongue. Dr. Low then tried to teach students about her other studies on dimensions of the unit cell.

In the closing of her talk, Dr. Low inspired budding scientists by saying, "The world is your oyster if you grasp it."

News Briefs

9 April

Several Upper School students observed a Day of Silence in order to raise awareness for the gays and lesbians who are forced to live in "silence" because of prejudice and homophobia.

Photo by Verne Becker



15 April

Internationally renowned Indian artist Maqbool Fida Hussain painted in the Alumnae Parlor for gathered art enthusiasts. He is a self-taught artist who began his career painting film billboards. Recognized as India's most significant artist today, Mr. Hussain blends folk, tribal and mythological imagery with a modernist aesthetic that draws equally from music, dance, sculpture and cinema.

26 April

Hosting a Middle School Assembly, members of Environmental Awareness encourage increased protection of the environment.

3 May

Marymount participated in and

raised money for the Revlon Run/Walk for breast cancer.

Photo by Shayla McGhee



5 May

The Upper School elected the 2003-2004 Student Government Executive Committee. Officers include: Kathleen Zafra (XI), president; Bridget DiPrisco (X), vice-president; Bernadette Blanchfield (IX), corresponding secretary; Jessica Sutton (IX), recording secretary.

Photo by Shayla McGhee



9 May

Madeleine Jacobs, editor-in-chief of Chemical and Engineering News and

a renowned Chemist, enlightened the Upper School during an assembly with her "10 Life Lessons."

17 May

With Sister Cleve and Ms. Katie Bergin, Marymount's team walked the 10K Cystic Fibrosis Walk to help raise money to support the research for a possible cure for Cystic Fibrosis.

18 May

With a team organized by Heather Wild (XII) and Anne France Karoubi (X), students and faculty participated in the AIDs Walk.

24 May

Marymount will participate in Habitat for Humanity International, a nonprofit housing organization, for the first time. Students will build a house in Yonkers for a low-income family.

23 May

The Class of 2004 will receive their senior rings in Junior Ring Day.

Summer 2003

Aditi Banga, Nicole Fay and Erika Mejia (X) will attend the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington D.C., which will include the opportunity to meet and work with Congress members and "a presentation on the Floor of the House of Representatives, a panel discussion with prominent journalists at the National Press Club and an issue briefing conducted by a senior member of President Bush's administration."

Departed RSHM sisters mourned by community

By Maddie Taylor and staff

Over the years, Marymount has been lucky to have distinguished nuns who have played an important role in the history of the school. Two important RSHM sisters are no longer with us: Sr. Raymunde McKay and Sr. Elizabeth Gallagher.

Students who take or are planning to take AP courses should think of Sr. McKay, who during her tenure at Marymount served as chemistry teacher, supervisor of the music program and advocate for the strong mathematics program which she instituted in the 1950s. She also served as the head of the Upper School from 1943-1953.

"She was a beloved person who believed strongly in educating young women," said Sr. Kathleen Fagan, Headmistress.

Sr. McKay attended a RSHM high school near her hometown in Lisburn, Ireland. A couple of years later, she moved to New York where, in 1953, she assumed deanship of Marymount College on 71st Street in Manhattan. She gave the college its own identity by renaming it Marymount Manhattan and ending its affiliation

with Marymount Tarrytown. She was also helpful in buying the buildings surrounding the college, allowing the school to expand.

At Marymount College in Los Angeles, California, Sr. McKay started a junior college on the campus, and she approached the cardinal of Los Angeles with the idea of combining Marymount College and Loyola University. In 1970, her idea became a reality.

Sr. Gallagher was one of the founding women of Marymount School, serving in various positions between 1926 and 1940. About 22 years later, after she had helped open other Marymount schools in Rome and England, she returned to Marymount New York as librarian and bursar. At Marymount's 75th Anniversary celebration at St. Ignatius Loyola, Sr. Gallagher was honored by current students, family, friends, staff and faculty.

"No matter what position she held -- teacher, librarian, administrator -- Sr. Gallagher was a woman who served others joyfully," said Sr. Cleve Youngblood, religion department chair. Our religious community has lost one of our great women."

The Bronx Zoo regularly holds community service events to foster an appreciation for wildlife and to rally support for the zoo. Right: Two animals that can be found there.



Environmental Awareness does zoo duty

By Nicole Fay

Most students couldn't imagine a Saturday morning spent on a school activity -- much less one spent picking up someone else's garbage. However, on April 12, the Environmental Awareness Club met at 7:45 AM to embark on their Bronx Zoo adventure. On this trip, however, their task was not to see the animals, but rather to clean up after them.

The Bronx Zoo regularly holds community service events to foster an

appreciation for wildlife and to rally support for the zoo. On this occasion, volunteers worked together raking leaves and cleaning the living quarters of the zoo's gazelles.

Environmental Awareness president Karina Nascimento (XI), who happens to be a member of the zoo, heard about the event though a bulletin sent to zoo members.

The rainy weather did not dampen the resolve of these students, who spent a total of four hours working at the zoo. In addition to the Environ-

mental Awareness members volunteering were many families with younger children and devoted zoo members.

After hours of hard work, the students were treated to food and a tour of the zoo, as well as receiving free t-shirts bearing the Zoo's name and logo as part of the event.

Karina commented, "It was great that we finally had the opportunity to go to the Bronx Zoo, and rather than just going to look at the animals, we were able to help out."

sports photos by Jesper Haynes



Softball, continued

Golfo. "We also had lost four seniors, one of whom was our MVP last year, and Leila Swartztrauber (X) tore her ACL early in the season."

Working alongside Coach Gnolfo was first-time assistant coach Mr. James Rowe.

"As individuals, we had to face the challenge of overcoming our egos and realize that there is no 'I' in team," said Casey O'Connor (IX). "Once we achieved this, we worked well together and were always supportive of each other."

Some players did shine throughout the season, however.

"Our captains, Elisabeth and Anna Plitsas (XI), did a tremendous job on and off the field," says Coach Gnolfo. "First-year player Sarah Layden (XI) showed great improvement, and our freshmen duo of Oona Curley and Caitlin Hutchinson added a lot of power and outstanding defense to the team."

Captain Liz Rennell (far left) rounds third after homering against NBS, and Oona Curley (left) catches as the team competes in the NYSAIS Championships.

Interestingly, the squad has no seniors. This, however, did not impede the Lions, as can be seen in their regular season record of 9-2 and their overpowering game scores, often winning by as many as 15 runs.

"The ability of the freshmen to learn new strategies and signs had been outstanding," said Coach Gnolfo. "It is true that we focused on fundamentals more extensively than we ever have in the past, but I think that has paid off richly in our ability to make all the routine plays."

"We're already first in the league," said Taylor Schuler (IX). "By the time we're seniors we'll definitely be a team to be reckoned with!"

Some of the team's toughest opponents were Packer, Spence, and Sacred Heart.

"Defeating our rivals and the defending champions, Sacred Heart, felt so good," said Casey.

"Packer beat us last year in the quarterfinals so we wanted revenge this year!" exclaimed Caitlin. Revenge they got as the team defeated Packer 14-6 in the regular season. But as for the AAIS trophy, victory will have to wait another year.

Tennis team nets two wins

By Rachel Willard

The Varsity tennis team, coached by Mrs. Lisa Crawford and Mrs. Mercedes Baldovino, started out with a rough season. However, they pulled through in the end and came out with two victories. The team had faced tough competition from schools such as Brearley, Sacred Heart, Nightingale, and Chapin.

"I think it has been hard for us because a lot of the players in other schools play on state teams and have more experience and practice than we do," said Maria Gracia Baldovino (VIII).

Despite their initial losses, the team had remained positive and continued to find ways of improving their game.

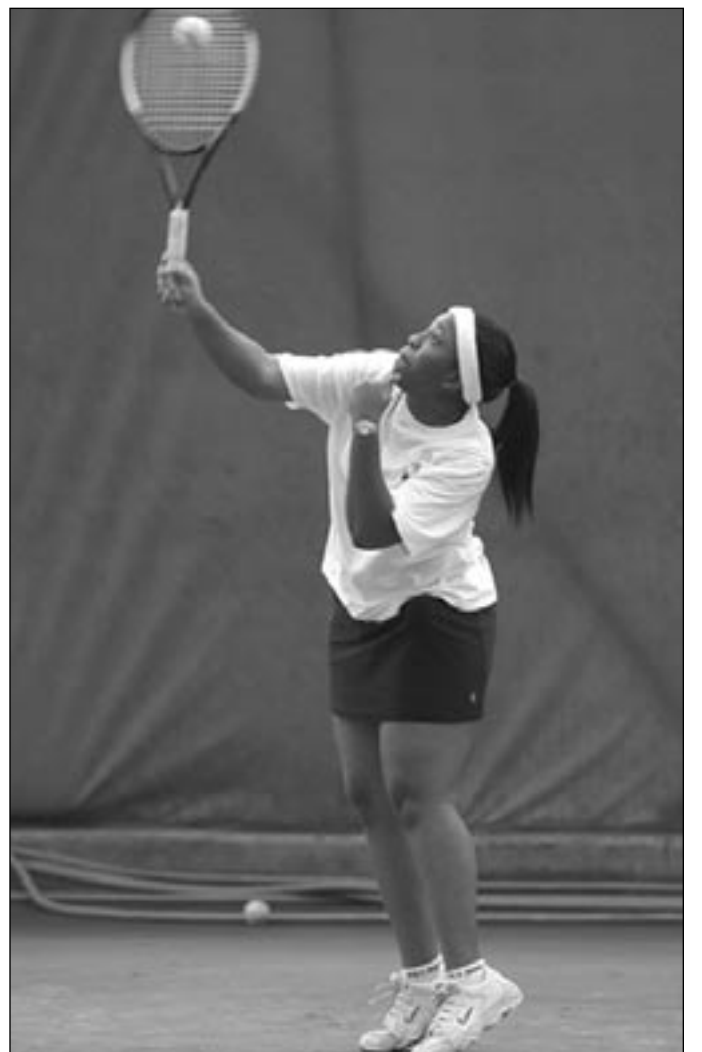
"The team hasn't won a game yet, but our efforts and determination will bring us a win," said Captain Kingsley Crawford (XI) at the beginning of the season. "Although our skills and aggressiveness could use some work and our doubles players need more communication, we will hopefully soon have a win to talk about."

"The matches have all been close," said Ines Spinnato (VIII). "Now we are working on finding the best position for each player to feel comfortable in."

Toward the end of the season, the tennis team pulled through their slump and had two wins to talk about. They beat both Birch and Trevor Day School.

"Each year we will improve, last year we didn't win any games, and this year we've won two! Just you wait until next year!!" said Ines.

Captain Kingsley Crawford (XI) (left) returns a volley from her Chapin opponent as Shanee Brown (XII) serves to an NBS player.



Track breaks records, finishes 3rd in league, goes to state tourney

By Nicole Fay

Track and Field's strong season culminated in a bittersweet third-place finish at the May 17 championship meet at Riverbank Park. Originally awarded second place, the Lions dropped to third after officials disqualified them from the 4 x 400 relay. The reason? A league rule prohibiting individual participation in more than five events had been inadvertently broken.

The team's outstanding performance also earned them a chance to compete in the New York State Qualifying Championships on May 21. There they won a fourth place finish overall. Shot-putter Candice Oliver (IX) and 3000m runner Julia Lindenthal (XI) both won gold medals in their events. Jacki Montaperto won a silver medal for her performance in the 400m hurdles and Asia Washington-Long (XI) received a bronze for the long jump competition. With ten leagues qualifying for the New York State Championships, the girls with the best times out of all ten leagues

will advance to the state competition.

Shot put championships took place on May 16, with Candace Oliver (X), the league's top shot-putter, breaking the league record of 30'9.25" -- which had been in place since 1990 -- with a throw of 30'10".

With a strong overall performance, the team's resolve was certainly tested this season with the increasing competition in each meet. In each of the seven competitions Marymount has participated, they have maintained a consistent placing of second or third place.

Led by captains Elisa Kearney (XII), Julia Lindenthal (XI), Asia Washington (XI) and Jacki Montaperto (X), the 2003 spring track and field season opened with a promising start.

"Everyone has been really serious about track this year," said rookie Francesca Cerchione (X). "This new determination will definitely take us far."

"This season couldn't have been stronger," said Julia. "With several



Team captain Julia Lindenthal (XI) takes first place in the 1500-meter race.

girls undefeated in their league events, we definitely had a chance at first place in championships." Julia was undefeated this season in two of her events -- the 1500 and 3000 meters.

Her winning streak continued through the championships, when she set a new league record of 11 minutes

and 32.61 seconds for the 3000.

However the team's road to victory was not always easy. At one point, Asia was unable to compete for two weeks after injuring her knee during her long jump event. Asia had been among the team's strongest runners, undefeated in all of her other league

paces.

"The team was able to pull through with all of their hard work," said Neala Horner (X). Added Francesca: "With Asia back for championships and Julia undefeated in long distance, I know this team could have finished in first."



Jacki Montaperto (X) competes in the 400-meter hurdles, placing second.

Inside Sports

Wanted: a 'spirit song' to rally teams; contest in the works

By Jacqueline Ryan

With softball's and track's monumental success this season, and milestone wins for both tennis and golf, Marymount sports are doing well. Spirit and pride are high among players and fans alike.

However, other teams may feel that something is missing at their competitions.

Therefore, Mrs. Anderson suggested that what Marymount's sports teams need is a good, empowering rally song, minus the bonfire.

Ms. Anderson would like to turn to the students, who will be the primary beneficiaries of this song, to write and record it. The song will be played at such events as sporting competitions, homecoming and pep

rallies.

Ms. Anderson wants to sponsor a contest, probing the talents of the student body, encouraging everyone to consider writing lyrics. There will be prizes for the top three winners, and the first place winner will be the author of Marymount's very own rally song. Prizes are yet to be announced, but the suggested prizes I've heard are well worth the effort of writing a song.

All of you who aren't on a sports team, but would like to write, don't shy away. And don't think that if you win, you won't reap the benefits of your own song: it could be played at other events as well. (I'm sure we could find something that rhymes with forensics).

Official details will follow, but to help you get started, here are the

criteria for submitting an entry: 1) the song must include three things: our school colors (navy/blue and white), the word Lions, and the name of our school; 2) it should be about 2-3 verses/stanzas in length; and 3) it should be cheerful and encouraging. It may include the names of the teams (soccer, basketball, etc.), but it must be applicable to all teams.

Once composed, the rally song will be recorded by those musically inclined students who wish to participate, both vocally and instrumentally.

The deadline will be sometime in the fall. So get thinking and get creative -- this is your chance to be part of Marymount's history and create a unifying, encouraging way to support all of our teams.



The 2003 golf team: (l-r) Rebecca Lang (X), Ellen Gustafson (X), Laura-Lynn Dunleavy (XI), Alex Borek (XI), Veronica Bennett (X), and Stacey Kwon (IX).

Golf team reaches a milestone: Victory No. 1

By Jacqueline Ryan

The Marymount golf team won its first match ever on April 16 against Font Bonne.

Team members attribute this milestone largely to their new coach, Mr. T.J. Coan.

"Coach Coan is an incredible golfer and has really helped us improve a lot," said Captain Laura-Lynn Dunleavy (XI). "He really knows the sport well."

Marymount's current record is 1-2, having lost to Holy Child on May 2 and Hackley on May 9.

The team of ten, which consists of players from classes IX, X, and XI, practices at both Randall's Island and the driving range at Chelsea Piers, focusing on swing techniques and long drives.

Coach Coan, however, is innovative when it comes to zeroing in on honing certain skills.

"To help me with my putting, Coach had me play a few games of miniature golf," explained Laura-Lynn.

A few obstacles have beset the team, however.

"Usually, only about half the team [the top six] can compete at certain meets," explained Maria Kim (XI). "We don't all get as much on-course experience as we need."

"The lineup for competition changes each meet," added Alexandra Borek (XI), "depending on how well each player scores at practice or the last game."

Despite these impediments, the team has something different to look forward to this season.

"This year, for the first time ever, we are going to States," said Alexandra.

At press time, the team competed in the Fifth Annual NYSAISAA Golf Championships on May 18 in Kiamesha Lake, NY.



Against Hackley, Alex Borek (XI) chips onto the green with her nine iron.

Badminton squad attempts to step up level of competition

By Rachel Willard

The varsity badminton team started out the season with a positive attitude, despite their frequent losses. The team began with eight members and has grown to 12. Even after their most recent 4-1 loss to Nightingale, the team managed to remain upbeat.

"I think we are definitely improving," said Laima Tazmin (VIII). "We're getting there!" The team has played in six games so far and has been working toward improving their skills and physical condition by including a rigorous workout schedule and intense practices.

"We go to the Brearley fieldhouse for some of our practices," said Margaret Pienczykowski (XII). "It gives us more time and space to work out our game strategies."

Co-Captain Jessica Walsh (XI) said, "Our performance this season was unexpected, due to many new players and the loss of old players," said Jessica, "but I think next year will be good because we will have



Margaret Pienczykowski (XII) and Jessica Walsh (XI) play first doubles in a match against Hewitt.

improved our skills."

Head coach Dr. Stefan Cornelis said, "Although we have a number of good individual players, we haven't yet reached the level of competitiveness that we need as a team. We are working to establish it, though."

"We also have many young players (VIII and IX) who need time

to build up their skills and get more familiar with the game," he added.

Will the team meet with greater success in the future?

"Success is having fun and trying your best at whatever you are doing, Coach Cornelis said. "No matter how our season turns out, we will still succeed."