

# THE CAMPANILE

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY

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## Nigerians plead “bring back our girls”

By Christina Vosbikian '14

#BringBackOurGirls.

This hashtag has been going viral on the twitter-sphere since April 15 when, in the dead of night, about three hundred Nigerian schoolgirls were kidnapped from their dormitories by the extremist Muslim group, Boko Haram. As global media coverage of this atrocity has grown, the campaign to #BringBackOurGirls has exploded worldwide.

Though about fifty girls escaped from Boko Haram, the rest remain captive, their fates to be decided by the criminals who kidnapped them. Boko Haram leaders say they will not release the captive girls until their “brothers,” Nigerian militants, are released from prison.

Sources say that the Muslim extremists have expressed intentions to auction off the kidnapped

girls for \$12 each. These fifteen-to eighteen-year-old girls, who in weeks prior were going to classes

Haram May 12, some of the kidnapped girls, Christians who converted to Islam during their

Extremists threaten all girls who have refused to convert with violence, saying they will be treated like any other “infidels.”

“Boko Haram” directly translates to “Western education is a sin.” Boko Haram leader Abubaker Shekau, who has threatened to “kidnap even [President] Obama,” encouraged the kidnapped girls, once released, to “go and get married.”

This group of Muslim extremists has long been plaguing Nigeria, its mission to attack schools, especially girls’ schools. The group’s effort is reminiscent of other attacks on girls’ education world-wide, including the Pakistani Taliban’s shooting of activist Malala Yousafzai and extremists’ violent acid-attack on Afghan girls walking to school.

*Continued on Page 2*



*On Friday, May 9, students wore red in solidarity with the kidnapped students in Nigeria. Photos of the prayer service were featured on FOX29 and CBS.*

*“Having the news stations there brought more awareness to the issue,” said 20/20 president, senior Frannie McDermott.*

*“Encompassing human trafficking and violence, the events in Nigeria illustrate these same issues which 20/20 has been devoted to stopping over the past three years. “The situation in Nigeria brought the issues of human trafficking and violence front and center,” said 20/20 moderator Mrs. Kate Shevlin.*

and studying for their exams, will, unless rescued, become child brides of radical militants.

In a video released by Boko

captivity, are shown passively supporting Islam, holding black Islamist flags and uttering that “Jesus is not the son of God.”

## Former child soldier shares story of hope

By Catherine Geruson '15

When theology department chair Mrs. Kennedy learned that a friend was a survivor of the Ugandan Civil War, she invited him to speak to her junior morality class.

“I thought bringing [Denis] to the Mount would not only make these stories more ‘real’ to our students and faculty, but also highlight the importance of education as a tool to transform the world,” she said.

Denis Okema, now a student at Chestnut Hill College, was just nine years old when Ugandan rebels entered his house, beat his uncle and took them both to a nearby rendezvous point.

This was the last time that Okema saw his uncle and the first time he experienced first-hand the violence overtaking his beloved country.

Okema was moved to a military camp where he was detained with many other young children. They huddled for warmth on the first cold nights.

“All we had was each other,” said Okema.

Because Okema was so young when he was kidnapped by the rebels, his main role around the camp involved doing chores. It was on a normal day, walking to the well as he had so many times before, that Okema suddenly felt the courage to run.

Okema had a drive to escape and a hatred of the people who took him that would eventually become a burning desire to help those in similar situations. Okema abandoned his overseer while he was showering at the well and sprinted for hours.

Eventually a woman saw

Though the transition was difficult, Okema credits his mother with ingraining in him the importance of education and his future.

He recalls her saying, “Whatever you saw there doesn’t define you; whatever you did there doesn’t define you. What you do



*Denis Okema shares his incredible life story.*

starting now defines you.” With this advice in mind, Okema flourished, motivating himself to reach the top of his class. Though he was the “poor boy” with a woman paying his way through school, Okema had the drive to succeed and was eventually able to attend the University of Uganda.

Okema said his goal to move

on and help others became his driving motivation.

“His drive to succeed coupled with his sense of responsibility to make the world a better place for others is both challenging and inspiring,” said Mrs. Kennedy.

While at university, Okema excelled, becoming the president of the student guild, or “the head of the smartest people in the country,” as he dubbed the position.

During his time in college, Okema reached out to victims of the civil war. He began to travel, sharing his story throughout the United States.

Okema’s activism brought him into direct conflict with the Ugandan government, whose attempt to assassinate him in his home resulted in the death of Okema’s brother.

Despite the terrible tragedies he has faced, Okema has remained optimistic.

“There are bad people in the world, but most people are good,” he said.

Encouraged by family and friends, Okema moved to the U.S. for his own safety and the safety of his loved ones. He first arrived in Washington, D. C., with only five dollars in his pocket.

“Denis illustrates the counter-cultural response,” said Mrs. Kennedy. “He is driven to use his life to help make the world a better place for others.”

# Vosbikian and McGovern represent class of 2014

By Emily Ryan '14

Christina Vosbikian—affectionately nicknamed Vosbo by her peers—seems an ordinary Mountie; that is, until one hears her on the phone after school casually flitting in between English and Ukrainian.

Simply stated, Vosbo is superhuman.

Every year, Mount awards Best in Class to an extraordinarily talented senior with the highest GPA, a factor usually determined by the ridiculous number of APs taken by the honoree. Over the past four years, Christina has challenged herself with a total of eight AP classes.

On hearing that she was named Best in Class, Christina said, "I was so happy. I've worked hard for this achievement since freshman year, so I was very proud of myself when I found out."

Fellow seniors also celebrated Christina's accomplishment.

"Vosbo is a nut! Aside from crew, scouts, CSC, and perfect grades and SAT scores, she is up to date on everything from politics to pop culture. She has a full social life, and quickly becomes friends with everyone she meets," said senior Olivia Fitzpatrick.

To be fair, most of us had seen this coming—with a perfect 2400 on the SAT and the eight aforementioned APs, she was always an excellent candidate. But what makes Christina truly deserving of this accolade?

Well, all of her other wonderful attributes. While Vosbo is naturally intelligent, she is also hard working, dedicated, well-rounded, compassionate and humorous. Christina is a presence in every class, as she always adds an interesting comment or question that allows the class to better grasp the concept, whether it be explicating a poem or solving a physics problem.

Noting everything that Christina adds to a learning environment, S. Mary Butler said, "Christina was fun to have in class. Her questions, summaries and clarifications added new dimensions to the class. When she would think out loud, all groups

would benefit."

And thinking out loud is something Vosbo does often. Confident in her own abilities, Christina is determined to share her knowledge with those around her, always willing to help a fellow classmate in any way possible.

In addition to all of her talent in the classroom, Vosbo has also pursued her interests in a variety of different activities in both the Mount and the Ukrainian com-



munities.

Vosbo has been a CSC homeroom representative since freshman year, and during her sophomore year, she began to get involved with the Villa. During this time, Christina worked with S. Joannie and a nurse at the Villa to set up an intergenerational dementia program, allowing Mount girls to be paired up with a dementia patient at the Villa. As a result of her dedication and passion, Christina was named a CSC Officer. She continues to visit the sisters at the Villa, sharing her positivity with all of the residents.

Her commitment to helping others doesn't end there; Vosbo also participates in Peer Mentors, S. A. D. D. and Camp Ophelia.

While it may seem impossible for this girl to have any more talents, Vosbo is also a student-athlete. Christina, a member of the crew team since freshman year, said, "Crew is obviously a big commitment, but I love that it's taught me to push myself."

Curious as to Vosbo's reason for joining crew, Ms. Leonard said, "I asked Christina how she got involved in such a grueling

sport. Her answer: 'I wanted to push myself to do something that didn't come naturally to me, so I could develop a better work ethic.'"

Although her extracurricular participation in the Mount community seems overwhelming, Vosbo is also heavily involved in the Ukrainian community. Christina attended Ukrainian school every Saturday until sophomore year, and since then has continued her involvement through Plast, a Ukrainian Scouting group. Vosbo was once a scout herself, and she now leads a group of younger girls.

Noting Christina's many talents, fellow senior Megan Dugery said, "I don't know how Vosbo balances all of her different activities with studying and finding time for friends and family."

While Christina is extremely intelligent and well rounded, perhaps her most apparent character trait is her humor. Christina constantly pokes fun at everything—including herself—and she brings laughter into every classroom and conversation.

Dr. Balcer noted, "Christina is a great participant—enthusiastic and interested. She has intellectual curiosity and a fabulous sense of humor."

Major Turner offered Christina his highest honor, saying, "If you were to look up the definition of 'an outstanding Mountie' in the dictionary, you would find the name Christina Vosbikian."

The multi-faceted Christina Vosbikian is characterized accurately by Ms. Leonard, who said, "V's interests are as diverse and developed as her mind. She truly does live to learn and has an insatiable desire to push herself to do so to the best of her capabilities."

Next year, Christina will be attending Princeton University, which, although an excellent school, is merely a stepping-stone on her way to becoming Supreme Leader of the World.

Congratulations, Vosbo!

By Haley Gleeson '14

This year's Valedictorian, Brynn McGovern, could not be any more deserving of the title. However, Brynn's humble nature—one of her most endearing qualities—would never allow her to admit how truly deserving she is.

English Department Chair Mrs. Margaret DeStefano noted, "Brynn never ceases to amaze me. Both modest and unassuming, Brynn is a pure delight, who holds herself to the highest standards of excellence in her academic endeavors and her extracurricular pursuits."

Although Brynn may sometimes



sport a disheveled exterior, I am convinced that it is all merely an act. I do not know another person as busy as Brynn who is as truly driven, organized and invested in all that she does.

"Brynn is a multifaceted, multi-talented individual. She is a prime example of someone who always strives for excellence and who through determination and dedication achieves her intended goal. She works hard and plays hard. Brynn is an outstanding Mountie," said Major Turner.

Brynn is the only person I know that could serve as a *Unitas* retreat leader and then bounce back to compete in a 14-hour math competition in the same weekend. She also doubles as a member of the Backstreet Babes and coach of the CamdeNerdz FLL robotics team. Brynn can do it all.

Mr. Alfonsi recalled, "I could never forget Brynn's commitment to service as she kept me until six o'clock printing out a LEGO project for the kids in Camden."

In addition to her endearing personality and impressive extracurricular résumé, Brynn also

boasts an extraordinary academic record. Besides being selected to attend the prestigious Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences last summer and scoring a perfect 2400 on the SATs, Brynn's résumé also includes an impressive seven APs and countless Honors courses.

AP Literature teacher Dr. Bernadette Balcer noted, "Brynn achieves so much academically that those accomplishments speak for her understanding and love for literature. More importantly, she thinks about what she has read, listens to others' ideas, and offers her own impressions in thoughtful responses."

Brynn excels in every subject and has

made noteworthy accomplishments in all academic realms, from English to mathematics to the sciences.

AP Calculus teacher and Math Department Chair S. Mary Butler noted, "Brynn has excellent insight, analysis and problem solving skills, and she is recognized as the anchor of her math classes. She is respected for her ability and personality by both faculty and classmates."

Brynn plans to study neuroscience at Duke University in the fall, which comes as no surprise to her science teachers.

"Give Brynn a challenging assignment, and she not only handles it, she runs with it!" said Ms. Marjorie Davis.

Mr. Peter Alfonsi said, "How can one forget Brynn's dimpled smile of cognizance as she asked or answered those difficult questions in Honors Biology?"

Brynn will continue to ask the difficult questions and solve the difficult problems at Duke and in her future career as a research neuroscientist.

Congratulations, Brynn!

# Nigerians plead “bring back our girls”

From Page 1

In Afghanistan, despite laws against it, honor killings of women continue to occur. Writing for *The New York Times*, Nicholas Kristoff notes, "And in Nigeria, [Boko Haram] militants destroyed 50 schools last year alone."

Senior Nicole Utah, whose family is from Southern Nigeria and who just visited the country in February, said: "The situation is especially sad for me because I can't help to think that, if my parents hadn't come to America, I could have been one of those girls. Northern Nigeria is always

dealing with oppression at the hand of Boko Haram. I can only hope that, with time, this conflict can be resolved within Nigeria with the help of other countries."

It is chilling, in all instances when girls are targeted for pursuing an education, to think that those girls, if born in another country, would not be beaten, kidnapped or exploited for wanting to learn.

Over the course of the past few weeks, various groups have begun efforts to bring these girls home from the clutches of their oppressors. The girls' parents, like the father of missing eighteen-year-old Ayesha, have pleaded, "We

are now asking for world power countries to intervene." The night of the kidnapping, these parents, with their bows and arrows, were no match for Boko Haram, whose members were armed with AK-47s.

Secretary of State John Kerry, currently visiting Africa, describes the kidnapping as "not just an act of terrorism" but also a "massive human trafficking moment" and "grotesque." Kerry and the United States are pressuring Nigerian authorities, who have been fighting against Boko Haram for years but are currently doing little to recover the missing girls, to intensify efforts to find

the girls.

The immediate consequences of this kidnapping are twofold. Even if the girls are found, they will be "un-marriagable" in conservative Northern Nigeria if non-virgins. If not found, as Nigerian activist Hadiza Bala Usman notes, "No parent will allow their female child to go to school."

The broader issue, however, remains the ever-apparent gender inequality that exists around the globe. As Kristoff notes in his *New York Times* article, why did the world know about missing Malaysian flight MH370 the minute it disappeared while word of the missing Nigerian school-

girls has been slow-moving, only recently gaining media fire? The kidnapped Nigerian schoolgirls outnumber those disappeared flight passengers.

If this trend of relative passiveness towards women's and girls' oppression continues, how many more would-be doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers and mothers will be lost forever?

If the future depends largely upon the education of women, what kind of a future can a world in which women continue to be oppressed hope to have?

# Broadway Wishes enjoys a reprise

By Jenna Gray '15

On May 15, Mount students, with the help of their La Salle and Gwynedd peers, combined their performing talents and their love of service in *Broadway Wishes*, a student-run musical performance that benefits the Make-A-Wish Foundation. For the first time, the production took place in Mount's Fournier Auditorium.

*Broadway Wishes* was founded by Mount alumna Lauren Buben '13. Buben created, organized, choreographed, directed, advertised and raised funds for the first-ever *Broadway Wishes* program during her junior year at the Mount.

After Buben was diagnosed with cancer at age 3, the Make-A-Wish Foundation granted her wish for a family trip to Disney World to meet the princesses. Buben paid forward the foundation's kindness in 2012 when she and her theater friends raised over \$10,000 to benefit a young "Wish kid" named Hannah.

"The whole process still puts a smile on my face to this day," said Buben, who will be interning at the Make-A-Wish Foundation in the wish-granting department this summer. "Never before have I felt so inspired by the support of which a community is capable, from people in our school community to strangers I didn't even know."

This year, senior Allie McCrea continued the legacy and rallied one hundred and thirty student performers and musicians, including Buben, to take the stage

in May. McCrea compiled a set list of twenty ensemble-oriented, well-known songs from popular musicals including *Rent*, *Les Misérables* and *Mamma Mia* to be performed for an audience that included cancer patients.

All three Mounties helped choreograph the production.

In regard to her role in the production, Marino said, "It's a different but great experience because I'm not only doing what I love [performing], but I'm also

Motivated by the city's creativity, Maria Cilio '12, an original *Broadway Wishes* cast member, brought the show to New York City last year.

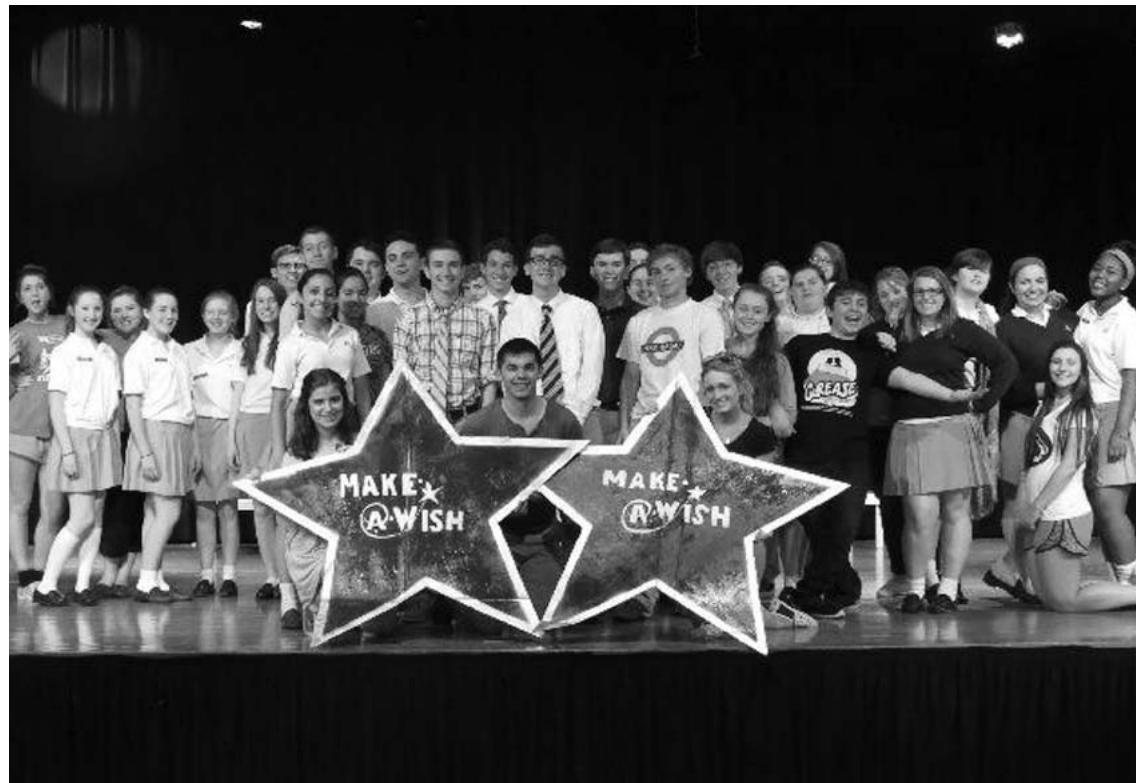
"The show promotes theater arts and arts education while em-

cess. Cilio and her team of four others chose ten NYU students and ten Broadway performers to participate in the show. From two sold-out shows at the Don't Tell Mama Cabaret Club, a donation and a silent auction, Cilio and the team raised enough money to send a 14-year-old boy, Matthew, on his dream vacation.

"Bringing people together through the arts is a unique experience. When you can create something with another person and when that creation works toward forming a larger community, it has a great impact on everyone involved. *Broadway Wishes* was that experience for me," Cilio said.

When asked what it meant to her to have current Mount students continue the show, founder Buben said, "It is so exciting and humbling to have the show continued on with these students after I graduated. The show has grown to include such a wide range of students, some of whom I know and have worked with, and many of whom I will be meeting and working alongside for the first time. Make-A-Wish has always been a cause that is close to my heart, so it means so much to me that this next generation of students have now adopted this cause as their own."

Buben added, "I hope that *Broadway Wishes* will continue over the years; all it needs to continue is simply a student who is willing to lead. If students want to continue these shows, I will always be there to help in any way I can."



The cast of Broadway Wishes put the final touches on their performance, held on Thursday, May 15, in Fournier Auditorium. The musical benefits the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

To pull off such a large-scale production, McCrea delegated responsibility to her fellow performers. As director and producer, McCrea divided the students into teams under a few leaders from each school. For the Mount team, senior Erica Cianciulli and junior Adrianna Marino served as co-directors and co-producers.

doing it for an amazing cause."

After her involvement with the program, McCrea said she sees herself coupling her love of service with her love of performing and potentially working with the Make-A-Wish Foundation someday.

McCrea is not the first Mountie to continue the show's legacy.

bodily a special spirit of giving," she said. "I wanted to transport that to a New York stage, utilizing the talent and resources the city has to offer, and possibly rekindling that spirit among a new group of people."

Cilio consulted Buben throughout the three month *Broadway Wishes*: NYC organization pro-

# Spring Concert taps Broadway tunes

By Christine Sedlack '15

While every Spring Concert features a few show tunes, this year's performance was the first to be completely dedicated to the music of Broadway.

"Mr. Whitaker (Mount's orchestra conductor) came up with the idea for a Broadway-themed concert," said music director Mr. Holdren. "We thought that Broadway would be a great follow-up to last year's 'rock and roll' theme."

The concert, held on Thursday, May 1, featured a variety of musical numbers, some from Broadway classics like *Chicago* and *Les Misérables*, and others from more contemporary shows like *Wicked* and *Jersey Boys*.

"It turned out to be a list of our favorite show tunes," Mr. Holdren said, "but we tried to find numbers that were show-stoppers."

Performing a concert full of show-stoppers was not an easy job. "Every number is a high energy number," Mr. Holdren said. "If you think of all of your favorite fast-paced showtunes and line



Seniors Krista Goebel, Annie Kennedy, Beth Crawford and Alanna Easley pose with Music Director Mr. Don Holdren after their final Spring Concert on May 1.

them up, that's our concert."

The Glee Club and Choral Class opened the performance with "Another Op'nin', Another Show" and closed with a medley from *Les Miserables* includ-

ing "On My Own," and "Do You Hear the People Sing?" Maintaining the same energy, the orchestra wowed the audience with highlights from *Phantom of the Opera* and *The Sound of Music*. The

Sweet Madelines featured pieces from *The Wizard of Oz* and *Pippin*, and the Handbell Choir offered songs from *The Little Mermaid* and *The Lion King*.

Senior Handbell Choir direc-

tors Krista Goebel and Annie Kennedy said they were excited to share these catchy show-stoppers with the audience.

"The Broadway song selections are fun, upbeat, well-known and will be playing in everyone's heads for days after the concert!" said Goebel.

Junior voice scholar Adrianna Marino, Sophomore Maria Brewster and Freshman Alyssa Mattia showcased the versatility of Broadway in their respective solos. Marino sang "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes" from *Roberta*.

"I love to sing it because it is a beautiful and lyrical piece," she said.

Brewster offered *Wicked*'s "I'm Not that Girl," and Mattia performed "Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat" from *Guys and Dolls*.

With such talent from all performers, it is no wonder that the Spring Concert received a standing ovation.

# The Church honors beloved Popes:

## *Francis greets crowd at canonization of John XXIII and John Paul II*

By Lauren Scheffey '16

On April 27, 2014, just nine years after his death in April 2005, John Paul II was canonized, faster than any other saint in history. On the same day, "the good pope," John XXIII was also canonized.

Not only was this the first time two popes have been canonized on the same day, but this is also the first canonization to be attended by two living popes, as Pope Francis and his predecessor, Benedict XVI, were both present.

John XXIII was canonized despite being credited with only one official miracle, an unusual occurrence in the Catholic Church.

A candidate must typically be attributed with two miracles in order to be granted sainthood, a criterion Pope John Paul II met when he was credited with curing a French nun of Parkinson's dis-

ease and a Costa Rican woman of a brain aneurism. John XXIII has performed only one miracle acknowledged by the Vatican, but Pope Francis waived the prerequisite when he announced the canonization.

"[John XXIII] is loved by

reforms in the Catholic Church, such as changing the language of the mass from Latin to the vernacular and turning the altar to face the congregation.

The "good pope" is attributed with beginning a new era of forgiveness and openness for the

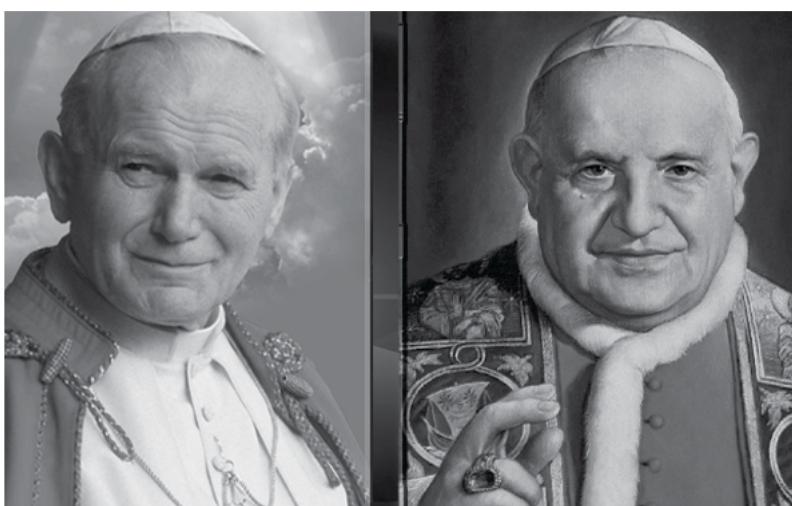
Church during his papacy from 1958 to 1963.

Pope Francis' decision to canonize John XXIII, as well as many of Francis' recent reforms, calls to mind for many Catholics the legacies that John Paul II and John XXIII left behind. As

John XXIII is remembered saying, "I want to throw open the windows of the Church so that we can see out and the people can see in."

Catholics, we are in the 50th anniversary of the Council and moreover no one doubts his virtues," said Federico Lombardi on Pope Francis' decision.

The Council that Lombardi is referring to is the Second Vatican Council, which was organized by John XXIII and made major



Pope John Paul II (left) and Pope John XXIII were canonized in St. Peter's Square on Sunday, April 27.



Photo courtesy of Caroline and Elizabeth Zakrzewski '14

*"I see clearly that the thing the Church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity."*

- Pope Francis

## Pope Francis embodies humility

By Paige Hogan '15

March 13 of this year marked the anniversary of a whirlwind year for the Catholic Church and its head, Pope Francis. Where were the grand celebrations and jubilations, you ask? Well, there were none.

But why should we be surprised? This is reflective of Pope Francis' simple style, a style that has drawn many back to Catholicism after years of separation from their faith.

Francis has breathed new life into the Church over the past year with his kind words and actions. But perhaps it is Francis' blunt recognition of the problems of the Church that has endeared followers to him. Francis is taking responsibility for the faults of the Church, specifically the sexual abuse of children by clergymen.

"I feel called to take responsibility for all the evil some priests—large in number, but not in proportion to the total—have committed and to ask forgiveness

for the damage they've done with the sexual abuse of children," Pope Francis said at a meeting of the International Catholic Child Bureau on April 11, 2014.



Pope Francis washes and kisses the feet of a recovering drug user in Argentina.

This apology came after Francis established a Vatican committee to improve policies of child protection in the church back in December.

From the moment he was introduced to the world as the new pontiff, Francis was different. Instead of lifting his arms and accepting the praise of the world as previous popes had done, Francis gave a meek wave to the crowd and asked for people to pray for

him as he began his new job.

Francis is expressing openness never before seen from the Catholic Church. When asked about the controversial issue of

gay marriage, Francis simply said, "Who am I to judge?" When a woman with a child born out of wedlock wrote to him expressing her fear that her illegitimate child would not be baptized by her local priest, Francis personally called her and offered to baptize the child.

The humility expressed by Francis has also separated him as an atypical pontiff. After being named pope, he paid for his own hotel room and personally called his newspaper provider in Buenos Aires to cancel his subscriptions.

Whether Francis' actions foreshadow official changes within the Church or simply reflect the humble pontiff's devout faith, it is clear that Francis has signaled an opening of the Catholic Church and made marks of reform over his past year as pontiff.

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# College Board equalizes SAT

By Alise Cruice '14

Just uttering the initialism "SAT" can inspire anxiety even in the most confident of students. Recently, the exam has garnered criticism not only from stressed students but also from educators and parents. Critics argue that the exam does not accurately predict college performance. After falling behind the ACT as the most popular college entrance exam, the test will undergo its second major redesign in the past decade.

In 2005, the test underwent a major renovation which established the mandatory essay and placed the scoring on a 2400 scale. The addition of the mandatory essay brought disapproval from students and educators alike. The essay prompts were often obscure and open-ended. High essay scores seemed to come as a result of length rather than of the quality of the writing, and while an emphasis on detail was important, factual accuracy was not. The newest redesign, authorized by the administration of College Board President David Coleman, looks to address the criticisms of the essay as well as the multiple choice sections.

The redesigned exam will include three sections: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, which will ask students to demonstrate their ability to interpret, synthesize and use evidence from written sources to answer multiple choice questions; Math and an optional Essay.

The test will return to its original 1600 scale and the essay will now be reported separately. Students will no longer have to worry about advanced mathematics on the exam, but will be faced with doing more "mental math," as calculators will only be per-

mitted on certain math sections. Penalties for random guessing will also be eliminated.

The changes in the structure of the test likely will not placate the fiercest opponents of the SAT. These critics see little value in the test. They argue that the results reflect a student's socioeconomic status more than his or her intelligence or competence. Students and parents have long turned to intense SAT prep courses to prepare for the mysterious aptitude test. Affluent students have the advantage of receiving the best help available, and many critics of the system feel that these students are given the opportunity to "purchase" their scores. Middle-class students, meanwhile, feel cheated out of top-tier tutors and test practice, while low-income students are denied these opportunities entirely.

Following input from College Board members as well as students and parents, the College Board has instituted a new program that will allow low-income students who take the SAT to receive four fee waivers to register for the test as well as apply to colleges. The organization will also partner with Khan Academy, a nonprofit online tutoring service, to provide free test prep beginning in 2015. Still, critics wonder if these actions will be enough to put the SAT back on top over other college entrance exams.

The SAT's biggest competitor, the ACT, was founded 54 years ago after the College Board rejected the ACT founder E. F. Lindquist's proposal to change the SAT from an aptitude test to an achievement test. Lindquist sought to measure what students have learned through hard work rather than merely to test their natural intelligence. In keeping with this idea, educators have

proposed that a set of exams closely linked to specific content, similar to Advanced Placement testing, would be more effective than the current SAT.

In some ways, the changes to the SAT will make the test more similar to the ACT. Like the redesigned SAT, the ACT has no guessing penalty and offers an optional essay. Unlike its competitor, the SAT does not include a science section, but the redesigned reading test will now include a science passage. Overall, the College Board has emphasized a move toward testing the skills and thought processes gained through a high school education.

The organization hopes to see a departure from traditional testing tricks and strategies. In the reading sections, students will be asked not only to select the correct answers, but also to justify their choices by choosing supporting evidence from the given text. The essay will also require more analytical thinking as students will be given a document and asked to evaluate its use of evidence, reasoning and technique.

Despite its redesign, the SAT will without a doubt continue to aggravate students and educators across the country. While critics argue that high school grades are a better predictor of college success, grading systems differ from school to school. Faced with making decisions between applicants of vastly varied backgrounds, colleges desire a common assessment by which to evaluate applicants. No standardized test will be perfect, and opinions on the best testing method will continue to vary. Only time will tell whether the SAT's newest changes will be effective.

## SAT: achievement over aptitude?

By Amanda Geiser '15

Optional essay. 1600 scale. No guessing penalty. No more obscure vocabulary words.

With the upcoming changes to the SAT, many feel that the College Board is "dumbing down" the exam. The previously intimidating aspects of this ever-important college admissions test have all but disappeared.

My concern, however, lies not in the changes to the format of the test but in the motivations behind them.

The College Board cites its aim as measuring college readiness in order to ensure that colleges admit the students who are best prepared to work at the post-secondary level. Presumably, based on the proposed changes, this means measuring students' achievement in school—what students *have* learned, not what they are capable of learning.

For the past few years, and especially since the ACT surpassed the SAT in popularity, there has been conflict between aptitude testing and achievement testing. An aptitude test (like the SAT) should test what one is capable of learning, while an achievement test (like the ACT) should test what one has already learned.

With both the 2005 changes and the upcoming 2016 changes to the test, the College Board has tried to align the SAT more closely with what students learn in high school (i.e. making the SAT more an achievement test than an aptitude test).

Proponents of aptitude testing worry that achievement tests disregard the brilliant students who have been lost in the memorization and rote learning of many classrooms, while proponents of achievement testing worry that aptitude tests do not account for

"bad test takers" who otherwise do well in school.

The College Board needs to set a clear and distinct goal for the test. No more wishy-washy changes without regard for the end result.

Do we really want to test what students have learned in school? What about those students who attend an under-funded or under-performing high school? With the move toward achievement testing, it will be difficult to uncover these students' potential.

I believe the SAT should be an aptitude test. But then what about the high-aptitude students who have very little motivation to succeed?

Because of the number of other tests that high school students take, including SAT Subject Tests and Advanced Placement tests, there is no need for another achievement test. What we really need is just *one* test that measures critical thinking and innate ability.

Students' grades in school and on other standardized tests can be used to corroborate their achievement, while the SAT can indicate whether students have the necessary skills for college-level thinking and analysis. I'm not saying that the current SAT is the best way to test aptitude, but I fear the move being made by the College Board towards achievement testing.

Just as one factor cannot decide the fate of a college applicant, one test alone isn't sufficient to measure college readiness. There is no one-test solution to standardized testing, and only a combination of aptitude testing and achievement testing will work.

# Confessions of a former college snob

By Paige Hogan '15

Let's face it. We've all done it. When a certain school or university is mentioned, our noses turn up and we wonder why someone would go there.

People have opinions on which school a person is worthy of attending, whether it's a state school, a tiny liberal arts college or any Ivy League.

These opinions grow more pronounced in schools and social circles for high school seniors awaiting college acceptances. Yet, the pressure felt from these opinions begins at the very start of the college process with the creation of college lists. Everybody wants that sexy list, the one featuring the Ivy or that college with the elusively low acceptance rate and name-brand recognition. When asked, students will list the big name schools first, for effect, then casually mention their safety

schools as an afterthought.

I know this because I was the exact same way as I approached the subject when asked about my college plans in polite conversation.

"Oh, I'm all over the place, thinking about Penn, Columbia, Dartmouth, UNC, Duke, UVA, University of Richmond. Maybe Penn State and Rutgers as safeties," I'd say, to be followed by reassuring remarks that "I can see you at all of those schools" and "you can't go wrong with that list."

The truth is, I had already ruled out about half of my listed schools, but I still wanted to impress people with my fancy list, which encompassed the entire eastern seaboard. I was too embarrassed to admit that I really love Penn State after watching my sister's wonderful experience there unfold; I was too proud to label Happy Valley as more of a contender than a safety school.

Still, I struggled with what people would think or say. I imagined them telling me that girls attending a school like the Mount deserved better than a state school. I pictured them accusing me of settling, not reaching my full Ivy League potential. I thought that even though I was going to apply to at least two Ivies, the fact that I liked a state school would be the only thing that they would remember.

Before I had my "come to Jesus moment" that I could be happy at a state school, I was one of the worst college snobs. Over the summer, I lived with my cousin Katie, who was on a college tour almost every weekend. When she told me her list, I had never heard of some of the schools before. "Well if I've never heard of it, I can't go there," I'd think to myself, shamelessly condemning colleges because of my own ignorance. I began attempting to heap the pressure I felt onto my cousin,

and I couldn't quite comprehend how she was not feeling the same pressure. I couldn't escape the pressure for a day, not even over the summer.

Basically, I was being a complete jerk.

Finally, I realized I could control the pressure I was feeling. I was only feeding it by telling people a trumped up list so distant from reality and wrongfully judging whether or not a school was worthy of my attendance.

It was time to stop the madness. I vowed that when I came back in September, I would come clean with my college choices. I would admit that after having had a non-traditional high school experience compared to that of a public school student, I wanted a more traditional college experience with big football games and Greek life. I also wanted to attend a school that was academically respected and boasted a large alumni network. I've loved

my time as a Mountie and everything it's entailed, but I'm ready to change it up when I go to college.

This isn't to put down the Ivies or claim that state schools are superior, but to get everyone to realize that it's important to go where you like and feel comfortable, not to make important life decisions based solely on the great expectations we face. You have to find where you fit and can see yourself, no matter what school that might be. The college process is not a team sport; it's one time when you need to listen to yourself and judge what's best for you.

If you're still feeling the pressure, take a deep breath because what's meant to be will find a way. But until it does, be the most prepared you can be and do not dread college. It's meant to be a fun time in your life, and it will be, no matter where you decide to attend. There is a "Happy Valley" for everyone.

## HOW TO GET PERFECT BEACH WAVES



For those of us who can't spend our summer days in the ocean or soaking up the rays, we can still look like we've just come from a long day on the beach, or maybe even better. With these easy at home tricks and products, the look is attainable and adorable.

### WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

- Spray bottle
- 1 cup warm water
- 1 tsp coconut oil
- 1 tsp sea salt
- 1 tsp hair gel

LET HAIR DRY NATURALLY. COMBINE INGREDIENTS AND SHAKE WELL IN SPRAY BOTTLE. APPLY FROM ROOTS TO END AND SCRUNCH.



*Perfect for especially fine hair, Josie Maran's Bohemian Wave Hair Mist creates quick texture (\$22)*



*This Bumble&Bumble Surf Spray has just enough salt to achieve a natural tousled look (\$24)*

## Embracing five staples of summer

By Julianna Kardish '16 and Annie O'Sullivan '15

Most of us would love to wear the dress that Selena Gomez wore to Coachella last weekend, or those boots that Kate Moss was totally rocking at the Burberry Fashion show last month. But, let's face it, as high school girls, we don't always have money to dress like a celebrity. So here are six pieces that you should definitely add to your wardrobe to look and feel like a million bucks, even if you don't have more than fifty.



Pacsun \$26.95



Urban Outfitters \$49.00

### Crop Tops

This season, crop tops have been seen everywhere from the runway to the red carpet to city streets. This popular trend has re-emerged from the '90s, but now with a new, chic and sophisticated twist. Lauren Conrad suggests wearing these tiny tops with a matching high waisted skirt or high-rise trousers. If you want to jump on the bandwagon with this new trend but don't feel comfortable showing some skin, then pair a cropped sweater with a sleek button down underneath.



Forever 21 \$24.80

### The Skater Skirt

"Versatile, ever-trendy and universally flattering." *Teen Vogue* used these terms to describe the popular skater skirt, and we can't help but agree. A big hit in the fashion industry right now, many celebrities like Taylor Swift and Emma Watson have been seen showcasing this fun trend. Whether you pair this skirt with a tee or a tank, flats or flip-flops, the skater skirt is the cool way to feel light and breezy this summer while showing off those killer legs that you've been working on all spring.

### Denim Overalls

We all remember these classic denim overalls. Our parents made us wear them to daycare and preschool, and looking back on old pictures, many of us swore we would never wear them again. But now, this '90s trend is taking the streets—and, hopefully, your closet—by storm. Overalls are perfect for the summer. Paired with a simple tee and wedges, this look perfectly portrays that summery, laid-back vibe that we all desperately want to embody.



Free People \$38.00

### Bohemian Hats

We are sure you will fall in love with this latest women's trend just as we did. Vanessa Hudgens manages to pull off an urban boho-chic hat effortlessly. To get the look for yourself, top off your laid-back outfit with tousled hair, cool sunglasses and a hat from our favorite stores, like Free People or Urban Outfitters. This summer, protect yourself from the sun by sporting this trendy look.



H&M \$39.95

### Wide Leg Pants

Feminine, fashionable and extremely comfy? Who wouldn't want to wear this new trend? Making a reappearance from the '70s, these flowy pants are trending for this spring and summer. Pair your wide leg pants with a solid color flowy crop top or body-hugging tank. Try high waisted palazzos to elongate your legs and flatter your figure. Light and airy, palazzo pants are expected to be seen everywhere during the hot summer!



Nordstrom \$40.00

## Brighten summer with DIY ideas

By Julianna Kardish '16 and Annie O'Sullivan '15

As school lets out, the heat of summer begins to set in, accompanied by boredom. Don't get stuck in a Netflix rut on your time off. Instead, do something fun and embrace your creative side. With easy DIYs, you can break up your routine and try something new!

### Chalkboard Paint Flowerpot

What you will need:

Paint brushes, flower pots (found in many shapes and sizes almost anywhere), chalkboard paint and chalk.

After you find the perfect pot you want to turn into your personal canvas, clean it by simply running water over it and drying it with a paper towel. Using your paint brushes and chalkboard paint, cover your entire flowerpot. After the paint is dry, write on your pot using chalk to label your vegetables and flowers or add fun designs.

### Lace Flowerpot

What you will need:

A hot glue gun, flower pots and lace or fabric.

After you have cleaned the flowerpots, lay out the lace how you want it to be glued on your pots. Using your hot glue gun, add small dollops of glue on the pot, and then carefully place the strips of lace or fabric where you want them. The hot glue will dry quickly, and soon enough, these adorable pots will be ready to hold your flowers.



### Sharpie Mug

What you will need:

One white mug, oil based Sharpie markers, pencils, masking tape, a tray and an oven.

First, preheat your oven to 350 degrees. If your mug is new, you should wash it prior to decorating. Also, be sure that your markers are oil based. If they are water based your design will burn off in the oven.

Take a pencil and trace the design you'd like to make onto the mug, pressing hard so that the marks show on the ceramic.

If you'd like to make a design with lines, use masking tape to mark tape to make sure they are straight and evenly spaced.

Once you have finished tracing your design, color in the design with the markers. If you choose to write a saying on the mug, add a pop of color by accenting some of the words. Take off the masking tape after you have colored the mug.

Once you've finished your decorating, place the mug onto the tray and place it in the oven for 20 minutes. After the mug is done be sure to allow time for it to cool fully to ensure the coloring has set.



# Philly restaurant guide

By Alex Catanzariti '14 and  
Jess McManness '15

One of the thoughts that crosses every Mountie's mind multiple times a day is, of course, food. With Philly's becoming a budding restaurant community, there are endless options when it comes to finding a delicious bite to eat.

In fact, Stephen Starr, our city's famed restaurateur, has a delightful selection of his own dining venues to add to this mix. With Starr and other up-and-coming restaurateurs placing roots here, Philly is without a doubt this summer's most popular eating locale.

Don't know where to start? Each Philadelphia neighborhood has a diverse set of restaurants sure to delight the senses. Scenic Rittenhouse Square is home to Max Brenner, for the chocolate lover; Serafina, for the Italian enthusiast; The Dandelion



for the pub fare crowd; and Parc, for the trendy palate. In the University City area, Buddakan and POD are perfect for those interested in global cuisine.

**Max Brenner:** As one reviewer on Yelp accurately states, "If you love chocolate then you will love Max Brenner." Located in Philadelphia, not too far from Rittenhouse Square, this popular "chocolate wonderland" focuses on creating a unique experience for chocolate lovers. It even has a chocolate bar! At the chocolate bar, the delicious options range from pastries to fondue, all involving chocolate, of course. This restaurant is one of the best places to visit with family or friends for a scrumptious, gourmet meal. While most of the



menu consists of chocolate-infused cuisine, it also offers some unique twists on traditional American food. If by the end of

your visit you are still up in the air about Max Brenner's take on all things chocolate, its famous hot chocolate in a "hug mug" will leave you only wanting more.

**Serafina Philadelphia:** Philadelphia is lucky that Serafina, an already well-known restaurant, has made a long lasting home for itself in the center of Rittenhouse Square. The creators of this fabulous restaurant, Vittorio Assaf and Fabio Granato, have done an amazing job of making all their locations warm and inviting. The atmosphere is reminiscent of a quaint trattoria in Northern Italy. With its décor and



the aroma of mouth-watering Italian food permeating throughout the restaurant, how could you go wrong? The meals on the menu are reasonably priced for a restaurant in Rittenhouse Square. If you are in the mood for authentic northern Italian food done right, then definitely pay a visit to Serafina.

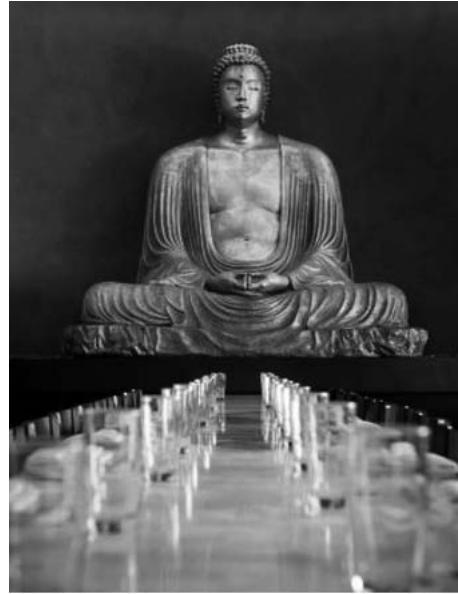
**The Dandelion:** Right across the street from Serafina, this cozy and intimate English restaurant is another one of Starr's famous eateries in the heart of Rittenhouse Square. Evoking a warm and cozy pub at-



mosphere, the Dandelion invites everyone to feel at home and dine in comfort. This spin on the classic English pub is great for a romantic night out or a Sunday brunch with family. Whatever the occasion, you will not be disappointed. Between the spectacular ambiance and authentic British cuisine, you just can't go wrong with the Dandelion.

**Parc Brasserie Restaurant, Bistro & Café: Bon appétit!** Facing the park in

Rittenhouse Square, this trendy restaurant created by Stephen Starr pays tribute to the stylish French café culture. Parc is a wonderful place for a brunch with family or a Parisian dinner with a group of girlfriends. The truly authentic French cuisine includes everything from escargot and onion soup to creme brûlée and le gâteau. If you're looking to get the full flavor of Parc's Parisian



atmosphere, outdoor seating is the way to go. This cultural brasserie is one of the best restaurants in Philadelphia for locals and tourists alike. Parc Brasserie is definitely at the top of the list of best restaurants in Philly, but unfortunately it is quite expensive. Despite its price, the unique, charming experience that Parc Brasserie offers continually keeps customers returning for more.

**Buddakan:** This modern Asian Stephen Starr restaurant is a Philadelphia favorite. Buddakan in Old City is a great place to go for a dinner with a large group of people.



The greatest thing about Buddakan is the unique atmosphere of the restaurant that is created by meditative décor contrasted with bright lights and dance music. The downside of this authentic Asian restaurant is the price, which can be very expensive. Other than that, if you're in the mood for exquisite Asian cuisine, you can't go wrong with this famous Starr restaurant.

**The Continental Midtown:** Just off Rittenhouse Square sits another one of Starr's fabulously chic restaurants. The Continental is one of the most popular nightspots in the Rittenhouse neighborhood—specifically its to-die-for rooftop lounge, which is the venue of choice for the young and fabulous. Kick back with your girlfriends and enjoy a mix of cultural flavors with tapas ranging from hummus and pita to grilled thai chicken skewers. On the dessert end, their limoncello tiramisu and coconut al-



mond tarts are recommendable to anyone with a penchant for savory sweets.

**POD:** POD is another unique Stephen Starr restaurant, with its only location being in University City. This is one of Starr's more chic restaurants, similar to the Continental but with a contemporary Pan-Asian twist to it. The modern, family-style Asian restaurant has a décor similar



to outer space with funky, artistic lighting. The seating arrangements are the most interesting part of this futuristic restaurant. The POD booths feel like a glowing cocoon, and the sushi bar has a conveyor belt that delivers Nigiri and sushi rolls. POD is a great place to go to for a celebration, a dinner with friends and family, or for an entertaining date night. The food at POD is a bit pricey but also unusual and delicious.

**Butcher and Singer:** Get away from the twenties fad and step into a new decade. The thirties reigns supreme in this old Hollywood-themed restaurant. This tasteful steakhouse exudes the sophistication of Rittenhouse Square. You can contemplate the post-prohibition period while lounging, listening to Ella Fitzgerald, and enjoying steak, chocolate cake, and good company. Highly recommended dishes include the lump crab cocktail as an appetizer and the sliced filet salad as an alternative steak centered meal choice. The romantically lit setting is sure to leave you feeling wistful for this era of the past.

This summer, take a break from the sun and sand for a casual evening spent tasting the many flavors of Philly. Whether you have a sweet-tooth or a more sophisticated palate, this compilation of Philly's finest is sure to satisfy your appetite for a culinary affair with local eateries.

# Hathaway speaks of a life in the arts

By Kerri Dunn and Melissa Mooney '14

On a windy Thursday afternoon last November, Kate Hathaway led a group of fifteen teenaged girls around Manhattan, ushering them from Mitchell, Silberberg and Knupp LLP to JP Morgan to Fox News Studio. She reminded them repeatedly of the importance of internships and networking when establishing a career. She introduced them to bankers and lawyers and news anchors. When two of the girls approached her and asked if she would like to be interviewed for the Mount's newspaper, Mrs. Hathaway smiled and said: "The Campanile, right? I'd love to!"

Hathaway, a Mount alumna, is a producer and script reader. She started out as an actress, appearing in shows at the Walnut Street Theatre and the Forrest Theatre in Philadelphia. She has worked behind-the-scenes on several Broadway shows, including *Ann* and *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*. She's also done a lot of charity work and raised three children, one of whom is the Anne Hathaway. Yes, Mrs. Hathaway raised the Princess of Genovia. Beginning this year, Hathaway is working with the Mount Alumnae Association to bring girls to New York City for a career day experience in which students meet with Mount grads working in law, fashion, finance and technology. It was on the first ever New York Initiative trip that we met Mrs. Hathaway and asked her to share with us her experience working in show business.

### How did the Mount prepare you to take on the business world?

The business I went into after I left the Mount was theatre. I began my career as an actress. I first started taking voice lessons at the Mount with a wonderful teacher, S. Mary Donald, who was just a supreme musician. I found over the course of my career that, even though I worked with probably far more famous voice teachers, all of the basic vocal techniques that she gave me were the best. The education I received in literature and the love that I developed for storytelling came through my excellent history and English classes. Being involved in Acadram and doing the musicals also really prepared me to go into the theatre business and helped me win a musical theatre scholarship to LaSalle University, which is how I went to college.

### Tell us about the jobs you held before becoming a producer.

First I was an actress, then I became a stay-at-home mom and did a lot of volunteer work. I have three children: two boys and,

ever field they work in, but particularly in acting. I was not getting offered the kind of parts that I really wanted to play, that would make it worth it for me to be away from my husband, or to be out working in the evenings. So I re-

I spoke to a few people whom I knew in the Broadway world here in New York and networked my way into meeting a very successful Tony award-winning producer of the era by the name of Harriet Leve. Harriet and I first

worked together on a production of a play called *Ann*, which was about the former governor of Texas, Ann Richards. Since then I've been involved with *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, and I'm developing a new project right now called *Southern Comforts*, a musical about a transgender man. These are the stories that I feel passionate about: people who are out there and have something to say and to contribute to society.

### Do you have any tips for Mounties who are considering working in show business?

I think that on the acting side it is important to go to a good university or conservatory for theatre. If you are planning to come to New York, it's very important to be as versatile as you possibly can—not only just to be able to act, but also to be able to sing and dance. You have to remember that you have to lead a very healthy lifestyle because you are pretty much the product that you are selling—you have to keep that instrument in top shape.

You also must be prepared to support yourself when you first come to New York. You have to be available during the daytime for auditions but still be able to feed yourself. Hang in there. It's a tough business, but don't let anybody stomp on your dreams. As for producing, it's important to be passionate about the story you want to tell. As a producer, you have to have that passion and communicate that to investors. If you happen to find a person that feels the same way, you are going to be able to persuade them to invest in your production.

### How did your experience in show business influence your daughter's career?

When Annie was three years old, I was doing a production of *Evita* and I was playing the role of Eva Perón. The production was at a theatre in Pennsylvania and Anne came to see almost every performance. Anne said that's when she was "bitten with the theatre bug." She always saw me perform. When I was in the First National Tour of *Les Misérables* playing the role of Fantine, she was about seven or eight years old. She was so influenced by the performance and went on to play that same role herself in the movie. When Annie was growing up, we lived in a town that had a really good professional theatre called the Papermill Playhouse. Annie started to take acting classes there when she was a kid. She was innately gifted. She was in an environment with someone like me, who knew so much about the business and could really put her on the fast-track for it. Her own gifts and talents really took her from there; I was just a guide.

### What advice would you like to share with students who are trying to break into, not just show business, but any profession?

Dream big. Follow through. Remember always to be true to your authentic self. Listen to your inner voice. Have confidence in who you are as a person. Do not let anybody tell you that, because you are a woman, you cannot do anything you want. I think that I have been able to go through my life with such a strong belief in myself because of the Mount.

I was very grateful for the ability to be in an all-girls high school because I never felt that I did not have a valid voice, and I do not think that's true in all situations during that time period in a person's life. The Mount teaches you to be confident in voicing your opinion and encourages you to think and dream big.



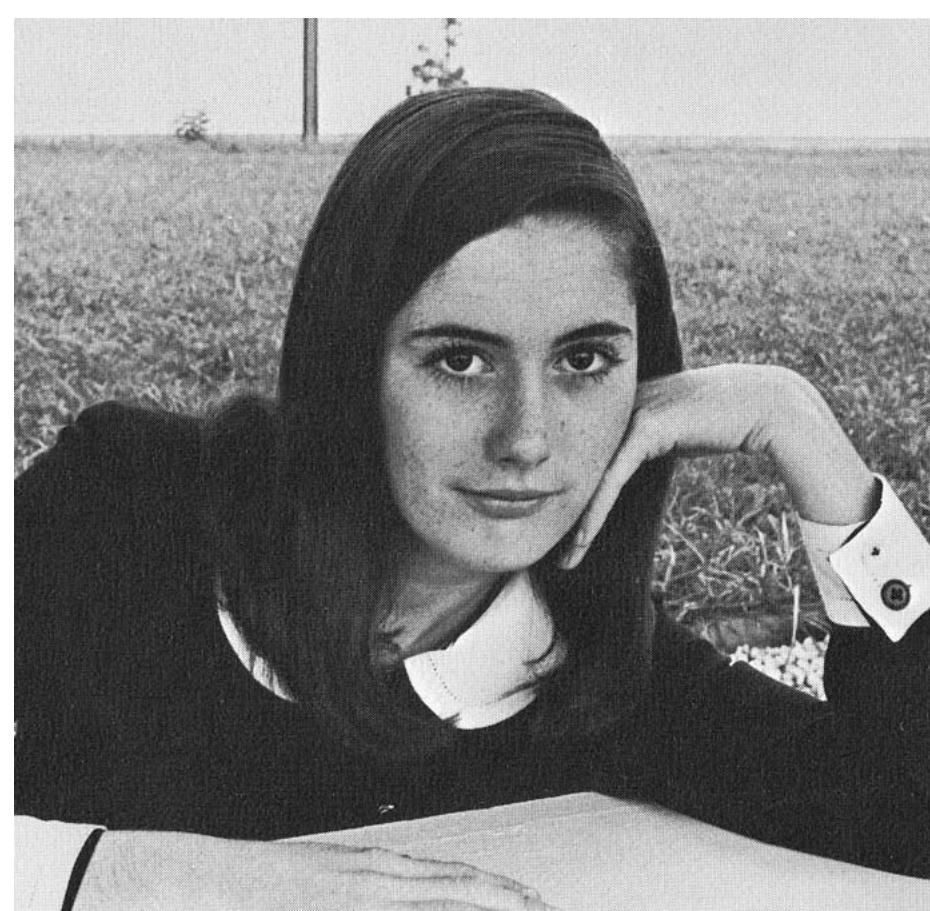
Mrs. Kate Hathaway: producer, script reader, actress.

of course, you know about my daughter Anne. I was very much an at-home soccer mom, and I think that taught me great organizational skills. I think sometimes being an at-home mother feels like being the CEO of a little company. You've got to make the decisions and you've got to keep everybody on the right track. But I was also still trying to perform, and I would try to work around the kids' school schedules the best I could. I worked [as an actress] in New Jersey, and I worked at the Walnut Street Theatre and the Forrest Theatre in Philadelphia. I did the national tour of *Les Misérables*. Interestingly enough, my daughter won the Academy Award for *Les Mis.* I was the understudy to that role [Fantine]. The two things that I wanted to accomplish in my life were to be an actress and to be a really good mom, and I luckily had the opportunity to do a pretty good job at both.

### Can you explain your transition from acting to producing and script reading?

I had always wanted to make the transition back into acting, but by the time my children went to college, I was definitely an older actress. Unfortunately, as women age, they don't have as many employment opportunities in what

ally began to lose my passion for performing onstage. But because of my daughter's success, I began to meet producers, and I started to see that for myself. [Producing] would utilize the skills that



Mrs. Hathaway, then Kathi McCauley, posed for her senior yearbook portrait in the Sheaf's 1971 edition.

I had developed in terms of the way that I ran my own life and my career, and it would also incorporate all of my theatrical abilities and talents, and enable me to tell stories and deal with issues that I thought were really important to highlight.

You have to practice, you have to vocalize, you have to go to acting and dance classes. It's also really important to be well-read. Don't just go to movies and watch television shows; you have to read plays. You have to learn about the fundamentals of acting.

## Avril Lavigne Foundation R.O.C.K.S.

By Kristen Doyle '15

Breaking onto the music scene in 2002 at age seventeen with her hit single "Complicated," Avril Lavigne shattered the stereotype of the girly, glitter-covered female pop star and created her own genre of punk/pop infusion with rock undertones.

In the early days of her music career, Lavigne's love of tomboyish clothing and her unmistakably fiery attitude made her an instant sensation. Often referred to as "the pop-punk princess," Lavigne soon became well known around the world.

In early 2010 Avril Lavigne established the lesser-known Avril Lavigne Foundation to support adolescents living with serious illnesses and disabilities. Lavigne chose the acronym R.O.C.K.S. to capture the essence of the organization, standing for Respect, Opportunity, Choices, Knowledge and Strength.

Lavigne spoke about forming the foundation in an interview posted on her official YouTube channel, saying, "I have been so lucky to meet so many amazing

people through my music. There are so many young people that I meet who are dealing with difficult circumstances in their lives

ways that really matter."

Many leading charity organizations, including The Make-A-Wish Foundation and The Nancy

One of the most recent additions to the partners of the foundation is Easter Seals, a disability service organization that aims to

youths with child development centers and physical therapy, as well as added tools to help families become better equipped to deal with their specific disability.

Inspired by her work with the children she met through other Easter Seals camps, Lavigne launched Camp S.T.A.R.S. (Summer Time Avril Rock Stars) in the summer of 2013. The program, which focuses on helping disabled young people make friends, expanded to five Easter Seals camps throughout the United States and Lavigne's hometown of Napanee, Canada. The Avril Lavigne Foundation paid the expenses for 50 adolescents living with serious disabilities to attend the camp.

Donations can be made on the foundation's official website [www.theavrillavignefoundation.org](http://www.theavrillavignefoundation.org). Proceeds from certain items in Lavigne's clothing line, Abbey Dawn, also benefit the numerous charities partnered with The Avril Lavigne Foundation.



Avril Lavigne poses with two boys during one of her visits to an Easter Seals camp.

or feel like they don't fit in somehow. What I've learned is that we all just want to be happy and have the chance to follow our dreams, which makes us all the same in

Davis Foundation for Multiple Sclerosis, have partnered with The Avril Lavigne Foundation to raise awareness and gather the support needed for their causes.

provide people living with disabilities or special needs with the resources they need to participate in their communities. This charity works to provide disabled

## A Green perspective on novel to film

By Grace Hogan '15

We all have that one book that we've always dreamed of seeing as a movie, even though, realistically, not every book can be made into a movie.

In a time when theatres are constantly flooded with book-to-movie adaptations, however we can't help but wonder what it would be like if our favorite book did become a film.

Would the movie do justice to the book, like the 1962 adaptation of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*? Or, would the film go the way of *Percy Jackson* and *Eragon*, which outraged the millions of die-hard fans and flopped in the box office?

Understandably, readers tend to grow attached to storylines and feel a sense of ownership over the characters in a book. When a book's fan base calls for a movie adaptation, what they are really hoping for is a twenty-hour long installation that captures every detail and line exactly, cast with actors who match every physical trait of the character perfectly.

Best-selling young adult author John Green never thought any of his books would be made into movies because of their sensitive subject matter. This thought never bothered him, though, because he knew he'd never have to worry about disappointing his fans with a lackluster film translation. Now, however, the bestselling author is on his way to having two of his books become films: *The Fault in Our Stars* and *Paper Towns*.

*The Fault in Our Stars* tells the story of two precocious teens,

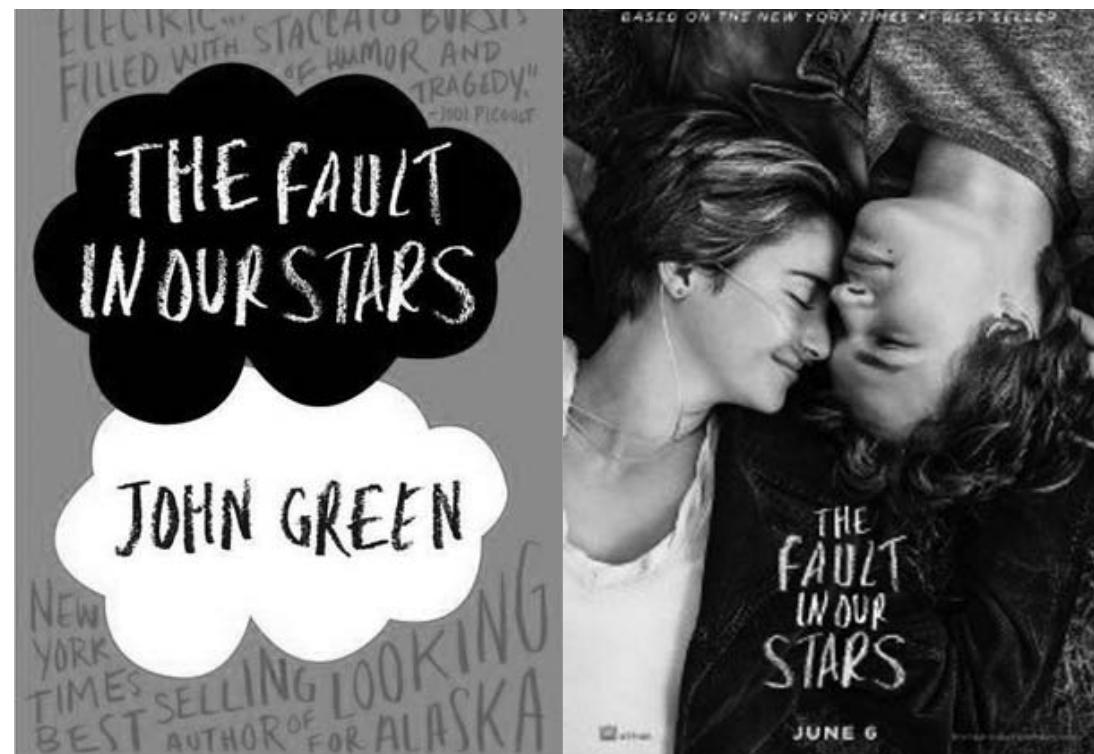
Hazel Lancaster and Augustus Waters, who fall in love at a Cancer Kid Support Group.

The unpredictable novel, told from Hazel's point-of-view, keeps readers guessing about the fate of the lovers until the last page. But *TFIOS* is neither the stereotypical "popular teen romance novel", nor what we would consider a "typical cancer story." The very

typical version of the story in which someone who is sick suffers terribly and then dies, and then as the result of that person's suffering, a healthy person learns important lessons like how to be grateful for every day. Because that formulation dehumanizes a sick person. It makes it seem like the meaning of the sick person's life is so that a healthy per-

son could learn a lesson. And of course the meaning of someone's life is inside of their lives."

Because of the book's broad appeal among various age groups, in January 2012, Fox 2000 bought the rights to turn *TFIOS* into a movie. The film, starring Shailene Woodley and Ansel El-



Shailene Woodley and Ansel Elgort make Hazel Lancaster and Augustus Waters come to life in *The Fault in Our Stars*.

idea for the novel, Green says, came from his desire to explore the dignity of a person with an illness simply living, without trying to make a lesson or example of their sickness.

The author says it was important to him that *TFIOS* "not tell

son could learn a lesson. And of course the meaning of someone's life is inside of their lives."

Green also refuses to "dumb down" the original dialogue from the novel as he shares the elaborate and poignant journey of the young couple whose time is run-

ning out. *TFIOS* is filled with complex existential questions as Hazel and Gus challenge each other to find their own "little infinity."

Because of the book's broad appeal among various age groups, in January 2012, Fox 2000 bought the rights to turn *TFIOS* into a movie. The film, starring Shailene Woodley and Ansel El-

*The Fault in Our Stars*; in fact, he didn't give any input for the film until the filming process began to wind down.

Green says, however, that the dialogue in the movie is almost identical to that in the book, a definite asset when trying to please readers so invested in the story.

As the buzz around *TFIOS* grew, Green's third young adult novel *Paper Towns* was picked up by Fox 2000. Green has signed on to be an executive producer for the movie and will have a say in the screenplay, casting and the rest of the production process.

He warned fans that just because he is writing the screenplay does not mean that they should expect the movie to be completely loyal to the book. In an interview with *The Pittsburgh Gazette*, Green defended his opinion that movies shouldn't have to mirror books to be successful.

"When people really love a book, what they want to see is the book come to life. They want to see the book visually, and I'm sympathetic to that desire. I felt that desire about books that I loved. But, you know, my hope is that it can be a good movie, not that it can be a good visualization of a book," said Green.

No one can say for certain whether either of Green's works will become box office hits. Most readers are hoping that with Green's input, both *Paper Towns* and *TFIOS* movies will do justice to the books.

For his part, Green hopes that even if the movies flop, his readers can hold onto the "little infinities" they found in his books.

## Tanning: the gateway “drug”

By Olivia Fitzpatrick '14

We all know how it goes. In and out of rehab, the recovering heroin addict warns young people, “It all started with smoking pot.”

However, how many of us consider indoor tanning a drug, an abuseable and addictive medium?

The notion that the habit can be easily broken after that last formal, prom or wedding, for many, is highly flawed. What begins as a routine procedure to look tanner, thinner, perhaps more beautiful for a particular event or vacation can so quickly become a cure for depression, a method for improving self-esteem or a very much needed pick-me-up.

Let's stop denying the facts: Indoor tanning is addictive, and prom tanning is a gateway drug.

Skin cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the United States, yet interestingly one of the most preventable. The American Cancer Society predicts 76,100 new cases of melanoma will be diagnosed in the United States this year. The rates of melanoma, despite advances in medicine, have been on the rise

over the past 30 years.

While genetic makeup and family history indeed put individuals at risk for contracting melanoma, exposure to UV rays, especially in young people, puts even the least likely candidates for melanoma at risk. Sunscreen can offer some protection from the sun, but indoor tanning is an entirely different issue.

People who begin indoor tanning before the age of 35 have a 59% higher risk of developing skin cancer. This statistic is unsettling as studies suggest that about 29% of Caucasian high school girls use indoor tanning salons at one point or another.

And these girls can't stop, further fueling the \$5 billion dollar industry, which is on the rise, despite health warnings and government regulation.

The Skin Cancer Organization compared indoor tanning to cigarette smoking, stating, “They [both] are often initially perceived as image-enhancing, and practiced despite knowledge of their dangers. Some of the reported benefits of frequent tanning—mood enhancement and relaxation—are also consistent with

addiction. Furthermore, many frequent tanners report difficulty quitting.”

However, image enhancement is but one facet of indoor tanning addiction. UV light causes an increased release of opioid-like endorphins from the brain, “feel good” chemicals that alleviate pain and create a feeling

**People who begin indoor tanning before the age of 35 have a 59% higher risk of developing skin cancer.**

of contentedness. Opioid is any psychoactive chemical resembling morphine in its effects; generating euphoria, opioids are among the world's oldest known drugs, found in opium poppy, for example.

A 2006 study used a drug called naltrexone to block these opioid-like endorphins released by the brain during indoor tanning. While feedback from infre-

quent tanners was inconclusive, frequent tanners reported notable withdrawal symptoms such as nausea and jitters.

A more recent study found matching results in frequent tanners and infrequent tanners alike. 95% of tanners were able to distinguish between identical UV and non-UV light-emitting beds, and preferred to tan in the UV light-emitting bed. The reason? Participants reported a more relaxed mood and even pain relief from the UV light-emitting bed.

These studies cannot be ignored. More astonishing, 21% of 14-17 year old indoor tanners reported difficulty quitting. Studies have revealed that the younger the tanner, the more arduous the quitting process.

In a world where that golden tan can be reached via airbrush, spray tan, lotion or bronzer, the logic behind beginning indoor tanning is more flawed than ever before. Two weeks of prom tanning can quickly result in a life-long struggle.

So don't start. UV rays just could be your own brand of heroin.

## #GetHealthy

By Colleen McBride '15

The surge of technology in the past few years has made life easier and more entertaining, but besides allowing you to take selfies and Instagram pics of your “Man Crush Monday,” your phones and computers have recently undergone perhaps one of the most exciting new developments yet: They can keep you in shape. There are now thousands of apps that not only tell you what to eat or how to exercise, but also offer inspiration and support that can help you maintain a healthy lifestyle.

### Lose It!

Want to drop some pounds? Lose It! users get a customized weight loss plan and use the app to track food, measure activity levels and connect with peers for group support to reach their goals.

**Why it's cool:** Lose It! provides a large food database to begin with, but you can also create your own recipes and foods. With large icons and an easy-to-read layout, LoseIt! is very user-friendly.

**Cost:** Free. iOS, Android, Kindle and Nook.

### Instagram

Aside from selfies and deciding between Valencia and Nashville filters, this app is where millions of users come to show off their tastiest eats, fit-focused feats and everyday adventures.

**Why it's cool:** By using a range of filters, borders and creative captions, Instagram users bring their healthy experiences to life in an interesting, eye-catching way.

**Cost:** Free. iOS and Android.

### Sleep Cycle

Waking up is hard enough, but this app makes it a little less traumatic by analyzing users' sleep patterns and rousing them when they're in the lightest phase of sleep. Plus users get to go through troves of data showing how well (or poorly) they slept.

**Why it's cool:** Most sleep-tracking devices are pretty pricey and involve some fancy headgear. But Sleep Cycle's just about the app. Users place their smartphones in their beds and the app senses what phase of sleep they're in based on how much or little they're moving.

**Cost:** \$0.99. iOS.

### Nike Training Club

Choose your fitness level and goal, and Nike Training Club picks from more than 100 workouts to get you fit—without the pricey personal training sessions.

**Why it's cool:** Short on time? The app offers 15, 30 and 45-minute workouts featuring audio guidance and video demos from top Nike trainers and athletes. Bonus: Most workouts require minimal equipment.

**Cost:** Free. iOS and Android.

## Gluten-free trend grows

By Julianna Kardish '16

Whether I am picking up groceries from my local supermarket or going out to dinner at my favorite restaurants, I am continuously being bombarded with gluten-free options. Is this simply a new fad that will disappear as quickly as Temple Run, or is going gluten-free a new healthy lifestyle worth considering?

### What is going gluten-free?

Having a gluten-free diet means avoiding any processed foods that contain wheat, barley, rye, many different types of flour, triticale, kamut, bulgur and semolina spelt. Unfortunately, this pretty much means cutting out all of your favorite foods from your diet including pasta, bread, french fries, candies, cereal and, yes, Mount cookies!

### Why did the gluten-free trend start?

Before this diet became popular, those who had celiac disease, a disorder in which one's hypersensitive small intestine is attacked whenever gluten is ingested, were the original gluten-free goers. According to *The New York Times*, only about 1.8 million Americans actually have celiac disease or a gluten-sensitive disorder. The rest are simply following a new diet fad.

Virginia Morris, vice president of marketing firm Daymon Worldwide, explains, “There are truly people out there who need gluten-free foods for health reasons, but they are not the major-

ity of consumers who are driving this market.”

Hitesh Hajarnavis, chief executive of Popcorn Indiana, sums up what many researchers have discovered, saying, “Look, the thing here, in my opinion, is that there is a small number of people who have celiac disease or are gluten intolerant. But there is a growing population of people who have somehow heard that gluten-free

switch.

Removing gluten from your diet has many health benefits. Going gluten-free will improve cholesterol levels, promote digestive health, possibly speed up weight loss and increase energy levels. By eliminating processed foods from your diet, you will be forced to eat fresh, healthy, natural foods like fruits and vegetables.

nate gluten from their products as a marketing technique. This strategy allows their food products to be available to all: healthy eaters, food lovers and gluten-sensitive buyers alike.

### Still not convinced?

If you are a little nervous to sacrifice your favorite foods and join the gluten-free trend, take it from some fellow Mounties who have decided to jump on the bandwagon. Both junior Georgia Kelly and sophomore Jane Prior decided to go gluten-free during this past Lent.

Both girls have mothers who are gluten sensitive, and they decided to help support them by also choosing to go gluten-free. Jane admits that it has been difficult but says, “The cool thing is that now that so many people are aware of it, there are more gluten-free products available in your everyday grocery store.”

Georgia also confesses, “It is hard, especially when Friday rolls around and all I want is pizza, but luckily I've found a lot of gluten-free foods! It's surprising how many gluten-free products there are like bread, crackers, pretzels and cookies.”

Georgia offers her recommendation when you are craving a good, warm pizza, saying, “California pizza kitchen has the best gluten free Margherita pizza!”

Feeling a lot healthier and proud knowing they are eating more nutritiously, both girls recommend cutting back on gluten.



### How is the market changing to accommodate gluten-free foods?

Food companies of all sorts are now creating many tasty alternatives, so you can continue to eat your favorite pretzels and crackers without even noticing the gluten is missing. Overall, by going gluten-free, you will be left feeling more energized, fresh and healthy.

Wegmans, currently the country's largest seller of gluten-free products, according to *The New York Times*, is looking to elimi-

# College athletes face challenging questions

## Should students be allowed to unionize? To play or to redshirt?

By Steph Eble '15

Last September, the Northwestern football team began a silent but powerful movement.

Believing that college sports reward people involved with the teams but not the athletes on the field, the players began wearing "All Players United" wristbands. From those wristbands grew a momentous push for unionization of the athletes.

Six months later on March 26, the National Labor Relations Board ruled that the scholarship players at Northwestern were employees of the school and thus had a right to unionize. With this ruling, the players could bargain for improved rights in their "workplace," improved healthcare, larger scholarships and potentially "pay-for-play" salaries, although Northwestern players deny their intention for this type of action to be put into place.

Varying opinions arose shortly after the NLRB's decision. Some contend that high caliber athletes garner a lot of money for their respective schools, and should thus receive a salary as compensation. Others believe unionization would distract student-athletes from achieving their potential in the classroom and on the field. Still others argue that because the NLRB regulates private schools, and a majority of NCAA Division I teams are state schools, the decision will have little impact on many of the athletes that appear in March Madness, for example.

However, Harley Shaiken, a labor economist at the University of California, Berkeley, called the ruling "a landmark decision for the future of college athletics."

So will the NLRB's decision be monumental? Will other schools follow Northwestern football? And should student-athletes even be allowed to unionize?

Essentially the decision of the NLRB holds that student-athletes have full-time jobs playing sports for their respective schools. According to a release from the NCAA, since 2012, a majority of college athletes have spent more time practicing, traveling and playing than they have spent in the classroom or studying. The logic of the NLRB is that because athletes dedicate so much time to their sports, they should be treated as employees.

The decision of the NLRB sets a dangerous precedent, because if athletes are employees of the school through athletic teams, the question arises: Do young men and women go to school to receive an education or to play sports? The answer should be "to receive an education," but this new ruling could change the perceptions of many young people and cause them to attend schools simply to play sports.

With the flurry of opinions regarding whether unionization of college athletes is right or wrong, even the Northwestern football coach chimed in, condemning the NLRB decision. On April 2, Pat Fitzgerald, head coach of North-

western football, urged his players to vote against unionization. Luckily, whether or not they rule out unionizing at Northwestern, according to a poll by CBSSports, 75% of college athletes would be against unionizing in their schools. They are probably the students that realize that an athlete's education should not be compromised by his or her athletic potential; schools should promote the education of student-athletes, not treat them like employees.

As Sean Gregory of *Time Magazine* notes, "Most college athletes are content with their experience." So why do we need to change the protocol for athletes and make it possible for them to earn salaries for going to a school and playing a sport? The degree earned at the end of the college experience is what will lead the student-athlete into the future and help him or her earn a substantial salary, not the money he or she potentially could make playing a sport for just 4 years of college.

On Apr. 25, The Northwestern football players voted on whether or not they would unionize. Before the votes are counted and a decision made, the NLRB must review the appeal made by Northwestern University challenging the ruling.

For now, college athletes will continue to practice and play as before, but in the coming months, we might see a dangerous new trend: players unions on NCAA athletic teams.

By Alex Louin '14

Many high school seniors who have committed to play sports in college face a difficult decision: Should they play their freshmen seasons or redshirt?

To redshirt is to delay an athlete's participation in order to lengthen her period of eligibility. Redshirting can potentially make the transition from high school to college much easier. The student-athlete is able to attend classes and to get acquainted with life on campus without the pressure of performing in games. She can learn her way around campus and still participate in practices and lifts.

From an academic standpoint, the biggest upside of redshirting is that a student can graduate in five years with a master's degree, while continuing on athletic scholarship. From an athletic standpoint, players use freshmen year to become stronger, physically and mentally, and to learn the team's plays and tendencies.

Josh Bonney, a redshirt freshman basketball player at Elon University, had a positive experience with redshirting.

"When you are sitting out and you really can't do anything about it, you see so many aspects of the game that you don't notice while you're in the game playing. So, actually, I can say I learned a lot from that aspect of [redshirting]," said Bonney.

A redshirt freshman is eligible

to play in games her sophomore, junior and senior years, as well as the year after her senior year.

Redshirting is not only utilized exclusively for freshmen, but also as a tool for coaches with injured players.

Sean Magee, a runner at Elon, experienced an injury a few days into the season, prior to running in any races. Because he had not yet competed, Magee decided he would redshirt that year instead of trying to run through the pain.

"Basically, we knew we had that option," said Magee. "It became clear that I couldn't come back for that season, so we decided I might as well redshirt, instead of losing a season."

Kallie Hovatter is a current Elon basketball player, who transferred from St. Joe's after her freshman season. She was dissatisfied with her playing time, and knew she did not want to return.

"[After transferring], I knew that I was going to have to sit a year," she said. "That was the biggest thing. I thought, 'wow, am I really going to be able to do this?'"

The downside of redshirting is that coming into a program as a freshman, you might want to play with the talented seniors on the team. And, of course, it is tough to watch your team play games knowing you cannot enter into them.

Redshirting offers flexibility if you have committed to playing a sport in college.

## Lacrosse leans on younger players

By Steph Eble '15

With only a few seniors on the team this season, the Mount's lacrosse team, led by senior captains Natalie Bohner and Summer Thomas, has looked to its younger players for increased production.

"We lost a lot of seniors last year that made up the majority of our starting line up, so we have a very young team this year. Some of our strongest players are sophomores and freshmen," said Bohner.



Senior captains Summer Thomas and Natalie Bohner

together. As the season has been progressing we are really starting to mesh well and work out all of the problems we had in the begin-

season on its home field with an offensive outburst against Sacred Heart.

On May 7, the team scored 18 goals and allowed just 2.

Next year, the team will lose only a few seniors, and they will have a lot of younger players who gained valuable playing time at the varsity level this year.

"A lot of the starters are freshmen, sopho-

nones or juniors, so most of the

team will return next year," said Meister.

The team hopes to use their experience from this year to improve for next spring!

## Softball swings away

By Alana Ciancuilli '15 and Haley Gleeson '14

Magic Softball teed up for the spring season led by senior captains Becky Barton, Sammy Burns and Haley Gleeson.



Senior captains Haley Gleeson, Sammy Burns and Becky Barton

This year the team has looked to many talented underclassmen to complete the varsity roster. Sophomores Mary Buckley, Laurie Metzler, Jess Burns and Kaitlyn Karabin, as well as freshmen Julie Burns, Ava Jancarski, Sofia

The Magic have greatly improved this year under head coach Bill Thompson and pitching coach and history teacher Ms. Gina Beren.

The Mount also added three new coaches to the roster this year: varsity coach Mike Leinheiser and JV coaches Tom Armbruster and math teacher Ms. Lisa Rovner.

Little and Angela Gervasi, have shined both in the field and at the plate this season.

The Magic's pitching staff also consists of underclassmen, sophomore Kaitlyn Karabin and freshmen Julie Burns and Sofia Little.

With all the young talent and versatile players on the team, the Magic is ready to take the league by storm next spring!

The team's biggest victories this season have come against West Chester Rustin, Villa Joe and Friends Central. Although the team fell in several games in the highly competitive Catholic League, the team looks to improve for the rest of the season.

"We were off to a rough start at the beginning of the season because we had to learn to work

ning of the season," said Bohner.

While Bohner herself has notched many goals for the team this season, adding to the goal-scoring efforts have been sophomores Isabella Balcer, Abby Aita and Mary Kate Maloney and juniors Kaitlyn Meister, Christie Mischler and Amanda Steinberg.

In its last home game of the season, the team finished off the

## Track offers fine finishes

By Julianna Kardish '16

"This season exceeded my expectations. Everyone worked well together and our hard work paid off during our undefeated [regular] season," said Coach Kitty McClelland.

After going undefeated the entire season, the Mount track and field team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> to Villa Joe and Gwynedd at the League Championship Meet on Wed., May 7.

At Champs, Sarah Lynch dominated the 100 meter hurdles, while fellow senior Genny Hagedorn took first in the javelin. The 4x800 meter relay team surprised everyone as it finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place ahead of Villa Joe and Gwynedd. Along with freshman Julie Hoover and junior Aidan Moroz, mid-distance seniors Annie McCabe and Courtney Higginson placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the 4x400 meter relay, finishing strong on their last lap in a Mount track uniform at their home course.

As the season comes to a close,

senior captains Lynch, Higginson and Alyssa Kist say farewell to their high school running careers.

sad that this is my last season running for the Mount. I have loved all four years of competing, and

I'm definitely going to miss the girls the most. [They] are the greatest girls out there," said Kist.

While the team will lose the senior talent and leadership next year, many talented athletes will return to the track and to the field.

In a notable race this season, freshman sprinter Siobhan McBride blew away all expectations when she tied Mount's 200 meter record. The depth of the underclassmen will prove to be advantageous for the Mount track

team next season.

In addition to McBride, freshmen Julie Hoover and Sarina Clary, sophomore Lauren Ciassullo and juniors Leah Carreras, Tara Gallagher and Georgia Kelly will look to step up and lead the team next year.

Lynch will continue with track and plans to run the Heptathlon next year at the College of Charleston.

Higginson plans to attend Penn State University in the fall.

Kist spoke for her fellow captains saying, "I'm so incredibly



Track captains Courtney Higginson, Sarah Lynch and Alyssa Kist after Champs

## Louin best in Philly



By Steph Eble '15

Mount senior basketball player Alex Louin took home the honor of best female player in the Philadelphia area at the Markward Awards dinner on March 26.

This season, Louin averaged 17.6 points per game for the Magic, and she led the team to a third place finish in the PIAA District 1 AAAA tournament. Louin, a Villanova signee, was also honored as the Catholic Academy

League's MVP. Among other honors, Louin was named the *Times Herald's* Athlete of the Year.

As Louin told *The Times Herald*, "I just want to have an impact. I try to put my team in a position to win."

Pictured above: Louin with Coaches John Miller and Joe Sweeney

## Crew gears up for big races, qualifies for Nationals

By Madeline Lauinger '16

For the first time ever, Mount crew will be sending four boats to the US Rowing Youth National Championships in Sacramento, California June 13-15.

"It will be great to have such a large contingent from the Mount at Youth Nationals," said senior captain Lauren Matchett.

On May 10 and 11, five select boats from the Mount crew team competed at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Qualifier at Mercer Lake in New Jersey. With only the top three boats in each category qualifying for Youth Nationals, the Varsity 8+, Lightweight 8+ and Lightweight 4+ all took home silver medals while the V4+ snagged the bronze.

Previously, the Mount has sent at most 3 boats, a Varsity 8+, Lightweight 8+ and Lightweight 4+, but for the first time a Varsity 4+ will be joining the team traveling to Youth Nationals.

This year, the team is led by Matchett and fellow senior captains Caroline Carbone and Liz McKernan.

While the Mid-Atlantic Qualifier marked the beginning of the team's championship races, earlier in the season Mount crew also earned the Philadelphia Scholastic Rowing Association's Manny Flick points trophy for the 8th consecutive year.

Each boat on the team proved to be a contributing factor to the team's overall success.

En route to the points trophy on April 13, in the last of the team's "regular season" races,

on the V8+ last year and four of whom are newcomers, have shown patience throughout the season and are now poised to bring home more medals from the upcoming championship re-

races.

While the Varsity 8+ and Lightweight 8+ events collected the most points in the overall points tally, the JV8+ also collected numerous points for the

the overall team points count and is looking to defend last year's Stotesbury title.

Finishing out the clinching of the points trophy were the LW4+, which triumphed multiple times

throughout the season, as well as the Freshman 8+, Novice 8+, JV4A+, JV4B+ and V4+, all of which took great strides on race days.

Due to unforeseen flooding along the Schuylkill River the weekend of May 4, the Philadelphia Scholastic Rowing Association was forced to postpone the Philadelphia City Championships.

Unfortunately, the organization decided to move the championship to the day after the more prestigious Stotesbury Cup Regatta, and the Mount coaches agreed to pull all of the boats that would be racing at Stotesbury out of the City Championships.

When *The Campanile* went to press, the team was continu-

ing to ready itself for upcoming championship races, including the Stotesbury Regatta in Philadelphia, SRAA National Championships at Mercer Lake in New Jersey and the USRowing Youth National Championship in Sacramento, California.



Senior captains Lauren Matchett, Liz McKernan and Caroline Carbone



The Varsity 4+, who will for the first time be joining the Mount team headed to Youth Nationals, with coach Meg Kennedy after their race at Mid-Atlantics

the Varsity 8+ beat rival Catholic schools Holy Spirit and Merion by a convincing margin and, according to coach Mike McKenna, "placed a target on its back" for the remainder of the season.

According to McKenna, the rowers, four of whom rowed

gattas.

The Lightweight 8+ is also proving to be tough a competitor this season. Going head to head with rivals Holy Spirit and Merion, the Lights have consistently put up great fights and look to come out victorious in the big

team, winning several consecutive flicks, always with a good distance between it and the second place boat.

While last year's 2nd Varsity 8+ won the 2013 Stotesbury Cup Regatta, this year's lineup has proven to be a great addition to