

Currents



The Curriculum Newsletter of St. Mary's High School • Vol. 14, Issue 6 • February 2006

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Good Luck, Welcome, Congratulations

Dear Parents,

It's already mid year, and for all of our students it's time to prepare for mid-term exams and gear up for the second semester.

As you are well aware by now, Villa Maria Academy will be closing this September. It is a sad time for a school that has had such a rich and distinguished tradition. All of us in the private education sector were saddened by this announcement and wish the best for all of the students, parents, and faculty.

St. Mary's has extended a helping hand to all of those students who want to continue their Catholic education. Many of the Villa girls have already expressed an interest in attending our school next year. Mr. McDaniels and our staff have put together a plan to help the Villa girls make a smooth transition should they decide to accept our invitation. I know all of our students, faculty, and parents are ready to extend a warm welcome.

I am also proud to announce that one of our students, Mathew Walter, has been accepted to the Military Academy at West Point. This is obviously a great honor to be accepted to such a select and distinguished school. All of us at St. Mary's are very proud of Matt and wish him the best of luck.

As always, I want to thank all of you for your continued support and confidence in St. Mary's. It is through this partnership that we will continue to provide the best education possible and graduate young men and women ready to meet the challenges of our highly competitive society.

Thank you, and may God bless.



Dr. Joseph Carimino

Principal

Congratulations, Scholarship Winners! Welcome, Class of 2010!

St. Mary's High School recently announced the winners of scholarships to attend St. Mary's for the 2006-2007 school year.

The scholarships, with a total value of over \$85,000, were awarded to students who will be freshmen in the next school year. Scholarship awards were based on a Scholarship Test, applications, letters of recommendation, and/or personal essays.

The following is the complete list of scholarship winners:

- **Leadership Scholarship for Lancaster/Depew Students (full tuition for four years)** — Emma Concannon from Lancaster
- **\$8,000 Gus Galasso Scholarship** — Kelsey Rademacher from Cheektowaga
- **\$1,400 Academic Scholarship** — Joseph

- Barnhardt from Lancaster
- **\$4,000 Academic Scholarship** — Alexander Burns from Depew
- **\$4,000 Academic Scholarship** — Stephen Hanson from Williamsville

- **\$4,000 Academic Scholarship** — Jeffrey Kapanek from Cheektowaga
- **\$4,000 Albin Kocialski Scholarship** — Monica McNeill from Lancaster

(Continued on page 2)

Parent Guild Meeting to feature Tuition Rate presentation

Nick Fiume, chairperson of the Recruiting and Financial Aid Committee of the Board of Trustees, will offer a presentation on the Tuition Rate Setting Process at the February Parent Guild Meeting.

The Parent Guild will be meeting

on **Tuesday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m.** in the school's Cafeteria.

In his presentation, Mr. Fiume will discuss the details of the 2006-2007 Tuition Rate and how it was developed.

Please plan to attend.

Scholarships *(Continued from page 1)*

- **\$4,000 Alumni Scholarship** — Connor Hoffman from Lancaster
 - **\$4,000 Fr. Leon Ross Scholarship** — Alex Beilman from Williamsville
 - **\$4,000 Fr. Leon Ross Scholarship** — Kara Dudek from Cheektowaga
 - **\$4,000 Gus Galasso Scholarship** — Nicole Vesper from Depew
 - **\$2,000 Academic Scholarship** — Mary Pokorski from Alden
 - **\$2,000 Academic Scholarship** — Jacob Weiss from Lancaster
 - **\$1,400 Academic Scholarship** — Kevin Burton from Cheektowaga
 - **\$1,400 Academic Scholarship** — Vincent Kazmierczak from Lancaster
 - **\$1,400 Academic Scholarship** — Brittany Pivarsi from Cheektowaga
 - **\$1,400 Academic Scholarship** — Stephanie Simmeth from Cheektowaga
 - **\$750 Alumni/Service Scholarship** — Casey Dudziak from Lancaster
 - **\$750 Service/Academic Scholarship** — Justine Pazderski from Lancaster
 - **\$750 Service/Academic Scholarship** — Christina VanDeWater from Cheektowaga
 - **\$250 Academic Scholarship** — Shannon Kulbacki from Buffalo
 - **\$250 Academic Scholarship** — Timothy Wojcicki from Cheektowaga
 - **\$250 Service/Academic Scholarship** — Patrick Colern from Depew
 - **\$250 Service/Academic Scholarship** — Katiemarie Puntoriero from Buffalo
- The Admissions Committee of St. Mary's is also pleased to announce the complete list of students who have been accepted as members of the Class of 2010.
- They are:
- Jena Abati from Lancaster
 - Taylor Aquino from Lancaster
 - Joseph Barnhardt from Lancaster
 - Adam Barrett from Cheektowaga
 - Jeremy Bauer from Depew
 - Alex Beilman from Williamsville
 - Jenna Bezilla from West Seneca
 - Kevin Bowers from West Seneca
 - Alexander Burns from Depew
 - Kevin Burton from Cheektowaga
 - Codee Cascio from Buffalo
 - Ryan Chapman-Davis from Buffalo
 - Joe Chmura from Cheektowaga
 - Daniel Chojnacki from Lancaster
 - Jillian Christie from Sanborn
 - Brittany Chudzinski from Buffalo
 - Mallory Cichocki from Depew
 - Michael Colafranceschi from Lancaster
 - Patrick Colern from Depew
 - Joel Collins from Buffalo
 - Erica Comisso from Cheektowaga
 - Emma Concannon from Lancaster
 - David Connolly from Lockport
 - Shawn Cronmiller from Elma
 - Maria Daddeo from Lockport
 - Christopher Debbins from Lancaster
 - Matthew DeBoth from Cheektowaga
 - Robert Delano from Buffalo
 - Brenna Dimmig from Lancaster
 - Ashley DiPietro from Niagara Falls
 - Matt Dobbins from Lockport
 - Danielle Dolegala from Lancaster
 - Kara Dudek from Cheektowaga
 - Casey Dudziak from Lancaster
 - Daniel Dudziak from Buffalo
 - Benjamin Dziekan from Cheektowaga
 - Nicholas Eadie from Lancaster
 - Elizabeth Eckert from Lockport
 - Thomas Elwell from Lancaster
 - Lindsey Erickson from Lockport
 - Caitlin Farrell from Lockport
 - Jennifer Goracke from West Seneca
 - Brendan Graham from Cheektowaga
 - Sean Griffin from Buffalo
 - Stephen Hanson from Williamsville
 - Daniel Hanzilian from Cheektowaga
 - Lauren Hartman from Depew
 - Anthony Heigl from Buffalo
 - Shane Hiscutt from Cheektowaga
 - Thach Hoang from Buffalo
 - Connor Hoffman from Lancaster
 - Brianna Hokaj from Lancaster
 - Andrew Hynarowski from Cheektowaga
 - Craig Igielinski from Buffalo
 - Steven Interdonato from Cheektowaga
 - Thomas Irish from Lancaster
 - Richelle Jasinski-Cook from Sloan
 - Katelyn Johnson from West Seneca
 - Sean Jones from Buffalo
 - Jeffrey Kapanek from Cheektowaga
 - Vincent Kazmierczak from Lancaster
 - Sean Kenney from Williamsville
 - Chelsea Kiebzak from Cheektowaga
 - Thomas Kilger from Lockport
 - Chelsea Kosowski from Buffalo
 - Sarah Krolicki from Arcade
 - Shannon Kulbacki from Buffalo
 - Anthony Lafornera from East Amherst
 - Michael Lang from Buffalo
 - Joseph Lauricella from Cheektowaga
 - Justin Lee from Orchard Park
 - Luke Leffle from East Aurora
 - Kenneth Liszewski from East Amherst
 - Justin Loft from Buffalo
 - Edward Lubecki from Depew
 - Kristin Lynett from Williamsville
 - Michael Maiorana from Alden
 - Joseph Malicki from Depew
 - Michael Malicki from Depew
 - McKenzie Mallia from Buffalo
 - Jennette Malucci from Williamsville
 - Scott Marciniak from Buffalo
 - Megan Marrano from West Seneca
 - Katlyn Marshall from Buffalo
 - Nicole Mazur from Buffalo
 - Matthew Mazzone from Buffalo
 - Monica McNeill from Lancaster
 - Emmanuel Mesa from Buffalo
 - Samuel Milito from Kenmore
 - Dionna Morris from Buffalo
 - Aaron Muise from Cheektowaga
 - Sarah Murphy from Cheektowaga
 - Alex Muscarella from Lancaster
 - Kristen Nazaruk from Hamburg
 - Richard Needham from Cheektowaga
 - Victoria Niedzielski from Depew
 - Michelle Nowacki from Lancaster
 - Joelle Orsini from Lancaster
 - Allison Orzeszek from Sloan
 - Collin Owczarzak from Cheektowaga
 - Renato Passucci from Orchard Park
 - Casandra Pawlikowski from Lancaster
 - Justine Pazderski from Lancaster
 - Anne Penepent from Elma
 - Hayley Pickett from Depew
 - Cara Pijanowski from Lancaster
 - Brittany Pivarsi from Cheektowaga
 - Christopher Ploski from Lancaster
 - Mary Pokorski from Alden
 - Nicholas Puckett from East Aurora
 - Katiemarie Puntoriero from Buffalo
 - Jeremy Pyszczynski from Alden
 - Kelsey Rademacher from Cheektowaga
 - Joseph Reynolds from Cheektowaga
 - Nicole Richter from Cheektowaga
 - Alexandra Rockwood from Lockport
 - Colton Rodgers from Elma
 - Angelica Rodriguez from Buffalo
 - Andrew Roth from Lockport
 - Samantha Rozbicki from Buffalo
 - Evan Ruh from Cheektowaga
 - Elizabeth Rutowski from Williamsville
 - Tyler Rzemek from Lancaster
 - David Saba from Lancaster
 - Rebecca Sabia from East Aurora
 - Brady Schultz from West Seneca
 - Benjamin Schurr from Lancaster
 - Susan Seep from Williamsville
 - Matthew Sevilla from Williamsville
 - Stephanie Simmeth from Cheektowaga
 - Patricia Slawicki from Sloan
 - Kaitlynn Smyczynski from Buffalo
 - Nicholas Southard from Lockport
 - Stephen Stachowski from Elma
 - Baxter Sukdolak from Lockport
 - Paul Szeliga from Buffalo
 - Angel Torres from Buffalo
 - Christina VanDeWater from Cheektowaga
 - Nicole Vasquez from Depew
 - Nicole Vesper from Depew
 - Cameron Walsh from Lancaster
 - Jessica Warner from Lancaster
 - Jacob Weiss from Lancaster
 - Joseph Wilton from Buffalo
 - Timothy Wojcicki from Cheektowaga
 - Brittany Wojewodzki from Cheektowaga
 - Kayla Wright from Amherst
 - Loren Wright from Lockport
 - David Zale from Lancaster
 - Alexandra Zarbo from Lancaster

January Students of Month



Laura Pasek



James Burton



Adam Bardol



Meghan Hinton

Character trait of the Month:

Integrity

— A Recipe for Integrity —

- Start with an overflowing cup of **morals** and **ethics**
 - Mixed together with strong **values**
 - Add a heaping teaspoon of “**Do the Right Thing**”
 - Combine with a pinch of **honesty** and **allegiance**
- After mixing with a lot of **hard work**, stick to a plate of **principles**
- When all of these ingredients are combined and blended into your **character**, the result will be the **trust** and **respect** of those around you.

Spirit Week is February 13-17

St. Mary’s High School will be celebrating Spirit Week the week of February 13 to 17.

There are really two purposes of the week: offer refreshment after a week of exams (just completed two weeks before), and bring

some excitement to the cold winter months. The week will include a series of events for the entire school body and include special dress to help the students increase their spirit.

The Spirit Week schedule includes:

Mon., Feb. 13	Tues., Feb. 14	Wed., Feb. 15	Thur., Feb. 16	Fri., Feb. 17
Pajama Day	Pink or Red Day <i>(Valentine’s Day)</i>	Sports Team Day	White or Black Day	Painted Face Pride Day
School-wide lunch in Auditorium	Top must be pink or red	Top – any kind of sports team top	Must wear all solid black or all solid white <i>(the white cannot be see-through)</i>	Contest for the best painted face
Singled Out in Athletic Center after lunch	Bottom must be red or pink or DRESS CODE	Bottom – can be jeans with a \$1 donation	There will be a scavenger hunt during lunches	PM Liturgy
Lullabies played over PA between classes	Free computer match given out in homeroom	College fight songs played over PA between classes	The song between classes will be Three Dog Night’s <i>The World is Black, the World is White</i>	
	Love songs played over PA between classes	There will be a contest to see who can name the most songs		

Winter Break Office Hours

During the Winter Break, February 20 to 24, St. Mary’s will be closed on Monday for the Presidents’ Day holiday, but open **9 a.m. to noon** the rest of the week.

School Supplies

As we begin the new semester, be sure to check with your son/daughter to see if they are in need of any new school supplies.

There may be a change in their schedule, including a new course with a new list of supplies. Maybe they need more loose-leaf paper, pencils, or pens. Some of their folders or binders may be falling apart.

This is a good time to refocus on academics, and getting some new school supplies may aid students in doing that. This is a small, yet significant way that you can help to set up your son/daughter for success.

From the Tuition Office

St. Mary’s parents who chose not to order a Lance Yearbook for the 2005/2006 school year will notice that the yearbook charge has been removed from their tuition statements.

Further questions may be addressed to Mrs. Kremer at 683-4824, ext. 23.

From the Health Office

New for Spring Sport Athletes:

Prior to the start of tryouts or practice at the beginning of each season, a health history review for each athlete must be conducted unless the student received a full medical examination within 30 days of the start of the season.

Students interested in trying out for a spring sport must turn in permission slips to the Health Office by February 15 in order to be eligible to try out. **This form is now a two sided form that the parent/guardian must complete.** Forms will be available in the Health Office, the Counseling Office, and the Main Office.

If you have any questions, please call the school nurse, Mrs. Murphy, at 683-4824, ext.20.

Report cards are coming

Report cards will be distributed on Friday, Feb. 3, in homerooms.

As stated in the Tuition Policy adopted by the Board of Trustees, “Report cards will not be distributed to parents or students where two or more months of tuition are due.”

If this applies to you, report cards will be held until your account is brought current.



Remember the Goodness of God

By Mr. Greg Coogan
Campus Minister

Today your writer has been enjoying our mild winter. The sun is shining with warm rays yesterday and 50 degrees! I can't help but get outside and take in the sun.

These kinds of days remind me of God's greatness and generosity. Here we are in the ordinary days of our lives as we watch the calendar count between Christmas and Easter. Our lives may be filled with tests, projects, studying, relaxing, and working, ultimately the normalness of life.

We who are the Church are also celebrating Ordinary Time. This season takes its name from the Latin word, ordinal, which means numbered. The numbered weeks in the liturgical year represent the weeks from the Baptism of the Lord until Ash Wednesday and again from the Pentecost until the first Sunday of Advent. This time presents many opportunities to focus on the teachings and parables of Jesus and on the demands of being a follower of Christ. It is a time when we follow the life of Jesus through the stories of Matthew, Mark, or Luke. A particular color is associated with each of the liturgical seasons. These colors are reflected in the priests' vestments during each season. The liturgical color of Ordinary Time is green, symbolizing life and hope.

Ordinary Time is a good reminder to slow down and take a look at how we are living out our faith every day. Here are some suggestions for making the most of Ordinary Time:

- Look through your photo albums or watch home movies. Take special notice of the "ordinary" times you've documented,



www.geocities.com

such as playing in the backyard or a day at the ski slope.

- Try to recall some of your most cherished memories. Are they from major life events, holidays or special occasions? Or are they memories of everyday occurrences? For instance, while I certainly cherish events in my life such as my wedding and the birth of my nieces and nephews, one of my most cherished memories is when my older sister, Kathy, sat and carefully glued back together a ceramic frog of mine that had been dropped and shattered. It was a visual demonstration to me of compassion, patience, and love.

- During this period of Ordinary Time, find ways to make the ordinary extra-ordinary. Attend Mass at a different parish or at a different time. Say family prayers at a time other than you normally would, such as before dinner. Perhaps gather and say family prayers before bed. Find different ways to change your faith routine.

- Remind yourself to slow down and appreciate life's ordinary moments. Take time to read a book, walk around the block, hug or kiss your kids or grandkids, or enjoy the snow.

For our students:

Ordinary Time is a period when we should focus on ways in which we are living out our faith on a daily basis. Stop and think about how you are doing that. Are you being kind to others? Are you doing good deeds? Now that it is winter and you're inside playing with your friends, are you treating them as you would like to be treated? Are you being respectful and loving toward your parents and those around you? If you are, keep up the good work! If not, take this opportunity of Ordinary Time to work on those things with which you're struggling.

Keep up the great ordinary things of your life.

Make a Joyful Noise

By Mr. Gary Schulenberg
Member, Campus Ministry Committee

Music is the very essence of what makes us human. It seems to be hard-wired into our brain. It's an integral part of all religions. Whether it's praise, penance, or thanksgiving, music covers the gambit of our concerns and needs.

Our Judea-Christian traditions are alive with music. The psalms were sacred songs. The early Christians made music a central part of their worship. A number of their early works have survived through today. Gregorian chant and the religious works of the grand master, Mozart, are all a part of this rich tradition that is liturgical music.

Christian music today reflects a multi-

tude of types, styles, and ethnic backgrounds. There is awareness and sharing of music from many different Christian traditions.

Why do some congregations exhibit less than joyful noise when they celebrate their liturgy? More importantly for St. Mary's, why don't our students blow the ceiling off the Aud during our Masses? Here are some of the usual excuses and a polite rebuttal:

- **We don't know the songs.** Music Ministry has worked very hard to expose the student and faculty body to familiar and new music. We intentionally repeat songs so all can learn them.

- **The leadership for the music isn't very good.** Can't use this excuse any more. Music Ministry has worked hard to praise our

God in song. We sound pretty darn good.

- **I don't like the songs.** Oh? Why do you sway to the music? Why do you applaud? Why do some of you hum or sing one of the songs after the Mass?

- **Peer group pressure makes us too embarrassed to sing.** Now, this might make sense. But consider these things. Most of us love to sing Happy Birthday, to sing in the shower, or belt out the latest tune we've down-loaded.

Maybe we need to pray for courage. We need to take the plunge and just sing God's praises. Obviously, if we all join in, no one will stand out. Ask those who already pray through song. It makes the liturgy much more interesting, and our sense of community is enriched.

SOuL organizes spiritual adoption

By Mrs. Sarah Hammer
SO(u)L Co-Moderator

In order to bring more awareness to the sanctity of life, St. Mary's pro-life group, SOuL, will be organizing a spiritual adoption program.

Starting on January 23, the day after the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, every student will be given the opportunity to make the decision to pray for an unborn baby in danger of abortion. The program usually runs nine months but due to the time restrictions

of the school year, we will be running it over the next three months.

Over this time, the students will be able to check out *Currents* and follow the development of the baby they are praying for. The development will be shown in trimesters.

At the end of the three months, SOuL will host a baby shower where there will be a collection of gifts that will be donated to Harvest House.

Prayer is the most powerful tool we as Christians have. Thank you to all who are participating!

The First Trimester

At five weeks the fetus is about the size of a raisin, but it already has its own heartbeat. By about the sixth week (or the end of the first month since conception) the fetus will have grown to be about one-fifth of an inch long. Even at this early stage, your baby will be developing its heart, head, mouth, liver, and intestines.

At seven weeks, the mouth and tongue are visible and the fetus starts moving on its own. By now it has its own blood type. By eight weeks the child's brain waves can

be detected.

After about 10 weeks, your baby will be about an inch long and have identifiable arms, legs, fingers, toes, and facial features. Its teeth are beginning to grow. The heart is almost completely developed. The nervous system is also starting to develop at this stage. Baby's internal organs are beginning to function.

At week 12, your baby can start sucking its thumb.

SOTE saves and serves

By Mr. Gary Schulenberg
SOTE Moderator

St. Mary's environmental club, Stewards of the Earth (SOTE), has been very active. Our first container of paper for recycling was recently picked up. Working with Abitibi Consolidated, a recycling company, we have been able to make some of our resources last longer. Abitibi Consolidated provides the recycling bin and pays St. Mary's for our endeavors. The club will work with the Administration to determine what group will benefit from this program.

Another new element of SOTE's activities involves the collection of soda pop can tabs. The students in the club chose the Hunter's Hope Foundation to be the beneficiary. We will have a number of strategically-located containers to collect the tabs. We are calling on all of St. Mary's families to save their tabs, put them in baggies, and put them in one of these containers. These aluminum tabs are sold as scrap metal and can translate into a substantial contribution.

Finally, the club continues to collect beverage containers, both the deposit and non-deposit type. Any proceeds will be split between Habitat for Humanity and St. Luke's Mission. The other cans and bottles are recycled.

We are proud to offer these opportunities to save and protect our resources. It is hoped these activities will make people more aware of environmental issues. While protecting God's creation, we also strive to help and serve others as Jesus did.

Freshmen to take part in Project Truth Course discusses abstinence until marriage

Consistent with a holistic approach to personal growth and identity and Catholic thought, all ninth graders at St. Mary's High School will have the opportunity to participate in Project Truth during their religion class.

Project Truth is a multi-faceted absti-

nence until marriage education initiative that is built on a foundation of character education.

A letter to parents and guardians will be arriving soon. It will contain all necessary information concerning the curriculum and class discussions.

Radka wins lighting contest

Brett Radka, a junior at St. Mary's High School, was the first place winner in the 18th annual Light Up LoveJoy Christmas Lighting Contest.

Brett used a computerized light show to

decorate the outside of his home on North Ogden in Buffalo.

Brett received a plaque from the Iron Island Preservation Society as the winner of this contest.

St. Mary's hosts 5-hour course

St. Mary's will be the site for the New York State Five-Hour Safe Driving Course. All applicants for a driver's license must take this course to be eligible to make a road test appointment.


Upon completion of the class, participants will be issued certificate #DMV-278.

This course will be offered at St. Mary's


from 3 to 8 p.m. on:

- Monday, March 6
- Wednesday, April 5
- Tuesday, May 9
- Tuesday, June 13

The cost of the course is \$30 per student paid in cash (no checks, please). Pre-registration is not necessary.



**Wanted:
Used (&
Usable)
Metal Tennis
Racquets
for Gym Classes
To make a donation,
just send it in
with your son
or daughter.
Thanks!**



St. Mary's hosts SAT Prep classes

St. Mary's will hold two SAT Prep Classes the second semester. The first one will end before the April 1 test date and the second before the June 3 test date.

The cost of the class is \$225, which includes the book. Registration forms are available on our website. The dates and times are as follows:

First Session

Sunday, Feb. 26 - 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon
 Wednesday, March 1 - 6 - 8 p.m.
 Sunday, March 5 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Wednesday, March 8 - 6 - 8 p.m.
 Sunday, March 12 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Wednesday, March 15 - 6 - 8 p.m.
 Sunday, March 19 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Wednesday, March 22 - 6 - 8 p.m.
 Sunday, March 26 - 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon
 Wednesday, March 29 - 6 - 8 p.m.

Second Session

Sunday, April 30 - 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon
 Wednesday, May 3 - 6 - 8 p.m.
 Sunday, May 7 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Wednesday, May 10 - 6 - 8 p.m.
 Sunday, May 14 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Wednesday, May 17 - 6 - 8 p.m.
SATURDAY, May 20 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Wednesday, May 24 - 6 - 8 p.m.
 Sunday, May 28 - 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon
 Wednesday, May 31 - 6 - 8 p.m.

Lancer Auction 2006
An Evening
of
Enchancement
Friday, Feb. 10
6 p.m. - ?

For more information,
call the Development Office
683-4824 ext. 28

Tickets for *Seussical the Musical* go on sale Wednesday, March 1

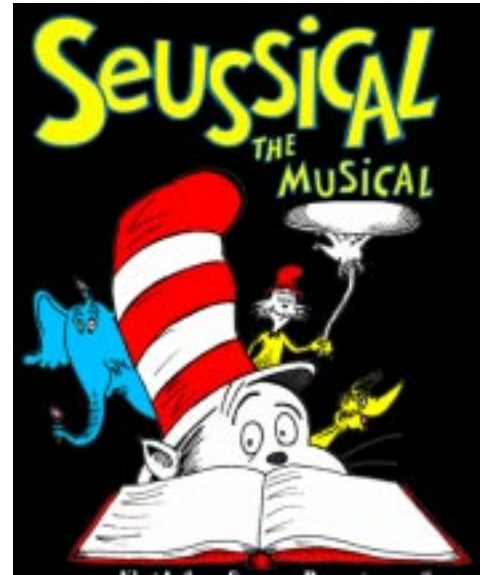
The St. Mary's Performing Arts Department will be presenting *Seussical, the Musical*, as this year's spring musical.

The production will run Thursday, March 23, through Saturday, March 25, with the curtain rising at 7:30 p.m. for all three performances.

The play, based on the works of award-winning children's author Dr. Seuss, tells the story of Horton the Elephant and his mission to save the tiny planet of Who. Many of the Seuss favorite characters are there, including Horton, the Grinch, and of course, the Cat in the Hat.

The cast for the musical is:

Gertrude McFuzz – Alice Cunningham
Horton the Elephant – Eric Conrad
JoJo – Jasmine Juliana
The Cat in the Hat – David Pfeiffer
Mayzie LaBird – Jordan Hokaj
General Gengus Khan Schmitz – Tim Miller
Sour Kangaroo – Patricia Salamone
Mr. Mayor – John McGowan
Mrs. Mayor – Maria Held
Judge Yertle the Turtle – Cristina Fudoli
The Grinch – Joe Cianciosa
Wickershams – Andy Adolf, John Anstett, Shaun Morgan, Cameron Powell
Bad Girls – Meghan Hinton, Katie Kawa,



Alison Slagor, Amanda Tourot

Smaller roles will be determined throughout the rehearsal process.

Tickets will go on sale on Wednesday, March 1, at noon (no presale) in the Media Center. The reserved-seating tickets are \$7 for adults, \$6 for students, and \$5 for senior citizens and children 12 and under.

More information on the play or tickets is available by calling Mr. Herr or Mr. Kidder at 683-4824, ext. 15.

Professional Football Players donate SAT, ACT Training

eKnowledge LLC, based in Los Angeles, Calif, recently announced that a group of NFL, NFL Europe, AFL, and CFL players, all represented through the Victory Sports Group Agency, has donated several millions of dollars worth of SAT and ACT test prep programs to Catholic high school students nationwide.

The donation allocates hundreds of thousands of the interactive video CD programs to students, which will be distributed on a first-come-first-serve basis.

The SAT and ACT test prep training programs are two separate CD-ROM sets that include more than 10 hours of training videos and 25-40 hours of student participation. These can be used as a stand-alone complete course or as a supplement to other SAT and ACT prep materials. The students select the training they most need, and they can study at their own pace by picking which of 120 video lessons they want to view. The

program also provides progress tracking and much more.

The programs distributed through this donation have a license that will last until the end of the 2005-06 school year and are intended for individual use.

To obtain a copy of the program, parents should go to the website sat.eknowledge.com, click on "order," enter the member code 2008e440cd, and enter the name of the school. The donation only covers the \$199.99 cost of the program; parents will need to pay \$9.95 for shipping and handling.

The Victory Sports Group is a full-service sports agency firm that represents professional football players in the NFL, NFL Europe, AFL, and CFL. Among their clients are Ahmaad Galloway (San Diego Chargers), Scott Young (Philadelphia Eagles), Garrick Jones (Houston Texans), and Corey Williams (Green Bay Packers).

NHS inducts 15 new members



Surrounding Mr. Robert Mihelbergel, NHS Teacher of the Year, are the New Inductees into the Marian Chapter of the National Honor Society for 2005-2006: (standing) Alyssa Owczarczak, Jennifer Kuczanski, Ellyn Hayes, Elizabeth Migliore, Christina Knapp, Mary Scotland, Michelle Scotland, Gary Schmelzer, Keith Kropski, Anthony Moreno, Kristine Starkey, (seated) Kristin Leszkowicz, Tabitha Slachciak, Elizabeth Knittel, and Kenneth Held.

Food Festival for Scholars

The St. Mary's Scholars came together on January 15 for their annual Foreign Food Festival. Members brought foods from a variety of cultures for all to sample, including pierogi, Mexican wedding cakes, and Italian soda.

In February, the group will see *Deadly Nightcap* at the Lancaster Opera House.

Dave Pfeiffer, Cam Powell, and Tara Ward sample foreign food.



Snowball 2005?



For the first time in its 15-year history, the annual Snowball semi-formal dance had to be postponed because of the weather. The large amount of snow on December 16 forced the event to be moved to January 6.

Despite the date change, fun was had by all as the dancing, the food, and the "hanging" brought some relief to the post-holiday blues.

At left is the Court of the Snowball including King Nate Casillo and Queen Amanda Jeary.

Parents can be part of Health Class

By Mrs. MaryKatherine Posluszny
Health Teacher

If your son or daughter is taking Health this semester, you may be interested in sharing the experience of a class project.

When the topic of Nutrition is covered in class, students will be assigned to take a self-evaluation on-line. Found at Realage.com, the students will be asked a series of questions regarding their eating and life habits to see how their "nutritional" age compares to their chronological age.

This site is not for students alone. Parents are also encouraged to take the survey, to assess their own "real age," and compare their results with their students. This should prove to be very interesting as to a parents vs. child perception of many of the same topics.

Another interesting web site is www.yearsahead.com. This site asks questions of the parents of how well they are doing to prepare for the nutritional health of their children.

If you have any questions regarding these sites, Nutrition, or Health class, please contact Mrs. Poz at school.

Seniors schedule Fish Fries

The Senior Class is sponsoring Lenten Fish Fries on **Friday, March 3, and Friday, March 10, from 4 to 7 p.m.** both nights.

The dinners, prepared by the students with the help of Cafeteria Manager Evelyn Skalski and her wonderful staff, will include fish, homemade salads, coleslaw, bread, dessert, and a drink. Take-outs will be available. The cost for the meal will be \$7.50.

In addition to the Fish Fries, the event will include a Chinese Auction and a Split Club each night. The proceeds will be used to defray some of the costs incurred by these students during their senior year. This includes Senior Prom and the Graduation.

Anyone who is interested in helping out is always welcome. The Class is especially looking for donations of items for the Chinese Auction. Anyone who wishes to contribute is asked to send their items in to the class moderators.

More information on the Fish Fries and volunteering is available by calling Mr. Kidder at 683-4824, ext. 15.

Leadership Class concludes Character presentations

By Mr. Peter Herr

Leadership Class Teacher

The Leadership Class finished the first semester with a series of final projects that raised awareness of the need for character and raised money for Carly's Club, the pediatric group at Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

The school-wide project was a two-week awareness project. Each day there was a morning announcement that featured the Character trait of the day; these were the same traits being emphasized monthly by the administration. These announcements explained briefly what the trait was and gave a short recognition of famous people who exhibited the traits. Additionally, a small group



David Pfeiffer (back) was named Mr. Lancer. James Mulrain (left) was first runner-up. Shaun Morgan was voted Mr. Congeniality.



Rock for Roswell drew a crowd of about 200 people.

in the class produced two one-half hour radio shows that included interviews with students, short commentary, advertisements for the Roswell events, and music that followed the character theme. The broadcasts were played during lunches.

Another group in the class created a video that featured students and teachers giving their thoughts on what character meant to them, as well as what person they felt exhibited great character. The video was played for the entire St. Mary's community at the end of the Liturgy for Peace.

At the beginning of the two-week period, a survey was handed out to all students and faculty. The ballot asked all students to pick faculty and all faculty to choose the students who they felt best exemplified the 10 character traits of the day. The winners were

recognized at a final assembly that wrapped up the two weeks events. Former Buffalo Mayor Anthony Masiello spoke at the assembly on the necessity of having character to achieve success and live a life that is also filled with happiness and satisfaction.

The winners were:

Honesty – Mr. Junik, John Stich

Integrity – Mr. Mihelbergel, Katie Kawa

Self-Control – Mr. LaMartina, Andy Hinton

Responsibility – Mrs. Rosenthal, Liz Greene

Compassion – Mrs. Tandy, John McGowan

Tolerance – Miss Baer, Lynn Holtz

Citizenship – Mr. Even, Carly McNeil

Forgiveness – Mr. Schulenberg, Sarah Zureck

Appreciation – Mr. Rider, Mary Scotland

Kindness – Mr. Fay, Chelsey Kelso

In addition to the two-week large group

(Continued on page 11)

Participation in Government breaks records

By Mr. Henry Even

Social Studies Teacher

This semester, the senior students in Participation in Government class broke many records in the final project of this social studies course: most money raised and most number of people involved. Over \$3,000 was raised for a variety of charitable and educational works.

The Shoot-a-Thon conducted by Liz Greene, Kyle Lang, and Alissa Tarick helped with this record-setting trend. The event raised over \$2,000 for the Make-a-Wish Foundation and the St. Mary's

Sports Booster Club. Over 100 students and faculty members were involved in the event, with Mr. Keith Junik, assistant athletic director, assisting the three girls and encouraging many of the athletes to get involved.



Leading scorer Mike Phelps lines up his shot during the Shoot-a-Thon

Rock for Roswell was a combination PIG project and a project for Mr. Herr's Leadership Class. Over \$800 was given to Roswell Park from this event. With the involvement of PIG students Kyle Kiebzak, Kevin Robinson, Tom Strebel, and Dan LoJocano, the project involved organizing a concert with a variety of bands from inside and outside the school.

Another group

held a Volleyball Tournament for Cornerstone Manor, a facility for battered women and children. Stephanie Kremer and Amanda Jeary arranged this project and bought gifts for the facility with the over \$100 dollars they raised from the tournament.

Katie Kacalski, Sarah Bartolotta, Lynn Holtz, and Caitlin Mahaney organized a clothing drive to benefit the City Mission.

Our "furry" friends benefited with Mission for Mutts. Laura Pawlikowski, Stephanie Szwajda, and Amanda Touroto collected cash donations and supplies for the Lancaster Town Animal Shelter. Another group composed of Tim Miller, Sarah Chudyk, Laura Pasek, and Annelise Talbot collected over \$200 for the I Saved a Dog/Cat with the SPCA Project.

Some students opted to work with other charities by volunteering their time and talents. These included Ben Duck (City Mission), Andy Dudzinski (Ronald McDonald

(Continued on page 9)

The Apprentice invades St. Mary's

By Mrs. Mary Zachrich
Business Teacher

After receiving 13 business and marketing lessons from Donald Trump by way of his hit series *The Apprentice* and their business teacher, St. Mary's Marketing and Accounting students were ready to take on the marketing/sales challenge handed to them: the task was to sell homemade baked goods during the three lunch periods, with the team raising the most money declared "the winners."

The students were divided into teams according to their lunch periods. Each team selected a project manager and was then given four days to prepare for their task.

Based on the techniques and advice given during *The Apprentice*, the students mapped out their selling and marketing strategies. Some of the teams chose to market their sales through flyers and posters, while



Mr. McDaniels and Mrs. Casciano make their purchase during 5th period lunch.

others relied on word of mouth.

Much thought was also put into the types of baked goods that would be for sale. One group was even able to convince Sister Rose Therese to contribute her famous homemade chocolate cake. It was a big seller and contributed greatly to the team's success.

Another decision was to decide at what

price to sell their goods. As they learned from *The Apprentice*, one approach was to sell less baked goods but at a higher price. Another approach was to sell more at a lower price. The team that decided to sell less at a higher price had more sophisticated offerings for sale to justify their prices.

At the end of the day, the Sixth Period Lunch, led by John Stich, was the most successful, selling \$145 worth of goods. Sarah Odrobina and Greg Sieminski led the Seventh Period Lunch to second place, selling \$120. Fifth Period Lunch, with project manager Brad Gibson, brought in \$115. In total, the class raised \$380,

which was donated to Kids Escaping Drugs.

Many thanks to the parents, faculty, staff, and students for contributing to the success of this project.

As "The Donald" often says during *The Apprentice*, "Everyone is a winner when a charity benefits from hard work."

10 Easy Steps to Deal with Challenges of Modern World

Note: This is the third article in a series on Social Studies Education.

By Mr. Gary Schulenberg
Chairperson, Social Studies Department

Previously, the components of Social Studies were described, as well as the value of these elements. The social sciences and methodologies of Social Studies truly are important for understanding the past, present, and possible futures of our complex world.

In the study of the past, the "cides" and "cracies" abound. Whether it's genocides or infanticide, democracy or autocracy, Social Studies pokes and prods in areas that reflect traditional controversies. Unfortunately most of these issues are with us today, with some new entries never thought about before. Genocide may be as old as humankind, yet Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfour are grim reminders of its current existence.

The study of democracy usually begins with the ancient Greeks, but much of their behavior better reflected autocracies. We would see little semblance of us when looking at the Greek's treatment of women, slaves, and foreigners. Many of the major leadership superstars of the past were emperors and absolute monarchs, who sometimes used

their autocratic powers for the good of the people. Often times not. We still have our share of absolute rulers.

Although history may repeat itself, we have some new departures from this dictum. Who could have foreseen the creation of weapons of mass destruction and the hopes for and fear of genetic engineering? Nonetheless, we have to deal with these new concerns.

In a previous article, the importance of current events was emphasized. It's easy to see how issues and controversies would permeate the Social Studies curriculum. As with current events, the discussion of controversial topics is an essential piece of the New York State Social Studies Curriculum.

Social Studies teachers are trained to assist their students in researching, analyzing, evaluating, and deciding their stance on different controversies. The Social Studies Department works with the Religion Department

in these endeavors: it's imperative that our students learn the Christian stance on so many topics.

We also teach our students to identify the merits and motivation of various groups. Especially with the explosion of information available today, students must have discerning eyes and ears to filter out much of the political demagoguery and ideological static that is ever-present. The motivations, biases, and agendas of sectors of society can be very difficult to appraise.

Social Studies teachers have the professional responsibility to guide our students to carefully and deliberately explore, examine, and decide where they stand on the issues that confront them and their world. In partnership with parents, the faculty and staff of St. Mary's High School strive to prepare our charges for the future. The modern world offers wonderful opportunities, but we all need to be able to cope with the pitfalls.

PIG Projects (continued from page 8)

House), Greg Sieminski and Dominic Stephens (Hospice), and Carly McNeil, Stephanie Begley, and Jen Kuczanski (St. Mary's of the Angels).

Many parents and faculty members were helpful to the students and deserve much

gratitude. Through this type of final project, the students will learn the importance service has in everyone's life as members of a community. The projects show the needs in the local area and how blessed the students are with the gifts given to them by God.

33 students honored for poetry

Thirty-three students of St. Mary's High School have been notified that their poems have been Accepted for Publication by Creative Communication.

Creative Communication runs a poetry contest recognizing the best and brightest young poets of America. A student who makes the Accepted for Publication list is then eligible to receive one of several prizes, worth a total of \$70,000.

Also, the student's poem is published in Creative Communications poetry anthology.

In addition to the student awards, St. Mary's and English Teacher Mrs. MaryEllen Migliore received the Poetic Achievement award for having students' entries that were of exceptional high merit.

The students and their poems who were chosen to be published are:

Elizabeth Adolf (*Where Would I Be without You*), Julianne Aquino (*Betrayal*), Adam Beilman (*Cliche*), Corey Bougard (*Your Lips Gently to Mine*), Christina Bumbalo (*An Un-*

welcome Paradise), Kristy Carberry (*If Only*), Caitlin Chmura (*Fate*), Eric Conrad (*All Is Happy*), Joe Guido (*Red Car*), Maria Held (*Empty Circle*), Jeffrey Holtz (*The Outdoors*), Katilyn Hood (*Pictures*), Chelsey Kelso (*Calm after the Storm*), Elizabeth Knittel (*Family*), Serene Lazaro (*Never Measure Up*), Candace Leli (*My Reflection*), Amanda Leli (*Wake Me Up*), Katrina Lubecki (*Love*), Matt Maggio (*This Messed Up Task*), Stephen Meli (*Waiting for You ...*), Elizabeth Migliore (*I am ... All of the Above*), Kenny Moultrie (*The Secret Life of Myself*), Richard Powell (*War*), Eric Rademacher (*The Final Game*), Patricia

Salamone (*Why?*), Joelle Saveliev (*Inspiration by Moonlight*), Tabitha Slachciak (*Goodbye Summer*), Chris Solecki (*Life Before Second Chances*), Kristine Starkey (*Beautiful Piano*), Rebecca Suchy (*Across the Line*), Philip Sydoriak (*Game Time*), Kaytee Tammara (*The Cave*), and Zach Weiss (*The Way Nocturnal Creatures Live*).

"Creative Communication is a company that is devoted to the promotion of writing, teaching and appreciation of student writing," reads the company's website. "The intent of the student writing contest is to motivate creative writers."

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February 2006 Lunch Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
30 No School	31 Cook's Choice	1 Chicken tenders subs, wheat or white roll, baked tater rounds, mixed vegetables, assorted fruit, milk	2 Goulash, meat sauce, hot biscuits, chef salad, brownies, milk	3 Cheese ravioli, broccoli, bread sticks, peaches, milk
6 Chicken fajitas on soft shell, seasoned rice, chicken soup, assorted fruit, milk	7 Cheese burger, potato wedges, green beans, apple sauce, milk	8 Spaghetti with meat balls, chef salad, Italian bread, pudding, milk	9 Mini subs (turkey/ham), cheese, lettuce, wheat or white roll, baked chips, fresh fruit, milk	10 No School
13 Ronny's Pizza, mozzarella sticks, Rice Krispie treats, orange juice, milk	14 Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, dinner roll, glazed carrots, fruit, milk	15 Tacos with seasoned meat, cheese, lettuce, soft or hard shells, salsa, seasoned rice, chilled pears, milk	16 Baked chicken, baked fries, corn, hot biscuit, fruit, milk	17 Grilled cheese, tomato soup, hash brown patty, peach cobbler, milk
20 No School	21 No School	22 No School	23 No School	24 No School
27 Rib-a-cues on roll, mashed potatoes, California vegetables, fruit, milk	28 Cook's Choice			

Breakfast Served Every Day
7:15-7:45 a.m.
Cost: \$1.00

Toasted bagel, cream cheese, donut/cereal, muffin, juice/milk

Note: A la carte items can be purchased at \$.60 each donut, bagel, muffin; \$.40 milk; \$.40 juice

Special Note

Students may prepay for lunch by the week or month — \$2 per day.

Everyday the Cafeteria serves:

- A. Balanced lunch as shown on the menu
- B. Soup of the day with tuna, or egg sandwich
- C. Salad bar

D. Deli sandwiches w/ ham, turkey, lettuce, & cheese; bread, kaiser roll

Please Note: Lunches are subject to change according to availability of products. Extra grains are served each day to meet dietary guidelines.

Leadership class *(continued from page 8)*

projects, the class also broke into smaller groups and presented three projects that raised funds for Carly's Club, the pediatric section of the Roswell Alliance.

The first event was the second annual "Rock 4 Roswell" that took place on Thursday, Jan. 12, in the school auditorium. Featuring five bands, the event raised approximately \$800 for the cause.

Saturday, Jan. 14, was the date of the Dodgeball Tournament. Six men's teams and two women's teams competed for a \$60-per-

team prize. In addition to the teams, a fair amount of spectators showed up to enjoy the evening. The event raised about \$150.

The final event was the first annual "Mr. Lancer" competition, held on Wednesday, Jan. 18. The 11 contestants competed for the recognition of being the first Mr. Lancer. The men had to answer a question about their favorite memory at St. Mary's, perform a physical fitness routine, display a talent, take part in a pie eating contest, model evening clothes, and answer a question, regarding

what they would change at St. Mary's. After votes were tallied, junior David Pfeiffer was crowned the first Mr. Lancer. Junior James Mulrain was runner up, and senior Shaun Morgan was named Mr. Congeniality by his fellow contestants. It was a fantastic evening of entertainment. This final event raised approximately \$250, making the sum total approximately \$1100 for the entire series of projects.

The Leadership Skills course is offered each year and is open to juniors and seniors.

February 2006 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30-Off NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Faculty in-Service <i>Girls BB vs. Buff Sem 6pm Boys BB @ East Aurora 6pm</i>	31-A Third Quarter Begins	1-B AP Bio Field Trip to Canisius College 8am-2:30pm Scholars 7pm Lancaster Opera House <i>Girls BB vs. Mt. St. Mary's 6pm Boys BB @ Holland 6pm</i>	2-C Prom Committee 2:30pm Ski Club 3-9pm Incoming Freshmen Registration 6-8pm <i>Fresh BB @ Jamestown 6pm</i>	3-D Model UN 7:30am Ext HR Schedule (Class Meetings - Senior Blood Drive Mtg) <i>Girls BB @ Niagara Catholic 5:30pm Boys BB vs. St. Francis 6pm</i>	4
5	6-E Student Senate 2:20pm <i>Fresh BB @ O'Hara 4pm Girls BB vs. Holy Angels 6pm</i>	7-F Curriculum Committee 2:30pm Poetry Club 2:30pm <i>Boys BB @ Niagara Catholic 6pm</i>	8-A Environmental Club 7:30pm PM Assembly Schedule (Auction Training) Princ Ad Board 2:30pm Literary Magazine 2:30pm <i>Fresh BB @ Canisius 7pm</i>	9-B NOAFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES	10-Off NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Lancer Auction 6pm <i>Fresh BB @ O'Hara 4pm</i>	11 <i>Girls BB @ Nichols 2pm Boys BB @ Walsh 3pm</i>
12 <i>Wrestling @ All Catholics (St. Francis High School) 8am</i>	13-C Spirit Week (see schedule page 3) Special Schedule Student Senate 2:20pm <i>Girls BB @ O'Hara 6pm</i>	14-D Spirit Week (see schedule page 3) NHS 2:20pm Campus Ministry 2:30pm Parent Guild Board 6:30pm Parent Guild 7pm <i>Boys BB @ Timon 6pm</i>	15-E Spirit Week (see schedule page 3) Bloodmobile 8am-2pm Faculty Meeting 2:30pm <i>Girls BB @ Villa Maria 4:30pm Boys BB vs. Nichols 6pm</i>	16-F Spirit Week (see schedule page 3) Prom Committee 2:30pm Book Club 2:30pm Ski Club 3-9pm <i>Griswold Grammar School Tournament</i>	17-A Model UN 7:30am Spirit Week (see schedule page 3) Pride Day PM Liturgy Schedule (Spirit Week Liturgy) <i>Fresh BB vs. Canisius 4:30pm Boys BB vs. Canisius 6pm</i>	18
19 <i>Wrestling @ State Catholic Tournament (Holy Trinity) Indoor Track Meet @ St. Mary's 1pm Griswold Grammar School Tournament</i>	20-Off NO SCHOOL Office Closed (Presidents Day) <i>Griswold Grammar School Tournament Wrestling @ State Catholic Tournament (Holy Trinity)</i>	21-Off NOSCHOOL Office Open 9am-12noon <i>Boys BB @ St. Joe's 6pm</i>	22-Off NOSCHOOL Office Open 9am-12noon	23-Off NOSCHOOL Office Open 9am-12noon	24-Off NOSCHOOL Office Open 9am-12noon <i>Wrestling @ State High School Tournament (Long Island)</i>	25 <i>Wrestling @ State High School Tournament (Long Island)</i>
26 SAT Prep Class 8:30am-12 noon	27-B Student Senate 2:20pm	28-C Poetry Club 2:30pm	1-D Ext HR-PM Lit Schedule (Class meetings, Junior Class Breakfast, Ash Wednesday Liturgy) SAT Prep Class 6-8pm	2-E Sophomore Retreat 8am-2pm Prom Committee 2:30pm	3-F Model UN 7:30am Fish Fry 4-7pm	4 Grammar School Playoffs 9:30 am-1pm



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