

Political Leaders Speak at Martinsville Campus

By CAROLINE SAVELLO (VI)
with
DARINA SHTRAKHMAN (III)

It has hardly been "politics as usual" at Pingry over the past month. A succession of national politicians and guest lecturers has brought citizen action and public policy issues to the forefront of assemblies and classes.

The first of these talks took place on Monday, April 4, when former New Jersey Governor and Environmental Protection Agency Director Christine Todd Whitman spoke with students during Morning Meeting, focusing her discussion on the importance of public service and citizen involvement in politics.

Ms. Whitman followed with a five-minute question and answer period. Questions from the student body and the faculty ranged from Ms. Whitman's opinions of former Governor James McGreevey's resignation to how she first became involved in

politics. Max Cooper (V) asked the former governor what it was like to be interviewed by Ali G, a satirical character created by comedian Sacha Cohen Brown. According to the show's official website, Ms. Whitman chatted with Brown about "solar energy



and dirty water" on the tenth episode of "Da Ali G Show," broadcast on HBO.

Ms. Whitman visited at the invitation of Dan Kissel (II), who is related to Ms. Whitman through extended family ties. Kissel, one of the co-presidents of the Middle School's Young Conservatives Club, says that after having invited Ms. Whitman to the school for other engagements, an all-school assembly emerged as the most feasible prospect for

both parties.

Despite her conservative political leanings, Ms. Whitman's message of forward-thinking politics and the country's future appealed to the common political ground among students rather than their partisan interests. Ms. Whitman said that her new book, "It's My Party, Too: The Battle for the Heart of the GOP and the Future of America," echoed the ideas of her talk, especially her dissatisfaction with the politics of the religious right.

"I think she is really, absolutely brilliant," Kissel said. "Our school's pretty evenly divided politically, but I don't think she alienated either group. Her message really won over both sides."

According to Kissel, the C.B. Newton Library purchased a copy of Ms. Whitman's book later that day.

In a telephone interview on April 26, Ms. Whitman said, "I agree with President Bush on a lot of the bigger issues - tax cuts, for example, are very important. He and I don't agree on social issues. We agree on environmental issues. I don't agree on his connection of Church and state - we aren't a theocracy and shouldn't strive to be."

She added her advice to future politicians: "The best thing is to

know why you want to get into politics. Understand the issues that you care about and find out about local campaigns. Get to know people; let them get to know you. Make sure you're part of the discussion."

Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen, the Republican representative of the 11th District of



New Jersey, visited with seniors taking Dr. Alfred DeSimone's AP U.S. and Comparative Government course on Tuesday, April 19. Dr. DeSimone said that Rep. Frelinghuysen asked to visit with Pingry students to "keep an ear on some of his constituents and talk to students about a career in politics."

The Congressman has spoken at Pingry before, though most

of his visits are to the district's public schools. In fact, Rep. Frelinghuysen says he visits about 90 schools in the area each year, in addition to local universities such as Fairleigh-Dickinson, Drew, and Rutgers.

The 20 seniors enrolled in the AP Government class discussed government and public policy issues with Rep. Frelinghuysen for around 45 minutes. Questions ranged from the Congressman's role in the development of the Highlands preservation of Southern New Jersey to his opinion of the controversial Speaker of the House Tom DeLay (R - TX). Although Rep. Frelinghuysen did not profess any special sympathy towards or friendship with Rep. DeLay, he did concede that the Speaker has been an indispensable player in the Republican party, especially in regards to fundraising. Rep. DeLay's re-districting of Texas also helped bring in five more Republican congressmen in 2005, he noted.

Rep. Frelinghuysen's district encompasses a 638 square-mile region that includes all of Morris County as well as Bernards Township, Somerville, Raritan, Sparta, Bridgewater, and parts of Sussex County

Mike Stuzynski (VI), who lives in Chatham Township of the 11th District, has served on the Congressman's Youth Advisory Council in the past. "He's very good with kids," Stuzynski said. "He's also very genuine - not elitist at all."

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PC VIRUS RAVAGES SCHOOL COMPUTERS OVER SPRING BREAK

By MELISSA LOEWINGER (IV)

The W32.Mytob@mm virus entered and infected the school's entire computer system between Monday, March 28, and Tuesday, March 29. This virus, sent via e-mail as an attachment with subject lines such as "HELLO" and "READ IMMEDIATELY", was triggered and spread by one person opening the infected attachment.

The Tech Team will not disclose the person guilty of instigating the spread of the attack. Technology Department Head Quoc Vo said, "I have a pretty good idea where it started but I don't like to assign blame. Virus writers are very clever at tricking people to launch viruses, so I rarely blame anyone but the writers."

The virus, which only affected Windows computers, replicated itself to everyone in the victim's address book. It proceeded to install several program files into the computer system, and used these programs to spread the virus to other computers. The virus also uses its own e-mail server to send copies of itself to everyone in the victim's address book.

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S.M.A.R.T. TEAM TRAVELS TO SAN DIEGO, CA

Attend ASBMB Conference

By MAX HORLBECK (IV)

From Sunday, April 2, through the following Wednesday, seven sophomores and two teachers traveled to San Diego, Cali. to participate in a convention of the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB). This trip culminated a project that the S.M.A.R.T. Team has been working on for the duration of the year, in which the students worked with a Princeton professor to study the form and function of two proteins.

The S.M.A.R.T. program, which stands for Students Modeling a Research Topic, requires students to apply the material of ninth grade biology to a specific application in the field of molecular modeling. It is run by Dr. Tim Herman of the Milwaukee School of Engineering, who sees the program as a vital experience for anyone interested in pursuing a career in biology.

The team consists of sophomores Isaac Davis, Gabe Fernando, Annie Hanson, Max Horlbeck, David Jaroslovsky, Alex Savello, Ajay Tungare and Charlie Wagner, who could not come to San Diego.

The faculty supervisors are Biology teachers Tommie Hata and Dierdre O'Mara.

S.M.A.R.T. team members worked with Dr. Fred Hughson of Princeton University to create several three-dimensional models of the "quorum sensing" proteins LuxP and LuxQ. They used atom coordinate data from Dr. Hughson's lab and a molecular imaging program known as RasMol.

Quorum Sensing is a process that bacteria use to communicate and coordinate the release of other proteins, particularly

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Hawaii Trip Explores Island Biology, History

By DARINA SHTRAKHMAN (III)

Over spring break, 14 upper school students, chaperoned by Mr. Hata, Ms. Kilgore, and Ms. Mila, embarked on a weeklong biology journey to the islands of Hawaii. Over the course of their trip, students explored biological concepts, enjoyed the lavish landscape, and soaked up the sun on the islands' renowned beaches.

During their five days on the island of Oahu, the students took part in both educational excursions and relaxing downtime. They took a boat out to Coconut Island, where they visited the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology and met several scientists, who spoke with them about marine life, such

as dolphins and whales. The group also went snorkeling off the coast of Oahu.

Before moving on to Maui, the group saw the U.S.S. Arizona at Pearl Harbor and took a trip to 'Iolani Palace, where Hawaiian royals lived during Hawaii's period as a kingdom. 'Iolani Palace is the only palace in the United States.

The four days in Maui were spent exploring Hawaiian culture and wildlife. The students visited the Iao Valley rainforest, and also saw sea turtles and seven or eight whales. Miss Mila enjoyed the sea turtles in Oahu and said overall that she "was really glad that she went." Mr. Hata enjoyed seeing sharks while scuba diving

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Students congregate for a picture on the Biology trip to Hawaii during spring break.

Courtesy of Mr. Tommie Hata

TALLY HALL BECOMES TOP 5 FINALIST IN MTV COMPETITION

By MARISSA BIALECKI (V)

Tally Hall, the self-described "wonky rock band" hailing from the University of Michigan, was named one of five finalists in MTV's Best Music on Campus Contest on April 25. "This contest has been our biggest break. It's shown us what tremendous support we have," said Andrew Horowitz '01. Horowitz, singer/songwriter and musician, plays the keyboard for Tally Hall.

"We entered the contest after a friend sent me the link online," said one of the band's other members, singer and guitarist Joe Hawley. "We submitted our song, 'Good Day' and were so pleased to discover that we had become semi-finalists," Hawley added. In 2004, 'Good Day,' composed by Horowitz, won the John Lennon Scholarship Program, which recognizes young songwriters between the ages of 15 and 24.

Now that Tally Hall has advanced to the contest's final round from among the ten semi-finalists, they will be judged by celebrity artists Akon, G.Love and Universal Records. The grand prize is a record deal with Universal. The winner will be announced on Monday, May 2.

The contest has already caused a stir. "We've gotten great responses from fans, and it's encouraging to know that our popularity is growing nationally and internationally. We found out that we even have a large group of fans in England," Horowitz said, adding that the contest

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Inside The Record



M. Bialecki (V)

Alex Golding (IV) pushes off the starting block. The Girls' Varsity Track Team is going for its fifth straight state title this year. See page 8 for this and other sports news.

Alumnus To Build Shelter

Adam Kalkin '80, whose work has been featured in Architectural Digest, will build a prototype of his relief housing on the Pingry campus. P. 4

Kellner '94 Competes in 2004 Summer Olympics

Dan Kellner, Class of 1994, competed this past summer in the Athens Olympics, where he placed sixteenth in the fencing competition. P. 4

Creative Writing Festival '05

On April 8, Pingry students heard readings by and participated in workshops with professional writers and poets. P. 5

Evan Rosenman Reviews ABC

With their new lineup of intellectually intense and high-suspense programs, ABC network is currently a favorite among students. P. 6

Beck's New Album Reviewed

Matt Laud (IV) discusses the eclectic mix of sounds in Beck's new album, Guero. P. 6

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EDITORIAL

Filling the Void

Lately, announcements for Record assignment meetings, tennis victories, and Dress Down Days have given way to speakers, presentations, and performances. The content void in Morning Meetings has, at long last, been filled.

Between a former governor, a onetime president of Morgan Stanley, a motley crew of poets and writers, a production of *Macbeth*, and a professor of war and peace studies, Pingry's weekly congregations have become an impressive forum for higher thought and academic discussion.

Of course, some students – and most likely some faculty, too – might prefer a 10 a.m. breakfast sandwich to a 10 a.m. poem, and have been put off by the school's speakers. Rather stern warnings from Mrs. Hearst and other administrators have publicized some of the student body's less admirable behavior, including cell phone text messaging and the catnaps resulting from a late night spent studying for APs or watching *The Daily Show*.

It's understandable that every one of the 700 18-and-unders in the Hauser Auditorium might not be thrilled with the prospect of an hour-long Shakespeare production or a lecture on situational ethics. Some in the community might see the wisdom of Dwight D. Eisenhower's words when he said, "An intellectual is a man who takes more words than necessary to tell more than he knows."

But perhaps the more important aspect of this intellectual inquiry has been to reveal the world that lies outside our school curriculum. Our classes expose us to the greatness of Enlightenment philosophers, J.D. Salinger, or the physical world. We test our greatness with a bat on the baseball diamond or a buzzer at Quiz Bowl. Yet as high school students, we experience excellence primarily within the boundaries of Pingry.

In bringing the outside world to our common meeting time, the ideas and arts presented in recent assemblies force us to think in broader terms. They create the kind of intellectual environment that many of us will find as we go on to college.

In a way, the assemblies are also keeping our egos in check. No matter what the interim comments reveal or the college decision letters dictate, there are people in this world who surpass us intellectually, educationally, and perhaps even morally. As we see them in action, listen to their lectures, and even try to stay awake when the lights go down, we are one step closer to understanding what we ourselves might want to achieve one day.

On the other hand, why underestimate ourselves? Some of the questions posed by both students and faculty to our recent luminaries have been incredibly discerning, leaving many of us wondering why the speakers lecture as much as they do without opening themselves up to more debate and discussion.

Maybe the moral of this story, then, is just one that promotes listening to others, no matter who you are or who the speaker may be. After all, as Woody Allen once said, "I've never been an intellectual, but I have this look."

The Loudest Wrong of the Religious Right

"The idea that religion and politics don't mix was invented by the Devil to keep Christians from running their own country," said Reverend Jerry Falwell in a July fourth sermon marking our country's bicentennial celebration.

Falwell, a renowned evangelical activist and self-appointed spokesperson for religious Americans, is currently the chancellor of Liberty University, a preacher, a regular guest on television shows "The 700 Club" and "Hannity and Colmes," and leader of the ever-expanding right-wing lobbying base, "The Moral Majority Coalition."

His sermons and editorials, which are pious in tone and political in nature, proclaim a new brand of evangelism that is best portrayed by Falwell's own remarks. Along with referring to the ACLU as "Satan's will incarnate," he has also praised the bombers of abortion clinics, attacked children's television, and blamed his so-called "enemies of the faith" for all manner of national tragedies.

"Tinky Winky is purple – the gay pride color; and his antenna is shaped like a triangle – the gay pride symbol," he wrote in 1999, warning parents of toddlers about dangerous "gay" behavior on the hit children's show, *Teletubbies*. "As a Christian," he said, "I feel that role modeling the gay lifestyle is damaging to the moral lives of children."

After the terrorist attacks

of September 11, 2003, he stated on national televi-

sion: "I really believe that the pagans, the abortionists, and the feminists, and the gays and the lesbians who are actively trying to make that an alternative lifestyle, the ACLU, People for the American Way – all of them who have tried to secularize America – I point the finger in their face and say, 'You helped this happen.'"

Surely such proclamations are the mark of a man who is politically and culturally hidebound, if not clinically insane. And yet Jerry Falwell, over his 30 year career in the ministry, has reached almost iconic status. His public attacks on gays, feminists, and pro-choice activists, all in the name of Christianity are heard, and accepted, by millions of Americans. Why?

Of the grassroots groups active in politics today, many lobby for cleaner groundwater, a crackdown on drunk driving, or perhaps a tax break or two. Relatively few, however, can offer an incentive as grand as the kingdom of heaven; likewise, few inspire the devotion or incite the hatred that abound wherever Moral Majority extends its branches.

Citing divine mandate, the kings of medieval Europe towered over a devout and fearful people; under the banner of Christian morality, Falwell and his colleagues have exploited many Americans' desire for the intangible

Chantal Berman (V)
CULTURAL OPINION

comfort that comes from living in what they see as

God's chosen country. And when Americans suspect that divine blessing is at stake, they are more likely to pardon even the most absurd proclamations.

By shrouding his outrageous political movement in the cloak of religion, Jerry Falwell has lent credibility to homophobes and chauvinists throughout America. Yet his overblown rhetoric also reflects badly on a much larger constituency, namely, the 160,000,000 Christians in America, evangelical and otherwise.

Being part of a very religious family, I happen to know that, outside of Falwell's radical minority, not all Christians wish to destroy our current separation of church and state. The modern Christians I know understand that "Teletubbies" was not created to inflict childhood homosexuality; regardless of their political convictions, they don't blame liberal Americans for eliciting terrorism; and given the choice, they would purchase food, rather than bibles, for tsunami victims. Their Christian emphasis upon cohesive families and local philanthropy are immensely beneficial to millions of Americans.

Yet watch any television segment on religious news and you'll see Jerry Falwell railing against children's television, or anti-abortionists jeering at clinic workers; in short, modern Christians

end up stereotyped because of one man's political objectives.

In response to Falwell's statements about September 11, during an interview with CNN, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Lorri Jean said, "The tragedy that has befallen our nation is the sad byproduct of fanaticism. It has its roots in the same fanaticism that enables people like Jerry Falwell to preach hate against those who do not think, live, or love in the exact same way he does." Her words should cause all of us to pause and think about the effect Falwell is having on our national spirit.

To his credit, Falwell eventually apologized for his remarks about September 11, but the memory of his rash statements live on, as an affirmation of bigotry and the fuel for 21st century American holy wars. In the Falwell school of cultural warfare, "God's will" is an asset to be leveraged and eternal damnation a penalty to be unleashed on anyone irreverent to his crusade. For those of us who believe that the constitutional separation of church and state allows for diverse life styles, we can only hope that those who reject Falwell's vision develop the louder voice.

The Record welcomes all letters to the editor. Anonymous submissions cannot be printed. Submissions may be edited due to length constraints. Send all correspondence to pingryrecord@yahoo.com.

Summer Camp: The Academic Hiatus

With summer just around the corner (down a seemingly endless street), many of us are thinking about our plans. As competitive students, I'm sure many in our community will take an SAT prep course, attend John's Hopkins Center for Talented Youth, go to a music or sports focused camp, take a course in an academic subject, or attend a Youth Leadership Conference. How many of us, though, will go to a camp just for fun or attend a program with no academic, musical, or athletic focus whatsoever?

According to the Record's poll of Upper School Students taken last fall, only 16 percent of respondents went to a general summer camp. That means roughly 83.2 percent of students in all of forms III through VI went to a camp just for fun. However, 54 percent, or about 280.8 students went to a specialized summer camp for academics, sports, or music.

As a biased member of the general summer camp group, I find this statistic rather depressing. To me, a general summer camp invokes friends, leisure and laughter, but a specialized one, especially for academics, conjures thoughts of school, grades and competition.

Of course, there many ways to defend specialized

camps. Among them are: I really do have fun, it will look good on my college application, it will help me make varsity, I will become a better singer or instrumentalist, I really am interested in calculus and want to spend my summer doing integration, my SAT scores will go up at least 200 points, and, perhaps the most relevant, my parents made me do it.

I also know many people who have made everlasting friendships and had tons of fun at specialized summer programs. I don't mean to offend anyone, and I don't want

*Now is the time
to make fools
of ourselves at
summer camp.*

to say that all specialized camps are terrible places to spend a summer. I do, however, want to point out the merits of a traditional camp, benefits that are all too often thrown out the window by a parent or student in favor of a college application-enhancing summer activity.

First of all, let's consider "fun." Maybe these two groups of students just have different views of what fun is. I wouldn't want to sit in an air-conditioned classroom all day, cramming an entire

year of calculus into eight weeks or writing

essays in bluebooks. On the flipside, though, maybe the other group wouldn't want to spend a summer living in a 14 by 22 foot cabin with six other people for eight weeks. Although, living in a cabin has its virtues, too. No counselors, no parents, no bedtime and lots of partying sounds pretty good compared to a small dorm room with a hall monitor and an 11 o'clock curfew, no matter the cabin size.

At a general summer camp, there are also no exams to study for and no notes to take. Actually, I rescind that statement. I did take one written test last summer: a lifeguarding, CPR and first aid test. However, with a new, scented pencil firmly between my fingers (and having reviewed the entire test question-by-question only hours beforehand,) I did not feel any pressure going into it. No vocabulary studying, essay writing, or bubbling-in involved. The way I see it, a general summer camp offers all the fun and benefits found in a focused one, but without the rigid structure and agonizing hours on a field, in a classroom or in an orchestra.

Non-focused summer programs also offer a large array

Nadine Reitman (V)
CULTURAL OPINION

of experiences you may never again

get a chance to partake in. If you don't want to spend a summer now backpacking through the mountains, laughing with friends while making s'mores over a fire you built, or on a boat in the tropics for three weeks as a member of an all-teenage crew, when will you in the future? Will you do it during college when you'll want to do research over the summer to enhance or lead into a career? Think about it, if not now, when?



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By Matt Laud (IV)

Pushing Technology to the Macs

I once saw a T-shirt that struck me as particularly wise. It said, "Macs for productivity, Palm Pilots for portability, and Windows for solitaire." Truer words have rarely been written.

Think about all the problems modern computers suffer from: viruses, crashes, pop-up windows. And imagine what would happen if any – or all – of those problems afflicted Pingry computers.

Now stop imagining; it's already happened. A virus over Spring Break infected computers and dished out thousands of emails to unlucky teachers. Computers in the Library and Tech Labs already suffer crashes from time to time. And despite Microsoft Internet Explorer's attempts to prevent the problem, surfing the Internet on a Pingry computer is an exercise in closing unwanted web browser windows.

Now think about playing Solitaire on a Pingry computer, ignoring the fact that

it technically is a violation of the Student Technology Agreement. Obviously, it works great – just ask Mr. Tramontana.

The common thread here, of course, is that all of these (equally important) aspects of computer use are only true of Microsoft Windows. Macs are computer angels in comparison.

That's right: the Macintosh operating system – what makes Mac computers run – never gets viruses, never crashes, and always blocks pop-up windows while you're surfing the Web.

On the downside, Macs don't include a decent game of Solitaire.

"But wait," you almost certainly exclaim. "Macs are more expensive and fewer

Adam Goldstein (V)
SCHOOL OPINION

Macs are computer angels in comparison to Windows.

people use them!"

You'd be right about the second allegation, but not the first. For example, The Mac mini, for example, is one of the cheapest computers around, Mac or Windows. It's decently fast and has both a DVD player and CD burner, and only for \$500. Considering that schools even get a discount on that, it's hard to argue that the school should be wasting its tech budget on new Windows machines with its next purchase order.

And yes, fewer people use Macs. So what? The programs you use most of the time for schoolwork, such as Word, PowerPoint, and Excel, are virtually the same on Windows and the Mac. Learn to use a Mac in school and you're

90% of the way to knowing how to use a Windows PC at home.

The reverse, of course, is just as true. After a couple of days learning the differences between the two operating systems, you'd be comfortable using either one. Having Windows computers around "just so students learn how to use them" is just as ridiculous as keeping shotguns in the Lower Commons "just so students learn how to use them."

Here's the ideal solution, then: replace the crash-prone, virus-infectable Windows computers Pingry has with a fleet of crash-proof, virus-proof Macs. Give three quarters of the old PCs to poorer schools that can't afford computers at all.

But keep the other quarter of the PCs. The school could really use a Stress-Down room where students – and math teachers – could go to relax and play a good game of Solitaire.

A Fairer Look at the Presidency

This year during their speeches, all **Josh Freedman (IV)** concentrate on the **SCHOOL OPINION** Chipwiches.

He succeeded three student body presidential candidates touched on the subject of current president Nikhil Srivastava's attempt to acquire Chipwiches.

Many students, including the candidates and myself, were judging Nikhil's performance as head of student government as poor because we had not seen any of the Chipwiches at lunch. Then, when they recently appeared in the frozen dessert box,

the lives of the school community. *We must erase ice cream from our minds.*

All four of these actions are important in improving our lives during school and helping ease the pressures of being a student. Chipwiches are not the issue.

Yet we need to rethink. It is ludicrous that we are basing our view of Nikhil's performance solely on the presence of ice cream as opposed to looking at all of the improvements he has made for the school.

Every week, we see Nikhil up on stage making announcements, showing he is an active president who strives for communication with the entire school. He offered the opportunity for us to improve our lunches through suggestion sheets that he relayed to the cafeteria staff. These steps have been extraordinarily helpful for both the cafeteria staff, in preparing more popular lunches, and for the students, who are the beneficiaries of the improved food selection.

Nikhil has instituted many reforms to help students' daily lives, but they are often overlooked as we con-

ed in his efforts to allow seniors to sign in later in the morning if they have a first period free; he allowed political community service hours to be counted as part of the requisite ten hours; he organized a rearrangement of the schedule to allow the school to support our soccer team against Delbarton earlier in the year; and he is currently working to reform the Student Government Constitution to better suit

the lives of the school community. *We must erase ice cream from our minds.*

All four of these actions are important in improving our lives during school and helping ease the pressures of being a student. Chipwiches are not the issue.

As members of the Pingry community, we need to erase the delicious ice cream and cookie crunch from our minds if we are to fairly evaluate Nikhil's presidency. We need to steer away from the superficiality that immediately forces us to judge student government members, current and future, if we are to fully appreciate the efforts and commitments of our peers. The presence of Chipwiches in the cafeteria should not be the *sine qua non* of our views about Nikhil's presidency.

If we delve deeper into the reforms and proposals of our president, we can see that he has been one of the most effective leaders of student government in recent history.

held auditions for the performance along with Mrs. Jennifer Runge, the leader of the Girls' Chorus, and Dr. Andrew Moore, the head of the Music department. The singers included Katy Pinke (V), Julie Johnson (VI), Dana Van Brunt (VI), Jonathan Roberts (VI), Josh Leight (VI), Mike Lehrhoff (VI), Louisa Moller (VI), Liz Encarnacion (VI), Ashley Ulker (VI), and Rita Biagioli (VI).

Mrs. Deidre O'Mara, who planned the community service side of Cabaret, estimates that the performance raised \$500.

NEWS IN BRIEF

By **ADAM GOLDSTEIN (V)**, **HADLEY JOHNSON (IV)**, **DANIELLE PERETORE (VI)**, **NADINE REITMAN (V)**, and **MICHELLE YUAN (IV)**

NEWHOUSE '65 VISITS PINGRY TO DISCUSS ETHICS

Mr. Stephan Newhouse '65, the recently departed president of Morgan Stanley, visited Pingry on April 15 to discuss ethics and morality with the student body. Touching on issues ranging from moral relativism to high school cheating, he focused largely on the similarities in ethical frameworks between different religions and societies.

The lecture was this year's installment of the John Hanly Lecture Series on Ethics and Morality. The annual series began in honor of former headmaster Mr. John Hanly, who made a significant mark on the school through the introduction of his "Ethical Dilemma" class and his weekly talks on morality. Mr. Hanly retired from Pingry

in 2000.

Mr. Newhouse made headlines recently when he resigned from Morgan Stanley. He had worked there for 26 years.

COLLEGE COUNSELING DEPT'T RELEASES 2005 EARLY STATISTICS

The 124 students in the Class of 2005 sent 850 applications to 155 different colleges. The statistic, first announced by Director of College Counseling Mr. Robert MacLellan at the PSPA meeting on April 13, includes all Early Action, Early Decision, and regular decision applications. 67 of 103 students who applied early were accepted under Early Action (EA), Single Choice Early Action (SCEA), Early Decision (ED) and Early Decision II (EDII).

Under the ED and EA plans, students apply to schools in late October to early November, with

schools releasing acceptances in December, or January for EDII. When applying ED, a student must agree to attend that school if they are accepted. However, through EA, the student need not agree to attend the school, even if accepted.

DRAMA IV "SLIGHTLY OFF CENTER"

The Drama IV class presented "Slightly Off Center," six short modern comedies, on April 7, 8, and 9.

The plays dealt primarily with dysfunctional relationships, yet each play had a twist, whether in terms of character development, plot, or structure.

The production included three plays by Christopher Durang, including "No Fall," "DMV Tyrant," and "Book of Leviticus Show." Also performed were "Watermelon Boats" by Wendy MacLaughlin, "Battle of Bull Run Always Makes Me Cry" by Carole Real, and "Lamps" by Jane Martin.

Bess Rowen (VI) said, "Per-

forming this play is great because this drama class has worked together for four years, and now we get to show what we've been working on."

The cast included seniors Rowen, Sam Tasher, Dan Smith, Dana VanBrunt, Caroline Boyer, Katie Hampson, and Megan Pardi.

ECLC STUDENTS LEARN INTERVIEWING SKILLS FROM DRAMA STUDENTS

Students from ECLC, an accredited nonprofit school providing education for special needs students between the ages of 5 and 21, came to visit the Drama II class on Friday, April 15.

The Drama II students prepared short scenes to teach the ECLC students how to face the working world and adjust to the communities in which they will eventually live.

After the presentation, the ECLC students acted some short scenes of their own with the help of Drama II students.

The exchange benefited both groups, as ECLC students learned job-interviewing skills and Pingry drama students, in performing community service through role playing, learned about new ways to help others.

Supervisors Mr. Romano and Mrs. Shelley Hartz both agreed that "this experience helps to take away the fear of the unknown for both Pingry and ECLC students."

The ECLC students will return later in the year to watch the dress rehearsal of the Middle School musical.

NIGHT TIME IS THE RIGHT TIME FOR CABARET

On April 21 the Attic Theater hosted Cabaret, an annual performance of contemporary vocal works accompanied up by the Jazz Band. This year the proceeds of the performance will be donated to the Make a Wish foundation.

Mr. Sean McAnally, the leader of the Jazz Band,

Put "The Onion" to shame...

Write for the **BROKEN WRECKORD.**

Email the Record.

Sarkin Siblings Pursue Journalism & Art

By HALLIE BIANCO (III) and DARINA SHTRAKHMAN (III)

It must be something in the air, or maybe in the genes – there is simply no other way to explain the double dosage of talent in the Sarkin family.

Mrs. Jane Sarkin-O'Connor '77 was among the first women to attend Pingry when she started as a sophomore in 1974.

Of her time at Pingry, Sarkin-O'Connor says, "It was fun. I had a great experience and great teachers. I loved being at the school where my brothers went and I felt very at home. I was also very lucky to meet my husband, Martin O'Connor '77, at Pingry."

After graduating, Mrs. Sarkin-O'Connor attended the University of Vermont, where she majored in English. She then earned her graduate degree at New York University and went into publishing.

After spending four years working for Andy Warhol's magazine "Interview," she got a call from "Vanity Fair." This past Oscar night was her twentieth anniversary of working there.

In fact, Mrs. Sarkin-O'Connor gets to add her own Oscar predictions to the magazine's annual Oscar edition, including her guesses for this year's awards. Most of her guesses this year were correct.

Mrs. Sarkin-O'Connor says her favorite part of her job is coming up with cover ideas and "putting everything together." She compares the process to producing a movie, saying, "You have to photograph and interview the person, you have to know what their projects are in advance."

Although she has met many celebrities through her job, she



Courtesy of Mrs. Sarkin-O'Connor

The Sarkins (from left): Richard '68, Jane '77, Jon '71.

says she still gets nervous before every interview. "I love it, it's really exciting for me. And introducing them to my children and family, that's the fun part."

Her favorite celebrity is Tom Cruise, both because he was very interested in meeting her family and is now making a movie about her brother, Jon. "I don't mind Brad Pitt and Leonardo DiCaprio either, but I have to be honest, Tom is my favorite."

Mrs. Sarkin-O'Connor credits Pingry with starting her on a track towards journalism. "Pingry really got me interested in English. That's what I loved, it was my best subject. The entertainment world always interested me. I believe that all my success at Vanity Fair has come from a backbone of good education, which started at Pingry."

Mrs. Sarkin-O'Connor's advice to aspiring journalists is to "keep writing, keep interviewing. There is no boring interview – it's just the way you write the words."

Her brother Dr. Jon Sarkin '71 is equally passionate about his career as an artist.

Dr. Sarkin entered Pingry as a fourth grader in 1963. Art had always been an important part of his life, and at Pingry especially. By the time he graduated in 1971, "my extracurricular activities were minimal."

Dr. Sarkin attended the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1975 with a Bachelor's degree in biology. He then received his Master's in environmental science from Rutgers University in 1977 and his M.D. from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, in 1980.

In 1982, Dr. Sarkin started his own practice as a chiropractor. However, in 1988, a stroke forced him to stop his chiropractic practice and instead pursue art.

Since then, Dr. Sarkin has created countless works. His most recent pieces, Dr. Sarkin says, feature people as the subject of his work, "but they don't look like any people that you would want to meet. They are abstract, like a Picasso. You recognize that it's a person but you would never ever find a photo of a person who looked like that."

Of the business aspect of his

work, Dr. Sarkin explains, "I like making art, but I don't like the business part. I don't like talking about it and I don't like figuring out how to invest the money I make with my art. I just like making art," he says.

Lately Dr. Sarkin's art has taken a vow of silence. "Words are not important in my art lately. Art is very nonverbal, but in almost everything other job, whether it's a doctor, or a lawyer, or a businessman, words are very important." He continues, "If you don't know how to read, you can still appreciate my art."

As for Dr. Sarkin's subjects, they are constantly changing. "I am really drawn visually to just about everything," he explains.

Dr. Sarkin says that he is constantly inspired by different artists. He adds, laughing, "I am not even going to mention names because I would have to talk for about an hour to make sure that I wouldn't leave anyone out."

Dr. Sarkin says he is approachable and is interested in keeping close ties to the Pingry community. "Maybe two to five percent of the students who will read this will say, 'I'd really like to talk to this guy, and I'd really like to ask this guy some questions.' I hope that they will contact me so that we could discuss whatever they are interested in talking about."

Dr. Sarkin advises aspiring artists to "keep drawing, because the only way to improve your ability to paint, to draw, to sculpt, or whatever it is that you choose, is to practice."

The staff of The Pingry Record would like to express their condolences to the Sarkin and O'Connor families for their tragic loss of Mr. Richard Sarkin '68.



Courtesy of Mr. Kalkin

A bathroom in a shipping crate designed by Mr. Kalkin '80.

Kalkin '80 Designs Innovative Disaster Relief Shelters

By JOSH FREEDMAN (IV)

Beginning in May, students and faculty will assist Mr. Adam Kalkin, class of 1980, in building a house constructed primarily of shipping crates in the back of the school. Mr. Kalkin, the designer and brains behind the project, says that his project "redefines the way the world can approach problems with natural disasters."

Mr. Kalkin, of Kalkin and Company Architects, will create this house as a "prototype of disaster relief housing" that could provide millions of displaced people, such as those left homeless after the recent tsunami in Southeast Asia, with adequate, inexpensive shelter when their homes are destroyed.

Included in his concept is the "agricultural wall," a vertical garden that can grow fruit and vegetables outside the disaster relief shelters while not taking up precious space for other houses.

Mr. Kalkin also markets homes made of shipping containers. These "Quik Houses," which can be constructed in just six weeks, are marketed in customizable packages with options for kitchens, furniture, and the like. His idea simultaneously provides accessible, low-income housing while solving the problem of an overabundance of unused shipping crates that cannot simply be thrown away.

Mr. Kalkin has also designed other structures such as his house within a house, which is a small cottage surrounded by a large rectangular shed made of metal and glass. Each side of the outer house has a large garage door that can be opened to bring the feel of the outside to the inside of the house. Mr. Kalkin says that the outer house "changes the sense of scale," creating a different feel in the house. This housing concept was profiled in the New York Times Magazine in May of 2001.

Mr. Kalkin is the author of *Architecture and Hygiene*, which includes detailed photographs and drawings of his numerous designs and projects. Many of

these projects are just conceptual ideas that could completely redesign everyday human life, such as gravestones with video clips of the deceased's life and "rumble strips" on highways that will play music when a car drives over them at a certain speed.

For his senior-year ISP at Pingry, Mr. Kalkin restored a Japanese teahouse and learned about Japanese culture and architecture while doing construction and design work. His advice for students interested in architecture is that they "need to love it" if they want to continue on to a career in the field.

Mr. Kalkin's architectural ideas have been original and innovative, and his newest project, which will occur at Pingry, could even change the world.

UPPERCLASSMEN ENJOY HAWAII OVER SPRING BREAK

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with the other chaperones in Molokini.

Dana Van Brunt (VI) says her favorite experience was going to the Polynesian Cultural Center, where the students learned the Pearly Shells dance from Hawaiian natives and had a traditional luau dinner. She added that she enjoyed the trip because she "got to know a lot of underclassmen that [she] didn't know before." She would "definitely" recommend that other students to take a similar trip in the future.

"The flight was excruciatingly boring and monotonous, but it was definitely worth it because the trip was amazing. If you go, it'll be one of the best things you'll ever do," Kiwanii Pond (V) said.

Dan Kellner '94 Fences in 2004 Olympics

By CATHERINE CHONG (IV)

After winning the gold medal at the 2003 Pan Am Games, Pingry alumnus Dan Kellner '94 is ranked first foil fencer in the Western Hemisphere and twenty-second worldwide.

For an athlete so accomplished, then, it is surprising to hear him say that he found his talent and passion "by accident."

As a middle schooler, Kellner says he enjoyed playing the game "Summer Games" on his Commodore 64 computer, but always had difficulty figuring out the fencing in the program. When he asked his mother about the sport, she told him to see Mr. Ted Li, English teacher and fencing coach.

Soon afterwards, Mr. Li allowed Kellner to practice with the Upper School fencing team even though he was only in seventh grade.

At the time, explained Kellner in an interview with USA Today, Mr. Li was "involved in the Olympic movement and the technical support staff for the '84 Olympic Games."

In ninth grade, Kellner officially joined the Upper School Varsity Fencing Team. After graduating from Pingry, Kellner continued to fence at Columbia University, where he majored in American History.

After failing to make the 2000 Olympic Team, Kellner then took a year off from fencing. When he returned the next



Courtesy of Google Images

Dan Kellner '94 prepares to defeat his opponent.

year, however, he became the team's best men's foil fencer.

In 2004, Kellner finally made it to the Olympics in Athens.

According to the United States Fencing Association, Kellner first upset Belgian fencer Cedric Gohy, ranked #7 worldwide, in his first match at the Olympics. However, Great Britain's Richard Kruse narrowly defeated Kellner in his second match, 15-14. Kellner finished sixteenth overall.

During the Pingry Fencing Team's pre-season this winter, Kellner visited the team to share his experiences. "He

talked about how cool it was walking the Olympic track and how unbelievable it was. It was really poignant," said Haley Wynne (IV).

Outside of fencing, Kellner has pursued a career in graphic design. He currently owns "Red Star Design," an animation and graphics design company. He has been a graphic designer for the "Rosie O'Donnell Show" and has received two Daytime Emmy Award nominations for "Achievement in Main Title Design."

In 2001, Kellner also founded Athlete Initiative, Inc., a

non-profit foundation that finances and supports small sport athletes to pursue their Olympic dreams.

Lately, Kellner has continued to fence and going to the gym five times a week. He fences at the world-renowned New York Fencer's Club with other 2004 Olympic teammates and coach Simon Gershon.

Though he has already made it to the Olympics – which, to many, may seem like a lifetime dream come true – Kellner hopes to return in 2008 and return stateside with the gold in hand.

Jen Joel '94 Represents Popular Novelists as Agent

By MELISSA LOEWINGER (IV)

Jennifer Joel '94 always knew she wanted to work in a creative field. But in her last semester at Harvard College, a survey course on the modern American novel introduced Mrs. Joel to Philip Roth's *American Pastoral*. The novel had a profound effect on Mrs. Joel, who would later become a successful literary agent.

"After years of studying 'classics' and reading commercial thrillers on airplanes, I was actually surprised to find that modern novels could be every bit as rich, thoughtful, and beautifully written as the ones in the canon," Mrs. Joel said.

Reading Roth's novel was the first time she actually thought about working in publishing. Although Mrs. Joel had considered careers in film and television, after having finished a post-college stint as an investment banker, she felt herself gravitating strongly towards books.

Ms. Joel now works as a literary agent for International Creative Management, a broad-based talent and literary management agency.

"Literary agents represent writers. We negotiate the terms under which publishers, magazines, film and television studios, and others acquire the rights to disseminate their work," Mrs. Joel explains. "We do a tremendous amount of reading, select the projects we want to champion, do significant editorial work in reading individual projects for a sale, approach the likely buyers, convince them of the projects' merits, negotiate the terms and then supervise the publication process."

Ms. Joel has typical office hours, going to the ICM building in New York City from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. But even though she is out of high school, her job still includes homework. "It's a job you take home with you. I always have reading to do, whether it's projects I'm considering representing, new material my clients have turned in, or books that I don't represent,

but that I feel I should read to keep up with what's going on in the marketplace."

Ms. Joel has been the cornerstone of the production process of several renowned books, including Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomason's recent bestseller, *The Rule of Four*. Presently, she is working on a collection of short stories called *Tokyo Cancelled* by new writer Rana Dasgupta.

"These stories are as original as anything I've read in years," Mrs. Joel says. The book follows the true story of a writer recruited

clients are, and the more of them we have, the greater our earning potential."

Mrs. Joel believes her Pingry education has improved her success in the working world "without question, and in myriad ways both specific and general. I was lucky enough to have John Hanly for English in seventh grade and I really learned to write in his class, and then had the opportunity to hone those skills under teachers like Dr. Dineen and Mr. Keating. But, more largely, I took away a reverence for knowledge and learning from Pingry that I use



Jennifer Joel '94 and David Gelber '59 speak to seniors in a seminar on the media at last year's Senior Career Day.

by "The Smart Money," the most successful syndicate of sports bettors in Las Vegas.

Mrs. Joel is also working on a book with Billy Crystal, whose career she says she has always admired. "It's been fascinating to get to know him on a personal level and to work with him."

Her job does have its downsides, however. Mrs. Joel says she has to refuse authors "all the time, unfortunately. Since I put a tremendous amount of time and energy into the projects I take on, I have to be extremely selective."

As for her salary, Mrs. Joel explains that literary agents earn a percentage of what their clients earn, "so the more successful our

every day, as I evaluate projects and search for new ways to help my books be interesting to a wide audience."

At this point in her life, Mrs. Joel considers herself settled. "I'm very happy doing what I'm doing. I consider the ability to lead a creative life of any kind to be an incredible privilege. Some of my clients are starting to work in other media, such as film, television, and theatre, and I hope that I'll continue to have opportunities to be involved in those areas, too."

As for Ms. Joel's advice to aspiring authors or literary agents hoping to follow in her footsteps, her guidance is simple: "Read. Read. Read."

Gelber '59 is Executive Producer for CBS News

By NADINE REITMAN (V)

After eleven years at Pingry and four at Swarthmore, Mr. David Gelber '59, is an accomplished journalist and Executive Producer for CBS News. He primarily produces documentary-style pieces on current issues for *60 Minutes*.

Mr. Gelber's most recent work includes an Emmy Award-winning documentary about sexual abuse in the Catholic Church and a story

by and do nothing while hundreds of thousands of Europeans were slaughtered not because of what they had done, but because of who they were, in this case, Muslims."

For his work, Mr. Gelber has earned five Emmy Awards, one Peabody Award, and two DuPont Awards. He says his true desire to become a journalist stems from his years at Swarthmore covering the civil rights movement in Union County for the

white, Christian boys headed for corporate America." Mr. Gelber explained, "Just as genuine individualism and independent thinking weren't always welcome in corporate culture, they weren't always welcome at Pingry either."

During his senior year, the school sponsored a mandatory dance at the Short Hills Country Club. As Mr. Gelber did not want to attend a dance at a social club that made him feel unwelcome, he started a movement, and "the Summit/Short Hills crowd, eager for a fling in midtown miles from the nearest chaperone, flocked to sign my petition against the dance."

The headmaster, E. Laurence Springer, gave Mr. Gelber one day to come up with "constructive -- rather than destructive -- criticisms of Pingry," to which he replied, "Do away with the quota system against Jews and Negroes." Mr. Gelber recalled Mr. Springer then, "nearly hyperventilated, opened his safe, took out a demographic breakdown of Union County which showed the Jewish population at something like 2/10ths of a percent less than the Jewish population at Pingry, and kicked me out of his office."

The final insult came on graduation night when the Assistant Headmaster gave each senior a small gift. "The captain of the wrestling team got a mink-lined jock strap. I got a short story by Philip Roth about a Jewish soldier who used his 'Jewishness' to get out of doing kitchen duty," Mr. Gelber recollected.

The incident "was not nearly the worst thing that could have happened," Mr. Gelber said. It led him to Swarthmore College, where he serves on the Board of Managers. He says he reveres the college for its unpretentious social atmosphere and intellectual drive.

Mr. Gelber currently resides in New York City where he coaches basketball to 12 and 13 year-olds and teaches a documentary film class one night per week at The Horace Mann School. He and his wife had their first child, Maya, on February 17.

Technology Team Repairs P.C. Virus

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W32.Mytob@mm was also quite tenacious, Mr. Vo explained. "The virus also modifies the victim's computer so that if it is deleted, it will reinstall itself upon the next reboot. Additionally, it contacts different Internet sites and downloads new versions of itself and a remote control program so that the virus writers can control the computer. Then it will modify the network system of the computer, making it impossible to get antivirus updates to remove the virus."

Mr. Vo said that the Tech Team was notified about the virus on the Tuesday morning the school returned from spring break. "We were getting phone calls from faculty and staff about their Windows computers rebooting incessantly." The virus caused the computer to shut down and start up again every sixty seconds, although no data was lost. It also created an inordinate amount of traffic on the network and sent out prolific amounts of junk mail.

Math teacher Mr. Fred

Hedengren was a victim of the virus. "I received 2,117 e-mails, he recalled. "I'll have to start deleting those sometime."

The Symantec Company, which currently supplies the school with its Norton AntiVirus protection software, posted instructions on their website explaining how to deal with the virus. This information, posted that Monday, enabled the Tech Team to tend to the issue rapidly and efficiently. System/Network Manager Ms. Perla Rodriguez said, "It wasn't difficult to respond to the situation, just a little hectic. Everyone was really understanding and by Tuesday we had it pretty much under control."

This particular virus affected many people outside the school, too. Ms. Rodriguez believes that hackers are becoming more tenacious and that they are "greatly amused by writing these programs and causing so much disturbance."

Mr. Vo adds, "Viruses happen because there are very malicious people out there

who want to do harm to others. This situation was not special to Pingry. It happened in many other places."

With viruses increasing in frequency as technology increases in importance, administrators are thinking about what further measures can protect the school against these kinds of attacks. Mr. Vo says the Tech Team has taken such preventive measures as scanning e-mails as they enter the Pingry networks.

The idea of implementing a required student laptop policy in which each student would receive his or her own laptop for personal use has been discussed, but Mr. Vo believes that this policy would only make matters worse.

"There would be many more points of infection and we would have to invest in more technologies to make the laptops safe."

English teacher Dr. Susan Dineen is pleased that the virus did not affect her at all because she uses a Macintosh computer, which is not vulnerable to viruses. She even sees a pos-

sible Macintosh future for the school, saying, "Now that the Macs are going down in price, it might be more feasible for more people to obtain them. I know I definitely prefer Macs, and it is nice that next year some teachers will be able to choose whether they want to use a Mac or a PC."

However, Mr. Vo notes, "Switching to all Macintosh is simply not possible as we have many applications that are Windows only," such as the Windows Outlook server.

While Mr. Vo believes that new computer policies are not necessary at the moment to better defend the school's computer system, he cautions that, "The best defense for Pingry is education. We need to educate people about proper e-mail handling and how to be safe on the internet."

The virus situation is not extremely serious, Mrs. Rodriguez explained. "The last virus of this nature occurred in 2001. The virus, like the last one, was not so bad. We were able to control it. More than anything else, it was annoying."

Elizabeth Daily Journal during school holidays, but his interest in uncovering what governments and private institutions try to keep hidden is traceable to his years at Pingry.

Mr. Gelber described his time at Pingry as a mixed blessing. "Pingry was my life, so, as in life, some parts I enjoyed, some parts I hated. On the plus side, it's where I launched my life-long career as a spectacularly mediocre basketball player." Other fond memories include favorite teachers Miller Bugliari and Herbert Hahn and lasting friendships with classmates David Ehrlich and Richard duBusc.

There was a lot about Pingry that Mr. Gelber was not as enthusiastic about. He was a self-proclaimed "token Jew" and son of an immigrant father in a community consisting mostly of "rich,

S.M.A.R.T. Team Presents Research

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ones associated with the glowing phenomenon biologists call bioluminescence and the virulence, or disease toxins, of proteins. In constructing models of these proteins, scientists hope to discover ways to block bacterial communication between proteins and cells, ultimately leading to new methods of curing and preventing disease.

The team also presented a poster of their work at the AS-BMB convention and a PowerPoint slideshow for professors at the well-known Scripps Institute, a major research facility on the outskirts of San Diego.

In addition to presenting their own research, the team at-

tended talks by scientists at the convention and roamed through the enormous poster hall. According to Hanson, the best part was "getting all the freebies," in the form of pins, pens, and yo-yo's distributed by biotech companies.

Outside of the convention, the team visited the Gas Lamp district of San Diego, the island of Coronado, and a glider port near Scripps. Students joked that they also enjoyed watching the news clips of flooding in parts of New Jersey and Connecticut as they enjoyed themselves in 70-degree weather.

Mrs. O'Mara and Mr. Hata hope to take next year's S.M.A.R.T. Team to the convention, which will take place in San Francisco in spring 2006.

Beck's New Album Is Worth the Money

By MATT LAUD (IV)

I had the good fortune of stumbling upon Beck's new album *Guero* at Scotti's Record Shop on March 28, a day before the album's set release date. I bought the album, titled after a Spanish slang word for "white boy," and was pleasantly impressed by the artist's work on it, both by its self and as a follow up to his previous work. *Guero* is a collaboration between Beck and percussion engineers the Dust Brothers. The team, back together after taking a hiatus on Beck's last album *Sea Change*, also collaborated on Beck's huge successes *Odelay* and *Midnite Vultures*.

The absence of the Dust Brothers was very apparent in *Sea Change*, which revealed a much softer, melancholy side of Beck's musical range. Their intricate sound is evident in Beck's signature, more effervescent style in songs like "Mixed Business," "Loser," and "Where it's At." This style recurs in *Guero* with "Que Onda Guero," an older

feeling rap for which the album is titled, as well as "e-Pro", his most successful single from the album to date.

Beck derives his unique style from a continuing ability to avoid any certain genre. While one song may be decidedly hard rock (such as "e-Pro"), another may cover many bases on its own; *Guero's* track 11, "Rental Car," has a dirty guitar melody accompanied by xylophones and a yodeling section. His song styles have included Rock, Rap, Acoustic, Tropical, Blues, Grunge, Country, Ska, Techno, and New Age, to name a few. If not for his gargling voice and frequent use of slide guitar, which he plays masterfully, Beck would be indistinguishable from other artists.

That all of this music emanates from one man is Beck's true talent. He has the gift of continual invention, and the success he enjoys is very much a function of the risks he takes in musical experimentation. He is much less definable than contemporaries to whom he may be compared, such as Audioslave and Interpol. Even as his label as an "indie" rocker dissolves and his name becomes more mainstream, his unique and eclectic sound has not grown old. As a fan, I was pleased both by *Guero's* ability to follow Beck's good record so far as well as to demonstrate and deliver great music on its own.

A. HOROWITZ '01 GAINS FAME IN MTV BAND CONTEST

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has promoted more hits to their website than ever before.

Tally Hall, comprised of Horowitz, Hawley, Rob Cantor, Zubin Sedghi and Ross Federman, was officially formed in December 2002 at the University of Michigan. Each of the members displayed a great interest in music early on, whether it was through involvement in school musicals or music lessons. Their early interests and musical endeavors led them first to continue pursuing music in college, and ultimately to form Tally Hall.

The band will become a full-time commitment after the members graduate this spring. A few of the members are even postponing graduate school in order to focus on Tally Hall.

"All of us put in an even effort," says Sedghi. "Rob, Joe and Andrew write our songs, but all of us criticize and perfect our work together. Each writer has a different style and method."

The band has recorded and released two original demo CDs, "Party Boobytrap E.P." and "Welcome to Tally Hall," both of which have been combined on the new "Complete Demos" album. Tally Hall is currently working on producing a new album that will feature more original songs, acoustic demos and possibly some cover songs.

In addition to their music, the band members have also produced various films, ranging from music videos for their songs to comical skits. The music video for their original song "Banana Man," directed by Hawley, won the 2004 Flint Film Festival for Best Music Video. Hawley and Horowitz recently collaborated on another film, which will soon be posted on the band's website, www.tallyhall.com.

Tally Hall will perform for the third year in a row at Spring Fling on May 13 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased through Student Government.

Viewers Desperate for Housewives

By DARINA SHTRAKHMAN (III)

"Everyone has a little dirty laundry" is quite the understatement when talking about ABC's new hit show "Desperate Housewives." The four main characters have more than a few skeletons in their closets, skeletons that they share episode after episode with all-too-willing viewers.

The show's Sunday-night audience discovers most of the dirty secrets from the narration and voice-overs of Mary Alice Young, played by Brenda Strong, a housewife who took her own life within the first minutes of the pilot. The unknown motive behind her suicide is the one plot line that seems to tie together each week's episode as the characters occasionally take a break from their separate lives to search for a cause.

For the actress who first played Mary Alice, the show's popularity has not brought her much fame. But for the show itself, Mary Alice's death is somewhat of a blessing: From her vantage point, Mary Alice is the selectively omniscient narrator, seeing everything that goes on behind the other characters' closed doors and dishing it all to viewers in a matter-of-fact, dryly comedic manner.

First there is Bree Van De Kamp, played by "Melrose Place" veteran Marcia Cross. On the exterior she exemplifies such a high degree of perfect behavior and lifestyle, not to mention the trademark "perfect hair flip," that she almost beats Martha Stewart

at her own game. Ironically, it is her own uptight, "supermom" act that is ruining her WASP-y marriage to Rex (Steven Culp), while pushing her son Andrew (Shawn Pyfrom) to experiment with homosexuality and her daughter Danielle (Joy Lauren) to lose her virginity. Cross has mastered the mannerisms and the language of her character, and even if not the most beautiful of the bunch, she is certainly one of the most talented.

Eva Longoria, a former pageant queen who once did a stint on "The Young and the Restless", plays her neighbor, Gabrielle Solis. A beauty with a Benz, it seems as though Gabrielle's life is perfect — but then again, her husband is under house arrest and she has been caught sleeping with her underage gardener. Longoria may not be the

strongest actress of the four, but her undeniable good looks contribute to her believability factor as a once well-paid model.

Next is Teri Hatcher's character, Susan Mayer, a woman abandoned by her husband for his secretary. The role won Hatcher a Golden Globe this year for Best Actress in a Comedy. After a year, Susan seems to have finally gotten over her husband's infidelity and their subsequent divorce, and is now pursuing a relationship with new neighbor Mike Delfino (James Denton). Mayer is by far the most critically acclaimed of the housewives.

Completing the housewife quartet is Lynette Scavo, played

by Felicity Huffman, arguably the most talented of the cast. She has four nightmarishly bratty children and regrets leaving the working world after her success in corporate America, leading her to become addicted to her kids' ADD medication. However, her medication problem proves to be only half the nightmare, as her husband Tom (Doug Savant) either lusts after the newly-hired nanny or a higher profile job. Huffman plays the role admirably, and to date is the only housewife that has not been shown in just underwear.

"Desperate Housewives" of corrupting America's image of perfect, middle-class suburbs. Conservative groups argue that the United States has enough to deal with without spreading false images of infidelity, dishonesty, and broken homes in American communities.

What those critics do not realize, however, is that the show's creator, Marc Cherry, is a conservative homosexual who loosely based the show on his own family life. The show is not completely fictitious, perhaps conveying such an element of reality that it actually scares its harshest

critics.

However, the show remains in good standing with many others. In addition to Hatcher's Best Actress award, both Cross and Huffman were also nominated for the Golden Globe



Courtesy of ABC.com

The five housewives of Wisteria Lane.

Wisteria Lane, the suburban utopia where most of "Desperate Housewives" takes place, is rounded out by Edie Britt (Nicolette Sheridan), the resident seductress, and Martha Huber (Christine Estabrook), the now-deceased nosy neighbor. Neither has gotten much on-screen time, but Sheridan has done lots of publicity for the show, particularly in a series of risqué Monday Night Football commercials.

Clearly, all is not well in this Stepford-esque community. The show aims to display the wealthy as not always happy and the seemingly flawless as just normal, at best.

Some people have accused

in the category of Best Actress in a Comedy, while Sheridan was nominated for Best Supporting Actress. The series also won the Golden Globe for Best Television Comedy Series.

Critics say the best aspect of the show is its fearlessness, becoming a much-needed soap opera about middle-aged women in an era when, according to Newsweek Magazine, "'CSI' and its clones rule."

Love it or hate it, ask any one of its 20 million engrossed viewers and they will tell you that they, too, are desperate: desperate to see what new "dirty laundry" the housewives are going to share with them next week.

Speakers at Pingry

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Ultimately, Rep. Frelinghuysen echoed Ms. Whitman's message about the value of citizen participation in government. "It's an interesting business, politics, it's a rough business. But I'm here to encourage you to get involved in it. You know, it sounds sort of corny, but it's important to be involved in politics and government," he said.

On Friday, April 22, Professor Helena Meyer-Knapp lectured the student body on peace-making and reconciliation in world affairs. Professor Meyer-Knapp, who teaches War and Peace Studies at Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington, spoke during the Friday assembly at the invitation of History Teacher Mr. John Raby.

Professor Meyer-Knapp focused on common misconceptions of peace-making. First, she argued, people erroneously believe that wars end when the timing is right — that is, when the circumstances of a war create the economic, political, and military situations necessary for peace. Next, she questioned the efficacy of peacemakers' "carrot or stick" approach, when a nation will claim victory by either appeasing the enemy through such concessions as economic gifts — the "carrot" — or by threatening severe military retribution for continuing a war — "the stick."

Rather, Professor Meyer-Knapp believes, the circumstances that lead to peace are often random events and private meetings between a few individuals; the driving metaphor behind such negotiations is Chaos Theory. She cited the end of apartheid in South Africa as an example of the unpredictability of negotiations. In the late 1980s, South African

leader Nelson Mandela's unexpected hernia fortuitously led to secret hospital room negotiations with representatives of the white government, ultimately ending decades of violent segregation in the country.

Professor Meyer-Knapp's broader point, however, was that reconciliation and clemency are necessary components of the peace process. In order to negotiate an end to conflict, she argued, one side of the conflict must change its basic assumptions about its enemy. Conventional punishment and feelings of vengeance, she added, only perpetuate the cycle of violence, making gestures of reconciliation vital to keeping peace.

Professor Meyer-Knapp's theories generated controversy in the school throughout the day. English Teacher Mr. Thomas Keating, who asked the Professor about her opinion of retribution towards genocidal dictators such as Slobodan Milosevic, later said, "In general, I support the idea of emphasizing forgiveness in peacemaking. It's an essential element to bringing about a resolution everyone can agree on. But the one objection I raise is that there are individuals and dictators who violate human rights on such a grand scale that it precludes the possibility of forgiveness. I'm not invalidating the idea of forgiveness, it's just that we must make moral judgments about the chief perpetrators."

"I like having so many famous people visiting Pingry," Adam Goldstein (V) said about the month's varied speakers. "I just wish that they represented a broader swath of the political spectrum."

ABC Network No Longer "Lost"

By EVAN ROSENMAN (III)

"Boston Legal is hilarious!" Sam Tasher (VI) declared. "Desperate Housewives is so good," asserted Katie Morash (III). "Wife Swap might be the funniest show I have seen in my entire life," said Ben Spicehandler (III). Such sentiments are echoed widely in Pingry's halls, as this year's crop of new shows makes for one of the most fresh and exciting TV schedules in the last decade. These creative programs have one more thing in common — they are almost exclusively on the ABC network.

Just a year ago, ABC seemed to be in an endless downward spiral. The network was usurped by Fox for a coveted spot among the top three networks, and had not had a bona fide hit since 1999's *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?*. Critical favorite *Alias* had failed to find an audience, and the finales of long-running hits *NYPD Blue* and *The Practice* were looming. With not even enough money to pay for many of the hot pilot scripts, what was the network to do?

The answer came with a bold decision: respect the viewers' intelligence and stop aiming for the lowest common denominator. ABC stopped filling the weekly schedule with reality TV and instead heavily promoted the satirical comedy *Desperate Housewives* and

the mystery drama *Lost*. Both were critical favorites, but their fates remained hinged on the strength of ABC's marketing machine. Both shows, however, debuted with around 20 million viewers, two of



Courtesy of ABC.com

the best debuts of the season. Furthermore, both maintained remarkable viewer retention rates in the following weeks, proving that their huge numbers were due more to viewer intrigue than to passing interest. They are currently ranked fourth and fifteenth for the season.

Since then, ABC has become unstoppable. Extreme Makeover was retooled into a less superficial show about home renovation, causing viewership to skyrocket. Practice spin-off *Boston Legal* maintained an excellent portion of its Housewives lead-

in. *Alias* finally expanded its viewer base, and *Grey's Anatomy* debuted just a few weeks ago. Overall, these shows have given ABC a number two rank among the advertiser-targeted 18-49 age group and also a respected status as the first non-cable water-cooler network.

Even at Pingry, ABC's influence is clear. *Anatomy*, *Lost*, and *Housewives* each have many fans. Emily Chertoff (III) attributes this to the network's display of higher-level entertainment. She said, "People are much smarter than networks give them credit for. They respond to more intelligent programming." Bess Rowen (VI) added, "Before *Desperate Housewives*, ABC wasn't even on the radar, but a lot of people at school now watch it."

With undeniable cultural significance, ABC's comeback has already changed the face of television. Competing networks have been brushing off dramatic pilot scripts and rushing them into development in an effort to capitalize on the new interest in smart programs. Reality shows are also being aired more selectively in order to mimic the success of *Makeover* and *Wife Swap*. While the ripple effect of the ABC ratings bonanza cannot be fully gauged until this fall's premieres, viewers can still enjoy the remarkable 2004-05 television season.

Persian Cuisine Unveiled The Year's Spring Look, for Less

By JUSTIN LOUIE (III)

Shiraz Restaurant
1086 River Road
Edgewater, NJ
www.shirazpersian.com
201-886-2500

★★★★☆

Any passer-by would not have known that the seemingly quiet section of River Road in Edgewater, NJ, is also home to the quite festive Persian establishment the Shiraz Restaurant, whose name comes from the ancient Iranian capital during the Zand Dynasty of the Medieval Islamic world.

Uncertain of what I might find at first, I was quickly greeted by Shiraz's warm and welcoming staff. My knowledgeable waiter then gave me his suggestions from the menu, which, if you ask for the take-out copy, has Persian writings for each item. One can tell the Shiraz Restaurant is an authentic ethnic restaurant that does not modify its cooking for American customers.

Once seated, I was given bread. Known as *Barbary*, this flat bread is commonly dipped in the appetizer rather than being eaten alone. Looking at the beverage menu, my eyes scanned over the sodas, coffee, and min-

eral water to rest on a drink called *Doogh*, priced at \$2.00. I strongly suggest avoiding it if you don't enjoy drinking diluted yogurt mixed with a little mint and salt. *Doogh* is quite heavy and may make you lose your appetite.

Fortunately, my waiter then suggested three different appetizers called the *Mast-O-Khiar*, the *Mast-O-Moosier*, and the *Mirza Ghasemi*, all priced at a low \$4.95 each. *Mast-O-Khiar* is quite simply a fresh yogurt dip mixed with cucumbers and some mint. *Mast-O-Moosier* is a zesty tasting yogurt dip with shallots, and *Mirza Ghasemi* is a diced eggplant and tomato dip with eggs and garlic. All three were very light and low on fat, making them a perfect introduction to a meal for those watching their weight. For a salad, one could have picked the *Garden Salad* or the *Shirazi Salad*. The *Shirazi Salad* consisted of diced cucumbers, onions, and tomatoes. Although priced a dollar more than the *Garden Salad* at \$4.95, the ethnic dish was quite refreshing.

Since Shiraz is a Persian restaurant, I had to have their famous kabobs. My waiter suggested the *Shishleak*, a traditional Persian cut of lamb chops with *Basmati* rice, priced at \$16.95. The rice was quite different from what I am used to; instead of being sticky, like Asian rice, saffron-scented *Basmati* rice was fluffier

and lighter. The second suggested entrée was the *Combination Kabobs*, priced at a hefty \$35.95, consisting of chicken breast, beef steak, *Koobideh* and *Joojeh*. All the *Kabob* dishes were very tender and juicy, which, according to my waiter, is achieved by marinating the kabobs in yogurt and saffron and then grilling them on a special grill from Iran.

For dessert, all items priced at \$3.95 each, I tried the *Baklava*, similar to the *Bakalava* I have eaten before, except without any nuts; the *Persian Ice Cream*, which was a delicious rosewater-based ice cream with pistachio nuts and whipped cream; the *Zulbia*, deep fried dough; and the *Bamieh*, honey balls that could even make any person with a sweet tooth jump for joy. Lastly, I had a sip of the restaurant's Turkish coffee. For lack of a better word: "Huffa!" Though I am not typically a coffee drinker, I found this drink quite bitter.

What amazed me so much about the Shiraz Restaurant was that all the cooking and even the rice are made on the premises. For future visits, other house specialties the owner recommended included the *Chelo Kabob-Koobideh*, made of ground beef, lamb, and onions, and the *Ghormeh Sabzi Stew*. Though the final bill for a family of three came to \$95, I was impressed by Shiraz Restaurant's meals and staff.

By ANGELA RAMIREZ (III)

As the weather begins to warm, the fashion world has shifted gear from heavy, layered looks to light, springy attire.

This season features layered, floral, and patterned tops, bold whites, and gleaming metallics. Students can get in on this look by purchasing gold or silver metallic bags and shoes, both of which are really in this year.

In Paris, Chanel's designs showcased small, shrunken jackets and bright pants as well as peasant skirts paired with stylish, flat sandals. Casual peasant skirts in every color and length can be found for an affordable price at the new Forever 21 store at the Bridgewater Mall.

Anna Sui, who likes to tie her shoes to a theme, chose a western look for this spring. Rodeo girls walked the runway donning cowboy boots and hats, accompanied by feathers, leather, and rhinestone-studded garments.

Python skin was the highlight of Dolce and Gabbana's couture line. Inspired by Africa, items included zebra-patterned tops and ragged jeans. Charm and

large bangle bracelets dominated the designer's accessories.

Those looking for a reasonably priced update to their wardrobes should check out these bracelets at Anthropologie at the Short Hills Mall.

Prada's designs were dark but filled with bright accents. Black and brown outfits were worn with neon sandals and highlighted by peacock feathers and flowerpot hats. For a more school-appropriate version of this look, girls can spice up their favorite khakis with a turquoise tee or inexpensive tier earrings.

Marc by Marc Jacobs and Burberry both featured eclectic lines of crazy, repetitive patterns. Gap for Women has a wide selection of floral and patterned skirts in a great price range for those with a budget.

Babydoll tops are popular across the fashion world this season, with everyone from Roberto Cavalli Couture to Abercrombie & Fitch now cashing in on them.

Oversized leather belts that are adorned with jewels or studs can be found in all major departments stores. These trendy belts are also going to be hot com-

modities in the fall, so they are a worthwhile investment.

Also big this season is the "bobo" fashion scene, now in vogue after gaining the following of such fashion icons as Mary Kate Olson. Bobo, which takes its name from the French phenomenon of "Bohemian-Bourgeoise" couture, features popular silhouette tops and flowing, white skirts this season. Bohemian outfits can be discovered everywhere from thrift stores to Chanel boutiques, evidence of its popularity among everyone from common fashion-followers to celebrities.

And what's out for good this season? Brooches, which dove as fast as they rose this past winter, and are now giving way to funkier, more wearable accessories such as Aviator sunglasses and coin jewelry.

In sum, the season's biggest winner is color – from pastel shades to vibrant hues, color is everywhere. With comfort taking over the stiffness of winter, experts are telling the fashion-conscious this season to opt for clothes of vitality and vibrancy in this revitalizing time of the year.

Professional Poets Attend 2005 Creative Writing Festival

By JENNA DEVINE (III)

"Why do stressed out people need poets?" Dr. Susan Dineen asked the Pingry community in her launch of this year's creative writing festival Friday, April 8. The readings and workshops that followed helped to prove her point that creative writers force us to examine the world through different eyes and see the world anew.

The Justin Society, launched by Pingry parents George and Dee Ring in honor of their son, Justin Ring '94, sponsored its first Creative Writing Festival in March, 1996. For the last several years, the annual festival has been held in April to coincide with National Poetry Month.

Organized by Dr. Dineen and co-coordinated by Dr. Jeffrey Levine, author and founder of Tupelo Press, this year's festival featured seven authors, many of whom are nationally recognized award recipients. During morning meeting all the writers read short excerpts from their works, and later in the day they led three student workshops.

Students had the option of signing up for a full day with the authors, including readings, lunch and workshops, or only attending seventh and fourth period readings. These smaller "open mic" sessions were "really enjoyable given the intimate atmosphere. Once all the other students had left after morning meeting, it was nice to hear the poets not only read their poems but tell us about themselves and their work," said Ricky Zacharias (III).

He added that "the lunch was another great opportunity to learn more about the poets, because it became clear that learning about the poet was just as entertaining as hearing the poems!"

Ms. Emily Lloyd, winner of the 2004 Dogfish Head Poetry Prize, and Ms. Maggie Dubris ran the fiction workshop for over fifty students. Ms. Penelope Schott led the poetry-writing workshop. Ms. Susan Gubernat, winner of the Marianne Moore Prize for her book of poems, *Flesh*, headed the "Tuning the Poem" workshop.

The other participating authors were Ms. Jessica Greenbaum, Ms. Diane Lockward, and Dr. Jeffrey Levine, winner of the Larry Levis Poetry Prize, the Kestral Prize, the James Hearst Poetry Prize, and the Mississippi Review poetry award.

While the workshops were going on, Ms. Lockward led a large group of period 6 English students and teachers to write their own poems.

For the "Writing the Poem" workshop, students were given a list of folk art titles and asked to write two poems incorporating two of the titles, focusing first on something that brought them happiness but might embarrass somebody else, and then writing a more persuasive poem in the first person.

In the Fiction workshop, students were given an exercise in writing dialogue in which they received a situation and two characters, one historical and one from pop culture. "I got Amelia Earhart and Steven Segal being arrested in a sting operation," said Maureen Brady (III). "The assignment was really fun, so it made it easier to write."

I also loved getting a professional's perspective on my writing," she added.

The third workshop, "Tuning the Poem," gave students the opportunity to polish poems already in the works before the Creative writing Festival. "It was really neat to hear poems from people at school who I

didn't even know wrote poetry," Heather Benjamin (IV) commented.

Students not only had the opportunity to work with published writers, but they also gained a new perspective on their work. Benjamin added, "In the 'Tuning the Poem' workshop, we each read our poem, then someone else read our poem, just so we could hear it in a different voice," Benjamin added.

The response to the workshops this year from the participants was resoundingly positive. "I felt like they respected us as a group of young writers and they seemed like they genuinely enjoyed working with us," said Darina Shtrakhman (III). Jake Kreeger (IV) noted that, "The best part about working with accomplished writers is that it shows us it is possible to succeed as an artist."



1. Bobo, boho, or hobo? Eyelet Pieced Skirt, *Free People*, \$98. 2. Busy skirts are easily paired with stylish flats and a simple sweater. Geometric Full Pleated Skirt, *Gap*, \$49.50. 3. Soften bold whites with eyelets, lace, and a feminine cut. Floral Crochet Knit Top, *Forever 21*, \$16.80. 4. This season, metallic bags are no faux pas, even in casual settings. Foil Sport Bag, *Kenneth Cole New York*, *Nordstrom*, \$130.00. 5. For the fashion-courageous, coordinate a metallic bag with gold or silver shoes. Metallic Leather Moccasins, *Bloomingdale's*, \$100.00. 6. Eclectic charm bracelets transition well from day to night. Charm Bracelet, *Anthropologie*, \$168.00.

NY Collective Gives Encore Performance

By CORI HUNDT (IV)

On Friday, April 1, the Macrae Theater played host to the Pingry Drama and New York Collective Summer Play Festival Benefit. The performance, intended to raise money for the summer drama festival put on by the N.Y. Collective for the Arts, included three ten-minute plays.

The summer play festival is a collaboration between Pingry alumni and the Pingry Drama Department. Over three days, actors work with student interns and Mr. Al Romano, the Drama Department head, to produce ten ten-minute plays that are performed on the last day.

The program on April 1

consisted of an introduction by Mr. Romano, a documentary on the project, a sample of three of the ten minute plays, and a "talk back," where audience members got to ask the actors questions.

The three plays that were part of the benefit included *Old Wives Tail*, written by Brad Raider, *Simple Like Good Day*, written by Vincent Morano, and *Networking*, written by Gibson Knott.

Old Wives Tail is a comic play about a man whose best friend decides to make an adult movie—with an elderly lady that lives upstairs. The main character tries to have his best friend make the movie but share the profits.

Simple Like Good Day is

a more serious play centered on a relationship between an isolated brother and sister as both characters struggle with the sister's schizophrenia.

The last play, *Networking*, focuses on two middle-aged men who were enemies in high school. One, a former bully, comes begging for help from the other, a successful man.

Of the participating actors, three were Pingry Alumni: Wayne Kasserian '94, Gibson Knott '93, and Vincent Morano '94.

Reactions from the audience were overwhelmingly positive. "It was really, really good," Scott Eckenthal (III) said. "I liked it a lot."

Ted Moller (IV) added, "I'm proud to witness the

profound talent that was exhibited here."

The performances themselves were only part of the Benefit's benefits, however. Jenna Devine (III) "liked talking to Wayne Kasserian," while Rita Biagioli (VI) was impressed by how "the plays managed to develop in such a short time." The favorite play among attending members of the Drama II class was *Old Wives Tail*.

In total, the benefit raised \$600 for this year's summer play festival. On the weekend of June 20, the actors will return to Pingry for three days and work with student interns, alumni actors, and Mr. Romano to produce and perform ten more ten-minute plays.

Girls' Track Tries for Fifth Straight State Championship

By HADLEY JOHNSON (IV)

This season, Girls' Track is competing for its fifth straight Parochial B State Championship. "It's not a myth!" said Coach Timothy Grant, who has been coaching at Pingry for 16 years.

Led by captains Alison Sarokhan (VI) and Amanda Smith (VI), Girls' Track is undefeated so far this season with a record of 4-0. Even more impressive is the fact that the team has not lost a dual meet for more than five years.

Team spirit runs high on the Girls' Track team, comprised of 58 athletes. "It's hard to get so many girls together, but we have come together and bonded really well," Sarokhan says. The team has adopted the motto, "High five! We want this many," with an image of the school's five-digit Big Blue ursine paw.

The team's biggest rival is Verona, whom the team beat in their second dual meet on April 13 with a score of 87 to 53.

The team did not lose a single scorer from last year and has gained many more. "Most of the athletes have returned from last year and the freshmen are running very well," Smith says.

Among competing teams, Pingry is well known for its excellent Girls' Track program. Coach Grant attributes some of the team's success



M. Bialecki (V)

to "fear we inspire in opponents when we arrive with three coach buses filled with dedicated athletes."

Despite their natural bias, the consensus among the team's coaches and athletes is that this year's team may prove the best in a long time. Sophomore Erin Toner says, "We have the potential to be one of the best track teams in Pingry history."

The team's strength does not lie in one particular event or athletes in a specific age group. Rather, Sarokhan explains, "We have a team with depth. People forget that it's track *and* field."

With the addition of a new

jumping coach, Ms. Nancy Romano, the team now has seven different coaches to train students for the various events, enabling the team to become stronger across the entire spectrum of the sport.

Individual performances are as impressive as the team's collective record. Sarah McMahon (VI) has broken three school throwing records, including shot put, discus, and javelin, which was set in 1983. As a sophomore, Smith broke the 3200 m record, 11:12.8.

The Parochial B State Championships will be held on May 4.

third in the Somerset County tournament on April 18. Kate Durnan (IV) placed 10th in the county tournament. Cronheim and Durnan have already qualified for the state sectional tournament.

Durnan and Caroline Boyer (VI) are the defending girls' state champions and will be playing again for their title at the Seaview Marriot Resort Country Club on May 25.



M. Bialecki (V)

Baseball 2-5

With a season record of 2-5, Pingry Baseball is fighting to secure a place in the Colonial Hills Conference. This

is a tough challenge in part because the team comprises mostly younger players.

Coach Ted Corvino says, "We have found that almost all of the teams within the conference seem to have bigger, stronger, and faster guys than we have. That might be attributed, in part, to the fact that we have fewer seniors." The starting lineup includes one senior, six juniors, and two sophomores.

Pingry's biggest rival within the Colonial Hills Conference Colonial Division is Bernards High School. Unfortunately, Pingry lost to Bernards towards the beginning of the season on April 13. The team will get another chance to play Bernards on May 4.

Coach Corvino says, "Ideally, we would like to approach the rest of the season with a 'one-game-at-a-time' attitude and try to get better both as individuals and collectively. We'll go down fighting until the bitter end though. That's for sure."

**Go
Big
Blue!**

Spring Sports Start Season With Strong Performances

By HADLEY JOHNSON (IV) and MELISSA LOEWINGER (IV)



M. Bialecki (V)

BOYS' TRACK 1-3

Led by captains Sam Dwyer (V) and Robert Trangucci (VI), the Varsity Boys Track team has a record of 1-3 as of April 26. Head Coach Mark Sepkowski commented on the team's slow start to the season, saying, "We are a young team this year, having lost many key members. My goal for this team is for everyone to improve individually and as a team as the season progresses."

The team has been moved from Prep A to Prep B this year, and Coach Sepkowski is optimistic about this transition, saying, "We have an excellent chance at winning the Prep B Championship." Distance runners Dwyer, Jonathan Bregman (V), and Chris Scavone (IV), as well as sprinters Kevin Vieira (VI) and Stephan Cizmar (V) have all beaten the time requirements to participate in the Meet of Champions.



M. Bialecki (V)

Boys' Tennis 12-1

Led by Captain Robby Knopp (VI) and Assistant Captains Drew Blacker (VI) and Ben Rosenthal (VI), the Boys Varsity Tennis team boasts a record of 12-1. Their lone defeat was from Millburn, ranked third in the state. The team has already been accepted to play in the State Tournament at the end of the season. Head Coach Gary Miller says, "We hope

to do well in both the county and state tournaments, especially as we host the county tournament each year."

Undefeated in their conference, the team is looking forward to playing rival Delbarton. Knopp, who plays second singles, and twins Max and Alex Gumport (IV), who play first doubles, have only one loss so far this season.



Courtesy of Bluebook

Girls' Lacrosse 5-3

With captains Sarah Filipiski (VI), Christina Denitzio (VI), and Julie Hamilton (V) leading the way, the Varsity Girls Lacrosse team has a record of 5-3 as of April 26. The team earned a strong win against rival Bernards (10-4) on April 22.

Other important victories were against Governor Livingston (14-3) and Morristown Beard (13-8). "This season is going very well, Liz Moore (IV) said. "I think we have made a lot of progress."

The team looks forward to the start of the State Tournament in mid-May and, hopefully, the State Finals, which will be held on June 4.



M. Bialecki (V)

Boys' Lacrosse 4-3

Led by senior captain John Moore and assistant senior captains Keith Dungo and Eric Olmstead, the Boys Varsity lacrosse team currently has a record of 4-3. After los-

ing to Delbarton, Morristown Beard, and Hunterdon Central, all presently undefeated, the team has come back strong with a three-game win streak against Glen Ridge (8-6), Roxbury (8-2), and West Essex (7-6).

Head Coach Mike Webster has three main goals for this season, saying, "We want to win the County Championship for the third year in a row, to qualify and do well in the State Tournament, which we lost in the semi-finals to winner Mountain Lakes last year, and to have every player learn how to compete to the best of his ability."

Assistant Coach David Giarrusso said that rain and injuries has impeded the team's progress, but that "the kids have worked hard to erase the mistakes of the beginning of the year and we have gotten comfortable playing strong lacrosse after the disappointing start."

The team is looking forward to hosting the Bristol Bowl, named after Tony Bristol, a coach at both programs, on May 2 against longtime rival Westfield, and would appreciate all fan support.



M. Bialecki (V)

Softball 6-3

Led by captains Amanda Pagoulatos (VI) and Katie Hampson (VI) and assistant captains Caitlin Fitzgerald (V) and Maggie Porges (VI), Varsity Softball has a record of 6-3.

The team started off the season with a spring training trip to Orlando, Fla. The team went 4-2 against six teams from states including Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Alabama. Coach Leslie Miller says, "The girls came together both on and off the field, which is a very important part of team chemistry."

Coach Miller adds, "We would like to be competitive in the conference and also have a good showing in both the county and state tournaments."



Courtesy of R. Cronheim (V)

Golf 1-7

Led by captain Mike Stuzynski (VI), Varsity Golf seeks to win the conference and qualify for the state finals as a team this year.

Big rivals include Montclair Kimberly Academy, Morristown Beard and Mountain "These are the best teams in the conference, all of whom are fighting to win the conference title along with Pingry," Coach Joe Forte says

On April 11, Robert Cronheim (V) won the Cherry Valley Tournament with a 71, one under par. He then placed