

Annual Career Day Speakers Inspire Juniors & Seniors

By DANIELLE WESTERMAN (VI)

Although sometimes it feels like high school will last forever, on January 26, a variety of successful alumni returned to give a glimpse of what life after Pingry is like. The day began when Geoffrey Duyk '77 delivered the keynote address for all juniors and seniors. After his presentation, students attended three different lectures on topics of their choosing.

This year's speakers graduated from Pingry from as far back as 1959 to as recently as 2006. They all specialized in different areas ranging from medicine, law, and finance to media, marketing, and environmental studies. Within each career field, each alumnus had a different concentration. A pediatrician, a geneticist, and a large-animal veterinarian, for example, all told

of their varying experiences in the medical field.

There was a minor glitch in the day when the seniors were given schedules with their choices from last year. Once the scheduling conflict was resolved though, most enjoyed the experience of hearing from successful people. Noinin Gilbert (VI) liked the "intimate" setting for listening to the presentations, and especially liked how Media presenters Mr. David Gelber '59 and Mrs. Jane Sarkin-O'Connor '77 "created a nice atmosphere and opened it up for discussion..." They didn't just talk at us."

Matt Vitale (VI) was not as fond of the Media presenters because they "didn't really give me a feel of what working for a magazine or TV show would be like." He did, however, like the presentation on marketing. Vitale said he came out of the session "having a good



M. Sankovich (VI) and T. Campbell (V) listen to the Performing Arts presentation.

Courtesy of Communications Office

idea of what they did each day at work, and they... asked us how we would promote a restaurant or how we

would go about advertising a product."

Overall, there were some hits and misses. Media and

Marketing were popular across the board, because, said Gilbert, "they talked about things that we come

in contact with on a daily basis." Sports Marketing seemed to be a favorite among all the boys, but people did not find Finance quite as exciting. Logan McGowan (V) explained, "They didn't talk about the specifics of their jobs, just the broad spectrum... I didn't really gain any insight into the field."

Junior Elise Lang enjoyed the day, as well as the Psychology presentation she attended. The speakers gave students "a great behind-the-scenes perspective on their typical day," she said. She was also glad that she, as a junior, was able to participate in Career Day because she had "wanted to sign up for a lot of things," and this way, next year she "can go to talks that I didn't get into this year." Everyone enjoyed hearing success stories from people who at one point were in their shoes.

MLK Assembly Discusses Importance of Diversity at Pingry

By SARAH PARK (V)

The annual Martin Luther King Jr. Assembly, held on Friday, January 14, brought up the importance of diversity in our school, as well as the challenges it poses. This assembly was different from previous years because of the increased amount of student involvement. This year, the Student Diversity Leadership Club (SDLC), led by presidents Chloe

Sorvino (VI), Colleen Roberts (VI), Lakshmi Davey (VI), and Rebecca Gluck (VI), organized the entire assembly, with the supervision of faculty advisor Dr. Diana Artis. Every year, this assembly is held to honor the memory and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and to encourage students and faculty to embrace diversity and to continue to strive for acceptance in our community.

After listening to the song

"My Generation," which featured Damian Marley, Joss Stone, and Lil Wayne, Roberts and Davey turned the program over to a video, produced by Justen Haynes (V), which interviewed different students and faculty members on racism, stereotypes, and cultural identifiers. The video combined different viewpoints and opinions as well as different genders, ages, and ethnicities to showcase the diversity in our community.

Many of the interviewees expressed frustration with the stereotypes that they are always being labeled with or compared to. Alex Rajan (VI) said, "Stereotypes are always going to exist as long as you keep joking about them." Ariana King (VI) agreed, and expressed her concern about how being African American automatically characterizes her as loud, although she has many African American friends who are extremely shy. "The fact that I am loud has nothing to do with my race, it's because I like expressing my opinions," she said.

Students were also asked to respond to the anonymous quote "I don't see color." Although Andrew Hanna (V) and Wade Homer (VI) both concurred that it was a good goal, Hanna said, "It's not realistic, because everyone sees color; it's the first thing you notice about a person."

The idea for the video came up one day during a SDLC meeting when a group of members were trying to think of what to present at the MLK Assembly. After the "White Privilege Video" was presented at the Diversity Assembly, Roberts and the rest of the club wanted to show the Pingry community that "there is more to diversity than just black and white."

Roberts also drew inspiration from the Student

Diversity Leadership Conference that some members attended in San Diego last December. She hopes that in the future "we will be more comfortable and open with discussing diversity."

After the video, Raven Mickens (III), Arvin Alaigh (VI), Rachel Davis (III), Osa Omoregie (III), Sam Gelman (V), Aigner Mizelle (III), King, and Ms.

Leslie Wolfson read poetry. Some of the poetry was original, while others chose to read poems that had touched them. The assembly concluded with musical performances from the student band The HeartBeats, the co-ed a cappella group Drastic Measures, and Alex Rajan (VI) and Emily Kamen (IV).

Response to the assem-

bly was varied. "I thought the whole assembly was extremely interesting," said Matt Lipper (V), "but my favorite part was the video because it presented kids that we knew and their honest opinions." Justin Trousdale (IV), on the other hand, thought the "assembly should have emphasized Martin Luther King Jr. and his life more."

Snowball Dance Is Another Hit for Student Government

By YUMI CASAGRANDE (IV)

After Homecoming wraps up and the temperature begins to drop, buzz begins to build about Snowball, the annual winter semi-formal. This year, Snowball was held on the January 29 at the Martinsville Inn.

Snowball's distinctive feature is that it is "Sadie Hawkins" style, meaning girls ask boys. While boys typically "love it because it takes the stress off," in the words of Louis Monteagudo (III), Snowball often "puts a great deal of pressure on the girls," said Liz Jolley (V).

Members of Student Government began the planning process around late November. Though Andrew Hanna (V) "wished we had more time this year to get organized," most students enjoyed all facets of the event, especially the food. The strawberry milkshakes and chocolate fondue were crowd favorites, but Dorian Allen (IV) preferred the fries, which were "salty and hot, just the way I like them."

In between eating and taking pictures, people flooded the dance floor. This year, the DJ was Adam Armstrong (VI), who has also DJed at other Pingry events, like the dance at the senior retreat earlier this year. Director of Community Service Mrs. Shelley Hartz thought



Courtesy of Facebook

D. Sukhin (V), V. Oliveira (VI), G. Kozial (IV), and K. Kolb (VI) enjoying the dance.

Armstrong "really motivated the crowd." Some songs Armstrong featured were "Dynamite" by Taio Cruz, "You're a Jerk" by the New Boyz, and "Teach Me How to Dougie" by the Cali Swag District.

Overall, students enjoyed the event. Some, like David Soled

(IV), enjoyed being "wild dancers" out on the dance floor, while others, like Sonalika Reddi (IV) simply liked "having fun with friends." Senior Lakshmi Davey said, "Snowball was great, as usual, and I'm so sad this year was my last one. It's a tradition I'll really miss!"

Inside The Record



B.Morrison '64

Lexi Van Besien (IV) takes a shot in the win over Mt. Saint Mary's.

Going Hollywood

Jane Sarkin '77 works alongside celebrities as the Features Editor at Vanity Fair. P2.

Stellar Director in the Making

Alumnus Jeremy Teicher '06 gains recognition for his documentary of stories from rural Senegal. P2.

Captain Underpants

Mr. Noah Wrubel '84 says, "Selling underwear is just my job, it doesn't define who I am." P4.

Superb Season

Boys' Wrestling finishes with a 7-9 record, their best in fifteen years. P4.

Stars on Ice

Boys' Hockey overcomes early adversity to finish on a hot streak. P4.

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EDITORIAL

We All Need Some Constructive Criticism

On Career Day, the Record Staff got the opportunity to meet with David Gelber '59, one of the producers of CBS's "60 Minutes." I have to say, it was incredibly cool to speak with someone who works on one of the most famous news shows in the world.

At first, though, I have to admit that I was incredibly intimidated when I heard that Mr. Gelber wanted to talk to us. Why would an award-winning news producer care about our high school paper? But I was surprised at how genuinely interested he seemed and how enthusiastic he was to offer us some tips. For example, he advised us to improve our leads and to add some variety to the stories that we cover. He also gave us some contact information so we could try to connect the *Record* to more global topics. Mr. Gelber left us with this tidbit of wisdom, which I particularly liked: "In journalism, you're going to piss people off."

I took two very important things from our meeting with Mr. Gelber. The first is the value of constructive criticism. We work really hard on every issue, so at first, being critiqued was difficult. After I got over those initial feelings, though, I realized that maybe it is time to start tweaking the *Record* instead of just sticking to a tried-and-true format. We definitely worked on making our leads more eye-catching in the issue. And we're going to keep making changes, so look out for updated and improved *Record* issues in the future!

Secondly, I realized how much I appreciate the fact that I attend Pingry. Four years ago, I never would have thought that I would be meeting with someone who produces a show that I watch with my family all the time. I never would have had that opportunity without the hard work of Pingry and the Alumni Office, and I think it's great that they take the time every year to put Career Day together. Interacting with the alumni was hugely inspirational. Take someone like Jeremy Teicher, who only graduated a few years ago. He's already accomplished so much with his film project in Africa, which is just proof that you're never too young to make a difference. And Dr. Robert King '79 serves as a great reminder not to be afraid to pursue all of the subjects that you love. And, after all, I don't know many other high school editors who can say they've gotten advice from a CBS producer!

—Anisha Mohin

Dr. King Re-Defines "Investment Banker"

By DAN ABEND (V)

Dr. Robert King '79 is a prime example of how determination and keeping an open mind can lead to success in unexpected ways. After graduating from Pingry in 1979, Dr. King attended Princeton and majored in chemical engineering. He was determined to become an engineer because he believed, and still believes today, that "what makes this country great are scientists and engineers out inventing things, and making them work in our lives."

He took those aspirations with him to MIT's graduate school. However, while pursuing his thesis in chemical engineering, his work began to drift into highly theoretical math, and he began to lose interest in his original focus. "I'm a practical guy," he explained, "and when my PhD thesis went off in a theoretical direction, I had to deal with it."

Rather than stay on course with a thesis he was losing passion for, Dr. King decided to experiment with new subjects. He therefore signed up to take courses at MIT's Sloan School of Management. Classes in organizational behavior and marketing during his first semester gave him a renewed sense of possibility.

Dr. King instantly fell in love with these topics, because "they were so much fun and so different from what I was doing."

By the time he graduated, he had successfully synthesized his newfound passion for financial management along with his original interest in engineering.

After finishing graduate school, he had to decide which career path to follow. "What I thought I'd be doing

was something like engineering management," he said. Overall, though, his main concern was that he "wanted to do something applied and tangible." Wall Street wound up being the perfect fit, because "the stock market was a growing place and was starting to get more financially sophisticated." The firms were looking for what they labeled "rocket scientists:" people with high qualifications in various mathematical and scientific disciplines. Dr. King, with his PhD in engi-

neering, was offered a job at Goldman Sachs.

Although unsure at first whether he had made the right choice, he ended up enjoying his job, saying, "It was a really

nice blend of mathematical and quantitative work together with the necessary ingredient of interpersonal skills. I just really enjoyed the challenge."

According to Dr. King, the quantitative skills came quite naturally to

him, while the interpersonal skills were harder to refine. "Engineers aren't known as being the most interpersonal people," he joked.

Dr. King also had to adjust his own personal attitudes to adjust to his job at first. "Engineers have this view that scientists and engineers of the world are really the value contributors to the world, and the finance workers are working off of them," he explained.

Today, Dr. King serves as

the managing director in the healthcare investment banking group at Goldman Sachs. His job is to help healthcare clients "accomplish their strategic and financial objectives." This is done "primarily by helping them identify companies and products to acquire, or restructure their own business through selling products or raising capital."

"I really like what I'm doing," he says. "I like serving clients to help them accomplish their objectives."

Based on his own experiences, Dr. King has some worthwhile advice for high school students, particularly juniors and seniors, who are about to embark upon a new chapter in their lives. His first suggestion is for everyone to pursue their passions and interests, and to "determine what you really enjoy and don't hesitate."

He also recommends always keeping an open mind and "being flexible about how you can apply your skills and interests in new, different and productive ways." In that regard, he uses himself as an example. "I love the analytical science and engineering, and love serving people as well as helping them accomplish what they like. I never thought I would find all of this in a job called investment banking."



Courtesy of R. King

Ms. Jane Sarkin Rubs Elbows with Celebs

By ROXANNE FEITEL (V)

Ms. Jane Sarkin '77 has a job that most people could only dream of: for the past 26 years, Ms. Sarkin has worked as the Features Editor for *Vanity Fair*, one of the nation's

leading fashion, celebrity, and politics magazines. As the Features Editor, it's Ms. Sarkin's job to cover "anything to do with Hollywood." That means she plans the cover of each issue and works with writers and photographers to make sure everything goes smoothly.

One of the perks of this job is that Ms. Sarkin gets to spend quality time with some of Hollywood's biggest celebrities; Tom Cruise, Johnny Depp, Angelina Jolie, and Meryl Streep were among those she listed as her favorites. Although she enjoys working with such colossal stars, she admitted that "it's not as easy as it looks" to put out a cover, and both the team at *Vanity Fair* and the celebrities work hard to make sure it's successful.

Before Ms. Sarkin got her start in journalism, she was just another Pingry student "trying to become the best that I could be." But the things she learned at Pingry stuck with her through life. She has "always lived by the Honor Code" and gained a good work ethic from being a student at Pingry.

From high school, Ms. Sarkin matriculated to the University of Vermont, where she majored in English. She followed that with a degree from the New York University Publishing Institute. After finishing graduate school, Ms. Sarkin "was lucky enough" to be selected for a job at *Interview* magazine under founder and pop-art icon Andy Warhol. Although she had "always wanted to be involved in the magazine world," this was her true introduction into journalism.

Her advice to today's high school students is simple: try a lot of different things in college. "You never know what is going to interest you," she said, and trying something new can help you discover something you love. More than anything, "always try to do something," Ms. Sarkin said.



Sarkin posing with R. Pattinson.

Courtesy of J. Sarkin

Ms. Christine Layng Works at Christie's

By SARAH PARK (V)

When Christine Layng '02 attended Pingry, she and her mother would go into New York City to visit art museums, a pastime that they still enjoy today. Layng never thought art would become the focus of her career, but today, she works as the executive assistant to the Chairman of Christie's. Christie's is one of the leading art auction institutions in the nation.

At Williams College, Layng faced the difficult decision of what to major in, something that she struggled with throughout her four years there. "There were just so many possibilities, and I wanted to try everything because I felt like once I decided, it would be final," she said. Originally a Chemistry major, and then a Political Science



Courtesy of C. Layng

major, Layng finally declared Art History as her major during her senior year. She chose Art History after her exposure to art during her year abroad in Barcelona and her internship at Christie's that following summer.

Reflecting back on her time at Pingry, Layng says her favorite memories are the different lecture series, because "they brought the whole school together, and we had the opportunity to listen

to such inspirational speakers." Other fond memories include Mr. Tom Keating's English class and being a part of the Varsity swim team, something that she ended up continuing college.

At Christie's, one of the leading art auction institutions, Layng helps the chairman with every aspect of his job. Because he is so busy, Layng is responsible for researching clients and preparing materials before meetings so that everything runs smoothly. "One thing that Pingry really taught me was how to think and write well," Layng said, "which are vital qualities for when I am writing emails to all of our clients. These days, everything is done over email, so it's especially important that I portray the chairman and the company in a positive way."

Although Layng receives many perks from her job, the best part is "learning something new every day. I get to see amazing art pieces and work with intelligent, hardworking people. It's a great job."

For Layng, the most important thing is to keep "that balance between work and play." For Layng, this "balance" is working at Christie's, staying fit, and volunteering at the Museum of the City of New York, where she helps organize fundraisers and plan events. She advises high school students to pick a career "that you love, not what your parents or your friends tell you to do. Most importantly, don't let yourself be influenced by money."



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Former SAC President Teicher Directs Film Project in Africa

By DAN ABEND (V)

Over the past several months, Jeremy Teicher '06 has been involved in an eye-opening project centered in a village in the coastal African nation of Senegal. With a sponsorship from Kodak and a fellowship from his alma mater, Dartmouth College, Jeremy developed a process that empowered teenagers from a rural village to write, film, and narrate stories about their lives. Jeremy compiled their stories into a documentary titled "This is Us: Video Stories from Senegalese Youth." The film had a nationally televised November premiere at the American Ambassador's Residence in Dakar, Senegal.

After majoring in English and Film at Dartmouth, Teicher devised a plan utilizing the equipment that his sponsor, Kodak, had donated. This included the Zx1 pocket sized Hi-Definition cameras the children used to film. He contacted a Senegalese elementary school, where a teacher acted as his liaison and helped him get together a group of kids for the project.

Teicher observed that the portrayal of rural Africans in the American media tends to create feelings of pity and guilt. In his film, Teicher encouraged the children to make stories about all as-



Courtesy of Dartmouth Now

pects of their lives in order to show the positive sides of life as a student in Senegal along with the challenges.

"The people live happily together in huge families, work hard, and are very proud of who they are. I thought it would be cool to focus on that side, to create films that share who they are as people," he said.

This different perspective is partially what makes Teicher's project so special. The children used their cameras to provide insight on the positive portions of their lives. At the same time they shared stories about their pursuit of formal education, their families, and their hopes for Senegal's future.

"I hope the film sparks dialogue regarding the issues, but the real goal is for one culture to share stories with another," Teicher said.

"The children recognize that they have a lot to share with us."

The film is completely authentic, as it is filmed and narrated entirely by the children themselves. As the students had each picked specific topics to focus on, each had a plan. "When I reviewed their footage," Teicher said, "it was to make sure they were getting the coverage they needed to tell the story they had written."

After the children finished their taping and recorded their narrations, Teicher edited them all together into a series of films, conferring with each student during the editing process. He emphasized putting the films together in "a way that would be clear that they were filmed not by outside professionals, but by the kids

themselves."

"Giving the cameras to children allows them to film things that would be impossible for an outsider like myself to capture," he said.

These genuine, first-hand accounts make the footage powerful. In fact, Teicher said that one of the most fulfilling parts of his work thus far was seeing footage captured by a young girl who took her camera into an area of her village where her two sisters were cooking dinner, laughing, dancing, and joking.

"It totally struck me that this was an image that I or any other outsider would never have been able to film," he said. "The only reason it was on film was because of this young girl. When I saw that footage, I realized the potential to bring out stories that have never been told before."

Once the filming and editing process was completed, Teicher scheduled multiple showings. He traveled back to Africa in November, where screenings took place at the French Cultural Center and the American embassy. In addition, he worked with the American Embassy to enable the children involved in the project to attend private screenings of their work. Finally, he presented his work at Career Day to juniors and seniors.

Teicher plans to continue

making films. He is currently involved in a number of projects in New York City and is beginning to make plans for a return trip to Senegal.

Wherever he does decide to go, his time at Pingry will always remain important to him. Teicher found his passion for film by taking classes at school with film teacher, Mr. Peter Delman. His time in the film room had a lot to do with his interests in film making.

"I really loved the opportunities at Pingry to go with what you're interested in," he said.

Teicher also cites his time in the Student Activities Committee, of which he was co-president, as contribut-

ing to his passion. He also thanked the French department, specifically Madame Gail Castaldo and Madame Kelly Jordan, for "putting up with me for all those years" and helping him learn the language, a skill that proved to be invaluable in the predominantly French-speaking Senegal.

Teicher encourages students to pursue their interests and explore the many extracurricular activities Pingry has to offer. "Go into Mrs. Grant's office and read some of the books she has, or spend some time in the film room with Mr. Delman," Teicher recommended. "Hopefully you'll find an opportunity you can explore."

Dr. Jennifer Hartstein Practices Psychology & Contributes to TV

By ROXANNE OGHAS (VI)

Even as a student at Pingry, Dr. Jennifer Hartstein '88 knew she wanted to pursue a career that was people-oriented. After taking Psychology with Mrs. Lionetti, one of her favorite teachers, "It all came together." She followed her instincts, and now, she remarked, "I can do what I like to do, and it comes naturally."

After graduating from Pingry, Dr. Hartstein enrolled at George Washington University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology. Subsequently, she continued her education, earning a master's degree from Hahnemann University in Dance/Movement Therapy and a doctorate from Yeshiva University's Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology.

Dr. Hartstein is currently in private practice in New York City, where she sees "anywhere from twenty to thirty patients a week, individually or with families." Many of her patients are children, teenagers, and young adults, some of whom are "high risk, self-injuring, or suicidal." The job, she says, consists of "talking, problem solving, and helping them shift the way they look at things."

In addition to her private practice, Dr. Hartstein is an adjunct professor at Yeshiva University, where she earned her doctorate. According to her website, she is also the "psychological contributor for CBS's 'The Early Show,'" and has made numerous other television appearances on the "Today Show," "Headline News," "The Morning Show," and "The Strategy Room." Having written on teen-related issues, she has been quoted in many

publications, including the "New York Daily News" and "Time."

In her field of work, patience, empathy, warmth, and especially creativity are essential characteristics, she told Pingry students on Career Day. When asked what she loves most about her job, she replied, "That I get to help people and have an impact on their lives." However, there are certain things she finds frustrating, like when patients do not take her advice and continue their destructive behavior. She has learned that it is very important



Courtesy of Google Images

Mr. Noah Wrubel Heads Successful Online Undergarment Company "Bare Necessities"

By MARISA WERNER (V)

In 1984, Mr. Noah Wrubel graduated from Pingry. By 1994, he had become the CEO of his family's business Bare Necessities, an online store that sells undergarments from designer brands like Burberry, Versace, Hanes, and Fruit of the Loom. On Career Day, he returned to Pingry to share his experiences. During his presentation, he especially emphasized the importance of following your dreams and passions. "The money will follow," he said. He also advised students that "as an entrepreneur you need to know how to do everything. No job is below you." At the end of the presentation, when asked by Carter Luckfield (VI) what it is like to sell underwear, Wrubel responded, "Selling



Courtesy of Communications Office

underwear is just my job, it doesn't necessarily describe who I am."

After graduating from

Pingry, Wrubel attended Carnegie Mellon University, where he majored in

Managerial Economics. He was a buyer for Lord and Taylor before assuming the position of CEO at his current job. When he first took over, he expressed the belief that the future of the company relied upon the Internet. This prediction from almost sixteen years ago turned out to be true: Bare Necessities now conducts 80% of its sales online.

In early 2006, the company moved its headquarters from Newark to Avenel, New Jersey. As soon as they changed locations, Wrubel concentrated on creating a new image for Bare Necessities by launching its signature website. He even toyed with the idea of creating a fictional character to represent his company.

Wrubel believed that an improved website would help make the company even more successful. He wanted a website that was more memorable with a "colorful personality" that distinguished it from other similar websites. He hoped to demonstrate that Bare Necessities undergarments cater to all body types, while emphasizing their sophistication and trendiness. In order to communicate this new image and create a website in which "shopping for undergarments was fun and comfortable," all of the Bare Necessities executives underwent a challenging process. Ultimately, he succeeded, as Bare Necessities is one of the most successful undergarment companies in the market today.

HITS & MISSES

Hits:

- Buttondown and Balladeer Serenades
- Presidents' Day Weekend
- Snowdays!
- Bracelets from Guatemala
- AFS Chocolate
- 2nd Semester Seniors

Misses:

- February Slump
- Too many detentions
- Lower School has iPads & we don't??
- Making up work
- Lady Gaga's arrival to the Grammy's in an egg
- Winter Sickness
- 2nd Semester Juniors

CONGRATULATIONS TO GIRLS' BASKETBALL FOR BEATING THEIR RIVAL, MOUNT SAINT MARY'S, 53-42!

Boys' Hockey Stifles Opponents

By ANDREW MARTIN (V)

This year, the Varsity boys' Ice Hockey team returned in top form. Led by captains Matt Beattie (VI), Steve Palazzolo (VI), Ben Rogers (VI), and assistant captain Patrick Lackey (V), the team carried their superb momentum from earlier on in the season into the playoffs.

Nick Branchina (V), who has 25 goals and 30 assists, said, "We had a bit of a rough patch, but the team really came together in time for the Skylands Conference playoffs."

The rough patch he is referring to was a span of five games earlier in the season where the team went 0-3-2, but their recent play shows that this was unusual for the talented team.



P. Lackey (V) passes the puck to a teammate. B. Morrison '64

"I think getting past that shows our ability to respond to adversity," Rogers said.

"Every member really contributed to the team," so it's no surprise they finished with a record of 10-3-2, according to Branchina. "Our goalies were stellar this year; both Neil

Steiner (V) and Josh Creelman (III) contributed to the success of the team," he said.

The freshmen were another big part of the team's winning record. "We had a big freshman class this year and they're going to be great players for many years to come," Rogers said.

Boys' Swimming Breaks Records



N. Fink (VI) and V. Oliveira (VI) after winning Preps. B. Morrison '64

makes practice harder," said Matt Barrickman (III). But he added, "The harder we work, the more we will get out of the upcoming meets."

In meets this year, individual swimmers Nic Fink (VI) and Alex Mango (V) have broken both state and national records. Fink, who qualified for the Olympic Trials in 2012, broke the National High School record for the 100-meter breaststroke, completing the race in an impressive 1:02.62. In addition to Mango and Fink's broken records, Mr. Reichle said, "Several more are expected to fall as the championship season is entered."

So far the team has lived up to expectations, winning the Preps Championships for the second year in a row. Now it is up to them to keep the winning momentum as they advance to further championship appearances, to show that they are as good, if not better, than the dominant team of last year.

team has a tough act to follow based on what the 2009-2010 team accomplished, but they have risen to the challenge and are working very hard to reach their team goals."

Last year, the team won Somerset County Championships, Preps Championships, and State Dual Meet Championships, which "puts a lot of pressure on the team and

By ALLIE MCMANUS (III)

This year, Varsity boys' Swimming, has looked to follow last year's successful season with more victories. Led by captain Vitor Oliveira (VI), the team entered the championship season with confidence.

According to Head Coach Mr. Bill Reichle, "This year's

Squash Team Enjoys Success at Nationals

By ROXANNE FEITEL (V)

This year's Varsity boys' and girls' Squash team has capitalized on individual talent and experience to propel them to a successful season thus far. With victories over Blair Academy, Princeton Day School, Delbarton, and Poly Prep Country Day School, both the boys' and girls' Varsity squads have contributed to an impressive season.

Senior captains Michael Sankovich, Avi Bhavnani, Liz Manzo, and Emily Combias "lead the team with enthusiasm," according to first-year player Kaitlin Ulker (V). She added, "They've really brought us together well and inspired us to do our best." Combias agreed that the team had great chemistry, saying the team has been "really close" and



J. Elliott (VI) hitting a rail against PDS. B. Morrison '64

"have really bonded spending time at practices and traveling to away matches together."

Coaches Mr. Ramsay Vehslage, Mr. Brad Fechter, and Mr. Keith Vassall have "motivated the players to improve

with words of wisdom and have instilled confidence in us," said junior Sarah Park. Justin Trousdale (IV) concurred, saying, "I always know that my coaches and teammates have my back and will help me fix any mistakes I make while playing."

From Friday, February 11 through Sunday, February 13, both teams were among nearly 1,300 players and 141 teams who participated in the U.S. High School National Tournament in Connecticut, which is the largest

Girls' Swimming Keeps Up Pace

By STEPHANIE WILF (IV)

The girls' Varsity Swimming team, with a talented group of swimmers within the group, has made some great strides in an extremely competitive conference.

Mrs. Judy Lee, head coach of the team, is very proud of the girls' achievements so far, and their ability to overcome adversity. "We swim schools much, much larger than we are, so they have many more swimmers," she says.

The girls' team has only 18 swimmers this year, but the size of the team has not held them back. Mrs. Lee explains, "We have been setting goals for each meet and we have been exceeding them almost every time."

The team continues to try its hardest and has achieved a major-



S. Gagnon (III) races in a meet at Preps. B. Morrison '64

ity of its goals. The girls had a convincing victory over Ridge, 98-72, and finished in the top 5 at the county meet.

Senior Kathryn Kolb, captain of the team, is pleased with the team's

performance so far. "We are in a very competitive league this year, but we are a growing team with a lot of potential," she says. "We hope many fans will come to support us; let's go big blue!"

Wrestling Improves Dramatically

By DAN ABEND (V)

Varsity Wrestling made a dramatic turnaround this season, reaching an achievement they have not accomplished in over a decade. Led by captains Reed Tyson (VI) and Will Fischer (VI), the team finished the year at 7-9. The record may seem average, but this is the first time the team has reached the seven win mark in over 11 years. The seven win record also matches the cumulative win total of the last four seasons for the team.

The big change in success

from previous seasons to this one seems to come from all over. Said Fischer, "I think the larger size of the team this year and the depth it created for the lineup really helped. But in addition, the juniors, sophomores, and freshmen all stepped up and wrestled well."

Besides a better record, the team accomplished some other feats this year, including wrestlers placing in both the Rutgers Prep Tournament and the Somerset County Tournament, as well as going undefeated at the Summit High School Quad Match.

The year was a major step for

the program, but it does not seem that the momentum will stop. The team currently looks at a bright future, supported by a strong cast of returning Varsity wrestlers for next season, and hopes they can make the next step towards success.

Tyson believes that "with just three seniors leaving the Varsity squad, and a bunch of talented, young wrestlers coming back, this team is in good hands for next year."

Perhaps next year, a winning record in the tough Skylands Conference is a reasonable expectation for a team that had just two wins a year ago.

Boys' Basketball Finishes Strong

By MICHAEL WERNER (III)

This year's boys' Varsity basketball captains Scott Sowinski (VI) and Dan Keller (V) have helped the team stay positive, despite some difficult losses. Coach Jason Murdock commented, "I think our future looks promising if the players are willing to put in the time. I feel we have competitive athletes who enjoy playing together and representing their team. I know we will

have successful seasons."

In previous years, Pingry has graduated around seven seniors from the team, but this year, the team will only lose three seniors. Therefore, the younger players on the team are adjusting rapidly to the competition

Sowinski said, "Even though we have had an up and down season, we are looking to finish the year on a high note and beat our remaining opponents, which are all winnable games. We are practicing hard, preparing well for our next oppo-



H. Shangold (VI) dribbles against Parsippany. B. Morrison '64

on the Varsity level since the team will be looking to them in future for support. Coach Murdock emphasized that he has seen a drastic improvement in some of the younger players, such as Evan Key (III), Jack Galiardo (IV), and Max Helfman (III).

ment, and taking it one game at a time." Freshman Max Helfman added, "We are looking to finish our season strong. The team is working hard in practice everyday. We are pushing ourselves to improve as a team and as individuals."

The Editors would like to thank Mr. Bruce Morrison '64 for taking sports photographs and allowing the Record to use them.