



THE CRIMSON SUN



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Dr. Jalics revels in velcro at the Senior Barbecue.

PHOTO: CHARLIE NAPLES

Making silence heard, Spectrum finds allies on campus

BY REBECCA TONE

Our voices are projections of our identities. In every aspect of life, whether with peers, family, or teachers, speech allows us to share our innermost thoughts and connect with the people around us. What happens when such vital communication is shut down?

On Friday, April 21, many MBS students took a pledge of silence in solidarity with members of the LGBTQ+ community. The Day of Silence is a national event organized by students who share the goal of raising awareness of the harassment LGBTQ+ students face on a regular basis. Every day, members of this community are treated as inferior due to their sexuality or gender identification, and therefore feel the need to conceal a fundamental part of their identity.

"I think that at our school, people may think that bullying is not a huge issue; however, that doesn't mean that we shouldn't care and show support," says Jady

Lawrence '18, co-president of Spectrum, a club dedicated to acceptance and allyship for the LGBTQ+ community.

In order to receive a valuable education and develop into confident, empowered adults, teens need to be in an environment where they are accepted for who they are. Many children, teens, and adults do not have access to "safe spaces," resulting in isolation and depression.

Enter Spectrum. At MBS, while the community at large is supportive of diversity initiatives, social justice clubs like Spectrum are essential to progress. Perri Easley '19, a member of the club, said, "In an academic environment, it is so difficult to talk about seemingly touchy topics, but conversations need to be started. How will we ever improve social justice issues if we are too afraid to talk about them?" (continued on page 2)



Jill Stecker '18, Perri Easley '19, and Jady Lawrence '18 speaking out.

PHOTO: REBECCA TONE

What comes next for the SGA?

BY ANIKA BUCH

On April 10, four candidates--Juniors Blake Kernen, Sundia Nwadiozor, Matt Smith, and Tahj Valentine--sat on stage with nothing but their ideas, sweaty palms, and the hope that they would win the position of SGA president. While Matt Smith ultimately proved victorious, the voices of the three other candidates provided a new sound for the audience in Founders Hall.

Sundia Nwadiozor went first, and said that her time here had been incredibly precious to her but she advocated for certain changes, including "involving PR officers more." Her motivation for running was to inspire and serve as a "role model for the girls looking up to [her]." Perhaps her most noteworthy ability, however, is transforming a loss into victory. She said, "The best way to [change MBS] is to do exactly what I'm doing now, running for officer and participating in the school community more." Next year, Sundia will serve on the Executive Cabinet as Vice President. "I think I'm on the right track," said Nwadiozor. (continued on page 3)

From The Next SGA President, Matt Smith '18:

"I'm not going to pretend to you that I'm perfect, none of us are ... I care about being honest with this community, about our unity and having something more here than just a school."

OPINION/EDITORIAL

THE CRIMSON SUN

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The Crimson Sun corrects its factual errors and accepts corrections.

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The Crimson Sun provides information and entertainment in addition to various viewpoints on debatable issues. We will not print anything that is deemed libelous, obscene or in poor taste. We reserve the right to edit or withhold anything submitted and correct spelling, grammar and punctuation when necessary.

CORRECTION: In our previous issue, a paragraph beginning with "If you or anyone you know..." appeared at the end of Olivia Land's article "It's okay not to be 'okay.'" *The Crimson Sun* would like to clarify that these are not the words of the piece's author, but rather were added as an editorial requirement after submission.

Hearing Silence

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

BY REBECCA TONE

To further spread awareness about social justice issues regarding gender identity, Spectrum organized another event during the week preceding Day of Silence. As part of the #ArtsNotParts campaign, students and faculty gathered together to show their support for the transgender community by creating posters. Now, thanks to Mr. McGrann, Dr. Boynton, Ms. Karosen, Ms. Salge, and Ms. Kenny, slogans like "You are valid," "Trans youth are beautiful," and "Acceptance" greet students as they enter classrooms each day.

"My favorite part of making posters was seeing everyone work together. Everyone who showed up wanted to accomplish the same thing by making some beautiful, inspiring art," said Jill Stecker '18, co-president of Spectrum.

Throughout the week, activities centering around love and acceptance fostered a sense of community between students and teachers alike. A major social issue usually silenced in our daily lives was brought back into discussion, opening our school to new perspectives that may not have otherwise been mentioned. Most importantly, we were able to focus on our similarities rather than our differences, bringing together unlikely groups of people and uniting our community in a common goal.

In the words of Spectrum secretary Quiya Harris '19, "No matter your identity, there are people like you in the world. You just have to know where to look."

Bye Bye, Bill: The Problem With Credit

BY JOSIE KLINGEMAN

On Wednesday, April 19th, Fox News fired Bill O'Reilly. Countless headlines sprawled out on news sites everywhere boldly claiming "Fox Dumps O'Reilly," "Fox News Has Decided Bill O'Reilly Has To Go." But these are not accurate titles. Fox News did not decide anything in firing O'Reilly.

Instead, Fox executives protected him when the allegations were first made and tried to brush them under the rug like they weren't serious. They supported him and in turn proved how money means more to them than taking sexual harassment seriously. The facts are that Fox News covered up the accusations with a 13 million dollar settlement with the women who made the allegations. They kept O'Reilly on the show even when numerous women came forward telling their own personal inappropriate encounters with O'Reilly. It was not until *The New York Times* published an article recently which detailed the accusations and settlements involving O'Reilly that action was taken. It wasn't until countless advertisers pulled out funding for Fox News. It wasn't until people of social media were outraged by the new findings about this scandal. And it certainly was not when Fox News first heard about the accusations.

The overarching issue here is not that Fox News wants credit for firing him. It is more importantly about the fact that Fox News is not alone in tolerating sexual assault and sexual harassment in

this industry. These problems are seen way too often among big name companies. Companies like Fox News in the past have let slide accusations of sexual misconduct if they could continue to profit from the employee(s) being accused of the crimes.

Take the recent scandal with Uber's CEO. This type of incident sets a precedent that allegations made by women about sexual harassment or sexual assault should not be taken seriously. It sends the message that powerful men will be taken care of well before the woman who has been sexually harassed or assaulted. The problem is that O'Reilly was not fired after the first woman came forward with accusations against him and an investigation was done. Instead she was paid off to not pursue litigation or even discuss the sexual harassment because both Fox News and O'Reilly knew the truth about the accusations.

Fox News should not get credit for O'Reilly being fired. As far as technicalities are concerned, they fired him. But the network only did so when they had their backs against a wall. *The New York Times* gets credit for this. The advertisers who threatened to pull out get credit for this. Fox News does not get credit for this. The discussion has to be less about how great it is that O'Reilly is gone. It must be more about how corporations like Fox News need to reevaluate their priorities when it comes to sexual harassment within the workplace.

Cost and Hassles of Taking APs

BY TERRI GREEN

Call me crazy, but I'm not the biggest fan of taking AP tests. Still, by the end of my time at MBS, my parents will have spent a whopping \$558 dollars on 6 AP tests that I'm unable to use. For some students, Advanced Placement tests are a great opportunity to obtain college credit; however, many schools do not offer this option.

This happens to be the case for me, yet in early May I found myself begrudgingly taking 4 tests that I have no use for, simply because Morristown-Beard requires them.

Before a student at MBS can take an AP course, they must sign a contract that discloses some of the differences between regular and AP classes. This contract includes having homework over breaks and for workshop periods; it also states that you must take the AP test in order to take the course. When I signed this contract, I was not aware of where I'd be attending college and didn't think twice about the conditions. However, looking back now, I take issue with myself being forced to take four grueling, expensive tests that will not benefit me in the slightest.

Junior year, I took two AP tests, both of which were mentally and emotionally draining experiences. Standardized tests are a source of anxiety for many people, especially when being tested on an entire year's worth of material in three hours. Not only are the tests mentally exhausting, they are also costly. Each test costs \$93, which adds up very quickly when you're taking multiple AP courses.

I find myself in a position where I know I cannot obtain college credit for my tests, even after sitting through twelve hours worth of stress. Nonetheless, I do not regret taking any of my AP classes. The AP courses I've taken at MBS have been my favorite and most influential classes, and I would not have done anything differently if given the opportunity. Still, I feel the need to articulate my concern with the school's policy on AP tests. These tests are expensive and mentally exhausting. If a student genuinely has no use for them, I find it unjust that they are forced to take the tests if they wish to take AP classes.

The purpose of taking an AP course should not be to score a 5 on the test; students should be able to take AP classes simply because they enjoy the subject matter and wish to be educated at a college level, with no strings attached.

Tough Talk on Technology

BY CAMRYN HARTKERN

Digital technology is one of the most important parts of our lives. If you have access to it, then you most likely use it to access news and weather information, bank accounts, almost anything and even more just by turning on your devices.

Technology has been becoming more complex and more important to those of us lucky enough to have access to it. The people who are most influenced by the rise in use of technology are those who grew up as it developed. These people can be known as 'digital natives,' as opposed to people who were more or less grown up when modern technology began to influence their lives. These older people can be referred to as 'digital immigrants.'

The generations of 'digital immigrants' view recent technological advancements from a completely different perspective than 'digital natives.' 'Digital immigrants' can at times underappreciate the amount of success the generations of 'digital natives' are having online, undermining successes by focusing solely on the amount of time spent online secluded from the outside world.

No, spending increasingly large amounts of time staring at a screen is not something to spend your life doing. However, when you are breaking boundaries, challenging stereotypes and advancing the grow-

ing need for equality, you should be recognized. No one should undermine your success or your beliefs simply because they see your use of technology as a distraction.

This century marks the beginning of a major shift in attitudes about racial and gender equality, climate change and other important issues. Not all young people use technology for the purpose of education; some abuse their ability to reach people around the world. However, the majority of the digital natives are using the internet as an important resource. They are spreading positivity and help for people who need it. They are also setting up platforms, charities and websites to make sure that everyone around the world has access to basic necessities and much more.

As much as it may appear to be a distraction, social media and the internet are not simply diversions from real human interaction, but are a way to expand that interaction to areas of the world that are currently distant from them. Bill Gates once said, "The Internet is becoming the town square for the village of tomorrow." This concept reflects back to the digital natives, the generations who are creating future jobs, future opportunities, and future ways for every person around the world to be equal and aware of global issues.

NEWS/OPINION

No Time to Say Aloha, A Packed Itinerary on the Hawaii Trip

By REBECCA TONE

While many spend their spring breaks in Hawaii enjoying the soothing sounds of the ocean, palm trees, and warm rays of sun, MBS students experienced the more rugged side of the Big Island from March 17-25. From hiking to snorkeling, flying in helicopters to learning to surf, each day was an adventure.

After eleven hours on the plane, it hardly felt real to set our feet on the ground again. After another flight and a drive to the Kilauea Military Camp (KMC), we kicked off the trip with a two-hour hike from the southernmost point of the United States along the coastline to the green sand beach. We made stops along the way to climb the rocky shore, check out sea creatures in tidal pools, and take photos of the rolling hills farther inland. When we finally arrived, the cool, gentle waves were the perfect comfort to our growing sunburns and tired legs. Though we could not stay for long, we did get the added bonus of turtle watching at Punalu'u Beach on the return hike.

The next morning, still jet-lagged, we woke up early to grab breakfast before talking to a ranger at the Hawaii Volcano National Park Visitor Center about the eruption history of Kilauea, Mauna Loa, and Mauna Kea, the three largest volcanoes on the Big Island. Next, we explored the Thurston Lava Tube, a cave created by lava inside the park. We also went down the Pali to see rocky sea arches on the coast and to look at ancient petroglyphs carved into the lava rock. The main event of the day,

however, was our hike down into a volcanic crater on the Kilauea Iki Trail, where we walked on what was once bubbling lava.

On day three, we went snorkeling in Kona. At one point, we saw a buoy attached to an anchor in 2000 feet of water meant to attract fish for the fisherman, explored a beautiful coral reef teeming with colorful sea

creatures, and even swam with a pod of dolphins!



A rare moment of pause on the adventure-filled trip.

Photo: Rebecca Tone

We could not have visited Hawaii and not tried surfing, so we got up early and drove to Kona yet again on Tuesday to hit the waves. By the end of our session, every one of us had caught at least one wave – standing up. That afternoon, we hiked into Waipio Valley, a beach known for

creatures, and even swam with a pod of dolphins!

On Wednesday morning, we got an aerial view of Volcano National Park. Equipped with headsets and microphones, we boarded helicop-

ters at the Hilo airport and took off. Not only did we get an incredible view of Pu'u Ō'ō volcanic cone, but we also flew over the point where lava enters the ocean and forms new land. Unfortunately, we couldn't get too close to the cone, which is known to spew refrigerator-sized rocks! Afterwards, we spent the afternoon exploring the Hilo Farmer's

Market, filling our bags with hand crafted souvenirs and local delicacies.

The real science of our trip took place the following day, when we drove up 11,000 feet to the Mauna Loa observatory. Not generally open to the public, we received a private tour of the facilities from the staff of scientists. At the observatory, carbon emissions are measured and analyzed to form conclusions about climate change. Additionally, some scientists measure solar flares with an advanced telescope, and others take weather data for the national weather services.

We were also able to make four nighttime trips to see Kilauea in action. From an elevated observation deck, we watched the bubbling lava of the world's most active volcano rise and fall, sending clouds of smoke billowing into a clear, starry sky.

Our final stop was the U.S. Arizona Memorial in Honolulu, where we took an audio tour of the USS Bowfin, reflected in the Garden of Remembrance, and took a ferry out to view the watery remains of the Arizona. Visiting the powerfully beautiful memorial was valuable for all of us.

By the time we returned home early Saturday morning, hiking boots coated with dust, muscles sore from surfing, suitcases weighted by lava rocks, and black sand in our belongings, we agreed that the 2017 trip to Hawaii was a voyage of a lifetime.

New SGA filling big shoes

By ANIKA BUCH

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Applause filled the room as the next candidate, Tahj Valentine, stepped up to the podium. He stated that he would work to see more diversity within the MBS community. He targeted the fundamental issue by focusing his speech on making the community more "real." Valentine, who is currently the Executive Public Relations Officer, demanded answers from the MBS community, and he hopes to fulfill his pledge to "Keep Calm and Vibe with Valentine" moving forward.

Next, Blake Kernan approached the podium. She advocated for "breakfast loyalty cards, more frequent service dog visits, SGA sponsored breakfasts, and an outdoor music festival like Beardstock," to name a few. Kernan's goal was to make the SGA a more "inclusive and transparent organization." Her motivation for running came from realizing her place in the community was as a leader. "Everyone has a place here," Kernan said, "I found that my place is in SGA. I know what I'm good at." She plans to remain in office next year.

The victor, Matt Smith, provided humble insight into his campaign. Smith '19 is already involved on campus, and can often be found in Founders Hall at play or musical re-

hearsals. However, he ran for SGA President to "let the community get to know [him] as a person a little bit better. I'm a theater kid or a liberal club kid." Smith is taking strong values with him into office: "Whether it's in interactions or in school, I'd like to think that I'm pretty easy to read and I express my opinions pretty clearly." He plans to increase the role of Public Relations Officers and make a stronger link between the student body and the SGA.

MBS cast their votes and picked a winner. On the other side, there was a passing of the torch which took place as Ryan Waters '17 prepared to hand down the role of SGA president to Smith. "Ryan has excellently built up school spirit," said Smith. Other SGA members had no shortage of compliments for the outgoing president. Having served with Ryan for multiple years, Kernan said, "He makes us feel like we are all contributing to the SGA. We are all important." Waters, who is headed to the U.S. Navy Academy in the fall, left his mark in SGA and the Morristown-Beard School, a mark which will always be remembered.

Thank you, Ryan, and best of luck to Matt Smith and the new Executive Cabinet as the campus awaits the 2017-2018 academic year.



Olivia Land '17 at the Fashion Show.

PHOTO: JACK GILL

FEATURES/OPINION

Successful Spring Arts Fest

BY JULIAN LEVY

Students in the MBS theatre class had the chance to perform their work during the 2017 Spring Arts Festival. The show has gone through many revisions over the years, taking on different names such as the Winter Arts Festival. With each name, it has been scheduled for different times of the year to avoid the students' many conflicts with sports and homework.

Throughout its various incarnations, the festival has always allowed the theatre class to share the projects that they worked on. It has been a process that has had some resistance from the students, but it is obvious that they had a lot of fun putting together the final product.

The class's teacher, Dr. Speidel, has been a part of the festival for about ten years, and is extremely enthusiastic about the students' participation. She said, "They get a chance to express their own ideas, and they kind of take control of the theatre process. They have had to make all the choices."

Dr. Speidel said that the play "was created using a rehearsal process known as devised theatre." The play starts off as small talk about an annoying assignment, and quickly evolves into a *Breakfast Club*-esque story about a group of kids bonding over the woes of the day-to-day

life of a high schooler. They explored themes like exclusion, reputation, money, and doubt.

Schools can be a great tool to allow students to pursue their interests. Vincent Spina '20, who was a member of the devised play's cast, said, "I started acting in fifth grade when my school did a production of *Footloose*." He also spoke about the disparity between the amount of theatre events and athletic events, stating, "I feel that both sports and the arts should be equally represented."

But Spina acknowledged one of the issues with frequent theatre events, being that "the amount of rehearsal time that can go into a brief scene still takes time which only some actors have to spend."

Freshman Matt Lohman was also excited to perform during the Festival. He said, "Being onstage and backstage are the two places I feel most comfortable, by just being someone else. So I followed that feeling and it led me to theatre."

"Theatre-fest" was a great learning experience for the students. An exercise that started out challenging turned into an event that was rewarding and memorable. Everyone is looking forward to seeing what they will do next spring.

Therapy Dogs Steal Show

BY MOLLY MICHEL

On two occasions during the spring, the Junior SGA contingent brought therapy dogs to campus to provide a stress reliever to students battling end-of-year anxieties.

Securing the visit was rather serendipitous, according to Junior Vice-President Blake Kernen, who said that "two people ... who are just really good at getting stuff done had [the idea] at pretty much the same time." The individuals in question, Junior Class President Joey Fazio and Katharine Bernstein, head of the Mental Health Matters club, certainly tapped a nerve on campus.

Echoing Kernen's hypothetical question "Who doesn't love dogs?" students swarmed around the lovable creatures when they needed breathers between classes. "[The dogs] are probably coming back during finals week which is just really great," said Kernen.

It is definitely exciting to know that the hard work of two people paid off to the benefit of everybody. Indeed the therapy dog visits quickly went "viral" across campus, and the student body is anxiously anticipating their return.

What Are We Worth?

BY CONNOR MORIN AND BRIAN COLE

The CEO of Space-X and Tesla, Elon Musk, one of the most prominent thinkers of the modern day, has stated that there is a "one in billions chance we are not living in a simulation." He believes, like many scientists today, that the universe is nothing more than a simulation on an advanced civilization's supercomputer. Is science becoming too advanced for any room to be left for humanity? Are we truly worthless?

The multiverse theory, the idea that time is just an illusion, the lack of free will, and the simulation hypothesis are all theories that truly question humanity's self worth. The common idea behind all these theories, is that what humanity sees as free will is nothing more than an illusion. These theories hold that everything that will happen has already occurred.

Thus, we cannot make decisions; our paths are predetermined.

Humans as a species really like to think of ourselves as important. We are the only intelligent life we know of in the vastness of the universe. But now, with all these theories our self worth is questioned. What does it matter if humanity in this universe suddenly died out tomorrow? Why should humanity carry on if we are just a simulation for the enjoyment or edification of an advanced civilization?

This is where science becomes too much for humanity to handle. Just like when we thought we were the center of the solar system, we are now learning that we are probably not the only universe. But this time we do not just lose prior beliefs, we risk losing our humanity.

A Vlog a Day Keeps the Doctor Away

BY CHARLIE NAPLES

"The art of making something boring interesting" said sophomore Ethan Kim, describing his daily vlogs.

Ethan started his vlog journey on a day in August, 2016. While sitting in his bed wondering where his summer had gone, he came across a YouTube video from Casey Neistat, a vlogger with over 7 million subscribers. That's when the idea hit him, and he said, "Let's go for the idea to make a vlog everyday."

In the beginning of his journey it would take him an hour everyday to make the minute long vlog. Over time the process has become shorter due to his experience with the video editing software he uses. And while he used to film up to an hour each day, now he focuses on capturing the "best moments" of every day. Finding music is another difficult task. In order to circumvent copyright laws, Kim uses SoundCloud remixes and artists with Creative Commons, a non-profit organization expanding the range of creative works available for others.

Condensing a day's worth of film into one minute is truly impressive, but it is not the most difficult part of the project. Kim said, "The most difficult thing about the vlogs is the toll that it takes on me because I'll have a deadline for the video but also papers to write and tests to study for." In fact, Kim admitted, "There were times I wanted to quit," but he persevered and continued towards his goal of 365 daily vlogs.

The most satisfying thing about vlogs for Ethan is that looking back at sophomore year he will remember what he did, and seeing how good he has gotten at using the software. Kim said, "When someone makes a funny comment in class, I might have it on video, which is a satisfying thing."

Moving forward, Kim plans to stop daily vlogs and instead focus on longer videos to post on platforms like YouTube. For now, though, be sure to check out the daily vlogs, and follow @ETHkim on Instagram.



Ethan enjoying his tour of China, and practicing his craft.

PHOTOS: ETHAN KIM

FEATURES/OPINION

Stellar Delegates at Model UN

BY OLIVIA LAND

The Morristown-Beard community boasts several long-standing extracurricular opportunities. One such organization is the Model UN, a club that, despite its low profile, consistently draws new students each year.

Isabelle Silver '19 signed up at the Activities Fair in the fall because she was "interested in the political, economic, and social climate of different cultures." Similarly, Jillian Hess '17 cited a "passion for foreign affairs" that inspired her to join Model UN during her sophomore year. Two years later, Hess, now a seasoned "MUN-er," serves as the club's Vice President.

With a schedule that more closely resembles an intramural sport than a club, the Model UN "season" occurs over several weeks mid-winter, when student leaders and new members meet to go over logistics, dress code, and work on position papers. The group's efforts culminate in the annual Philadelphia Model United Nations conference (PhilMUN), where Morristown-Beard's participants join hundreds of high schoolers to debate on pressing global issues.

This year, fourteen students--some returning, many brand new--spent the weekend of March 2-5 at PhilMUN representing South Africa in discussions on sustainable development in Africa. With committee topics ranging from agriculture and tourism to a Rwandan criminal tribunal, the conference is far from the average field trip. Rather, upon arrival students are immediately swept up by a grueling schedule of committee sessions and workshops, most of which last well into the night.

For new students, especially, the late hours and complex conference procedure are a baptism by fire. First-time delegate Michela Redington '19 admitted feeling "very intimidated." Courtney Nordeman '19 agreed, remembering how "it definitely took me a second to figure out exactly what I was supposed to do and what everyone was looking for."

Despite the hard work involved with the Model UN experience, many participants sign up for more the following year. Indeed, delegates report returning home with skills that extend beyond the conference itself. "I learned about...being able to gather my thoughts and speak in an educated way," said Nordeman. Hess commented on the conference's social rewards, "interacting with kids who have similar interests." Redington agreed, adding that she left the conference feeling "more engaged...with the world around me."

This year, the efforts of Redington and her delegates paid off in more ways than one: At the end of the weekend, the PhilMUN staff recognized the Morristown-Beard's participants as the Outstanding Medium-Sized Delegation. A first for the club in over ten years, the award is indicative of the club's intrinsic sense of hard work and enthusiasm. "When we have extraordinary performances... that success is purely student-driven," said faculty advisor Mr. Hannigan. "What I and the other advisors were most proud of is what we heard from conference staff... that our students were well-prepared, engaged, and made numerous positive contributions in their committees."

MS MBS, The New Newscast

BY JULIAN LEVY

The Middle School made a bold and strategic move this year, entering the world of journalism with their Middle School Newscast, "MS MBS." The newscast is their impressive foray into the world of news reporting. All indications are that it has been a roaring success.

The idea was put into motion by the current club advisor, Ms. Larson. The students were very enthusiastic about participating, and numerous students came out every week to contribute.

Some of the segments featured in the show are Faculty of the Week Interview, This Day in History, and pop culture events. "I like giving students the opportunity to do something special and creative," said Ms. Larson about the importance of the club. Students in grades 6 through 8 are involved, and it has been a great experience for all. In some of its peak weeks, there were as many as fifteen students working on the video. There are roles ranging from the anchors, to weather people, and to those that film and edit the video.

MS MBS provides a way for the students to learn about video production, script writing, and research. In a world of "fake news," Ms. Larson said that the Club "allows the students to learn the information; the news has to be fact-based and fact checked." Many of the students have little to no experience in journalism, and the club has been a great way to introduce them to the skills needed to be successful with it.

Eighth grader Chloe van der Poel decided to join MS MBS because she wanted to be more involved in school clubs, and because she knew many people that were also joining. She says, "Now, I just like trying to make people laugh." MS MBS has helped Chloe improve her skills in video production and has also helped her hone her "comedic prowess." She believes that the things that she has learned will help her in the future. And she is even interested in bringing MS MBS to the Upper School in the fall, for a possible "HS MBS."

MS MBS contributor, Jake Goldberg, has worked on similar productions. He has prior experience working on a newscast at his camp, and he said he used the experience "to help create a newscast here." MS MBS has let him work on public speaking, and has inspired him to go into a news career.

MS MBS is off to a great start. It has been an effective tool to teach students how to put together a news program and effectively deliver the material in an informative and engaging way. Most importantly, it has further strengthened the bond between the middle schoolers, and created more interaction within the school community. Students such as Jake would like to continue the work that they have started at MBS, stating, "Who knows? Maybe you'll see me on NBC or ABC one day."

Founders Forever Changed

BY MICHELLE CARNEIRO

Hopefully, you have been out to see at least one of the amazing performances held in Founders Hall this year. If not, you really missed a tremendous exhibition of the talents of your fellow classmates.

I have noticed that actors and actresses get their rightful fame while some other essential aspects of the countless productions at MBS go underappreciated. For example, the backstage crew and running tech crew are quite humble about getting less recognition than they deserve.

Taylor Jaskula '17, active Stage Manager of the many theatrical productions at MBS since her freshman year, has been the anchor keeping everyone ashore during the storm that is tech week. Tech week is the several days leading up to a performance where the backstage and tech crews collaborate and coordinate with the cast to make sure the show is flawless come opening night. Not until the day before the shows begin are costumes and props put into place. Jaskula said, "When you're working really long hours, especially three weeks before a musical goes, we have light calls after rehearsal... and we'll go to 9:30, sometimes 10, getting everything ready for the show,



Brian Collins '18 on stage. PHOTO: ETHAN KIM

and though it's a lot of work, probably the most work we do in this space, it's also the most fun I have backstage. ... We've all kind of become a family."

In addition to Taylor's endless devotion to the magic of theater, other dedicated students responsible for the technical aspects of morning meeting include: Senior Harrison Kern; Juniors Richie Carchia, Brian Collins, Zach Esposito, Daniel Francis-Manshel, Grace Hromin, Austin Penizotto, and Jill Stecker; Sophomores Ian O'Brien, Alex Rebhun, and Theo Won; and Freshman Michael De Simone. The teamwork we've witnessed is an inimitable bond that these students share and it's definitely worth more appreciation.

Trump's Travel Bans

BY SAM SCHAPPEL

President Donald Trump continues to make hasty moves upsetting many and pleasing some. The proposed travel bans have caused numbers of large protests leaving many worrying about family members living in selected countries, including Iraq, Syria, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen, and Iran.

Mrs. Ameri, a well-known and loved Iranian teacher, is among those who feel scared for herself and for her family still living in Iran. She said, "I am an American citizen but I can never see my family again. They cannot come in and I fear for them. My children will never see their grandparents." Mrs. Ameri's fears for her family and the direction of this country are very powerful. Mrs. Ameri is among many who believe Donald Trump should never have been elected president. She has spoken openly on the new Trump ban and believes that it "is doing more harm than benefit. Isolating ourselves from the rest of the world is wrong. We can not share intelligence and culture anymore."

Mrs. Ameri is not the only person on campus who feels strongly and wishes to voice opinions to the students of MBS. Headmaster Caldwell and Senior Emma Blanchard share similar thoughts on the topic. Mr. Caldwell said, "It is unconstitutional to ban groups based on religion. While the ban itself isn't religion specific, the rhetoric of the Trump campaign was. This issue is being interpreted in the courts... so we

will see how the courts ultimately interpret it."

Mr. Caldwell is accurate considering President Trump himself had said that he is calling for a "Muslim ban" in a speech during his campaign. Blanchard said, "I don't agree with the morals behind it and it definitely makes America look a certain way and speaks to the values of our president." Blanchard is concerned for the morals that our President holds; she believes conditions need to improve.

With hopes of pursuing politics in his future, MBS president Ryan Waters '17 has a sophisticated opinion on this topic and its impact throughout the MBS community. Waters said, "Although I don't really support Trump's country ban, if I had to think of a good thing to come out of it, I'd say I'm happy to see that our country has put terrorism at the top of its priority list. ISIS ran around the world with way too much confidence in the last few years of Obama's presidency." Being a proud Republican, Waters has thoughts on certain topics that differ from some in the MBS community; however, he is on board with most concerning the ban.

Mrs. Ameri, Emma and Ryan are skeptical about Trump's decisions and are not eager to see him sign his next bill. If President Trump keeps making controversial choices in office, he will continue upsetting many here at MBS.

SPORTS/OPINION

Soccer Pay Grade

By CONNOR MORIN

In the spring of 2015, Martin Odegaard signed a three-year deal to play soccer with Real Madrid. His starting contract was a massive 10.5 million Euros a year, meaning that he was making 80,000 Euros a week (roughly \$87,000). What made this signing so jaw-dropping was that Odegaard was only 15 years old. At the age of the common MBS underclassman, Odegaard has signed a deal that meant he would make 35 million dollars before his 18th birthday.

Odegaard's salary is small compared to some of the superstars in the soccer world. His teammate Cristiano Ronaldo, largely considered one of the best players, has a yearly salary of 52 million dollars yearly. Now compare both these salaries to the highest paid player in the MLS, the American pro soccer league, and the gap of devotion to soccer between the rest of the world and the US becomes apparent. The highest paid MLS player is Kaká, who plays for Orlando City, where he brings in 7.2 million dollars a year. One of the best the American league has to offer is making less than a 15-year-old.

The main difference in the leagues is that the MLS has a salary cap. All of the

20 teams in the league have only 3.66 million dollars to use for the rosters. Also, individual player salaries are limited by rule, the minimum being \$62,500 and the maximum being \$457,500. However, every team is allowed three players who do not count towards the salary cap, and therefore can be paid whatever the club feels necessary. Basically, a club will sign its best three players to multimillion dollar contracts, using all the money it can afford.

Comparatively, players in the world's top leagues only have to worry about being paid the minimum contracts, often still higher than the maximum allowed by the MLS. It is easy to see why the talent in the MLS is not growing as fast as expected.

The best players in the world want to be paid the best contracts in the world, so can we truly blame them for not wanting to be a part of the MLS? If a 15 year old is making 10.5 million dollars a year, and he's one of the most successful in the league and only making a few million, why would he stay? This question was answered by MBS's own Nick Gates '17, who said, "The best want to be paid the best, so the MLS needs to catch up."

Special Olympics Lights Up MBS

By CHARLIE NAPLES

Community service is very important at Morristown-Beard; it's one of the best things about the school. From events to charities to service trips abroad, there is always something going on. Yet you do not always have to go somewhere far or exotic to truly love a community service event. At 7 p.m. on Friday, March 31st, I traveled to campus to witness one of my favorite community service events: the Special Olympics basketball game.

There's a down-to-earth aspect about the game that makes it so special. The interactions between the players from both teams is heartwarming. Like many of us, I've been a big fan of Crimson basketball this year, and I vividly remember conversations with Brian Monaghan '17 about getting students to the games. Some of the highlights included a packed crowd win versus Chatham High School, multiple buzzer-beater wins and a trip to the Morris County finals. These games were unforgettable high school basketball games, but they don't come anywhere close to the Special Olympics basketball game.

There will always be another game during the regular season unless it's the finals or state tournament, but there is only one Special Olympics basketball game at Morristown-Beard. The players on the Storm Special Olympics team truly embrace the "one night only" spotlight. The players dance in the warm ups, celebrate to the crowd, and the teamwork and chemistry displayed in the game shows the deep connection that athletes can have. One of the Storm's players, Bobby, shared, "My favorite part about basketball is all the teamwork that goes into it, because without teamwork half of what you saw tonight would not have happened."

At every sporting event, I like to survey the crowd. No matter how close the game is I usually see students on their phones. But, when I surveyed the crowd for the Special Olympics basketball game, I saw no phones, strictly smiles. I know I am not alone when I say I walked into with a smile, and left with an even bigger one.

Call for Women's Equity

By JENNA RACANIELLO

It's hard to argue against the idea that more attention is paid to men's sports than to women's. While a large portion of the population will be able to tell you that the UNC men's basketball team was crowned champions of this past NCAA tournament, it would be challenging to find any casual sports fan that can tell you who came out on top of the women's bracket (or knows anything about any team besides maybe UConn).

The USA women's hockey team had to boycott the World Championship games (which they won last year) in order to bring any attention to the fact that they have been making a mere \$1,000 per month during the six-month Olympic cycle, and haven't seen the same support from the USA Hockey organization as the men's team has. There has been a noticeable lack of playing opportunities, development leagues, and advertising for the women's team for years, setting the precedent that women's sports are simply not as important.

This is not an ideal that is limited to higher level sports. If we expect to see a change in support of professional and collegiate women's athletics, it's important to begin by setting the precedent in high school. If you ask any female athlete at this school what she sees when she looks into

the home stands, she'll tell you a barren set of bleachers holding a handful of parents supporting our team and typically a handful of parents supporting the opponent. On a good day, siblings or close friends of athletes will attend. The atmosphere is always different than at games for boys' teams (it's guaranteed to be different when you have a group of relatives who felt obligated to attend versus students excited to see a game).

Recently, there have been occasions where girls' teams have seen equal support from their peers. The Girls' Basketball Team played the Prep B final at MBS this past season, and the student turnout did not disappoint. "It meant a lot that everyone came out and was genuinely into the game," recalls Sarah Bregna '18. "It really gave us a boost of energy the entire time, and to get that level of support was a great experience."

Being given the opportunity to play in front of a group of excited fans is something every athlete cherishes, regardless of gender, and experiencing excitement and spirit from the stands should not be limited to half of the population. If we expect to see a change in support for organizations such as the WNBA and the USA Women's Hockey team, we need to start from the bottom.

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SPORTS

The Many Misadventures of the Miracle Mets

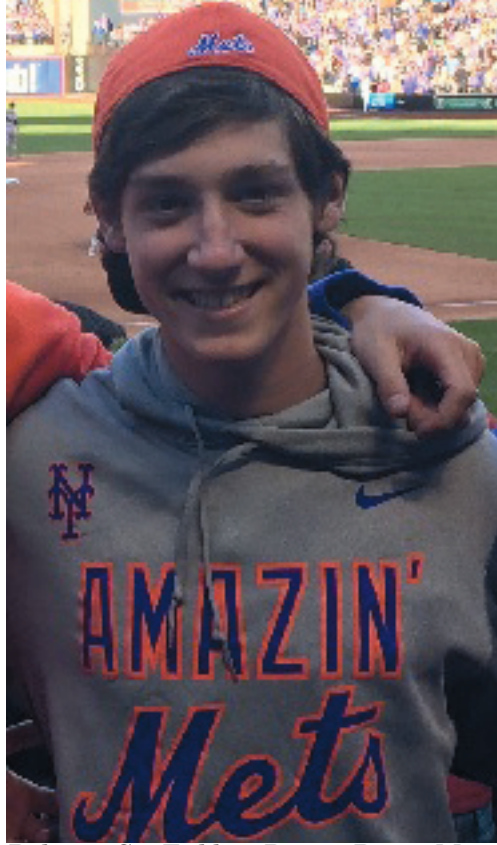
By DYLAN MINTZ

Since 1962, Mets fans have been known to be some of the most persistent in all of sports—they have endured every misfortune in baseball. For instance, Luis Castillo dropping the final out in 2009 in order to clinch a playoff berth for the first time in several years, handing the game to their enemies, the New York Yankees. Another example was when the Mets lost the World Series to the Yankees in 2000—their best chance to win a pennant since 1986. While these moments may have been disappointing at the time, they—especially in 2000, and even the 2015 World Series—show that the Mets still have the potential to be Major League Baseball's best team one day.

At Morristown-Beard, the majority of the student body, as well as the faculty, are Yankees fans. Mets fans constantly hear the rants by Yankee fans as to how their team will be so much better this year, how many more World Series they have won, and many other things that do not even pertain to the upcoming season.

Many MBS Mets fans, students and teachers, understand what it is to be a true fan. A true Mets fan is one who always has hope for them to achieve success (although success has usually been hard to come by), has stuck with them since they began following baseball, and DID NOT, I repeat, DID NOT, become a Mets fan during their World Series run in 2015. A teacher who exemplifies these qualities is Mr. Franz. Showing his knowledge about the history of the team, he shared how he has observed the many successes

and failures over the years. Mr. Franz started his journey as a Mets fan in 1962, when his father



Dylan at Citi Field. PHOTO: DYLAN MINTZ

and uncles turned him into one at 6 years old. He went to the final game of the 1969 World Series against the Orioles, one of the only two World Se-

ries the Mets have won. Mr. Franz also said that he hopes to see them win another championship, but, like a true Mets fan, he knows it will take time.

Humza Bari '18, another fan, shows a more optimistic view of the team. Asked how he became a Mets fan, Bari was happy to tell the story of the long dynasty of Mets fans that is his father's side of the family. His father grew up just blocks from Shea Stadium in Queens, New York, where they would attend several games a year. If they were not attending, they would watch the game on television. Much like Mr. Franz, Humza said he hopes that the Mets will be able to take home a title within the next few seasons, as many fans say optimistically. Mets fans must always keep this optimism, especially since their backs are frequently against the wall.

Unlike many teams in Major League Baseball, the Mets have a fanbase that has stuck with them since the beginning despite their losing seasons, which have occurred decades at a time. Even this year, the Mets have gotten off to a rather slow start. To be a Mets fan takes the utmost resilience, as well as patience, which are qualities not many sports fans possess. As Coach John Sheppard says, "It's not how you start, it's how you finish." Although they are not consistently a great team, it is a true honor to be considered a Mets fan—we are a breed like no other.

Should Triple-Doubles mean everything when judging MVP?

By JOHN SCHAAF

With the 2016-2017 NBA regular season over, the question of who deserves MVP will soon be answered; however, many fans, especially throughout MBS, already believe that Russell Westbrook should win without question.

The love for Westbrook is clear, with his athleticism and skill dropping jaws of students throughout the school. Many students rave about his success as if it were their own. Jared Levine, an avid basketball watcher, said, "Have you ever seen him play? There is no question that he should be MVP. Not only does he hold the record for triple-doubles but also is just an electric player to watch." Although Westbrook did set the NBA record of most triple-doubles in a season, with 42 this year, he should not win MVP for several reasons.

First off, Westbrook's usage rate was high throughout the season. A usage rate considers shots attempted, free throws, and turnovers while deciding how many possessions they use during their 40 minute game. Westbrook averaged 42.5 percent, surpassing Kobe Bryant's previous 2006 record of 38.7 percent. Even LeBron James had a usage percentage of nearly 12 percent lower than Westbrook this year.

This idea of Westbrook "boosting" his stats is interpreted in different ways, depend-

ing on whom you're talking to. Even though it is clear that throughout different games his teammates intentionally let him grab extra rebounds, OKC or Westbrook fans will often turn a blind eye and argue that it wasn't happening. However, unbiased sources claim that Westbrook would be unable to get the triple doubles he does without the help of his teammates.

It doesn't end here. With the need of getting a triple-double near the end of games, Westbrook puts his team in a bad position; everyone tries to help him out rather than focusing on winning. Although Westbrook was able to average a triple-double for the year, his team was only able to secure the 6th spot in the west, and were eliminated in the first round to other MVP candidate James Harden's 3rd-seed Houston Rockets. Other MVP candidates, such as LeBron James and Kawhi Leonard, were able to lead their teams to high-seeded spots in the playoffs this year.

Although there is a valid argument for all of the MVP candidates, the committee should not decide based off how many triple-doubles they score or how many points they average. Rather, the focus should be on who had a bigger impact on their team and the league as a whole. In this instance, it should not be Russell Westbrook.

Did the Cleveland Browns make the right pick?

By JARED LEVINE

While the NFL Draft has come and gone, a question lingers: how did the Cleveland Browns do?

The Browns made headlines in the first round by getting three first round picks, including the number one overall. The obvious choice was to draft the unanimous best player, DE Myles Garrett out of Texas A&M, which is what the Browns did in fact do.

Some analysts said that the Browns couldn't afford to draft a DE with the first pick and they needed to chase after a franchise QB. QB Mitch Trubisky out of North Carolina had been rising the draft boards for weeks and seemed like the Browns go-to choice for a quarterback. The Browns' selection allowed the Chicago Bears to trade up and take Trubisky with the second overall pick.

You don't have to be a football fan to know how important the number one pick is to the franchise who is lucky enough to get it. You also don't have to be a football fan to know how bad the Cleveland Browns have been, not only on the field, but in the draft room too. Tracing all the way back to 2012, 4 out of 8 of the Browns' first-round picks are no longer on the team. In fact, 0 of the 5 Browns' first rounders from 2012-2014 are either a backup on a different team or are not even in the league anymore. Do the names of Trent Richardson and Brandon Weeden ring a bell? Well in 2012, this running back and quarterback were the future of the Browns franchise. Unfortunately, that future didn't last very long.

Year after year, the Browns have made flashy moves--Johnny Manziel, anyone?--raising hope for about a second, before it ultimately crashes down on them right in front of their faces.

For now, though, there is hope that the Browns got it right this time. They drafted not only Myles Garrett, but also Michigan's do-it-all player Jabril Peppers, with the 25th pick. Then, they traded back into the first round to draft Miami's big athletic tight end David Njoku with the 29th pick.

In the second round, the Browns drafted Notre Dame's QB DeShone Kizer in hopes that he will eventually win the job some time in the next few years. However, some people are concerned that Kizer does not answer the Browns' QB situation.

The Browns are continually building up the rest of their team while they wait for that franchise QB who many hope will be the last piece of their puzzle. Additionally, the Browns' offseason has been a huge plus in their path to success. In fact, when you combine the two trades with the Browns and the Houston Texans, the Texans traded two first round picks (one which the Browns selected, Jabril Peppers), a second round pick, a sixth round pick, and Brock Osweiler for Deshaun Watson and a fourth round pick.

While the Browns may be criticized more than any team in football, they made a splash in this year's 2017 NFL Draft. They are quite possibly going in the right direction for the first time since a Browns fan can remember.

Boys' Tennis Plays On

By MIKAEEL JAN

The Boys' Tennis Team made an excellent run at the county tournament this spring, placing 5th out of 21 teams. The team remained undefeated well into the spring, winning most regular-season matches.

The boys got off to their best start since 2011 thanks to a strong combination of talent at first and second singles with Teddy Koide '19 and Mark Nagpal '19 leading the way. Seniors Mikaeel Jan, Jared Rosen, and Lucas Fagan, along with Freshmen Ethan Davison and Henry Larson have also been key to the success of the team this year. In comparison to previous years, the team has impressive depth.

This depth has been shown despite lacking a full team against any of their opponents. The incompleteness of the lineup can largely be attributed to injuries during the first month of the season. Jarod Cohen '18 and Shyam Popat '19 have played big roles in filling in for the injured players

and keeping the team undefeated over the course of April.

Getting results against teams like Madison, Seton Hall Prep, and Mount Olive, the Boys' Team has earned itself a top position in the conference. In a recent match, the team took down a strong Kinnelon squad 5-0. With an incomplete lineup, the matches started off shaky, but depth proved vital. Teddy Koide squeezed out a 7-6 (6); 7-5 victory, while Mark Nagpal and Jared Rosen were able to pick up routine wins at second and third singles posting results of 6-0; 6-2 and 6-2; 6-2, respectively. At first doubles in the most closely contested match of the day, Davison and Larson dropped the first set, but rebounded nicely to win 1-6; 6-4; 7-5.

The shutout was sealed by the second doubles team of Lucas Fagan and Shyam Popat, comfortably winning 6-3; 6-0. In the win, the team showed grit and determination despite missing Mikaeel Jan.

SPORTS

Boys' Lacrosse: Making a Statement

BY BRIAN COLE

Crimson Lacrosse set off a great start to their season with a 5-2 record, including an encouraging 11-9 victory against Mendham. In the first quarter, the boys scored six goals while allowing only four, preceding four goals in the next two quarters. In the fourth quarter, the boys were able to slow down the tempo of the game and possess the ball. The team was able to power through Mendham's defense and build a strong lead to win the game.

The skilled offense isn't the only key to Morristown-Beard's success. Credit goes to the team's intimidating defense led by Isaac Davison '17, Harry Gregory '19, and David Kasabian '18. The line of defenders has a total of 61 ground balls in just 7 games, stripping the ball from anyone who tries to go past them. They have played a major role in the team this year and have made a name for themselves.

Senior Connor Morin said, "We have done well so far this season. However, if we are going to continue to win we'll have to keep playing as a team and stay healthy. Right now, our team is the closest we have ever been. I think the only way to have a flourishing team is those who trust each other and have a strong bond." The starting attack line (Connor Morin '17, Brad Dallas '16, and Sam Hatfield '17) has made a significant impact, accumulating well over 100 points.

The team, 8-8 as of the print deadline, has faced some tough competition, including Saint Peter's Prep, Sparta High, and Caldwell High. The coaches believe that the team is the most talented group they have ever had. As Coach Tremonda said, "This team has great chemistry and has potential to go very far in the playoffs this spring."



Connor Morin '17 swims past a defender.

Photo: Jack Gill

Boys' Golf: "The Next Hole"

BY WILL McCANN

The Boys Golf Team had a great start to the 2017 season with a record of 7-2, including a pivotal win over Delbarton. The team also brought home the hardware from the K-Golf Classic on April 12th, shooting a team score of 304.

The Crimson's team win at Berkshire Valley Golf Course meant a lot more than just a trophy. On the misty morning of April 12th the Crimson golf team delivered canned goods to a charity. This helped give the golfers energy to play well that day. And play well they did. Matt Karrat '19 fired a 70, followed by a 75 from Pat Ryan '18, a 79 for Will McCann '18, and junior Fran Randazzo rounded out the day with a score of 80.

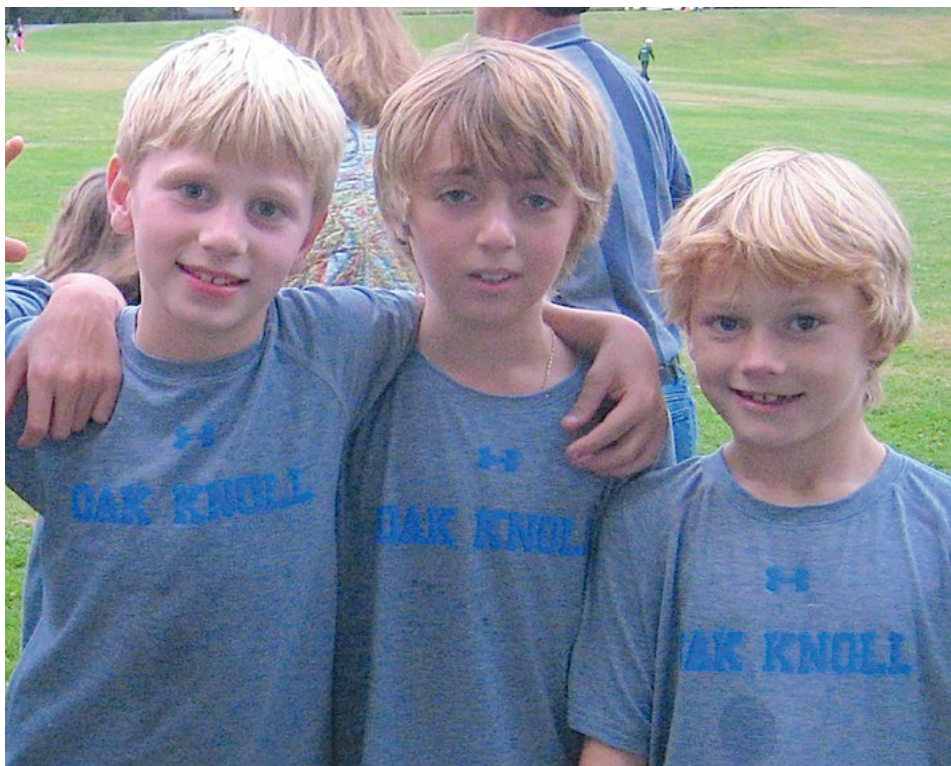
On the morning of April 26th the team arrived at Flanders Valley Golf Course where the Morris County golf tournament was held. As the day got

under way, all of the players were off to great starts and the team was even par after the first nine. The Crimson golfers finished strong and came in with scores of 71, 72, 75, and 76 for a team score of 294. This low score was good to win the tournament by an astonishing 24 strokes. After the round the team celebrated on the bus. They even buckled the plaque into its own seat. Although competitors need to stay quiet on the course, they shared an ecstatic "Crimson" chant upon their arrival back at school.

With the team's early success, members of the squad are looking forward to finishing strong. With 15 matches and 6 tournaments left to play, the golfers are looking to keep their momentum rolling. Senior Mike Karrat, said, "If we just keep playing like we have, then we should finish with a very good record."

Before every match, players are found on the putting green grooving their strokes in an effort to get better. Coach Harry Carr said, "I am very proud of how hard the boys have worked this year. Even when we do not have matches or practices, they are out there practicing on their own and getting better." It is this hard work that seems to be paying off for the team. Pat Ryan said, "If we keep working at it like we have, and focusing on the next hole, then the low scores will continue and so will the wins." The positive attitude of the players is helping the Crimson keep their energy and enthusiasm towards the game throughout the season. The team is looking forward to next year and hoping to have a great season.

Coach Carr said, "Although there are a lot of variables for next season, I am hoping that we continue our success with the young team."



Will McCann, Fran Randazzo, and Pat Ryan before they were MBS Juniors.



Juniors Fran, Will and Pat with Matt Karrat '19 and Coach Carr.

Photos: Stacy McCann