



## CROSS Halloween Visit to the Bristol



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# Good Samaritan Prominent at School Mass

By Emilia Klapak '15

On Thursday, October 23, 2014, Kellenberg Memorial High School had its second mass of the school year.

This mass focused on the theme of the Good Samaritan, an important parable which holds ideas central to the Catholic faith and religion.

After second period, juniors, seniors and sophomores from Homerooms 10A–10 E and 10L—10 P filed into the auditorium for Mass. Before the celebration began, Mr. Basile, moderator of the Gregorian Consortium, which provides the stellar music for the mass, practiced two songs with the congregation.

Some of the songs used in this Mass were from the brand new Gregorian Consortium CD, *O Peaceful Night*. Earlier in the week, students in every grade each received a copy of this new CD during Homeroom, and the Gregorian Consortium had the chance to debut a couple of the songs during Mass.

After the brief rehearsal, celebrant Fr. Albert Bertoni, S.M., opened the Mass for the junior and senior division. Throughout the Mass, Fr. Albert touched upon the idea and values within the Good Samaritan parable, which was the Gospel reading.

Before diving into his homily, Fr. Albert made everyone put their feet flat

on the ground, sit up straight and take a deep breathe. He believes that breathing is an integral process and begins every

first and last thing people ever do, so it is a pretty significant part of life.

After the conclusion of the breathing

attacking a Jewish couple. This particular story was probably the best of the examples because it truly signifies what it means to be a Good Samaritan.

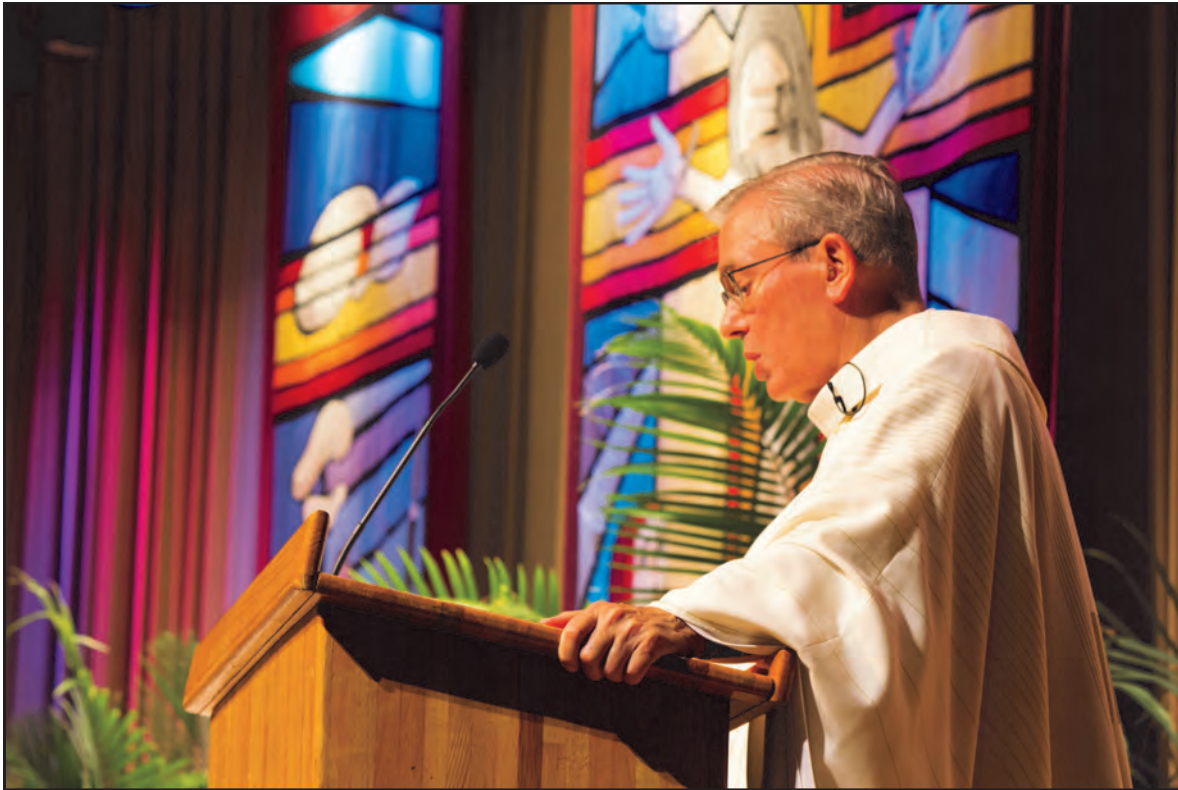
Despite their differences in religious views, the Muslim man helped the Jewish couple when he easily could have continued walking, just as the Levite and the priest did in the parable.

Following the homily, Fr. Albert moved onto the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The new senior ushers proceeded to present the gifts. The Eucharistic Ministers filed onto the stage and then distributed the Body and Blood of Christ to the students, teachers and staff.

Eucharistic Minister Suzanne Hom remarked, "I feel so honored to be a Eucharistic Minister. It's an experience that's near and dear to me. I especially enjoyed participating in this Mass about the Good Samaritan because I believe that the parable holds so many values that people today should take to heart, learn and act upon. Can you imagine what a great place the world would be if there were more people like that Samaritan?"

After the conclusion and the traditional singing of the "Salve Regina," Bro. Roger Poletti, S.M., dismissed everyone back to homeroom, where the Kellenberg Memorial community continued with their Thursday, according to Hom, "in a more prayerful and compassionate way."

One of these stories was about a young Muslim gentleman who went out of his way to stop a group of thugs from



Father Albert preaches the Gospel to the congregation of students at the October Mass.

one of his Christian Existence classes with the same sequence of breaths.

"I find the fact that we do this every day quite interesting," commented senior Meaghan Roche. "Some days it's good to feel grounded, and breathing in class can help us do that. I'm glad Fr. Albert brought it into the mass for everyone to experience."

Fr. Albert said that breathing is the

exercises, Fr. Albert jumped into his homily. Because it was about the Good Samaritan, he shared several stories about modern day Good Samaritans; they were all interesting and related to the importance of being a Good Samaritan in modern times.

**You're INVITED!**  
**Daily Mass 7:20**  
**and**  
**Midday Prayer before lunch**  
**RSVP: GOD**

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## Sisters of Life Grace KMHS

By Staff

**O**n Monday November 3rd, the members of the class of 2016 were lucky enough to find themselves taking a breaking from the stress of another class and listening to the kind words and delightful stories of the sister who dedicated their time to people who truly need guidance.

The sisters are from Manhattan, and while they are not very far away, they come in contact with many individuals who find themselves in difficult situations with no one to turn to feeling like all is lost. If you have spent even a few moments with any of these women you would that you are never alone, for their

comforting words and cheerful demeanor have such a powerful presence and reassure everyone that they have a place in this world, and so does all new life. Junior Sarah Ellis said, "It was nice to spend time talking about the beauty of everything God created, even people, but it was also heartbreaking to hear some of the personal struggles of real people who live not that far away. It brought to life the idea that life is sacred and we should cherish every minute of it as well welcome new life into the world."

These sisters had a significant impact on the lives of our juniors and had every single one of them thinking hard about God's love and unending mercy.

### All Souls Mass

By Staff

**T**he morning of November 2, 2014, echoed worship, reverence and memories of loved ones as the school community celebrated the Feast of All Soul's Day in the Kellenberg Memorial auditorium.

Over 200 members of the Kellenberg community attended the celebration. Prior to the mass, families had the opportunity to present any names of deceased family members of the past year. In honor of their deaths, these names were presented at the altar during the Eucharistic celebration.

The mass commenced at 9 a.m. with the Gregorian Consortium's singing of "Be Not Afraid" and the procession of the servers, lectors and main celebrant Fr. Philip Eichner, S.M., as well as Fr. Albert Bertoni, S.M. Together as a congregation of reverent churchgoers, the school community celebrated with a reflection on Chapter 6 of John's gospel, Jesus's preaching on the resurrection of the spirit.

Throughout his homily, Fr. Philip emphasized Christ's coming for the sake of His Father and the sins of humanity not for His own personal causes. Ultimately, through the salvation of God, we loyal followers will also be privileged to this

victory over physical death and final rising through Jesus Christ.

To add to the sacredness of the celebration, the high school choir, the Gregorian Consortium, sang well-known hymns honoring the deceased. Hymns included "Here I Am, Lord," "Shepherd Me, O God," and "We Will Rise Again," presided over by moderator Mr. Basile.

The Mass gave a strong impression of the Catholic community that exists at Kellenberg Memorial High School. With so many students participating and attending the weekend event, a clear dedication to the religious aspect of school was shown.

"It was such an honor to be a part of this Mass," said Gregorian member Natalie Gallego, '15. "It was a heartwarming experience to see the school community come together to celebrate through song and praise the lives of all who had passed on."

The Mass was followed by a light breakfast in the cafeteria, where all came together in friendly conversation.

"November is the month of remembering that we are all saints," reflected Bro. Michael Gillen, S.M. "The basis of our holiness is always found in our gratitude. We remember all those who have gone before us in gratitude of the lives they led."



## C.R.O.S.S. Weekly Rosary

By Mary Guardino '15

**E**very Tuesday and Thursday, the Junior/Senior Division of Kellenberg's C.R.O.S.S. club gathers to pray the Rosary in the Maria Regina Chapel. C.R.O.S.S., which stands for Christians Reaching Out Spreading Spirituality, joins with the Church community to pray the Rosary every week. These prayer services are run by the C.R.O.S.S. Apostles, members of the junior and senior classes who volunteer their time to help with this religious aspect of our school. These prayer services are a great way to connect, in true Marianist spirit, "to Jesus through Mary."

For hundreds of years, the Rosary has been one of the most important devotions to the Virgin Mother in the Catholic Church. Leading church members have utilized this beautiful "rose garden" (from the Latin "rosarium") of prayers to petition aid from Mary in times of need. These devotions take only about a half hour and are open to students of any grade. The services are wonderful opportunities to take time from the day to focus on God.

Senior C.R.O.S.S. Apostle Suzanne Hom notes, "I really enjoy attending and leading the Rosary services C.R.O.S.S. runs each week. My friends and I are able to come together and spend

a little bit of time contemplating God and his mother, Mary. I appreciate the community aspect of prayer the services foster throughout the school."

The prayer service encompasses the full Rosary. Student Apostles lead those gathered in meditations on each mystery as the group progresses through the five Rosary decades. Rosary beads are provided, and the atmosphere encourages internal reflection as one recites the prayers aloud.

The experience of such a prayer service is a great way to earn club credit while worshipping God. It is a way to further your faith surrounded by your classmates and teachers. Mrs. Dugal, who organizes the prayer services, pointed out, "Prayer is very powerful. It is so important to offer our students an opportunity to pray for themselves and the intentions of others outside of a classroom situation. The C.R.O.S.S. prayer services are run by Senior and Junior students, who take ownership of the prayer activity. It is essential that people know they can stop in the chapel on a Tuesday or Thursday and find a community willing to pray with them."

The Rosary is an important part of the Marian devotion so central to the Marianist brothers who run Kellenberg Memorial High School. It is a time-honored prayer well worth praying.



# CROSS Halloween Visitations

By: Paul Samson '15

On October 29, the Freshman and Sophomore C.R.O.S.S. (Christians Reaching Out Spreading Spirituality) students ventured to The Bristol Assisted Living to make their annual Halloween visitations.

The students, rather than bringing the common frights and screams that come with the Halloween season, brought laughter, smiles and entertainment to the residents of The Bristol. Because of its proximity to Kellenberg, it has been taken under the wings of the school community over the past few years. Over forty freshman and sophomore C.R.O.S.S. students, accompanied by moderators Mr. O'Brien, Bro. Clyde, and Mrs. Harnisch, enthusiastically participated in the school-wide renowned event.

Though weekly visits are made each Thursday by this division of C.R.O.S.S., this particular visitation was certainly a memorable one in the daily lives of the elderly residents. Even with the standard schedule for the visitations unaltered, the visitation was brightened by the various costumes that were worn to increase the Halloween spirit for the residents. Sports legends, as well as "Things 1 & 2," Batman, pirates, tigers, skeletons, cowboys, refs and other original, student-made costumes were able to give the elderly residents a taste of the trick-or-treaters who flood the streets each year.

"The residents always look forward to our visits each week," said Mrs. Harnisch. "They were really receptive to the students' unique costumed entrance."

The C.R.O.S.S. members participated in simple but entertaining activities with each of the attending senior citizens; however, the bulk of the afternoon was spent in friendly conversation. In addi-

rooms, and some even provided entertainment and memory by playing the piano with the residents.

"It was such a valuable experience," said Elizabeth Lettieri '17. "Spending time with the elderly and learning past Halloween traditions was a terrific way to reach out to my community. Going to Kellenberg allows such a wonderful opportunity to be able to make even just

here and now."

Participation in C.R.O.S.S., as with any other student organization, requires great dedication from the students as a sacrifice of time, as well as complete willingness to do these things for the good of our elders. Each student who partook in the event radiated excitement and displayed a clear sense of the Kellenberg spirit.

"The students who visit The Bristol show complete willingness to a service orientation," said Mrs. Harnisch. "I'm thrilled that each week we have constant volunteers who are eager to participate frequently, showing just how much they enjoy reaching out to their community." At the conclusion of their visitation, the rooms and residents of The Bristol resonated in the joy and excitement carried by the dedicated club members of Kellenberg, brought not solely by their costumes but also by their willingness and excitement to give back to the world.

"They are so selfless," indicated Mrs. Harnisch. "Even in just giving up a few hours of their Thursday afternoons, they all display such respect and dignity for the lives of others."

The high school divisions of C.R.O.S.S. will continue to bring delight to the elderly through weekly visitations, Junior-Senior Proms, and other holiday-related events that will take place throughout the year to spread the joy of community and the holiday seasons.



Freshman Rachny Civil visits with an elderly gentleman at the Bristol Assisted Living for the Annual Freshmen and Sophomore CROSS Halloween visitation.

tion, students visited the less mobile residents in their rooms in order to get to know each resident and to further spread the enthusiasm that came with their eccentric attire and attitude. Other students remained in the common

the smallest differences in the world around me. I love to participate in these service activities because even though our actions may not be remembered long from now, we are making a positive influence on those around us in the

**Junior Ring Banquet Payment  
Due Friday December 5, 2014.  
A One-time Payment of  
\$103 to the Finance Office.**

# Military Chaplain Fights for Faith on the Battlefields of Afghanistan

By Tim McKenna '15

Fr. Rowan woke up on Kirkut Air Force Base in Iraq every morning at 6AM. Although he is a chaplain, his day was as regimented as the day was for the rest of the men on base. He got up, got dressed, and headed out to the chapel to meet with the other chaplains after breakfast. After that, the similarities of his day to anyone else on base ceased.

This is a story of bravery, heroism, and duty to God and country. This is the story of a small number of men who serve their Lord through enlisting in the armed forces. This is the story of the United States of America's military chaplains.

The Air Force base was humming with its usual activities, jets and helicopters taking off to provide air support somewhere or to go to another base, armored vehicles exiting the base to go on patrol, and soldiers going through various drills. Like most days, it was anticlimactic, the type of movie that would bomb in Hollywood (excuse the pun). There were no all out firefights; no battles where some brave Achilles miraculously saved everyone on base at the last mo-

ment. The day began with Fr. Rowan and the other chaplains going over their daily schedule.

They began with unit visitation. Fr. Rowan and the other chaplains went around the base and checked on the individual units as part of their pastoral visits. Fr. Rowan would talk to the soldiers on base wherever they were and check on morale and how they were doing. After that, Fr. Rowan began one of the most important parts of his day, counseling the soldiers under stress. The stressful topics didn't matter. Fr. Rowan counseled soldiers for everything from stress caused by being in the war zone to marital stress and child stress. Many of the questions he helps with stem from all the time the soldiers have to think. Thinking more than they normally would brings out a deeper, more philosophical side of the soldiers. They begin to wonder, "What is the purpose to all this?" "Why am I here?" and "Will I die?"

At the end of the day, Fr. Rowan celebrated Mass in the base's chapel at 6PM, open to anyone either going to dinner or just getting out. Many times he sees soldiers who have rediscovered their faith lives and he encourages them to bring others to Mass each week.

Sundays were mostly the same except Fr. Rowan celebrated Mass four times instead of just once. Usually, He would celebrate two Masses Saturday night and one Sunday morning on his base, before leaving to celebrate Mass at the Forward Operating Bases or Army bases that don't have their own chaplains.

As Fr. Rowan explained, his sermons are mostly catechetical sermons; ones where he tries to teach the faith on an adult level. Most of the soldiers haven't

gone to Religious Ed since eighth grade or high school, so he explains the Scriptures to them, but focuses heavily on the teaching aspect of his homilies. Religious Education continues for these soldiers and baptisms and confirmations occur frequently. Masses of all denominations are packed and the faith life of a soldier increases as he begins to wonder if he will be the next to die.

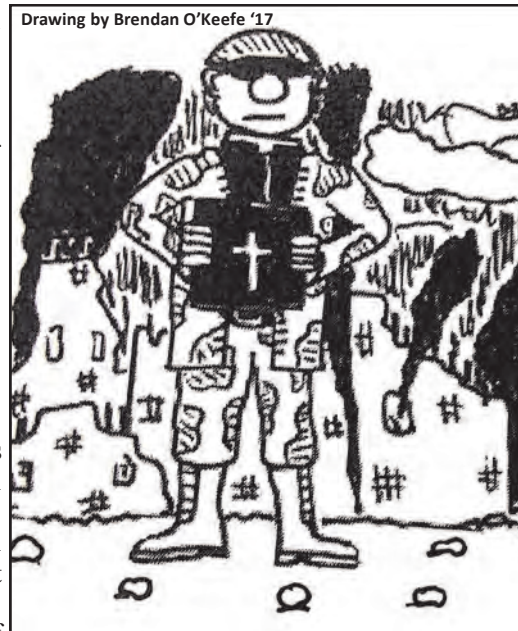
Nights also had routine occurrences. Every night at dusk, without fail, for the seven months Fr. Rowan was overseas, the base was attacked. Just as the sun slipped below the horizon each night, the

that first artillery shell, the skies would open up and the shells would fall like hail, donk-donk, amidst thundering explosions and the rain of bullets, pitter-patter, from small arms fire. For the next four to five minutes, it was incessant. Large flashes from the mortars, heavy artillery, and small arms would dot the mountains in a captivating yet deadly display reminiscent of a Fourth of July fireworks display. The tracers that ripped through the air added their own dazzling display of light to this lethal pyrotechnic scene. At the sound of the siren, everyone on base, including Fr. Rowan, would quickly get to a shelter or, if no shelter was nearby, drop to the ground and take cover. After the mortars stopped falling, everyone would wait for the all-clear signal before getting back up checking the base for casualties and damage to the base. Fr. Rowan waited to hear from the hospital about any casualties. If there were casualties, Fr. Rowan would proceed to the hospital in case Last Rites were needed.

One night however, Fr. Rowan's faith in what he was doing as a chaplain, ministering to the personnel of the United States military, was reaffirmed. The base had just been attacked by mortars and Fr. Rowan went over to where a small group of medics were tending to an injured soldier. The soldier had been severely wounded and was struggling to survive. As the medics worked on the soldier, Fr. Rowan knelt down by the man's head and whispered the Act of Contrition into his ear, gave the blessing of the Anointing of the Sick, and held the soldier's hand as he died.

The soldier was married and had three little girls at home. It was a heart-breaking moment for Fr. Rowan and the medics, but it was also a moment of grace filled with a terrible beauty. For Fr. Rowan, giving the Last Rites to this soldier reassured his commitment to becoming a military priest. As heartbreaking as this was for Fr. Rowan, he had to keep it together and tell the soldier's unit that the man had not made it.

The chaplains that serve in the United States military are part of a small group of men who have dedicated their lives to expanding the faith life of our soldiers overseas. Fr. Rowan and his fellow chaplains take small part in wars but experience their brutality and horror firsthand. It is because of the tragedies that our chaplains endure that we are eternally grateful for their continuing support and ministry to the armed forces.



**Faith on the Front Lines**

## Annual History Tribute Dinner

By Suzanne Hom '15

On the night of Monday, November 10, the Kellenberg cafeteria was decorated in red, white, and blue as Kellenberg welcomed veterans of all ages to a dinner hosted in their honor. It was an evening of pride, gratitude, and remembrance as we thanked the veterans present and recognized all that they've done for our country and remembered those veterans that couldn't be with us on this special evening.

The dinner was put together by the high school history club under the direction of Mr. Marone and Mrs. Riiska. Members of the history club could be seen throughout the night assisting with check in, sharing details about the displayed war artifacts, and distributing certificates of gratitude to the veterans in attendance. Additionally, senior members Cara Lee, Thomas Ferrall, and Brandon Kinsler gave speeches commemorating family members who served in the military and acclaiming the service of all service men and women. Junior Miles Velez, a U.S. Sea Cadet, led the prisoner of war and missing in action commemoration ceremony, reminding us of all those who gave their all for their country, a country they tragically may never see again. It was a beautiful night celebrating those who helped make our country what it is today.

Mr. Tahany attended the dinner with his wife Teri Tahany, two of his children, Ryan and Lauren, and his in-laws, Lois and Frank DeBello. Frank DeBello served the USMC for four years beginning at age 17 and was sta-

tioned in Okinawa.

This year, attendance was nearly double what it was last year, with 310 guests attending, and the evening could not have gone more smoothly. It was a wonderful experience for both the guests and the hosts.

"I am so thrilled that Kellenberg is able to serve those who have served us so well," commented Mr. Marone.

The veterans were also thrilled by the evening. Decorated U.S. Airman Robert Kinsler, uncle of senior Brandon Kinsler,

said of the dinner, "This is a true honor. It was a fantastic evening, and I am so touched by the love for our veterans. I am so proud to be a U.S. veteran, and I would do it all again. The joy I felt tonight is indescribable. It was a truly beautiful evening."

Thomas Ferrall reminds us, saying, "I was incredibly honored to be in the presence of so many men and women that have served this great nation. However, we should honor our veterans everyday, not just at formal dinners."



**Kellenberg Memorial English teacher Mr. Tahany and his family honor United States Veterans at the KMHS annual Veteran's Tribute Dinner on November 10, 2014.**

militants hidden in the desert hills and mountains opened fire. The base always went about its business as usual towards sundown as all waited. Waited for the siren that would wail and warn of the imminent attack. The attack that would begin with the first screech of an artillery shell that would pierce the air for several seconds before ending in a fiery explosion of pulverized dirt and rock. After

# Social Media—You Are the Product Being Sold

By Alexandra Kideris '16

On Tuesday, October 21, 2014, Kellenberg Memorial High School welcomed speaker Adam McLane, who helped students “totally” understand social media.

Adam McLane, a pastor, blogger, and father from San Diego, captured students’ attention with not only an informative presentation but also with games, featuring popular topics. Members of the student body got in on the action by participating in emoticon games and by guessing common phrases. Mr. McLane was able to dive into serious topics while keeping the energy level high. He was very aware of the popular social media websites that teenagers use daily to communicate with peers and stay updated with the world. For one frequently used app, Snapchat, he showed usage statistics and the type of audience that used it.

Mr. Harnisch, moderator of the Social Media Club, discovered Mr. McLane when he read an article written by Mr. McLane on a friend’s Facebook page. Mr. Harnisch felt it was a great idea for Mr. McLane to visit Kellenberg because of the astounding amount of illicit content being put online. As a former college admissions officer, Mr. Harnisch knows that certain content is seen by colleges, and it affects students’ chances of getting accepted into the school. He believed Mr. McLane could open the eyes of the students and help

them realize how their actions now affect their future.

According to many students, the

be as intrigued as the students were by Mr. McLane’s message.

Mrs. Perrone, mother of a junior and

ately to keep abreast of friends and family, but I can’t say I will ever think about it in the same way anymore.”

Mrs. Perrone is referring to Mr. McLane’s suggestion that “you are the product” for Facebook. Mr. McLane’s suggests, “Facebook sells you. Your interests, likes and dislikes, all of which are abundantly posted and recorded, are then sold for advertising purposes. This makes Facebook worth the billions that it is.” Even students who don’t use social media felt the assembly was shocking and enlightening as well. Mr. McLane’s presentation made social media users aware of the realities behind it. Senior Brienne Russell said, “This assembly helped me enter and use social media from a Catholic’s point of view.” Senior Thomas Lane stated, “Adam McLane spoke to us as peers and seemed to really care about the way we use our social media.”

Adam McLane states on his website, [www.adammclane.com](http://www.adammclane.com), “I am not a ‘scared straight’ speaker.” By this he means that he speaks about social media safety to inform society and to make people more aware. His intent is not to spook people into being more cautious. He cares about the youth of today and all of their futures.

Kellenberg Memorial High School was blessed with the opportunity of hearing Adam McLane speak and teach important lessons about social media. The students were greatly informed with the advantages and disadvantages of living in a time where social media plays a large role in everyone’s daily life.



*Mr. McLane could open the eyes of the students and help them realize how their actions now affect their future.*

presentation was very informative and well-organized.

Later that evening, parents proved to

freshman at KMHS, said, “I was particularly intrigued by Mr. McLane’s message about Facebook. I use Facebook moder-

ately to keep abreast of friends and family, but I can’t say I will ever think about it in the same way anymore.”

## Fallen Brave Memorialized across Long Island

By: Cara Lee '15

After the devastating loss of both military and civilian life during the Great War, the Allied forces decided to mark November 11<sup>th</sup>, the day the treaty ending this war was signed, as a day of remembrance for those who fought. Though it has been 95 years, many of the countries involved continue to celebrate this day, though in many cases the name has changed. In England it is interchangeably called Remembrance or Poppy day. In New Zealand, France, Belgium, and Serbia this day continues to be known as Armistice Day. Here in the United States it is called Veteran’s Day.

On Veteran’s Day we do not just honor those who fought or fell in battle nearly a hundred years ago, we also honor those men and women who have fought in more recent wars such as World War II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars and those men and women who fight now in Iraq.

Throughout the United States there are hundreds of thousands of Memorials for these brave men and women that are



Southold Civil War Memorial

visited every day, but there is no need to travel long distances to find one. This Veterans Day I made a point to visit

some of the beautiful local memorials to pay my respects to those who have fought and are fighting for our freedom.

One large memorial I discovered is located in Astoria, New York. This is a beautiful memorial primarily dedicated to those who fought during World War I. It is marked with a 10 foot by 20 foot piece of granite that was quarried in Philadelphia solely for the purpose of this tribute. On a protruding piece of this white stone is an intricately carved Nike, the Greek goddess of Victory. In this depiction she is holding a laurel wreath to represent peace and, in her opposite hand, a sword representing the war that had just been conquered by peace. At the time that this Memorial was made it was believed that the Great War would be the last war ever fought. Sadly, this would not be true as only a few years later World War II would take place.

There are many other Memorials closer to home than Astoria, including one of the oldest in the area. The Southold Civil War Memorial, located in

Southold New York, was created by a group of women just after the Civil War and made to honor the Union soldiers who fought to keep their country whole. Even closer to home, I visited Eisenhower Park. It is only a few minutes away from Kellenberg, and here you can find a beautiful tribute to all of these men and women on the Wall of Honor. The Wall is decorated with flowers and guarded by a statue of an Eagle—a reminder to those approaching that these men and woman protected our country. Engraved into the wall are the names of the countless veterans from throughout the United States who have fought in any war from as far back as the Civil War to those who fought in Iraq.

This year I was one of the hundreds of people who visit each of these memorials each year and all of them were beautiful tributes to those heroes who gave up so much for this country. These walls, monuments and obelisks all bring honor to those whose sacrifices make America the Land of the Free, and the Home of the Brave.

# U. of Dayton Symphonic Entertains KMHS

By Max Calleo '17

**O**n the afternoon of Friday October 10, 2014, the students and faculty of Kellenberg Memorial High School eagerly settled into the auditorium to listen to a remarkable performance from the University of Dayton Symphonic Wind Ensemble, which is part of the extensive music program at the University of Dayton.

Those students who were unable to view the performance from the packed auditorium watched intently as the Symphonic Wind Ensemble's performance was streamed live to their home-rooms. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble performed an extensive set of songs such as Mother Earth (A Fanfare) by David Maslanka, Shenandoah by Frank Ticheli, Today is the Gift by Samuel Hazo, Ghost Train by Eric Whitacre, Contre Qui Rose by Morten Lauridsen, American Civil War Fantasy by Jerry Bilik, and George Washington Bicentennial March by John Philip Sousa. Students remained still in their seats as each song was completed with the utmost precision.

Dr. Patrick Reynolds, an associate professor of music, conductor, and coordinator of instrumental activities at the University of Dayton, led the Symphonic Wind Ensemble in their stellar performance. Under his skilled and accomplished direction, the music swelled with energy and emotion. The Wind Ensemble's performance appeared effortless as each note played captivated audi-

ence members. Carl Capasso, a member of the sophomore class recalls, "It was a well-orchestrated performance that I would enjoy seeing again."



Alex Connors, an alumnus from Kellenberg who is currently pursuing a degree in music education, graced the stage as part of the trombone section. Mr. Connors' presence as part of the Symphonic Wind Ensemble contributed to the feeling of pride as a talented trombonist returned to Kellenberg. Mr. Brown, an English teacher who greatly appreciates the value of music expressed, "The

University of Dayton Ensemble gave our students and faculty members a refreshing chance to hear not only good music, but also take pride in the Kellenberg alumni who are part of this talented collegiate ensemble."

One highlight of the event was the members of the senior class were invited



to join the ensemble on stage and perform Frozen by Stephen Bulla. The Kellenberg students who performed included Andrew Gutierrez '15 and Brian Faller '15 on trombone; Justyn Cespedes '15

and Christopher Horton '15 on the clarinet and Cara Lee '15 on the flute.

The Symphonic Wind Ensemble practices four hours per week and includes forty members that represent different academic majors at the University of Dayton. Some students major in music, but many others come from a variety of disciplines such as Business, Biology, Engineering, Education, Psychology, Accounting, Geology, and many more. The diverse population of students attracted to the music program sends a clear message to the students of Kellenberg. The message is that no matter what you set out to do in life, music can play an intricate role. It encompasses all of life and evokes feelings and memories.

Mr. Vegas, a faculty member of the Music department expressed, "Mr. Reynolds and his students presented a diverse program and a fantastic performance. It's important that our students be exposed to a repertoire like this. It helps to show how much more there is to music aside from mainstream/pop music. This music holds importance today and will continue to do so. Hopefully, experiences such as this help students to garner a greater understanding and appreciation for the arts. Such visits are a great learning opportunity for our students and faculty, alike."

This is not the first time that the talented Dayton musicians graced the halls of Kellenberg. The Wind Ensemble has visited and performed for the student body in the past. According to Mr. Vegas, "Kellenberg Memorial has always had a strong relationship with the University of Dayton. Fortunately, we have been able to collaborate with their music

department frequently during the past several years."

At this performance, the musical pieces selected enhanced the experience.



From the driving rhythm of Mother Nature (A Fanfare); the mesmerizing sounds of Shenandoah and Today is the Gift; the suspenseful and pivoting tone of Ghost Train by Eric Whitacre; the hopeful, yet subdued journey of Contre Qui Rose; to the upbeat and patriotic tune of the American Civil War Fantasy, and the George Washington Bicentennial March - a performance not to be missed. Emma Fenton, another member of the sophomore class at

Kellenberg comments, "It was classical with a modern twist making the performance exciting to watch."

Dr. Reynolds noted, "I'd like to say how much we enjoyed our time at Kellenberg Memorial High School. The students, faculty and staff were wonderful. We were impressed by the very large audience, and were amazed by how quiet and attentive they were!" He later added, "Also, it was great meeting everyone, especially Bro. Roger Poletti and Mr. Sean Vegas. We were treated very well by everyone and felt so welcomed at Kellenberg. Our students had a great time staying at the Marianist Retreat House. Barbara Caporaso was so kind and helpful."

The University of Dayton Symphonic Wind Ensemble delivered an outstanding and memorable performance. Led by Dr. Reynolds, they demonstrated a sense of professionalism and shared their gift of music with the Kellenberg family. Kellenberg Memorial High School wishes Dr. Reynolds and the Wind Ensemble future success and welcomes their return.

## Model Congress

By: Danielle Santevecchi '16

**T**he Model Congress tournament held by the Speech and Debate team on November 1, 2014, brought forth the blooming excitement of a new team season.

This year, the Model Congress branch of Speech and Debate has been clashing against competitor schools, including Chaminade and Syosset, in order to practice and increase their chances of making it to the state tournament.

In Model Congress, debaters argue introduced bills in the fashion of Con-

gress. The argument and rebuttal discussion features questions and answers that can make or break the bill's existence. Students use statistics and evidence to prove their points.

At St. John the Baptist in West Islip, 7 bills were presented: the use of thorium nuclear reactors versus uranium reactors, militarily supporting the Ukraine, annihilating ISIS, strengthening punishments for cyber bullying, making vaccines mandatory, regulating hydraulic fracturing and recognizing Kurdistan as a free state.

These bills were introduced by

Chaminade, Roslyn, Syosset, Lawrence Woodmere Academy, and Kellenberg high schools, each with a specific format to follow. Kellenberg brought forth the hydraulic fracturing, or 'fracking' bill, due to the processes' detrimental nature towards the environment and its ability to pollute water and cause cancer. The Model Congress competition taught Kellenberg students professionalism, speech etiquette, and the proper decorum during serious dialogue.

"We all really enjoyed ourselves," said Model Congress person Michael Boyce, '16. "Even though we did not win

any awards, it is still a victory because we all got up and were able to voice our opinions and have a great time."

As moderator and coach, Mr. Cartier continues to help the team practice and hopefully to advance to states which will be held at Delaware Academy in April, the next debate will be November 15th at Kellenberg.

With determination and an increased desire to improve themselves, the members of Model Congress continue to strive and will continue to put in a winner's effort throughout the competition season.

## Ice Ice Baby: Disney's Elsa's No Cinderella

By Sarah Ellis '16

As the Halloween season comes to an end, there is no better time to talk about the highest-grossing animated movie of all time that has, no doubt, resulted in numberless princesses with braided blond hair on your doorstep asking for candy.

Disney's *Frozen*, which celebrates its one-year anniversary on November 27th, is described as "the story of a fearless princess on an epic journey to find her estranged sister whose icy powers have inadvertently trapped the kingdom in eternal winter."

Really? That is not exactly what I got from watching it 38 times with my sister.

If you have seen the film, or at least heard it playing while in the minivan, you can attest to the fact that the characterization of these princesses is a little different than that of Cinderella.

For starters, Elsa seems to be the more "alluring" of the two princesses, witnessed in her more refined manners, her perfectly pinned hair, her detailed gown, and even her standoffishness when speaking with her sister Ana. In short, Elsa is an ice queen. In fact, the movie was based on the Hans Christian Andersen tale "The Ice Queen." And on Elsa's foot, the shoe (not the glass slipper) fits. She is always distancing herself from her family, does not make friends, and keeps the entire kingdom from seeing her.

Consider, Elsa's big number, "Let It Go." Sad and heavy, it begins with Elsa walking up a snowy mountain. It is dark, slow moving, and moody. In Elsa's opening line she claims that she is the queen in "a kingdom of isolation." We know.

As the song continues, her confidence builds, anger bubbles to the surface, while years of hiding herself and pent up aggression emerge from her soul and burst from her lungs as she sings, "No right, no wrong, no rules for me. I'm free."

Elsa, you can be free, but the four year old that I am babysitting thinks there are no rules for her because her dress has a picture of you on it.

As the song concludes, Elsa's outfit has morphed from a regal gown and cape into a form fitting, off the shoulder dress with her hair flowing creating an idolized image that – frankly – Cinderella did not have.

Ana, on the other hand, is playful, wears her hair in braids and her heart on her sleeves, just as everyone did in my fifth grade class. She is the goofy, spirited, a little ditzy, chocolate-loving, perfect representation of a child. She is "the little sister." Even the sisterly tandems trick-or-treating just recently embodied the Disney duo. Little sis' got to be Ana.

Ana is the perceived as the side kick. The tag-a-long. Elsa is the "one in charge."

But should she be? Why does anyone want to be Elsa? Why has Disney marketed it this way?

Even though Elsa's "look" has children and young teens taken, Ana is the one that stands for all good things like bravery, by going into the mountains alone to be there for her sister; honesty, when she tries everything she can to convince Elsa to come back to the kingdom; and selflessness, when she, in fact, is the person who saves Elsa's life and brings back summer.

Ana is clearly the princess that children should be emulating because she is true to herself and her values. Ana is

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personable and dynamic and real, she is someone that kids can relate to and feel connected with as she grows throughout the film from a girl of innocence to a young adult of experience. Her journey to find Elsa in the mountains, her difficulties with a sadistically cruel first love, being frozen solid, losing her parents, being struck by a deadly ice dagger – TWICE – by her sister, and being chased by an ice ogre all develop her sense of love and longing for her older sister.

And Elsa? She abandons her little sister by running off into the mountains so she can live without rules and relationships.

Elsa is portrayed as cold, distant. She sings over and over again that she does not care, that there are no rules, and that she's "not a good girl anymore."

Is this the message Disney intended to send? I could have just bought Iona Pop's "I Don't Care" instead.

The ideas of isolating oneself, acting as if there are no repercussions, and escaping the difficulties of relationships are not the values I'd want to instill in my daughter during her most impressionable age.

But honestly, Olaf is everyone's favorite, so who are we kidding anyway.

## Did You Know...

### The BLUE & GOLD

### Yearbook Has Modernized

By Brian Faller '15

This year the Kellenberg Yearbook Ad Drive has undergone some major changes to make the 2014-2015 *Blue and Gold* shine.

Buying and submitting advertisements is now accomplished completely online. Ads can be personally designed through a link on the Kellenberg Memorial website. Purchasers can create their ads as they want them to appear in the yearbook.

There is also a raffle incentive to submitting ads this year. Students who sell ads will no longer receive commission but will instead be entered into a raffle. Seniors will be eligible to win a character breakfast in Disney for four, a free ticket to the Senior Sendoff, \$100 Disney dollars or a \$50 Phoenix Empo-

rium gift card. The underclassmen raffle prizes are a \$50 Amazon gift card, \$25 dollar Phoenix Emporium gift card or KMHS sweatshirt.

This year's ad campaign has also been a great success. Kellenberg students and teachers have created commercials similar to current, popular television commercials, which has incited quite a bit of laughter from homerooms during morning announcements.

Miss Cook, who is in charge of the ad drive, believes that this year's online formatting benefits, comical commercials and exciting new prizes will give departing students a yearbook that captures all the memories of the 2014-2015 school year.

## Senior Film

By Brian Keane '15

On Wednesday, October 15, 2014, KMHS seniors gathered for their senior class photo and film *God's Not Dead*.

The massive photo of nearly 500 seniors was taken in the gymnasium where yearbook moderators Mrs. Rodney, Mrs. Klein, and Miss Cook, organized students in the bleachers.

Next, the seniors and their homeroom moderators moved to the auditorium for *God's Not Dead*, a film which combats atheism. Mr. Basile, the chairman of the Religion department, explained, "People of faith need to maintain their faith, especially in the face of secular opposition."

The movie followed the stories of five people struggling to understand God or reaffirm their faith.

"There is a strong anti-theism movement in the world today," Mr. Basile commented. Films like *God's Not Dead* help young Catholics to defend their faith against such movements.

The film and photo united the senior class as students of Kellenberg and as Catholics.

## Seniors Prep for Dis'

By Cynthia DeFranco '15

The Class of 2015 will be packed and ready to depart bright and early for Disney on Thursday, April 30.

Baggage check in will be on April 29 by 7 a.m. at KMHS.

Seniors will learn their Flight information and group members on February 24 in an A.M. Assembly, and parents can attend Parent Night on March 24 at 8:15 in the Auditorium, where they can meet trip coordinator Mr. Benintendi, as well as trip chaperones.

Parents who have schedule conflicts for that evening can view the "livestream" or a recorded video at Kellenberg.org.

The trip is a celebration of the achievements of the senior class and of the values that have been so much a part of its daily life for the last four to seven years.

For the three night event students will have a long list of fun-filled activities to engage. at Typhoon Lagoon, on the Rock 'n' Roller Coaster, the Tower of Terror, Fantasmic, Expedition Everest and more.

Although it seems far off now, Disney will be here before we know it, giving the Kellenberg seniors a magical start to their future.



# 9P Pixars DRAW Animated Win

By Kristen Parmiter '16

**O**n October 15, the day of the long anticipated Freshmen Homeroom Challenge had arrived.

The ninth grade students were eager to take part in one of Kellenberg's most exciting traditions. From the start of the school year, freshmen had been preparing for and hearing about this event: the traditions, the enthusiasm, and the creative outfits. It was exciting for the students to get the chance to work together and to create a team complete with a name and t-shirt design.

The Freshmen Homeroom Challenge

was one of the first bonding experiences for the freshmen as part of the Kellenberg Memorial family. The day served as a valuable opportunity to create friendships that will last four years. Members of homerooms had so much fun making team names and shirts for the competition.



Two freshmen homerooms play an intense game of volleyball during the Freshmen Spirit Day Homeroom Challenge.

The day began with a mass for the freshmen in the auditorium followed by lunch outside on the field. Moments before the events began, anticipation and

basketball and gaga ball, the spirit of competition was alive and well. One student raved about how gaga ball was his favorite as the freshmen got their first taste of one of Kellenberg's most beloved games. Taking part in this game is like an induction into the Kellenberg family.

After a whole day of amusing games it was finally time to declare the winner. Some say they could hear a pin drop as they waited for the announcement. Hardly a breath was heard when the shocking announcement was made that the 9L Legions and 9P Pixar had tied for first place, and the winner would be decided in a sudden death tug-o-war game.

As the last game initiated, the spectators were on the edge of their seats to see who would be victorious; both homerooms were determined to win and to become the champions but there could only be one winner. Although the 9L Legion gave a commendable try, it was the 9P Pixar who took the victory.

enthusiasm could be felt coursing through the students creating a remarkable current of energy that could not be duplicated.

As the freshmen finished eating, the competition was ready to commence. Games played included kickball, crab soccer, tug-o-war, big ball volleyball,

# Freshmen "Light Up the Night"

By James Perrone '16

**O**n Friday October 17, Kellenberg Memorial held its annual freshman dance for the Class of 2018. The theme of this year's dance was "Light the Night with Jesus." The theme was incorporated into the dance through illuminated decor and by distributing glow in the dark necklaces and bracelets to the students.

The dance began promptly at 6 p.m. At this time, students arrived in the gymnasium ready to dance and have a memorable time. The decorations, kindly put up by the creative Freshman General Student Organization, awed the crowd. The gym was transformed into "God's Great Dance Floor." It featured an elaborate DJ booth, celestial lighting and an enormous display covering the bleachers portraying the night's theme, "Light the Night with Jesus."

The enlivened students danced the night away to several popular songs including the Class of 2018's theme song, "God's Great Dance Floor." Not only did they get to dance with fellow classmates but also with their Marianist Mentors and several faculty members. For the first time ever, Mr. O'Brien, or "DJOB" was the DJ for the entire dance. He commented, "I truly enjoyed being the DJ for the dance. It's always great seeing the class come together and have a good time. I could definitely tell that everyone had a lot of fun."

Throughout the night, students were welcome to go to the cafeteria for cookies, water and soda. These refreshments were served to the students by some Freshmen Marianist Mentors.

The lively dance continued until 9 o'clock, when "DJOB" wrapped the night up with the hit "God's Great Dance Floor" for the final time. It was evident that the energetic students had a fantastic time with friends and fellow classmates. One freshman commented, "I really was impressed by the amount of effort faculty and students put into making this dance awesome. It was really cool seeing everyone come out of their shell and just have a good time together. I also loved the music DJOB played while we all danced."

Freshman Ciara Carr said, "This dance got us all together as the freshman class and the dance made lasting memories that brought us closer with our peers. It also let us celebrate making it this far into the school year."

Every year, faculty and several students put together a well-organized dance for the freshmen. Due to their tremendous effort, there was no doubt the students had a high spirited night dancing and truly "Lit the night with Jesus."

# Sophomore HR Challenge

By Noelle McManus '17

**A**fter school on Thursday, November 6, both KMHS teachers and students of the sophomore class made their way into the gym for the annual Homeroom Challenge, won this year by homeroom 10L.

The rules were simple: whichever homeroom gained the most points from gameplay would be declared the winner. The clock started, and the race for points was on.

Many competitions took place in the Gymnasium. In one game, students used scooters to weave through the cones and see who would be the fastest. In the middle of the gym was tug-of-war, a game that even the teachers participated in. Then "knockout" was played on the



Sophomores participate in a tug-of-war during their annual Homeroom Challenge.

ly in front would be "out" if the following person put the ball in the basket first.

Ashley Faccilonga of runner-up homeroom 10D spoke of the challenge while playing knockout. "It's super fun and competitive," she said. "I like how our homerooms get to spend time together."

The homerooms certainly got up

hand. Players hit with a ball from the waist down would be out. As Gaga Ball games progressed, it was clear that things were getting highly competitive. The room was filled with shouts and cheering as competitors jumped out of the way, turned on friends in epic acts of betrayal and fell to the ground in dramatic agony after being hit.

Gaga ball has become a fixture at KMHS since it was discovered at the Class of 2014 Junior Spirit day at Coleman Country

The homeroom challenge finally concluded around five o'clock. The students filed out of the gym, disappointed that it was ending. However, the excitement was not over. The scores had not yet been tallied. On the following Monday morning, the results were released during homeroom. Homeroom 10L was victorious, snatching the first place position, and 10D was the runner up in second place.

"The turnout was pretty good, especially for my homeroom," said Mr. Ma-siulis, homeroom moderator of 10J. Grinning, he added, "We should've won."

opposite side of the gym on each basketball court. During this game, two basketballs were given to the two students at the front of a long line. They each had to try and make baskets. The person direct-

close and personal in perhaps the most anticipated game of the evening: Gaga Ball. In the wrestling room, Gaga Ball was played with foam balls. Students hit the balls towards each other with "open"

# Eye on Latin School in 13,000 Words



# Rock Hall Paints Portrait of Early LI

## Part 2 of *The Phoenix Series* on LI's Hidden Museums

By: Emma Greco '15

No one ever thinks of what Long Island was like before the Emancipation Proclamation or before the American Revolution. Perhaps it is too uncomfortable to think about, or else we tend to associate colonial history with other parts of the country, but we often ignore that Long Island did not simply pop into existence a couple decades ago.

For many, including me, the realization of Long Island's rich history comes at the Rock Hall Museum in Lawrence. The museum accurately depicts aristocratic life on Long Island both before and after the Revolutionary War.

Up the long driveway just beyond the impressively-wrought gates that lead away from Broadway, visitors catch their first glimpse of the house itself, built in 1767. A sign instructs guests to head around the grounds to the back door of the white mansion, which was originally used as the front door. With a ring of the doorbell someone is there to welcome visitors and lead a tour through the old, restored house, with its groaning wooden floors and airy halls.

The first room to be seen is the first-floor master bedroom of Josiah Martin, the builder and original owner of Rock Hall. Possessing a family fortune from a sugar plantation in Antigua, where his father was killed in a slave rebellion in 1701, Josiah purchased 600 acres of land for his Long Island property, of which only three acres remain today. The estate once extended from Broadway to Long Beach, providing the Martins with a sea breeze and ocean scent over their grounds. Josiah, who only lived eleven years after the construction of Rock Hall, had the front door placed around the back with a special winding carriage path leading to it so that he could impress his guests with the view, which he also had from the windows of his master bedroom.

Floored with wood from New England covered by reproduction 1700s Venetian carpeting, the bedroom is filled with period furniture pieces similar to those that would have graced the room in the days of Josiah and his second wife, Mary.

"He probably wouldn't have left this cabinet open unless he was looking to impress guests," explains Matt Blum, museum worker knowledgeable on all things Rock Hall, pointing at the open cabinet at the far end of the room. "He'd want to show off all of his Chinese pottery. And those delft tiles around the fireplace were from Holland, also meant to impress."

Also around the bedroom are period nightclothes, a pear-wood tea caddy cleverly shaped like a pear, a foot warmer, and a bed warmer, which

would be filled with embers from the fire and swiped under the mattress a few times to heat up the bed on cold winter nights. Above the tiled fireplace is a picture of a woman I found both beautiful and formidable, who is not, as one might assume, Mary Martin.



The Rock Hall Dining Room captures the historic opulence of eighteenth century aristocratic colonial life.

"That's Mrs. Jennings," says Blum with a grin. "We don't actually have any pictures of the Martins that we could put up there. But she's from the right era, so we have her to give you an idea of what might have been there."

Next door is the family parlor, equipped with several tables for playing card games with French playing-cards or dominoes or chess with ivory pieces. Resting on the table with the playing cards are the original keys to the house, the skeleton key and a regular key, both far bigger and more ornate than our keys today. The look of the room is finished off with a painting of King George III over the fireplace, drawing on the Martins' Loyalist leaning during the American Revolution. In January of 1776, Rock Hall was even briefly occupied by the Patriots when Josiah's son Samuel was imprisoned for supporting the British.

Across the hall is the dining room, complete with a table stocked with fake foods that are both accurate to the time period and quite tempting for visitors. Above the fireplace of this room is the portrait of Mary Elizabeth, Josiah's granddaughter. In 1771, the Martins commissioned famous painter John Singleton Copley from Boston to create a likeness of the little girl, who was unable to sit still for the portrait, leaving Copley to paint only her face and draw the rest of her using a mannequin as a guide, even adding in a dog for her to be playing with – a dog the Martins never had in real life.

The adjoining room is the parlor

intended for entertaining guests. The large harp in the corner of the room is original to the house, as is the painting built into the paneling above the fireplace. The other musical features of the room include a recently restored English guitar and a piano-forte upon which

and the sunlight, one of the best perks to be offered in the house. The large trunk on the floor, armed with a sturdy lock, is one of the only things in the room that actually belonged to Sam. Down the hall, however, is where Sam kept all of his physician belongings.

"Back then, there were no specialists," Blum explains. "Sam was the doctor of the whole countryside, even for the animals. The people here were lucky, though; at this time, if you didn't have a doctor around, you went to the barber."

Despite his arrests, Sam Martin was an intelligent man, educated in medicine at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. He did his thesis on the benefits of bathing, something the people of his time sorely neglected, even the wealthiest bathing only a few times a month. Additionally, families more often than not shared bathwater. The father was always the first to go, and the last would be the baby. This is where the expression, "Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater!" originated.

Blum is also eager to explain where many other idioms come from. "They didn't have springs in their beds. Instead, they had ropes to hold them together, and before you went to sleep you had to use a bed wrench to tighten the ropes, and that's where we get the phrase 'sleep tight.' They also stuffed their beds with hay, and sometimes the wood would also have bugs in them, so they added in the part about not letting the bed bugs bite."

The tour concludes with a trip to the basement, past the imitation kitchen with its elevated food safe to keep rodents from getting the food, its lard press to squeeze out what Blum says would be the equivalent of Crisco, and its plate warmer, which was essentially the colonial microwave. In the basement are the exhibits about the archaeological excavations of Rock Hall, where numerous found items are displayed, and part of the dig is open for all visitors to see. Bits of broken fireplaces and pottery from the outdoor slave cabin, which housed the Martins' 17 slaves, have been found, among many other artifacts, including evidence that, although slavery ended in New York on July 4, 1827, Sam Martin freed his slaves before that, even paying for the education of one woman's five children, though many suspect he did that on more than just simple kindness.

"The amount of buried things we've found is incredible," enthuses Blum. "We're overdue for another dig."

Not only is the museum the preservation of the spirit of colonial Long Island, but it is also one of the best kept secrets of the island, a window into the past that can only truly be experienced by standing on the rickety old steps of Rock Hall.

rests handwritten music from the 1700s. Below the looking glasses, as mirrors were called, are the sofa upholstered with horse hair and the "painted fancy chairs," all embellished with the image of a pineapple.

"Pineapples were a very rare tropical fruit," Blum comments, "and if you had one, and you shared it with guests, this showed wealth and great hospitality. Ever seen the 'Welcome to Garden City' signs with the pineapple on them? This is why."

Blum draws attention to the Venetian blinds on the windows, which, recovered from the attic in near-perfect condition, belonged to the Hewlett family, wealthy farmers who purchased the home from Alice, their friend and Josiah's niece, in 1824 and held onto it until 1948, when they donated it to the Town of Hempstead. Rock Hall was then restored for the next few years until its opening as a museum in 1953, all due to the generosity of the Hewletts in allowing the house they had neglected for years to be preserved. It had even already been modernized with electricity in the 1880s when the Hewletts built a new wing to add the electricity without compromising the integrity of the original house.

"They made the job of figuring out where to put our offices very easy," jokes Blum.

Upstairs, the first room one comes to is that of Samuel, the trouble-making physician who was arrested three times and died in 1806. Like his father's, Sam's bedroom faces the ocean

## Advantage: K Berg Girls Tennis

By: Deirdre Lewin '16

The Lady Firebirds Varsity Tennis A and B teams are both off to prodigious starts this season.

The Varsity B Team is working on fundamentals and building their skills. Coach Frisina noted, "Captains Dominique Kercy '15 and Amanda Rangasammy '16 have really helped the team come together as a whole. I have seen great improvement over the past weeks and know that the girls have what it takes to advance to playoffs in mid October."

Standout Nicole Vassalle '16 has helped the Varsity A Team defeat the skilled Holy Trinity Titans and Sacred

Heart Academy. The size of the team has expanded immensely this year. Junior Meaghan Loomie, a newcomer to the team, said, "I have really improved since I started playing on the team. Everyone gives one hundred percent at every practice and game. I know that this will really pay off during championship season."

The Varsity A Team is captained by seniors Mikayla Zaccaria and Lorraine Jabouin. The girls hope to avenge St. Francis Prep, Our Lady of Mercy, and St. Anthony's in the coming weeks.

"I really believe that we could win championships this year," exclaimed Victoria Rubino '16.



Junior Mairead Manning returns an oncoming serve.

## Gymnasts Stick Landing

By: Sam Pellman '16

This fall season has been one of the most successful seasons for the Kellenberg Girl's Gymnastics team.

With 5 wins and 1 loss, the team is tied for League Champs with its biggest rival, St. Francis Prep. Leading the competitive team this year are seniors

Vittoria Notaro and Delia O'Brien. Other seniors competing in their last gymnastics season for Kellenberg team include Genevieve Longworth, Meaghan Geiger, and Nicolette Keefe. This year the team has two new coaches, Coach Alexandar

and Coach Tomlin. Both outstanding coaches were former gymnasts and captains on the Kellenberg team when they attended as students. Coach Lawrence, the assistant gymnastic and cheer coach, has also had a big impact on the girls' progress throughout the season.

This season, the girls were victorious against St. John's and Holy Trinity, and they were able to beat St. Francis Prep once, but lost the second time around by 1.9 points. That competition was one of the most intense competitions of the season held at St. Francis Prep. Although the Kellenberg girls

did not win, they gave it their all and almost hit a personal high. Even with injuries left and right by teammates Delia O'Brien, Sam Pellman and Lulu Lacolla, the team was still able to stay strong and beat their two other competitors.

The major highlight event of the season was of course the Championship held at Kellenberg this year. This



Captain Vittoria Notaro '15 executes her floor routine.

was the final meet where all the league's highest ranked teams came together and competed one more time. Since there were three schools, each school competed in one event at a time simultaneously: beam, bars, floor and vault. Here the girls, especially the seniors, competed for the final time and showed the judges their individual improvements from the beginning of the season. Captain Vittoria Notaro and sophomore Allison Chin placed 1st and 2nd on every event for varsity, with personal highs of 9.1 and 8.8 on the floor exercise.

Although gymnastics is an individual based sport, it's very much a team effort. In order to win, all the girls need to give the competitions their all and that's exactly what they do so well. The girls hope to continue their winning streak next year and flip into another victorious season.

port the girls had for each other was also incredible. There is nothing more motivating than your teammates cheering you on." Mary has been swimming on the team for four years and is one of the most dedicated members of the team improving herself each time she dives into the water.

By: Pat Fitzgerald '15

## KMHS Fish Swim at Champs

After a long summer, the Chaminade Pool came alive this September as the Girl's Varsity Swim Team began to hold their practices. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., the pool was in nonstop use under the direction of head coach Miss Erin Ronan.

These Lady Firebirds have been truly living out the Kellenberg motto of "One Heart and One Mind," becoming a superior and united team with a common goal, being their best. Head Coach, Miss Ronan said that "this is one of the friendliest teams I have had. Each member has such respect for each other." Having such a friendly team would be nothing without the captains' positive influence on the girls. This year's captains are Mary Guardino, Mary Kate O'Sullivan and Hana O'Neill.

"Swimming for all four years of High School has truly been a blessing to me. However, I believe, the real backbone of our team was all the senior mem-



Senior Captain Mary Kate O'Sullivan races in the butterfly event.

bers on the team. Each senior member helped guide and form the team into one big family," said Captain Mary Kate O'Sullivan.

This family finished with a 6-3 overall record. Despite the few losses it was a year where team was able to grow in unity and friendship.

"I was very proud of the swim team this season," said Captain Mary Guardino, "though we may not have won every meet, the girls practiced hard and gave it their all. There were some very exciting races this season and many swimmers continually improved, pushing themselves to their best times. The sup-

port the girls had for each other was also incredible. There is nothing more motivating than your teammates cheering you on." Mary has been swimming on the team for four years and is one of the most dedicated members of the team improving herself each time she dives into the water.

The girls ended this year placing seventh at championships. Senior Captain, Hana O'Neill, commented "champs was extremely difficult, however, we did not let that affect our overall look at the season. I have been swimming on the team for four years and have met so many amazing people and have made friendships to last a life-time. I am so lucky to have been blessed with amazing Co-Captains, who are also my closest friends, and to become a mentor to the younger members of the team."

This season for the Girl's Varsity Swim Team has been defined by successes in and out of the water. The legacy left by this year's captains and senior swimmers will be one of determination and friendship.

# Boys and Girls Cross Country Race to a Superb Success

By: Caitlin Gaine '16

The Lady Firebirds cross country team has raced to the finish line of an extremely successful fall season. With triumphs for the Freshman, J.V., and Varsity teams, the girls truly seemed to fly down the track. Extraordinary talent combined with a close-knit dynamic resulted in a record number of wins. Sprinter Sarah Newman '16 commented, "The team has great talent and remarkable spirit!" Coaches Brown, York, Cleary, and Mulkeen could not be any prouder of the valiant efforts exhibited by the runners.

Although autumn leaves were beginning to fall, the cross country team rose to victory at the Briarwood Invitational. Held at Fairmont Park in Philadelphia, the meet has been attended by the Firebirds for fifteen years. Each year the Lady Firebirds place higher and higher in the rankings. They secured the fourth place title in 2008 and second place in both 2009 and 2010, culminating in a first place win this year. The team was led by Captain Jazmine Fray along with her fellow seniors Emily O'Hara, Katie Elnick, and Raquel Lopez. Juniors Deirdre Lewin, Sarah Newman, and Aislinn Keely also turned in outstanding performances. The day was an overall success with the Freshman team winning a team title of ninth. With so much underclassman talent, the team can look forward to continuing success in the upcoming years.

Success for the cross country team continued at the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Nassau Coaches Invitational. Our lady Firebirds seemed more like roadrunners as they snagged the first place team plaque for the day. Captain Jazmine Fray took home an award for fastest time of the day while fellow teammate Raquel Lopez secured the prestigious Fifth Man Award. Both the Varsity and Freshmen teams took home team titles.

The most enthralling success of the season has so far been our Lady Firebirds win of their first ever League Cross Country Title. Freshmen, J.V., and Varsity teams all ran to success at Sunken Meadow State Park. Jazmine Fray placed second while Deirdre Lewin grabbed fifth place. Honorable performances were also given by seniors Raquel Lopez, Kathryn Elnick, Emily O'Hara, and Rebecca Marks as well as junior Sarah Newman. The beautiful, autumn Sunday matched the girl's enthusiasm and talent.

What really sets the Lady Firebirds apart is their ability to work as a team. Although their outstanding talent is an essential ingredient to the girl's success, their unity is just as important. As Coach Martin Brown, who has trained Firebird runners for sixteen years, put it, "It wasn't a single person, but the whole team that led to our success this season."

The leadership of Captain Jazmine Fray along with co-captain Kathryn Elnick helped to mold the girls into a well-oiled sprinting machine. The Lady

Firebirds remained in sync throughout all of their meets and urged each other on to greater and greater success.

The team also travelled to Princeton, New Jersey to show their support and pride for Kellenberg alumni of 2011 and former Lady Firebird sprinter, Kim Mackay. Mackay is now the captain of Princeton University's track team and has helped grow the schools running reputation. She graciously welcomed her fellow Lady Firebirds to her new turf, setting a prime example of what the Lady Firebirds aspire to be.

With the fall season coming to an end, the Lady Firebirds run to greater lengths than ever before. Although the girls seemed to have reached their peak, they continue to grow stronger with each

that the Lady Firebirds have many more successful journeys ahead.

The Boys JV and Varsity Cross Country teams valiantly rallied together on Sunday, November 9, to achieve what their coaches consider their best effort of the entire season at the CHSAA Championship at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx. The team has endured vigorous practices almost every day for the past four months in order to prepare for the trying 2.5 mile course they were bound to face at Van Cortlandt. Their intense training regimen, combined with great moral spirits, enabled them to overcome obstacles on a trail that is known for being extremely difficult. The Van Cortlandt 2.5 mile

by delivering what was arguably their best performance of the season.

Prior to this vital meet, adjustments were made to the team's training schedule in order to enhance the projected results of the upcoming championship meet. This was accomplished through what Coach Estrella described as "cutting back and giving rest while retaining the same intensity, just at a lower volume." These measures were proved to be extremely effective in the Bronx.

Weekly dual meets proved to be another imperative training tool throughout the course of the season. During these particular meets, Kellenberg runners competed with other Catholic high schools in the same conference in a scrimmage-like way at Sunken Meadow State Park in far away Kings Park. Kellenberg runners faced conference rivals St. Anthony's High School and Chaminade High School among others. The purpose of these training exercises was to maintain the environment and spirit of an actual meet without the pressure that regular season meets instill upon runners. These meets were yet another factor which contributed to the courageous efforts and utmost physical fitness that the boys portrayed at Van Cortlandt.

Aside from physical training, these Kellenberg athletes let their great moral values show on the track throughout the season. Junior Michael Sieger supported this by saying, "We try hard every day to come to the meets in great shape and ready to do our best."

Coach Estrella clearly conveyed the dedication of the runners when he said that they "are running their best right now and have done everything right." This became evident when multiple athletes earned their new Personal Record at their championship race. Among these runners are seniors Matt Impelli, Jonathan Rega, juniors Paul Cooney, Tim McKenna, Casey Meekins, and sophomores Steven Hoffman and Ryan Dempsey. However, all runners greatly contributed to the team's fine performance.

Although neither JV nor Varsity placed overall, Coach York proudly stated that, "Easily the finest performance brought this year was here today at the championship." This is something to be extremely proud of considering all the effort and hours that each runner has put into this season.

Junior Tim McKenna reflected on the season by saying, "We have all improved a lot from the first practice and have done a lot better since then."

Similarly, Junior Michael Sieger stated, "It's been a long season, but we've kept up the hard work all along the way."

It is in this way that the team excelled to perform what Coach York described as, "The best Varsity race all season." Coach York went on to say, "I am very happy with today's overall performances."

The team and coaches look forward to many successful seasons to come.



Senior Joey Gasparini runs to the finish line at the Varsity Cross Country Championship.



Junior Michael Sieger outpaces his St. Dominic opponent.

step, or rather sprint, they take. The girls have set their eyes upon the Intersectional titles and work hard to secure their legacy. As Coach Martin Brown explained, "Success is in the journey." It can be sure

course leads runners over a series of rolling hills on a thin dirt trail through the remote woods of the expansive park. Despite extreme course conditions and chilling weather, the team beat the odds

## Varsity Football Firebirds Impress

By: Heather O'Sullivan '16

The Kellenberg Varsity Football team closed its riveting season with an impressive 8-2 record, winning eight straight games in the regular season and only coming short of a win twice.

These fearless Firebirds held their own this season by playing their hearts out and giving every game

7. After finally scoring in the second quarter, the Firebirds were on a roll and never stopped. Many other awesome wins during the season include a 34-0 victory against Kennedy, a 34-7 triumph over Xaverian at home, and a 28-14 win against Trinity

Another great achievement made by the team this year was their 21-14 win against Christ the King in the division Single A Championship. This win took the Firebirds right into

would like to thank the coaches for pushing us to the limits at every practice all year long. Our success is because of them."

Despite losing in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of playoffs, the coaches were still happy with the team's record breaking season and the players were not discouraged but rather inspired for next year. When asked about the big Homecoming win and their great season, junior lineman Peter Guariglia '16, gave us

his thoughts and said, "To be able to say that I was on the team that broke the 7 year homecoming losing streak is a huge privilege. The whole team and coaches worked very hard so we could be prepared to take home a win that day. My teammates and I could not have asked for a better coaching staff, they were all a huge contributing factor on our successful season. Just because we lost this year, we will all be working and training hard in the off-

season, so next year we can win an AA championship." Here Guariglia shows that these Firebirds have not lost faith and they will never stop giving their all.

The Kellenberg Varsity Football team this year has made their coaches, supporters and each other very proud. The roaring cheers heard from the sidelines at homecoming will always be an inspiration for years to come.

The Kellenberg Varsity Football team this year has made their coaches, supporters and each other very proud. The roaring cheers heard from the sidelines at homecoming will always be an inspiration for years to come.



Coach Hanifan leads the Varsity football team in prayer before game time.

their all. The support of their coaches, their family and the student body helped to cheer them on along the way. Their overall record this year happened to be the most wins a team has had since 2000. This team has never been stronger than they were this season. Each member came together and pushed hard for every win. Even with having practice six out of the seven days of the week, these boys never let fatigue get the best of them. They were all constantly working diligently to stay in shape.

Throughout the season the team got to celebrate many triumphs, one being their big homecoming win. After many years of not being able to fully grasp the victory, this strong team attacked the win. Our Firebirds overcame the Hackley Hornets from Westchester with a final score of 10-

seventh place in the Double A division for playoffs. Sadly, once in the first round of playoffs, the Varsity Firebird's season came to an end. With 6:14 to go in the second quarter of the playoff game, Jason Delucia '16 scored a touchdown, bringing the score to 14-14.

Unfortunately, Kellenberg was unable to tackle the win over Xavier, leaving the final score at 26-17. When asked for his thoughts on homecoming and the season Delucia said, "I am very happy to have had a great, successful season and to have won homecoming. It was an honor to play as a varsity player this year. My thoughts on the season are that we played hard all year and gave each game one hundred and fifty percent. This is why we were so successful and went undefeated in our league. I

game with a 30-yard field goal.

On Saturday, November 15, the team defeated Chaminade 27-0 in a semi-final playoff game. Pat Leahy punished the Chaminade defense when he ran the ball while Marco Mongelli, Mike Repoli, and Tim Hannafey found the holes in the Chaminade secondary, each making big catches. Joe Grimm exploited the defense on the ground and in the air by passing the ball. Alex Hyer was the star on defense that totally shut out the Flyer offense. The team will now play Xavier on Saturday, November 22, in the "AA" Championship game.

## New Pep Band Leads at Sporting Events

By Alice Tartaro '17

From anywhere in the stadium or gymnasium the brightly colored polos and hoodies of the newly formed Pep Band are as easily spotted as the band itself is easily heard.

Standing in the bleachers, the Pep Band performs at football and basketball games, rallying the crowd for the game out on the field or on the court.

The Pep Band was formed to bring an extra sense of excitement to the stands when there is no action on the field. It's a fun, new way to keep the crowd entertained. The Pep Band plays modern, upbeat and inspiring pop music, much like the songs heard on the radio today.

"I joined the Pep Band because I wanted to be able to play the drums more," sophomore Cyril George said. "Playing the more modern music, like 'Eye of the Tiger,' 'Party Rock Anthem,' and 'Let's Get It Started' really gives me a chance. It's a lot different from the music we play in band, and it's a lot of fun."

While it seems smooth, rhythmic and in sync out on the field, it takes a lot of hard work and effort to get it that way. The members practice every Tuesday from 3:15 p.m., to 4:30 p.m. in the band room. Ranging in members from grades 6-12, the Pep Band is a great way for musicians from all grade levels to get involved.

The director of the band is Mr. Vegas, who not only conducts but also chooses the musical selections played at the games. He commented, "I choose pieces that I know the kids listen to today. They're upbeat, and the songs keep the crowd actively involved, wanting to sing along."

The Pep Band plays during timeouts and in between plays and quarters to keep the crowd excited for the game.

"The Pep Band is a great way to get excited during the game," Catherine Cherpelis '18 says. "It keeps the energy flowing, and it's a lot of fun to listen to. The members are really talented."

The members of the Pep Band are selected through auditions. Even if you don't play in the school band, you're encouraged to join the Pep Band. Member selection process

While the Pep Band is a new club, only introduced to Kellenberg last year, it is filled with amazing musicians who want to share their talent. The Pep Band can be seen and heard playing at Football games and Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball games.

## Freshman Football

By: Staff

On Saturday, November 1, the freshman football team concluded its season by defeating St. John's by a score of 19-0. Justin Renner scored two touchdowns, including a 95 yard run that sealed the win. T.J. Catapano scored the first touchdown for the Firebirds. Richard Montalvo anchored the defense and Daniel Hickey made the critical stop to deserve the shutout.

## JV Football

By: Staff

On Saturday, November 8, the J.V. football team traveled to Fordham Prep to dominate the Rams 34 to 6 in a first round playoff game. Joe Grimm was stellar, scoring 4 touchdowns, 3 passing and one rushing. Mike Repoli led the receiving effort with two touchdown catches while Trevor Quinn added one. Pat Leahy racked up over 100 yards rushing, and a touchdown as well. Dan Preisel, Hollis Hansen, John

Kilcullen, and Tyler Mulvoney anchored the defensive line and totally shut down Fordham's defense.

The win came just three weeks after the team defeated Fordham Prep by a score of 25-8. The team used its ground and pound running game to rack up over 300 yards and control the time of possession.

Quarterback Joe Grimm led the team with two rushing touchdowns and runningback Tim Leahy added a touchdown as well. The defensive play of the game came in the fourth quarter when Alex Hyer tipped an interception to Alex Sluka. Later on that drive Andrew Sluka iced the



# *The REAL Opiate of the Masses: The Soullessness of Sports Fandom*

By: James Hilepo '16

Nineteenth-century philosopher Karl Marx has been commonly credited with stating that religion is the "opiate of the masses." This is a bit of a mistranslation. The passage more accurately reads, "Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, and the soul of soulless conditions. It is the opium of the people."

Marx goes on to say, "The criticism of religion ends with the teaching that man is the highest essence for man – hence, with the categorical imperative to overthrow all relations in which man is a debased, enslaved, abandoned, despicable essence..."

Marx's comments are truly wrong in regards to people of faith: it is not religion but sports fandom that is the real opium of the people.

The German philosopher-economist's remarks apply perfectly to the American sports fan.

Let's take a look at the first passage. Marx's rhetoric culminates in his description of religious people as trapped in a "soulless condition." The sports fan is the embodiment of this condition. It is quite easy to find a parent who will work overtime for multiple weeks just to take a child to Opening Day and in doing so will call in sick on that day in order to go to the game. People are willing to put themselves through the stress and exhaustion of working extra hours to pay for tickets to a game that will end up costing double that price in parking, food, and souvenirs.

Many times these same people, along with others, will neglect their civic responsibilities. Countless people will neglect voting in public elections because of sports events. On the contrary, it is common for our leaders to ask the faithful to vote in favor of certain legislation in line with the views of the Church. For example, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops calls for all Catholics to participate in the teachings of Christ and be a "light for the nations." Those who neglect this cause for religious activism, especially because of sports, are acting in the way that Marx explained, the exact opposite of what the Church teaches.

Which professional sports organization can boast of the same inspiring of its fan base?

The foregoing of responsibility does not end at civic and religious, but continues into family life. This is never more prevalent than on NFL Sundays. Football obligations become the top priority in to many of our American households. Spending a Sunday afternoon with one's family becomes mostly an afterthought, as does the moral veniality of skipping church to see kickoff. The American sports fan frequently would much rather

spend his time in his "man cave" watching football twelve straight hours, then do the same thing the next week. Of course, this occurs less than 24 hours after the person spent College Football Saturday in the exact same way. In this way, it's quite common to see people isolate themselves from their families for entire weekends. This is, in no way, something that society should be promoting on a daily basis.

While the soulless sports fan behaves in this way, Marx's "masses" are in Church, singing, praying, advocating peace and love of neighbor, as well as promoting community activism in countless ways.

Who exactly suffers a soulless con-

dition? However, if Rice and Peterson were to return to the field and score a touchdown, or Solo were to make an important save in the upcoming Women's World Cup, they will still be cheered by tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of fans both at the game and at home. Cheering someone who is the culprit of such awful crimes is a suggestion of the disintegrated state of mind currently plaguing fans.

There is no question whatsoever that sports fans are enslaved by their fandom. The reason why sports are a billion dollar industry is because of sponsorships. Leagues and individual teams "sell" their fans to sponsors who are looking for any way that your eyes (i.e., your wallet) will

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– it is a tale I recount with  
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---

dition?

Moving on to the second Marx passage, it's quite seamless to establish sports as the subject in place of religion. Let's view it like this: "The criticism of religion [professional sports fans] ends with the teaching that man is the highest essence for man – hence, with the categorical imperative to overthrow all relations [professional sports fandom] in which man is a debased, enslaved, abandoned, despicable essence..."

It surely isn't the person of faith who is "debased, enslaved, abandoned, [and] despicable." Faith teaches that God is an integral part in the joy of life, not the bane of one's existence. However, each of these phrases sadly fits the description of the stereotypical sports fan.

There are plenty of ways in which the fan of professional sports becomes debased. The morals of the masses of fans become degraded. Take the enormous issue of domestic violence among athletes, for example. Three cases stand out. Ray Rice, Adrian Peterson and Hope Solo have all found their way into the news recently due to allegations of domestic violence. All three are currently stars in their profession or have been at some point in their career. Each of these players has been accused of egregious acts of violence against loved ones.

land on its product. This is evident at any level of participation in sports fandom. While watching a game at home, one is bombarded with commercials from a variety of sellers (mostly sellers who are looking to make you large and lazy). Walk into any sports stadium in the country and the billboards are the first thing you are greeted with. This is because sports fans as a whole, have been sold by their fandoms to consumerist companies.

Marx believed that religion places God above and distant from man, but this is the antithesis of the Church's true beliefs. The Church preaches that God is with us step for step through every moment of our life, always here to listen to our prayers and guide us. We are, in fact, made "in His likeness." Teams and stars, however, abandon their fans in many ways. While a fan base finds itself grieving after a playoff loss or a tough losing season – where are the star players of the losing teams? Driving their Ferraris back to their mansion where it won't hurt nearly as much. The players and stars are placed on a pedestal and viewed as more important than the rest of us. They are the ones who are above and distant from their followers. The sports fans are the isolated and abandoned worshippers of false idols.

Since I don't want to beat a dead horse, I won't elucidate my arguments on the "despicable" nature of the sports fan. I suppose it would be more of the same – a sad testament to the degeneracy of sports fans everywhere. As a sports fan (of the thoughtful, inspired, socially aware variety, I hope) – it is a tale I recount with much chagrin.

However, a kernel of hope resides in the fact that since Marx was wrong about religion, it's fair to guess that I might be wrong about sports fans.

There are plenty of instances in which sports do good for society. For example, former Buffalo Bills and New York Jets wide receiver, David Nelson is well known for his work in which he tries to find homes for orphans, especially in Haiti. Former soccer star David Beckham has his own foundation, the Victoria and David Beckham Charitable Trust, which provides aid to children with disabilities. Beckham also supports charities such as UNICEF and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Tennis star Serena Williams has done a large amount of work with the Avon foundation to fight breast cancer. These athletes are just a few of the hundreds of professional athletes who have dedicated their time and money to helping those who have less than they, and in so doing inspire countless fans to follow their lead in positively contributing to society.

For example, Fans Across America is an Arizona-based non-profit that benefits families with special needs children as well as homeless students and families. Founded by Bruce Petillo, the charity has been recognized by the People magazine and MLB joint campaign All-Stars Among Us, which recognizes people who serve their communities in exemplary fashion. Mr. Petillo's vision of using the sports fan base for community good is the exact inspiration that stupefied fans need.

Additionally, today's fans can provide a great deal of necessary family bonding. If financially viable, going to a baseball game, for instance (Long Island Ducks tickets are exceedingly affordable), then returning home and having a catch can be a great source of not only fun, but learning as well. The same applies to a Sunday NFL afternoon game followed by a family barbecue with a backyard football game to work off the calories – and to work off the shackles of the sports fan-consumerist complex that enslaves and degrades our society.

The isolation experienced by too many sports fans must end.

Make your fandom truly yours and turn being a sports fan into an active experience. Go to a benefit game, have a catch, support a charity sponsored by your favorite athlete. It's time to kick the opium addiction.

# KMMHS Sports

## *V-ball Hearts Broken, Healing after Dominant Season*

By: Staff

All good things must come to an end, and this especially rings true for your Lady Firebirds who had an outstanding 2014 fall season. Your girls went 14-2, their only losses, neck and neck games against St. Anthony's.

Team captains' senior Ally Good and junior Tori Moulder led this mighty team through a season complete with enticing rallies, high caliber defense, and ruthless offense. Good ran perfect plays as the team's setter while Moulder dominated the offense as starting middle hitter alongside senior Caitlyn Staab, neither accepting defeat without giving everything they had. Staab and Moulder refused to surrender their dominant position as fierce attackers from the middle putting up blocks whenever possible.

Sweat dripping from their faces, juniors Kate Calabro and Tina Ceriello directed the outside attacks constantly firing upon the challenger. "Our team pushed each other the entire season, and we had an awesome time. I will miss this team dearly, however we WILL bring home the championship next year, and I am so excited," Calabro raved.

Senior Maria Lombardo and juniors Ashley Sapraicone, Danielle Gaudet, and Gabriella Caputo mastered the back row defense. Lombardo commented, "I was very lucky to have been able to play my last volleyball season with such a talented, fun group of girls. Each player's hard work and dedication to the team led us to an amazing season. Although we came up short in the end, I'm so proud of our accomplishments throughout the season."

Entering the playoffs with only one loss, your Firebirds dominated the first round with a three game sweep of Sacred Heart Academy's Lady Spartans. The feeling was clear, electric, shock waves sent all throughout the building, Kellenberg was not walking away defeated. The whole team was in fine form in all areas including a 91% service and 87% attack percentage. Juniors Cara Kennedy and Tina Ceriello each served a total of 15 points with only two errors, while fellow juniors Kate Calabro and Tori Moulder combined for a total of 36 attacks.

It was an exciting match and Kellenberg had to go to great lengths to earn points and get the serve. Although the St. Dominic Gymnasium was full of rambunctious spectators, when the ball was in the hands of the server, an icy silence fell over the crowd and every

person in the room could feel the pressure. Wearing that white jersey was no longer a means of identification for substitutions and rotation, but a representation of character, morals, and the eternal desire to play the game that you love with everything that you have. When the

High School. Your girls fought hard, but sometimes even your best is not going to bring home the championship plaque. Tallying a total of only 34 kills, Kellenberg's offense was simply outmatched, which kept the team playing a game of mostly defense. 40 digging errors with

this season against some very impressive opponents; it's just unfortunate that we weren't able to rally enough [last night] to propel ourselves to a win."

Senior captain Ally Good finished her high school volleyball career that night, however along her journey she has acquired many impressive accolades. Beginning on her volleyball voyage seven years ago, Ally began playing in the Catholic Youth Organization. Finding her way around the court, she took up the position of setting six years ago and has since perfected the art. Those early years of sheltered, fundamental volleyball brought forth in Good the love of the game that would become part of her life.

Beginning her club volleyball life four years ago, Ally has playing experience in three different areas; CYO, school, and now club ball. However Kellenberg likes to take some credit for the player she has become. Throughout her four years in the volleyball program here at school, there has not been a year when Good's talent and love of the game have gone unnoticed.

Freshman year she was awarded Most Improved Player for everything that she had accomplished over the course of the season. Sophomore year, Good was recognized with the Most Valuable Player award for her outstanding performance in every single league game and practice. Junior year, Ally was doing double time receiving the Bernie Commitment Award and an award for being an All League Player. This crucial year escalated Ally to a higher level of play, and she proved that she was yet again not a player to be overlooked because clearly, this girl is an outstanding athlete.

In her senior year at Kellenberg, although the awards dinner has not happened at this point, Ally Good has been recognized twice; first Good was named American Volleyball Coaches Association High School Player of the Week for New York State during the week of November 3-9, and second at the championship game she was awarded N.S.C.H.S.G.A.A. Player of the Year. I guess you could say that Ally Good is having a great year!

Next year, although no longer with us, the three seniors on the team will go on to bigger and better things. Maria Lombardo will go on to NYIT to possibly major in Psychology, Caitlyn Staab will continue her basketball career possibly playing at Mount St. Mary's, and Ally Good will be playing volleyball hopefully at St. Lawrence University.



**Senior Ally Good, named American Volleyball Coaches Association High School Player of the Week for New York State during the week of November 3-9 and awarded N.S.C.H.S.G.A.A. Player of the Year, serves an ace.**

jersey goes on, all the little burdens and realities of life slip away; for two hours a day each member of the varsity squad can relax, not think about work, school, relationships, anything tasking, all that matters is that you make that pass. All that matters is that you make that serve. All that matters is that you run this set. All that matters is your family, your volleyball family, and on Sunday, November 2, 2014 the girls radiated excellence, unfortunately the same could not be said for Tuesday, November 4, 2014.

On this day the Kellenberg girls Varsity Volleyball came up against the only team to have beaten them in regular season play, the Friars of St. Anthony's

only 28 good digs did not do much to propel your girls into action.

The first game of the match was close, with scores of 21-25, however from that point on the team fell into a pit of despair that proved to be too great to climb out. Game two was complete with scores of 14-25, and the final game of the season was recorded as a 22-25 victory for the Friars.

It is difficult to understand the pressure that the team faced, and the overall season record is something to be proud of, however Coach Cathy von Schoenermarck put it best when she addressed the team saying, "You did compile an outstanding record of victories