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Baby Boom sparks among teachers

Viator teachers expect and celebrate their little bundles of joy

Renee Perkowski
Staff Writer

More than a few faculty members have announced some unexpected news this past year. With the surprising number of faculty members who are either expecting a child or have recently welcomed a child into their life, it has become common to hear, for instance, when a teacher will be going on maternity leave or how many days until the soon-to-be parents will find out their baby’s gender. Strollers, cribs, and doll-sized clothing? Be prepared, because there’s going to be a lot more of it. A “baby boom” is undoubtedly taking place at St. Viator.

Due on Feb. 2, 2012, Mrs. Jennifer Kottra, English teacher, is expecting twins—one boy and one girl.

“We haven’t decided on names yet. We’re still talking about it,” Mrs. Kottra said. “I’m definitely excited about becoming a new mother. I’m a little bit nervous because there is going to be two of them at once but I am going to have a lot of help. My family and [my husband’s family] are really close so I feel a little bit better knowing that there will be lots of help around.”

Mrs. Kottra is not the only faculty member expecting twins. Mrs. Julie Kirkpatrick, Class of 2014 counselor, and Mr. Chris Kirkpatrick, dean of students, are also awaiting the birth of twins due on Feb. 27, 2012. They will find out shortly the genders of the twins, after which they will decide possible names for the babies.

“We already have a daughter, Georgia who was born on Apr. 12, 2010, said Mrs. Kirkpatrick. “She will almost be two when the twins are born. She is going to be a great big sister.”

Mrs. Kirsten Anzalone, English teacher, and her husband Pete are expecting their first child, a daughter, on Mar. 1, 2012.

“My husband needed to convince me to learn the gender,” said Mrs. Anzalone. “I initially wanted to wait until the birth to learn the gender. However, Pete said he needed to have time to prepare mentally for a boy or a girl, and he convinced me it would make us have a better bonding experience with the baby in utero if we knew we were talking to Baby Boy or Baby Girl.” The baby’s name will not be revealed until after she is born.

“I have always wanted to be a mother since I was a little girl,” Mrs. Anzalone said. She said she had been criticized in high school for writing that her future goal was to become a mother.

“The best job in the world is to be not only a mother but to be a devoted and loving one.

—Mrs. Kirsten Anzalone

“I completely disagreed with one of my teachers. The best job in the world is to be not only a mother but to be a devoted and loving one who, with the help of a partner, produces a contributing member to society,” said Mrs. Anzalone.

Although she plans to continue her job, she adds that “my child will always be my top priority. I will never be embarrassed to say I am just a mother,” she said. Mrs. Anzalone also said, she is looking forward to spending holidays with her baby, reading to her, and spending time together as a family.

Mr. Bill Sanford, Director of Student Recruitment, mentioned the birth of his daughter and first child, Clare Céili Sanford, born on Sept. 22, at Resurrection Medical Center.

“This is our first child and it has treated me quite well so far,” said Mr. Sanford. “We feel blessed to have a healthy, beautiful girl and supportive family and friends.” He notes that he is looking forward to “her saying her first word, sleeping 6 hours in a row, and laughing,” he said. “I am not looking forward to college tuition and wedding bills, not bells,” Mr. Sanford said.

Mr. Kevin Hogendorp, Social Studies teacher, announced the birth of his son and first child, Ethan Arnold Hogendorp, born Jan. 1, 2011. Mr. Hogendorp said that giving the first-born sons the middle name “Arnold” has become a family tradition.

“He is the fourth Hogendorp to have Arnold as a middle name after my grandfather, my father, and me,” said Mr. Hogendorp. “Being a first time father has its challenges,” he said. “One of the biggest challenges has been adjusting my schedule. Before he was born I could just walk out the door to go to the grocery store. However, now my schedule will often revolve around him, and that has limits,” Mr. Hogendorp said.
Music Ministry sings, dances, praises the Lord

New class helps students spiritually make deeper connections.

Clare Majewski
Staff Writer

Music Ministry, which is run by Mrs. Kristina Sandrock, is a half-credit course for both student vocalists and instrumentalists who are interested in performing music at all-school masses and special masses, such as the Junior Ring Ceremony, throughout the year at Saint Viator.

In past years, music for mass was performed by concert choir; however, concert choir now meets during seventh period everyday and focuses on concert literature. The shift allows choir to have more rehearsal time, 45 minutes rather than 30 minutes. This will let choir students learn more about the fundamentals of music and offer them the ability to perform musical pieces of a higher difficulty level at concerts. Music Ministry now rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Choir room. The later practice time allows students to participate in other co-curricular activities.

There are currently 25 members of Music Ministry, and it is rapidly growing.

“We hope to continue attracting more students to participate by the end of the year,” said Mrs. Sandrock. There are many students at Saint Viator who possess a passion for music and yearn for the ability to express their musical potential. Through Music Ministry, a feeling of leadership and spirituality can be conveyed with students who have a similar dedication.

“It’s a great group of motivated students, and I love working with them,” said Mrs. Sandrock. “My inspiration for starting this course was that worship is such an integral part of the Saint Viator community, and music is such an important part of that - young people in particular really seem to be able to connect with their faith.”

As for the students that participate in Music Ministry, many of them feel a similar spiritual connection, along with a sense of belonging.

“I love the fact that we get to know each other so well, and we get to make mass more enjoyable for others while doing something that we love,” said junior Sara Fecko.

In addition to these deeper connections, the students develop more of an awareness of the hard work that goes into each and every mass.

“I have developed a greater appreciation for all the work that goes into putting a mass together. There is a lot of behind-the-scenes planning that goes into organizing a mass that I did not know about,” said sophomore Bobby Gallant.

With no audition involved in order to participate in Music Ministry, any interested students should contact their counselor and Mrs. Sandrock to sign up. Music Ministry allows students to find their inspiration and also discover themselves through music, and at the same time, make friends with fellow motivated students.

Ben Paolelli
Staff Writer

On Thursday, October 6, sixteen junior high scholastic bowl teams participated in an annual tournament held at Saint Viator. The sixteen teams came from thirteen different schools, the most ever to participate in this tournament, according to Mr. Bill Sanford, Director of Student Recruitment.

“Any time [prospective students] can see [current Saint Viator] students and the facilities [of the school], it will hopefully lead to another school visit [and eventually to enrollment],” Sanford said.

A new addition to the tournament this year was upperclassmen speaking to the schools individually and telling them information about Saint Viator. St. Anne’s School took first place and St. Raymond’s took second place.
Celebrating our juniors, their new rings

Juniors receive class rings at junior ring ceremony

Paul Lewis
News Editor

On Sunday, October 2, 2011 the Junior Class gathered together in the auditorium to receive their class rings during the Junior Ring Ceremony. Though each ring is different and unique, they all help to unite the juniors as the Class of 2013.

“The ring represents unity and connection” said Fr. Mick Egan during his homily. He shared the story about his own class ring. He elaborated on how everyone’s ring is unique and holds significance for each individual. Fr. Egan was not the only one however to hold these views of the ring.

“[The Junior Ring Ceremony] brought our whole class together and showed that we are all different people under one community,” said junior Hannah Scheller.

The juniors felt that their class rings were significant and placed different symbols to commemorate their experiences at Viator.

“I put music notes as a symbol because music is a really important part of my life,” said Izi Valera.

“I have a basketball and volleyball on one side with a Saint Viator crest with the year 2013 on the other side. I also have my name engraved on the inside,” said Hannah Scheller.

Not only did the ceremony provide the juniors with a ring and special memories, but also gave a glimpse of future events.

“It gave a glimpse of graduation,” said Shannon Carney. “It resembled graduation in a way since we will be together as a class.”

The Juniors have added another chapter in their lives in the Viator Community and now continue to move forward bringing their memories with them always.

**LOOK OUT THE WINDOW....**

**WHAT:** Occupy Wall Street

**WHERE:** Worldwide

**FOR:** Protesting financial problems

**WHEN:** Sep. 17 to present

**WARNING:** Hipster alert

**OCCUPY WALL STREET**

Occupy Wall Street is a national pedestrian protest over financial inequality in the United States. The protest started in New York on Sep. 17, and has gotten inspiration from other activist groups and movements such as Adbusters, the Arab Spring movement, and the Spanish Indignants. The purpose of the rally is to protest what they see as economic inequalities such as “big corporate profits, tax breaks for the rich, corporate lobbying in Congress, and [inconvenient] bank bailouts.” A popular slogan that sums up their views is “We are the 99 Percent.”

Protesters are trying to reinforce the idea that the 99 percent—the average, lower-class American families—have a larger economic hardship than the 1 percent which represents high class citizens who make over $500,000 a year. These percentages are more metaphorical than accurate but they get the point across that they see the majority of America sacrificing for a small portion’s leisure. The movement has spread to over 900 cities worldwide such as Paris, London, Tokyo, and Prague. It has also spread to major U.S. cities such as San Francisco, Denver, Chicago and Portland. Reactions to this rally vary; presidential candidate Herman Cain blames the protestors for their troubles while President Obama sympathized with the protestors and implied that his American Jobs Act may be a solution to their problem. There have been more than 700 arrests made in New York alone, yet there doesn’t seem to be any end in sight for this protest.

—Madeleine Ptacin

Photo courtesy of www.theweek.com
Teachers, students run Chicago Marathon

Fuja, Jordan, McCrea participate in annual city race

Erin Primdahl
Staff Writer

Oct. 9, 2011 marked the 34th anniversary of the Bank of America Chicago Marathon, a 26.2 mile race across the city that starts and ends in Grant Park. Out of the record-breaking 45,000 registered runners, Mr. Fuja, Spanish teacher; Mrs. Jordan, history teacher; and Tyler McCrea, senior, represented St. Viator on race day.

The morning started off with undesirably high temperatures for the runners, ranging from the mid-70s to the 90s. Mr. Fuja declared that he usually enjoys running up to 10 miles.

“26 miles is a different story,” said Mr. Fuja, concluding that the weather affected his perspiration levels the most, which caused greater dehydration and an increase in cramps. Mr. Fuja reported that the hardest challenge of the marathon was “the cramping, quite honestly.”

Despite the discouraging weather, Kenyan Moses Mosop set a course record, with a winning time of 2:05:37. Two other Kenyans followed him to the finish within 52 seconds.

“Originally, I was not too happy [with my time],” Mr. Fuja remarked. “But looking back on it, it was my first marathon. I really can’t complain.”

Mr. Fuja plans to run the marathon again next year and hopes to develop methods to avoid intense cramping so he can pursue his goal time of 3:07.

Changing times, changing news

Students use various methods to fit news into their busy schedules

Libby Donnelly
Entertainment Editor

In this day and age, it is extremely important to stay updated on issues that are certain to affect the future. With recent conflicts in politics, international relations, environment, immigration, and finances, practically every news story is a pressing issue. Teenagers, the future of our nation; however, are having trouble finding the time to watch or read the news.

“I don’t have time. It is not that I don’t want to hear it. I find it interesting,” said senior Albertina DiMartino.

With the amount of pressure teens are under, they find it difficult to read a newspaper or watch a news program. From school to sports practice to ACT prep class to studying, teenagers barely have time to scarf down dinner let alone read a newspaper.

“I am usually studying too hard to watch TV,” said junior Michael Duszynski.

“I feel like there is so much else on TV that people don’t really watch the news anymore,” said sophomore Kim Whalen as she offered more reasons why there is a lack of teenage viewership for news shows.

This is true; on any given weekend, teenagers can flip on the television and choose from a variety of shows that range from high school glee clubs to sympathetic serial killers, from modern crime solving teams to a group of random community college students. The television is literally a teenager’s oyster.

With so many distractions, it is no wonder teenagers would chose to watch Charlie Sheen over Rick Perry.

However, some students are able to work news into their schedule.

“The news on the TV is easy to watch at night,” said senior Erin Malone who usually catches the nine o’clock news on channel nine.

Even so, many teenagers are either still studying or too tired to pay attention to the news. This realization may have some people worried, but new inventions and trends have allowed teenagers to keep themselves up to date.

With new ideas and ways of life popping up everyday the younger generation has created new trends in order to stay informed.

“I get most of my news from the internet,” said junior Michael Duszynski.

The Internet has changed the playing field for the news. It allows people to just type in one word into Google, and find millions of articles on that topic at their fingertips. This may not seem like a new recourse for news, but the Internet has evolved in the last few years.

Facebook has become an instant way for teenagers to receive news. On Oct. 5, news feeds were filled with “RIP Steve Jobs.” Facebook allowed for one person to spread the news out to a hundred people, and those hundred to a thousand more, and those thousand to a million more, and so on.

The Internet has revolutionized current events. It is faster than any newspaper or news program so it is no surprise that the newspaper industry is failing. Journalists are now opting to write for the faster and more popular Internet news articles and blogs, rather than the standard print newspaper.

The new generation of teenagers wants everything faster. They have no time to read a newspaper or watch a half-hour news program. They have schedules packed to the brim that only allow a few minutes to check Facebook or do a quick Google search. The only way for teenagers to stay up to date is by doing it fast.

The old Pleasantville image of everyone reading the paper over a home-cooked breakfast of eggs and bacon is over. Instead, it has been replaced by Starbucks and smartphones.
Processing the legacy of Steve Jobs
From humble beginnings to mass marketing genius

Steven Vanstedum
Staff Writer

N o one really knew Steve Jobs, who he was, what his plans were, or what kind of person he would become before 1976. He was born in 1955 and given up for adoption to Paul and Clara Jobs. He graduated from high school and only went to college for one semester. He worked at low paying jobs at Silicon Valley icons, HP, and Atari. Atari was the company name that defined the computer entertainment industry from 1970 to the mid 1980s. Jobs was only 21 when he and his friend, Steve Wozniak, put the computer, Apple 1, for sale. Wozniak was the technical genius and knew how to build computers.

"Jobs did not invent things, but recognized their power before anyone else did," is one of the many quotes that describe Steve Jobs best.

He had visited Xerox's research lab and was amazed when he saw the experimental computer they had with a graphical user interface and a mouse.

He had many talents. He had a unique management style. He was the one with the creative mind that wanted everything to be user friendly and look good. Even with all his talents and creativity, John Sculley, who Jobs appointed to be Apple's president that Jobs appointed, along with Apples board took away all of Jobs power to make decisions. Jobs resigned from Apple in May 1985. He just wanted things done his way.

How can Apple be anything without Steve Jobs? Yes he had many ups and downs with Apple and throughout his life with various other projects, but the world has definitely changed because of him.

After a decade away from Apple, he founded NeXT, a computer company that Jobs himself could call all the shots. It was a disappointment because he only sold 50,000 systems. He later created Pixar, which created the computer-generated cartoons like Toy Story. In 1995, it was the top grossing movie. Can you imagine computer generated cartoons winning Oscars? Jobs sold Pixar to Disney in 2006 for 7.4 billion. At this time it seemed he was at the height of his career, while Apple was failing greatly without him. There are too many in betweens to write about, but the most important, was that he returned to Apple with a vengeance. He returned in 1997, but still devoted time to Pixar. Some people might say this was the greatest comeback in the history of business.

In 1998 the iMac became the best selling computer in America. He went on to create the iPod, iPhone, and iPad. Walter Isaacson was one of the writers for Time magazine. He was called by Steve Jobs to write his biography. Isaacson writes that "Steve was the modern creation myth writ large and that he revolutionized six industries: personal computers, animated movies, music, phones, tablet computing and digital publishing." He wanted his biography written so that his children would know who he was. The biography will be published on October 24th. A capturing title on Rolling Stone magazine says, "The Steve Jobs Nobody Knew, How an Insecure Hippie Kid Reinvented Himself- and Changed the World." Newsweek also writes, "Thanks for the Future, How a college drop out trusted his gut, defied corporate America, and carried us into tomorrow."

The American innovator died Oct. 5, 2011 from a rare form of pancreatic cancer. Some of the words he leaves behind for all of us are, "Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. Stay hungry, stay foolish. Take risks. And whatever you do, don't be afraid to fall."

Babies, continued from page 4

However, he adds that being a father is rewarding.

"There are many sleepless nights but it’s all worth it when I come home and see a huge smile on his face to greet me," Mr. Hogendorp said. "I’m looking forward to times when I can watch him grow up. I am looking forward to supporting him in all that he does, whether he be as an athlete, musician, student, or whatever he chooses," he said.

As a Catholic school, Saint Viator teaches that human life is sacred, even at its earliest stages. This view is best expressed by Mrs. Anzalone.

"As a Catholic, being pregnant has truly proven to me that life begins at the time of conception," Mrs. Anzalone said. "How could anyone argue that a baby in utero is not a life? This is a person. God planned out this person’s life. Whatever happens in your future, you should always feel safe knowing that your life began in God’s image."
Many schools in the area host powder-puff games during their Homecoming weeks. It is not an uncommon tradition, so it seems strange that Saint Viator chooses not only to ignore it, but to condemn it.

“The number one reason we don't have a powder-puff game,” said Dean Scerbicke, “is because we don't want any injuries.”

It makes sense that the school wants to keep its students safe, but that could be done if the school hosted a regulated game. If Saint Viator held a powder-puff game during the Homecoming week, then the school would have the ability to create a safe environment. Some students suggest a game of two hand touch or flag football, neither of which require tackling.

Personally, from a female's perspective, I think that banning a powder-puff game is unfair to girls. The boys are allowed to play football games every week, and the only reason we can't do the exact same thing is because we are girls and are therefore more fragile than boys. Keeping girls from playing could even be construed as sexist because girls should be included in the same activities as boys.

Football, especially two-hand touch or flag football, is no more dangerous than basketball, soccer, or any other high school sport open to girls. If Viator hosted an actual powder-puff game during the Homecoming week, the game would be regulated and there would be no chance for anything to go wrong. Ultimately, girls want to participate in a powder-puff game.

“It gives girls in different grades a chance to bond over something,” said junior Emily Nolan.

A powder-puff game is a great chance for the school to get together over a special event and show some school spirit. While “Games Day” gives all grades and genders the opportunity to participate in friendly competition during Homecoming week, it can be difficult for students to get excited over some of the less exhilarating games. A powder-puff game, like any other sporting event, would undoubtedly stir up the stands and bring the student body together during pep rallies.

It’s time to give the girls a chance to show their lion pride. If the boys get their football games, why shouldn't we?
People may see detention as a wasted hour after school. Some may argue that instead of sitting in an empty classroom, the students should be more proactive. Wouldn’t a student’s detention time be used to help the well-being of others? Wouldn’t it be better to use detention to promote community service rather than staring at the back of another student’s head for an hour after school?

Hypothetically, instead of serving an hour dormant in a classroom after school, what if an extra hour of community service would be added to the student’s twenty-five hour requirement every time they receive a detention. In this hypothetical situation, would students be given the opportunity to make the world a better place, or would a negative connotation be given to the phrase “community service”?

According to Dean Scerbicke at the beginning of the year there are more students in detention because of tardiness to class. However, as it begins to level out there is on average around ten students in detention per day. Some people may see this as ten wasted hours that could instead be spent helping someone in need. Dean Scerbicke instead added this comment about the idea.

“Service is not a punishment. It’s part of our faith. Detention is a deterrent. When I see a student in detention I hope to never see him or her there again.”

Father Egan had a similar opinion as Dean Scerbicke. “I don’t want to connect service with discipline.” While he did not see a change in the handbook any time soon, he did mention that as President of the school a decision like this would ultimately be his.

Since service is such a key element to the Viatorian mission, connecting service with punishment may not be the approach they are looking for. After a student graduates, the school still hopes that the student will participate in service opportunities voluntarily. The school therefore still has the service requirement so students can gain the different experiences they would have otherwise never received and will want to continue to do service in the future.

Students of Saint Viator also seemed to have a negative view on a discipline policy like this. “I don’t think that the school should do that,” said Carlee Smith, “because when you’re isolated from people and have to sit in silence you feel the wrong doing. Students already have to do service hours. What’s one or two extra hours going to do? Making students stay after school is more of a punishment.”

It could be argued that courts use Community Service as a punishment frequently. However, they use this as a milder punishment. Instead of sentencing a person to time in prison, the judge sentences the person to a certain number of community service hours.

The court therefore has no problem connecting community service with punishment.

While requiring extra service may seem to work in theory, it may overall affect a student’s view on the purpose of service. For example, a young child may not want to brush his teeth if a parent makes brushing teeth seem like a chore. The school has the same opinion. If service seems like a punishment, it will always seem like a punishment.
Is the ACT an accurate measure of intelligence?

YES

Brad Bublitz
Staff Writer

Don’t you love it when people in school are like, I’m a bad test taker” said comedian Daniel Tosh during a recent standup performance, “Oh, you mean you’re stupid.”

There is not much substance to support the viewpoint of Tosh and others who believe that a test is the best way to determine a person’s knowledge. Learning about a subject, studying it and discussing it in class all help one understand material when it comes time to take a test. But when faced with 215 relatively unfamiliar questions on a Saturday morning, how well will students respond? Consequently, we end up with the debatable question: How reflective of a person’s intelligence is the ACT test?

Four hours on a Saturday morning determine the rest of your life. How fair is that? The American College Test (ACT) is taken by students all over the nation during their junior, and for some, their senior year of high school. Testing a student in the four subjects of: English, Mathematics, Reading and Science Reasoning, the ACT is graded on a 36 point scale—36 being the highest. Although colleges take into consideration other factors of a student’s high school career while determining the decision of acceptance or rejection, an ACT score is the foundation of an applicant’s resume.

While some argue the ACT is the most conclusive and telling indicator of a student’s level of intelligence, a recent study has determined that two of the four tests which make up the ACT are not accurate indicators. According to the Washington Post, Stanford and University of Chicago, “Reading and Science tests on the ACT provide essentially no predictive power regarding college outcomes.”

Taking these facts into account, colleges should absolutely lower the emphasis and importance of the ACT test upon determining admission. With literally half of the test having miniscule significance upon determining the skills of a student, the ACT has too much weight and should be looked upon and adjusted by admission offices accordingly.

Ciara Gaffney
Staff Writer

Before I begin, I am going to make a point that just because you scored low on the ACT does not make you stupid or unintelligent. The argument is not that the ACT proves you are dumb, but whether or not it can reflect intelligence.

Although it is not an IQ test, the ACT can act as a measure of “smartness.” This standardized test proves someone is smart in an academic manner. Many argue that half of the test, science and reading, requires no previous knowledge and is about pulling the proper information from the given passages and applying it. The other half deals with basic grammar and beginner math problems that don’t go beyond basic trigonometry. Many say you can’t judge intelligence off of such a basic test. But here’s a more realistic view.

If a person can’t master a “basic” skill and apply it, how will they ever comprehend information at an advanced level? Think of someone trying to convince you that they are the greatest baseball player ever, yet they cannot properly throw, catch, or hit. You would never agree with or believe them, because it is necessary to perfect the “basics” that act as building blocks in order to reach greatness.

Perfect scores will never be the result of luck. A high score is a direct result of advanced comprehension and a person’s ability to apply their knowledge. Realistically, what good is intelligence that isn’t applied? It’s worthless. Someone who is smart must be able to learn and then apply their knowledge. That is exactly what the ACT measures, which is why it ultimately can reflect a person’s intelligence.

Students have mixed reaction on the significance of standardized testing.

Photos by Chris Santucci
Dear Editor,

Since receiving the September edition of the Viator Voice, which covered cheerleading and its legitimacy as a sport, the varsity cheerleading team at Saint Viator has developed several concerns. The writers of the articles are undoubtedly entitled to their opinion on the matter; however, several facts presented were not actually facts at all. The writer based his argument on information without even taking the time to research its validity or relevance to competitive high school cheerleading. We have found and can quite easily prove the following are erroneous ‘facts’: Title IX of the Education Amendments applies to college level cheerleading not high school; we are judged on primarily tumbling, stunting, jumping, and synchronization not ‘appearance and dance’; we do not follow the same point system as contemporary dance nor do we exhibit even remotely similar skills; the door for competitive cheerleading was opened by persistent teams desiring a platform to display their skills not because an ample amount of money allowed for it.

We greatly appreciate the attention the newspaper has placed on the issue and understand both sides must be addressed. As you are likely aware of, we are criticized on a daily basis because of our participation in cheerleading and are only trying to clarify the several misconceptions that the writer emphasized with illegitimate support. From our view, the article was equivalent to claiming baseball is not a sport because the team with the best uniforms wins. The difference is that it is common knowledge that baseball is not won in this manner, whereas very few people know enough about cheerleading to realize his statements were beyond far off. Competitive cheerleading was already declared an IHSA sport five years ago; therefore, the support he drew from contradicted his entire opinion anyways. His opinion is his opinion and whether he believes cheerleading is considered a sport or not, we believe the supposed ‘facts’ he presents to the rest of the student body must be accurate. We are by no means claiming that his opinion is false and respect his right to disagree with what we believe to be a sport; nonetheless, his article was founded on utter lies that we strongly believe need to be clarified. Just because the writer may not have held knowledge on the topic does not mean he had the right to make assumptions and present his opinion with support derived from more of his own opinion. Quite frankly, the writer’s view on cheerleading does not affect us in the slightest; however, when he is presenting information to the school we find it only respectable that it be researched, accurate, and not merely a reflection of his own imagination.

Sincerely,
Saint Viator Varsity Cheerleading
FEATURES

Outside the Lions’ bowl
Food committee works with Quest on new café options

Maeve Cavanagh
Staff Writer

Everyone has tasted the mouthwatering Bosco sticks, delectable chicken wraps, and irresistible pizza in the cafeteria. The crunchy French fries and delicious tater tots are no-brainers. Saint Viator students (most likely along with the faculty) cannot resist the baked-to-perfection cookies either. However, even the cafeteria needs a little variation once in a while. That is exactly why Quest Foods has started to introduce a new selection of foods to the cafeteria menu.

Whether it is new Otis Spunkmeyer Whole Grain Bars or deep dish pizza, Quest Foods has it covered. "One new popular food that has been introduced would be the buffalo chicken flatbread pizza," said Ms. Brenda Toland, Food Service Director. "We have also brought out our new 'Wing Dings'. These are simply fried chicken wings with four different sauce options to choose from."

Sophomore Sean Esterquest said that these chicken wings are delicious.

Another item presented in the cafeteria is the new pasta bar. Here, there is an option of regular noodles or whole grain noodles. Pasta sauces include regular marinara sauce, meat sauce, butter sauce and garlic butter sauce. Meatballs and popcorn chicken can also be added as toppings.

In addition to chicken wings and the pasta bar, there has also been a generous addition of new salads. "We are trying to bring out a variety of salads per day," said Ms. Toland.

There is also a new option of a “You-Choose-Two” meal. This allows a choice between either a half of a sandwich, a cup of soup or half of a salad.

On more of a healthy note, fat-free skim chocolate milk and Muscle Milk are now supplied in the beverage refrigerators. New Otis Spunkmeyer Whole Grain Bars are also now available. These bars come in Trail Mix and Three Berry. "I've got a sweet tooth, but I don't want to go over the top on sugary sweets. The Otis Spunkmeyer Three Berry Bar was a perfect fit for a healthy, sweet snack," said sophomore Theresa Caputo.

The Student Council Food Committee was able to taste test many of the new foods introduced by Quest. The members were asked what they would like to see new in the cafeteria. They replied with a variety of answers, which were surely fulfilled.

Now it is time to pass the question on to the rest of Saint Viator: what new items or changes would you like to see in the cafeteria? "We are always open to new ideas from any of the students. We would love for students to give us feedback on new items or items to bring in," said Ms. Toland.

Ms. Toland has set up a Twitter account (follow @SVHSQuestCafe) for the cafeteria this year. If the account is able to increase the number of followers, she would love to be able to use it as a reminder of what is for lunch or what is new that day in the cafeteria.

So stop by the cafeteria to experience the new and improved cafeteria foods that Quest Foods has to offer.

Bon Appétit
Inside the food committee

Carly Simonaitis
Staff Writer

Notice anything new in the cafeteria lately? New additions have been featured on the menu thanks to the Food Tasting Committee, a group formulated through student council. Class representatives choose to meet with Quest management once a quarter to sample new food choices and voice opinions about food currently offered on the menu. Since the first meeting, new foods have sprouted up in the cafeteria like the flatbread pizzas, while former food favorites have been defended, like the picture-on-the-icing cookies that have returned, thanks to the committee, when Quest wanted to pull them off the shelves. In addition to this, representatives pitch different food options the student body would like to see in the café.

"It's a really fun way to represent the school," said Parker Simonaitis, sophomore. "And it's cool to have a say in what I would want to eat at lunch."

Students can voice their suggestions by following Quest on Twitter or speaking to a Food Tasting member. So head to the café ready to try something tasty and new!

Students have a difficult time deciding what to eat for lunch with new food options.
Falling for good music

Fall music concert showcases students’ musical talents

Noelle Jay
Staff Writer

“Results! Not excuses!” This is a familiar sign displayed in the band room.

On Tuesday, Oct. 18, “results” were on the minds of many students as they performed in the Fall Music Concert. The groups that performed were Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, and actors from the play “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” This was the first concert of the year and many freshmen had a wonderful time performing.

Freshman Sarah Finn, a clarinet player in Concert Band, had a great time and was impressed with how the concert went. “As our first time, we did very well, and it was a lot of fun,” she said.

Freshman Sophia Tortorella, a concert choir member, also had a great time and stayed for the whole concert to support the band.

Without Theatre Director Mrs. Kate Costello, Band Director Mr. Tom Seaman and Choir Director Mrs. Kristina Sandrock, a majority of the concert would not have been possible.

“I was very pleased,” said Mrs. Costello. “The audience response was very good and the students adapted to the lack of the scenery and confined stage space.”

Junior Tim Ackerlund also enjoyed his time and had fun performing the scene from “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

“The concert was very fun because we had to be on our toes to get the lines of Shakespeare right,” Ackerlund said.

Mr. Seaman commented that he is seeing progress in all three of the bands, but he wants more from his students and he wants his students to want more. Mr. Seaman started picking the music for the concert at the beginning of September.

“I try to look for music that has a good rhythm, builds balance, contrasts styles, involves hard work, is challenging, and is expressive,” said Mr. Seaman.

“This concert was different because the Concert and Symphonic Bands were split up,” said Student Director Christine Southall. “They both showed good potential for the State of the Art Band Competition.”

“I am extremely proud of both Concert Choir and Chamber Singers,” said Mrs. Sandrock. “They performed challenging music and did so with great expression and professionalism.”

Many audience members were also pleased with how the concert went.

“The concert was very impressive,” said freshman Maria Werba. “My two favorite groups were the Chamber Singers and the Jazz Band.”

Those participating in the Fall Music Concert had a great time watching and performing with their different groups. All of these groups achieved the results they were expecting.

The Jazz Band performs at the Fall Music Concert in October.

Photo by Kyong Yoo
FEATURES

A psychedelic night’s dream

Fall play ‘Midsummer Night’s Dream’ grooves to ’60s beat

Colleen Cavanagh  
Staff Writer

ights, camera, Shakespeare! This year, the cast of the fall play is performing “A Midsummer's Night Dream” by William Shakespeare. Mrs. Kate Costello, director, decided to add a somewhat modern flair to the play by setting it in the 1960s, contrary to traditional Shakespeare. The costumes, music and physical comedy are just a few of the ways the play will be acted in ‘60s style. Costello decided to use the abridged version of this Shakespearean comedy and added more running, jumping and hitting for comic effect.

Danny Wolfe, senior, is playing the role of Oberon. Wolfe said that this play is different than the multiple other ones he has performed in because it is less serious and he “gets to speak Shakespearean.” Wolfe, along with many other cast members, say they enjoy themselves, even during two-to-three hour rehearsals.

“I love performing in Viator plays,” said Katie Cascino, junior. Speaking Shakespearean is difficult, but most definitely coming together.”

Playing the role of Puck in her third Saint Viator play, Cascino loves the experience play seems to bring annually. She continues to participate in the play, as well as the musical, because she has enjoyed her past experiences and wants to continue making memories.

Danny Rooney, junior, said he feels he has created bonds with other cast members, even more so than in his previous plays. Rooney, acting the role of Lysander, wants to continue creating friendships with people he may not have otherwise had the opportunity to meet outside of play. Newcomers to the play such as Sam Scanlon, senior, joined for an array of reasons.

“I love musical and I hope the play will be similar,” Scanlon said.

Also, many of Scanlon’s friends are involved in play and she wanted to be in on the action.

Mrs. Costello had good reason for choosing to perform a Shakespeare play—she took a risk and decided to perform something most actors are afraid of. “In my opinion, ‘A Midsummer’s Night Dream’ is the funniest and cleverest Shakespearean comedy,” said Mrs. Costello. “The Beatles even performed Act V on the BBC in the 1960s.”

“A Midsummer’s Night Dream” will be performed Oct. 27-30.

Sophomore Matt Lanus and junior Tim Ackerlund fight for the love of the wrong women in “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

What’s your favorite part about the fine arts program?

—Alison Trovato, Junior
Theatre I is the best! It's so fun because you can express yourself and it gives you confidence on stage.

—Kim Whalen, Sophomore
The fine arts program involves so many different people and there are so many different programs within it. I especially like the fall play because I'm in the cast and you get so into it and have so much fun on stage.

—Charlie Wood, Freshman
I'm really excited to try out for the musical because I heard it's a great time. A lot of my upperclassmen friends are in musical so I can't wait to spend time with them.
Student, athlete, employee, juggler?
Students struggle to stay sane in whirlwind in and out of school

Mairenn Finnegan & Blake Hensley
Staff Writers

Sports practices, club meetings, AP courses, ACT testing, jobs, and homework; the life of a student can often seem too much to handle. At times the stress can be overwhelming and it can become difficult to balance your life.

Some students find that their teachers don't see how quick the amount of homework can add up from class to class. Many are afraid to ask to lighten the load. They don't want to look like they are struggling in that class, especially if the assignments are minor.

“[Teachers] give a lot of homework at the wrong time. They all give homework on the same day. Usually, these are the days when there's a lot going on after school. Especially during musical,” said Carolynn Brusseau, junior.

Teachers say that they are aware of student stress and do try to lighten the load during special school events.

“I want my students to go to Homecoming or Winter Ball or a football game without the stress of homework,” English teacher Mrs. Kirsten Anzalone said.

So how do you properly balance your life? Some students say that they prioritize their time and get their homework done during lunch or study hall.

“I try to manage time by thinking ahead of what I need to do for the evening. By planning your schedule for when you get home you can be more efficient,” said sophomore Parker Simonaitis. With jobs, rehearsals, practices, and tutoring the best way to keep up is to set some time aside for homework and to use a schedule or a planner. As long as students keep their eyes on the ultimate goal, they will stay on track.

Bass Fishing Team:
Monitored by Mr. Nowak, this club meets later in the year during fishing season. They aren't doing much at the moment, but after January first they become more active.

Campus Ministry:
Stop by the Campus Ministry Office, because they always have an event coming up. Help lead retreats or go on service trips to earn service hours.

Anime Club:
Mr. Gruenfeld monitors this group. They meet once a week to watch anime movies and draw the Anime cartoons.

Foreign Language Clubs:
These clubs usually meet once a month, however some go on trips throughout the year. The foreign language clubs immerse members in the culture from their countries of origin. Spanish Club is run by Mr. Fuja, French Club is run by Mrs. Soto, Chinese Club is run by Mrs. Zhang, and Italian Club is run by Ms. Rullo.

STAND and Student Action Tribe
Organized by Father Corey, these clubs work on one project a semester to help people locally or who live on the other side of the world. Sign up online if you want to participate.

Art by Emily Jagmin

—Reported by Lauren Madden
Known for her distinct singing voice, Adele Adkins, known professionally as Adele, was born on May 5, 1988 in London, England. Even though she was born into a non-musical family, by the mere age of four, Adele began singing. During her pre-teen years, Adele looked up to a very large range of artists, including the Spice Girls, Destiny’s Child, and Mary J. Blige. In an interview with “The Sun”, Adele said, “Throughout my childhood, my father was never in the picture. He was an alcoholic and never gave me the love and support I needed during my childhood.” By the age of ten, Adele decided to cut off all contact with her father. However, the singer does hope that one day she might be able to re-establish a connection with him. “As soon as I got a microphone in my hand, when I was about fourteen, I realized that this is what I wanted to do,” Adele said. As soon as Adele got her voice recorded, she was so excited that she did not even care what it sounded like. At the age of 19, Adele released her first single, “Chasing Pavements”. Just one week after that, her debut album was released. After just one week of being out, it debuted at number one on the UK charts. From then on, Adele’s career has skyrocketed. At the 2007 BRIT Awards, Adele was the very first artist awarded with the “Critics’ Choice,” which is given to performers who have not yet launched and album during the time of the award-giving ceremony. Since then, Adele has continued to win numerous awards, including Grammies, Woodie Awards, and an MTV Video Music Award. In Jan. of 2011, Adele released her second album, 21. This album was very much awaited and managed to hold number one of the UK charts for sixteen weeks. 21 is a collection of deeply personal songs that have a lot to do about the power and glory of real love and real heartbreak. All of the album’s tracks were written by Adele over the course of a year. One of the most popular songs on the album, “Someone Like You,” was inspired by one of Adele’s broken relationships. Accompanied by just a simply piano in the background, this song shows how truly beautiful her voice is.

Even with all of the success that Adele has achieved, she still has insecurities. This makes a big contribution to her fans because they feel that they can relate to her. It may come as a big surprise, but Adele has difficulty performing in front of big crowds. She constantly has anxiety attacks and once, she got so nervous that she escaped out the fire exit. Along with having stage fright, Adele has dealt with weight issues. Critics tend to focus on her body image rather than her voice. Luckily, Adele does not seem to care what other people think about her. One of Adele’s most famous quotes says, “I don’t make music for the eyes. I make music for the ears.” This is what makes Adele so relatable to her fans. Despite all of Adele’s troubles and insecurities, she was still able to take over the music industry with her very relatable songs. Hopefully, in these next few years, her career continues to flourish and she continues to make such great songs. “I don’t know what’s going to happen if my career goes wrong, I haven’t had a proper job yet.” That would be a very unlikely turn of events considering how well she is doing at the moment.

The Fame Machine

Ellie Goulding began playing the clarinet at the age of nine and at the age of 15, she began writing songs. In college, Goulding was exposed to electronic music and ever since she has been creating “robotic” music.

Fame Fast Facts

Origin: London, England
Genres: Indie pop, electropop, synthpop, folktronica
Instruments played: Vocals, guitar, drums, piano, clarinet, and tambourine
Albums: Lights
For the Fans of: Florence and the Machine, Mumford and Sons, Tinie Tempah

—Erin Nelson

Chicago Events

10/31 Halloween
11/2 Day of the Dead
11/5 Chicago VeganMania
11/24 Thanksgiving
12/1 A Christmas Carol Opens at Goodman Theater
11/22 Fiddler on the Roof Opens at Auditorium Theater
The O Music Awards

Jenny Brandt
Staff Writer

A new type of award show has blown into the music world: The O Music Awards. This unique type of music awards is an online awards show hosted by MTV and celebrates the best in digital music. Artists from around the world take part in this online awards ceremony, making it one of the most interesting shows to watch. Artists such as Cher, Young the Giant, Foo Fighters, and Lady Gaga add diversity and edge to the standard everyday music artists. These artists and many more are nominated for multiple categories such as Digital Genius Award, Beyond the Blog Award, and Best Music App. This year, the O Music Awards awarded all the biggest music stars, such as Justin Bieber, Katy Perry, and Britney Spears. With categories such as Best Fan Cover, Best Web Born Artist, and Best Lyrics Video, the O Music awards are extremely unique. If you didn’t tune in and watch the O Music Awards this year; you can go to the online site to learn more and to see next year’s nominees. Go to www.omusicawards.com to view the major artists, bands, and vote for whoever you want to win each category.

Four Year Strong—In Some Way Shape of Form

Mike DeStefano
Staff Writer

Four Year Strong brings a new, more mature sound in their upcoming album, “In Some Way, Shape, or Form,” their first without featuring synthesizers. This album moves away from their old style of playing, often labeled as “easycore” due to their combination of elements from hardcore punk—chugging guitars, double-bass drums, and breakdowns—with the melody of traditional pop-punk. Four Year Strong seems to have abandoned the heavy side of their music, and replaced it with a melodic, poppy, and upbeat sound similar to that of a ’90s alternative rock band such as New Found Glory. “In Some Way, Shape, or Form” might take awhile to grow on longtime fans; its songs are different from their regular music. The first single from the album “Just Drive” begins softly and then follows the typical ’90s intro-verse-chorus-verse-chorus-bridge-chorus structure. Even though it is catchy, it is not the usual Four Year Strong. They were never the kind of band to make cookie-cutter pop songs with a guitar riff repeated throughout. They were instead the pioneers of easycore—the growing genre that they and A Day to Remember made famous. Just when one thinks there is hope in this album, he or she can just listen to “Stuck in the Middle” or “Falling On You” and realize that Four Year Strong is not coming back. On the bright side, the toned-down “In Some Way, Shape, or Form” is a great listen for anyone who likes pop-punk but has not listened to the band before. For Four Year Strong fans, this album would probably be better off as a coaster or paperweight.

Blink 182 — Neighborhoods

Carlee Smith
Staff Writer

On Sep. 27, 2011, Blink-182 dropped their sixth album “Neighborhoods.” Within weeks, the album peaked on the Billboard 200 at number two. The Alternative Press magazine gave it three and a half stars out of five. The album had been anticipated by fans everywhere because its the band’s first album since the bands hiatus in February, 2004. With the new album comes a new sound. Some fans love the expansion away from the punk rock scene, such as junior Melinda Aiello. “It’s a new side of Blink-182 I have never heard before. It’s Snazy. I like it,” says Aiello. Some dislike the change. “To be honest, I like the old sound better,” says sophomore Amy Latuszek “The old sound just appealed to me more. It’s just a lot more familiar I guess, but the album is still work checking out.” Some students love it, some students don’t. What will you say when you’re asked about the album? Head down to your local music store and pick up the album your fellow students are talking about and decide what you think.
Silence of the Lambs

Joseph Lorenzini
Staff Writer

As Halloween approaches and horror films are constantly shown, the film that stands out for all movie fans is the 1991 thriller “The Silence of the Lambs,” a winner of five Academy Awards including Best Picture. Jodie Foster plays FBI trainee Clarice Starling selected to interview Hannibal Lecter (Anthony Hopkins), a cannibalistic serial killer incarcerated at Baltimore State Hospital. Her task is to use Lecter’s broad knowledge of psychology and serial killers to help catch Buffalo Bill who keeps his victims alive to starve them and eventually skin them. Starling approaches Lecter warning him not to get too close to the glass or disclosing any personal information because others have been attacked physically and mentally for doing so. In the following conversation between Starling and Lecter, director Jonathon Demme uses camera shots of Starling’s point of view and close-ups of both characters’ faces to show the fear and tension in the air. In addition, the screenplay and acting shows Lecter as a sadistic lunatic and Starling as an intimidated novice. Starling is in a race against time as she tries to follow Lecter leads in order to prevent future victims. With great performances all around and a chilling ending, “The Silence of the Lambs” is a film not to be missed by any movie-goer.

Elite Gymnastics — Ruin 1/Ruin 2

Sean Imburgia
Staff Writer

Nobody likes clichés. Nobody wants to hear or see the same things over and over again. This holds true for music too; who wants to hear someone rip-off an artist or a sound and call it original? Yet when a group takes cues from disparate sources, synthesizes the elements together in a new way, and avoids a contrived sound, the results reward tremendously. Their EPs Ruin1/Ruin2, Minneapolis duo Elite Gymnastics take elements of techno, film scores, shoegaze, and pop to create a fresh yet familiar atmosphere. Indeed, Ruin focuses on creating atmosphere, rather than structurally tight pop songs. The reverb-drenched vocals take a backseat to the instrumentation, rendering the lyrics indistinguishable. This incoherency acts not so much as a cop-out as it does a theme of ambivalence and uncertainty, as evidenced on the lyrically questioning and aesthetically comprehensive “So Close to Paradise”. Highlight “Onamori” is more upbeat, with its straightforward and danceable beat.

Ruin2 does away with the techno aspect of Ruin1 in favor of ambience. The second EP has no new songs, but reworks and often expands upon the originals. Track “Here in Heaven 2,” with its pitch-shifted vocals and deliberative tempo, is one of the most chilling songs of 2011. Ruin is both ethereal and accessible, both nostalgic and forward-looking, and is sure to please.

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Behind the Scenes of...

The wrestling diet

Brandon Braun
Staff Writer

With the start of every wrestling season, there is always the focus of dropping to a lower weight or staying strong through a proper diet. Preparing for wrestling meets takes time and effort, according to wrestling Head Coach Jeff Kramarczyk Jr. “The hardest thing about wrestling would have to be the preparation and practicing for the matches,” he said. “We practice so hard all week and sometimes the guys only get one six minute match in a week. So actually sometimes we practice 15 hours a week for only six-twelve minutes of battle.”

The usual practice for varsity wrestling starts with a half-hour of lifting weights, followed by a half-hour of conditioning, and then practice for two more hours. Altogether, the average practice is about three hours long. “Wrestling practices are very hard. We run a couple miles, change, and then wrestle for the remainder of practice,” said senior Joseph Bansfield. “Practices help us become better wrestlers because we learn and practice our technique, and they keep us in shape.”

“I tell my players to drink strictly water and eat vegetables, fruit, and chicken during the season,” said Coach Kramarczyk. “I want my players to stay away from candy, hamburgers and pop.”

Cutting back on fried foods and fats help; substituting hamburgers for fish and chicken will also help. “It helps me perform better as an athlete and makes me stronger in preparation for the other sports that I play,” said senior Jimmy McMahon.

As wrestlers, they try to maintain a body mass as lean as possible by keeping their body fat down. Coach Kramarczyk is looking forward to the season, and with a lot of new prospects led by the captains, they can have a great season!

Cross country: the training regimen

Caroline Young
Staff Writer

Both the boys’ and girls’ cross country teams have experienced success this year thanks to their rigorous practice schedules. “We have a serious possibility to go downstate this year,” said boys’ assistant coach Mr. John Fuja.

Freshman Shea Boyer well prepared for his meet. 

Photo by Katie Novak

The boys’ team is ranked fourth in sectional and has bounced back from injuries during the season. The boys run between 7 and 10 miles per day in practice and do two workouts per week. One of their hardest workouts involves running 3 miles at a fast pace, 2 miles at a quicker pace, then one mile all out with a five minute break in between each run. “The boys’ team runs a little over 40 miles per week, consisting of two hard practices and recovery,” said junior Kevin Schreiber.

The team, led by captains Schreiber and senior Elliot Hilgert, generally has meets on Saturdays, where they run three miles. All the practice seems to be paying off. “We’re doing pretty good,” Schreiber said. “This is the best team we have had in Viator’s cross country history.”

The girls’ team’s practices are intense as well. “On average we run about 8 miles a day,” said junior Tina Ronson. “It’s really really hard, physically and mentally.”

Normally their practices run for 2 to 3 hours. The team usually runs to a location and then does a workout out there. On easier days, they run 4 to 5 miles in the area around Viator. The training starts in June with summer running and the season continues through November. The girls also run in the winter to stay in shape. “Every meet we’re improving and our times are getting better,” said Ronson. “We’re physically and mentally stronger.”

With practices as tough as these, the future certainly looks bright for Viator’s cross country program.

Event Update

Winter Sport Tryouts:
Girls Basketball- October 31
Boys Basketball- November 7
Wrestling- November 7
Swimming- November 21
This week’s swim theme: service

A different dynamic of teambuilding out of the pool

Nick Curran
Staff Writer

Ninjas, cowboys, mystical creatures! What do they all have in common? Girls swimming team themes. The girls swimming team dresses each Friday according to a wacky theme that lightens the competitive atmosphere of the swimming pool. These dress-up days help the team bond and enjoy their long hours with each other. Fellow swimmers can have fun dressing as crazily as desired and strengthen team friendships. Each week the swimming team grows stronger as a team, not only as a result of theme days, but also weekly pasta parties.

The night before meets, the swimming team joins at a swimmer’s house for a fun-filled food frenzy. Older team members drive themselves and underclassmen to the swimmer’s house, encouraging the younger team members to assimilate into the culture of the swimming team. Because underclassmen are invited and participate in these pasta parties with more experienced team members, underclassmen “get welcomed into the team just as equally,” said senior Clare Hulsebosch. The swimming team successfully includes all swimmers and fosters the special swimming culture in team members early in a student’s high school experience. Though theme days and pasta parties occur weekly, swimmers join together for a few service trips.

In November, the entire swim team will work with the NWSRA (Northwest Suburban Special Recreation Association) and host a meet for those with special needs. This service trip is a chance for swimmers to further bond while practicing Saint Viator’s beliefs.

“By doing opportunities like these, the team is taken away from the usual element,” said Head Coach Adam Clementi. “It applies a different dynamic of team building coupled with service.” Whether it is academic or personal, team members become more supportive of each other and can help each other get through difficult times.

The girls swimming team is a tight-knit group of determined athletes that share a special bond. This bond helps swimmers to perform at higher levels and achieve a sense of belonging in a diverse high school. The swimming team acts as a fun and competitive home for girl athletes. “We are a really close team, and that’s what makes us special,” said Hulsebosch. Overall, the girls swim team continues to enjoy its fun customs and is looking forward to a successful swimming season.
As time ticks to tryouts, anxiety amplifies
The nervewracking experience of striving for a spot

Marilyn Stephen
Staff Writer

As the fall season comes to a close, many students now anxiously await tryouts for their winter, and eventually, spring sports.

Tryouts do not exist to put kids on the chopping block in front of their peers, but to find a group that best represents the school’s strong athletic tradition and mission.

“Tryouts are mainly for the sports that have larger amounts of kids,” said Saint Viator’s athletic director Tim Carlson, “they serve as a means of putting together a manageable roster.”

2011 Viator Hall of Fame Inductee basketball coach Mr. Majkowski said that when running tryouts, “first is skill, second is effort, and third is attitude.”

Coaches definitely look for skill, but effort and attitude also play a significant role. A strong work ethic can show coaches a level of passion that can not be found in any other way than working hard at practice.

However, tryouts can also be stressful for coaches. Majkowski said “You get a lot of players who are very equal in any of these areas (skill, effort, and attitude) and it can be hard to decide between them.”

Students debating whether or not to go out for a sport this year should understand that most teams at Saint Viator do not have cuts and accept everyone with dedication and passion.

“I think that I’ll just go out there and give it my best and see where I end up,” said freshman Jason Wilhite about tryouts for basketball. “There is a lot of talent though so there will be a lot of competition for every spot on the team.”

If someone does get cut, there are many other opportunities to get involved. Try another sport or join a club. Most clubs are open to anyone interested so students can easily find something to dedicate their time to.

Junior Gabie Georgieva said “the most nerve-wracking part of soccer tryouts was knowing if I made the team or not.”

Because so few athletic programs at Saint Viator have cuts, students hoping to try out should just approach the situation with a positive outlook and “get enough sleep” said Gabie Georgieva.

Change on the court
Basketball head coach brings big plans

Mark Falotico
Staff Writer

Play hard, play smart, and play together.” This is the message that the new head basketball coach Mr. Mike Howland wants to convey to his team. Howland is no stranger to the basketball world. Between playing point guard in high school and in college and his eight years as assistant varsity coach at Saint Viator, he is ready to take the reins and steer the basketball team towards with the training needed to win championships.

“When I think about how I want us to play, the only word that comes to mind is attack. I want Saint Viator to be the aggressors on both sides of the ball,” said Coach Howland.

He wants to play a fun up-tempo game where the players have room to create. “If we get a little better every day the future looks bright,” he said.

The players feel the competitive edge that coach Howland brings to the team. “He works us hard, but he knows we’ll be ahead of the competition once the season starts,” said senior Tony Kasper.

Coach Howland knows that it takes time to build a consistently competitive program. He intends to do everything that he can do to get there.

New basketball head coach Mike Howland.

Art by Anthony Bartell

Saint Viator’s Athletic director Tim Carlson also said that in order to perform well, “clear your mind and do the best you can. If you truly enjoy a sport, then you should go out for it.”

Change on the court
Basketball head coach brings big plans