# CT. MARY'S EDUCATOR

A PUBLICATION OF ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

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# Simply the best



# SMH seniors accepted by top colleges in the U.S.

By Paul Halloran

If one measure of a high school is the caliber of colleges its students are accepted to, St. Mary's can stack up with any school in 2009.

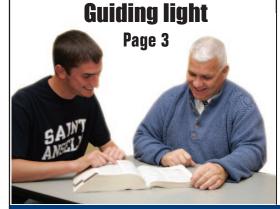
Members of this year's senior class at St. Mary's have compiled a list of college acceptances so impressive it has left even veteran administrators searching for the right words to describe it.

"I cannot remember a year like this," said Principal Carl DiMaiti, who has been at the

See BEST Page 11

From left, Lisé Wagnac, Nicole Hanlon, Brendan Donovan, Michelle Golden, Caroline Carrns, Gabriella Malatesta, Louise Sheehan and Michael Maghsoudi (seated) were accepted by some of the top colleges in the U.S. PHOTO: MEAGHAN CASEY

#### **INSIDETHISEDITION**



**TOP 10** 

Pages 6-7

## Walking the white carpet

St. Mary's senior Chelsey Paone and her date, Joey DePasquale, walk down the white carpet in the Tony Conigliaro Gym before boarding the bus for the prom. St. Mary's went to great lengths to ensure that all students got to and from the prom safely. Page 3.



## Celebrating success



Rev. Monsignor Paul V. Garrity

Commencement at St. Mary's High School this year was another extraordinary event. Ninety-five percent of the graduates will be attending college in the fall, with many going on to some of the finest colleges and universities in our country. Boston College, Holy Cross, Harvard, Yale, the U.S. Air Force Academy and Bryn Mawr are some of the schools that will

enjoy St. Mary's graduates in September. We are justly proud of our young people, and full of admiration for their parents and families whose sacrifices have made their exploits at St. Mary's possible.

St. Mary's High School is a great gift to our community. Once upon a time it was a parish high school for which the pastor of St. Mary's had ultimate responsibility. Today it has become a free-standing corporate entity with a solid governance and management structure that will ensure its viability for the long term. In the early 1990s, the future of St. Mary's High School was very bleak. Today this bleakness has tuned into the bright sunshine of a rosy future. Not content to sit on our laurels, we are now looking at what else needs to happen to continue our proud tradition of Catholic education in the City of Lynn.

The lay and clerical leadership of St. Mary's, Sacred Heart and St. Pius parishes and schools have begun to collectively envision what Catholic education should look like in the future. We all know the lessons of synergy: that two or more entities can accomplish together what each acting alone could never achieve. Applied to Catholic education in Lynn, this means that we are actively looking for ways to improve and expand the opportunities for young people to attend our Catholic schools.

Catholic schools continue to close around us, and demographic and market forces do not discriminate. In order for us all to survive and thrive, we believe that acting in concert is absolutely essential. May this good work that has begun bear abundant fruit for children yet to be born.

Rev. Monsignor Paul V. Garrity is pastor of St. Mary's.

#### St. Mary's is a sound investment



Dr. Raymond A. Bastarache

If I had the chance to survey the parents of the Class of '09, I would pose one question: "Was your child's St. Mary's education worth the price you paid?"

Since I did not conduct such a

survey, I can only speculate on what their answer might be, and here is why I think it would be "yes."

Most financially prudent people search for a good balance of price and quality when shopping for goods such as televisions, groceries and automobiles. I would assert that many parents of the Class of '09 considered value when they decided to enroll their child at St. Mary's. My criteria for value would include academics, cost, financial aid and scholarships.

In the past four years, St. Mary's High

School has made a conscious effort to make academics – relative to student achievement, enhanced course of study, and teacher professional growth – a priority. In 2005, the school hired a professional development consultant, Dr. Ann McGreevy, incentivized contracts targeting increased teacher compensation for state licensure and advanced degrees, and doubled the number of advanced placement and honors courses in the curriculum.

The result of these initiatives can be seen by our college acceptances the past two years: Brown, Cornell, Harvard, Yale, University of Pennsylvania, BC, Holy Cross, Notre Dame, Villanova and U.S. Air Force Academy to name a few. The average SAT score in the Class of '09 is significantly higher than previous classes, which surely speaks to the quality of students who are choosing to attend St. Mary's, as well as the diligent work of our talented faculty.

Tuition at St. Mary's has risen from

\$6,000 to \$7,150 the past four years. The average tuition of our four neighboring Catholic high schools is \$12,675, with no school charging less than \$10,000. While we charge \$7,150, our actual per-pupil cost to educate a student, based on our present budget, is \$8,800. The difference is made up with aggressive fundraising, strict cost controls and generous donations and gifts from loyal benefactors.

Truth be told, every student who attends St. Mary's has received financial aid without ever applying for it when you compare the tuition to our cost. Not including the \$1,650 differential between price and cost, last year we gave out \$195,940 in academic scholarships and \$299,038 in financial aid.

Is a St. Mary's education worth it? You bet.

Dr. Raymond A. Bastarache is head of school at St. Mary's High School.

#### Class of 2009 set the bar high



It is with great pride that we present the top 10 students in the Class of 2009 in this issue of *The St. Mary's Educator*:

Carl A. DiMaiti
Since arriving on campus four short years ago, these

students, along with their peers, have established a record of academic excellence through hard work, determination, and a willingness to take on a challenging curriculum.

Not only have they excelled in the classroom, they have also demonstrated their commitment to community service and athletic achievement.

The Class of 2009 has set the bar high, but I would venture to guess that the incoming grade nine cohort (Class of 2013) might just challenge this very accomplished group.

The Class of 2013 boasts some of the most outstanding academic records I have reviewed during my 10 years as principal. They come from a variety of

schools, and if they are willing to work as hard and consistently as the Class of 2009, they should experience equal success.

In closing, I must commend our faculty, coaches, and guidance staff for their contributions to the overall achievements of the Class of 2009. Their leadership, skills, and experience have provided our graduates with the tools needed to continue to shine.

Carl A. DiMaiti is principal of St. Mary's High School.

#### FDUCATOR

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#### Seniors inspired by visit from Travis Roy

By Meaghan Casey

In 1995, Travis Roy gained national notoriety after shattering his vertebrae just 11 seconds into his first collegiate hockey game at Boston University. The resulting spinal cord injury left him paralyzed from the shoulders down.

"Eleven seconds, that's all it took for my life to change forever," said Roy, while sharing his motivating story with St. Mary's seniors at the third annual Senior Lecture.

Today, Roy maintains a courageous outlook on life, despite the battles he has faced

"Sometimes, the challenges choose us," nappy said Roy. "A positive attitude will take you further in life than anything else."

He urged the St. Mary's students to move forward, embracing the new challenges and



Members of the St. Mary's state championship girls hockey team were happy to meet Travis Roy and get signed copies of his book.

opportunities in their own lives.

"Believe in yourself, respect yourself," he said. "There's no better way to stay motivated over an extended course of time than by setting goals."

As an advocate for individuals with spinal cord injuries, Roy is a frequent speaker, addressing legislatures about the need for increased funding for research. He established the Travis Roy Foundation in 1997, which has since distributed more than \$3 million in individual grants and to research projects and rehabilitation institutions across North America.

Every senior in attendance received a copy of Roy's autobiography, "Eleven Seconds," which chronicles his journey and perseverance. The event was sponsored by the Mosakowski Family

Foundation, established by St. Mary's trustee William Mosakowski to help support professional growth and development at St. Mary's.

## King succeeds DiCroce as St. Mary's board chair

By RICH FAHEY

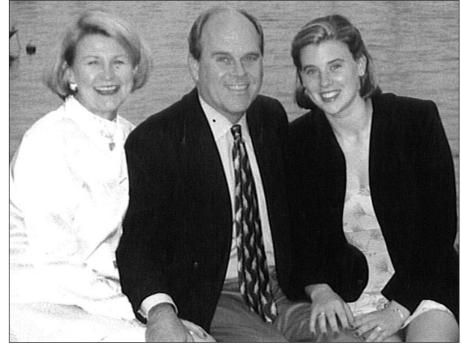
Jack King never really left St. Mary's. Not during the 40 years he spent away from the area, the decade in the U.S. Army, the 26 years he spent traveling the globe for ExxonMobil, or even the 17 years he spent living outside the U.S. in five different

"I always tried to stay in touch," said King, a Lynn native and a graduate of the Class of 1966 who was a close friend and high school baseball teammate of St. Mary's Head of School Dr. Raymond A. Bastarache '65 while both were attending St. Mary's. King's wife, the former Mary Carroll, is a 1967 graduate of St. Mary's. He also knows Rev. Monsignor Paul V. Garrity, the pastor of St. Mary's.

So it was natural for King to become a member of the school's board of trustees in 2007 after he retired and returned to the area. King, 60, was recently elected chairman of the board for a three-year term. John Schickling '57 will serve as vice chair.

King succeeds Anthony "Tony" DiCroce '67, who served as board chair since the school's incorporation in 2006. DiCroce, who has served St. Mary's in a number of volunteer leadership capacities since 1994, co-chaired the transformative Ours is to Build capital campaign along with Joan Luise Hill

Following the successful completion of the campaign, DiCroce and Hill led the school's transition to a new governance structure, serving as first board chair and vice chair, respectively. Hill also served as co-chair of the school's Institutional Advancement Committee. They were instrumental, along with Rev. Monsignor Paul V. Garrity, and other board members, in the selection of



Mary (Carroll) '67 and Jack King '66 with their daughter, Katie.

Bastarache as the first Head of School.

"St. Mary's will be forever grateful for the visionary leadership provided by Tony and Joan through those critical years," Bastarache said. "They have been pivotal in making a strong and independent St. Mary's a reality. They have left a legacy that will be difficult to follow."

After leaving St. Mary's, King graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1970 with a degree in Engineering and Military Art. He served in the Army as an infantry officer on active duty for 10 years, rising to the rank of major.

He joined Mobil Oil in 1980 as a petroleum engineer in New Orleans. Over the course of the next 26 years, King served in several executive positions at Mobil and ExxonMobil affiliates in Indonesia, Oatar, Venezuela, Russia and Japan, and was president of Mobil Oil's Exploration & Producing affiliate in Peru. He received a Master of Business Administration degree from Tulane University in 1985.

King also Co-Chaired the Strategic Planning Committee that produced a new plan this year. '2015 Vision: A Plan for St. Mary's' is a blueprint for the future growth of the school. It had broad support and participation from the entire St. Mary's

The St. Mary's Board of Trustees approved

the plan in January, 2009.

The plan identifies seven strategic areas of interest for the school: Mission, vision and values; Catholic identity; Academic program and faculty development; Institutional advancement; The role of parents; Tuition, affordability and configuration; Campus

St. Mary's last master plan about a decade ago took it through significant increases in enrollment in the past 10 years, the building of the William F. Connell Center, and other campus improvements. The new plan looks at the school's needs for the next decade.

King said one of the goals identified was also strengthening local Catholic elementary schools, as well as our own junior high (grades 7&8) program. He believes keeping St. Mary's strong academically, affordable, and continuing the rich socio-economic mix that has always been a hallmark of the school is also vital to continued future success.

"We're unquestionably the most affordable Catholic high school in the area and, as such, I believe offer the greatest educational value to area students and families," said King. "The challenge is how to maintain that quality and affordability."

He expresses a deep appreciation to the school leaders, who have done so much to help bring St. Mary's to this point in its recent history, and is prepared to carry forward their outstanding work. "In particular, on behalf of the entire school community, I want to thank Tony DiCroce and Joan Luise Hill for the countless hours, unique talents, and inspirational leadership that they have given so enthusiastically to the benefit of St. Mary's students, faculty, and staff," King said.

## **White-carpet treatment**

#### New prom traditions started at St. Mary's

By Meaghan Casey

St. Mary's rolled out the white carpet for prom-goers this year, introducing a new pre- and post-prom tradition.

Thanks to the combined efforts of the administration and the Parent Partnership, approximately 300 juniors and seniors were required to arrive at the high school for photos and board buses to take them to the Danversport Yacht Club.

"It was fabulous, a huge success," said Michele Durgin, Dean of Students. "The parents and teachers were all there, lined up taking pictures as each couple

was announced. It was like the arrivals at an awards show with all the flashes. But everything went smoothly. By 6:32, every bus was on the road."

Students were later transported from the prom to the Bostonville Grill in Lynnfield for an all-inclusive party featuring food and entertainment until 5 a.m. All who attended the prom had to attend at least the first portion of the after-prom, but could leave after 2 a.m. if a parent arrived to pick them up. The event featured a hypnotist, DJ and raffles. The grand prize, a laptop computer, was raffled off at 5 a.m. and won by Michael Maghsoudi.

"I think the kids really enjoyed it," said Durgin. "A good majority of them stayed until 5 a.m. It will definitely become part of the St. Mary's prom season



Students preparing to board the bus that would transport them to the prom include, from left, St. Mary's junior Ludia Modi, Jaquan Huston, Diana Naw and St. Mary's junior Claude Exama.

#### STUDENT PROFILE

# Flying high

#### Donovan '09 to attend U.S. Air Force Academy

By Meaghan Casey

At the foot of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado Springs, Brendan Donovan, a member of the St. Mary's Class of '09, will be spreading his wings as a fourth-class cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

> Donovan, who has aspirations of becoming an engineer and pilot, and possibly entering NASA, will report to the academy June 24 for basic training.

"I want to serve my country as an educated and informed leader and feel as though I will receive an excellent education to enable me to fulfill this role," said Donovan. "I'm looking forward to the exciting opportunity to take classes such as the glide program, where I

> fly gliders, or the jump program, where I learn to parachute, along with the rigorous academic classes."

> > The academy's core values – "integrity first; service before self; and excellence in all we do" align well with the values

Donovan learned at St. Mary's. "I think that the type of support I'll receive will be similar between St. Mary's and the academy," he said. "Both institutions want me to succeed and be the best I can be '

In addition to the Air Force Academy, Donovan was accepted to Boston University, Northeastern, UMass Amherst, Saint Anselm College, Saint Michael's College, the College of Charleston and Rollins College.

> "St. Mary's does an excellent job in preparing students for college and for life," said Donovan. "If you apply yourself in your studies at St. Mary's, you can go to any school you can dream of. I think my graduating class this year proves that with the list of prestigious colleges that we will be attending next year."

> Born in Salem and raised in Nahant, Donovan attended Johnson Elementary School in Nahant, Swampscott Middle School and Swampscott High School, before transferring to St. Mary's as a sophomore.

"I thought St. Mary's would provide me with a learning environment where I could excel academically while incorporating the importance of my religion," he said.

The transition was a smoother one than he would have anticipated.

"I remember going to St. Mary's not knowing anyone, and within a week making friendships that I know will always be there," said Donovan. "Whether we were teammates, acquaintances or really great friends, everyone at St. Mary's is like one big family, and that sense of a community is something I'm going to miss."

Donovan served as Student Council treasurer and was a member of the mock trial, football, hockey, swim and lacrosse teams. He was named the swim team's male MVP for the 2008-09 season, as well as an All-Star swimmer and lacrosse player. He also served as captain of the lacrosse team and was presented with the Student-Athlete Award at graduation.

#### "

St. Mary's does an excellent job in preparing students for college and for life. If you apply yourself in your studies at St. Mary's, you can go to any school you can dream of.

Brendan Donovan '09

## SMH grad set to join select company

By Meaghan Casey

Though fewer than one percent of women today attend all-female colleges, the list of alumni of such schools is impressive, and includes the likes of Hillary Clinton, Madeleine Albright, Nancy Pelosi and Katherine Hepburn. Lisé Wagnac is ready to join that list.

Wagnac, a member of the SMH Class of 2009, will enter Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania in the fall.

Founded in 1885, Bryn Mawr is one of the oldest and most selective of the women's colleges. It is also ranked in the top 10 on the Wall

Street Journal's list of feeder schools to the nation's top law, medical and business schools. Together with Haverford College and Swarthmore College, Bryn Mawr also forms the Tri-College Consortium, with reciprocity between schools allowing students to take classes at all three.

Brendan Donovan '09 plans to become an engineer and pilot.

"After I went there for a visit. I was really impressed," said Wagnac.

Wagnac, who also received acceptance letters from Holy Cross. Boston University, Northeastern University and Emmanuel College. recognized early on that the best fit for her would be among women.

"Women's colleges feel more

empowering than co-ed ones," said Wagnac, who has been active in Girls Inc. "I really wanted that for myself."

Born in Boston, Wagnac spent her childhood in her parents' homeland of Haiti and returned to the U.S. at age 7, settling in Lynn and entering Lynn Public Schools. She entered St. Mary's in eighth grade.

"My parents really wanted me to have a Catholic education," she said.

During high school, she was involved in National Honor Society, Rachel's Challenge, Science League and Mock Trial. She was also a member of the soccer, volleyball and track and field teams, and excelled academically, enrolling in three Advanced Placement courses this

At Bryn Mawr, Wagnac plans to pursue French and pre-med. She is looking forward to the opportunity to study abroad in Africa and a chance to work for a medical organization, fighting AIDS and other diseases.

"Ultimately, I'd like to become a medical scientist, working in pediatrics and doing research on the diseases that plague different people," she said. "I think St. Marv's prepared me for that idea of working for others."



Lisé Wagnac

# The Educational Mission of the

Dr. Ann McGreevy's article entitled, "Developing a High School Model with Mission and Grace in Mind," was published in the April/May Edition of Momentum.

### St. Mary's Momentum captured in print

Dr. Ann McGreevy, a specialist in professional development, teacher certification and curriculum at St. Mary's, published a fourpage article in the April/May edition of *Momentum*, the official journal of the National Catholic Educational Association.

Her article, titled "Developing a High School Model with Mission and Grace in Mind," chronicles the shift in professional development emphasis at St. Mary's in the past five years.

McGreevy, who built a career in Worcester Public Schools, Pentucket regional schools, the former Notre Dame College in Manchester, N.H., the University of New Hampshire, Saint Anselm College and Salem State College, accepted the newly created position at St. Mary's in 2005. She has since focused on creating professional-development opportunities to enhance general curriculum and instructional strategies. Sessions range from specialized content-based material for individual departments to whole-school programs that emphasize the Catholic mission and the role of Catholic education.

"I strongly believe in Catholic education, and its impact on students," said McGreevy. "I hope to honor our Catholic heritage, to continue our affiliations with local schools and higher education institutions and to find creative ways to enrich the lives of students and teachers at St. Mary's."

#### **FACULTY PROFILE**

# Coleman a guiding light for St. Mary's students

By Meaghan Casey

The pathway to higher education is an intensive one, filled with applications, interviews and final decisions. To steer St. Mary's students along that path is 29-year veteran Philip Coleman, director of guidance.

"It's all about finding the right fit for each student – whether that's at Harvard, Saint Anselm or UMass," said Coleman. "There are schools out there for everyone."

Coleman, who came to St. Mary's as a guidance counselor in 1980, has served as director since 1984. Born and raised in Charlestown, he attended Catholic Memorial High School in West Roxbury, where he was a football and baseball standout. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in sociology at Loyola College in Montreal and his master's in education and counselor training at the former Boston State College.

"I knew I wanted a career in education and a high school environment," he said. "I never planned on staying this long, but I love the kids. The school itself is an edifice with a lot of good, caring people working inside, and they have a passion for what they're doing. It's also the type of school where any type of kid could come and find a group and fit in "

Coleman, along with counselors Frank Sarro and Elizabeth Knowles, is responsible for helping students better understand themselves, in order to make informed decisions about their lives.

"We talk to them and find out what they're interested in, before we even start bringing out the college handbooks or the index of majors," he said. "I've built 29 years' worth of connections with college reps and I've visited many



Director of Guidance Phil Coleman is a 29-year veteran at St. Mary's High School.

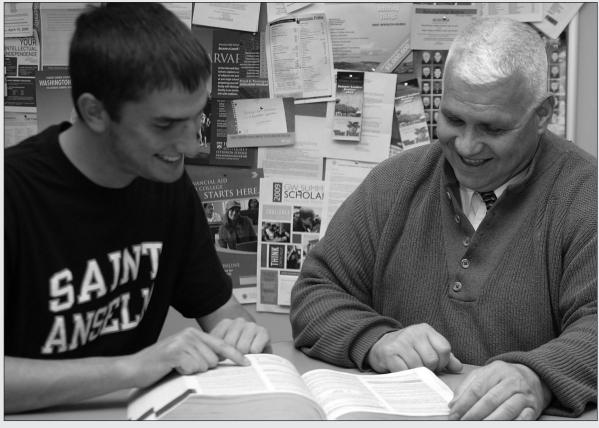
different schools, so I think I have a good feel for what some of them are really like."

His advice to students is to familiarize themselves with prospective schools as best they can.

"Get on campus, let them know who you are, what you can offer and how you can meet their needs," he said. "Be yourself and show them that you're interested."

In addition to one-on-one meetings, the guidance department hosts a college night every year, outlining the process for junior parents. The department also brings in college representatives to speak with students, arranges visits to college fairs and helps families navigate the financial aid process.

"There have been a lot of great kids going through here over the years," Coleman said. "They appreciate the things you do for them. That's what makes it rewarding."



Director of Guidance Phil Coleman works with senior Frank "Joe" Gill.

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**Caroline Carrns** 

College plans: Yale University

Extracurricular activities: lational Honor Society, Camp Sunshine, School newspaper,

Mock Trial and Rachel's Challenge Favorite teacher/coach:

Ar. Ruth, Mr. Fabiszewski, Mr. Sward

Most memorable SMH moment: AP Stats, Spring Break '09

Who is your hero? My grandfather

If you could memorize any book cover to cover, which one would it be? "Harry Potter 1-7"

If you could hear anyone in history give a speech who would you choose? J.F.K.

If you were stranded on an deserted island what five things would you take to survive? Friends, Bella, a book of infinite crossword puzzles and Sudoku, a cowgirl hat and unlimited Coldstone ice cream

What is the best thing that ever happened to you?

Being born into my family; I think I hit the lottery.

What is your greatest achievement? Getting those college acceptance letters

Career goals: To be an anthropologist and work in a museum, or to be a Hollywood screenwriter, or both



Veronica Collard

College plans: Merrimack College Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society, swimming, Student Council, Student

avorite teacher/coach: Mr. Ruth

Most memorable SMH moment:

When Mrs. Litchman rapped for our freshman gym class

Who is vour hero? My mom

If you could memorize any book cover to cover, which would it be? "Tuesdays with Morrie"

If you could hear anyone in history give a speech who would you choose?

Admissions Team

If you were stranded on an deserted island what five things would you take to survive? Endless supply of ramen noodles, sunscreen, cell phone, radio that gets reception and good

What is the best thing that ever happened to you? My little sister being born; she makes me

What is your greatest achievement? Cracking the Top 10 third quarter senior year

Career goals: Elementary school teacher



**Melanie Demoree** 

College plans: Bridgewater State College

Extracurricular activities:

National Honor Society, Camp Sunshine, volunteering, The Resue, March for Life, Walk for Hunger and Rachel's Challenge

Favorite teacher/coach: Mr. Jalbert

Most memorable SMH moment: Camp Sunshine

Who is your hero? Jamie Tworkowski, founder of To Write Love

If you could memorize any book cover to cover, which one would it be?

If you could hear anyone in history give a speech who would you choose? Abraham Lincoln If you were stranded on an deserted island what five things would you take to survive?

What is the best thing that ever happened to you?

Food, clean water, clothes, plane and pilot

Being raised by the best parents, having an amazing family and having irreplaceable friends

What is your greatest achievement? Learning to accept my flaws and love myself

Career goals: To have a job I love that involves helping others and making enough money to raise a family comfortably



Michelle Golden

College plans: Boston College

Extracurricular activities Varsity Ice Hockey, Varsity Lacrosse, National Honor Society and

Rachel's Challenge Favorite teacher/coach: Mr. Ruth

Most memorable SMH moment: AP Stats, Spring Break in the Writing Lab

Who is your hero? My parents

If you could memorize any book cover to cover, which one would it be? Anvthina" by Jodi Picoult

If you could hear anyone in history give a speech who would you choose? J.F.K. If you were stranded on an deserted island what five things would you take to survive? riends, laptop, sunscreen, cell phone and Cheryl Fitzgerald's cookies

What is the best thing that ever happened to you?

What is your greatest achievement? Back to back Div. 1 state championships Career goals: Nursing



**Caitlin Griffin** 

Favorite teacher/coach:

Who is your hero? My parents

If you could memorize any book cover to cover, which one would it be?

If you were stranded on an deserted island what five things would you take to survive?

What is your greatest achievement? Employee of the Month!



Nicole Hanlon

College plans: Holy Cross

Extracurricular activities: ketball, volleyball, track, dance, National Honor Society and ommunity service

Favorite teacher/coach-Ar. Jalbert and Mrs. White

Most memorable SMH moment: Three specifc basketball games in 2009: beating Spellman twice and Williams at home

Who is your hero? Nobody specific

If you could memorize any book cover to cover, which one would it be? Dictionary

If you could hear anyone in history give a speech who would you choose? J.F.K.

If you were stranded on an deserted island what five things would you take to survive? Bottled water, music, row boat, food and company

What is the best thing that ever happened to you? Getting my braces off after six years

What is your greatest achievement? Getting accepted to Holy Cross.

Career goals: Pediatric Radiologist



**Michael Maghsoudi** 

College plans: Babson College

Extracurricular activities: Varsity Soccer, Varsity Tennis Captain Class President, Student Council, Student Admissions Team, National Honor Society and Senior Class Gift Committee Favorite teacher/coach:

Mr. Fabiszewski, Mrs. Gambale and Miss Michele Durgin

Most memorable SMH moment: Trying out for the soccer team junior year, making the team, becoming a league All-Star and captain and reaching the D3 North semis senior year Who is your hero? James Blake, a man who overcame so much

If you could memorize any book cover to cover, which one would it be? The Perks of Being a Wallflower

If you could hear anyone in history give a speech who would you choose?

If you were stranded on an deserted island what five things would you take to survive? A stack of books, iced coffee from Dunkin Donuts, a picture of friends, a picture of family and my Sperry Topsiders

What is the best thing that ever happened to you? St. Mary's Jr./Sr. High School

What is your greatest achievement? Getting those college acceptance letters

Career goals: Enter investment banking on Wall Street



**Alyssa Trinidad** 

College plans: UMass Boston

Extracurricular activities: Volunteering, Youth Ministry, Musical, Drama, Science League, College Bowl, Rachel's Challenge, missions Team, National Honor Society and PowderPuff

Favorite teacher/coach: Mrs. White and Mr. Fabiszewski Most memorable SMH moment: March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Who is your hero? My mother, Sally Trinidad

If you could memorize any book cover to cover, which one would it be? ne Five People You Meet in Heaven" by Mitch Albom

If you could hear anyone in history give a speech who would you choose? Gandhi If you were stranded on an deserted island what five things would you take to survive?

What is the best thing that ever happened to you?

Sanity, food, machete, flint and boat

Being asked to be a godmother to my Godson, Jaeron.

What is your greatest achievement? Receiving the UMass Boston Chancellor's Award, which is a full four-year scholarship

Career goals: Businesswoman with a doctorate in Business Administration



**Megan Wilkens** 

College plans: Providence College Extracurricular activities: Dance, Dance Team, Cheering

Favorite teacher/coach: Dr. Marshall and Mrs. Buckley Most memorable SMH moment: As. Henry jumping out the window

If you could memorize any book cover to cover, which one would it be?

If you could hear anyone in history give a speech who would you choose?

If you were stranded on an deserted island what five things woul you take to survive? A boat, a nice food supply, gas for the boat, GPS and Paula Dea

What is the best thing that ever happened to you? Birth

What is your greatest achievement? Getting into college

To have a job that I enjoy, and that I can make money doing



#### College plans: Babson College

Extracurricular activities: Golf and cheerleading

Mr. Jalbert and Lisa Falasca

Most memorable SMH moment: Mr Fabiszewski's conversations with Mr. Window

If you could hear anyone in history give a speech who would you choose? King Henry VIII

What is the best thing that ever happened to you?

Career goals: A well-paying job that allows me to travel.



#### Daniella Zirpolo

College plans: Mass. College of Pharmacy and Health Science Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society, Campus Ministry (Eucharistic Minister) Program, Rachel's Challenge. Science League, Admissions team, Student Council, Homeroom Rep., Hockey, Cheerleading, Yearbook and PowderPuff

Favorite teacher/coach: Dr Marshall

Most memorable SMH moment: Senior Project Experience Who is your hero? My grandmother, Lorraine DelVecchio

If you could memorize any book cover to cover, which one would it be? "Romeo & Juliet" If you could hear anyone in history give a speech who would you choose? J.F.K. If you were stranded on an deserted island what five things would you take to survive?

d, water filter, pen and paper, blanket and friend

What is the best thing that ever happened to you? My parents bought me my first dog, Bella, for my 16th birthday

What is your greatest achievement?

I am the first one in my entire family to pursue a college education.

Career goals: Doctor of Pharmacy

## **CONNECTIONS**

St. Mary's Alumni News and Views

#### **ALUMNI PROFILE**

# St. Mary's 1981 grad on the move in Connecticut

By RICH FAHEY

If it moves in Connecticut, Joe Marie is watching it.

Marie, 46, a 1981 graduate of St. Mary's High School, was appointed commissioner of transportation for the state of Connecticut by Governor M. Jodi Rell last spring and confirmed in June.

"Joseph Marie is a seasoned, proven administrator with a strong background in public transit, which really is the future of transportation in Connecticut," Rell said at the time of his appointment.

Marie not only supervises 3,300 state employees, but oversees the state's entire transportation infrastructure, including bridges, roadways and highways, public transportation, commutate rail circuits, in

transportation, commuter rail, airports – including Bradley International, the second-largest in New England – and port operations.

He joined the department from his previous position as chief operating officer of METRO in Phoenix, Ariz., where he directed the start-up and operations of the \$1.4 billion Central Phoenix/East Valley Rail System, part of a comprehensive program that involved more than \$5 billion in investment in public transit infrastructure.

Marie, a native of Saugus who now lives in West Hartford with his wife and three children, has more than 23 years of transit industry experience in the public and private sectors, working on various transportation systems in the United States, Latin America and Europe. He has written extensively on transit equipment technology, operations and modal integration for transportation industry journals worldwide.

In Connecticut, he faces the same issue everyone else does in these tough economic times: doing more with less.

"It's particularly challenging for those of us in the New England states because so much of our infrastructure is older," Marie said. "We have 50-year-old bridges that are functionally



Joe Marie '81

obsolete. Because of our weather, maintenance and upkeep are more expensive."

Even with tough times, Marie said it is vital for the federal government and states to make the infrastructure investments that will benefit the economy in the long run.

"We still have to meet the needs of our citizens," he said, noting the vast amounts of money countries in the European Union have spent, for example, in linking the countries with a high-speed rail system.

Connecticut has received about \$500 million in federal stimulus funds for transportation projects, said Marie, who also serves as chairman of the Committee on Public Transportation, a non-profit group of

transportation and highway officials that lobbies for support for public transportation. He has testified before Congress on the Surface Transportation Act.

Marie said St. Mary's provided him not only with a well-balanced liberal arts education, but also a sense of discipline and a desire to learn.

"(Principal) Sister Marie (Gurry) imparted on us the value of an education and never let us forget what we were there for," said Marie. "I took that with me to Merrimack College."

After earning his undergraduate degree in economics at Merrimack, Marie earned a master's degree in public administration at Penn State.

Marie said he has been encouraged that many of those who moved to public transportation when the price of gas skyrocketed have stayed with it even after prices cooled.

"As a country, we have to reduce our carbon footprint and our dependence on foreign oil," he said. "We can preserve our interstate highway system while making improvements to commuter rail and bus networks. By combining technology with public transportation, we can strike the greater balance we need."

#### inmemoriam

Barbara Durkee Dorothy E. (Mackin) Bradley '35 Rev. Charles T. Duggan '36 John F. Denahy '39 Eileen E. (Langford) Ventresca '40 Joseph C. Farmer '42 Claire R. (Simard) LeTourneau '43 Jean M. (McDonald) Powers '45 Gracie L. (Connaghan) LeVasseur '46 Patricia J. (O'Brien) Grindrod '47 Richard T. Collins '49 Robert J. O'Brien '51 Rev. William J. Kennedy, S.J. '52 Joan M. (McGuire) Andrews '54 Anne D. (Lamacchia) Belliveau '54 Charles T. Conners '54 Carol J. (Walden) Lamont '54 John J. Sheppard '54 Madalyn M. (Connaghan) Zalewski '62 Mary F. Simpson '66

#### WHAT'S NEWS?

Your fellow alumni and friends at St. Mary's share your pride in your accomplishments, so tell us about what you have been up to. If we can, we will put it in the next issue of *The St. Mary's Educator*.

Email us at mmacneil@smhlynn.org or fill out this form and mail to: Mike MacNeil, Office of Institutional Advancement, St. Mary's High School, 35 Tremont St., Lynn, MA 01902.

Name	Class year	YOUR NEWS:
Address:		
City		
StateZip		
Phone		-
e-mail		
Spouse's name (and maiden name and	class year if applicable)	

## **CONNECTIONS**

St. Mary's Alumni News and Views

#### upcomingevents

The 16th Annual St. Mary's Golf Open and All-Time Reunion will take place Wed., Aug. 5, at Gannon Golf Club in Lynn. If you are interested in playing or sponsoring this year's tournament, please contact Jill Dalfonso in the St. Mary's Advancement office, 781-599-0696 or jdalfonso@smhlynn.org.You can also register for the tournament online at www.smhlynn.org/alumni.

The Buck Lombard Irish Open will take place on Friday, Sept. I I, at Kelley Greens in Nahant. Proceeds benefit the Christopher "Buck" Lombard Memorial Scholarship Fund at St. Mary's. For more information, please call the St. Mary's Advancement office at 781-599-0696 or arusso@smhlynn.org

The St. Mary's High School Monsignor John Dillon Day Society will hold its second Wills and Estate Planning Seminar on Saturday, Sept. 30, at 10 a.m. in the William J. and Teresa G. Connell Library. The guest presenter will be Richard Ely, Director of Gift Planning and Stewardship, The Catholic Foundation of the Archdiocese of Boston.

The St. Mary's High School Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Dinner will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24, at the Danversport Yacht Club in Danvers. Tickets are \$75. Additionally, the deadline for nominations has been extended to June 19.

#### St. Mary's 2009 Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Please return completed form, or submit nominations online at www.smhlynn.org/alumni, by June 19

The Hall of Fame was established in 1992 to honor those graduates of St. Mary's who have personified the school's motto, "Ours is to Build." This honored distinction is presented to an individual:

- who has been out of high school at least 15 years;
- who has made notable contributions to the betterment of society;
- who has achieved professional success in his or her field of expertise;
- ♦ whose personal life is reflective of the teachings espoused by the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Sisters of Notre Dame, the clergy and the lay faculty at St. Mary's; or
- ◆ who has demonstrated a commitment to service.

#### **Nominee Information**

Nominee:				
Maiden name	Class of			
Address:				
City:	StateZip			
Telephone:				
E-mail address				
Business/profession and title:				
Business address				
On attached sheet of paper, please write a few paragraphs giving specific examples of why this candidate should be nominated. Please include any supplementary material i.e. news clippings, resumes, etc., that supports your nomination. A committee member will contact you for additional information if necessary. Thank you.				
Your name	Class of			
Telephone				
e-mail				

#### SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST



The Friends of St. Mary's Scholarship Breakfast gave scholarship benefactors the opportunity to meet scholarship recipients. Seated, Head of School Dr. Raymond A. Bastarache '65 and Maureen Farren '66; standing from left, Alyssa Trinidad '09, Roseanne Morrissey '92 and Mark Bruno.

#### reunionhappenings

The St. Mary's Girls High School Class of 1941 is looking to have its 68th reunion in the fall of 2009. If you are interested in participating, or would like more information, please contact Marie (Valeri) Cacciatore at 781-942-0120.

The St. Mary's Boys and Girls High School Class of 1959 will celebrate their 50th reunion on Friday, Aug. 21, at the Peabody Marriott Hotel in Peabody. For more information, please contact Jack Greeley at jf.greeley@comcast.net

The St. Mary's Boys and Girls High School Class of 1967 will celebrate their 42nd reunion on Saturday, Nov. 28, from 6-10 p.m. at the Porthole Pub in Lynn. For more information, please contact John "Pumpsie" Green at jj@jjgreen.net

The St. Mary's High School Class of 1969 is celebrating its 40th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 2, from 7:30-11:30 p.m. at Spinelli's, Route 1 South, Lynnfield. For more information, please contact Rose (Silk) Martin at roseym79@aol.com

The St. Mary's High School Class of 1979 will celebrate its 30th reunion on Friday, Nov. 27, at Gannon Golf Club in Lynn. For more information, please contact Paul Jamieson (978-395-5266 or

Paul\_and\_Michelle\_jamieson@comcast.net) or Ellen Kennedy (413-441-2841 or ellen.kennedy@roadrunner.com).

The St. Mary's High School Class of 1984 will hold its 25th reunion at Gannon Golf Club on Saturday, June 20. For more information, please contact Jane Kelley at 781-929-4877.

The St. Mary's High School Class of 1989 is planning its 20th reunion. For more information, please join the Facebook group of "St. Mary's Lynn Class of 89 Reunion."

The St. Mary's High School Class of 1994 is planning its 15th reunion. For more information, please contact Brian Field at bmf41976@aol.com or join the Facebook group, "St. Mary's High School, Lynn Class of 1994."

The St. Mary's High School Class of 1999 will celebrate its 10th reunion on Saturday, June 13, at Tatiana's Restaurant, 70 Market St., Lynn. More details to follow. Please join our Facebook group "SMH Class of 1999" for more information or e-mail smhclassof1999@gmail.com

For more details or contact information for class coordinators, please call Drew Russo at 781-599-0696 x217 or arusso@smhlynn.org

## **CONNECTIONS**

St. Mary's Alumni News and Views

#### classupdates

#### 194

Laurine (Deveau) Darsney recently visited the St. Mary's campus and happily reported that her family threw her a surprise celebration for her 86th birthday. Laurine is working with Marie (Valeri) Cacciatore and other classmates on the 68th reunion of the St. Mary's Girls High School Class of 1941 to be held in September.

#### 1945

Sister Theresa Pond, CSJ, and Dr. Cheryl Meninno '74 will be honored as Women of the Year by the Shoe City Lions Club at a ceremony on June 11 for their dedication to the Lynn community. Sister Theresa has spent more than three decades at Sacred Heart School in West Lynn, currently serving as Director of Alumni/Development. Cheryl is the Executive Director for Special Education in Lynn Public Schools. Congratulations to Sister and Cheryl for this well deserved honor.

#### 1949

**Larry Clay** sends the following updates from the "Men of 49:"

**Tim Eagan** and his wife — and "high school heart throb" — **Gloria** (**Boyd**) have been living in Stuart, Fla. for the past nine years.

Tom Thibault and his wife, Edna, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in July 2008. They have five daughters, 19 grandchildren, and three great grandchildren! Tom's major hobby is family history and reports that he just "completed the connection of Thomas Jefferson to my line along with Diana Spencer and Queen Elizabeth. It's great fun!"

#### 1952

Marge Callahan reports of her recent travel to Florida where she visited with a number of St. Mary's alums including a stay with her cousin, Paul Gustafson '59, and his wife, Elaine, at their new home in Sarasota. While there, Marge played golf with Frank '64 and Donna (LeBlanc) Rose '65. She then traveled to Naples where she stayed with Jack Pierce '51 and his wife,

#### 195/

Charles Allen has resided in Fort Myers, Fla., since July 2004, and works at the Sky Cab at the Fort Myers Airport two days a week. He is enjoying retirement the rest of the time.

#### 1963

Paul Steele is working as general manager of the Victoria Harbor and Harbor Town Marinas on Lake Altoona, Ga.

#### 196

Ann Ciccarelli reconnected with the St. Mary's Advancement office after hearing of Sheila (Cassidy) Thomas' profile in the winter edition of The St. Mary's Educator.

Ann currently resides in Naples, Fla.

#### 1971

Nancy (Piemi) Casey reports that her son, Brian, a student at Merrimack College, has made friends among the St. Mary's alumni in attendance at Merrimack. Nancy is a clinical instructor and member of the adjunct faculty at Capital Community College in Hartford, Conn.

#### 1977

Col. David Clark checks in from Baghdad, where he is currently serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He hopes to see all of his classmates at their 35th reunion in 2012, and writes, "In the meantime, could somebody put a couple of stamps on a Roast Beef sandwich with sauce and cheese and drop it in the mailbox?" Godspeed, Dave, and thank you for your service to our country.

#### 1978

Kevin Guptill is working as the Director of Business Development for American Medical Response in New Haven, Conn. His daughter, Katie, will attend Furman University in South Carolina this fall.

#### 1979

Mark DeJoie is the head of the Lynn Restaurant Group, Inc. which recently opened The Blue Ox Restaurant and Bar on Oxford Street in Lynn. A number of alums and friends of St. Mary's have frequented the Blue Ox and have commented on its great American cuisine and affordable prices. Please stop by when you're visiting downtown Lynn.

#### 1999

Matt Richard received his master's in Business Administration from the Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland.

#### **200**1

Charlie Gallo received his Juris Doctor from Suffolk University School of Law.

#### 2005

Cheryl Lemenager was one of four seniors recognized by Salve Regina University in Newport, R.I., for "(her) service, commitment and work to support and promote spiritual and religious life and the Mercy charism on the Salve Regina campus."

Finally, we extend our sincere regrets to Ellen Madden '75 and Robert J. O'Brien '77 who were inadvertently listed in the "In Memoriam" section in the winter 2009 edition of The St. Mary's Educator. Our thanks to Ellen and Robert for letting us know of our error and that they are happily among the living!

# Barbanti Scholarship winner ready for college

By Meaghan Casey

St. Mary's student Joseph Masucci, a senior, has reason to be thankful to the friends, family members and classmates of Charlie Barbanti, a 1956 graduate of St. Mary's Boys' High School.

Masucci is the third recipient of the Charles J. Barbanti Scholarship, set up in 2006 to honor Barbanti. An army veteran, Barbanti played football and served as senior class president during his days at St. Mary's. He earned his bachelor's degree at Boston College and his master's at Northeastern

University and led successful careers at Fidelity, Boston Digital Corp., and Hewlett Packard, where he retired as executive recruiter. He passed away in 2004, following a three-year battle with cancer.

The \$1,000 scholarship in Barbanti's name is awarded annually to a student who demonstrates integrity, respect and love for St. Mary's, perseverance, street smarts, academic credentials,



Joe Masucci '09

ability to overcome adversity, school spirit and a commitment to staying involved with St. Mary's after graduation.

A lifelong Lynn resident, Masucci entered St. Mary's as a freshman, following in the footsteps of his two sisters. Like Barbanti, he played football all four years of high school and is considering a career in accounting or business. He will attend Framingham State College in the fall and hopes to continue playing football.

"I'll miss St. Mary's, but I'll definitely be back to visit,

especially for the games," Masucci said. "It's a very small community and everyone knows one another and cares about each other."

The 2009 Barbanti Scholarship will be awarded in June during the junior class commissioning ceremony. More than 120 donors, including 50 members of the class of 1956, contributed to the effort to establish the scholarship fund.

## Seniors score 100 on class gift participation

The St. Mary's High School Class of 2009 has achieved many well-deserved accolades for academic excellence, athletic achievement, and active involvement in Christian service activities. With record-breaking 100 percent class participation in its Senior Class Gift initiative, the Class of 2009 has also demonstrated a commitment to philanthropy and giving back to their alma mater.

In early spring, a committee of 14 members of the Class of 2009, working with the Office of Institutional Advancement, approached the class about giving funds for a new flagpole to fly the American flag in honor of the many alumni and friends of St. Mary's that have served our country in the armed forces. The seniors challenged each other to consider a total commitment of \$100 each to be paid out over five years.

The monies contributed will not only pay for the purchase and installation of the flagpole and maintenance costs, it will also be directed to the St. Mary's Annual Fund, which helps provide support for the school's operational expenses, including scholarships and tuition financial assistance to future students who need help the most.

After weeks of one-on-one contact between committee members and their classmates, setting up a

table in the Cardinal Cushing Center cafeteria during lunchtime, and using the social networking site Facebook to create a group supportive of the effort, the Class achieved its 100 percent goal on May 5. The total donation when everything is collected will be \$13,000.

"We wanted to do something to give back to St. Mary's that pays tribute to our school, teachers and staff in appreciation for what we have received, and also to those who have given so much for our country. It was awesome to see how everyone in the class responded to the senior gift goal," said Michael Magshoudi, the class president.

Drew Russo '99, Director of Annual Giving, agreed. "This is an outstanding achievement and really speaks to the love and commitment the Class of 2009, as do so many of our alumni, has for St. Mary's. They have set a great standard for other classes to follow and have shown a real understanding of the importance of giving back so that others may benefit from a St. Mary's education."

The flagpole, to be located on Tremont Street in front of the Cushing Center, will be dedicated in late November, when many members of the Class of 2009 will make their first return to campus during the Thanksgiving holiday.

## St. Mary's Class of 2009 college acceptances

American International College American Academy of Dramatic Arts American Musical & Dramatic Arts Academy American University Anna Maria College Assumption College Babson College Bentley College Berkeley College Boston College **Boston University Brandeis University Bridgton Academy** Bridgewater State College **Brown University Bryant University** Bryn Mawr College Bunker Hill CC Cazenovia College Catholic University Champlain College Chestnut Hill College Clark University Coastal Carolina Colby- Sawyer College College of Charleston College of Mount Saint Vincent College of the Holy Cross Community College of R.I. Curry College Daemon College Daniel Webster College **Emmanuel College Endicott College** Fairfield University Fisher College Fitchburg State College Florida A & M University Florida Gulf Coast University Fordham University Framingham State College Franklin Pierce College Harvard University Hebron Academy Husson University Iona College Johnson State College Johnson & Wales University Keene State College Kents Hill Academy Kimball Union Academy Lasell College Louisiana State University Manhattan College Marian Court College Mass.College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences Merrimack College

Middlesex Community College

Mount Ida College

New Hampton School

New England College New Mexico Military Institute New York University Newbury College Nichols College North Shore CC Northeastern University Plymouth State College Providence College Quinnipiac University Rennsalaer Polytechnic Institute Regis College Rivier College Roger Williams University Rollins College Sacred Heart University Saint Anselm College St. John's University St. Joseph's College Saint Michaels College Salem State College Salve Regina University Santa Clara University Seton Hall University Siena College Simmons College Southern New Hampshire University Spellman College Springfield College Stonehill College Suffolk University Union College U.S. Air Force Academy University of Connecticut University of Hartford University of Maine **UMass Amherst UMass Boston UMass Dartmouth UMass Lowell** University of New England University of New Hampshire University of New Haven University of North Carolina University of Notre Dame University of Pennsylvania University of Phoenix University of Rhode Island University of Southern Maine University of Toledo University of Vermont Villanova University Wentworth Institute of **Technology** Western New England College Westfield State College Westmont College Wheelock College

Winchendon Academy

Yale University

Worcester State College

## First class: SMH seniors compile impressive college acceptance list

BEST: from Page 1

school for 17 years, 10 as principal. "We've always had kids get into the best schools, but this year the numbers are staggering."

Consider: St. Mary's seniors have been accepted to four Ivy League Schools – Harvard, Yale, Penn and Brown. These schools are ranked No. 1, No. 3, No. 6 and No. 16, respectively, on U.S. News and World Report's Best Colleges 2009 list.

Four members of the St. Mary's Class of 2009 were accepted by Boston College; two by Holy Cross; and one each by Notre Dame and Villanova.

"We have been riding a positive wave at St. Mary's for a few years now, and this is the best news we've had yet," said Dr. Raymond A.

Bastarache, head of school. "We are keenly aware that when parents and prospective students look at a high school, college acceptances play an important role in their decision-making. We certainly hope the unparalleled success of this year's class in that area leads many more families to choose St. Mary's."

Director of Guidance Philip Coleman said the Class of 2009 is the best he has seen in three decades at the school.

"This is the most talented group of students I've had in my 29 years," said Coleman. "It's a very academic-oriented group, but also a diverse group. They're the whole package. That's what it takes to compete at the Ivy League level, on a national and even international stage."

#### Here are some of this year's seniors, their notable acceptances and where they are going:

Students	Acceptances	Attending
Caroline Carrns	BC, Brown, Yale	Yale
Michelle Golden	BC, Penn	BC (Connell School of Nursing)
Nicole Hanlon	Holy Cross	Holy Cross
Michael Maghsoudi	BC, Notre Dame	Babson
Gabriella Malatesta	Harvard	Harvard
Louise Sheehan	BC, Villanova	ВС
Lisé Wagnac	Holy Cross, Bryn Mawr	Bryn Mawr

## Golden girl: Hockey standout is Class of 2009 valedictorian

**GOLDEN:** from Page 12

something special."

As senior captain this year, Golden led the team to 51 victories in a row and finished the regular season with 5 goals and 35 assists for 40 points. She was one of seven winners statewide of the Boston Bruins MIAA Sportsmanship Award.

In addition to her prowess on the ice, Golden also stood out as a member of the lacrosse team, which she joined as a freshman. She was also active in Rachel's Challenge and National Honor Society. The key to managing her impressive GPA and string of activities, she said, was putting her priorities in order.

"You have to know when to put your academics first, but you can't let your social or athletic life fall to the wayside," she said. "In the end, you just need to find that balance."

Golden, who was accepted at the University of Pennsylvania, will attend Boston College in the fall, enrolling in the Connell School of Nursing. She is a 2009 recipient of an Agganis Foundation Scholarship.

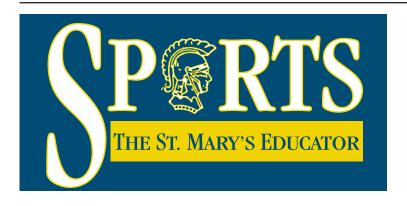
"It seemed like where I belonged," said Golden.
"BC has a sense of community that is similar to
St. Mary's. I'm looking forward to meeting new
people and seeing what happens."

Nursing is a path that her mother, a nurse at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, also chose.

"I knew I wanted to do something with medicine and to focus on math and science," said Golden.

Looking back at her time at St. Mary's, Golden expects to forever cherish the relationships she made with her friends, teammates and teachers.

"I know we're close enough to remain connected," she said. "St. Mary's is unique because you know everyone will truly miss everyone around them. Everyday, the school stressed the motto – love God, do your best and take care of one another. I think we'll all remember that moving forward."



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# Golden GIRL

# Hockey standout is Class of 2009 valedictorian

By Meaghan Casey

Some might call her the golden student; others, the golden athlete.

Either way, valedictorian and hockey standout Michelle Golden is leaving quite a legacy at St. Mary's.

Golden, a Winthrop resident, entered St. Mary's in grade 8, after attending Winthrop Public Schools.

"

You have to know when to put your academics first, but you can't let your social or athletic life fall to the wayside. In the end, you just need to find that balance.

Michelle Golden '09

"At the time, Winthrop was having trouble keeping their athletics program going, and I really wanted to play hockey," said Golden, who picked up the sport at age 7.

Never in her wildest imagination did she foresee the success her team would have, capturing three state

championships, including back-to-back Div. 1 titles in 2008 and 2009, playing in the shadows of legends at TD Banknorth Garden and completing two perfect seasons in a row.

"From the minute I stepped on the ice, I knew we had talent, but I never imagined walking away with three championship titles," she said. "It's really

See GOLDEN Page 11

Michelle Golden '09 plans to follow her mother's path in nursing at Boston College.

