



THE CRIMSON SUN



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Photo: Lilia Wieder

Construction Continues, Anticipation Abounds

By RYAN GREEN AND CHARLIE NAPLES

“We are on schedule and on budget,” words that rarely go hand and hand with construction. According to Mr. Caldwell, such is the current status of the new math and science building. Project leaders Barr and Barr are working to ensure that the building is ready by the start of the 2017-18 school year. Previously, Barr and Barr has worked on projects at educational institutions like Williams College and UMASS Lowell, as well as in medical and business facilities.

“The next big goal for the construction is to have the building enclosed by the winter holiday,” Mr. Caldwell says. The building will be two stories high in most parts and three stories high where it connects to its basement. Science Department Chair Scott McCormick said that the new building will offer “better lab spaces and more opportunities” and “will increase independent study opportunities and boost scientific research.” Some questions linger about the future of the current science classrooms, but Headmaster Caldwell said that a “robotics lab” is in their plans along with “bringing in an architect to redesign the layout.”

So far construction has been error-free except for two minor incidents. A “landslide” in late March of last year temporarily stopped construction. However, the predicament was nothing more than some dirt falling into an already established hole. Mr. Caldwell described how he rushed to school expecting a disaster, with the possibility of the middle school

having slid away. Nevertheless, his fears turned out to be unfounded as he could not determine “where the landslide occurred.”

The second bump in the road was the loud pounding in the cafeteria and science rooms. The pounding was caused by shale rock. In order to put the steel beams in, Barr and Barr had to dig, but while digging the workers hit the rock. They were able to power through, but it took a few extra days and caused some disturbances, especially for science classes. Dr. Mascaro said both incidents were just “examples of how to solve problems and find a solution.”

Math Department Chair Thomas Corbo said that the math department “cannot wait to get in there. It has been difficult in the trailers but we are looking forward to the new building.” The new building will allow the math and science departments to create collaborative courses with math and science teachers teaching classes together.

“It’s overdue,” Mr. Corbo said. “The old math building was cozy but the rooms were small. The fact that we can move around and reconfigure will be beneficial.” Fittingly, the new building will host a “math studio” that provides students with technology to do research or to gather for work.

Dr. Mascaro credits department

heads as “instrumental in envisioning new programs in the facility” and thinks that the new building “will be transformative like Founders Hall, creating new energy for the science and math department, while attracting new students to those areas.” He added, “Great architecture profoundly affects the social experiences of the people who inhabit it.”

For a great view of the ever-growing building, head to Mr. Williams’s office on the top floor of Beard Hall, where you can peer out onto a panorama of the construction.



Progress on the Math and Science Center.

Photo: Jared Rosen

In Presidential Poll, “Conservative” MBS Seniors Favor Clinton

By LUCAS FAGAN

A new presidential poll of MBS Seniors has Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton leading the GOP’s Donald Trump by 11.4 points, 5.4 points more than Clinton’s current lead in aggregate state polls. However, this same MBS poll also indicates that seniors label themselves more conservative than liberal, which is in direct contrast to the profile of the rest of the state.

New Jersey has been considered a lock for the democratic candidate of late. Its 14 electoral votes have been awarded to the Democratic candidate in the last six elections, five times by double-digit margins. The 2016 election cycle, however, has tested voters’ allegiances. Unfavorability ratings of both candidates have soared past 50% amid constant scandals and allegations of corruption. Many voters feel forced to choose which candidate they hate less.

Clinton leads in New Jersey, but by smaller margins than expected. Instead of the 15-point win that past Democratic nominees have averaged over the last six years, the most recent two-person poll shows Clinton leading by only six points. In a time where only 29% are satisfied with the current state of affairs, change is especially attractive. To many, Hillary Clinton represents more of the same. She has had a long career in politics littered with scandal and served as Secretary of State under current President Barack Obama, causing many avowed conservatives to be reluctant to show support for her.

Morristown is a red island in the blue sea, donating more frequently to

the Trump campaign than any other northern or central New Jersey town. MBS then could be seen as a microcosm of Morristown’s red island: 47% of the 57 respondents described themselves as conservative, compared to 40% who chose liberal. In addition, 56% identified with economic conservatism. MBS’s economic conservatism can be explained by the national correlation between income and economic conservatism. In Morristown, residents are some of the top income-earners in the state; the median household income of \$101,126 is 41% higher than the statewide median of \$71,637.

Opinions on the two candidates shed light on the complexities of MBS. Even though they are generally self-proclaimed conservatives, 55.7% of the polled MBS Seniors would vote for Hillary Clinton over Donald Trump. They also agreed with Clinton’s stance on various social issues. On immigration, 82.0% thought it would be a bad idea to erect a wall on the US-Mexico border. While Donald Trump has called himself “pro-life,” only 6.6% of respondents think that abortion should be illegal. Clinton has advocated for stronger gun control measures and background checks; 85.2% agreed that these are necessary. Furthermore, 95.1% say we must continue to protect Earth from the dangers of climate change, yet Donald Trump says global warming was “made up by and for the Chinese.” (continued on page 2)

OPINION/EDITORIAL

THE CRIMSON SUN

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The *Crimson Sun* corrects its factual errors and accepts corrections.

The *Crimson Sun* is a 4-16 page newspaper, available in print and online through the mbs.net website. It is written primarily for the approximately 559 students attending MBS and the approximately 100 faculty and staff members, and is distributed free of charge to all members of the school community.

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

(cont.) Hillary wins over conservatives

Economically, respondents also favored Clinton's plans. Only 39.4% disagreed with her plan to raise taxes for the top income-earners, and only 18.1% were against Clinton's idea of raising the minimum wage.

This support of Clinton and her policies is in sharp contrast to the political ideology expressed by the seniors. This difference could be explained by a number of factors.

First, Trump's extremism repels young conservatives who otherwise would consistently vote for the GOP nominee. He has been called a bigot and a racist, and he has treated women with outright disrespect on numerous occasions. Furthermore, he proposes controversial plans such as a Mexican-funded wall on the US-Mexico border and a ban on Muslims entering this country. At MBS, conservative students find themselves unable to vote for Trump and thus forced to choose Clinton instead. "No matter what, I just couldn't

vote for [Trump] after the things he's said," said one senior who declined to give her name.

Second, many MBS students are not fully informed. More than 7 in 10 teens believe that their political beliefs are "about the same" as their parents' views, yet when asked about specific beliefs outside the context of labels such as conservative and liberal, many choose the liberal side. When asked why he liked Donald Trump's plan on gun control, one MBS student responded, after a pause, "I'm not sure, I guess I don't really know why. I just feel like he would be better." Clearly, many students have unfounded feelings that cause them to consider themselves to be more conservative than they actually are.

Finally, today's youth is one of the most liberal generations. Out of all current and former presidential candidates, Americans 18-26 feel that the one they "like and respect the most" is Bernie Sanders, a self-proclaimed

Democratic Socialist and one of the most liberal candidates in history. In addition, on social issues, many young people feel that the dichotomy of liberalism and conservatism no longer applies. More than 61% of young Republicans support gay marriage, for example. In this way, many seniors who consider themselves conservative are, in the standards of many adults, socially liberal.

Clinton and Trump both have unwavering supporters, but there are still thousands of voters unable or unwilling to choose. Is the support of the Democratic nominee at MBS unique to this election cycle? Is Trump just too unlikable? Does the support of Clinton suggest the start of a long-term shift toward more liberal policies? Or do students not fully understand what their self-proclaimed political stance means? On November 8th, MBS seniors old enough to vote will help our country select a historic president, no matter the outcome.

Editorial: \$@MBS

At Morristown-Beard, students are fully immersed in the impacts of wealth. Many roam campus in Burberry jackets and Tory Burch boots as "\$20 Million by 2020" signs adorn the walls. MBS has an impressive financial standing, as proven by its ability to realistically raise 20 million dollars in donations over the course of merely a few years.

The editorial staff of The *Crimson Sun* wishes to investigate how money has influence, both here and beyond. We do not, however, take for granted the power of money, nor the privileges that come along with it.

The school has donors--many of whom are MBS parents--who come from considerable wealth. Undeniably, a large percentage of MBS students are products of affluence; this money plays a large role in their identities. Still, concerns about money and fears about its lack are all too common elements of life at MBS and elsewhere. Often, teenagers feel disconnected from their parents' wealth,

even if they recognize its significance in shaping their personalities, morals, and opportunities.

Thus, even though students of Morristown-Beard feel the impacts of wealth each day, they may not have decisive opinions

about its larger role. As much as the clinks of change resonate within the walls of Morristown-Beard, they also echo a cognitive distortion that those outside our campus must hear every day.

In Response: What's Wrong With Money?

A SATIRICAL PIECE BY REBECCA TONE

Money is the only way to rise to the top. It is the ability to access high-quality healthcare, receive an enriching education, travel the world, build border walls, and fire employees at will. Who wants to live in a world without such necessities?

(1% to 99% seems fair), everyone will become lost in the anonymity of the bourgeoisie. If there are no booming businesses and shiny casinos to hold the world together, social order will be torn asunder, just like China has planned all along.

Wealth is also why people listen to you when you speak. If you have no money, according to the Supreme Court's "Citizens United" ruling, you have no influence. The insults flying out of your mouth won't be heard. But if you're rich, suddenly everybody listens to what you say, even stuff from ten years ago. Sometimes they even record it without you knowing! And then play it back to embarrass you, although if you're rich enough, you can just deny it. After all, that's business, baby!

Too materialistic for you? Good luck advertising your "great personality" and "noble values" to elite colleges and potential employers. Have fun waiting endlessly for the last ticket to "Hamilton," that seat at the Yankees game, or a box of Lindt truffles from Whole Foods.

N.B. The opinions of this article are not shared by the editors.



Cartoon: Josh Aracena

Sure, I get it, allowing billionaires to emerge every so often will inevitably lead to losers living down in the slums, but every mega-corporation needs its suckers. Who else is going to pay taxes? Without a balance of rich and poor

FEATURES

Salge, Teasdale bring calming energy to campus

By ANIKA BUCH AND OLIVIA LAND

Ms. Salge’s warm smile greets all students as they enter the library. Originally from Metuchen, Ms. Salge currently resides in Livingston. As part of a “big family,” she knows and understands the need to have a place where one can “stay calm and focus, a space where you should be able to hear yourself think.”

Prior to joining MBS, Ms. Salge worked at St. Peter’s Prep in Jersey City, where she transformed the library from a place where students came to “shout, be loud and obnoxious” to a “calm, studious, organized” space. She immersed herself further into the library by starting a graphic novel collection there. Some of the works Ms. Salge selected are diverse in genre, including “Gotham Academy,” “Nimona,” and “Through the Woods.” The MBS Library is “a new challenge” which she is “passionate” to take on.

Believing that “knowledge is not confined,” Ms. Salge plans to transform the MBS Library into a calmer academic space where “people are always learning something, a place where one can think and reflect in peace.” Far from making the library too quiet, Ms. Salge intends it to be a welcoming but organized environment. “The library moves because knowledge is not confined to these walls,” she says.

Ms. Salge also plans to start book clubs and has established a Middle School Book Club already. She enjoys having a positive influence on students’ education and “learning alongside students as they discover new information.” Ms. Salge is a great fit for the Anderson Library, and hopefully, she finds the Anderson library to be a great fit for her as well.

One flight up from the library, a returning teacher is shaking things up in the history department. Indeed, Septem-

ber 2016 marked the return of Chris Teasdale to the MBS community. A former eighth grade history teacher, Mr. Teasdale--often referred to as “Mr. T”--spent the 2015-16 academic year on sabbatical designing “Forests,” an Upper School elective that debuted this fall.



Students embracing the new library.

Photo: Jared Rosen

The course, which focuses on the role of trees in both modern and ancient society, is a departure from the typical MBS curriculum, but Mr. Teasdale is no stranger to the subject. “I’m a tree hugger,” he shared. Indeed, Teasdale spends much of his time outside school preserving his own forested property, as well as serving as secretary of the Tewksbury Land Trust and as chairman of his local environmen-

tal commission. When he had the idea to create an elective around his passion, Mr. Teasdale found the faculty shared his enthusiasm and were “very supportive.”

During his sabbatical, Mr. Teasdale read “probably thirty books” about forestry. In preparation for his eleventh-

few days off for the cherry blossoms.”

Does Mr. Teasdale hope to impart a similar sense of respect in the minds of the students in “Forests”? In some ways, yes: When asked about MBS’s own efforts to be more climate-conscious, Mr. Teasdale hesitated, saying that while “we’ve made wonderful strides,” there is still a lot of work to be done. “Our recycling could be better,” he continued. “We throw water bottles in the garbage. After events, cans and bottles get chucked in the trash.”

Garbage disposal aside, at least some of Mr. Teasdale’s “tree hugger”-ness is rubbing off on his students. “I have a new perspective on nature and the importance of trees,” said Grace Kellogg ’17. “I’m learning to care for the environment a lot more.” At press time, Mr. T’s students were examining the role of trees in ancient civilizations, focusing in particular on how deforestation created crises within the societies. The course will creep closer to home as the year progresses, with the culminating project of a documentary film on New Jersey forests. “It’s clear Mr. Teasdale is interested in the topic,” said Drake Hawkes ’17. “His enthusiasm makes us more engaged.”

With the pleasant weather holding out well into the fall semester, Mr. Teasdale has been spending a good deal of time exploring the arboretum with the “Forests” class. While he hopes to see the course continue in future years, for now his main goal is that current students continue to gain exposure to historical “highlights,” such as ancient Greece and Sumer. From pre-modern culture to local forestry, the community can count on Mr. Teasdale’s “Forests” class to lead them through the woods ... and beyond.

Giving, Surfing, and Bonding in Panama

By KATHARINE BERNSTEIN AND JULIA DOWNEY

What did you do this summer? The range of summer activities at MBS is endless. Yet, for twenty-nine students and five faculty members, a community service trip 5,000 miles from home in Bocas del Toro, Panama, was a definite highlight.

Faculty chaperones included Keith Vassall, Troy Rusnack, Darren Lovelock and Zoë Jameson. “The best part was having two groups come down because it highlighted how caring the MBS community is about wanting to help others because so many students wanted to,” said trip leader Ms. Deventer. Students set out on this journey unaware that the experience would change their lives forever.

The first stop was in Panama City. While there, we visited the Panama Canal where we roamed the museum and rode on a simulator. Another highlight of Panama City was the food, including the tacos at Tacos la Neta and even some gelato as well.

When it was time to head off to Bocas del Toro, we hopped aboard a tiny, muggy plane. After a forty-five minute flight, we arrived. We were led through the main island of Colón to the boats that were to be our only mode of transportation for the week.

The indigenous community on the island of Bahía Roja provided our accommodations for the next two nights. It was also the main destination where we would be working with the non-profit organization, Give and Surf, started by MBS alum Neil Christiansen. Within the first few minutes of our arrival began the most strenuous part of our trip: trudging up the large, steep hill with our hefty luggage. Upon sighting our lodging, we all became aware that the next couple nights would be tough but also rewarding. We quickly immersed ourselves into the culture of our home away from home. We were forced to adapt to the indigenous peoples’ way of life, sleeping under mosquito nets in ninety degree heat and showering in cold, trickling water. Of course,

we all loved listening to the dogs, chickens, bugs, and howler monkeys talk to each other all night.

Growing accustomed to the community, we began working on our projects: building a playground, painting a mural, and creating signs. Although initially delayed by rainstorms, the playground was eventually finished by the second group, who also completed the mural and signs in Bahía Roja. Some students got the chance to help in the preschools of Bahía Roja and Bahía Honda. Give and Surf has



One of the two groups that traveled to Panama this summer.

Photo: Andrea Deventer

two schools for children ages three to five in these two indigenous communities, and we were lucky enough to spend time with the kids, and the amazing teachers.

After service work in the morning, we spent the afternoons connecting with the community. After two nights in Bahía Roja, we moved to Hotel Caribbean View with occasional hot showers on Isla Bastimentos. There we visited a chocolate farm, snorkeled, surfed, hiked three miles on a jungle trail, and bravely ventured through an eerie bat cave. These activities included the thrilling sight of wild monkeys, sloths, cayman and more. Playing soccer and hopscotch with the kids of Isla Bastimentos, we bonded

with the children and learned how much we had in common with them. In turn, they introduced us to duros, homemade ice pops that sold for ten cents! Duros were always welcome in the heat and humidity, especially the root beer and cherry flavors.

After a week of immersion in the culture of Bocas Del Toro, we said a bittersweet goodbye. We spent our last day shopping at a flea market, alongside a view of the skyline, leading us to our last lunch in Panama City. We all reminisced on our amazing experience by exchanging bracelets. On our last early morning we headed to the airport bound for New Jersey. As we watched Panama disappear through the small airplane windows, we waved goodbye to the people and place we will remember for a lifetime.

SPORTS

Girls' Tennis: Alumnus Brett Michel oversees impressive season

By OLIVIA LAND

The MBS girls' tennis team is something of a mystery. Like the praying mantis that invaded campus several weeks ago, this group of girls is known to exist but is rarely seen out in the wild- or rather, on the courts. Every afternoon at 3:15, the thirty-four members of the team pile into two buses and head for Delbarton, where they spend the better part of the evening conditioning and refining their swings. Leading the players through their paces is Coach Brett Michel, an MBS alumnus, coach, and now parent currently seeing the girls' program through one of its most successful seasons yet.

A graduate of the Morristown-Beard Class of 1986, Michel coached the boys' tennis team from 2007 to 2010 before returning to lead the girls' team in fall 2013. "I was excited when the opportunity came up," he said. "I'd missed my time away from coaching." A large part of his enthusiasm, he continued, stemmed from the experience he had working with MBS athletes. "Students at MBS have a healthy balance between competition and sportsmanship." Mr. Michel shared. This positive impression is also what led Michel to send his own daughter to MBS this fall. "There is a very supportive culture here that really appealed to me," he said.

The past three seasons brought periods of rebuilding for the girls' tennis program, which held its own against tough competition

despite losing several key players along the way. Barring any sudden changes, this season marks something of a comeback. Highlights includ-



Coach Michel graduated MBS in 1986.

Photo: Molly Michel

ing a 4-1 triumph over Villa Walsh. "I've liked everything I've seen this season," Coach Michel shared. "But to be there and win at their homecoming fall fest, that was definitely my proud-

est moment."

When asked what distinguishes this year's varsity line-up, Mr. Michel noted "We have more depth from top to bottom. We can count on winning points at first singles all the way at second doubles." Indeed, this year's team features a powerful mix of upper and underclassmen, with Maddie Sit '19, Dede Passione '17, and Paige Williams '18 defending the singles positions and Grace Kellogg '17, Blake Kernan '18, Molly Michel '20, and Louisa Randazzo '20 at doubles. At the end of the day, however, Coach Michel stresses that, win or lose, "Varsity and JV, we are one team."

Looking ahead, Coach Michel has wise words for his players. "I hope to see them continue to work hard and reduce their errors," he said, adding that his hopes for the team are as much about mindset as they are about stance. "I want them to remember to stay focused and positive and continue to play well," he said. "So if they do lose they can leave sure it was because the other person was better that day, and not that they handed [the win] to them."

The rest of the season included a series of hurdles for the team against Villa Walsh and Mountain Lakes, as well as a tough, hard-fought semifinal loss against Dwight-Englewood in the state tournament. With an impressive overall record of 11-5, it's already clear that MBS girls' tennis will do anything but "hand it to them."

Football: A New Look on the Gridiron

By ISAAC DAVISON

After last year's 0-9 season, the boy's football team has already taken promising steps. Despite losing two giants in Alex Motley '16 (now at Lehigh University) and Markel Titus '16 (Assumption College), this is not simply a rebuilding year. Rather than dwell on the past, the team is looking forward to future successes. Leading this year's strong core are captains Jack Cipriano '17 and Oliver Stitt '17, both four-year players with considerable experience.

With an incredible opening home win and a split in their first four games, the season promises great success. The 51-28 victory over People's Preparatory Charter was the program's first win in over a year. Just being at the game was special; the players could feel the excitement in the crowd. Key to the team's victories are quar-

terback Declan Kelly '18 and Tahj Valentine '16. Valentine has close ties to MBS football, and is following in the footsteps of brother Malik '13 and father Greg '89. Even though he suffered a hand injury in early October, Tahj is on pace to break his brother Malik's yards record.



Crimson football is off to a solid start. Photo: Lilia Wieder

Tahj said, "Coming out after the first game, I could tell the team is off to a better start than last year. ... We all are very close both on and off the field." Tahj went on to praise the strength of the freshmen class, in particular Nate Panza

'17, who has the potential to lead the team into the future. The school should get ready for big years to come.

As of deadline to print, Crimson Football has a record of 2-4.

Girls' Volleyball: A Fresh Start

By TERRI GREEN

Despite a challenging start to the season, the MBS Girls' Volleyball team continues to persevere. Regardless of a losing record, the players consistently work hard on and off the court, maintaining high energy and positivity. Led by Deborah Cox, former assistant coach at New York University, the girls are motivated to push their limits and grow together as a team.

Coach Cox, the third coach for the team in the past two seasons, provides a fresh start for the program. Her dedication to the sport is clear, as she incorporates her personal coaching style into practices and games. "I definitely am emphasizing the concept of the team," began Ms. Cox. "Hopefully we're building a volleyball program rather than a bunch of individual volleyball players," she continued. Thanks to Coach Cox, the girls all share a common goal of uniting as a team through hardships and defeating the odds. Their dynamic is incredible, and the players rely on each other for motivation and support.

Due to the graduation of multiple varsity players, the girls have had to step up, many even taking on entirely new positions. Despite

initially being uncomfortable, they have put their own desires aside to serve the team in any way possible. Without Sara Seuffert '16, the varsity team was left in need of a setter. In turn, Katie Connell '17 and Sam Salazar '17 have worked tirelessly to fill this void. The two girls, Connell, an outside hitter, and Salazar, an opposite, are impressing many with their aptitude for their new positions.

Another challenge for the team arose when captain Jenna Racaniello '17 recently suffered a concussion. As she had been a starter and dominant middle hitter, this loss significantly impacted the team. However, Maeve Logan '18, an outside, and Terri Green '17, an opposite, have both taken on the position of middle to recover from the loss of Racaniello.



No. 13, Briana Diggs, serves.

Photo: Jared Rosen

The volleyball team's record does not accurately depict their improvement and dedication. With each game, the girls become increasingly confident in both themselves and each other. "As a whole, we have really bonded into a tight knit unit," began captain Sam Salazar '17, "We genuinely care about each other on and off the court."