



THE CRIMSON SUN



Vol. 15, No. 1

The Student Newspaper of Morristown-Beard School
70 Whippany Road, Morristown, NJ 07960

October 2013



Students explore the renovated space in the library.

Photo: Chelsea Kramer

Out with the old: the library reinvents itself

By WILLIAM MALLEN

The school library is nothing like the way it used to be. This summer, the librarians substituted uniform three foot-high shelves for the tall bookcases that dominated the back half of the room, getting rid of hundreds of books, pushing back the line of computers and relocating the magazines towards the entrance.

The open space layout is intended to have the look of an information center, said Dr. John Mascaro, Dean of Faculty.

"We reconstructed the library also to create less of a

social gathering place," said Dr. Mascaro. The high bookshelves made it difficult to oversee the students.

Unused books were taking up one-third of the room and the administration wanted to change that as well.

"An awful lot of books were not being used," said Dr. Mascaro.

The staff went through books and removed ones that have not been checked out in the past five years, he said. Many traditional reference tools were not being used because of online resources.

Students and faculty have

mixed opinions about the "new" library.

Pooja Aggarwal, a senior, is pleased.

"I like the new set up because it is more open and there is more space for people to sit," she said.

But Luxshman Saravanan, a junior, is not happy.

"The new library setup has been a total shock," he said. The low-lying shelves take away from privacy of conversation, he added.

Headmaster Peter Caldwell approves the new look.

"I am very excited about the library," Mr. Caldwell

said. "It is visually consistent with what it is programatically, which is an information center."

The new head librarian, Nicholas Jackson, goes for change.

"Get rid of the old and in with the new," Mr. Nicholas Jackson said. "I want to increase the eBook collection and online databases." The library already contains 40 databases and 18,000 eBooks.

The books removed went into storage or were donated to Better World Books, an organization that promotes literacy across the world.

The previous head librarian, Amy Slowik, and Dr. Mascaro started the project, which began in the summer and continued through August. The current head librarian, Mr. Jackson, joined the team this past July, after working three years as a reference and instruction librarian at Bergen Community College.

Observing the more studious atmosphere in the library, Dr. Mascaro said, "I think the library is a lot more user-friendly now and I'm glad to see a lot of work going on when I stop in there."

The "Chapel" disappears

By MAX WEINSTEIN & WILLIAM MALLEN
WITH REPORTING BY BEN SCHREIBER

Deep in the heart of Beard Hall, the Kirby Chapel has sat empty, except for one annual faculty meeting, a class, AP tests, and the occasional grade meeting. MBS headmaster, Peter Caldwell, decided to transform the old space, creating a more versatile area.

The room's lack of function struck Mr. Caldwell on his first tour of MBS, when he was still applying for the job.

"It had narrow aisles, built-in chairs and really looked like a storage room," he said.

Now the creaky chairs and tables are gone. The raised step that was once Reverend F.E. Edwards's altar has been flattened, broken apart with saws, hammers, and wrecking bars. And the windows have been enlarged, bathing the room in sunlight. Still to come is a transparent door and the furniture. The renovation, begun on July 18, was completed October 4.

The chapel is now set up with rows of movable seats for 100 people and can hold assemblies, meetings, socials, and fundraisers.

...continued on page 3



View from the "key hole" of construction for transforming the chapel, which was completed September 30.

Photo: Bridget Finnegan

EDITORIAL/OPINION

Editorial: Who needs books when we have eBooks?

Let us address the question everyone has been asking themselves as the 2013/2014 school year began: What happened to the library? It was as if a tornado passed through the facility and took half the books along with it. Evidently, the school took a “minimalistic” approach in re-

designing the library, but now it just looks desolate. The Anderson Library was once a space so filled to the brim with books that it was literally impossible to see the other side of the room. Now it’s just like any other neutral-toned room in the school, boring and without character. The library used to be a place adorned with student artwork, and those outdated posters of Tony Hawk and Orlando Bloom telling the youth to read. Simply put, the library was a unique place within the school. It served as a place to not only get work done, but to mingle and chat with other students. Even though it was a library, it was an escape from the daily homework grind. Unfortunately, many students began taking more advantage of the social scene the library offered, and less advantage of the literary resources. It truly got to a point where if work needed to be done, it was practically impossible to do it in the library, due to the array of conversations happening at once. We understand that something had to be done. How could the librarians possibly control a space where, with the tall bookshelves obscuring the back half of the room, it was impossible to see everyone? How could they keep down the decibel level when the place came to be viewed as a student center with book décor? We understand that something had to change. We just wonder if the library had to change this much.

THE CRIMSON SUN

70 WHIPPANY ROAD
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY 07960
973-539-3032

Editors-in-Chief	Culture Editor
Benjamin Leigh	Katie Sidlowski
Ashley Young	Senior Correspondant
News Editors	Max Weinstein
Ben Schreiber	Staff Photographers
William Mallen	Bridget Finnegan
Feature Editors	Chelsea Kramer
Bailey Rechler	Business Manager
Emily Bruno	Kaitlyn Tatulli
Op-Ed Editor	Faculty Adviser:
Peter Daly	Ida Picker
Sports Editors	
Brian Andrzejewski	
Kaitlyn Tatulli	

Thanks to: Bruce Adams, Barbara Napholtz, Chris Finn, Caitlin Trought, Steve Patchett, Darren Burns, Darren Lovelock, Jamie Talarico, John Mascaro, Ezra Gottlieb,

We welcome letters to the editor, opinion pieces, stories, cartoons and photographs. To contact the paper regarding submissions, send an e-mail to either ayoung@mbs.net or bleigh@mbs.net.

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 544 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.

An anthropological report of the blue jays in the Student Center

By BAILEY RECHLER

In the animal kingdom, there are many territorial creatures. The pesky and obnoxiously loud blue jay is a good example. Strong defenders of their nest, they are a perfect example of understanding the ways of high school students. At Morristown Beard people wait for years and seniority to get the perfect seat in the Student Center. Freshmen are warned of negative consequences if they sit in one of the legendary chairs. Possessiveness is a common trait amongst blue birds and therefore it should come as no surprise that students dream of the moment when they have the right to the circle of seats in the student center just as male blue birds wait until they can have an ounce of power. That is if they survive birth, blue birds have a tendency to steal other people’s young. This year, the old hang out of the “Junior Nook” is not being used. This brought changes from last year. Others have ventured to new spots. However, there is an influx of assertive Juniors sitting in the upperclassmen’s seats. Does this mean this year’s seniors are weak in succumbing to the younger students? Or that the seats are losing their meaning? I doubt it. Additionally, as sophomore I am far out of the loop and have never sat in one of the coveted chairs. I have heard that they are not at all comfortable. All animals have this progress of finding their place within the world. High-schoolers are no different. Some Seniors take the role of the elder male blue jays, proud of their position and more than ready to defend it. Juniors are the teenage blue-birds, wanting nothing more than their fathers’ role. As someone who rarely goes to the Student Center, the customs and divisions seem irrational and a bit extreme. Yet the traits of the animal kingdom, in this case, weigh more than logic as students wait for their chance to sit in one of those chairs.



The day I didn't exist

By DANIELLE DiRADDIO

If someone went out to dinner but didn't Instagram a photo of her pizza, did she really eat it? Or if someone watched Sunday night football, but didn't tweet about his favorite team, did he actually watch the game? What if someone has a party but doesn't post photos on Facebook? Did the party really happen? Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Vine, social networking programs have taken over our lives. It was getting to me. On Sunday, September 15, I decided to go the entire day without social networks to see how dependent I am. When I first woke Sunday morning, I instinctively grabbed my phone and went to the Twitter app. Instead of being brought to my Twitter-feed, I was brought to the “Welcome, would you like to sign in?” page. If it weren't for logging out of all of my accounts the night before, I would have easily ruined my social network-free day. It's pretty embarrassing to realize that Twitter overrides my first cup of coffee in the morning. Maybe I should read the newspaper instead. My next close encounter with social media occurred when I went out to breakfast with my dad. For some strange reason, I felt the urge to Instagram a photo of my waffle with the caption “Breakfast with daddy” and an Emoji of a smiley face with hearts for eyes. Sadly I couldn't do this, so I grudgingly ate my waffle undercover. I still wish that my 137 followers could have seen that waffle. Since it was a real Sunday afternoon, I still had to do all of my homework for Monday. My history teacher assigned a huge paper last week, (which I procrastinated doing until now) but of course, I couldn't complain about it on Twitter. I'm sure that my 88 followers would have loved to console me for this tragedy.

NEWS & FEATURES

The “Chapel” disappears

continued from page 1

“It’s a more intimate speaking space [than Founders Hall]” Mr. Caldwell said.

Eventually, he plans to put comfortable seating and couches around the room, and the folding chairs can be stored in newly built closets, if desired.

“I was thinking of a room, similar to a reading room in a college library, where we would hang historical pictures of the school as well as war memorial pictures and plaques that

used to be hung in this space,” he said.

Mark Clar, head of buildings and grounds, said his crew also built two new closets, laid down a new carpet, put in new sheet rock for the walls and repainted the room. The old plaques are being restored and will be hung when they are ready. Workmen had to relocate the fire alarms and sprinkler heads to meet the safety code.

“We also changed the

lights to LED, which are more green,” Mr. Clar said. The life of each light bulb is 60,000 hours and they use less than a quarter the energy of the old ones.

Lastly, most of the Internet connections and plugs in the stationary desks have been removed with about 16 remaining, since the school is mostly configured for wireless.

Ironically, Kirby Chapel was once at the forefront of

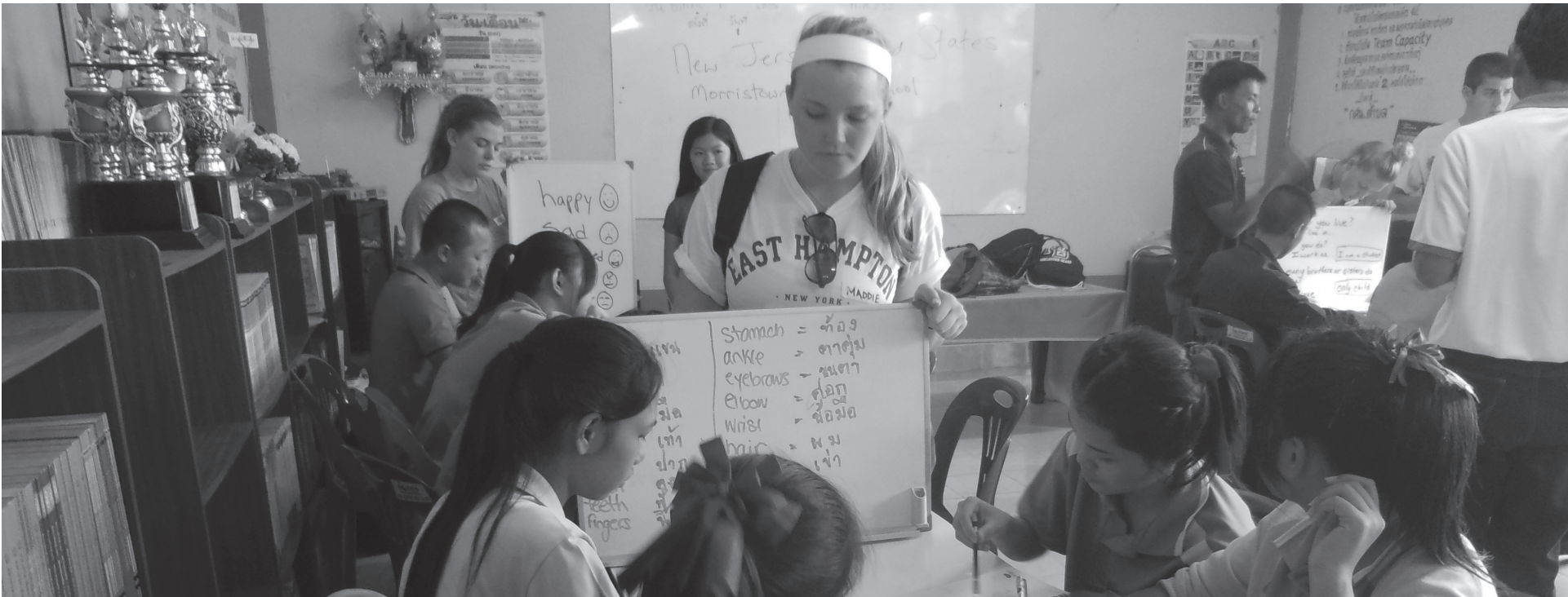
the school’s technological forward thinking, recalls Dr. Alan Cooper, archives director and three-decade veteran of MBS.

The chapel, created in 1896, when the school was Episcopalian and called St. Bartholomew’s, survived arson in 1903. It was renovated to commemorate students who had fallen in The Great War and The Korean War. It functioned as the site of a

mandatory morning chapel service, a tradition that stood until 1971

In the late 1990s a computer lab was built, and a few years later the room was further modernized with computer hookups and projection facilities.

“My hope is that this room, at the heart of the School, will be a welcoming space for students, faculty and parents,” Mr. Caldwell said.



From top: Students and teachers pray with local monk and Junior Maddie Morris teaches students English in a local school. Photos: Andrea Deventer & Marie McGann

Teaching children in the Land of Smiles

By MARIE MCGANN

This summer, fifteen MBS students and three teachers (Cori Eggert, Andrea Deventer and Darren Lovelock) boarded a plane to Thailand, aware that the trip would have an effect on others, but unaware that it would have a permanent effect on themselves.

After a twenty-two hour flight, they arrived in Udon Thani in northern Thailand, the poorest province in the country. Despite being very poor, the people had smiles on their faces almost all the time, demonstrating why Thailand is known as the Land

of Smiles.

The eighteen members of the trip stayed at Ricefield Base in living conditions that could be described as like sleep away camp, except there was air conditioning. There was also running water, but it was not safe to drink.

Girls were split into two rooms and boys into another two. The trip was very structured. Mornings and afternoons, the group performed service activities, ranging from teaching swimming lessons to constructing an outhouse for a family. Many projects were centered on teaching children,

along with visiting an all girls’ orphanage, as well as planting rice, a staple of the Thai economy.

Every day, the group toiled, constructing the outhouse.

“Building a bathroom may seem boring,” said Liza MacCowatt, a junior, “but we had a blast seeing the progress we made each day, and knowing we were helping a very poor family.”

Students traveled to and from projects on “sung tows,” a cross between a pick-up truck and a golf cart. Christina D’Alessandro reminisced

about singing and dancing with the Thai people. “It was just plain old fun,” she said.

After working on projects during the days, evening activities varied, from Thai massages to shopping in markets outside the village. One night there was a Thai Fear Factor meal with bugs.

Bridget Finnegan downed a plate of crickets like nobody’s business. Rustic Pathways, who coordinated the trip, kept the group occupied and also taught them the culture of Thailand. However, the trip was not limited to Thailand. After a hard two weeks of service, the group

traveled to Laos where they visited temples and markets and learned about Buddhism, the main religion in South East Asia.

After two weeks in Thailand they all headed back on a long journey to JFK. Many students took away a new perspective of the world.

“We don’t realize how great we have it until we see how everyone else in the world lives,” said Liza MacCowatt, a junior. As for this writer, I learned how much service can make a difference in your life. As I was helping others, they were really helping me.

◆ CRIMSON SUN ◆

SPORTS

Football returns with great expectations

By BRIAN ANDRZEJEWSKI

The football team returns to the turf with a fresh slate.

With holes to fill from graduating seniors Malik Valentine and Corey Betz, the players were determined to improve during the off season.

"The team is much bigger and stronger than last season," offensive lineman Matt Stark said.

A year ago, speed was not a problem, but the Crimson sometimes struggled to contain bigger, stronger teams. This season, opponents may struggle to contain the Crimson. A few players to keep an eye out for: juniors Dean

Grogg, Matt McFadden, Matt Stark, and Nick Rella, along with senior captains Tyler Schicke and Travis Nardin.

In addition, expect a breakout year from quarterback, Colin Waters, a junior. Not only has Waters improved his arm strength, but he has grown to be 6 feet-4 inches and 180 pounds, from the 6 foot, 130 pounder he was just eight months ago.

Size is not something one can teach. "Last season, we joked with Colin and told him he has a weak arm," Stark said, "but this year we have to ask him not to

throw it so hard."

In the past three seasons, Head Coach Tim Fell focused on rebuilding the football program. Last season came the payoff, when the team qualified for the NJSIAA playoffs for the first time since he took over. They concluded the 2012 season with a record of 7-3, and a first round playoff exit with a 15-9 loss to the Hudson Catholic Hawks.

The MBS team is on

the rise because of their will to challenge themselves. In the preseason, the Crimson scheduled scrimmages against a tough St. Anthony's Friars team, the always strong Pingry Big Blue squad, and Hudson Catholic.

"The team has at least double the variety of plays than it had in last year's playbook," said lineman Senith Thiruchelvam, offering coaches a greater variety of offensive play for attacking opponents' weak spots.

So far, the Crimson is off to an exhilarating start. Despite beginning the season without star running back Nick Rella due to an injury, sophomore

Alex Borowiec jumped in at the game against Marist High School and scored four touchdowns, Matt McFadden made three interceptions at crucial points, and Matt Stark contributed 13 tackles and two sacks. MBS came out on top 34-6. In week two, MBS headed off to Montclair Kimberly Academy in search of revenge.

Only two years ago, MBS played at MKA and took a beating, 70-6. The Crimson knew they were not going to let that happen again. Once again, MBS came out victorious, 27-7, en route to a well-earned 2-0 start.



Photo: Steve Patchet

Quarterback Colin Waters and squad line up during practice.



Photo: Bridget Finnegan

(From top) Gabby Hyman leads offense against Columbia High School, and Emma Polaski fights for the ball in a scrimmage on Septmeber 3.

Field Hockey: Turning the corner

By KAITLYN TATULLI

Looking to improve upon last year's record of 8-12-2, the girls' field hockey team began turning the corner with their 3-1. After facing a tough season last year with only one senior, Laura Loeser and a new coach, Kate Alderman, the younger players were forced to improve their game. The team worked hard on their passing game in a winter league and over summer during team scrimmages to further prepare themselves for the upcoming season.

Led by returning head coach Kate Alderman with assistant coaches Julie Guempel and Maria Mascia, the varsity team added only one new freshman player, defender Emma Polaski. Luckily, there is a strong base of experienced players.

"This is the first time we have had over 30 athletes in the program," Coach Alder-

man said.

In addition to a strong varsity, this year's program has a full junior varsity team with sixteen players for the second year in a row.

"We are working on improving our fundamental skills of field positioning, stick work, and passing patterns," new JV Coach Maria Mascia said. "We are working on communicating with each other on the field so we can play as one unit."

Sophomore captains, Vincina Bivona and Valerie Becker, lead the JV team.

This season, returning varsity captain Carolyn Chambers, a senior, and new captain Jessica Wright lead the team. Chambers does it vocally, getting the team excited before games or motivating the girls during plays. Wright, the quieter one, leads by example.