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**Senior Signs Letter of Intent to Princeton**

St. Mary's very own, Caitlin Bish, signed her letter of intent this month to play Division I Softball at Princeton University.

Bish is also a member of the Lady Lancers Basketball Team, National Honor Society, and is her class's president.



As you can see from these photos, Caitlin has quite the following.

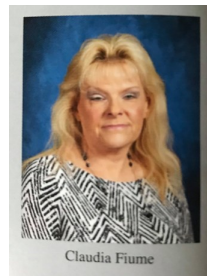
A well-deserved honor for a hard-working, kind-hearted Lancer. All of that time in the classroom and on the field can certainly pay off! Congratulations, Caitlin!



**Mrs. Fiume Bids Farewell to St. Mary's**

As 2018 came to a close, the Discipline Office – and St. Mary's in general – will look a little different.

Mrs. Fiume has worked at St. Mary's for over two decades and put five kids through St. Mary's. She has been the friendly voice parents hear on the phone in the Attendance Office and the friendly face students see when they sign out or in. After decades of hard work and service to St. Mary's, Mrs. Fiume has decided to retire and enjoy some well-deserved time with her family. Congratulations, and if you run into her, be sure to thank her for all she has done for St. Mary's!



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**Letter from the Editor**

Dear Readers,

I often write about concepts and circumstances that are predominantly applicable to my current situations and lifestyle in hopes that readers will be able to relate or perhaps remember in a nostalgic sort of manner. However, a particular recurring phenomenon that has recently occurred in my life undoubtedly categorizes as something I know most of you — if not all of you— can easily connect with: snow days.

Perhaps one of the most notable (and arguably the best) benefits of attending school in Buffalo, or virtually any area that's designated as a snowbelt, lies in the anticipatory abundance of cancelled school days at the hands of blizzardy conditions, slippery roads, and/or freezing temperatures. But what exactly stirs the utmost of excitement inside each of us upon anxiously awaiting the announcement of a closing and eventually (as well as *hopefully*) discovering school has in fact been cancelled?

The majority of us have scheduled days off during the week that we look forward to, be it a students' long-anticipated weekend or a weekday allotted to an employee depending on their line of work. Nevertheless, there's just something downright satisfying about not having to attend school or work on a day one typically is expected to that traverses far past the mere bonus of catching up on sleep or assignments.

Call me crazy, but I've always viewed snow days as the Lord's way to remind us to— in the simplest of terms— take it easy. We tend to constantly cram the days we're guaranteed off from work or school with a copious amount of plans and tasks, from the most mundane of chores to the most invigorating of luncheons and gatherings— thus defeating the purpose of a day "off." Snow days are there to provide us with an opportunity to take generally well-deserved and much-needed time off from the hassles of our hectic weekday and weekend schedules to focus on the tasks that *actually* need to be done, even if it's as simple as not having to worry about setting an alarm for the next day.

In my opinion, a snow day spent relaxing and watching *Netflix* is as worthwhile as a snow day spent writing that paper you've been putting off for weeks. In lieu of my eager desire for future snow days as the remainder of Buffalo's winter continues to surprise us (though it is 54 degrees at the moment!), I hope you take the time to tend to whatever needs your utmost energy and attention (or lack thereof) during the days we're stuck indoors.

"Sometimes the most productive thing you can do is relax."  
- Mark Black

Sincerely yours,  
Brianna Propis

**Calling all writers!**

Do you like to write? Are you passionate about St. Mary's? Do you have a particular interest you'd like to share with an audience?

If you answered yes to any of the above, then come join us at *The Marian Gazette*! We are currently looking for student writers for all of our news sections. If you are interested, please contact Student Editor Brianna Propis, Mrs. Roberson, or Miss Kawa.

## School News

### College 101 Night Recap

St. Mary's recently hosted College 101 Night where recent graduates came back for a panel-like discussion for our current students and their families. These alumni shared their stories and experiences on what life is like beyond the hallways of St. Mary's. A special thanks to: Alyssa Zirnheld '16 from Mercyhurst University, Caitlyn Meyer '17 from James Madison University, Carrie Kidder '16 from Rochester Institute of Technology, Christian Szablewski '18 and Mitch DiPirro '16 from St. Bonaventure University, Dani Hockwater '15 from University at Buffalo, David Owczarczak '16 from SUNY Erie Community College, Emily Bookmiller '18 and Kendra Ciezki '16 from The University of Alabama, Eric Brown '18 and Shae Antonicelli '18 from SUNY Geneseo, Leah Meyer '15 from Duke University, Nino Marino '18 from Elmira College, and Shannon Murty '18 from University of Rochester for coming back home to help our current bunch of Lancers!



### UB Acapella Group Holds Workshop for St. Mary's Students



The Enchords from the University at Buffalo came to do a workshop with St. Mary's music students this month. The Enchords are UB's only co-ed acapella group, and we are so excited to welcome them to St. Mary's, as they travel around the area doing workshops with several local grammar and high schools.

The Enchords shared some tricks of the acapella trade, sang, and then listened to St. Mary's students perform led by music teacher Mr. Kaminski.

## School News

### Senior Named Altar Server of the Year

St. Mary's very own, Senior Madelyn Ellison, was named one of the Diocese of Buffalo's Altar Servers of the Year! Maddy has been serving for all four years of high school at St. Mary's. She will be honored at the 50th Annual Altar Servers Mass & Awards Ceremony at St. Joseph's Cathedral this February. Congratulations, Maddy!



### Freshmen Registration Night a Success



Old Man Winter couldn't stop the families of this year's incoming freshmen class from turning out in droves to Freshmen Registration night! Despite the sub-zero temperatures and the blowing snow, many families still showed up to claim their son's or daughter's place as a member of the St. Mary's Class of 2023.

We are looking forward to a remarkable end to the 2018-19 school year and already love what we are able to see on the horizon for the future of Lancer-ville!

### Yearbook Orders Due

The end of the year will be here before you know it! Order your yearbook today so you can remember all of the great times the 2018-19 school year had to offer! All yearbook orders must be made by mid-March.

All yearbook orders must be made online at <https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/?event=general.displayLanding&jobnumber=13751>. If prompted, the job number is 13751.

Thank you!

## Faculty Spotlight

### Q & A with Ms. Ru

Last month's "Guess the Teacher" featured a few facts about Ms. Ru, so here's a deeper interview with one of SMH's favorite teachers...

**Q:** When did you start teaching at St. Mary's and what has been your fondest memory?

**A:** "2005! It's hard to pick just one. It would have to be when I was first hired, working with my former teachers."

**Q:** Where did you attend high school?

**A:** "St. Mary's High School - Class of 2001!"

**Q:** Who is your personal hero and why?

**A:** "I actually don't have one."

**Q:** What inspired you to become a teacher?

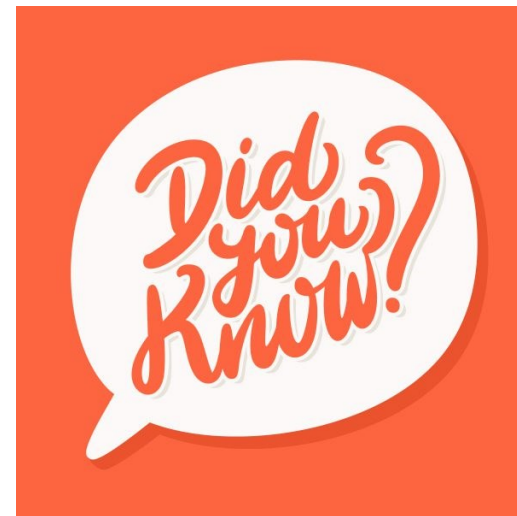
**A:** "My teachers."

**Q:** Any piece of advice for students struggling to decide on a college or major?

**A:** "Do what makes YOU happy. No one else. It's ok to not know what you want to do. You don't have to have your entire life figured out at this age."

**Q:** Knowing all that you do now, if you could give your high school students any words of wisdom, what would you say?

**A:** "Step out of your comfort zone! You don't need to follow what your peers deem as 'cool.' High school is dramatic on its own. Don't sweat the small stuff. In a year or two, the drama won't matter, and you will be glad you took a chance on stepping out of your comfort zone."



### Guess the Teacher

Each month, *The Marian Gazette* will feature a different person in our "Guess the Teacher" section. If you think you know who this month's teacher is, submit your guess to Student Editor Brianna Propis at [19bpropis@student.smhlancers.org](mailto:19bpropis@student.smhlancers.org). *Limit one guess per student and the first to submit the correct answer wins. The winner will receive a Tim Horton's gift card!*

- I played college tennis.
- I can speak and read a little bit of Hebrew.
- I purposely drove through an ATM recently, the wrong way, just for fun.
- I spent a summer working at the Chautauqua Institute.
- I play the French horn.
- I co-direct the Fall Play each year.

## Sports

### Women's Basketball Continues Dominance

The Lady Lancers Basketball Team is having quite the season! With a 16-2 overall record and a 7-1 run in league play, St. Mary's earned itself the top spot in *The Buffalo News'* rankings of the top large schools in Western New York for the first time in school history.

This accomplishment is no small feat. The Lancers have been led by a balanced attack all season long. Freshman Shay Ciezki, Sophomore Sydney Ottomano, and Junior Myla Kline have been the offensive juggernaut all season long, with other strong contributors on the offensive and defensive side of the ball.



### Wrestling Honors Seniors

St. Mary's takes the victory 51-30 on Senior Night! Congrats to our 8 seniors: Austin Walsh, Josh Weiss, Mike Measer, Ethan Craddock, Anya Achtyl, Parker Fay, Joe Lebron, and Nick Levea! Thank you for a wonderful four years helping to build this program! Still a lot of season left to check out the Lancers in action.

A big congratulations also goes out to Alex Ellison, Tyler Cruz, Trevor Sheehan, Matt Ash, Zach Ash, Josh Weiss, Austin Walsh, Parker Fay, Nick Levea, Chris Kobis, and Thomas Moss who all qualified for the NYS Championships on Long Island this weekend! Good luck, guys!



### Attention Spring Sport Athletes

All St. Mary's students should have received an email with a sign-up form for Spring sports as well as an attached copy of the Interval Health History (IHH) form. Please, fill out the form if you intend on trying out for a sport and fill out, sign, and return the IHH to the Health Office in the coming weeks.

Go Lancers!

## Sports

### Hockey Puts Pedal to the Medal in Home Stretch

As Fed Hockey has its sights on the Monsignor Martin playoffs, here is an article from WNY Athletics that shows the team's headspace as they look to defend their Niagara Cup title.

By: Francis Boeck

For all intents and purposes, the St. Mary's hockey team's regular season is all wrapped up.

Because Monsignor Martin only counts the games against the other MMAA schools towards its playoff seedings (the second matchup between Division I teams), the Lancers have done all they could do in terms of their playoff seeding for the Niagara Cup.

One might think the Lancers would take their foot off the pedal.

But that hasn't been the case. In fact, they've been playing and practicing as hard as ever.

"For us, it's not about wins and losses [right now]," St. Mary's coach Mark Dantonio said. "We're talking about doing the right thing shift by shift. We always try to get better at something and keep it going. For us, the challenge is, how hard do we want to work?"

The Lancers notched a third-straight win since Jan. 13, defeating the Niagara Wheatfield Falcons 4-2 at Niagara University on Saturday night.

"I feel like our motive is to get better every game," forward Brendan Krawczyk said. "We really need to keep our game tempo up because if we go down, we know that St. Joe's and Canisius can pounce on us."

Last season, when the Lancers went on a storybook run to the Niagara Cup championship, they only ran three lines and had five defensemen. This season they've been blessed with thirteen forwards and nearly doubled the amount blue liners.

There were some growing pains for St. Mary's as the season got off to a rocky start. The Lancers started this season 0-3 in their first three games competing in Division I. But they began to turn things around in mid-December going 6-2-2-1 since.

That run has propelled them to third place in the division.

"We have a lot of new guys this year," Dantonio said. "When we added them to the mix it just took us some time to come together."

On Saturday, the Lancers took the lead halfway through the first period as Daniel Pflizer found Alex Bialkowski for the goal. St. Mary's added another score early in the second period when Caleb Mangan hit the back of the net.

Niagara Wheatfield suddenly caught fire later in the period getting back-to-back power play goals less than two minutes apart to tie the game. Ben Foster netted the first goal and then assisted on the second one, scored by Caleb Lee.

However, as soon as the Falcons got the momentum, St. Mary's took it right back. Krawczyk found the back of the net for what would eventually be the game-winner.

Jared Mangan scored the empty net goal for the Lancers to seal it with just over a minute left.

### Winter Sports Schedules Online



Want to come out to support your Lancers on the court, on the ice, on the wrestling mat, or on the track?

Check out [smhlancers.org](http://smhlancers.org) for all of the winter sports schedules to see when and where your Lancers will be in action!

GO LANCERS!



## The Arts

### Get Your Ads in for *The Addams Family* Program

Do you have a business you'd like to promote? Do you know someone that is participating in this year's musical that you would like to wish luck or best wishes.

The program book for *The Addams Family* is the perfect, affordable way to get your name or that of a loved one out there for the greater community to see!

Please see the ad rate sheet (right), and if you are interested in purchasing an ad, please contact Amy Kawa at [akawa@smhalancers.org](mailto:akawa@smhalancers.org).

See you at the show March 15-17th!

<p><b>Full Page</b> (7.5" x 10") \$200 or \$300 for Inside Front Cover, or Inside Back Cover</p>	<p><b>Quarter Page</b> (3 5/8" x 4 7/8") \$100</p>
<p><b>Eighth Page</b> (3 5/8" x 2 5/16") \$50</p>	
<p><b>Half Page</b> (7 1/2" x 4 7/8") \$150</p>	

### What Does Being a Kenny Finalist Mean?

The Addams Family was chosen as a 2018-19 Kenny Awards Finalist, but what exactly does that mean? Let us explain, according to the official Kenny Awards website:

"Over the coming months, the Kenny adjudicators will view all 10 of these productions and award the top schools and students for their efforts, including "The Kenny" for Outstanding Musical Production, which contains the \$10,000 grant from The Lipke Foundation to be used solely by the school's theatre department. Other awards include categories for individual performances in leading and supporting roles, as well as areas of technical production, orchestration, choreography, set design, and vocal performance.

Since its inception in 1993, The Kenny Awards have bestowed \$125,000 to theatre programs in Western New York high schools and has recognized over 50 local high schools and nearly 10,000 students. In addition to the awards, the program offers complimentary workshops, lectures, and demonstrations to students in the finalist schools to help enhance and develop their craft.

The Kenny Awards is one of 40+ awards programs nationwide participating in The Jimmy Awards, the national high school musical awards program. The selected Outstanding Leading Actress and Actor winners of the Kenny Awards will go on to receive an all-expenses-paid, week-long trip to New York City to participate in The Jimmy Awards in June, 2019.

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity includes rehearsals with Broadway actors and musicians, performances, opportunities to win college scholarships, and a debut performance on a Broadway stage.

**The Kenny Awards ceremony will be held at Shea's on Saturday, May 11, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.** Tickets are \$8.00 presale and \$10 day of. Beginning April 27, tickets may be purchased at Shea's Ticket Office, 650 Main Street, or through Ticketmaster."



## Events

### Lancer Gala News and Information



It's not too late to get your tickets to join us for this year's Lancer Gala! Individual tickets can still be purchased through Amanda Rebeck, Dean of Advancement and Alumni Relations at arebeck@smhlancers.org.

### Live Auction Items

There will be 14 live auction items to bid on at this year's Gala! Here is a preview of a few of those items:

**Live Auction – Item**  
**Myrtle Beach Trip**

- Week-long stay
- 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom raised beach house
- Multiple pools and short walk to the ocean
- Mutually agreeable date Sept. 2019-Apr. 2020 (excludes May-Aug.)

Value - \$1,800  
*Donated by Anthony & Dianna Ottomano*

**Live Auction – Item**  
**Caribbean Cruise**

- 7-Day Eastern Caribbean Cruise
- Carnival Cruises
- One Inside Cabin Room
- Roundtrip Flights for 2 from Buffalo to Baltimore (Port)

Value – \$2,500  
*Donated by First Choice Travel*

**Live Auction – Item**  
**Siesta Key Getaway**

- One Week
- Sleeps 6
- Second Floor, 2-Bedroom Condo
- 14-Acre Property
- Mutually Agreeable Date

Value - \$1,500  
*Condo donated by Kara (Schaller) Bestpitch '96 & Tom Bestpitch*

### Alumni Updates

Know any alumni who have moved, had a baby, celebrated an engagement, just got a promotion, or experienced another exciting life event?

Let us know at smhlancers.org or by contacting Dean of Advancement & Alumni Relations Amanda Rebeck at arebeck@smhlancer.org or 716-683-4824 ext. 237.

## Student Beat

### A Trip to the Zoo

By: Alyssa LaMartina

This month, photo journalist Alyssa LaMartina gives her take on a Buffalo staple, the Buffalo Zoo. Let's go for a visit!

Have you ever been to the wildest place in Buffalo? The Buffalo Zoo has served our city for 150 years. From its diverse wildlife to its historical buildings and architecture, it certainly is a popular place to visit.

Earning the title third-oldest zoo in the nation began around 150 years ago in 1870. A wealthy contributor donated a pair of deer to Delaware Park, where a small building was constructed to hold them. Twenty years later, the ever-famous elephant house as well as the large bear exhibit were constructed. Soon after this, a full time zoo curator and several more animals were added to the collection. During the early 19th century, an estimated 30,000 visitors came to the Buffalo Zoo on a particularly sunny day!

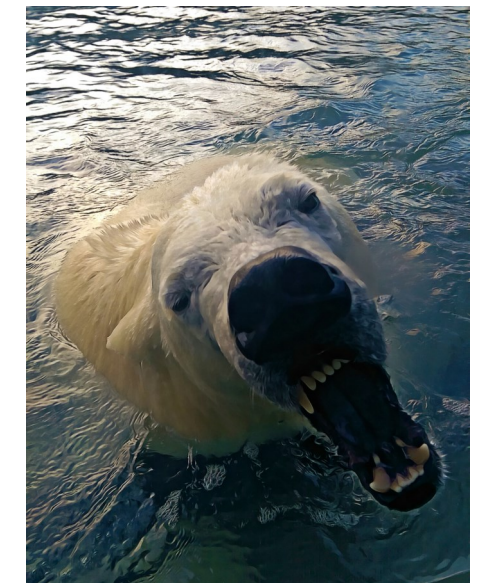
However, deterioration set in, and zoo officials were desperate for an answer to their problems. That answer came in 1938, when the Depression's Works Progress Administration began to restore and modernize the zoo in a

whopping \$1.5 million exhibition. 1942 was the opening year of the popular reptile house, housing 400 species at the time. Twenty five years of slowed attendance passed, until a new light shown at the end of the tunnel—the giraffe house! Attracting lots of visitors, the Buffalo Zoo's attendance skyrocketed to 1 million! In 1973, the first-ever admittance fee was asked, in order to keep supporting the Zoo's success.

Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, several important exhibits were opened including the Gorilla and Lion Houses. Fast-forward to the year 2002. M & T bank funds the rainforest exhibit to hold a massive variety of species indigenous to the rainforest region. There has even been an Arctic exhibit newly added, housing polar bears, arctic foxes, and other arctic species. Leading up to 2018, the zoo has undergone many new revisions and modernizations, however one thing is clear, there goal is to enrich the society with an extraordinary experience like no other. The Buffalo Zoo remains a sight to see!!



Zebra



Polar Bear in the Arctic Exhibit



The Elephant House Architecture

## Student Beat

### More Fun at the Zoo!



*Rocky Mountain Bighorns*



*Lion Peeking Out Its Head*



*Tiger Sitting on Perch*

## Student Beat

### Important Points to Consider

The Catholic Church celebrated *9 Days for Life* January 14-22, 2019, where Catholics around the globe participated in prayer to respect and protect the dignity of every human life. In honor of this week, senior Arielle Tyrpak would like to give her thoughts on what it means to honor life—in every sense of that phrase.

By: Arielle Tyrpak

As we, students of St. Mary's, mature into young adults, statistically speaking, some of us will have an enormous decision to make—the decision of life vs. death. I am not speaking about our own life but that of an unexpected life; the life of the unborn.

Oftentimes, an unexpected pregnancy causes various degrees of emotion. Some teens may feel fear and disbelief, others confusion or uncertainty, and a few may even feel a certain amount of joy or excitement. The decision to be made is not an easy one, especially for Roman Catholics. Our church doctrine teaches that all life begins at conception, but many of my fellow students feel adamant that life does not really begin until birth. Many young adults believe in the Women's Movement, which adheres to a woman's right to choose (pro-choice). Others, like myself, are pro-life, and believe that life does begin at conception. The following is some information which you may find interesting.

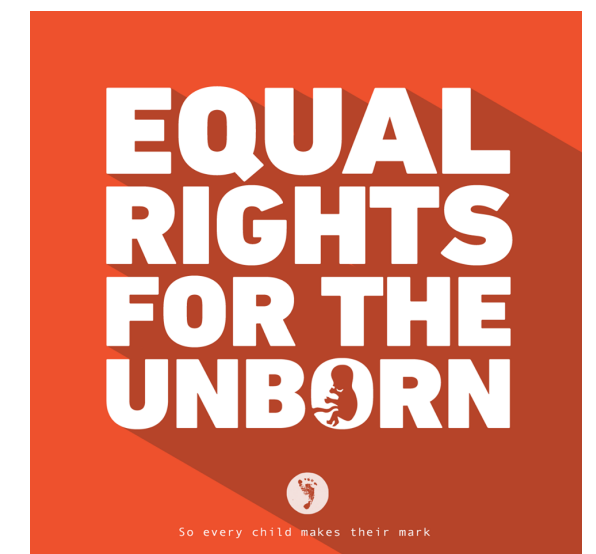
#### Did You Know?

- Did you know that a fetus at eight weeks (two months) "swims" freely in amniotic fluid with a natural swimmer's stroke?
- Did you know that the heartbeat can be heard with a medical instrument?
- Did you know that this unborn fetus would be able to grab onto an item if it were placed in his/her palm? Amazing, isn't it?

- Did you know that at six weeks, the baby has human brain activity that could be recorded on a medical instrument and that the baby begins to move, which is called "quickening?"
- Did you know that at ten weeks, the baby has perfectly formed feet and that, though tiny, the baby's body is completely formed?
- Lastly, did you know that at 11-12 weeks (three months) all of the baby's organs are working? The baby breathes, swallows, and urinates. The fetus is now sensitive to pain and will recoil from a loud noise or pin prick.

Perhaps, if any of you ever find yourself in this delicate predicament, you might take a moment or two to consider the above. Yes, our law says that a woman has the right to choose, but I ask that you please remember that you are making a life and death decision for a future mother or father, doctor or scientist, teacher or president, and who at that moment is defenseless. I ask that you please consider life.

Thank you.



## Spirit Week Schedule



GO LANCERS GO

Monday	<b>Monster &amp; Animal Characters</b>	
	AM – Bingo	PM - Liturgy
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>Athletes in the Movies</b>	<b>Animation Domination</b>	<b>HEROES VS. VILLAINS</b>
AM - LGT Practice	AM - LGT Practice	AM - LGT Practice
PM – Class Competitions	Scavenger Hunt	AM - LGT Practice
	*Dress like your favorite Animated Character*	
	<b>SCAVENGER HUNT</b>	PM - Class Competitions
		Friday
<b>St. Mary's Pride Day</b>		<b>Lancers Got Talent Show</b>

February 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>

The winning class will receive a...  
**DAY OFF OF SCHOOL!**

## School Calendar—February 2019



### February 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <i>Lancer Auction 6pm</i> <small>Registration deadline for 3/9 SAT Exam</small>	9
10 <b>Spirit Week</b>	11 PM Lit. Sched. Holy Spirit Week Liturgy	12 Lancer Parent Partnership Meeting 6:30pm	13	14 No After School Activities On-Site	15	16
17	18 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <i>President's Day</i>	19 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <i>February Break</i>	20 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <i>February Break</i>	21 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <i>February Break</i>	22 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <i>February Break</i>	23
24	25	26	27 Progress Reports	28		

