

Merciette

Second Quarter
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Mount Mercy Academy

MOUNT MERCY THROUGH THE YEARS

BY NORA GALLEY

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Dear Catherine</i>	3
<i>Editors Around Buffalo</i>	1
<i>Freshmen Feelings</i>	3
<i>Holiday Traditions at Mount Mercy</i>	2
<i>Mount Mercy Through the Years</i>	1
<i>Recipe Corner</i>	3
<i>The Blood Drive</i>	2
<i>Winter Sports</i>	2

The first day of school ever held in the name of Mount Mercy Academy, in South Buffalo, New York, was August 24th, 1904, to seven students. About 25 years later, the brick building we know as Mount Mercy today was built. Mercy has always been a school focused around giving, including 14,000 dollars worth of war bonds in 1944, the height of World War II. Another wing was added to the building in 1962, then known as the freshman building. Mount Mercy was accepted to the National Honors Society in 1961.

Past Mercy girls

are very similar to the current students, enjoying activities such as sports games, dances, musicals, clubs, Timon football games, field trips, and joking around with their friends.

Over Christmas break, I had the opportunity to interview many Mercy graduates, including members of the classes of 1959, 1981, and 1989. Like us, they all had one class that they always looked forward to, and one that they absolutely dreaded. Answers for everyone's favorite class varied from Science, to English, to Latin. However, mostly

everyone had the same least favorite, which was Math.

Unlike today, most of the girls walked to and from school every day. Everyone still sees many of their friends from Mercy as much as possible, and misses their school days at Mercy.

In conclusion, every person I asked had good things to say about their time in high school and would recommend Mount Mercy Academy to a young girl trying to decide where to go to high school.



EDITORS AROUND BUFFALO

BY SAMANTHA MAKOWSKI

For many people, the winter season seems to drag on. With the temperatures so low, many think there isn't much to do, and they begin the countdown to spring. Winter in Buffalo, however, may just make them a little more eager to go out and enjoy the city, even during the coldest temperatures. We've all seen how great Canalside was during the summer, but this year it

seems to be just as popular during the winter. With the opening of the rink, and over thousands of skater so far, Canalside has definitely become a must-visit destination this winter. The addition of the "Ice Bikes" and curling make it a versatile place for people with all different interests. If you're not interested in these types of activities, there are also

vendors set up Thursdays through Sundays. If this isn't something that interests you either, going down for a walk around the canal and just seeing the hard work and improvements come alive should be worth your time. Over the last few years Buffalo has started to become livelier and this is one way to enjoy its efforts.



HOLIDAY TRADITIONS AT MERCY

BY HANNAH LUTERAK

Another holiday season full of Mercy traditions has come and gone successfully, despite the Snowvember storm that disrupted the normal schedule of events. After the extended Thanksgiving break, Mercy students came back to school ready for the Christmas season and all the events leading up to the two week break. Unfortunately, the Holiday Dance was re-scheduled for a later date due to the storm. Although this Mercy tradition had to be postponed, the others were still set to take place.

The building was decorated with Christmas lights and trees, the best way

to get everyone in the holiday spirit. Of course, it would not be a Christmas season without the candy gram sale. Candy grams were exchanged between Mercy and Timon, a tradition that several Mercy girls anticipate. Candy grams were delivered the morning before break.

December 18th was ugly sweater day at Mercy. This tradition is newer, but definitely the most fun. Students and teachers alike participate, and everyone truly outdoes themselves each year. The day before Christmas break allowed for the final Mercy Christmas tradition to take place. Lessons

and Carols featured readings, prayers, and songs done by Mercy girls. Magic Belles performed a selection of Christmas songs, and Women's Choir led the congregation in song. Both groups performed beautifully, and some songs featured solos from Mercy girls, each done very nicely and without a hint of nervousness.

Each of these traditions are something that make the weeks before Christmas break enjoyable for students. This past Christmas season was successful as usual, and it will certainly be something to look forward to year after year at Mercy.

THE BLOOD DRIVE

BY MOLLY DEDLOFF

Every year Mercy hosts two blood mobiles, the most recent of which occurred on December 15. Many girls signed up to donate blood for UNYTS, or Upstate New York Transplant Services. UNYTS provides organs



and blood to ill people who are in need of them. To donate, girls had to be 16 with a parents consents, or 17, the donor had to weigh over 110 pounds and she had to have sufficient iron content in her blood. This is such a great way to help people and it only takes

about fifteen minutes to donate a quart of your blood, and that one quart can save up to three lives.

This year 25 quarts of blood were donated to UNYTS and this blood will save up to 75 lives. Way to go Mercy!

WINTER SPORTS

BY PHEOBE PALMISANO



Hockey season's back for the Monsignor Martins hockey team!

This year we have nine Mercy girls on the team, Julia Ahr, Fiona Danahy, Brianna Gawronski, Brigid Keane, Katherine Lauber, Phoebe Palmisano, Catherine Radwan, Erin Stoklosa, and Madeline Stoklosa. The team has started

out the season strong with a record of 3-1. The girls are determined to recapture the championship title this year. Mount Mercy Academy has been well represented by the strong contributions of its students.

As a quick winter sports recap, the bowling teams are doing great. The JV team has a 13-7 record and the Varsity has a 17-3 record. The basketball

teams are also doing well, as the JV has a 1-2 record, and the Varsity has a 8-0 record!

If you're looking for something to do, attending a Mount Mercy athletic event is a great way to support your schoolmates and have a great time! Check the Mercy web-

site for game times and locations.
GO MERCY MAGIC!



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DEAR CATHERINE

Q: Dear Catherine, I need some advice. School has been really hectic and I find myself swamped with school work. I'm always so busy studying or participating in my extracurricular activities, I find myself missing out on my time to relax. I keep making excuses to my friends and having to tell them I can't hang out because I'm so busy. What do I do?
 –A sophomore

A: Dear Sophomore, I understand exactly what you are going through. Being buried under hours of studying and homework, plus any extracurricular activities doesn't really leave time for a social life. Hopefully your friends understand why you cannot always hang out. Yet, I do think you should give yourself some free time. Always doing school work isn't any fun. Maybe try studying with your friends in-

stead of by yourself. That way you are still with your friends, but you are getting some work done. Also, if you find yourself too busy, maybe you should try backing out of some of your activities. You should make time for yourself and not always have a jam-packed schedule. That won't make anyone happy.

Q: Dear Catherine, I don't know what to do and I was wondering if you had anything to say about it. I have a friend- well, had a friend. Lately, I've been hearing other people tell me she's been saying some pretty cruel things about me behind my back. I never thought she would do that but I haven't confronted her about it

yet. I don't know what to do! Please help!
 –Frenemies

A: Dear Frenemies, I don't really think she's much of a friend if she would say those things. Yet, do you really want to believe rumors? If you guys are good friends, maybe she really isn't saying those things. And if she is, it's time to get a new friend. However, the only thing you can do is confront her. You have to ask her if what she has been saying is true. It may be scary but you have to do it. If she denies saying those things, wait and see. If more people keep telling you she's saying those things, maybe she wasn't telling the truth the first time. I hope all goes well! Remember, don't keep the negativity in your life!

FRESHMEN FEELINGS

BY MADDIE GOKEY AND EMILY BURNS

This year has gone by fairly quickly to say the least. It is nearing the end of the second quarter, but it still feels like September. Most of us didn't know each other in the beginning of the year, but we've made a lot of new friends, and

great memories. Looking ahead, it is crazy to think that we will be sophomores this same year. Time seems to be flying by, and although we're a little scared, we're also excited to make more memories here at Mount Mercy.



Need some advice? You can write a question to "Dear Catherine" and receive an answer in the next edition of the Merciette! Leave your question on wallmail, folded in half, with "Dear Catherine" written on the front.

RECIPE CORNER

BY JULIANNA DIAMOND

Crock Pot Mac & Cheese

Sometimes all I ever want to do is eat a giant bowl of mac and cheese, but the boxed stuff just doesn't always make the cut. A solution I like to use is to make it in the Crock Pot. Sure, it takes a little bit longer, but the wait is completely worth it.

Ingredients:
 16oz. of pasta, elbows or spirals work best
 2 cups of milk
 1 can of cheddar cheese soup

½ cup of melted butter
 ¼ block of Velveeta cheese, or
 16oz. of shredded cheddar cheese

Directions:
 1. Cook the pasta according to the directions. Drain.
 2. In the Crock Pot, combine the milk, cheddar cheese soup, and melted butter. Mix until smooth.
 3. Stir in the pasta and cheese.
 4. Optional: Sprinkle some shredded cheese on top to give it that extra cheesiness that's so great about

homemade mac and cheese
 5. Let the mac and cheese sit in the Crock Pot on high until all of the cheese is melted. For Velveeta, this will take 1-1 ½ hours. For shredded cheese this will take 2- 2 ½ hours.
 Be sure to stir the mac and cheese periodically so it doesn't burn and the cheese gets evenly distributed.
 6. Enjoy!

