



# The Gates

ACADEMY OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR

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## FAREWELL TO THE CLASS OF 2013!

by Devyn Nickens ('16)

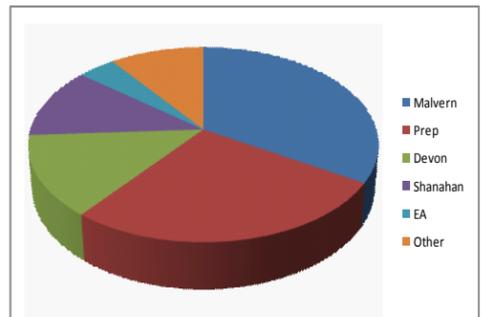
Well, seniors, we don't blame you. At 3 PM on your last official day of class, *The Gates* wrote you, all 106 of you, for your thoughts and wishes for those of us you leave behind you--the rising seniors who will fill your shoes in the fall, the Junior Schoolers inspired by your example, the teachers to whom you still owe assignments, the underclassmen making your final newspaper. And did you respond? Not so much.

The good news is that we heard from three of our favorite seniors--wonderful Morgan Sanei, fabulous Genna Hartnett, and the incomparable Megan Mitchell. Genna recalls being "absolutely" nervous that first day of freshman year, and she has some solid advice for underclassmen, especially new ones: "Don't judge any person in your grade before getting to know them, or assume at first glance that you have nothing in common with a certain person. Those who become your closest friends are often the ones you never thought you could be so close with! At least that has been my experience. :) " Morgan also has a plan for enjoying your years at ND: "One thing I'd encourage everyone to do is to get *involved*. Find a club or activity that catches your attention and just do it. Don't worry about making friends, because it is virtually impossible not to make friends at Notre Dame! Put your heart and soul into the things that you are passionate about, and you will see that your hard work and dedication will pay off."

Meanwhile, Megan encourages everyone to try at least one ciabatta (ham, cheddar cheese, a little mayo, lettuce, and not toasted), offering these immortal words about her upcoming graduation: "Wait...I'm graduating?" Thanks, Girls, and by the way all three of you looked beautiful at prom! Since we have so much space left, we'll use it for a few moments captured on film on Friday, May 17, 2013.



Curious about the men in our lives on prom night? So were we, so we asked our SARK team (statistical analysis and record-keeping) to break it down with a handy pie chart (at right). We have a hunch they just made it up. Were you looking for more prom pictures? Turn to pp. 5-6, our special summer-reading guide! (Well, how else would we get you there?)



### Congratulations to the 2013-2014 Editors of *The Gates*!

Marissa Baum, Editor-in-Chief, flanked by Features Editors MacKenzie Bonner and Kelly Cary. Here's to next year, Girls, and all the news that's fit to print!

Farewell, Devyn! With heavy hearts, *The Gates* staff also bids farewell to **Devyn Nickens** as she leaves ND for Delaware. We'll miss you, Devyn!

*The Gates* is the newspaper of record for the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur.

The editors and writers of *The Gates* bid a fond farewell to the 2012-13 Editorial Board: Sara Sheridan, Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth DaCrema, Rachel Rubino and Courtney Wren.

This final issue was created by Devyn Nickens and Rachel Weber, with thanks to Mrs. Woehlcke and Mrs. Nicholl for the many awesome photos.

# THINGS WE'D LIKE TO SEE IN THE GATES SCANDALS, HAUNTINGS, ADVICE AND DREAM TEAMS

Rachel Weber '12 (Hey! It's what we'd like to see...)

Easter Break encompassed April Fools Day in 2013, scuttling plans for an April Fools edition of *The Gates* (not to mention the plans of legions of ingenious ND tricksters waiting for the perfect opportunity to pull a good prank). But our staff conversations about what might have been did produce a few intriguing story ideas, which we've captured on this spread. Suppose you could see whatever you wanted to see...*whatever* you wanted to see...in *The Gates*? Oh, the endless possibilities.... (cue dream-sequence music...)

## HOTTEST NEW COUPLE!: MS. O'MALLEY AND MR. VERDI SPOTTED (ALMOST) CANOODLING

Last Thursday afternoon, some industrious ninth graders working extra hard on their research papers glimpsed a curious episode near Room 1: Ms. O'Malley was clutching an apparent stack of notes packets--but when the top half of her stack slipped off, everyone saw that she was actually delivering pages of love notes...to Mr. Verdi!



Of course, could anyone really be surprised? "Everyone knew this would happen," confided one of our student informants, "especially when they're sharing a classroom and the romantic subject of World Cultures, especially Greece."

Later that same day, during a particularly animated conversation about a hole puncher, our investigative journalists took the bold step of snapping photos, using a cell phone borrowed from a visitor from Villa Maria (ND students don't carry cell phones on campus). Much of the content of their conversation was simply too provocative for these pages, but



Our confidential team of undercover reporters.

let's just say we had no idea that Ms. O'Malley knew *that* many Greek roots!

## MR. CUSHING WINS CHUCK BASS- LOOK-ALIKE CONTEST: MRS. VAL'S SPOOKY HAUNTS STUDENTS IN THEIR DREAMS

(But was it really ever a contest?)

### ...AND IN THE HALLS

Lately, ND students are terrified to go down the math hallway. It seems longtime Mrs. Val pal "Spooky" is on a spree. Spooky, usually a nice ghost who gives out mints, has been increasingly agitated over bad grades in Geometry class. Can he be stopped? "Get better grades!" Mrs. Val suggests. "Study hard, Girls!"



## YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENTS

Guest column concept, by Aliyah Stokes '16

**Canine Chaos** I was at my soccer game and my dad, older sister, mom and dog were up on a hill watching me. My dad decided to let our dog run around on the hill, and he unleashed the dog. My sister screamed, "Nooooo!! Daddy!!" as our dog ran down the hill to the soccer field. A woman snatched up her baby in fear, and the whole game paused to watch my dad running down the hill with his pants falling down! I tried to pretend I didn't know them, but there was no way to hide the fact. Unfortunately...they were my ride!

**DEAR ST. JULIE**

Q: Oh St. Julie, I keep forgetting my homework! My teachers are so disappointed in me. Please help!

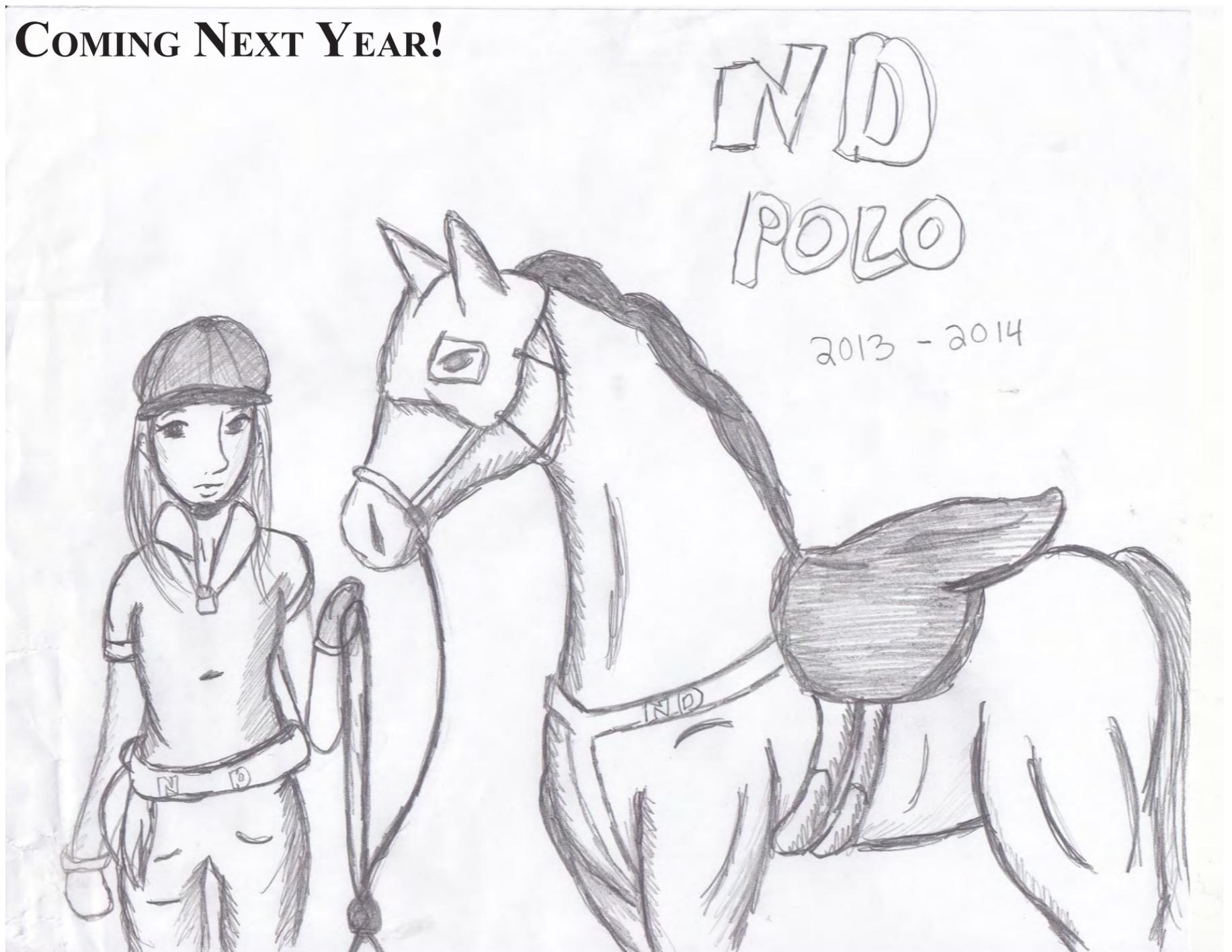
~ *Empty Backpack*

A: Ma chère, vous devez vous assurer que vous écrivez vos devoirs! Donnez-lui un peu de temps et de se concentrer et vous ferez très bien!

Q: St. Julie, with everything that goes on, how good *is* the good God, really?

~ *Senior slumper*

A: “Le problème du mal” confond beaucoup de gens. Dieu peut-il vraiment être tout-puissant et tout bon en même temps? Alors, pourquoi y a-t-il tellement tristesse? Mais, pourquoi pensez-vous que je peux répondre à cette question? Sacré bleu! Ce que je suis? Un existentialiste? Si vous voulez poser cette question, écrivez à Camus.

**COMING NEXT YEAR!**

**Ad for the Fantasy Polo Team, for *The Gates*. (Art by Mandy Lafferty)**

# Reviews, Reflections and Summer Reading

## DON'T KICK THIS *HOBBIT*

By Oliiva Chow ('16)

At two hours and fifty minutes, *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* (which debuted 12/14/12) is eye candy from beginning to end. With its visual effects, you'll feel as if you're really among the elves at Rivendell or dodging boulders as giants wage war. To aid its visual graphics, this movie is unique in that it is filmed at a frame rate of 48 frames per second, which is higher than average. Lovers of the BBC *Sherlock* will be pleased to know that not only does Martin Freeman star as Bilbo, but Benedict Cumberbatch also makes a fleeting appearance in the movie. Many aspects of the movie are commendable, though not everything is first-rate. For example, the rather interesting camera movements can leave a viewer feeling like a rider on a roller-coaster. Additionally, during fight scenes, the camera tends to zoom in on the action rather than backing away to show the big picture. However, overall, this movie makes for an enjoyable watch. Bilbo and Thorin and company are a loveable crew (and not a bad-looking one either) and viewers will avidly follow their adventure as they go to reclaim their rightful home. Don't forget: this movie is one out of three parts. The next two parts, *The Desolation of Smaug* and *There and Back Again*, are due for consecutive release in December 2013 and July 2014.

## TALKING OF WALKING THE WALK

By Mandy Lafferty ('15)

Perhaps you have heard something about Walking the Walk before. You might have heard about it involving a lunch with Miss France or about "PILAP." I thought they were saying "pilaf" over the loud speaker, as in rice pilaf, but that's because all I think about is food.

Walking the Walk is not a lot of exercise. It's not even about physically walking. What we are walking is a spiritual journey. Figuratively, of course. It's an interfaith journey. We're learning about other religions, but it still isn't even as simple as that. It's a relaxed, interactive way to become aware of other religions. No conversion involved--just a wider perspective on the special traditions outside our own.

Take a Bar Mitzvah, for example (or, for girls, a Bat Mitzvah). This is a Jewish custom that marks the welcoming of a new adolescent by the congregation into manhood or womanhood. The proud event brings all the members together, celebrating the young person's embracing of the commandments.

One of the special things I enjoyed about Walking the Walk was visiting the Gurudwara, a Sikh society. That's not pronounced "seek." Say it like "sick." But it's not sick. Everyone in our group, including the girls from ND and others from other congregations, joined the ceremony, which took place in a cozy room with women and girls on one side, and men and boys on the other, separated by an aisle. I had dressed modestly; I went a little over the top though. I wore a long blue dress with a scarf on my head and a coat. I looked a little ridiculous. But it was all right; at least I was warm...

We sat on the very comfortable floor with a white sheet and rug underneath, and kept silent. There were two projection screens at the front of the room, made for accommodating those who spoke only English. I was glad. I'd have been more puzzled than a bird in the water if they

hadn't been there. The children sang their prayers, and two men played on drums. The experience was very interactive, and very different from a Catholic Mass.

After the ceremony, everyone sat down on a rug and ate lunch. We were all sitting together, though, side by side. Of course, everyone who was a member of the society we visited could tell we weren't used to their ways. It was so obvious; I literally didn't even realize we were supposed to be sitting together until everyone in my group picked up the hint at the same time. It wasn't as uncomfortable as I am making it sound, though. In fact, it was part of the journey, to get used to something that we don't normally do.

I enjoyed this experience because I was stepping away (figuratively and literally) from my own community into a new one. Speaking and eating together brings people closer. The new experience is the most important part. It doesn't matter if it's awkward or uncomfortable; every experience is important. I wish more people had joined Walking the Walk--and I hope many more will participate next year. And, if you're reading this as a member of Walking the Walk, I hope you had as much fun as I did. See you next year!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW FIVE MAIN!

Pictured below, clockwise from top left, are AA President Katie Schneider, Secretary Grace Desjardins, Vice-President Kaylee Mulgrew, President Olivia Feehery, and Treasurer Dana Hogan (all Class of 2014, natch). Looking forward to a fabulous year under your leadership, Girls!



The 11th Grade Mentoring sessions this year kicked off with a field trip to view the Dead Sea Scrolls at the Franklin Institute, sparking a discussion about what essential items we would want to be certain were in our own library if, like the Essenes who preserved the scrolls, we feared the loss of our history, our values, our inspiration and our most sacred works. Each group made a list, which faculty members later supplemented with those specific works of literature no civilization should ever be without, no matter how far into the future we look. For those of you interested in seeing the final collection in print (along with its contributors), we present it to everyone here as an "enhanced" summer reading list--for September, and every September afterward.

**Works, Artifacts, Art and Memories Preserved by the Class of 2014 (all duplicates removed)**

The ND kilt  
an iPhone5  
class pictures and pix of us, yearbooks from ours and years past  
high-waisted shorts  
Bibles in English, Hebrew, Latin, Greek and other languages  
a One Direction poster  
Facebook pages  
Toms/Sperrys  
Our Morality textbook  
a CD Rom and iPod with our music  
Cheez-its and other food  
The Hunger Games  
The Harry Potter books  
pictures of the environment (telling future generations to try to save it)  
newspaper clippings of big events  
iPod with current music  
the NDA Honor Code  
The Gates (thanks, Girls!)  
The Titanic (movie)  
a map  
modern clothes  
family pix, heirlooms  
a 2013-4 almanac  
a Koran  
Family pix  
Contemporary books, movies, music, art  
samples of other technology (e.g. digital watch)  
menus  
works by Dr. Seuss  
our skit script  
journals  
letters  
sports memorabilia  
copies of our favorite films  
the Constitution and Declaration of Independence  
the National Anthem  
the American Flag  
Pictures of modern architecture, of disasters, of Pulitzer Prize winners  
a history of America and our wars  
Medical research and technology logs  
Sheet music  
Avatar, Zoolander, She's the Man, Mean Girls  
A Book of Saints with Saint Julie highlighted  
Newspaper articles on 9/11 (perhaps a NY Times cover)  
People Magazine  
Tapes of Major Presidential speeches  
The Diary of Anne Frank  
Pictures of the Depression and World Wars  
Nicholas Sparks books  
Car keys (note: where's the car?)  
a Notre Dame cross and a statue of St. Julie

**Literary Works and Collections Contributed by the Faculty (duplicates retained)**

**Mrs. Eife**

*The Catcher in the Rye* (Salinger)  
*Kite Runner* (Hosseini)  
*All Quiet on the Western Front* (Remarque)  
*A Separate Peace* (Knowles)  
*To Kill a Mockingbird* (Lee)  
*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* (Skloot)  
*Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Haddon)  
*A Demon in the Freezer* (Preston)  
*A Thousand Splendid Suns* (Hosseini)

**Mrs. Woehlcke**

*The Pearl and Grapes of Wrath* (Steinbeck)  
*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (Angelou)  
*Our Town* (Wilder)  
*Enemy of the People* (Ibsen)  
*The Great Gatsby* (Fitzgerald)  
*To Kill a Mockingbird* (Lee)  
*The Catcher in the Rye* (Salinger)  
*A Separate Peace* (Knowles)  
*The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (Lewis)  
*Little Women* (Alcott)  
*A Raisin in the Sun* (Hansberry)  
*The Time Machine* (Wells)

**Mrs. Gadomski**

*The Great Gatsby* (Fitzgerald)  
*The Little Prince* (de Saint-Exupéry)  
*The Help* (Stockett)

*I think that Lahiri's The Namesake is a beautifully written study of what it means to be an American immigrant existing in two cultures at once, but it was 1) published very recently (2007), 2) written by a woman, and 3) written by a minority. For those reasons, I think I'm one of the few who would include that work. Related to that, I think many would automatically pick works written by dead white men, which is such a shame considering how much good, literary stuff there is that doesn't fit one of those boxes. (Ms. Nobles)*

**Mrs. Shaheen**

*The Complete Works of Shakespeare*  
*An Oxford English Dictionary*  
*Works of Dr. Seuss*  
*Works of A.A. Milne*  
*The Odyssey* (Homer)  
*To Kill A Mockingbird* (Lee)  
*Works of Dostoevsky*  
*Works of James Joyce*  
*Poetry of Walt Whitman*

**Dr. D'Angelo**

*Brave New World* (Huxley)  
*Johnny Got His Gun* (Trumbo)  
*All Quiet on the Western Front* (Remarque)  
*The Grapes of Wrath* (Steinbeck)  
*The Great Gatsby* (Fitzgerald)

**Mrs. Harrington**

*A Tale of Two Cities* (Dickens)  
*Grapes of Wrath* (Steinbeck)  
*To Kill a Mockingbird* (Lee)  
*Huckleberry Finn* (Twain)  
*One Man's Freedom* (E. Bennett Williams)

**Sister Nancy**

*The War Prayer* (Twain)  
*Siddhartha* (Hesse)  
*Man's Search for Meaning* (Frankl)  
*Night* (Wiesel)

**Mrs. O'Donovan**

*The Giver* (Lowry)  
*Night* (Wiesel)  
*All Quiet on the Western Front* (Remarque)

*A Thousand Splendid Suns is about the lives of two women in Afghanistan. It paints a great picture of how girls/women live in this country. In Environmental Science we talk about women's rights, education, etc. and how that affects the number of children a woman has in her lifetime. To talk about it is one thing, but this story illustrates the point...and, it is a great love story, too. It also makes you grateful to be an American woman. (Mrs. Eife)*

**Ms. Nobles**

*The Namesake* (Lahiri)  
*King Lear* (Shakespeare)  
*Jane Eyre* (Bronte)  
*The Bluest Eye* (Morrison)  
*The Handmaid's Tale* (Atwood)  
*Mrs. Dalloway* (Woolf)  
*The Catcher in the Rye* (Salinger)  
*As I Lay Dying* (Faulkner)

**Mr. Cushing**

*The Sparrow* (Russell)  
*DNA, the Double Helix* (Watson)  
*Song of Ice and Fire* (Martin)  
*Your Inner Fish* (Shubin)  
*A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (Adams)

**Mrs. DaCrema**

*The Madwoman of Chaillot* (Giraudoux)  
*Death in the Family* (Agee)  
*Cyrano de Bergerac* (Rostand)  
*Essays and short stories of David Sedaris*  
*Birds of America* (McCarthy)  
*"A Christmas Memory"* (Capote)  
*Collected works of Dr. Califf*  
*The Plague* (Camus)

**Mrs. Lipschutz**

*Their Eyes Were Watching God* (Hurston)  
*No Exit* (Sartre)  
*Walden Pond* (Thoreau)  
*Our Town* (Wilder)

**Mrs. Maksymowych**

*The Ragamuffin Gospel* (Manning)  
*Fear and Trembling* (Kierkegaard)  
*Against Ethics* (Caputo)  
*Troubled Voices* (Zaner)  
*Anything by Anne Lamott*

**Mr. Foreman**

*Reverence, Renewing a Forgotten Virtue* (Woodruff)  
*The Republic* (Plato)

*Almost every summer I read Wuthering Heights. I fell in love with Gone with the Wind in grade school, probably because Scarlett and Rhett are so messed up, and maybe because Peggy Mitchell was practically a recluse before that book. Lord of the Flies has always held a weird fascination for me. I recently wrote a short paper on the importance of fidelity to a body of work that several generations have read. There should be a continuity of education and literature that stands the test of time. Our girls should be able to have a meaningful conversation with their grandmothers about Huck Finn and Jim and the friendship they share on the river. (Mrs. Bonner)*

**Mrs. Losey**

*The Wave* (Strasser)  
*Huckleberry Finn* (Twain)  
*Things Fall Apart* (Achebe)

**Mrs. Bonner**

*Wuthering Heights* (Bronte)  
*Lord of the Flies* (Golding)  
*Gone with the Wind* (Mitchell)  
*A Separate Peace* (Knowles)  
*Of Mice and Men* (Steinbeck)  
*Works of Shakespeare*  
*Works of Chaucer*  
*Works of Mark Twain*

# LAST LOOKS AT PROM 2013

[All photographs  
this page courtesy of  
Mrs. Woehlcke  
and Mrs. Nicholl]

