

## Tutors available for extra help

By MICHELLE MORICO  
Circle Contributor

Students frustrated with midterm grades have four more weeks to sign up for a tutor. Karen Tomkins-Tinch, coordinator of Learning Skills and International Student Program, said the deadline is there for a reason.

"We stop assigning tutors two weeks before finals," she said.

Not only do tutors have to study for their own exams, she said, but they also can't be expected to teach someone a full semester's work in such a short period of time.

The process of becoming a tutor consists of recruitment and then an application to enter the program.

"Students are approached by the learning center if they have a high GPA, then they are sent a letter asking if they are interested in becoming a tutor," she said.

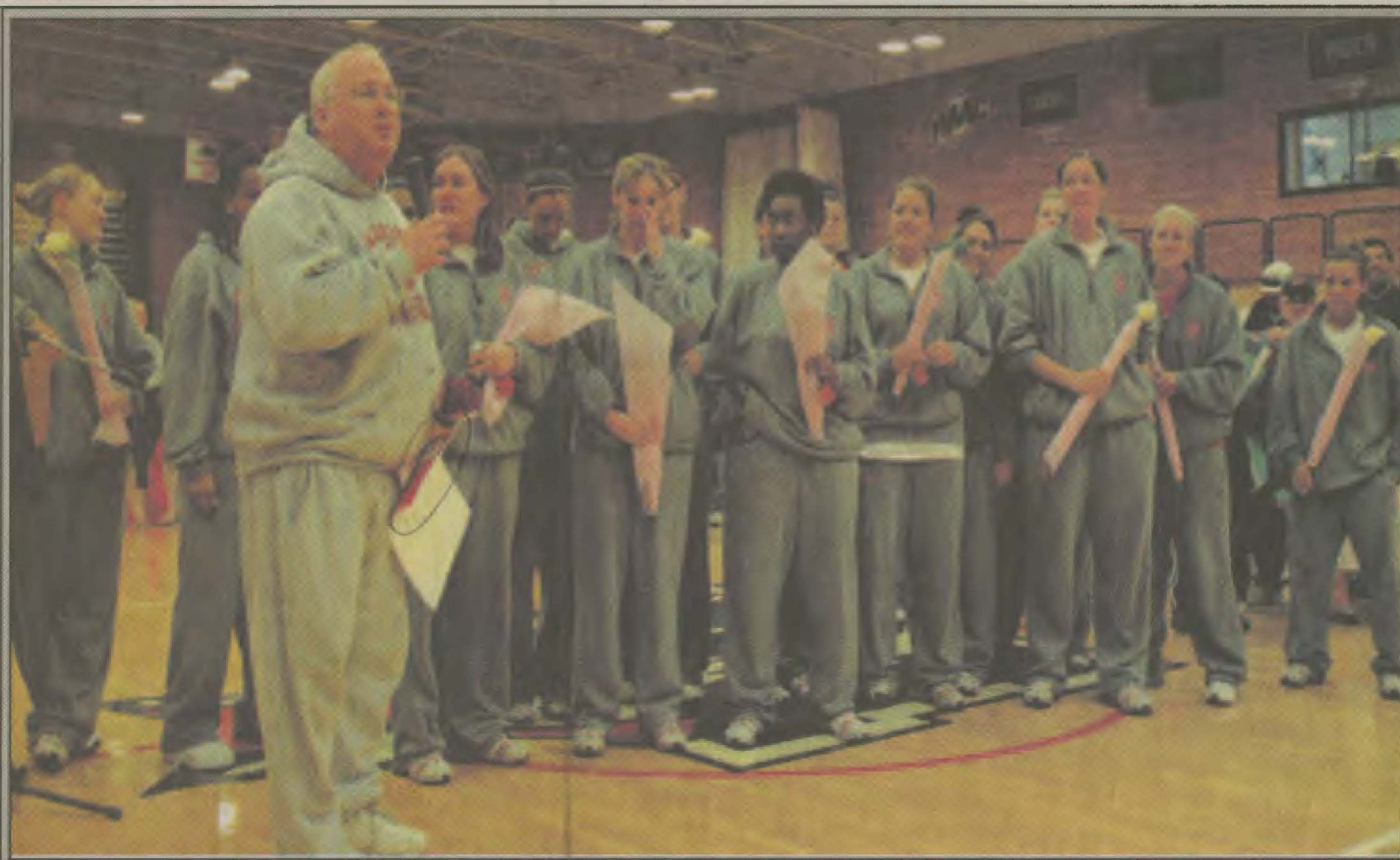
Students interested in becoming tutors must attend a training session. It lasts several weeks during activity hours. Jane Fiore, the tutor coordinator, trains potential tutors.

A Marist student tutor gets paid by the tutee at \$7 an hour. They arrange their own meetings. Most meet once or twice a week for one or two hours.

"If students want to be tutored, they come in to get the form, and make an appointment to see Fiore," said Tomkins-Tinch. "Fiore tries to match up people, looks up their compatibility in terms of professor usually."

If a student needs help in a class where the profes-

SEE TUTOR, PAGE 4



JAMES REILLY / THE CIRCLE

Above: Women's basketball head coach Brian Giorgis addresses fans in McCann Tuesday night, a day after the Red Foxes defeated heavily favored Middle Tennessee and earned a spot in the 'Sweet Sixteen' in the NCAA championship. They are the first team in Marist or MAAC history to advance to this level of the tournament.

Right: Fans hold up signs to greet the players at their homecoming celebration. The Foxes walked out of their bus and into the McCann Center to cheering from fans like these and a blaring pep band.

see Back Cover for full story



## Career Day offers time to network

By MATT SPILLANE  
Staff Writer

Students can shake hands with about 75 potential bosses at the annual Career Conference next Thursday in the McCann Center. The gathering lasts from 4 to 7 p.m.

Desmond Murray, the assistant director of field experience, said anywhere from 500 to 1,300 students attend, and both students and employers benefit.

"Students definitely get jobs directly because of the conference, and employers find it useful in filling recruitment needs."

Stephen Cole, the executive director of career services, said the conference is crucial in career development for all undergraduates, from freshmen to seniors. Talking to employers and alumni gives students an idea of what kind of jobs they may want to pursue after college.

"It helps students to understand their future career paths," said Cole.

Alumni are a major factor at the conference and are encouraged to participate, according to Cole.

"We try to get as many alumni as we can," he said. "The support they give us is invaluable."

Rosemarie Illustrato, an administrative secretary in the Career Services office, said that approximately 30 percent of the employers at the conference are alumni, who say they are more than happy to help out current students.

Career Services provides other opportunities for students to network with employers and alumni, including workshops, conferences, and meetings. The office also helps students search for jobs, develop their resumes, and prepare for interviews.

Cole said that it is imperative for all students, whether freshmen or seniors, to start career developing, including attending the career conference.

"More freshmen and sophomores need to get involved in the career development process," he said. "Freshmen and sophomores should be working on their resumes, juniors should be getting internships, and seniors should be looking for full-time jobs."

Murray agreed. "The conference mostly attracts juniors and seniors, but we really encourage freshmen and sophomores to attend too," he said. "Freshmen and sophomores should be looking for summer jobs, talking to people, and just experimenting."

Career exploration, Murray said, is what all students should be doing in order to get an idea of different jobs they might want to pursue.

The career conference is a per-

SEE CAREER, PAGE 4

## Psychology Club will host day for special needs kids

By ALICIA MATTIELLO  
Circle Contributor

Pirates will take over the Marist grounds at this year's "One to One Day," sponsored by the Psychology Club. Children with special needs from the ages four to eight invited for activities at Marist and are paired with Marist students for the day, and volunteers are encouraged to dress up as swashbuckling buccaneers during the event.

"We invite developmentally delayed children from schools around here such as BOCES,"

said Francesca Messina, the club president. "There are sports, activities, a petting zoo, and crafts for the kids."

The event is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"Anyone can do it. Business, communication majors – it doesn't matter," said Messina. "We really take anyone."

In recent years the event has received around 100 student volunteers. Shooter may even be there, Messina said.

Throughout the day, Marist students play with the child they are

partnered up with.

"It's just a day for the kids to have fun," Messina said. "And it's good for them to have an older person to look up to."

Messina said she participated in the event last year. She and her boyfriend were paired up with a young boy.

"He didn't really like me," she explained. "My boyfriend and I did it together. He liked my boyfriend better because he was a guy."

But Danielle Salvaggio, the activities coordinator for the Psychology Club, said her child

was different.

"She was like four, and was emotionally behavior disabled," Salvaggio said. "She stood by me the whole day, and just did whatever she wanted. They told me she would be aggressive, but I had no problems."

Salvaggio and Messina agreed that the girl was "so cute."

Christine Younkin, treasurer of the Psychology Club, did not participate last year but said she is ready for this year's festivities.

"I'm really looking forward to it," she explained.

According to the executive

board of the Psychology Club, some teachers give incentives for students to volunteer for the event.

Kristina Nave, the club secretary, says she may get a better grade by volunteering.

"My professor lets us go to it," she said. "If you go for half of a day, you get three points on the midterm, and for a full day you get six points."

Forms for volunteering are available in Dyson 375.

## Student Advocacy: Voices for Change Factory farms ignored as source of abuse

By TRICIA CARR  
Staff Writer

You're walking down the street and you hear a dog whimpering down an alley. You take a few steps in and see a huge dog stuck in a wire cage meant for a dog half his size. His mouth and paws are bleeding from his attempts to escape and patches of fur are missing exposing bruised skin. He also seems to have a broken leg. What would you do in this situation? You might call the police and see to it that the dog received medical attention. You might even adopt the dog yourself and nurse it back to health.

In the United States, it is illegal to abuse a cat or dog, but every single day thousands of chickens, pigs, cows, ducks, sheep, and geese are mutilat-

ed, neglected, drugged and slaughtered on factory farms for human consumption.

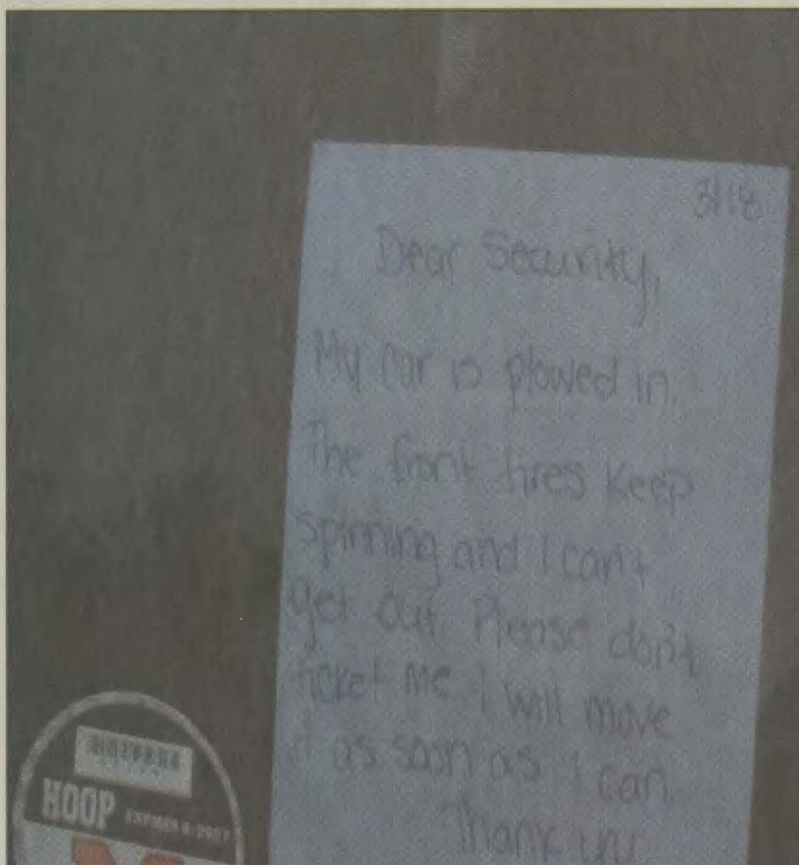
Over 850 million chickens are slaughtered every year for the Kentucky Fried Chicken food chain according to KentuckyFriedCruelty.com, a branch of the PETA.org website. The chickens are stored in dark sheds their whole lives, many with broken wings and legs. To prevent the chickens from pecking each other to death, a side effect of their traumatic conditions, their beaks are cut off. When the chickens are at their "processing" weight and it's time to slaughter them, their throats are slit and they are submerged in scorching hot water while they are still conscious.

Chickens, although they are not typically kept as pets, are

fascinating animals when seen in their natural habitats. According to PETA, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, chickens have the ability to recognize others and form friendships. They take care of their chicks, bathe and make nests.

Robin Henderson, president of Fox P.A.W. – People for Animal Welfare – at Marist College, works at Farm Sanctuary in Woodstock, New York. Farm Sanctuary, which has two locations in New York and California, was established in 1986 to fight the exploitation of farm animals at factory farms and to give the public a new understanding of farm animals. The first animal they saved was Hilda the sheep, who they found on a "deadpile"

SEE ANIMALS, PAGE 4



A late-winter storm unleashed its wrath upon the Marist campus and the surrounding tri-state area last Friday, March 16. Though the campus was closed for the day, the roads and sidewalks were plowed by the time students began trickling back from spring break on Sunday. One unlucky student, though, parked illegally in Upper New, Scotch-taped a plea inside her car's window.

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FEATURES: BRIDGING THE SOCIAL GAP  
BETWEEN BAND KIDS AND CHEERLEADERS

A look at junior cheerleader and trombone player Karen Pickford

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A&E: AMERICA VOTES FOR BROADWAY'S NEXT  
DANNY AND SANDY

The ballots are in for the lead roles in reality show 'Grease: You're the one that I want.'

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# THE CIRCLE Campus

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007

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## security briefs Special "Seven Deadly Sins" Edition. Notable lack of pride

By KATE GIGLIO  
Editor-in-Vitro

For some reason, student morality really does appear to be plummeting to the bottom of the Hudson. I honestly racked my brain for any real ethical pitfalls I've had lately, and besides dumping tomato sauce on someone's windshield, I couldn't think of anything. What's with these kids today??

**3/5 11:45 a.m.**  
**gluttony, wrath**

A Sodexo manager called security because a female student flipped off a Sodexo employee. The student, who was attempting to smuggle five bananas, was told she was not allowed to take food-stuffs out of the caf. Alright, alright: I used to take bananas, too. Apples, even. And sometimes, entire loaves of seven-grain bread. I would put these things in what is colloquially called a "bag." What pathetic breed of amateur tries to prance by the notoriously scrutinizing eyes of the Sodexo aristocracy with an entire hand of bananas?? Now this would be a mere lesson to others ("use an opaque vessel to pilfer fruit"), but here at Security Briefs Headquarters I'm happy to throw in a little twist of Something Special. The livid little banana-lifting bumblebee had in fact been previously reprimanded by Sodexo staff for consistently putting too much batter in the waffle maker, causing it to overflow. Multiple bananas? Oversized waffles? I'm going to stop here, 'cause it's not nice to make fun of fat chicks

**3/6 12:10 a.m.**  
**sloth**

It's been a looong night. Twelve a.m.! You haven't stayed up this late since that "The Hills" marathon. Therefore it's only natural that, being so very fatigued, you try to gain access to your room in Leo Hall (surprised?) by ... swiping your cell phone. Yeah, I've been that "tired" too, man. Although I'm pretty sure that I've never been tired enough to offer the security guard a crisp \$20 bill to let my drunken ass back into the dorm. Sloppy by midnight and bribing the authorities: Your parents are so proud

**3/7 1:45 a.m.**  
**sloth, gluttony**

Business as usual: A female Champagnat resident was reportedly stumbling out of a taxi cab in Donnelly. Fairview was called, and she was sent to St. Francis. The student was later overheard saying that she'd never accept roofies, I mean, free drinks from that unnaturally tan bartender at The Loft ever again

**3/7 1:55 a.m.**  
**sloth**

With Fairview busy in the Donnelly lot, Arlington was called over to another fiesta in Champagnat. Students reported that a resident had been camped out in the third-floor ladies' room for approximately 45 minutes. Nothing like a power nap in your own vomit

**3/7 2:00 a.m.**  
**no humans involved**

A sprinkler head froze in the fashion department's computer room, causing the room to flood. The fire department and maintenance both responded; and shut down the water until the problem was fixed. Good thing it wasn't the room where they keep all the clothes for the fashion show, because lord knows I can't die happy till I've seen some design major crank out another purple crocheted jumpsuit or shiny white satin pants with felt cutouts of dice hot-glued to them. Though, my grandmother made me a red crayon costume in kindergarten; I could have donated it to the show. And won Best Garment

**3/7 4:30 p.m.**  
**greed, envy, gluttony**

A student diner in the cafeteria reported that he'd left his Blackberry on a table, gone to get some fine Sodexo cuisine and then returned to find that his juicy little nugget of unnecessarily self-involved technology had gone missing. First of all, you don't need a Blackberry. No, but seriously. If you're moseying on down to the cafeteria at four in the afternoon, I'm pretty sure that you can check your e-mail LATER. Secondly, you left the damn thing unguarded in clear view of all - welcome to a crashing economy; put your phone in your pocket. Lastly, I'd bet you 100 dollars of Thrifty Cash that our enterprising banana thief stole - and made a smoothie out of - the rogue 'berry. "This Blackberry tastes like schnozzberries"

**3/7 9:05 p.m.**  
**greed, envy**

A female Champagnat resident reported that someone had stolen a pair of \$200 jeans from her laundry in one of the dryers. That just sucks. When I was a freshman in Champagnat, I could leave things like diamond rings and small children in the dryer and the most anyone would do was, like, politely place my things atop a table. Now these kids are a bunch of banana-nicking, Blackberry-filching, security-guard bribing spoiled brats. And who puts \$200 jeans in the dryer? Fashion majors are rolling over in their designer graves

**3/8 1:04 a.m.**  
**no people here**

A water pipe froze in Foy Townhouses B-block, creating a bit of a moisture issue for some residents. Maintenance came and shut the water down until things were cleaned up. Now, I live in Foy B too but all my stuff was as dry as Sheahan Hall ... obviously, Karma got lost on the way to my room

**3/8 1:50 p.m.**  
**greed, envy**

Another female Champagnat resident reported that out of a dryer containing her laundry, only a pair of \$125 jeans had vanished. Seriously?? You need to reevaluate your life if you're skulking around the laundry room, burrowing through other people's laundry and taking their pants. Maybe get a hobby. Maybe play in traffic

**3/9 midnight**  
**lust**

A secret admirer wiled away the wee hours of the morning by telephoning some female residents in Fulton, asking the question, "What are you wearing?" The caller would then breathe heavily. The suspect reportedly is a white male, early 20's, 5'7" to 5'10", medium build, dark spiked hair, a neat appearance, wearing a white zippered jacket with stripes on the sleeves and blue jeans. Carrying a banana and a Blackberry

**3/9 7:00 p.m.**  
**sloth, gluttony, possible lust**

A resident assistant doing room inspections stumbled upon a charismatic dwelling space. Cigarette butts decorated most surfaces and two cigars were "split open, the tobacco partially removed." The male residents had also left open bottles of Malibu, Jagermeister, and Absolut as well as a 40 of St. Ives malt liquor. The latter was disposed of in the security office; the rest of the alcohol was dumped out. I'm just going to hope that that half-empty (half-full?) bottle of Malibu was your ticket to the girls' side of the floor that night

**3/13 2:30 p.m.**  
**sloth**

A resident director in Midrise doing room inspections confiscated an unopened 750 ml bottle of Serralles Don Q Puerto Rican rum. I'm truly just growing weary of this proletarian crap

## Upcoming Campus Events

Thursday, March 22  
Poetry Slam  
in the Cabaret  
9 p.m.

Thursday, March 22  
poet & spoken  
word artist  
Beny Blaq  
in the PAR  
9 p.m.

Friday, March 23  
SPC presents ...  
Open Mic Night  
in the PAR  
8 p.m.

Saturday, March 24  
American Museum of  
Natural History  
bus leaves Midrise at 9  
\$10 w/ Marist ID  
tickets on sale at  
College Activities

Sunday, March 25  
Comedian Jim Breuer  
in the McCann Center  
8 p.m.  
tickets \$10 w/ Marist  
ID

Tuesday, April 10  
Alexa Ray Joel  
in the  
Nelly Goletti Theatre  
9 p.m.  
free with Marist ID

Saturday, April 14  
trip to the Bronx Zoo  
bus leaves Midrise  
9:30 a.m.  
\$10 w/ Marist ID



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The Circle staff can be reached at 575-3000 x2429 or letters to the editor can be sent to writethecircle@gmail.com. The Circle can also be viewed on its web site, www.maristcircle.com.

# MARIST

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APRIL 10 - APRIL 21

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# News

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007

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PAGE 4

## To ladies' delight, Jay Thalacker crowned Mr. Marist 2007

By KATE GIGLIO  
Editor-in-Chief

Mr. Marist 2007 was an extravagant affair hosted by two of the best looking men at Marist, and featured six other pretty good looking guys.

Ricky Ruff, Mat Taylor, Brandon Cartica, Matt Competello, Jay Thalacker, and David Hochman all competed for the title, while Stephen Krill and Michael Mayfield hosted the evening's events.

Professors of communication Missy Alexander, Marcia Christ and J. James Fahey served as judges for the competition.

The contest featured a formal wear segment, a swimsuit segment, a talent competition, and a final question.

Other volunteers helped out as escorts for the contestants. Senior Sarah Gunner threw herself headlong into the excitement, as a last-minute replacement for someone who fell ill.

"I was more than happy to help," Gunner said. "Michael and Stephen are two of my favorite people, and I loved being on stage with so many good-looking young lads."

After much deliberation, Mat Taylor was crowned second runner up, Ricky Ruff the runner up, and Jay Thalacker the winner.

"It's really great to see people come out who aren't afraid to just have fun and show their personalities," Krill said. Krill,



Jay Thalacker: kind of a big deal. People know him. Especially after he won the Mr. Marist competition this past Tuesday evening

noted for his own special personality, is the president of MCTV, which will be rerunning the Mr. Marist competition on their channels.

## After Astroturf addition, college might host high school marching band competition

By MARK RODEHHIZER  
Circle Contributor

Plans are in the works for Marist to hold a high school marching band competition next fall at the new Leonidoff Field.

Arthur Himmelberger, director of the Music Department, said he's been thinking of it for a few years.

"But by the time we set a date with the athletic department to use the field, the schedule for the fall has already been made," he said, and the bands are already busy.

The band fraternity and sorority, Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma, are aiding the music department in pursuing the competition to take place. Tom

DePace, president of the fraternity, says the competition will benefit Marist.

"It will be used as a recruiting tool and can showcase our talents," he said.

The competition will be able to "create high school interest in what is happening musically at Marist College," Himmelberger said. "People will be able to realize that there is band life after high school."

Derek Neway, a brother of Kappa Kappa Psi, said he was enthusiastic about the plan.

"We are trying to get out there," he said. "We are trying to get involved with other bands," he said.

Work on the field, expected to be finished in the fall, will pro-

vide "perfect conditions for marching," said Neway. The Astroturf field will be friendlier to marching bands than grass because it will reduce wetness and won't get torn up.

"To have an artificial turf is wonderful," said Himmelberger. "Now we have a first class venue."

If the field is not completed on time, the music department will try to start the competition the following year. The date would likely be on a weekend in September.

"I don't like the November or October dates," Himmelberger said. "It's too cold."

From Page One

## Student tutors available to help in the weeks preceding final exams

sor is someone with whom a tutor has already taken a class, they are more likely to be paired up.

One way to help boost grades is the student proofreading program, located in the Resource Room on the third floor of the library. No appointment is needed as long as the paper is five pages or less. The office is open Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Monday through Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. Victoria Sarkisian is the head of Proofreading.

There is also an Online

Proofreading Service (OPTO), where students can email a paper and receive the edited version back within 48 hours.

Morgan Nederhood, an English/ Writing major, said she has taken advantage of this service multiple times.

"It really helps a lot because in a lot of my classes I can get marked down an entire letter grade for simple typos," said Nederhood. "Having another set of eyes to read a paper really can be very helpful, and all you have to do is e-mail it in."

For help in math, the math lab

is led by students in the basement of Lowell Thomas near the elevator. It's open Monday through Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m.

Jenny Wiegand, said it helped him when he was struggling with math.

"The students that were there were very helpful, I had needed help with some concepts before a big exam," said Wiegand. "One of the students had the same Professor as me last year so it was much easier for my questions to be answered."

## Factory farms are source of abuse, according to Fox P.A.W. president

outside of a slaughterhouse. She lived at the California farm for 10 years before she died of old age.

At the farm, Henderson visits with the animals while keeping the farm running smoothly.

"Chickens are the most human-like animals in the way that they are curious about everything," Henderson said of her experiences on the farm. "They can like affection or not like affection. They are also very protective of their children."

Henderson said she was really touched by one rooster named Brandy. He was a "byproduct of the egg industry," she said. Since roosters do not produce eggs, many are thrown into large dumpsters. Brandy was picked out of a trash can and brought to the Woodstock Farm Sanctuary, where he was nursed back to health. "He became a really social animal," Henderson said. "He would respond to his name when you called him."

Inspiring stories like Henderson's make the thought of eating meat hard to swallow, which is why people often become vegetarians or vegans. The difference is that vegetarians don't eat animals and vegans don't eat any animal products, like milk and eggs, abstain from wearing any clothing made from animal skin or fur, and do not use products tested on animals.

Nicole Dalsimer, a college sophomore, has been a vegetarian and animal rights activist since she was ten-years-old. She said she became a vegetarian after a "combination of reading Holocaust books and associating the smell of cooking meat with burning flesh and being at horseback riding camp, caring for the animals."

Henderson became a vegan after reading pamphlets and learning about the way animals are treated. "I think factory farming is overall a regression in farming," she said. "The way we do it now harms everything including people, quality of food, animals, and the earth."

"It takes 16 pounds of grains to produce one pound of meat. If we just eat the grains the leave the animals alone, we would feed the entire world and stop starvation," said Russell

Simmons, a hip-hop artist and fashion designer, to GoVeg.com. Many celebrities like Simmons publicize the fact that they are vegetarians to help create awareness of the issue.

At Warped Tour, a nationwide punk music tour which attracts millions of teens, a Peta2 tent is set up that distributes free stickers and pamphlets. Peta2 is an extension of PETA specifically aimed at young people. Many of the bands at Warped Tour are known to have vegetarian members like Pete Wentz and Andy Hurley of Fall Out Boy, Benji and Joel Madden and Billy Martin of Good Charlotte, and Ian Grushka of New Found Glory.

The exposure of factory farms is vital in the process of eliminating animal cruelty. In fact, there has been various legislation passed in certain states concerning factory farming.

On April 26, 2006, a vote 48 to 1 at a Chicago City Council meeting decided in favor of banning the sale of foie gras. Chicago, one of America's largest cities, is the first to make this cruel practice illegal.

Foie gras is produced by force feeding ducks and geese about four pounds of grain a day through a pipe stuck down their throats. This severely damages the esophagus and causes the birds' livers to grow to 10 times their usual size. This produces foie gras, which means "fatty liver."

Chicago's City Council voted in favor of this law after viewing a video co-produced by PETA showing the production of foie gras. Chicago City Council member, Joe Moore, stated to PETA, "The fewer restaurants that serve this product of animal torture, the fewer animals who will be subject to this unspeakable cruelty."

Another big step in animal cruelty legislation happened in Arizona on Nov. 7, 2006. Arizona citizens voted yes to "Proposition 204," a proposal to ban gestation crates and veal crates on factory farms. These types of crates are 2-foot-wide crates where animals, especially pigs and calves used for veal, are kept for their entire lives before they are slaughtered. This notable decision by the public made

Arizona the second state to ban gestation crates after Florida banned them in 2002 and the first to ban veal crates.

These types of legislation, while they may seem to be significant steps for the conditions of factory farms, are still extremely trivial. In 2006, PETA investigators entered an Oklahoma farm and witnessed workers killing pigs by beating them with hammers and slamming their heads against walls.

It is often shocking at times to hear that things like this are going on in the United States and no one is doing anything about it. Henderson, the president of Fox PAW, said he believes in the conspiracy theory.

"The agricultural business is second to the oil business," she said. "If everyone knew exactly what was going on at factory farms, the people getting rich from the industry wouldn't be making money anymore."

"They basically have no rules," Dalsimer said of her perception of factory farms in the U.S. "They are cruel and inhumane to animals, torturing them before killing them. These are huge companies who are in it for the money. They don't care if the cow is half dead of disease or can barely walk because it's so pumped up with steroids. It's all about what they can sell."

Various hormone-altering drugs are used on animals, especially pigs, to bring them to their largest size possible before slaughter. This way, slaughterhouses produce the maximum amount of meat for each animal, maximizing profits. Many pigs are unable to stand because of the huge amount of weight they are carrying. The pigs brought into Farm Sanctuary are so large because of these drugs, not the amount of food they eat.

Pigs are proven to be smarter than dogs and seem to be just as sociable as other pets, according to PETA. Donald Broom who teachers at the Cambridge University Veterinary School said to PETA, "They have the cognitive ability to be quite sophisticated, even more so than dogs and certainly three-year-olds."

From Page One

## Company representatives coming to look for prospective employees

fect way to start that process, according to Cole. Meeting people in different professions can be an invaluable benefit for students after they leave college, when they are looking for full-time employment.

He said that the conference can also help alumni who are seeking to switch jobs or find a new profession. They are always wel-

come to attend, and Cole said that a lot of them have found jobs through the conference.

Illustrato said that students can start the career development process by registering online with Career Services. After creating their profiles, students can begin working on their resumes, a crucial part of pursuing employment.

Murray is trying to get students involved in the process as early as possible, even if it's just introducing themselves to employers at the conference.

"What's disappointing is that not enough students attend the conference, and we need everyone there," he said. "Everyone needs a job."

## America votes for Broadway's next Danny and Sandy

By ALEXANDRIA BRIM  
Staff Writer

Help! My Sunday nights have been taken over and I don't know if I want them to be returned.

The culprit? NBC's new reality show "Grease: You're the One that I Want." It is here that "American Idol" meets the

the show "How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria?" Ian is blunt and does not hold back in his criticism but has no qualms praising the contestants as well.

The female judge—or panelist, as the hosts refer to the judges as the "panel"—is Tony Award winning director and choreographer Kathleen Marshall. She can

Olivia Newton-John and Lloyd Webber.

The show started out with the usual open casting calls—in Los Angeles, Chicago, and finally, New York. They were filled with the usual people one would watch on "American Idol"—the really bad ones, the mediocre ones and the ones who leave you amazed. And, of course, the contestants who leave you wishing that you'll never have to hear certain songs again for a long time. However, "Grease" auditions were two-fold: contestants can't just be good singers, they also have to be good dancers.

After passing these two phases, fifty contestants were sent to "Grease Academy." There, they were put through a regimen of dancing, singing and acting. Half of those sent to the school performed in a live show for specially invited guests. After this show, the final twelve were chosen to proceed to the live shows.

The lucky "Dannys": Jason Celaya, Max Crumm, Chad Doreck, Kevin Greene, Derek Keeling, and Austin Miller. Ian, Marshall and Jacobs decided to save a Danny-wannabe cut after Grease Academy—Matt Nolan.

The winning Danny will find his "Sandy" from the following contestants: Juliana Hansen, Kathleen Monteleone, Laura Osnes, Kate Rockwell, Allie Schultz, and Ashley Spencer. Like Nolan, a "Sandy" was also invited back after being eliminated: Ashley Anderson.

The contestants sang for the judges and were evaluated. Their fates were then placed into the voting public. The next week, the bottom two girls and the bottom two boys had one last saving

grace: after a "sing off", the judges had the final say on who was eliminated. The two second-chancers, Nolan and Anderson, were sent packing.

Since, they have been followed by Celaya, Greene, Doreck, and Keeling as well as Hansen, Monteleone, Rockwell, and Schultz.

Several shows have had themes, such as when Lloyd Webber guest hosted, all the

songs were Broadway songs. Most of these thus came from Webber's large collection of songs.

**Now that the finals are here, America ultimately decides who will grace the stage as Danny and Sandy.**

Recently, they had a Sandy-centric episode followed by a Danny-centric one (which is why there have been more Sandys eliminated than Dannys).

As the pool to choose from shrinks, those remaining are some of the more talented contestants—though that may also have something to do with the

judges having the final vote. However, now that the finals are here, America ultimately decides who will grace the stage as Danny and Sandy. Watching these would be Broadway stars is very entertaining every week, which maybe a reason why I keep tuning in.

If you have the chance, tune in. I'll still be watching and waving signs that say "Vote Laura" and "Chad for Danny." (Edit: This last sentence was written before Doreck was eliminated but he's still my favorite).



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After graduating from "Grease Academy," the panels named twelve finalists, shown above.

Broadway stage in a bizarre marriage. Maybe you've heard of it and have been wondering what it is about. Well, here it is:

The goal of the show is to find the Sandy and Danny for a new revival of the musical "Grease." The casting choice is in America's hands and, as hosts Billy Bush and Denise van Outen remind viewers every week, their decisions could spell either success or disaster for the production.

"You're the One that I Want" has its own harsh British judge, a la Simon Cowell in the form of producer David Ian. Ian has already found success via a reality show in Britain. He and Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber had the British cast Maria in their revival of "The Sound of Music" using

criticize the contestants along with Ian, but always remains positive. She is also more predictable and stable than recent reports suggest about "American Idol"'s Paula Abdul.

The last panelist is Jim Jacobs, who co-created the musical. He is often the panelist who will praise the contestants, no matter what the other two say. It is a rare occurrence when he criticizes a contestant, or so it seems. These three have more at stake than the "American Idol" trio. They have put their reputations into America's hands. And in Ian's case, his stake is even greater as it involves money. They are trying to find the best for their show and have received help from such guest panelists as

## Children will bring "Puss in Boots" to life for MCCTA's spring performance

By COURTNEY SAVOIA  
Staff Writer

The Marist College Council on Theatre Arts has been busy all semester planning and performing various productions. For many decades, MCCTA has been involved in the Children's Theatre program and this spring will be performing "Puss in Boots." Performances will be twice a day the week of March 26 to March 30 and on Mon. April 2 at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. for children only. Also, performances will be open to the general public from March 30 and 31 at 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Schools involved in this program include Hyde Park Nursery School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and Astor Head Start Program.

Auditions for "Puss in Boots" began at the end of February and everyone who tried out received a part. Kurtis McManus, the producer of "Puss in Boots," explained that this is the largest cast that MCCTA has had in awhile.

"The show consists of 81 performers that are broken down into three separate casts of 27 people," he said. "Since the cast is so large, three different people

had to play the same character and some parts had to be created in order to accommodate everyone."

Since "Puss in Boots" is a children's show, costumes and prop selection for this production differ slightly from other productions. It was a challenge to find costumes that complemented the personality of each character for all 81 members.

"Costumes for this production are very colorful and fun," said McManus. "Many symbolize royalty and include forms of embellishment, such as jewels and crowns."

Children's Theatre allows members of MCCTA to interact with the audience and have fun with the children. Steve Cubbellotti, who is the co-director, stated what he enjoys most about Children's Theatre.

"Children's Theatre is always a good time for the kids," he said. "It is a Marist tradition and members of the faculty and staff often enjoy attending with their own children."

In previous years, the Children's Theatre production has been very successful and is something the children look forward to.

"Since it is an interactive show, the children are usually very lively and enjoy participating," said McManus. "We do activities with them while on stage, such as the annual coloring contest where the best picture will win a prize. Children's Theatre is also different from other MCCTA productions because it allows for more creativity and expression."

"There is always more freedom with acting when we are doing Children's Theatre because we can have fun with it and create our own roles," said Cubbellotti.

Members of MCCTA have enjoyed rehearsing for this production and are excited to see how the children will react. Andrew Gallagher, the assistant director, explained how the cast has benefited from this experience.

"This has been a very good experience for all, but especially for freshmen," Gallagher said. "We had the largest turnout and it is a good way to get your foot in the door of MCCTA."

**"Costumes for this production are very colorful and fun," said McManus. "Many symbolize royalty and include forms of embellishment, such as jewels and crowns."**

**Members of MCCTA have enjoyed rehearsing for this production and are excited to see how the children will react.**

## Tyler's Top Ten Tips to Improve the Oscars

By TYLER THURSTON  
Staff Writer

Throughout the world, the seasons are changing. As time goes by and each day begins anew, the tall trees left barren of life by a brutal winter regain their green luster as spring approaches. The soothing spring breeze will then make way for humid summer days; humid summer days will eventually become fresh autumn nights—everything comes full circle.

Throughout the entertainment world, the season fading away is not winter or spring, but of course...awards season. While the rest of the world unpacks their spring clothes from closets and retires their Uggs and Northfaces, the E! camera crew packs up their equipment and Mary Hart begins to question the meaning of life. Like everyone else, though, this off-season allows time for reflection, and eventually preparation for the next season. Instead of wondering how to better conserve heat or pondering a move somewhere tropical, however, the entertainment community takes time to pause on the passing Oscars, which lately have left many expecting more. So, as the snow begins to melt and the spring rains begin to fall, I took some time to reflect myself, and am here to offer up my tips for a better awards season.

**10) Only one Lifetime achievement award**

Every year, certain awards are specially allotted to those deemed worthy of lifetime achievement. These awards are usually specially presented, with an introduction by a close friend or colleague followed by a moving speech and most likely a musical montage highlighting the accolades of the honoree. And every year, these awards seem to somehow multiply. Instead of deciding to bestow honor on many different individuals, wouldn't the better option to ensure a more effective show be to decide on one lifetime achievement award, placing greater emphasis on the chosen one?

**9) Remove Ryan Seacrest**

Remember the good old days of

Joan Rivers, when at least the prying into the private life of celebrities and insults were upfront and in-your-face? Today, Seacrest slips in questions about bodies of work and fantastic performances, all while waiting eagerly to ask Penelope Cruz if she's going to show up with Orlando Bloom, or what exactly the cast of Babel thinks of the Brangelina phenomenon. Stick to *American Idol*, Seacrest—you're much more effective when you're just making wannabe popstars squirm.

**8) Cut the campy openings**

Okay, I know it's cute and all, but seriously, I don't know anyone that wants to see a computer-generated penguin and *Little Miss Sunshine*'s Abigail Breslin in a scene together. They're two separate movies for a reason. Let's keep it that way.

**7) No more testimonials**

With gift baskets, luxurious gowns, primed and proper tuxes, and lavish meals, the Academy Awards are self-indulgent enough. So why congratulate one another even more through pointless montages serving as nothing more than a pat-on-the-back for a job well done?

**6) "Best Ensemble" Award**

To make sure that no talent is overlooked, the SAG Awards enacted a "Best Ensemble" award, recognizing the best overall cast for a feature film that year. Why shouldn't the Oscars do the same? This way, instead of underrated talent like Greg Kinnear and Anika Noni Rose being left out in the cold while their co-stars garner the attention, the Academy can effectively recognize the talent that went into the picture. Plus, it keeps egos in check—and then maybe Beyonce could throw away her Jennifer Hudson voodoo doll.

**5) Give awards away before**

Okay, let's start with a show of hands. How many of you tuned in on Oscar night to end the nail-biting saga of just who would win...Best Animated Short Film? No one? Just me? Honestly, and I am deeply sorry if I offend anyone whose cousin or uncle might be a short film-

maker, but I don't care. They have the Scientific and Technical Achievement Awards before the Oscars for a reason—to give out the awards no one wants televised. Plus, they always have a pretty young actress host and let's be honest...some of these guys could stand to have some close interaction with a female.

**4) Find a host (and stick with them)**

Three years, three different hosts. Half the publicity going into every Oscar night revolves around the comedian emceeding the event. Will Chris Rock be too offensive and young? Will Jon Stewart skew too political? Will Ellen DeGeneres dance? Find someone funny, and be consistent. This year, Ellen proved herself to be a worthy host. Next year, the questions should be erased.

**3) Spontaneity in speeches**

Oh, the speeches. Giving an acceptance speech must be hard; half the time you're engaging in a shout-off with the orchestra, and half the time you're just trying not to become an instant YouTube classic by face-planting on stage. But seriously people, if you're going to take the time to write out a whole speech, at least make it entertaining and meaningful. Don't just stand up there and thank God and your agents in the same sentence like they're of equal importance. Say something funny. Say something worthwhile. You have a literal soapbox—use it.

**2) Spread out the major categories**

If you think about it, award shows are kind of like a basketball game. All you really need to see is the last couple of minutes and you pretty much know what happened. It doesn't have to be this way, though. The nominees are in for the long haul—don't make them wait all night to start drinking for fear of an embarrassing acceptance.

**1) Keep it short**

No Oscars has to be longer than three hours. Seriously, I need to sleep sometime. Not that often, but sometime.



# one to one

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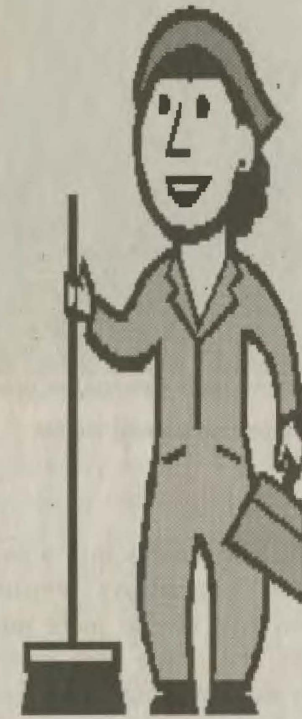
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# THE CIRCLE Features

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## Bridging the social gap between band kids and cheerleaders

By BRIAN LOEW  
Staff Writer

If you've been to a Marist College sporting event, you've probably seen her. Just before the halftime whistle, she runs from her spot on the cheerleading squad over to join the brass section of the pep band. Some look on a bit confused and wonder what's going on. But to Karen Pickford, she's just doing what she's always done - having fun.

The junior math major from Medford, New York has been balancing her two loves since her freshman year of high school at Patchogue-Medford High School. Pickford had been playing in the school band since the fourth grade, and when she entered high school, it wasn't a hard decision to give both a shot.

"I've wanted to play the trombone since I was two years old," Pickford said. "But I like to get involved with things at the school, too, and cheerleading was something I always looked at as a fun sport."

Coming from a very musical family, music has always been a large part of Pickford's life. Having a brother and sister as a current and future music teacher, respectively, she is continuing the tradition of Pickford musicians.

"There is always some type of music being played or sung in our house," she said. "For some time, I was deciding on either being a math or music teacher, and I finally decided on math. I'm not going to give up music after college, though. I would like to do some community bands or even

something at the school that I'll be teaching at - anything to stay with it."

Since music means so much to her at the same time as playing a sport, when she entered high school, and decided to give cheerleading a try, it was a relief that she didn't have to choose.

"Thankfully no one [made me choose], because I honestly don't know what I would do if I had to," she said.

Although no one made her choose, Pickford has found it difficult from time to time balancing her three scholastic worlds: sports, band and academics.

"It actually keeps me organized and helps me manage my time better," she said. "I know I only have so much time to get things done."

And how about balancing two different extracurricular activities? Thankfully, she said, those around her have always been extremely supportive of her decision to balance her passions.

"There are always complications arising with time issues," she said. "Art [Himmelberger, Marist Band director] and my coach have to both be patient with me and be willing to compromise, because I can't

be in two places at once."

Bethany Bohlin, a Marist College senior and Red Fox fan, respects the time and dedication that Pickford puts in to support her school.

"It's exhausting enough to be a fan in the student section," Bohlin said. "So I couldn't imagine the

It certainly does take up a lot of time, but she enjoys every minute of it. She practices cheering four days a week for two hours at a time, and band two days a week for about five hours.

"On top of all that, I have all the games," she said. "But those are my favorite."

In today's world, middle school and high school crowds can be as merciless as ever. David Zinn, adolescent psychiatrist at Chicago's Beacon Therapeutic Center, said in a 1999 Newsweek article, that although teenagers are becoming more tolerant in this generation, cliques are still prevalent. Was it a problem, then, when Pickford tried to bridge the world between "jock" and "band kid?"

"No one ever made fun of me - as far as I know anyway," she said laughingly. "I pretty much have always gotten the same reaction here at Marist and in high school: the confused look on their faces when I'm running to the band with my trombone in my hand in my cheerleading uniform. I think people like it though. It's something different."

Pickford is a great example to many young people out there that regardless of the strains of peer pressure, following your true passion is possible. Maybe it's a sign that those dreadful years of high school may be changing to one where everybody can be accepted regardless of extracurricular activity.

Is Pickford a black sheep in a society of cliques? I don't think so - she's just a breath of fresh air. She is proof that doing what you love - regardless of the time commitment - can be done.



Trombone player and cheerleader, Karen Pickford (center), with fellow cheerleaders Christine Martello (left) and Lauren Marra (right)

effort and dedication it takes to be both a cheerleader and a band member. I have a lot of respect for that."

## the gotham connection Newcomers Rock NYC's Knitting Factory

By JUSTINE MANN  
Staff Writer

Nestled away in the basement of The Knitting Factory, down the stairs and past the drive through style coat check; sits a short girl with brown hair and the latest issue of the New Yorker. She guards a set of large doors which hide the Old Office, a small bar and show room. As the bands set up, guests lounge on red booths and try to ignore the smell of the cold damp. The featured band tonight is Sucka Brown, a quartet hailing from Boston, Mass. Sucka Brown, a name referring to any random guy you see milling around, has gained a heavy following playing gigs in locations stretching from Albany to Virginia. "They definitely rocked the Cashbah!" exclaims Joann Lai, a Sucka follower. The Sucka's have recently been working on their second album, What Elephant?. The new CD hopes to convey a message of hope to the people. Listeners are told to get involved and realize that there is more to life than money. When I spoke to Brendan Hall, the lead singer, the Sucka's were in the studio, busy laying down tracks for their new album. This album is different from their first (Extra Medium), which featured an eclectic mix of songs, some written before all the band mates came together. As for the new CD Hall "just want(s) people to listen." For the Sucka's it's

about getting the message out, and not raking in the dough. The group began with Todd Denman (guitar) and Scott Sowden (bass), who have been friends since high school, Matt Slowick (drums) joined them after meeting Todd at Berklee College of Music. Hall joined the group after hearing about an audition in a chat room online. Soon Sucka Brown was born. Of course, the guys all have full time jobs to work with, which makes traveling a hassle. Hall describes it as a "firehouse" rush. Running from work, to their practice space, and then loading the van for a gig. The guys get through it with their quirky sense of humor; which is apparent even in Hall's goodbye. "I've gotta go record some vocals right now. I'm being beckoned." The album Extra Medium is on Ruckus.com for download as well as on iTunes, and their website Suckabrown.com. The songs alone are chart-worthy, but the Boston boys are even better live. They earned their spot on the Knitting Factory stage by giving an all out energetic performance. They blew away the previous acts with a great set including covers such as Talking Heads "Psycho Killer" and their original tune "Look so Well". They gave the show their all as Hall punched the ceiling and Todd wailed on his guitar (even loosing a contact in the process). Sucka Brown is definitely a band to watch, and not just because they're cute.

## Marist ROTC program prepares students for a strong future

By GABBY PICARELLO, BRIDGET COLELLA,  
AND TRAVIS MILLER  
Circle Contributors

Sweat permeates the air as Sgt. 1st Class Roy J. Mowearly guides physical training.

"One, one thousand, two, one thousand, three, one thousand," the cadets count, as they stretch their hamstrings.

After their warm-up, the cadets engage in numerous rounds of push-ups and sit-ups and finish their training with running. It's Monday, 6 a.m. and these cadets have already woken up, gotten dressed, and started their day at the McCann Center gym.

Of the five Marist students participating in Reserve Officers' Training Corps, four are males and one is female, according to Mowearly, who is in charge of the program on the Marist campus.

ROTC is in its second year at Marist College. It is an extension of the program at Fordham

University in New York City, so Marist does not have a fully staffed ROTC office.

Nationwide, there are fully staffed ROTC programs at 293 colleges, according to the U.S. Army Web site. In addition, there are over 700 extension programs.

The Web site says that almost 60 percent of commissioned officers in the U.S. Army graduated from a ROTC program.

Maj. Jeremy Sumpman, an officer at the Fordham chapter, says it is important to keep students interested in participating in the Corps. He says the most common misconception is that joining ROTC means enlisting in the army is mandatory. Sumpman says committing to the army is an option that a cadet decides by their junior year.

"One thing students should know is that they can do ROTC," he said. "You just have to want to do it."

To enlist in ROTC, one must be a healthy, full-

SEE ROTC, PAGE

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## From Features

## Inside Marist Singers: a harmony of voices in tune

By JILLIAN GIBSON, MEGAN SHANNON,  
AND CAITLIN QUINN  
Circle Contributors

As the last of the chatty 'Singers' trickle into the dreary basement room of the Music Department, the assistant director of choral activities, Sarah Williams, passes out the latest sheet music to the ladies and sings for them to stand up. Standing on risers, the women begin humming the scale, part of the warm-up routine.

This basement rehearsal is preparing the Singers for their next performance on April 1 at 3 p.m. They will perform at the Bardavon Opera House with the Marist College concert band and orchestra.

Julie Mellen is a sophomore Singer who enjoys the style of music they sing.

"We sing more modern and contemporary

music," she said, "as well as classical."

Singers includes 60 women and is directed by Christopher Sheehan and Sarah Williams. Julie Lavin is another sophomore Singer.

"Some material is challenging," she said, "but Sarah guides us well."

That's part of the appeal of the group, according to Graveline.

"I really enjoy the non-stressful attitude of this club" Graveline said. "Having a scheduled break in my evening gives me a way to escape from the class work and studying."

Mellen is among the many music minors in Singers.

"Many of us are just a group of people that love to have music as part of our everyday lives," she said "although some do aspire to have careers in music."

Lavin enjoys the experience of singing onstage.

"It's not until you perform a piece of music that you hear and feel the completeness and real story of the music" she said.

"The most rewarding part is the performances when you get to see and hear all of your hard work put together."

If a student is looking for a more difficult range of music, the Select Choir requires an audition

and meets separately from Singers. The Singers rehearse twice a week, Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

The rich sound of the Yamaha piano and director, Williams' angelic voice singing "stand up" signals that rehearsal has begun. The women stand on their risers and begin the warm-ups and stretches.

Williams stands in the middle of the room and closes her eyes. "Listen to each other," she says -- and the blending of the individual voices begins.



Marist Singers Women's Ensemble, The Sirens. From Left: Laura Ann Winters, Kerri Lorenz, Kaitlyn Lyons, Katie Spies, Megan Frey, Stephanie Markey, Kate Budzinski, Kristen Spirko, and Laura DeMarzo

To join Singers no previous music background is required and auditions are not necessary. Megan Graveline recently joined.

"The appeal of this group is that anyone that loves to sing can join," she said, "even staff members may join if they so wish."

## A break in the middle of the madness

By MICHAEL MALONEY  
Staff Writer

For those who reside in the northeastern part of the United States, the cold weather probably made this past week feel more like winter break than spring break. Yet, regardless if you were in a North Face or shorts & sandals, this middle week in March provided us with an enjoyable time off from our collegiate lives. Midterms were a bitch (for those who had them), and you can only eat Taste Changers for so long before needing some of mom's barbecue.

Now for some, this past week was an opportunity to escape the

cold, trading in their pasty white skin for some Banana Boat darkness. Personally, I hoped on airplane and headed south for Houston (flew jetBlue - which is awesome. There have mini screens with 36 channels of live TV. On the flight back I was able to catch up on The Hills, Two-days)

While at home, I was able to sleep late, eat Mexican food, and go to the Rodeo. I was able to return to form, recharge my Verizon Wireless battery and get ready for the final stretch of spring semester. And while I was on my journey back to Marist College, I flashed back to high school days, watching Coop's

(Anderson Cooper 360) coverage of spring break - hearing of the vast amounts of college students who headed down to Florida to enjoy a week in which only few fully remember. I may not have spent my week in Florida, but I was still in shorts and a white tee the whole time.

Spring break means something different for a lot of people. For Art and the gang, it meant going to California with some of Poughkeepsie's finest to cheer our women's basketball team to victory against Ohio State. For others, the week included a first time flying episode, winning an all you can eat beef brisket contest, as well as getting a tattoo

that reads, "kick their ass and take their gas,"

So no matter what you did or where you went, I hope it was an enjoyable time off. However, now that we're all back, we must continue on with our collegiate experience - As I have learned thus far, that also means something different to all of us. Yes, it's nice to get away from pot-town every now and again, but true be told, I couldn't wait to stick my head out the Benoit window around 3:17 to give some shout-outs to those heading and returning from class.

Who knows, maybe I'll see YOU at "the 3:30 rush."

## A fashionista's guide to vacation packing

By KATE GOODIN  
Staff Writer

This week my column will deviate slightly from fashion to another more relevant topic: packing. A good percentage of the Marist population will be jet setting their way anywhere from Cancun to Hawaii to as far as Prague, and whether you are flying first class, hopping on the train, or driving, we all need to pack.

Packing has always been a struggle for me because I am one of those "just in case" packers. I pack clothes, shoes, and accessories for nearly every possible scenario on vacation. I inevitably bring twice the amount of clothes I need, berate myself for over packing, and then do it all over again the next time I go on a trip.

So what's the trick? How do you pack a sufficient amount of clothing whilst maintaining some semblance of fashion consciousness and ensuring that you have something for any and every situation that could arise?

Fortunately, I learned my lesson in packing when I studied in London last semester: only two checked bags allowed, each weighing at maximum 23 kg (51 lbs), for three and half months worth of clothes, accessories, and shoes. Somehow I managed to stuff each suitcase to its breaking point without exceeding the weight limit, and I used these strategies to help me pack a little lighter.

First and most important: pack well ahead of time. If you pack the morning of your trip or even the night before an early departure,

you will panic and over pack. Avoid that by packing beforehand as early as possible. Also, make a list. It doesn't have to be specific, but if you feel like you might forget it, write it down.

Second, be ruthless. I started packing a week before I left for London, and each day I would go through my suitcase and take out any items I thought about and decided I no longer needed. Unfortunately since most of

might work for fellow women: pack an all-occasion dress. An all-occasion dress can be dressed up or down depending on accessories and is usually made of a jersey material that won't wrinkle. It's a great staple to layer with and can take you anywhere from a walk on the beach to a swanky café in Paris. Men, I suggest bringing a casual yet tailored jacket in a color that matches most of your attire. You could easily throw this over pretty much anything and you instantly look pulled together.

For toiletries, I recommend bringing sample sizes. I have a drawer full of samples from hotels that I save for trips. It's much easier to pack disposable samples than a full-size bottle. If you don't have samples, try to decant your toiletries into smaller bottles or buy travel sizes. One thing I always, always do with my liquid toiletries, i.e. sunscreen or toothpaste, is wrap them in zip top bags. I have saved many a suitcase from an explosive shampoo bottle this way. Zip top bags also make a great makeshift shower caddy and, in a pinch, can serve as a washing machine if you don't have a drain stopper or access to a machine (this is a great tip I read from Magellan's travel guide- add soap and water to the bag, put the garment in, zip the bag and agitate the bag with your hands; rinse out the garment and hang to dry).

Wherever you're going, take the opportunity to relax, catch up on reading, hang out with friends, or spend time with family. We won't get spring breaks for much longer, so savor that week as a time to think about and do anything but work or academics. Stay safe, have fun, and pack well!



us cannot start packing a week in advance, make sure you give yourself enough time to lay out your suitcase items and weed out the ones you really don't need. That extra shirt or pair of pants will not have its feelings hurt if you leave it behind.

Third, mix and match. I know it's such a clichéd rule of packing, but it works. Pick a color scheme and pack clothes that go with it. If you are packing a lot of browns and blues, refrain from throwing in a green garment. This also limits the accessories you have to bring; bring only your shoes, jewelry, or handbags that match your colors.

Here's a great tip for "just in case" packers, and one that works really well for me and

## Marist ROTC promotes a disciplined lifestyle

"You don't have to be in amazing shape. Just healthy enough to do physical fitness," Sumpman said.

ROTC offers financial benefits for cadets who have committed to the army, according to Sumpman. The scholarship program will pay for students' tuition and fees, including \$450 per semester for books and a monthly stipend, which varies by grade level. Freshmen receive \$300 per month, sophomores \$350, juniors \$450 and seniors \$500.

If a student wishes to commit to the Army, the contract lasts for eight years, not including his or her time in college. Soldiers can serve in different combinations of service, including active duty, inactive duty, Army Reserve, or the National Guard. After college, cadets enter the military as Second Lieutenants, the first level for Commissioned Officers in the Army.

According to ROTC, once involved, cadets gain a wide range of experience and training. Cadets are encouraged to participate in a one-three-hour class per week, a leadership lab once a month, two field-training exercises per month, and physical training three mornings a week. Physical training lasts about an hour and consists of running to warm up, performing cardiovascular exercises, and jogging to warm down.

According to freshman cadet Jordan Kieschnick, three or four days out of each semester is spent performing field training exercises in places such as Fort Dix, NJ.

"We do real life training," he said.

However, Maj. Sumpman says that recruiting students for ROTC can sometimes be a challenge.

"The Marist community is very receptive to ROTC," he said. "The problem is making sure there are people really interested. People tend to not be healthy enough or not physically fit."

Kieschnick says he joined ROTC this year in order to be a step ahead of his peers.

"I joined for patriotism," he said. "It's not so much about financial need for me. I would like to end up as an FBI agent, and the military is a good stepping-stone for that. After serving time, they can help me pay for grad. school, which can then lead me to a career at West Point."

Kieschnick says ROTC offers security, as well as a direct career plan after graduation.

"Compared to a lot of my friends that don't know what they are doing after college, if I finish my requirements I know exactly what I'm going to do after college," he said.

ROTC training at Marist is ideal for students who wish to be in the military after college, according to Kieschnick.

"I will get the training that I will need to lead soldiers into any branch [of the military] that I decide," he said. "This is the training that I will need to keep my men and myself alive."

According to Kieschnick, even if students do not commit, the ROTC is a great experience.

"My favorite part of being in the ROTC is that I'm a part of something that's bigger than myself," he said.

The cadets wipe the sweat from their faces before they head back to their dorms. They now have a half hour to shower, eat breakfast, and get to their 8 a.m. classes.

## My Spring Break Wednesday

By MICHELLE MORGAN  
Circle Contributor

Spring break. It was the event that kept me going throughout the spring semester. The week I would get to see my old friends, sleep in my uber-comfortable loft bed, and savor my mother's home cooking. True to my personality, I had every day planned down to the tiniest details. So-and-so on Monday, such-and-such on Tuesday, etc...

However, my agenda went down the drain on Wednesday, the 14th of March.

It all went downhill when my friend cancelled on me at the last minute. None of my other friends were available to hang out that day, so I surrendered myself to a day alone. It would be a change of pace after having lived in a triple for the past few months. Because I was tired from the previous night, I decided to stay inside and relax in the livingroom. I had a grand time lounging and eating junk food until four hours passed, at which point I got antsy. With only tele-

vision stars to keep me company (my parents were out for the evening), I was getting sick of watching the same soap opera theme or music video on nearly every channel.

I was about to resign to taking an evening nap in order to waste time, when inspiration struck. A smile bloomed on my face as I looked down. What was I looking at? My dog, Ginger, was curled up on her cushions next to the stereo. I crept over to her, picked up her fuzzy 11 lb. frame, and sat back down on the sofa. She rested her head on my crossed legs and I pet her and cuddled with her for the rest of the night.

I was ashamed that it took me so long to realize that I could spend the day bonding with my puppy. My day ended up quite fulfilling. Especially when my mom came home, and Ginger, who adores my mother, chose to remain on my lap, rather than jump down to greet her. All-in-all, it was a day well spent.



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# Opinion

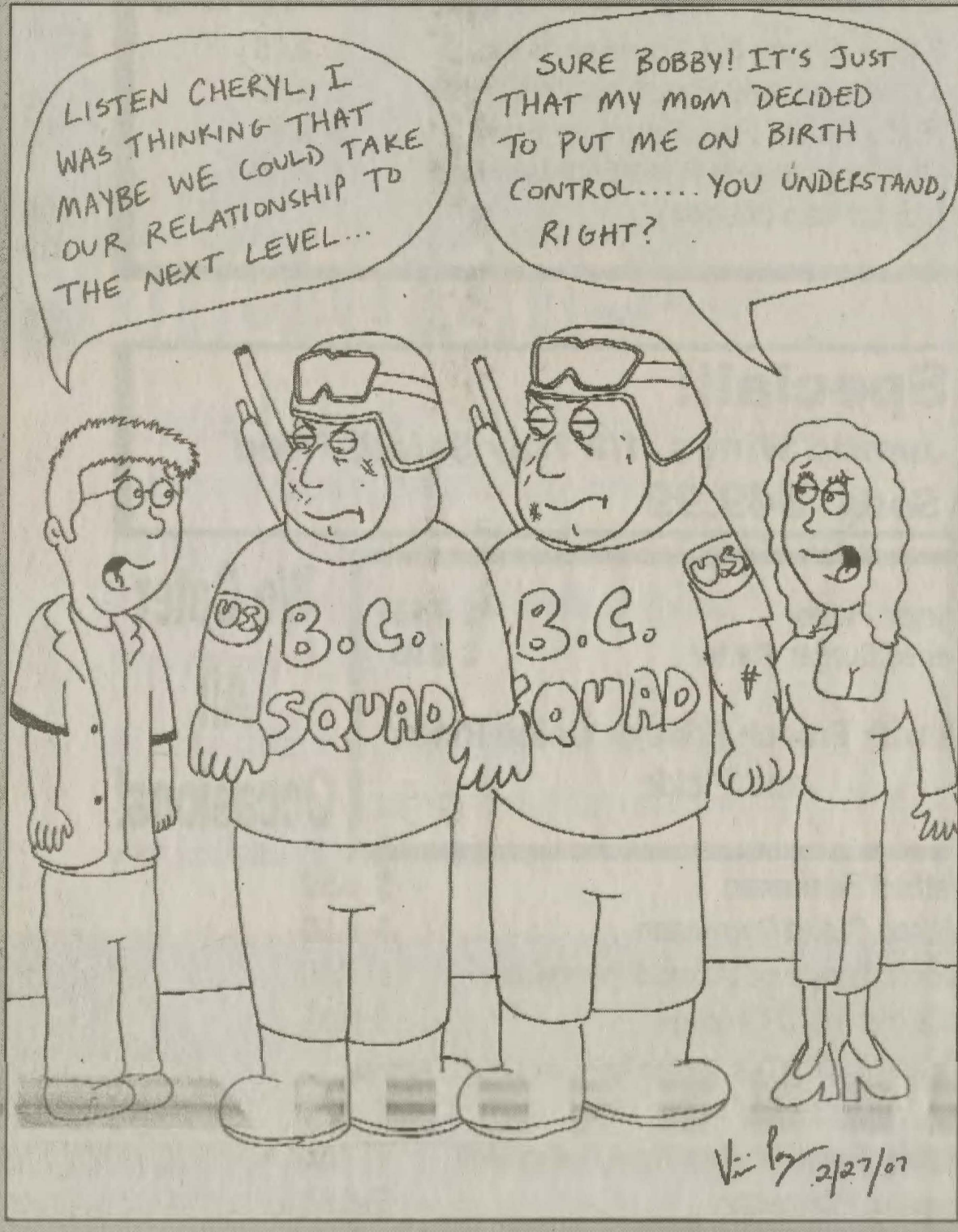
THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007

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Let the voices of the Marist community be heard.

cartoon corner  
By VINNIE PAGANO



## Letters to the Editor

### 'Improvements' to campus consistently shallow

To the editor,

Many Marist students are talking about the new design plans for Marist. Knock down Benoit and Gregory, put up this building, move this road there, insert patch of green here, etc. These projects cost a lot of money; money that could be spent elsewhere. When I speak to my friends about Marist, we never seem to conclude that we lack "tennis courts" or quasi-stadiums. The complaint is always about the quality of education. Students don't want to be taught by adjuncts from Dutchess

Community or inferior institutions. Frankly, we pay more than triple for something better (I hope). There are many quotes in our "5 year plan" presented in Marist Magazine that compare us to Harvard and other elites. Yet these comparisons are superficial and aesthetic. Do we really want to "look" like an elite institution? Are we trying to feign greatness? Rather, we should do it the hard way by working on changes that cannot be seen with the naked eye or pointed to on tours.

—Dennis DiBari

### Support for women's hoops should be as ardent as men's

It's official. The women's and men's basketball team have officially put Marist College and Poughkeepsie, NY on the map.

The men had a terrific season, capped off with a triumphant upset against OSU in the NIT prior to falling short to the venerable NC State program (by a mere 7 points might I add, a very competitive deficit). Their representation of the men's talent in the MAAC was far more impressive than that of Niagara's in the first round slaughtering by Kansas in the NCAA tournament. But then again, that's why the Jayhawks had a number one seed, I guess.

While it's no secret on the Marist campus that, throughout the season, the Marist women had much more of a subdued following, their record, athleticism and humility was no doubt inspiring. They made MAAC history, being not only the first team to make the Sweet 16, but to be the first to even make it past the first round. They made NCAA history by being only the third 13th seed to make it this far...and then to silence a team with a 27 game winning streak, wow. And they almost didn't even make it to the tournament...remember the Iona OT scare?!

I admit, I followed the team more online than I did in the stands all season, but when I got Travis' email about a "welcome home" rally- I knew I was going to be there. It wasn't about being a "bandwagon" or "fair-weather" fan, but rather, to support and appreciate what these women have done not only for the program, but for the Marist College and greater Poughkeepsie community.

I was so excited to see faculty, administration and board members in attendance. President Murray and Timmian Massie had smiles tattooed on their faces. Students from all classes were there donning Marist basketball apparel. The band lit up the crowd full of soccer, football and lacrosse players, track runners and crew rowers. While it was a modest sized crowd, it was still a proud and boisterous group of fans. However, the one question of everyone's minds was where was the men's team? Not one men's player showed up for their female counterparts, not one. Giorgous in his 'thank you' speech gave great credit to the men's program...it's a shame none of them were there to hear it. Moreover it's a disappointment none of them were there to support the women's team and their continued success.

I remember seeing the women in the stands at multiple men's games, including the MAAC clincher against Siena and in Bridgeport for the tournament. I can understand night class, meetings or prior engagements; but I can't understand, nor will I accept the fact that not one representative from the men's program made the trek to McCann to welcome the ladies. I would hope that at some point before the women jet off to Dayton on Friday, whether publicly or privately, the men's team offers encouragement to the women in their effort for the elite eight.

All the best to the Marist women. Tennessee who?

—Marissa Nelson

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The Circle welcomes letters from Marist students, faculty and staff as well as the public. Letters may be edited for length and style. Submissions must include the person's full name, status (student, faculty, etc.) and a telephone number or campus extension for verification purposes.

Letters without these requirements will not be published. Letters can be dropped off at The Circle office or submitted through the 'Letter Submission' link on MaristCircle.com

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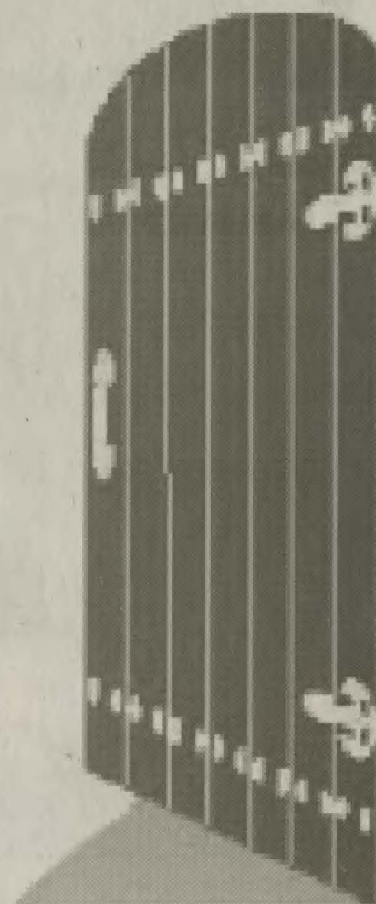
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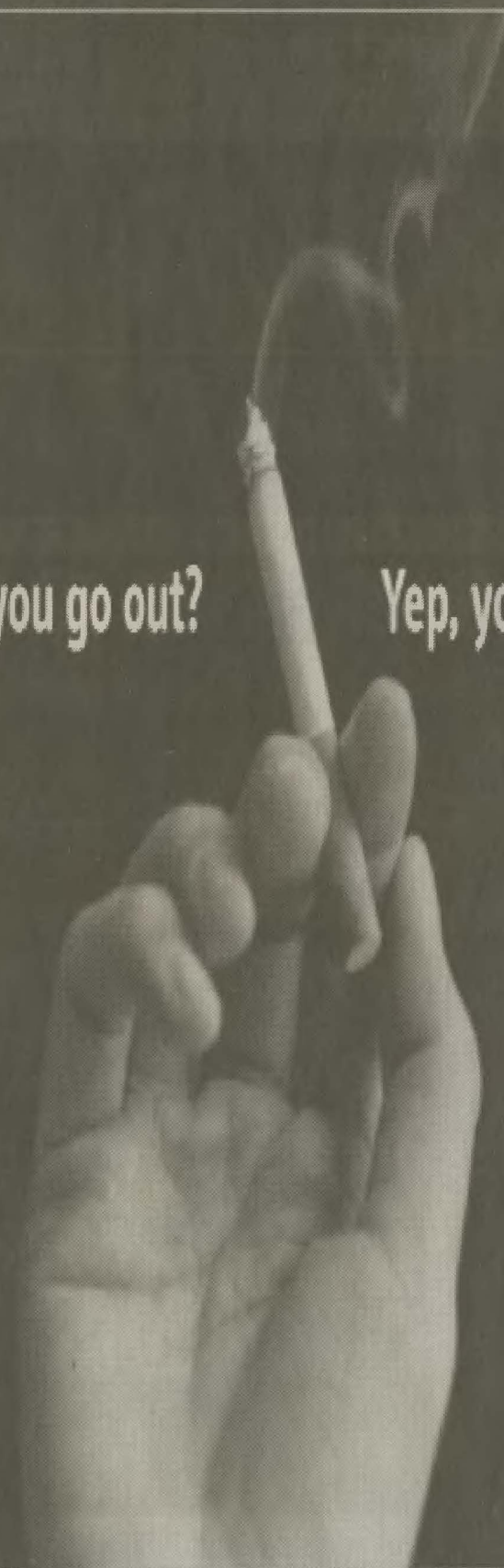
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# Red Foxes earn first ever NIT victory by upsetting OSU



BRODY SCHMIDT/AP PHOTO

Senior point guard, Jared Jordan, is defended by Oklahoma State guard Byron Eaton during the first half of the Red Foxes' first round game of the NIT at Stillwater, Okla., Tuesday, Mar. 13. Marist, the no. 7 seed, upset the no. 2 seeded Cowboys, 67-64 for the school's first ever victory in either the NCAA or NIT tournaments.

By **JOE FERRARY**  
Staff Writer

After a disappointing exit in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) postseason tournament, the Marist men's basketball team rebounded by securing a 67-64 upset victory over Oklahoma State in Stillwater, Oklahoma last Tuesday night.

With the victory the Red Foxes improved their already historic record to 25-8 while the Cowboys fell to 22-13. In addition to knocking off the number two seeded Cowboys, Marist

became just the third non-conference school to win at Gallagher-Iba Arena in the Cowboys' last 140 non-conference games.

Head Coach Matt Brady said the victory over Oklahoma State, a team that was ranked as high as no. 9 in the country during the year, on its home court was special on many different levels.

"This was an historic win for our program," Brady said. "To beat a school from the Big 12 on their own home court is pretty special. They were a top 25 team in the beginning of the year, and with a couple of more wins in their conference they should

have been either a four or five seed in the NCAA Tournament."

The Red Foxes were led by senior guard Will Whittington, who scored a game-high 31 points, including five three pointers, while going a perfect 10-10 from the foul line. Red-shirt junior forward Ryan Stilphen chipped in with 16 points and seven boards.

Mario Boggan and Obi Muonelo paced the Cowboys with 12 points and six rebounds apiece.

Oklahoma State opened the game on a 4-0 run, but the Red Foxes responded to take the lead

6-4 with 17:03 left in the first half on a Will Whittington three-pointer. Marist would hold on to that lead for the remainder of the contest.

Over the course of the first half, Marist found themselves up by as many as 13 points 37-24 with 1:22 to go on a Ryan Stilphen three-pointer.

During the half Marist shot 53.3 percent from behind the arc (8-15) and lead 37-26 at the half.

One of the keys to the first half, as well as the entire game, was keeping the crowd noise down, according to Brady.

"Oklahoma State is routinely named one of the toughest places to play in the entire country by various sporting magazines," Brady said. "One way that we could control the crowd was to limit our turnovers and their fast break dunks. We did that."

In the second half Marist continued where they left off, building their lead to as many as 17 points (52-35) with 13:05 left in the game, but Oklahoma would chip away at the Red Fox lead.

The man who fueled the Cowboys in the second half was Terrel Harris, who went 3-4 from beyond the arc to bring the Cowboys as close as one, 65-64 with 43.7 seconds to go.

Whittington was fouled with 11 seconds to go and hit both of his foul shots, extending the lead to three points, 67-64. Marist purposely fouled Byron Eaton, who missed both free throws. The second, he missed on purpose which led to a scramble and then a missed game-tying three-pointer by Muonelo with five seconds to go.

This was Marist's first post-season win for both the men's and women's basketball programs in either the NCAA or NIT Tournament. The women would follow up with the school's first NCAA win just four days later.

Head Coach Brady said that this win was especially sweet after the semi-final loss to Siena had soured the Red Foxes season.

"This win over Oklahoma State definitely takes away some of the pain of not making the NCAA Tournament," Brady said. "We beat a top-25 team on the road and that is pretty special. This is something that our seniors will

always remember."

## Second Round

In the second round of the NIT Tournament, the Red Foxes faced North Carolina State in Raleigh, N.C. on Friday night.

In front of a sold-out crowd at Reynolds Coliseum, the Wolfpack defeated Marist 69-62. With the win, N.C. State improved its record to 20-15, while Marist fell to 25-9.

The Wolfpack had five players score in double figures, including a game-high 19 points and ten rebounds for Ben McCauley. Fellow teammate, Gavin Grant, finished with a game-high 12 rebounds and 13 points.

Marist once again was led by senior guard Will Whittington who scored 18 points including five three-pointers. Senior center, James Smith, led the team with seven rebounds.

The Red Foxes opened the game on an 11-4 run over the first three minutes of the game, including two three-pointers from Smith.

Brady was pleased with the way his team played the first 12 minutes of the game.

"We played good basketball during the first 12 minutes of the game," Brady said. "But during the last eight minutes of the first half, we just hardly put any points on the board."

With 12:22 left to go in the first half, the game was tied at 14. At the end of the first half, Marist found themselves down 14 points 33-19.

During his halftime talk, Brady talked about his teams overall energy level.

"This was the first time during the entire season that I said this," Brady said. "If we were going to lose this game, then we were going to go down swinging."

Marist would pull within six points 49-43 on a Ryan Stilphen lay-up, but the Wolfpack responded with a 11-4 run to put the game out of reach. N.C. State would go on to win the game 69-62.

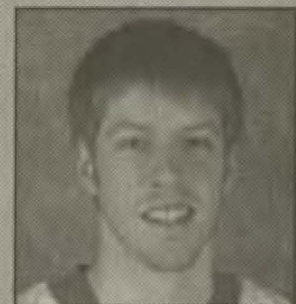
Brady was proud of his team's performance this year.

"When I walked into the locker after the game, our players had their heads down," Brady said. "We have no reason to hang our heads after the year that we had. We finished with the best season in school history."



## Roarin' Red Foxes

Marist's male and female star performer for the NIT and NCAA tournaments.



### Will Whittington

Basketball, Senior Whittington shot 8-20 from the field and 10-10 from the free throw-line, to score 31 points against Oklahoma State. He played all 40 minutes in the Red Foxes 67-64 upset. He shot 5-13 from behind the arc and added three rebounds as well.

### On the horizon:

Head coach Matt Brady and the Marist Red Foxes will look to retool next year. The team loses 5 seniors, including three starters: Jared Jordan, James Smith, and Will Whittington.



### Alisa Kresge

Basketball, Senior Kresge played in 79 of 80 minutes in the Red Foxes two NCAA tournament wins over Ohio State and Middle Tennessee. In the two games, she totaled 17 assists, 5 steals, 8 rebounds, and 6 points.

### On the Horizon:

The Red Foxes advanced to the sweet sixteen in Dayton, Ohio where they will face off against the Tennessee Lady Vols on Saturday, Mar. 24.



\* Photos courtesy of [www.goredfoxes.com](http://www.goredfoxes.com)

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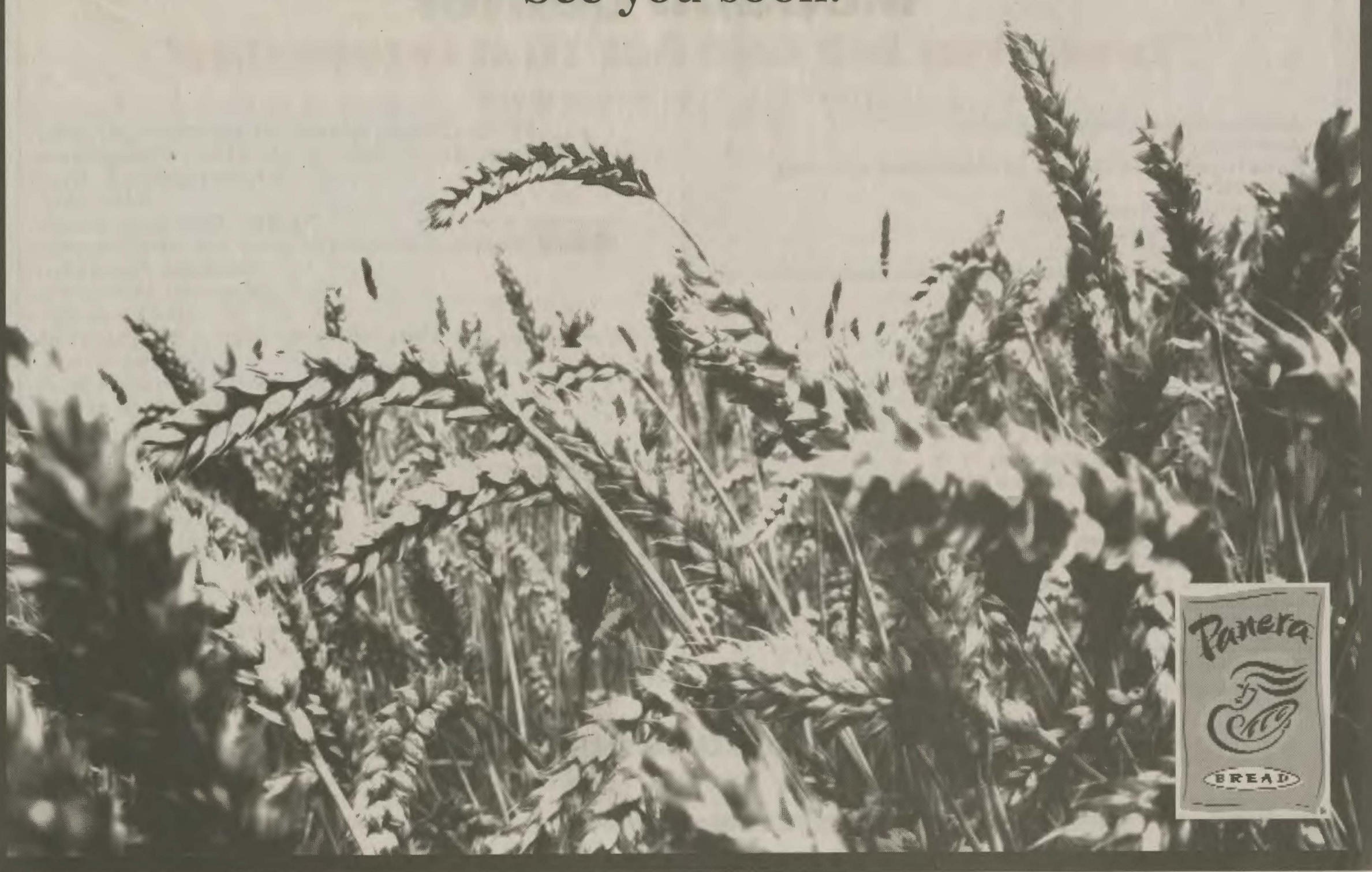
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# THE CIRCLE Sports

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007

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PAGE 14

## Marist shocks nation, still dancing in Sweet Sixteen



PAUL SAKUMA/AP PHOTO

Rachele Fitz (#12) along with Sarah Smrdel (far right) and the rest of the Red Foxes celebrate after shocking the nation with a 73-59 victory over Middle Tennessee State this past Monday night in Stanford, California.

By RICH ARLEO  
Staff Writer

How sweet it is! The Marist Red Foxes pulled off two major upsets in the first two rounds of the Women's NCAA Basketball Tournament to advance to the Sweet-16. They became the first team from the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) to win a game in the NCAA tournament by defeating no. 4 Ohio

State on St. Patrick's Day, 67-63. They then pulled off another major upset and tied for the lowest seed to make the Sweet-16 after stopping fifth-seeded Middle Tennessee's 27-game winning streak by a convincing score of 73-59 this past Monday night.

The Red Foxes dream run first began with a surprising upset over the heavily-favored Ohio State Buckeyes.

Guard Julianne Viani scored a

career-high 24 points, nailing six 3-pointers, including three in an 18-5 run in the second half.

Marist was able to close out the win in the final seconds as Viani hit two free-throws with 18.1 seconds left to increase the lead to five. Nikki Flores, the team's best at the foul line, then sank her free-throws after being fouled with 8.2 seconds left. Marist then secured a loose ball as the final seconds ticked away and the upset was official.

Junior center, Meg Dahlman, had the tough task of stopping Ohio State's three-time Big Ten player of the year, Jessica Davenport. She stepped up her game and was able to hold Davenport to a quiet 13 points and five rebounds.

A key point in the game seemed to come when Dahlman took a hard elbow in the face from Davenport that threw her to the ground in the first five minutes of the game. Marist came out cold, shooting just 9-23 to begin the game. No foul was called, but the hard hit came in front of the Red Foxes' bench, which many Marist fans were seated behind. The so-called "inadvertent" elbow seemed to light a fire under the Red Foxes as they were able to hang with the hot-shooting Buckeyes, going into halftime trailing by just four after Viani hit a three-pointer at the buzzer.

Marist swarmed Ohio State all game with tight defense, and forced the Buckeyes into 23 turnovers, 11 by Davenport, who was frustrated by Dahlman as well as the double and triple-teams she faced all night long. Senior point guard Alisa Kresge also had a strong game, playing all 40-minutes while dishing out eight assists, three steals and four rebounds while committing only three turnovers.

Freshman Rachele Fitz, the team's leading scorer, had another solid game, scoring 16 points and adding 5 rebounds.

Led by stellar defense and Viani's 24 points, Marist was able to pull off the shocking upset over Ohio State, which set up a second-round match-up against red-hot Middle Tennessee.

The Blue Raiders were coming off an 85-46 blowout of Gonzaga, which gave them their 27th win in a row. They came in with a vaunted full-court press that had seemed unbreakable throughout the season. The Red Foxes knew they had their work cut out for them; however, they knew they had three great ball-handlers in Kresge, Flores and Viani, and a great coach in Brian Giorgis to help them get prepared.

And he was. The women played to their strengths as they have all season, and they were able to trot their way to the upset, handing Middle Tennessee its first loss since November 26.

Nikki Flores scored 21 points to lead Marist. She was followed by Viani and Dahlman, who added 13 each, as well as freshman Lynzee Johnson, who scored all of her 7 points during a key 15-2 run in the second half that played a big role in securing the victory for the Red Foxes.

Marist led the nation in fewest turnovers per-game, and they continued that success against a team that forces almost 27 turnovers per-game by only committing 12 turnovers all game. The reason for that great ball protection was Marist's senior leader, Alisa Kresge, who once again played all 40 minutes, and finished with only five turnovers while dishing out nine assists, four rebounds, and two steals.

The Blue Raiders went on a 9-0 run to take a 20-19 lead in the first half, but after the score was tied at 26, Viani once again began sinking threes, hitting two in a row to spark a 14-3 run for Marist going into the half.

Marist forced the Blue Raiders out of its full-court press into a three-quarter court press, which wasn't enough to make the Red Foxes turn the ball over; on the other hand, Marist continued to put the pressure on Middle Tennessee all game.

After the buzzer sounded, the team stormed the court in celebration, and sprinted off into the locker room screaming with joy.

The Red Foxes continue on to the sweet sixteen in Dayton, Ohio, where it faces the no. 1 seeded Tennessee Lady Vols (29-3) of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). Tennessee advanced having won Tuesday night against Pittsburgh, 68-54.

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