



Marchers in NYC protest House bill HR 4437

By JAMES MARCONI
News Editor

The immigration debate which has sparked public protests across the nation reached New York City on April 1. The Great Walk in Solidarity with Immigrants drew thousands of people in a march which began at the Brooklyn Bridge and ended at the federal office building in lower Manhattan.

Protesters gathered at the end of the route to listen to a press conference given by NY Senator Reverend Ruben Diaz, the New York Hispanic Clergy Organization, Radio Vision Christiana Inc., C.O.N.L.I.C.O. Confraternity of Religious Leaders of New York, among other speakers. The unifying theme behind both the confer-

ence and the walk was opposition to HR 4437, a bill which would criminalize illegal immigration and those who aid illegal immigrants to the United States.

One Marist student, freshman Diana Olivarez, attended the walk. She said that this particular issue is close to home for her, as her parents and many people from her family and community are immigrants.

"A lot of my family and community would be affected," Olivarez said, "apart from the fact that I don't think it's fair. It will affect immigrants as a whole."

Olivarez said that HR 4437 is a bill which would adversely affect immigrants' quality of life, mentioning the hardships that they endure. She said that beyond sending money earned to

family back in their home countries, illegal immigrants actually pay taxes, which puts a further drain on their income. HR 4437 would only add to these problems by alienating people who are willing to aid illegal immigrants.

"If they help immigrants in any way, [the government] would make that a crime. It would really mess up their [immigrants'] lives...deny them basic adult needs," said Olivarez.

The Great Walk in Solidarity with Immigrants, according to Olivarez, was a way in which people could protest what they see as an inhumane bill. Coming together towards a common goal had a bonding effect, she said.

"Everyone was united, talking to each other [about this issue]."

SEE IMMIGRATION, PAGE 7



Courtesy: REUTERS/GETTY IMAGES

Thousands of people marched from the Brooklyn Bridge to lower Manhattan on April 1 in protest of HR 4437, a bill that would make illegal immigration and aiding illegal immigrants federal felonies.

Gerry's Pizzeria closed after devastating fire

By ALEX PANAGIOTOPOULOS
Campus Editor

Marist graduate and local entrepreneur Gerry Tenebruso is predicting his charred pizzeria will open its doors in September, if at all.

Gerry's Pizzeria, a popular late-night destination for students across Route 9, was severely damaged in a fire at about 1:20 A.M. March 30. The building has been deemed unsafe and has been closed, while neighboring K&D Deli and The Cuttery remain open. An investigation into the cause of the fire has pinpointed its origin to the pizzeria's bathroom.

Tenebruso said that rumors of

foul play are largely unfounded.

"No cigarettes, nothing like that, it was most likely an electrical fire of some sort," he said. "I put everything I had into that place. I kind of was depending on it... people assume insurance takes care of everything, but they don't think about how long you're out of work."

Tenebruso said that a re-opening is contingent upon what his insurance company does.

"It's a waiting game, it's all up to them now," he said. "Until I get solid numbers on what I'm working with, I don't know. If I don't get what I need, I won't be able to work with the shop anymore."

SEMS evaluation available online

By COURTNEY KRETZ
Co Editor-in-Chief

The Marist Office of Institutional Research and Planning (OIRP) has posted their annual Student Evaluation of Marist Services (SEMS) survey online for the first time.

Each year, for over a decade, the OIRP has conducted this survey to gauge the campus services offered to students. These services dining, security, parking, advising, counseling, and check cashing services. Subjects like Marist "cultural" and "socially", as well as student life are also included in the survey.

This year, rather than administering the survey to a random sample of classes, the OIRP has opened the survey to all stu-

dents in an online format, so "everyone has an opportunity to get their voice heard."

From Wednesday, Mar. 29 through Wednesday, Apr. 19, the anonymous survey will be available at <http://www.marist.edu/ir/satisfaction>.

The survey, which takes about 15 minutes to complete, lists a series of services offered by Marist. Students are able to

'The more explicit a student can be, the more helpful they are. We want as much feedback as possible.'

— Victoria Mullin
Director, OIRP

rank the importance of the service, on a scale of very important to non-important, and their satisfaction of the service, on a

scale of very satisfied to very dissatisfied.

Throughout the survey there are various comment sections, where students are encouraged to comment on services they are both satisfied and dissatisfied with.

According to Victoria Mullin, Director of Institutional Research and Planning, filling out the comment sections is extremely important to the survey.

"We cannot do anything if you are dissatisfied [with a service], if you don't tell us

why," she said. "The more explicit a student can be, the more helpful they are. We want as much feedback as possible."

Results from the survey are reported to upper level administration by the OIRP to target problem areas and celebrate successes. After receiving the SEMS results, each office carefully pinpoints areas that may need improvement and looks for ways to enhance their services.

Several service improvements which have come about as a direct result of the SEMS survey are dining hall hours of operation, and the coordination improvements between Housing and Physical Plant regarding student generated work tickets.

SEE SEMS, PAGE 7

Erin Quinn urges open discussion of same-sex marriage issue

By CLAIRE SEMDER
Circle Contributor

Lack of diversity breeds ignorance, and at Marist College it hinders the open discussion of sensitive issues.

Erin Quinn, an award-winning journalist from the New Paltz Times, has the courage to fight the ongoing battle to open closed-minds, yet is afraid of something most people living on the Hudson do every day.

"I'm afraid of driving over the bridge, so just getting here tonight was an accomplishment," she said.

Quinn carried a message with her as she drove over the Mid-Hudson Bridge. During her speech, she delivered an intimate portrayal of the national news story of Mayor Jason West's trial over marrying same-sex couples to a crowded room of captivated students. The speech was given in the Henry Hudson room in

Fontaine on Monday, March 27, exactly two years and one month after the last couple was married.

Shawn McClain, President of Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honor society, which was one of the speech's three sponsors, voiced why the society believes Quinn's presence at Marist College is integral.

"The New Paltz same-sex marriages occurred a little over two years ago, which we kind of see as hitting close to home and Marist students should be aware of local events," he said.

Many students, upon first hearing of Quinn's presence on campus, did not know of her work or of the controversial acts which happened just across the river. As Quinn said in her speech, which is also the topic of her book, "Pride and Politics," it is a "big story in a small town."

Quinn was grateful for the invitation from Marist College in order to have "a night away from

the kids." However, according to Michael Rapoport, a junior member of Pi Sigma Alpha, it was Marist that benefited from her presence.

"I think that her message should be spread further on the Marist campus, in that I think there should be a greater emphasis on debate and discussion of important contemporary political and social issues among the student body," he said.

Brian Buonomano, the President of the Marist Lesbian Gay Straight Alliance, another sponsor of the event, also believed that the presence of Quinn on campus would help to foster open discussions.

"We have a language problem here at Marist, where the term 'gay' is dominated by negative connotations and the term 'fag' is often used regularly," he said. "These kinds of campus-wide issues can only be addressed through direct knowledge and

confrontation. It is through these kinds of speakers that a better campus environment can be achieved."

Pi Sigma Alpha, according to McClain, likes to sponsor any politically motivated event, regardless of what side of the political spectrum it falls. This year's speech is an extension of the event hosted by the society last year, when Major Jeff McGowan (ret.) spoke about his book, "Major Conflict," and his experience as a gay man in the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" military.

During Quinn's speech, she spoke about the opponents who transcended on New Paltz during the trial of West from the Reverend Fred Phelps to the Liberty Council, a group of lawyers from Florida who vie for the reintegration of Church and State.

"I've never had my stomach turned like I did when they came

to town," said Quinn.

Rapoport found great meaning in the lengths that the opponents of same-sex marriage went to during their protest of the events in New Paltz.

"The way she described the tactics they used – such as exploiting young children for their cause – really demonstrates the hypocrisy of the claim of moral superiority made by opponents of same-sex marriage," he said.

Although the district attorney is no longer pursuing prosecution of West, the charges were not dropped, and New York does not recognize any of the same-sex marriages West performed.

Quinn, although openly on the side of same-sex marriage, was still objective enough to see that even in her hometown of New Paltz there was not a unanimous feeling towards the marriages.

"There were hundreds of Jason supporters," she said.

"There was great support, and I mean, a great sense of pride... People like to think of it as a utopia...but we're a mongrel, there were many people opposed to the marriages who showed up as well."

Even though there was no pronounced victory for the same-sex movement, Buonomano sees hope in the future, as Quinn's words will help "bridge" the gap of silence on the Marist campus.

"The fact that there are communities out there beginning to recognize the injustice carried against the homosexual community is a great step forward, and luckily I think we are on the right side of history," he said. "It is my hope that in continuing with events such as these, the Marist campus will not only develop tolerance, but ultimately total acceptance of those who are different."



THE CIRCLE Campus

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2006

www.maristcircle.com

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Security Briefs: Strolling down memory lane

Dear Reader,

John "The Wizard" Gildard was unable to connect with Security Briefs writer Brian Sabella this week. We are running briefs from October of 2003 courtesy of the Ghost of Security Briefs Past.

The Briefs will return next week.

9/29/03

There was a hit and run accident in the Upper Hoop Lot at 12:50 p.m. Wednesday afternoon. The victim, a 1995 black Chevy, suffered a pushed in rear passenger bumper. The town police were notified. The Chevy obviously felt violated, but you know, some cars like to have things pushed into their rear bumpers. At least that's what I hear ...

9/29/03

Less than an hour later in the McCann parking lot, there was another incident. At 1:35 p.m. a 1999 grey Honda had its driver side rear fender dented. The accident was not seen, and no note was left. A dead end right? Wrong! After going to the scene of the crime I noticed something very peculiar; there was some brown fur next to the car. See, this was no car that hit the Honda. No, it was something else entirely. The brown fur found at the scene was none other than the fur of ... Teddy Ruxbin! That bear has been plotting his revenge on mankind for over a decade now. Let's just hope we can find him before he strikes again.

9/29

The fire department made a trip over

to Talmadge Court at 4:35 p.m. Wednesday afternoon. After the smoke had dissipated, the patented burnt food on the stove was found to be the culprit. Students were worried, though, when fire trucks didn't arrive on the scene immediately. Once they got there, the firefighters apologized saying, "Sorry, we had never heard of Talmadge before."

9/29/03

A 1997 purple Geo was the next car to receive damage on Wednesday. At 7:20 p.m. in the Riverview Lot, the vehicle was found with its passenger side front fender and door scraped and dented. The town police didn't understand why the owner was so upset. "It's a purple Geo. Dog crap can be poured on it, and it would be an improvement." Note: Not an actual police quote.

9/29/03

The most exciting event of the week happened at 10:15 p.m. in the Donnelly parking lot. A security guard stumbled upon a parked Nissan that didn't look quite right. Upon further investigation, it was found that the vehicle had flour dumped on the windshield, marshmallows stuffed under the door handles, and marshmallows skewered over the antenna like a shish kabob. Don't worry, I have already made a call to Ray, Venkman, and Egon. They have defeated the Stay Puft Marshmallow

man once, and they can do it again.

9/30/03

The fire alarm was set off in Townhouse C at 9:50 p.m. Thursday evening. The fire department came, and discovered that grease on the stove was the cause. Wow, someone must really have a beef with Olivia Newton John.

Roy's Alcohol Fantasy Beat

Reflection: This was the first time in my memory here at Marist that there was not even one alcohol related incident during the course of a week. I knew it would be a slow weekend with the parents here and all, but none is surprising. As campus editor, I would like to commend everyone's efforts that helped make this possible. Good work guys, now let's try for two in a row!

Prediction: Rather than telling you the dorm that you should start this weekend, I am going to tell you the song that I believe will be the next big party song on campus.

The Fire Alarm was sounded in Dyson while Alpha Sigma Tau sorority was blowing up balloons with a helium tank for their Preference Party.

that I think will be getting everyone's booty bouncing is Andre 3000's "Hey Ya!" It's a fun loving song with a great beat. Not to mention, the video is hysterical. So if you haven't heard it, check it out. Runner up song: "Cry Me a River."

And from September 1997...

9/14/97

2:00a.m. — Two males in Midrise were stopped when the entry officer on duty heard clinking and noticed "two large bulges in the front crotch area of the students." The bulges were Rolling Rock beers, which were confiscated.

12:45 p.m. — The Fire Alarm was sounded in Dyson while Alpha Sigma Tau sorority was blowing up balloons with a helium tank for their Preference Party.

9/13/97

1:55 a.m. — Two students and their guests had alcohol confiscated when they walked into Leo with six bottles and 14 cans of beer clinking in their backpacks. The visitors were made to stay the night in order to sober up, and sent home the next morning.

9/13 & 9/14/97 — There were two incidents of "unhealthy alcohol consumption." Both male students were sent to the hospital to be treated.

9/12/97

2:11 a.m. — The fire alarm in Champagnat was sounded after 40 one inch fire crackers went off in the fourth floor stairwell. The perpetrator was not caught.

Several obscene phone calls have been made to numerous rooms from both on and off campus. Head of Security, Joe Leary stated that off campus calls are hard to trace but they will call the police and phone companies. If made from on campus, the call can be traced.



Upcoming Campus Events

Friday, April 7
Comedy Club: Robert Kelly
9 PM, Cabaret

Saturday April 8,
Six Flags Trip
Bus leaves Donnelly 8 AM
Tickets: \$20

Thursday, April 13
Classes end at 6:15 P.M.

Friday, April 14-17
Easter/Passover Holiday

Monday, April 17
Residence Halls open at 10 A.M.
Classes Resume at 6:30 P.M.

Thursday, April 20
Barry Drake: Rock in the 60s
9 PM, PAR

Friday, April 21
Movie: King Kong
9 PM, PAR

Saturday, April 22
Movie: King Kong
9 PM, PAR

Wednesday, April 26
Coffeeshouse: Scott Celani
9 PM PAR

Personacards 11-3 PM in Champagnat Breezeway

Disclaimer: The Security Briefs are intended as satire and fully protected free speech under the First Amendment of the Constitution.

April Fool's pubic lice prank leaves students feeling crabby

By ALEX PANAGIOTOPOULOS
Campus Editor

Last week an article by the imaginary Meg Duhrer ran in this space titled "Spread of public lice a growing concern."

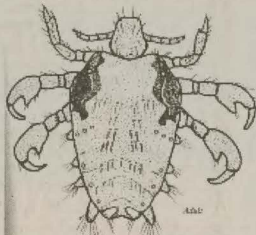
The article stated that St. Francis hospital had diagnosed 24 students with crabs, which spread from an outbreak in Midrise's second floor laundry room.

The article said hospital workers were braced for the next waves of the itchy sexually transmitted condition, led by venereal disease expert "Dr. Richard Sirlain."

In addition to two ridiculous quotes by Dr. Sirlain, an anonymous junior said, "My boyfriend texted me during night class and asked if I had [been itchy]," she said. "I said no,

and he just wrote, 'Not yet,' and stopped answering. I had just taken a nap in my room-mates' bed."

Congratulations, you don't have crabs!!!



Like Sebastian, these crabs sing and dance. In your pants.

At the end of the article, it was added that "Ditch the Itch," an informational session for any concerned stu-

dents, would be held in the Nelly Goletti Theater.

Despite all of this and the passing of April Fool's Day two days after publication, a Midrise Resident Assistant reported having to field a deluge of questions regarding a crabs outbreak, while the SGA reportedly received 44 calls from concerned parents over the weekend.

There is no crabs outbreak. Additionally, it would be impossible for crabs or their eggs to survive a trip through a washing machine and dryer.

However, the rest of the information in the article is accurate and public lice can be transmitted through sexual contact and on surfaces such as toilet seats, bedding and clothing.

THE CIRCLE

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The Circle is the weekly student newspaper of Marist College. Letters to the editors, announcements, and story ideas are always welcome, but we cannot publish unsigned letters. Opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the editorial board.

The Circle staff can be reached at 575-3000 x2429 or letters to the editor can be sent to writethecircle@hotmail.com

Scenic park to open in August

By JENNIFER BUAK
Circle Contributor

Long View Park, a \$6 million project, is expected to be open to the public in August, just in time for students returning from summer vacation.

When completed, the park will offer Marist students and townspeople of Poughkeepsie an up-close view of the Hudson River and will be the first completed project of several the college has planned for the next few years.

Tim Massie, Public Affairs Officer for the college said the park will be worth the wait it has taken to complete the project.

Massie said, "This park has been a long time coming, and will help to improve the overall look of the campus immensely."

The park was supposed to be finished six years ago in 2000, but has been delayed pending government approval. Part of the land belongs to the town and city of Poughkeepsie, as the park covers six acres. While this may sound small, the project has taken a lot of coordination on the part of everyone involved, said Massie.

Marist has contributed between \$1 to \$2 million for the park, and the state and federal governments have helped to match those amounts by contributing money which was used to fix up or clean different portions of the area.

The shorelines of the Hudson River were restored to help make the park more attractive, as well as new sewer, water, and electric lines that needed to be put in. The

entire original septic system in the area had to be taken out and replaced.

A new bike path and walkway have been added for those who want to take a scenic bike ride or go for a walk or run down by the river. A new roadway has been constructed as well to allow people an easier way to access the park, and new parking areas have been added, said Massie.

Marist sophomore Lindsay Kelly expressed her enthusiasm for the idea.

"I'm excited about it," said Kelly. "It will be a nice place to go for walks and enjoy the river."

A gazebo has also been constructed for those who wish to picnic down by the river to help make the area more beautiful.

"It really will be a beautiful

park," said Massie. "We're really looking forward to it being completed for Parent's Weekend this year so everyone can go down and enjoy the river together."

A new boating dock has also been put in for those wishing to take their boat out on the Hudson. However, no motor boats are allowed to launch from the boating dock said Massie. The old floating docks have also been replaced, with the new floating docks being crew teams.

"We wanted to help make the crew teams more noticeable," said Massie. "The old floating docks were corroding, and we want to help the crew teams continue to be successful."

The new floating docks can also be used to launch canoes and kayaks by anyone who wants to

Seder meal shared by Marist community

By SARAH SANDSTED
Circle Contributor

On a predominately Catholic campus, one may find it odd to witness over 20 individuals taking part in a traditionally Jewish ceremony.

On Monday April 3, Marist College's Campus Ministry sponsored its annual Passover Seder meal. The event was hosted in the Presidential Dining Room, which was decorated to accommodate the event. The meal incorporated traditional customs and prayers as well as wine and symbolic food. About 25 Jewish and Christian members of the Marist Community partook in the traditions of the Seder meal, while dining and reflecting together.

Marist College Associate Dean, Student Affairs, Steve Sansola, who has led the Seder for 14 years, said that he always expects a relatively good turnout for the event.

"We generally fill the table," Sansola said. "There is usually a mixed group of students and staff."

Sansola also said that the Seder is not only meant for Marist's Jewish population, but is open to anyone who wants to take time to be thankful and reflective.

"For many, the Seder repre-

sents the Exodus," Sansola said. "It is a metaphor to go forth, and seek out the best. It is a chance to emancipate oneself intellectually and emotionally; a time of transition and renewal."

Many of Marist's Jewish students attended, and found solace in the familiarity of the Seder.

Kaitlyn Zafonte, freshman, fashion merchandising major, said that as a Jewish student, her first experience at Campus Ministry's Model Seder was very enjoyable.

"[The Seder] was different than at home," Zafonte said. "There was more explaining involved, but it was nice to have something to remind me of my family and of home."

Similarly, Masha Mitsengendler, senior, international business and marketing major, has attended a total of two Seders at Marist and said that the meal was enjoyable, but different from her experience at home.

"At home [the Seder's] pretty much all in Hebrew and it takes a really long time," Mitsengendler said. "It usually takes hours and hours."

Despite Mitsengendler's appreciation for the Seder and other attempts Marist makes to accommodate the Jewish population, she said that the effort should be increased.

"I think that Marist tries to do a lot, and they make an effort," Mitsengendler said. "They do more than other schools, but they could do a lot more. They don't even have a Kosher meal plan, and there isn't really any organizations for Jewish students."

Jewish students and faculty were not the only people to attend the Seder.

Ruth Francese, administrative assistant, advancement office, has attended the Seder for seven years and said that her that her interest in the Jewish faith is what originally attracted her to attend the meal.

"I wanted to learn more about a beautiful tradition," Francese said. "As a Christian, I wanted to learn what my savior, Jesus, did as a faithful Jew. It has a special meaning in many ways."

Francese also said that the Seder at Marist is a wonderful opportunity to connect people of all faiths.

"I needed to join in something that brought us all together - not in our differences, but in our similarities," Francese said.

Furthermore, Jess Boyle, freshman, history major, said that he did not want to let his Christianity prevent him from participating in such a unique tradition.

"As a Catholic, I am commit-

ted to my faith, but I think we should be open to all faiths," Boyle said. "We are all interconnected."

Boyle also said that taking part in the Seder gave him the opportunity to learn more about his peers.

"I can begin to understand the traditions and customs of my Jewish friends," Boyle said. "It gives us all a better appreciation of one another."

The Seder meal is a Jewish tradition that takes place every Passover to remember when the Hebrews were freed from Egypt. At the Passover Seder meal, food is served to in representation of a symbolic purpose. At Marist's Model Seder, a piece of lettuce dipped in salt water was eaten to represent springtime or renewal, and the tears of the slaves.

Participants also ate Maror, or horseradish, to remember the bitterness of slavery, Haroset, a mixture of chopped apples, nuts, cinnamon and wine, to symbolize the mortar used by the Hebrew laborers in Egypt, and lastly, Matzo, unleavened bread, to signify the bread that the Israelites ate. According to the story, the bread was prepared quickly and was not given the chance to rise so that the Hebrews could escape.

News Briefs

World News

Protesters crowd streets throughout France in protest of new employment laws

Protesters numbering over 1,000,000 caused the deployment of over 4,000 police forces all over France on Tuesday. The throngs of people assembled were protesting a new law recently signed by President Jacques Chirac that makes it easier for employers to hire and fire young workers. In the streets of Paris, protesters tossed bottles and stones at riot police, who responded by firing painballs into the crowd. President Chirac has proposed amendments to the new law, whereby the time when an employer could hire and fire an employee under 26 would be reduced to one year. Additionally, employers would have to give a reason for firing such employees.

National News

Amid storm of political troubles, DeLay announces resignation from Congress

Representative Tom DeLay (R-TX) announced Tuesday his resignation from the House of Representatives. He also stated that he would not run for re-election, in order to protect his seat from a Democratic victory. The veteran congressman said that the 22nd district in Texas needed an election based on the issues, rather than a negative personal campaign against him. Since September, DeLay has been lambasted with a long list of political woes; he was indicted on campaign finance misdirection charges, and his ties to disgraced lobbyist Jack Abramoff have also caused him political trouble. While he has not been accused of wrongdoing relating to Abramoff, two former staff members pleaded guilty to corruption charges. A senior adviser to the congressman said that the political fallout has taken a heavy toll on DeLay's family.

Police request arrest warrant for U.S. representative after scuffle in Capitol Hill

Capitol Hill Police have asked U.S. Attorney Kenneth L. Wainstein for an arrest warrant for Representative Cynthia McKinney (D-GA). The request comes after an incident where McKinney, who was not wearing her identifying lapel pin, tried to bypass security on Capitol Hill. The security officer present was reported by witnesses to ask her to stop three times before physically restraining her. McKinney, in response, hit the officer. Both she and her lawyers made statements saying that she was the victim of inappropriate touching and racism. The officer involved has not been identified, although some people have suggested giving the officer a commendation for doing his duty.



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Realities of illegal immigration call for compromise

By JAMES MARCONI
News Editor

Illegal immigration to the United States, particularly through states along the southern border, is an issue that has elicited heated debates this week both in the halls of Congress and in city streets.

Specifically, deciding on legislation to prevent and regulate the steady flow of illegal immigrants to America has prompted divisiveness in the Senate, and has sparked protests across the nation.

Last year, the U.S. House of representatives passed a bill making undocumented immigration or aiding an undocumented immigrant a felony. Under this bill, future consequences for illegals, if caught, would be far more severe than the current system permits. Now the Senate has begun the debate to overhaul immigration legislation, and the battle lines have been drawn. The Senate Judiciary Committee introduced a more moderate bill which would give illegals the opportunity to receive permanent legal status as U.S. citizens or residents. If passed, this bill would also rescind the ability to charge undocumented immigrants with a felony.

Many senators, including Senate Majority leader Bill Frist, disagree with the Judiciary Committee's proposed bill, arguing that it essentially grants amnesty to people who have broken

the laws of the United States. "I disagree with this approach, not just as a matter of principle, but because granting amnesty now will only encourage future and further disrespect for the law," Frist said. (www.cnn.com)

In response, Frist has drawn up an alternative bill that would eliminate permanent residency for illegal immigrants. Instead of giving illegals a path towards citizenship, Frist has thrown his support behind a guest worker program that would grant temporary rights to illegal workers currently living in America. This program is one that President Bush has advocated for years now, usually meeting with negative reactions from his fellow Republicans.

In principle, I find the implementation of any legalization of current undocumented immigrants—even a guest worker program—offensive on a variety of levels.

First and foremost, I absolutely abhor the idea of pandering to people who very blatantly broke the law. My gut emotional reaction is that those who knowingly and flagrantly violate legal statutes deserve to be punished after being prosecuted to the fullest extent possible. Not to mention, violating the law has

stated consequences and waiving those consequences only guarantees future infractions. If we send a message that this nation does not have the will to enforce its own laws, we will make an already bad situation worse.

Second, granting any residency rights to illegal immigrants is unfair to those people who struggled to get through the immigration process according to our laws. These individuals spent years filling out paperwork and answering questions to they should be allowed to live here. Allowing illegal immigrants to bypass this series of steps is an insult to those who became residents or citizens in the right manner.

In practice, however, the guest worker program is our best (and only) option to stop the flow of illegals across the southern border and put the ones already here into the system, so to speak. At present, an estimated 11 million people are living in this country illegally. Many of those are pouring into the United States through states like Arizona, which has tens of thousands attempting the dangerous border crossing through the desert every year.

The cold reality is that these millions of people, who come to

work in this country are here to stay, and we have absolutely no viable options to stringently enforce deportation laws. To even attempt such an endeavor would require the government to bankroll a massive initiative costing millions, possibly billions of dollars and take years to document and deport every last illegal alien. Additionally, these people are performing jobs that are vital to keep some of our businesses competitive in today's economy. Granted, illegal immigrants shouldn't even be in America to fill those jobs in the first place. But the fact is, they are here, in numbers which make it impossible to track them and kick them out en masse.

A guest worker program, one which offers temporary legal status (three to six years) to workers who come forward and register for identification is ideal. In theory, if these people did utilize the program, they would be able to work without the fear of possible expulsion from the United States. The U.S., in return, would be able to keep track of the millions who currently are beneath the government's radar screen.

However, this approach would only be effective in halting the flow of illegals if implemented

with other measures. After all, legalizing the illegal is itself a limited form of amnesty, a sort of get out of jail free card that actually rewards people who broke our laws. That sort of leniency would only be added incentive for more people to flout immigration laws, not fewer. As it stands, the proposed program would grant temporary legal status to workers who arrived in the United States before 2004. What would stop someone from crossing through Arizona undetected and later claim to have been working here for ten years? Nothing, really.

In order to resolve this problem, the guest worker program needs to be coupled with stricter punishments for illegal immigrants (and the employers who hire them) and much more security along the southern border. With the illegals currently residing here legally registered and enabled to live in the U.S., border agents and the INS could devote more attention to watching for new arrivals. In and of itself, this should reduce the influx of illegal immigrants crossing the border.

Laws harshly punishing those who do make it across and are later discovered would serve as a

further disincentive to potential illegal immigration. At least, that is the reasoning, as President Bush described last week in a radio address.

"When illegal immigrants know they will be caught and sent home, they will be less likely to break the rules, and our immigration system will be more orderly and secure," Bush said. (www.cnn.com)

This fusion of leftist and rightist ideological propositions would, of course, upset those on both sides who cannot see the value of finding a practical, moderate solution to this problem.

The realities of the current situation, however, are more conducive to compromise than clinging to principle. As it is, a combination of the guest worker program and stricter laws and more capable border patrols would have two main benefits. First, the government would finally have some measure of legal control over those currently living illegally and undocumented in this country. With that worry temporarily alleviated, government agencies would free up manpower and other resources to physically stop would-be illegal immigrants from crossing through Arizona and punish those who did slip through.

It's not a perfect idea, but at this point it may be the best option available to this country.

'If we send a message that this nation does not have the will to enforce its own laws, we will make an already bad situation worse.'

'In practice, however, the guest worker program is our best (and only) option to stop the flow of illegals across the southern border and put the ones already here into the system, so to speak.'

DeLay's resignation is no great loss for Congress, society

By DAN BLACK
Staff Writer

Picture a cathedral built of thousands of matchsticks. Draw one from its base; what happens next? Keep your eyes on Washington if you're curious because the world's about to find out. Former House Majority Leader and disgraced Texan Republican Congressman Tom DeLay announced he is resigning his seat in Congress sometime in the next few months. Once the most powerful and controversial congressman of our time, ole Tommy Boy is tucking tail

between-legs and scurrying back to the Lone Star State where he knows criminals are always welcome, provided they are wealthy and white.

Although indicted, DeLay insists he has never broken the law or done anything unethical during his terms as a congressman. Well, I suppose this is true unless you term 'allying himself with corpo-

rate interests and selling out the citizenry he was elected to represent' as 'unethical'. With his resignation coming just days after

Tony Rudy, Tom's former deputy chief of staff, pled guilty to conspiracy and agreed to comply with investigators, I have difficulty envisioning this complex criminal conspiracy coming to crumble with an inno-

cent man, Tom DeLay, an innocent victim at the top. He is insulting the average American's intelligence by even suggesting this is the case. The truth he will never divulge, that he has furthered the influence of a grotesquely corrupt pack of political predators and represented the interests of money over men, we already know. After a political career defined by its deep and extensive ties to big business, he will have the thanks of numerous millionaires but not their help. Tom can expect to be left out in the cold by those he once considered friends. He will

be as useful to them as the hard working, tax paying, everyday citizens they fleece, and he will receive just the sort of treatment he used to bestow upon those citizens himself. Enjoy it, Tom, every drop of it. It may be bitter but it is justice, and justice is always good.

House majority leader John Boehner, DeLay's successor, said DeLay was leaving congress with "integrity and honor". I wonder if any other Democrats were laughing hysterically upon that jest. Honestly, indictment and integrity are not used to describe the same individual, and this is

for a reason. Tom DeLay had an impressive run of exploitation that he will probably escape punishment for; he is savvy, for sure, but lets not say the man has honor or integrity. Save those words for people undeserving of public degradation, tarring, feathering, etc.

Off-subject, you know what must be great about being a democratic politician? You're activities are never soiled by having the self-evidently ignorant and ill-chosen words of our intellectually-debilitated president attached to them. DeLay's exit

SEE DELAY, PAGE 7

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

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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MaristCircle.com

The Circle is published weekly on Thursdays during the school year. Press run is 2,000 copies distributed throughout the Marist campus.

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Health

Do not be burned by false sunscreen advertising

By ALEXANDER TINGEY
Co-Health Editor

A recent class action lawsuit involving five sunscreen manufacturers may make spring breakers second guess that tan. The lawsuit was filed after market testing discovered the claims made on the product label were false.

Among those involved, Coppertone, Banana Boat, and Hawaiian Tropic came under fire when terms such as 'waterproof,' 'all-day protection,' and 'sun block' were found to be misleading.

"Sunscreen is the snake oil of the 21st century, and these companies that market it are Fortune 500 snake oil salesmen," said Samuel Rudman, a lawyer with Lerach Coughlin Stoia Geller Rudman and Robbins LLP.

On the other hand, dermatologists, in the interest of their field, have defended the sunscreen manufacturers. They agree that sunscreen is an effective way to combat the harmful effects of the sun's rays if used properly. "Sunscreen is believed by most, if not all dermatologists to be an effective means of reducing exposure to harmful ultraviolet light that can start the formation

of skin cancers," said Murad Alam, a Northwestern University dermatologist. In conjunction with other forms of sun protection, such as hats and long sleeves, sunscreen, with regular application, can prevent skin cancer—to a degree.

The tests conducted concluded that no sunscreen is totally waterproof, and many lost their effectiveness after only a few minutes in the water. Some of the sunscreens in question do not protect against all forms of ultraviolet light. While many provide protection against UVB rays, few provide protection against UVA rays. Currently there is no

standard to test the protection of UVA light.

"The manufacturers named in the class-action suit include Schering-Plough, which makes Coppertone; Sun Pharmaceuticals and Playtex Products, which make Banana Boat; Tanning Research Laboratories, which makes Hawaiian Tropic; Neutrogena Corp. and Johnson & Johnson, which make Neutrogena; and Chatten Inc., which makes Bullfrog," reported ABC News.

Denise Foy, a representative for the sunscreen manufacturers, defended their product publicly last week. "The labeling and

advertising for all our products, including sun-care products, are developed in compliance with all applicable laws and FDA regulations." Other lawsuits of this nature have been filed in the past, and have met resistance in the courts.

Essentially, it lies in the hands of the consumer to read and follow application directions and indications. Dermatologists, having used this consumer-error argument to further their point in past cases, will no doubt again be an issue the courts will have to grapple with.

During peak hours of exposure, 10 a.m. to 2 a.m., extra care

should be taken to ensure the well-being of your skin. Recent medical studies have found a link between the frequency of sunburns during adolescence and the instance of skin cancer later in life. The results show that sunburns early in life provide a high risk of developing basal cell carcinoma as an adult.

As the warm weather ushers a flood of towels and blankets across the campus' green spaces, lend a hand to your fellow bather; spread some sunscreen on their back for them, and when they fall asleep draw a smiley face.

Obesity causing more than waistlines to grow

By ADAM GUARINO
Co-Health Editor

Weight gain and obesity are two very real concerns, plaguing the citizens of the United States, more so than anywhere else in the world. One aspect of this situation that is often neglected is how these overweight individuals manage their bulk in settings like hospitals, which follow more of a one-size-fits-all mentality. They appear, in essence, to be caught in a catch-22, needing the services of health care providers to overcome their

weight while at the same time, being nearly immobile in the setting because of it. In response, hospitals have taken action by increasing the sizes of the materials they use. From slippers to syringes, everything keeps growing.

One hospital at the forefront of this expansion is Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, who began their transformation a few years ago when patient care director Colleen Becker decided to check numbers. The daily hospital census indicated that about one-third of the 900 patients weighed 350

pounds or more on any given day.

"We ran the data again to make sure we weren't hallucinating," Becker said. "We weren't. So we had to somehow figure out the appropriate supplies, equipment, training and care for the patients we're dealing with."

Hospitals around the nation have begun working with equipment suppliers to accommodate larger patients. These accommodations have come as a much welcome respite for not only the clients, but for the staff as well. ATF Healthcare, a union repre-

senting 70,000 nurses and other workers at hospitals in 18 states, last week called for new laws forcing hospitals to buy equipment such as portable hoists to prevent worker injuries. At Barnes-Jewish, lift machines help some patients get in and out of bed. Chairs have been made stronger and wider. Lights have been added at floor level because the bodies of extremely obese people can cast a shadow that makes it hard to see the floor. Furthermore, some wings of the hospital are replacing 36-inch-wide doorways with those that

are 48 or 52 inches wide. The bathrooms are being fitted with floor-mounted commodes that can't be pulled out of the wall, and rooms reconfigured so patients can essentially get out of bed and step into the bathroom.

Issues extend beyond the patient's room. Operating tables have been widened because the girth of some patients was lapping over the table, in some cases all the way to the floor, Becker said. CT scan machines weren't wide enough. Syringes with the longest available needles - 4 1/2 inches - couldn't pen-

etrate the fat. According to Sandy Wise, of Novation LLC, a Texas-based company that provides contracting services between hospitals and manufacturers, there are now more than 1000 items designed specifically for obese patients.

"It's been a trend probably for the last four or five years," Wise said. "Hospitals are continuing to see an increase in obese patients, and it affects every department. You have to think of the patient from head to toe, everything they do in the hospital until they walk out the door or they could die."

Science Briefs

By ADAM GUARINO
Co-Health Editor

ASPARTAME NAME CLEARED

Good news for all of you diet soda drinkers. A new study has finally cleared the name of aspartame and removed its previous link to cancer.

In a massive study, performed by scientists at the National Cancer Institute, 340,045 men and 226,945 women, ages 50 to 69, were monitored for about ten years. From surveys filled out in 1995 and 1996 detailing food and beverage consumption, researchers calculated how much aspartame the subjects consumed, focusing their efforts especially on soda and sweeteners used for coffee and tea.

Over the next five years, 2,106 developed blood-related cancers such as lymphoma or leukemia, and 376 developed brain tumors. However, no relationship was found to aspartame consumption for these cancers in general or for specific types, said Unhee Lim, who reported the study's findings.

This study has been praised by consumer groups as the information was collected by reputable

researchers without any ties to industry groups.

However, the Center for Science in the Public Interest still warns about one potential hazard of aspartame: thinking calories "saved" from using a sugar substitute justifies spending more on unhealthy foods is a common pitfall and indefinitely one to be avoided.

Drinking diet soda is in no way a substitute for healthy living.

POT LINKED TO INFERTILITY

In a study performed by Dr. Hillary S. Klonooff-Cohen from University of California, La Jolla, the success of fertility treatments was shown to be reduced if either the man or the woman uses marijuana.

Klonooff-Cohen and her team investigated the effects of pot use on the outcomes of 221 couples who underwent either in vitro fertilization (IVF) or gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT) treatments. The results showed that women who smoked a year before the procedure had about 25 fewer eggs and that both men and women who smoked transferred one fewer embryo. Furthermore, a lower birth weight has been associated with marijuana consumption. However, the study was quick to note that further research was necessary to prove and verify the results.



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Features

Clubs, organizations address apathy issues *Encourage student involvement by informative, proactive measures*

By KATE GOODIN
Circle Contributor

Students at Marist College are more involved in clubs and organizations on campus than ever before. In the Fall of 2002, 4,298 students were involved in clubs; in the Fall of 2005, that number increased to 5,838.* Yet the question of student's seemingly apathetic attitudes toward leadership positions and political processes on campus is one many organizations strive to answer.

Corrie-Beth Hughes, Elections Commissioner, said increasing student involvement is important to leadership organizations. "It has become the sole focus of Student Government," she said.

Both 2006-2007 student body presidential candidates, Todd Bivona and MaryEllen Conway, addressed involvement as an important issue in their speeches and debate.

But as organizations, particularly those involving leadership and politics, work fervently to increase their numbers, they

must address the causes of student apathy, and determine if students are indeed apathetic at all.

Corey Allen, Commuter Senator, says the reason students shy from leadership positions is not apathy but resignation.

"I think they see the same group of people running Marist," she said, "but with more people, we can divide the responsibilities and focus more on individual positions."

Bob Lynch, Director of College Activities, said he also does not think apathy is necessarily the problem, but rather a lack of understanding.

"The political process might hinder involvement," he said. "But we have to be politically active. Vote [in elections] to make things right."

It is important to know the issue of political and leadership

apathy is not unique to Marist. Lynch said this is an issue that reaches national elections.

"This is an issue nationally and regionally," he said. "Former President Bill Clinton went through MTV to reach apathetic voters."

Ken Juras, Student Body President, agrees this is a problem that

affects other colleges and universities.

"The trend in higher education is that 20-25 percent of students vote in student body elections," he said. "Marist has about 17 percent of students voting."

Juras said this could be for two reasons.

"A, [students] don't know a lot of what Student Government does, and B, we have to find new issues they are concerned with that the college should know about," he said.

Wendy Baron, Communications major, said she agrees with the idea that students should be more informed about leadership and political organizations like student government.

"I don't really see a lot of ads for it," she said. "Tell us [students] exactly what happens in meetings."

While students may feel that organizations like Student Government do not communicate enough with students, Juras said he has confidence Student Government looks to engage stu-

"I think As of Fall 2005, 22.2 percent of the student body was involved with SGA agencies." SGAs has looked to find new ways to involve an ever-changing campus," he said.

"We are trying to use new technologies like instant messages, e-mail, and Facebook."

Hughes said she agreed these new technologies will help encourage involvement in the future by making things like voting as simple as a few clicks of the mouse.

"All you need is your k account to have your voice heard," she said.

Matthew Hittenmark, Vice-President of Club Affairs, said he has another idea about getting not only students, but all of Marist together to encourage interaction and a free exchange of ideas.

"We need a student center," he said. "Like a student hub; a centrally-located area, designed like a coffee bar, where students, professors, and administrators can meet."

Hittenmark said he still recognizes the importance of publicity.

"Student government needs to publicize what they're part of," he said. "Student Programming Council (SPC) is part of Student Government. There are so many facets of student government we need to associate with the bigger picture."

Students may not know student government includes SPC, among other organizations. In

fact, according to College Activities, as of Fall 2005, 22.2 percent of the student body was involved with student government agencies, which includes SPC and the Resident Student Council (RSC).

While organizations and clubs work hard to increase involvement and engage students, there is also a certain level of individual commitment that no one can change.

Lynch said students who criticize leaders or clubs with lower numbers should be constructive instead.

"I want a student who makes complaints to walk a mile in their shoes," he said. "People will always be critical, but that is not helpful. Offer suggestions to change things."

Hughes also said students with a vested interest in organizations will give their time for it.

"It's an intrinsic thing," she said. "People with genuine interest will be there if they want to."

*This number accounts for students involved in more than one club or organization.

Keep your job by not smoking *Smokers punished for personal habits*

By KATE GOODIN, JOHN SULLIVAN, PATRICK TULLY & CHRIS YUSKO
Circle Contributors

An increasing number of employers are mandating employees who use tobacco products to pay more for health insurance.

According to the Center for Disease Control and prevention, smoking costs companies \$75.5 billion per year in direct health care costs. An estimated \$92 billion accounts for wages lost from employees who die prematurely from smoking.

More companies are taking this action to reduce their health care costs and those for the employees. Gannett, Co., the nation's largest newspaper publisher, will charge smokers and extra \$50 per month for insurance; Pepsi, Co. will charge employees and extra \$100 annually. Grand Rapids, Michigan based company Meijer will charge smokers \$25 per month, but will drop the fee if the smokers quit.

Some public and private employers are firing employees, even if they use tobacco products in their own time. A recent CNN.com article reported Weyco, a Michigan-based medical benefits administrator, will perform tests to enforce the non-smoking ban on its employees.

David Houston, Weyco general counsel, said this will motivate those who smoke to break the habit.

"This is an opportunity for employees at Weyco to have the encouragement and incentive to stop a damaging habit," said Houston.

Andrew Bernstein, visiting professor, philosophy, Marist College, said companies are within their rights to demand

employees pay higher insurance premiums if they smoke.

"I think the private and public employers have the moral right to lay down any rules and associations they want," said Bernstein. "It's their company; they can do what they want. Individual employees are voluntarily associated with the companies they work for."

States are also participating in this movement of companies to charge employees who smoke. Alabama began charging \$20 per month per employee insurance contract for smokers; that fine is charged if anyone under the employee's plan smokes. Similarly, Georgia will charge \$40 per month for smokers on state health plans.

Julia Graham, Marist College, senior, public relations major, said she likes what these companies are trying to achieve, but raising premiums or charging fines is unfair.

"On one hand, I was overjoyed when people were prohibited from smoking in bars because [...] the effects of second hand smoke can be deadly," she said. "On the other hand, I feel that it is slightly wrong that companies would raise the insurance for employees who smoke when society, in part, perpetuated this habit."

However, Bernstein, a visiting professor, said he is not convinced actions taken by companies to make smokers literally pay for their habit will work.

"For people who want to smoke, I don't think that's going to stop them," he said.

"The per capita for the United States is roughly \$30,000 a year, so this won't be a major deterrent for smokers to quit the habit."

But whether the actions taken

by companies against smokers will work is not necessarily the issue; rather, the issue here may be privacy.

Wendy Wagenheim, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), said a problem arises when companies dictate what employees can or cannot do in the privacy of their homes.

"There is no law that prevents Weyco from doing this, but I think there's a problem when people can't do what they want to do in the privacy of their home," said Wagenheim.

Erin Berg, Marist College sophomore, computer science major, said she considers fines imposed on smokers by companies a form of discrimination.

"After thinking about it, I do think that it would be a form of discrimination," she said. "Some people do choose to smoke regardless of its effects. It is not fair to them that we punish them for what they choose to do, especially since the U.S. is a free country."

Houston, Weyco general counsel, said this is not a violation of privacy; rather, it is a matter of responsibility.

"There's not a liberty, right or any other right to have any particular employment, and I think it's time for people in our country to start taking personal responsibility for many aspects of their life, including health care," said Houston.

Wagenheim said she questions where the line is drawn concerning an employee's health and what a company can do about it.

"Does it mean that you won't be able to sit in the sun because there is a possibility of skin cancer, or if you have children that there's an inherent danger in childbirth? Where does it go?" said Wagenheim.



By CLAIRE SEMDER
Circle Contributor

The Chinatown buses provide inexpensive transportation connecting New York and Boston, making it easier for students, and their wallets, to travel home for short periods, such as spring break and Easter weekend.

While many travel Web sites offer inexpensive airfare, according to Steven Brady, a sophomore at Boston University who travels the 215-mile trip from Boston to New York often, the Chinatown bus is the cheapest deal he has heard of yet.

"You can't ask for more," he said. "It might be a five-hour drive, but for \$15 I'm not going to complain about it. It's faster than Greyhound from my experience. If I just want to go home for the weekend, and still want to have money to spend when I get there, it's the best option."

According to a February 21, 2004 New York Times article by Michael Lou, Pei Lin Liang, the owner of Fung Wah Bus Transportation, said that keeping his rates low is "business by

Cheap rides on Chinatown buses

suicide." "Mr. Liang took on more work himself," the article said. "He now works seven days a week and jokes that his role is that of 'general help.' Sometimes a boss, sometimes a driver, sometimes a mechanic."

Over the past eight years, the number of Chinatown bus companies has multiplied. Some have even branched out of the original Chinatown bases and added more destinations such as Philadelphia, Washington D.C., and Atlanta.

According to the Chinatown Bus Line Web site, Fung Wah Buses, located on Canal Street in New York City, is the largest bus service provider between New York and Boston. Fung Wah has buses leaving New York on every hour from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day. Additionally, it was the first bus company to offer this service, starting the fierce competition seen in this market today.

Melissa McDonnell, a sophomore who lives in Massachusetts, reluctantly took the Fung Wah Bus home, as her reception at the bus "station" in New York was unsettling.

"It was the best, cheapest, and fastest way to get to Boston," she

said. "However, there was no real station in New York; it was just like someone was camped out on the side of the road, which made it hard to get tickets. On the Boston side the buses were located at South Station, which is the main bus terminal, making it very easy and convenient."

Brady was "scared to take the bus at first," because the reviews he heard of the bus were not favorable.

"I heard it was really ghetto, and that the bus drivers all sped, and that the middle of nowhere," he said. "After taking the bus a few times, Brady's fears dissipated."

"I enjoyed my experience on the bus, they are like any other coach buses you would take with school trips," he said. "They are nice, decently clean and have a bathroom, but the seats are a little small for my taste."

Marist students living in the Boston area face a nine-hour train ride, or similar round trips for parents picking them up from school. According to McDonnell, the alternative found in the Chinatown buses is "the most convenient form of public transportation."

Comparable to other forms of public transportation, the buses tend to be crowded and tickets can sell out, but McDonnell did not mind the company of a diverse group.

"The way home was crowded," she said. "There were a lot of college students, and I overheard

"It was the best, cheapest, and fastest way to get to Boston."

—Melissa McDonnell
Sophomore

SEE BUSES, PAGE 7

From Page One

Protesters gather in New York City in opposition to immigration bill

Olivarez said. I talked to a few people who were bothered and distraught. Definitely, there was a lot of hatred towards the Bush administration, and Republicans, and the government."

But mainly, she said, the talk amongst marchers and the speeches held at the press conference were about unity and defeating 4437. This overriding message defined and permeated

the entire experience, making it "almost like magical to me," Olivarez said.

The speakers "were really calling upon all immigrants to unite," said Olivarez. "They

really expressed their anger towards this proposed bill...told us to voice our opinions as much as possible."

Though the walk has ended, Olivarez said she hopes that peo-

ple, particularly at Marist, will become advocates for this cause. She has contacted groups like BSU, the Asian Alliance, and International Students Club.

"I urge these groups to come

together...to let people know what's really going on," she said.

Annual SEMS survey available online; results gauge Marist services

OIRP also recognizes offices and services that were rated as very satisfactory and well received by students.

Mullin said administration views the SEMS survey results

extremely seriously and takes all comments into account. President Dennis Murray also has a hand in service improvements.

"President Murray is very

involved with all aspects of campus life," Mullin said. "[He] takes everything seriously."

The OIRP's goal is to have 1,000 students, with representation from all classes, take the

survey. Well over 400 students have taken the survey since it was made available online, with 300 responses the first night.

After the survey is completed and submitted, the data will be

saved, and a separate form will appear giving students the opportunity to have their name entered into a drawing for a \$250 Amazon.com gift certificate.

Mullen assures the survey is

anonymous, and any demographic information will not be associated with student rankings or comments.

From Page Four

Congressman Tom DeLay's recent resignation indicative of corruption

from Congress, a decision he is being forced by circumstance to make and is presumably less than proud of, evoked the following words from Mr. Bush: "My own judgment is that our party will continue to succeed because we are the party of ideas." These words, owning no easily-discernable correlation to the events

they reference, were grabbed randomly from anyone's-guess-where by a seldom-used mind that has, over the last five years, proven itself incapable of anything beyond dreaming fantasy "weapons of mass destruction" into existence and furthering ethnocentric intolerance of eastern world religions and ideologies.

Bush's words are so mangled and incoherent; I am ashamed we use the same language.

Back onto Delay, I love his arrogant pot-shots at liberals on the way out the door, attributing his career's end to them rather than his scandalous involvements. Go down swinging Tom; don't allow your record of despi-

cable conduct to distract you from the fact that there is an opportunity for some last-word name-calling here. Stand on those pseudo-Christian moral principles that you've stuck with throughout your 22 years as a congressman, after all, I'm sure Christ's teachings included corruption, coercion, bigotry, and

deceit. Those pagan, liberal democrats and their nagging rationale just don't spare your emotions, do they? Sorry Tom, but you haven't got my sympathy. Perhaps you'll receive a crying shoulder from your cell-mate Jack Abramoff; if not, await the arrival of Ed Buckingham, because he's not far behind.

As for the rest of my politically attentive Americans, enjoy Tom's less-than-graceful exit, but don't lament the entertainment's completion, there are surely more to follow. They should be equally just and equally comical.

From Page Six

Chinatown bus fairs worth the distance; cheap prices ideal for city hopping

a lot of people speaking different languages."

The buses may be filling up, but business is still difficult, according to Liang's ledger.

"It costs about \$800 to cover the driver's salary, tolls, fuel, maintenance and insurance every round trip; on a 57-passenger bus, if the bus is full, he makes

about \$340; if it is not, he could lose money," the article said.

Public transportation from Boston to New York has become a more competitive market in the

last eight years, and the buses still must contend with the freedom of the hourly shuttle flight from New York to Boston.

"The shuttle flight is awe-

some," Brady said. "It takes 45 minutes, but then it takes forever to get to the airport from my dorm. I like the actual flight better, but it is a huge hassle to get

to and costs over 50 bucks. That's why me and Fung Wah have a close relationship."

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Alleged assault of cab driver by two Marist students

By **TODD BIVONA**
Staff Writer

Two Marist students were arrested early Sunday morning for alleged assault of a cab driver, in the Fulton Street Townhouses on the east side of campus.

At about 4 a.m. Shawn T. Marion and Christopher M. Schafer, both 21 and from Hensalem, Pa., were dropped off by the cab driver in the overall flow lot on Fulton Street, designated for the townhouses. A ver-

bal altercation with the cab driver about fare ensued and one student smashed the windshield with his fist.

After allegedly fleeing the scene the cab driver called the police and tracked down a female that accompanied the two students. Both Marist security and police were then notified about a girl screaming and yelling, outside the 3 and 4 blocks of the lower quad of Fulton Street.

Witnesses saw the driver get hit by the female, a 38-year-old

Poughkeepsie man, followed by Marion and Schafer attacking the cab driver after noticing the female's screams.

The cab driver was taken to Saint Francis Hospital to be treated for facial trauma and bruises. One student was treated for cuts and released.

According to Monday's Poughkeepsie Journal, Marion and Schafer were each charged with misdemeanor third-degree assault. Marion was also charged with felony third-degree criminal mischief.

Dance team and athletic training chartered as clubs

By **TODD BIVONA**
Staff Writer

The Marist College Dance Team and the Marist College Athletic Training Club (MCATC) were chartered by the Student Government Association last week.

Following approval from the club affairs council and the Vice President of Club Affairs Matthew Hittenmark, the leaders of both organizations went to the executive board meeting of SGA on Monday the 3rd and the Senate meeting on Wednesday the 5th. Both the "E-board" and Senate unanimously voted the students in as being the newest clubs to be chartered on campus.

"I am really proud to be a part of an organization that is being recognized for its involvement," a junior and incoming captain Jessica Fitch said. "We're hoping to be able to compete at a dance competition in the next year and are really excited about that

opportunity."

"Now that we are a club we have the opportunity to get a coach," junior Kristi Diaz said, "and possibly travel outside of the Marist area to possibly perform for other types of audiences." Diaz is the other incoming captain for the ladies.

The athletic training club came in almost 30 strong to the executive board meeting and had plenty to inform the executive board about their goals. Following minor clarifications with their bylaws, a unanimous "yes" pushed them along to the senate.

"I believe this will be a good start for incoming freshmen to get a good hold on for the field," Resident Senator Devon O'Nalty said. "This way, you can say that they have a club of big brothers and sisters that have taken classes and know the ins and outs of what the freshmen will be experiencing."

"We are grateful to finally be given the opportunity to become

an Athletic Training Club," senior Michele Zielinski said, "we are very excited to finally get it moving along. We are eager to get the word out to our fellow classmates and the rest of campus on what the role of an Athletic Trainer is, since most people still aren't sure." Zielinski will be the acting treasurer for the organization.

"Our goals are to open up the eyes of the community," senior Andrea DiTrani said. DiTrani is the acting vice president for the club.

"Now students around campus can see how we really make a difference to the athletes we treat," DiTrani said.

"This will also be good for the majors," O'Nalty said, "because now they can explore the world outside of McCann and its community. Overall, this is a big step for the major and its students as they will have a bigger part in the Marist Community."

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Women's Water polo team ties the school record at thirteen wins

By DAVID HOCHMAN
Staff Writer

The Marist women's water polo team tied the school record for wins in a season this past weekend with their 12th and 13th wins.

Here's the catch: the team still has another ten games before the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championships start.

This squad is going to create a new school record by a wide margin, the only question remaining is how wide.

The Red Foxes beat up on Mercyhurst and Siena, gaining a birth in the Siena Invitational Championship against Slippery Rock. Marist defeated Mercyhurst 12-5 in the first contest on April Fool's Day behind another three-goal effort from freshman Kari Weston. Weston led the way as she has all season while other multiple-goal scorers included Weston's classmates Caitlin Hopkins and Katelin

McCahill.

The team's defense also stayed stellar as sophomore goalies Katy Zweifel and Elizabeth Davis split time and each stopped seven shots.

The goalies also had a big game in the latter portion of the day as Davis made four saves, and Zweifel tallied save six against host Siena. The MAAC

The team's defense also stayed stellar as sophomore goalies Katy Zweifel and Elizabeth Davis split time and each stopped seven shots.

rivals battled until the end with Marist coming away with the 8-6 victory.

In this contest, McCahill came up with the three goals to lead the charge. Senior Mary Grisey showed why she was the third-leading scorer on the team last year, chipping in two goals of her own.

That victory led the women into the championship on Sunday versus Slippery Rock,

where Weston once again netted three goals to lead the team. This time, it was not enough.

The Red Foxes were outplayed by a slim margin as the final score showed, 6-5.

Despite losing such a close contest, the end of the tournament did have some positives when Weston and McCahill made the All-Tournament first team, and Davis was chosen to the second team.

Next up for the Red Foxes is the opening of the conference schedule when Marist heads back to Siena on Saturday for games against the Saints and the Villanova Wildcats.



Upcoming Schedule

Saturday, Apr. 8 — vs. Siena, 10 a.m. *

Saturday, Apr. 8 — vs. Villanova, 4 p.m. *

Sunday, Apr. 9 — vs. Iona, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Apr. 9 — vs. Wagner, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Apr. 15 — vs. Wagner, 1 p.m. **

Saturday, Apr. 15 — vs. St. Francis, 4 p.m.

* denotes at Loudonville, N.Y.

** denotes at Villanova, PA.



Sophomore pitcher Megan Rios pitches against St. Peter's. Rios pitched a complete game one of the double header giving up one run on four hits while striking out four guiding Marist to a win. In the second game she got the save pitching 2:2 shut out innings.

Todd Bivona / The Circle

Rios hurls lights out against SPC

Walsh leads Marist scoring attack in 13-9 win over Wagner

By JOSEPH FERRARY
Staff Writer

Four players tallied multiple goals to lead the Marist men's lacrosse team to a 13-9 victory over Wagner in their home opener last Saturday.

With the win, Marist improved its record to 4-3 and a perfect 3-

0 in the MAAC.

Senior Andrew Walsh led the Red Foxes by scoring three goals and tallying one assist in the match. With his three goals, Walsh and fellow senior Tim Iuculano are tied for the team lead in points with 14.

The first period saw a lot of action as the Red Foxes jumped

out to a quick 4-0 lead; however, the Seahawks of Wagner would not go away. Wagner rallied late in the quarter for three goals, making the score 4-3 at the end of period one.

Freshman goal keeper Ryan Penner keyed a defensive second period as Marist would outscore Wagner 3-1 in the second quar-

ter, giving them a 7-4 advantage going into halftime.

In the second half, the Red Foxes outscored Wagner 6-5, securing a 13-9 win, its third straight league victory.

On the afternoon, Penner made 12 stops, bringing his record to 4-3 on the season and continuing his solid rookie year.

Marist held an advantage in the majority of the statistical categories in the game including committing four fewer turnovers than Wagner. The Red Foxes out shot the Seahawks by a margin of 58-38, which included 36 shots on goal.

Joining Walsh in multiple goals included Nick Hautau, Iuculano,

and Tim Pfeiffer each with two goals on the afternoon.

Marist will look to keep its perfect conference record intact as they face MAAC rival Mount Saint Mary's on Saturday April 8th at 1 p.m. on Leonidoff field.

The Red Foxes defeated Mount Saint Mary's 10-6 last May to capture the 2005 MAAC title.

Brian Karl leads Red Foxes to fifth place finish at Lafayette-Rider Meet

By DIEGO CUENCA
Staff Writer

Freshman Brian Karl led the Red Foxes to a fifth place finish at the Lafayette-Rider Meet held last Saturday at Rider University, winning the long jump event with his outdoor, personal-best jump of 6.66 meters.

Karl was just short of his indoor season-best jump of 6.76 meters.

Junior-captain Brian DeMarco contributed with a second-place finish in the 400 meters with a

time of 50.63 seconds. He also anchored the 4 x 400 meter relay team of Pat Carroll, Bryan Quinn and Mike Bamberger, attaining third place with a cumulative time of 3:26.09.

Senior-captain Justin Harris and freshman Girma Segni earned runner-up finishes in their respective events. Harris posted a second-place time of 9:46.52 in the 3,000-meter steeplechase run with teammate John Keenan, finishing in fourth place at 10:04.41. For Harris, it was his first time competing in the race

since 2004, missing last year's outdoor track season due to injury.

Segni finished second in the 5,000 meters with a time of 15:14.33.

Segni said he was content with his run.

"I felt great about my performance because my goal was to run around that pace," he said. Segni said the strong winds and

his early lead cost him the first place finish during the last lap in the race.

"For a runner, going against the wind makes it harder to maintain your breathing," he said. "The race was a good experience and taught me not to take the lead early on."

The freshman runner explained the importance of the Red Foxes' two upcoming meets in New Jersey.

"These invitationals will be important for me because I'm going to skip the Metropolitan Championships," Segni said. "As a runner, you don't want to compete in every race, because it will interrupt your training, and it's important to cut down on your mileage prior to a race."

The Metropolitan Championships (held on Apr. 21-22) will be the Red Foxes' first meet following the upcoming back-to-back invitationals this weekend. Segni said he really has no concerns over the track team's preparation following the two-week break.

"Individually, we put in so much effort, and it has helped us to become a very close and disciplined team," he said.

The Red Foxes will be back in action with back-to-back meets in New Jersey, with the Sam Howell Invitational being held at Princeton on Friday, Apr. 7, and the Rider Invitational at Lawrenceville.

2006 MAAC Softball Standings

Team	MAAC				Overall			
	W	L	T	Pct.	W	L	T	Pct.
Marist	4	0	0	1.000	18	5	0	.783
Niagara	2	0	0	1.000	15	7	0	.682
Canisius	3	1	0	.750	12	15	0	.444
Rider	1	3	0	.250	11	12	0	.478
Fairfield	0	0	0	.000	20	12	0	.625
Iona	0	0	0	.000	5	13	0	.278
St. Peter's	0	2	0	.000	12	11	1	.521
Manhattan	0	2	0	.000	11	13	0	.458
Siena	0	2	0	.000	6	22	0	.214

** as of Apr. 2

2006 MAAC Baseball Standings

Team	MAAC				Overall			
	W	L	T	Pct.	W	L	T	Pct.
Manhattan	5	1	0	.833	11	9	0	.550
Le Moyne	4	2	0	.667	12	8	0	.600
Niagara	4	2	0	.667	12	13	0	.480
Marist	4	2	0	.667	9	13	0	.409
Fairfield	4	2	0	.667	8	14	0	.364
St. Peter's	3	3	0	.500	8	15	0	.348
Rider	3	3	0	.500	6	19	0	.240
Siena	2	4	0	.333	5	17	1	.239
Canisius	1	5	0	.167	7	20	0	.259
Iona	0	6	0	.000	2	21	0	.087

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PAGE 10

Foxes sweep Griffis in first home series of the semester

By DREW BUDD
Staff Writer

The Marist Red Foxes swept their three game series against the Canisius Golden Griffins in the home opener this past weekend.

The series included a one hour rain delay during the first game on Saturday.

The rain started in the fifth inning of game one. It delayed play for an hour, but it ended up affecting the rest of the series. The second game that was supposed to be played Saturday got pushed back to Sunday and would only go seven innings.

Marist eventually won Saturday's game 11-5. Junior right fielder Travis Musolf had two triples and four runs batted in.

Senior shortstop Andy Kiriakedes, junior third baseman Pat Feeney and second baseman Kyle Meyer each had two hits as well.

Marist head coach Dennis Healy talked about Musolf's style of play.

"If you just look at his career stats, they really speak for themselves," he said. "The one thing we really like about Travis is that he can play all of the positions. He's quality all the way around."

Red-shirt senior Jonathan Smith, now 1-3 on the season,

started and earned the win. He threw five innings and gave up four runs on seven hits.

The seven inning game that was played first on Sunday included a 2-for-3 effort at the plate by Feeney. The Red Foxes won 5-2 behind a great start from red-shirt senior George Heath.

Heath (2-2) notched his second win of the season, giving up one earned run on three hits in six innings. He struck out five and did not walk a single batter.

Junior Robert Ryan came in the seventh inning for his seventh save of the season.

Red-shirt senior John Axford started for the Golden Griffins and gave up five earned runs and an astonishing nine walks in 5.2 innings.

Feeney knocked in three runs, scored a run and also hit his team-leading eighth double in the game. Junior designated-hitter Justin Lepore hit his team leading sixth homerun in the top of the fifth inning and ended the game 3-for-3 with two RBIs and one run scored.

Healy, the head coach, described how important the seven inning game was.

"If one game was important it was the second game," he said. "Playing seven innings you don't have much time to get your offense going so that's what we wanted to do. We wanted to

score runs early and get out to an early lead so we can put the pressure on them [Canisius]."

Senior right fielder Matt Mazurek and freshman third baseman Kevin Mahoney both had a hit and an RBI for Canisius.

The second game on Sunday included 13 walks issued by Canisius' pitching staff. The Red Foxes had seven hits and got the win 12-3. Feeney once again added a pair of hits and scored three runs, and junior right fielder Tom Ciccarone contributed three RBIs. Junior outfielder Adam Pemasilico and freshman first baseman Brian Gibbs also drove in a pair of runs.

Feeney described his spectacular play from this past weekend.

"I was just taking one at bat at a time," he said. "You taught to play hard whether it's a one run game or nine run game and that's really all I did was play hard."

Feeney said he was happy about sweeping Canisius.

"We needed to get back on track and really get on a roll," he said. "Now, we're back up in the standings."

Canisius got a hit and RBI each from senior second baseman Kevin Smith and junior shortstop Matt Tupek.

Sophomore starting pitcher Tom Close, now 2-1 on the season, got the win for Marist going



TODD BIVONA / The Circle

Senior designated hitter Justin Lepore had a solid series against Canisius. He went 5-for-11 at the plate while scoring four runs and bringing four runs across the plate. Marist swept Canisius in the three game series.

seven innings. He gave up three runs on five hits to go with four strikeouts and one walk.

Canisius freshman starter Matt Weber got his third loss of the season going just one inning. He gave up five runs on four hits with one strikeout and two walks.

Healy said the offense and pitching really combined for the win.

"The real big thing this week-

end was that our pitchers were throwing strikes," he said. "It was really the walks. We didn't walk many batters and we were patient at the plate."

Healy said the efforts of Feeney and Close contributed greatly to the sweep.

"Feeney had a big weekend for us. He really stepped up offensively and defensively," Healy said. "Tom Close coming in and throwing well really helped us

too." With the sweep, Marist goes from the bottom of the standings to fourth place with a 4-2 record in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) and 9-13 overall record. Canisius falls to 1-5 in the MAAC and 7-20 overall.

Marist will travel to Niagara University this Saturday, Apr. 8 for a three game series. The opening game begins at noon.

Softball win streak reaches eleven

By ERIC ZEDALIS
Layout Staff

The Marist women's softball team swept Saint Peter's in a double header Sunday afternoon 7-1 and 9-4 to bring its winning streak to 11 games.

Christyne McHugh belted three home runs, and Megan Rigos earned her twelfth win in game one and second save in game two.

In game one, the Red Foxes did fall behind 1-0 on a home run by Megan Papiernak in the top of the second, but that would be its only deficit the entire day.

Marist immediately responded in the bottom of the second, scoring four runs that included McHugh's three-run home run.

The first of those four runs came on an RBI single by Bridget Hurlman. After Hurlman, Laurissa Riley got hit by a pitch, and then McHugh drove the offering from Saint Peter's starter Michelle Blair over the wall in left center field.

The Red Foxes would earn a

pair of runs in the fifth on a RBI-single by Melissa Giordano, and McHugh would hit her second homerun of the game in the sixth to give Marist the 7-1 victory.

Rigos gave up just the one run in her six innings of work, which in a double-header series is a complete game. She struck out four Peahens and walked four.

Three Red Fox players had multiple hits in game one, with McHugh leading the way with a 3-for-4 day at the plate, two runs scored and four RBIs. Annie Castellano and Giordano each went 2-for-3 in the game.

Game two of the set for Marist featured the long ball.

The Red Foxes hit three home runs on its way to a 9-4 win and eleventh straight victory. McHugh started right where she left off in the sixth inning of the last game, as she led off the bottom of the first with a solo homerun to center field for her third homerun of the day.

Marist jumped out to a 5-0

lead after three innings, with all its five runs coming on home runs. Hurlman and freshman Jessica Green added two-run shots in the second and third innings, respectively.

Freshman Caitlin Carpentier earned her fourth win of the season in game two as she went 4.1 innings, giving up four earned runs on six hits.

Saint Peter's scored three times in its half of the fifth to cut the lead to 5-4, but Rigos came on for the final 2.2 innings to earn her second save of the season.

Marist would add some insurance with a four run fifth keyed by a two-run double by Kate Eskin.

Marist moves to 18-5 on the season overall and 4-0 in Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play after the sweep on Sunday.

The Red Foxes will be back in action on Saturday, Apr. 8 when they visit Rider University in New Jersey. The game will start at 1 p.m.



Todd Bivona / The Circle

Senior infielder Christyne McHugh batted 4-for-7 while driving in five runs in a double header against St. Peter's on Saturday afternoon. McHugh earned MAAC player of the week for her efforts. The team's winning streak is at 11. Marist will be on the road this weekend at Rider on Saturday and at Fairfield on Sunday.

Upcoming Schedule:

Softball: Saturday, Apr. 8 - at Rider, 1 p.m.

Men's Lacrosse: Saturday, Apr. 8 - vs. Mount Saint Mary's, 1 p.m.

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Children's theater a 'valuable' tradition

By JUSTIN CALDERON
A&E Editor

This past weekend Marist College Council on Theater Arts (MCCTA) presented *The Spell of Spelling Beauty* in the Nelly Goletti Theater.

Crissy Rogowski, one of the directors of *The Spell of Sleeping Beauty*, believes there is a unique sensation that children's theater brings to Marist. "Children's theater has been a long standing tradition in the [Marist College] community," Rogowski said. "It's the most fun an actor will have."

The play is double cast and everyone who tries out is given a part. There are several performances for children that take place throughout the week. Some members of the cast even go out and entertain the children before every performance and are encouraged to interact with the performers.

Brain Sabella, King Rudolph, has participated in the past four years of children's theater. "Never have I seen such a vivacious cast and crew," said Sabella. "Children's theater is truly a unique experience."

There is a heavy amount of tra-

dition involved in children's theater at Marist College and the shows attract elementary schools every year; many of them who have been fans of past performances. Over seven local elementary schools have become avid participants in the past three years.

7 year-old Michael of Gayhead Elementary was ecstatic after the 9:30 a.m. performance. Michael said, "I liked the show. [When the prince defeated the witch] was my favorite."

Sabella says, "I love seeing the twinkle in all the little kids' eyes when we talk to them after each show. [Children's theater] is a valuable tradition to Marist College."

The cast and crew have even created some traditions within the show itself. Every year during tech-week the cast performs a tag rehearsal in which the various roles trade with their counterparts without stopping the performance.

Children's theater is free admission but all donations from the show go to the John P. Anderson Playwriting Scholarship which is awarded to a Marist College student annually.



Guitarist Jason Hamlin plays guitar with tiny drumsticks.

Courtesy of JAY THALACKER

Up and coming band opens for O.A.R.

By JUSTIN CALDERON
A&E Editor

This past Friday Of A Revolution (O.A.R.) came to Marist College's McCann Center bringing with them an acoustic hip-hop soul trio from Tennessee.

Scratch Track's trio consists of musicians DJ Lee, Jason Hamlin, and Will Gray. Scratch Track began in 2000 when Will Gray approached DJ Lee and Jason Hamlin to start a trio during their stay at Union University in Jackson, Tennessee. The band was created much like most bands are created in college. A group of close friends getting together to release some of the stresses of college life by playing music is a all too common trait that most musicians (especially at Marist) have in common. After two years of endless

rehearsals and campus tours, the members of Scratch Track settled down in Martha's Vineyard and began taking classes at the Contemporary Music Center. During their stay the group managed to release their debut album *The Simple*, simply putting their fresh sound on the charts.

Scratch Track combines a variety of fast-paced lyrics, acoustic street melodies, and original guitar.

The performance was upbeat and entertaining. I enjoyed the variety and would definitely listen to their music again.

Many critics have already attempted to describe Scratch Track's unique style. The *Chicago Sun* calls Scratch Track's music a combination of "Digable Planets and Jack Johnson."

Marist College Senior Christine Gonsior got to O.A.R.

early enough to catch the up and coming band in action. Gonsior said, "The performance was upbeat and entertaining. I enjoyed the variety and would definitely listen to their music again."

The group has the qualities of such popular lyrists as hip-hop groups like Outcast and Jurassic 5, while their guitar melodies stand alone. Guitarist Jason

Hamlin, originally from Detroit, credits his unique guitar stylings to the likes of The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, and Jeff Buckley.

Kate Poirier, Marist College Senior was well aware of the unique music being created onstage and commented on Will

Gray's performance. Poirier said, "The guy was crazy. He just recorded his voice and played it back on stage."

No matter how you look at it Scratch Track blends an original variety of hip-hop and soul that synthesizes new energy in an otherwise static music scene. After Marist the band will not have a chance to stop for at least to months.

The group has played with groups such as Jurassic 5, DJ Skribble, Soulive, George Clinton, and now O.A.R. After Marist the band will not have a chance to stop for at least to months. The group will be touring colleges and arenas in Indiana, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, West Virginia and Georgia; and that's only within the next week.



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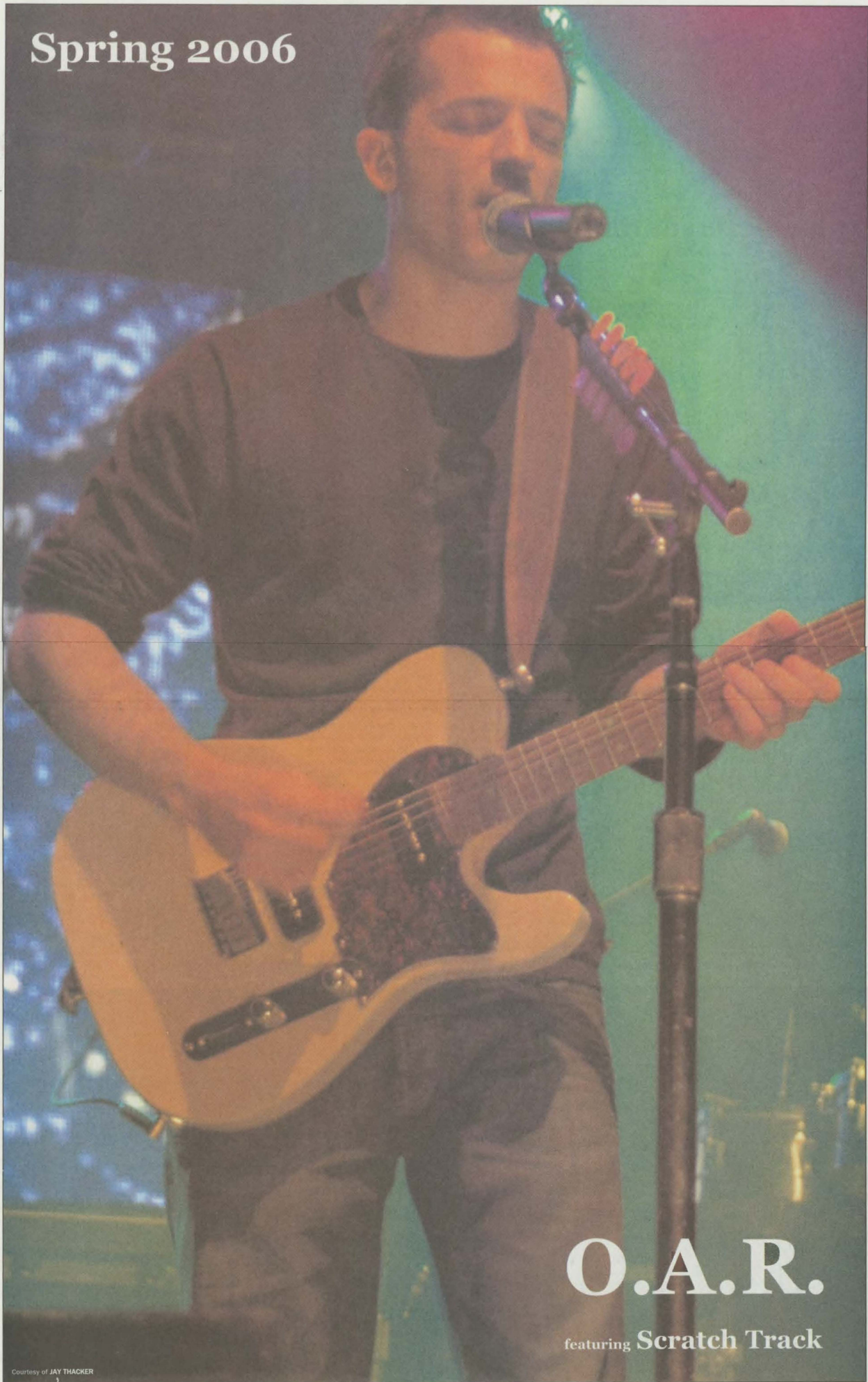
Scene from *Spell of Sleeping Beauty* (From Left to Right) Katie McSherry, Billy Burke, Joe Burns, Jessica Strohl, Elizabeth Apfel and Stephanie Garrison.



O.A.R. plays in McCann Center

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Spring 2006



O.A.R.

featuring **Scratch Track**