

MARIST

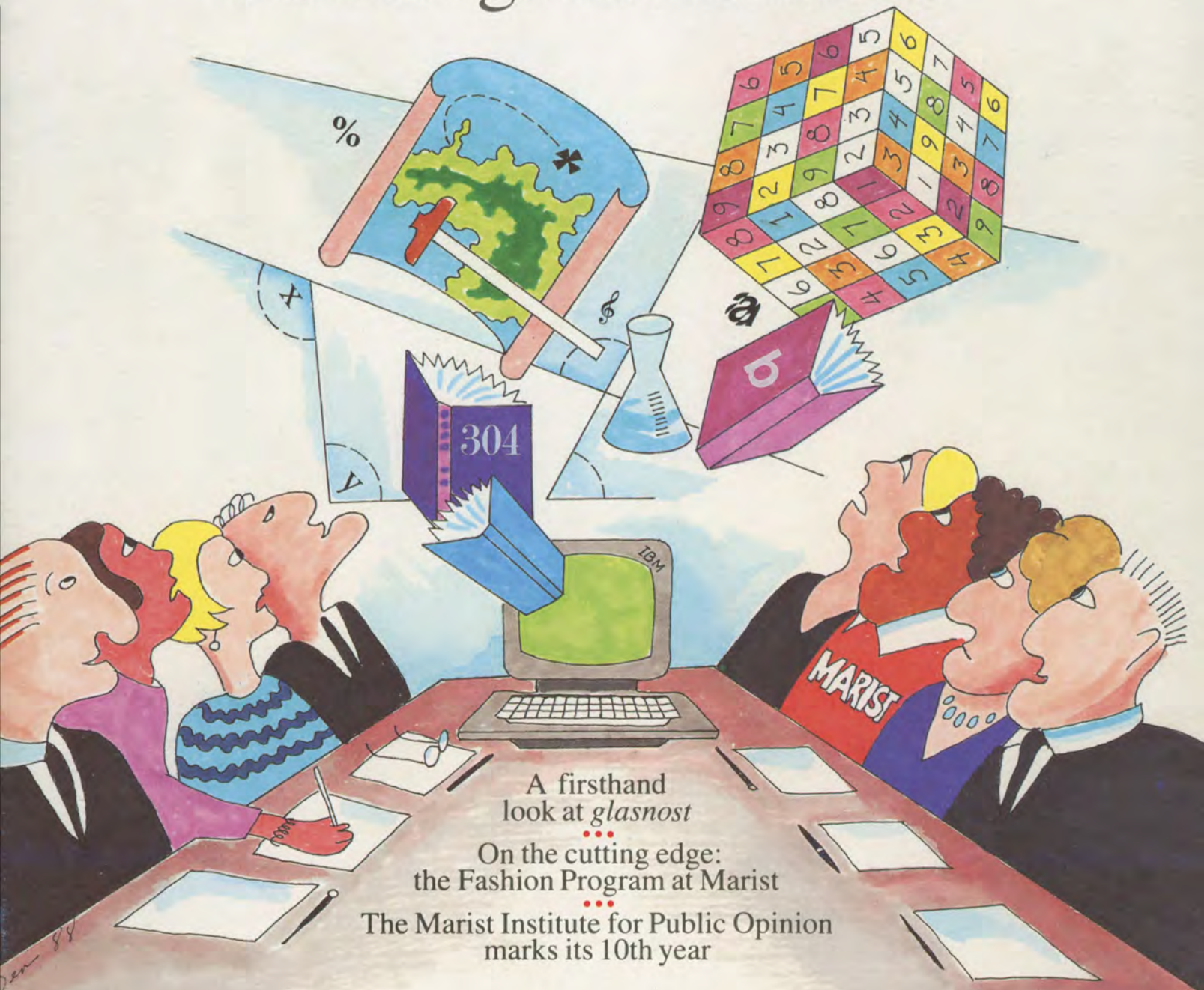
Fall 1988

M A G A Z I N E

Vol. 1, No. 1

MARIST/IBM JOINT STUDY

Revolutionizing the college environment





MARIST

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Marist College President Dennis J. Murray (second from left) with Harry Reasoner. Dr. Frank Stanton, president emeritus of CBS, and CBS This Morning co-host Kathleen Sullivan came to the ceremony to honor their colleague. Sullivan was this year's emcee.

Harry Reasoner receives 1988 Lowell Thomas Award

"IF LOWELL THOMAS WERE ALIVE TODAY, he would be a *60 Minutes* correspondent, maybe the only one," said Harry Reasoner, referring to the energy and perseverance of the late broadcaster. Reasoner, a co-founder and co-editor of the successful news magazine, *60 Minutes*, made this comment upon receiving this year's Lowell Thomas Award.

Reasoner was cited by Marist President Dennis J. Murray, CBS President Emeritus Dr. Frank Stanton and *CBS This Morning* co-host Kathleen Sullivan—who was the emcee for the award ceremony—for his long and distinguished career in broadcast journalism.

"His keen sense of observation and his skillful writing have helped *60 Minutes* demonstrate that good journalism and good ratings can go hand

in hand," said Murray.

"His writing speaks to the point and it speaks with wit," said Stanton.

"We are the temporary caretakers (of broadcast journalism), but you are our leaders," said Sullivan, referring to the role of veteran broadcasters such as Reasoner.

In his speech, Reasoner wove a story of fond memories, firm beliefs and inspirational reflections. "*60 Minutes* has always had the idea to be responsible and to tell people what they need to know without putting them to sleep," he said.

Earlier in the day he met privately with a small group of Marist communication arts majors. "A good reporter should go out on an assignment as a *tabula rasa*, a clean slate, to learn," he told them. Much of the success of *60 Minutes*, he

said, is due to how the program treats a subject. "We don't do issues," he said. "We do stories. . . We take a slice of the pie and do it in terms of people."

Reasoner was given a standing ovation by the audience of some 200 people, including Reasoner's colleagues Dan Rather, Mike Wallace and *60 Minutes* Producer Don Hewitt.

The Lowell Thomas Award is a miniature bronze bust of the late Lowell Thomas, who was a native of Pawling, N. Y., and an honorary alumnus of Marist. The bust was sculpted by Phil Krackowski. Marist College created the award in 1983 to recognize outstanding lifetime achievements of broadcast journalists.

Reasoner's career highlights include serving as anchor of *ABC Evening News* for eight years; reporting from the White House; anchor of numerous Presidential primaries and conventions, and chief correspondent in Beijing for coverage of President Richard Nixon's 1972 trip to China, for which he won an Emmy Award. However, Reasoner is perhaps best known for his role in *60 Minutes*, which began its 20th season this fall.

Previous recipients of the Lowell Thomas Award are David Brinkley (1987), Douglas Edwards (1986), Howard K. Smith (1985), Walter Cronkite (1984) and Eric Sevareid (1983). The annual award ceremony is held at the Helmsley Palace in Manhattan.



Marist communication arts majors meet with Harry Reasoner. "A good reporter should go out on an assignment as a *tabula rasa*, a clean slate, to learn," he told them.

Janet Huber receives 1988 Alumni Achievement Award

JANET HUBER, class of '82, received this year's Alumni Achievement Award at the Lowell Thomas Award ceremony.

Huber began her career in 1983 in the Hudson Valley as a reporter for the Taconic Newspapers and Local Cable News in Beacon. Since that time, Huber has held positions as reporter, editor and producer at several television stations across the country. Huber worked as assistant assignment editor for ABC News in Los Angeles, Calif., and as producer and reporter at WNPB-TV, Morgantown, W. Va. Huber now works as a freelance



Janet Huber, class of '82, receives 1988 Alumni Achievement Award from Robert Norman, Marist associate professor of communications.

producer and writer for the midwestern bureau of ABC News in Missouri.

But with all her experience with local and network news, Huber's first love is documentaries. In 1985, she won an Emmy for *Corwin at 75*, a short

documentary on noted CBS Radio playwright, dramatist and author, Norman Corwin. She continues to work on documentaries as an independent producer.

While at Marist College, Huber interned as a video pro-

ducer for the IBM Corporation in Poughkeepsie. This internship entailed producing, writing, shooting and editing in-house video material. In the summer of 1979, she worked as a production assistant at WNET-TV in New York. As a cameraperson for numerous programs, she worked for the *MacNeill/Lehrer Report* and the *Dick Cavett Show*.

Huber is a cum laude graduate of Marist College. In 1985 she earned her M.A. degree in journalism at the University of Southern California.

Among Huber's other achievements, she was awarded a CBS Broadcasting Fellowship as Outstanding Incoming Journalism Student; first place from the National Federation of Press Women for a broadcast feature; and a Gold Award from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters for a special segment produced for the PBS Special *American Pop: The Great Singers*.

Huber resides in St. Louis, Mo., with her husband Carl Swicord, a producer for KETC-TV, St. Louis.

Marist Fund receives achievement award

MARIST COLLEGE'S MARIST FUND has received a Distinguished Achievement Award from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and the USX Foundation, Inc.

Marist was one of only four colleges and universities nationwide to be recognized for their overall annual giving programs. Award winners were selected for their excellence in planning and management in their development programs.

Marist President Dennis J. Murray, Joan Gasparovic, '83, director of the Annual Fund, and Thomas Connors, '70, alumni representative and a major donor to the 1987 campaign, accepted the award in July at the CASE Annual



Joan Gasparovic, '83, director of the Annual Fund, receives a 1988 Distinguished Achievement Award for the 1987 Marist Fund from Cyrus Jollivette, chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). Thomas Connors, '70, of Los Angeles, represented the Alumni Association at the awards ceremony.

Assembly in Anaheim, Calif. In addition to an engraved award, Marist received a \$500 grant from the USX Foundation.

"This prestigious commendation is a tribute to all of our volunteers and donors who so generously gave of their time, talents and financial resources

to support the Marist Fund," said William Nicklin, a Marist trustee and national chairperson for the 1987 campaign.

"The alumni support we received for this campaign was phenomenal," said Dean Gestal, '71, the 1987 Marist Fund alumni chairperson. "I'm glad to see that all of our alumni's hard work and commitment were recognized as being among the best in the country."

The other three institutions that were similarly recognized were Williams College, Williamstown, Mass.; Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio; and Union College, Schenectady, N.Y.

A total of 28 educational institutions, including secondary schools, two-year junior colleges and four-year comprehensive universities, were acknowledged by CASE and the USX Foundation in 1988.



Freshmen moving in on opening day this fall. In the background is the Hudson River.

Marist seeking diversity among students and faculty

THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR began September 6 at Marist College with 2,900 full-time undergraduates who are more ethnically and culturally mixed and who come from a greater variety of states than in previous years.

The 19 new faculty members also have a more diverse background than any other previous group of faculty beginning the academic year.

"The freshman class is a more diverse group of people," said Harry Wood, vice president for admissions and enrollment planning. "There is a greater representation from

minorities and from different states and countries. We're proud that Marist could attract such a wide variety of students," he said.

The diversity in Marist's student body and faculty comes at a time when life in every part of the United States is growing more geographically, racially and ethnically mixed. Generally colleges, in an attempt to mirror the racial and ethnic makeup of life off campus, are enrolling students and hiring faculty from many different backgrounds, states and countries.

"In this day and age you can't provide a solid liberal arts education without diversity in the student body and faculty," Wood said.

"Diversity is, I think, a good and healthy aspect of an undergraduate education," said Marc vanderHeyden, vice president

for academic affairs. "I think our interests in global education and the international dimension of our core curriculum are enhanced by having faculty members from a variety of backgrounds. It widens the horizons of the faculty and staff and helps open up our students' eyes. It adds a certain richness."

Just more than 60 percent of Marist's student body comes from New York State, a drop from about 70 percent last year, Wood said. This year, students have come from as far away as California and Florida. All the New England states are represented as well as several states in the mid-Atlantic region, such as Maryland and Delaware, Wood said.

Foreign graduate and undergraduate students are from Japan, Nigeria, Ghana, Taiwan, Norway, China, Korea, France, the Dominican Republic, the Philippines, India, Zimbabwe and Panama.

The new faculty members represent a similarly diverse background, coming from California, Oregon, Utah, Texas, Illinois, Michigan, and New York—the state and the city. Marian Bohlen, a visiting assistant professor of religious studies, just returned in August from 25 years of living in Indonesia. Six of 19 new faculty represent minority groups.

The academic credentials of the new faculty are distinguished, vanderHeyden noted. Of the 19 new members, 16 of them have attained the highest degrees possible in their fields, he said.

The majority of this year's freshmen have entered into one of four programs: communication arts, business, the social sciences and computer science, Wood said. A significant number of freshmen—260 this year—have not decided upon a major, he said. In fact, the number of freshmen entering Marist without having selected a major has increased 100 percent in the past three years, he said. This is an encouraging sign, he noted.

"Because Marist offers such an extensive array of programs, students frequently identify two or three areas of interest, but begin college in an undecided status," he said. "They take courses in a variety of areas their first two years here, and then choose the one that's right for them. I don't know of another undergraduate college that approaches the responsive programming offered by Marist."

Another encouraging sign is the consistent enrollment in computer science at Marist. Nationwide, Wood said, the number of students enrolling as computer science majors has decreased 25 percent the past year. "Our statistics exemplify the quality of our computer science program," Wood said.

Although the freshman class of 820 students is similar in number to last year's, the total number of undergraduates has increased by approximately 100 because more students are deciding to stay at Marist for their entire four-year undergraduate career, Wood said.



Inderdip Khorana (left), from Japan, and Kweku Atta Rowe, from Ghana, begin their freshman year at Marist College. The current freshman class has a greater number of students from foreign countries than ever before.



Freshman Mark Jones (right) from Brooklyn, N.Y., takes a break during opening day with his mother, Eunice Lyte, his father, William Jones (center), and his brother, Wesley Douglas.

PHOTOS BY CHIP PORTER



PETER BYRON

Marist regatta crew.

Marist hosts historic regatta

MARIST hosted a historic regatta during the summer commemorating the famous Poughkeepsie Regatta run on the Hudson River from 1860 until 1949. Teams representing Marist College, Columbia University, Princeton University, the College of William and Mary, Brown University and the University of Pennsylvania participated in the July 23, 1988 regatta as part of the festivities celebrating the bicentennial of New

York's ratification of the U.S. Constitution. The regatta was co-sponsored by Marist with the Bicentennial of the Ratification of the Constitution Advisory Committee and the Dutchess County Department of History.

During its heyday, as many as half a million people lined the shores of the river to watch the best teams compete on the noted "Poughkeepsie Course." In 1895, 35 years after the regatta began in Poughkeepsie, the first inter-collegiate regatta was held, with Columbia, Cornell and the University of Pennsylvania competing. Columbia emerged as the winner of that race.

Special guests at the regatta in July were four Columbia alumni who rowed on the Columbia University varsity crew in 1929, winning the Poughkeepsie Regatta that year. In attendance were Horace Davenport, class of 1929 and captain of the varsity crew; William B. Sanford, class of 1930; Samuel Walker, class of 1929; and Henry Walter, class of 1931.

The University of Pennsylvania won the 1988 Regatta with a time of 4:30 for the 1,500 meter course. In second place was Columbia University with a time of 4:34. In third place was Princeton University with a time of 4:38.



PETER BYRON

Special guests were members of the 1929 Columbia University varsity crew. From left, team captain Horace Davenport; William Sanford; Marist Executive Vice President Mark Sullivan; Samuel Walker, and Henry Walter.

Marist computer campers don't roast marshmallows, or, "During my summer vacation I published a newsletter"



PETER BYRON

Janani Umakanthan, 11, a student at the Violet Avenue School in Hyde Park, gets some help from computer camp counselor Susan Hoeft, a Vassar College student.

FIFTY-SEVEN youngsters in the Mid-Hudson region participated in this past summer's computer camp at Marist.

The students, aged 9 to 17, learned computer programming in one of the computer languages (LOGO, BASIC or PASCAL), and practiced using various types of software, including word processing, spread sheet production, computer graphics and desk-top publishing.

With the desk-top publishing software, the students produced a newsletter about their activities during the two-week camp session.

The students also worked with Marist's two-foot tall robot called a Hero I. The robot is programmed through a keyboard mounted on top of it. It can be programmed to sense light, movement and sound. It can also be programmed to speak.



PETER BYRON

Chad Kobos, 13, a student at the Poughkeepsie Middle School, shows off his computer graphic work.

There also was instruction on how to convert sheet music into a special code that computers understand and can play back.

Marist's computer camp is organized by the Marist College School of Adult Education.



Catherine Newkirk

Marist's medical technology program receives national accreditation

THE MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM at Marist College has been awarded a full five-year accreditation by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation.

"This accreditation publicly identifies our program as meeting nationally established standards of educational quality and makes Marist medical technology graduates more marketable," said Catherine Newkirk, director of Marist's medical technology program.

Medical technology is a four-year undergraduate Bachelor of Science program with studies in hematology, clinical chemistry, microbiology and immunohematology. The program includes a six-month clinical rotation, during which students work in medical laboratories at St. Francis Hospital, Hospital Shared Services Inc., or the City of Kingston Laboratory. Each student is guaranteed a clinical rotation in his or her senior year. The student may continue to reside on campus

and is supervised by a faculty member during the rotation.

As a result of this accreditation, graduates of the medical technology program at Marist are eligible to take a National Certification Examination, sponsored by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. Graduates are qualified to work in several areas, including hospitals, private labs, the pharmaceutical and medical products industry, governmental agencies, colleges and universities.

Students earn tuition and experience through community service

THROUGH AN INNOVATIVE MARIST PROGRAM, students can earn tuition credit in return for providing services to nonprofit community organizations.

The Community Service Project, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, was developed to help students defray the cost of their college education while giving them an opportunity to learn how their academic skills and interests can be applied to help resolve problems confronting the community.

The project's first community service placements started last January with 12 students working in the Poughkeepsie public schools. These students, serving as teachers' aides and education assistants, provided an average of 10 hours of service per week throughout the spring semester. At the end of the semester each received \$500 in tuition credit.

According to Philip Koshkin, coordinator of the Community Service Project,



Michele Mottola, a sophomore accounting major, sharing a lighter moment with a student at the Warring School in Poughkeepsie.

the public school system was selected as the program's initial service site because of its need for assistance in providing classroom-related activities, especially in the elementary schools.

"Although Dutchess County as a whole is quite affluent, the City of Poughkeepsie itself has a high proportion of socially and economically disadvantaged persons," Koshkin said. "The public schools here are faced, in microcosm, with many of the economic and racial problems confronting major urban

school systems across the country. More than 20 percent of the families in the district live below the poverty line," he said.

"More and more, the schools are being called upon to provide individual attention and support. . . to underprivileged children," Koshkin said. The 12 Marist students were placed with the schools to help provide additional opportunities for such special attention and direction.

Ten of the 12 students are pursuing majors in management studies, communica-

tions and computer science. The program has emphasized recruitment of students from these areas of study because they are not generally oriented toward careers in human service fields.

Often students in the human services already have the opportunity to develop a familiarity with community needs and goals. The program gives students in other fields a similar opportunity.

Koshkin said that through the Community Service Project, Marist has reached out in a partnership to the community, with everyone involved benefiting. "The students receive a broader-based and more practical learning experience, the community and its citizens receive much needed assistance, and Marist is able to reaffirm and expand its foundations as a liberal arts institution," he said.

A total of 60 placements has been proposed for this academic year. These placements will encompass not only Poughkeepsie schools, but also local agencies serving senior citizens, disabled persons, the homeless and other groups in need of support services.

Marist establishes scholarships for adult students

MARIST COLLEGE has established the Harold and Anne Miller Scholarships for Adult Students. The scholarships have been funded with a gift from Poughkeepsie residents, Harold and Anne Miller. Harold Miller, a native of Poughkeepsie and a benefactor of the college, is a professional engineer who has managed and built diversified real estate developments throughout the Hudson Valley.

The men and women who are registered through Marist's School of Adult Education make up nearly 25 percent of Marist's undergraduate enrollment, and are often part-time students who must meet the demands of both their families and their jobs. Many are in need of some financial aid, but most aid programs are restricted to full-time students. Through this scholarship and a comprehensive, flexible schedule of classes, Marist is meeting the special needs of nontraditional students who are looking for job advancement, new careers and personal growth.



Heidi Klein, Marist computer science major and class of 1988 valedictorian, helping one of 150 gifted and talented fifth-graders at the "Challenges for Problem Solvers" session at Marist.



Students gather in Donnelly Hall before beginning their day in "problem solving" workshops.

"Gifted and talented" youngsters come to Marist for a day

THE FOURTH annual visit of fifth-graders from gifted and talented programs in schools across Dutchess County last March brought 150 students to Marist for the one-day event entitled "Challenges for Problem Solvers," which featured several special workshop sessions.

The workshops, co-sponsored by Marist College and the Dutchess County BOCES (Board of Cooperative Educational Services) Resource Center for Gifted Education, were: "Thinking On Your Feet" by James Springston, Marist assistant professor of communication arts and debate team coach; "Broadcast

News" by Douglas Cole, Marist instructor of communications; "How To Be Your Own Best Friend" by Edward O'Keefe, Marist professor of psychology; "Computer Graphics" by Heidi Klein, Marist computer science major and class of 1988 valedictorian; "Art from the Heart" by artist Erica Sher; "Weaving on a Straw Loom" by artist Deborah Siktberg; "Genetics" by Jacques Chaput, a teacher at Arlington Elementary School; "Creative Problem Solving" by Lynn Gold, gifted program teacher at Pawling Elementary School, and "New Games" by Eileen Tobin,

Ketcham High School physical education teacher.

According to Rose Barer, student specialist with the BOCES Resource Center for Gifted Education, "The purposes of the program are to expose students to experts in specific fields, to give them an opportunity to work cooperatively with students from other districts who have similar interests, to exercise their problem-solving skills and to have fun."

Students from school districts in Arlington, Beacon, Dover, Millbrook, Pawling, Pine Plains, Red Hook, Spackenkill and Wadsworth participated.



Local leaders honored at 21st Community Breakfast

MARIST COLLEGE PRESIDENT Dennis J. Murray presented President's Awards at Marist's 21st annual Community Breakfast last fall. Award winners are (from left to right) Rabbi Erwin Zimet, spiritual leader of Poughkeepsie's Temple Beth-El since 1946; Thomas C. Aposporos, mayor

of Poughkeepsie from 1980 to 1987; and John E. Mack, III, president and chief executive officer of Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. The three honorees were cited by Murray for their outstanding contributions to improving the quality of life in the Mid-Hudson region.

Marist's new degree program in Computer Information Systems one of few in nation

THE NEW YORK STATE Department of Education has approved Marist College's new undergraduate program in Computer Information Systems (CIS).

According to Onkar Sharma, chairperson of the computer science and math division, Marist is the only college in the region, and one of only a few schools nationwide, to offer an undergraduate CIS program. As an academic discipline, CIS is less than a decade old and serves as a bridge between computer science and business.

"Traditional undergraduate computer science and business curricula have not addressed the issue of business applications of computer technology," Sharma said. "The Marist program features a curriculum that synthesizes the best of both worlds. In developing the CIS curriculum, we followed the recommendations of the Association for Computing Machinery and the Data Processing Management Association, organizations which represent computer science professionals, practitioners and educators," he said.

The CIS curriculum is a program that emphasizes computer applications in institutional and business environments. It is technically oriented, stressing programming and systems development skills, along with information systems and business knowledge. It entails the study of systems analysis, systems design and computer

programming, as well as the technical skills and business issues that are pertinent to the development, implementation and maintenance of information systems in a variety of organizational settings.

The new program differs from Marist's established and highly regarded computer science curriculum in some important ways. The computer science curriculum is theoretical and mathematically oriented, with an emphasis on algorithm design, development and testing, and software and hardware technology. CIS is an applied program which stresses information systems concepts, organizational functions, as well as computer technology.

"There is a vigorous need for people who can go beyond technology and solve business problems through a systems perspective. Marist CIS graduates will be prepared to fill this need, able to assume entry level positions as business applications programmers, systems analysts, systems designers and communication network analysts," according to Jerry McBride, associate professor of computer science and director of Marist's Information Systems Graduate Program.

Graduates of the program will hold a Bachelor of Science degree in computer information systems and will have successfully completed 120 undergraduate credits. More than half of the required credits will be earned in business and computer courses.



Upward Bound students learning computer graphics as part of the enrichment courses offered in this year's program. Seated (from left) are Cynthia Sanders, Blanca Ramirez and Cyril Coefield. Standing, (from left), are Sean Borkine, Danielle Humphrey and Monique Morales.

Upward Bound enriches and motivates students

THE NATION'S oldest federally funded education program, Upward Bound, joined with Marist this past summer for the 22nd year. It is one of the longest partnerships with a college that Upward Bound has had.

This year, 120 low income and "first generation" youths—youths from families with no immediate relative who has a college degree—participated in the programs at Marist, according to Joseph Parker, Marist's Upward Bound director.

In the Upward Bound program, high school students from 14 to 19 years old are given instruction in college preparatory courses, general enrichment courses and in high school courses that students need to repeat for credit. The program helps students graduate high school

and motivates them to go to college, a university or a professional school, Parker said.

The help provided by Upward Bound, however, often extends beyond the individual student, Parker said. "You have a ripple effect," he said. "There's no telling how many people—parents of students or their friends or neighbors—who have been affected. Some parents decide to go back to college after seeing the change in their children."

This year's program drew students from 15 area school districts for courses taught by Marist faculty and teachers from other area colleges and high schools, Parker said.

Funds for the program—\$390,000 for the 1988/89 school year—are provided by the U.S. Department of Education.

The nation's education department began Upward Bound in 1965 with a pilot program at selected colleges and universities in the United States. A year later, in the summer of 1966, Marist College began to participate in the program. Since then, Marist's Upward Bound program has helped an estimated 3,300 students, Parker said.

Marist Children's Theater grows up

BEING BALD and orange might not be too appealing to most, but Bruna Pancheri didn't mind.

Pancheri, a communications major from Elizaville, N.Y., played the part of an Oompa Loompa in the Marist College Children's Theater production last spring of *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, one of the theater's most successful runs. The play, performed at Marist, was seen by 3,400 students from more than 50 elementary schools throughout the Hudson Valley.

"It really doesn't matter what part you play as long as you get to be someone," Pancheri said. "The time and effort you put into it makes whatever you do worthwhile."

The Children's Theater is part of the Marist College Council of Theatre Arts, which, although appearing under different names since the Marist Brothers began performing on major holidays and feast days in 1946, is Marist's oldest student organization.

The first children's theater

production, *Cinderella*, was presented in 1969, the season in which Gerard Cox, vice president for student affairs, directed his first production for the college's theater organization. Now, he and Betty Yeaglin, director of college activities, serve as advisors of the council. Some of the other past productions of the children's theater include *Snow White*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Peter Pan*.

"Playing *Peter Pan* (in 1986) was my most memorable experience with the theater group here at Marist," said Peter Prucnel, former president of the council's executive board.

The children's productions can be time-consuming; they are the only performances directed entirely by students, and each production has a run of 15 performances.

"The week before an actual show we have rehearsals from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. every night, including rehearsals on the weekends," said Lisa Meo of Catskill, N.Y. "One night before the show (*Willie Wonka*) we were up until 4:30 a.m. putting the finishing touches on the set."

The effort, however, seems to have its own special reward. Said Chrissy Lawless, a communications major from Huntington, N.Y., and this year's theater council president, "Seeing a smile on a child's face makes it all worthwhile."



A scene from *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, one of the Children's Theater's most successful runs.



Students from the Marist College Summer Scholars Program record a song which they wrote for the opening of their video documentary on Dutchess County in the year 2000.

It's the year 2000; do you know what life will be like?

FORTY GIFTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS from Dutchess County in New York had the opportunity during the summer to look ahead to what life might be like in the year 2000. The students in the Dutchess County Regional High School of Excellence Summer Scholars Program produced three video documentaries during their two-week stay on the Marist campus in July.

Marist's Director of Journalism David McCraw, coordinator of the Summer Scholars program on campus, described the program as a unique opportunity for gifted students to interact with peers from other schools. In addition, the specific topic of "Dutchess 2000: Documentaries of the Future" gave students the chance to learn more about the county's past and present, to think creatively about the future, and develop media skills, including script writing, video production and editing. The topics for the three documentaries were: "Living and Learning: Education in the Year 2000," "Habitat: Housing and Architecture in the Year 2000," and "Land and a River: The Future of Dutchess County's Environment."

Marist was one of four Dutchess County colleges that participated in the 1988 program. The High School of

Excellence is a consortium of the county's school districts and Marist, Dutchess Community College, Vassar College and Bard College. The program operates under the auspices of the Dutchess County Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

McCraw said that one of the highlights of the two weeks was a chance encounter that students from the Marist program had with a group of high school students from the Soviet Union. "One of my colleagues overheard a student in the program saying that the exchange had changed his entire view of the Soviet Union," McCraw said.

Learning about each other and being part of a group working on a joint project was an important part of the summer program. Gary Stellato, an Arlington High School student who worked on the housing documentary, said that when he first heard of the program, he expected it to be "full of kids with pocket protectors and horn-rimmed glasses."

"It wasn't like that at all," he told the Taconic newspapers in an interview about the program. The teams, he said, became like a family. "If I had to sum the whole thing up in one word," Stellato said, "it wouldn't be 'smart' or 'documentary.' It would be 'comradery.'"

Talking your way to the top

FOUR YEARS AGO Marist had no debate team. Now its team is one of the very best in the country.

The Marist team, now in its fourth year, had its best season during 1987-88. Last spring, the team traveled to Colorado Springs to compete in the Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA) National Tournament. At the tournament the varsity team, made up of team captain Mike Buckley and Tony Capozzolo, placed ninth out of approximately 240 teams. Junior varsity, also made up of Buckley and Capozzolo, placed fifth. Venessa Codorniu and Tom Nesbitt of the novice team placed third.

Out of the 400 schools in CEDA, Marist finished in ninth place overall. They were the only school in the country to rank in the top 10 in all three divisions: novice, junior varsity and varsity. Throughout the year they ranked as high as third in the nation and have not fallen more than seven positions behind the leading school.

James Springston, assistant professor of communication arts and director of debate at Marist, has been with the

program since the fall of 1985. Springston attributes the team's rise in status to long hours of hard work. "None of the other schools put in nearly as many hours as we do. We practice 12 to 15 hours a week and travel for three days to the meets, so I see the team seven days a week," Springston said.

Marist has beaten such competitive schools as Cornell, Dartmouth, and Duke. Springston comments that beating the big schools is highly unusual. "It says a lot for the administration and the student body," he said.

Each school in CEDA hosts a tournament once each season. At the Marist tournament this year, Marist placed third, behind Northern Illinois and West Point.

Springston isn't the only one who's proud of the team's success. Buckley, a junior, is one of the best debaters in the country. He's beaten all of the seniors in the northeastern schools. He's won more than 30 trophies and an award for getting the most speaker points in a pair of Boston tournaments. Buckley had predicted earlier in the year that the team would finish in



CHIP PORTER

Marist was the only debate team in the country to finish in the top ten in all three divisions—varsity, junior varsity and novice. Pictured here with only some of their 1987-88 season trophies are (from left) Marist debate coach James Springston; team captain Mike Buckley; Marist President Dennis Murray, and team captain Tony Capozzolo.

the top 10.

Springston said on Buckley's success, "It's made all the difference. All the coaches hope and pray to find the one kid who will be the nucleus of the team. Mike is that kid. He's got dedication, enthusiasm and sacrifice."

Although Buckley is considered to be the nucleus, the team would not be where it is without Capozzolo. Buckley said, "I really think Tony's the best novice in the country. He competes on JV and varsity level."

As a freshman last year,

Capozzolo said he felt pressured at first, "...but as I moved up I realized it wasn't so bad." Told of his teammate's praise of him, he responded, "Personally, I don't know. I like to remain a little humble. I've met some pretty good novices."

How does Springston motivate the team for debates? "I don't have to give them a pep talk," he said. "I have to calm them down. Mike and Tony will stay up all night before a debate. I have to tell them to get some rest or they'll burn themselves out."

Cadden Faculty Reading Room dedicated



HOWARD DRATCH

Valerie Cadden, along with her children Gayle and Bill, pose by a photo of the late Dr. William J. Cadden, who served as a professor of computer science and founded the Software Engineering Research Fund at Marist.

FACULTY wishing to research computer-related subjects now have their own study room and library in the Lowell Thomas Communications Center.

Valerie Cadden, wife of the late Marist professor of computer science, William J. Cadden, donated her husband's library of computer science and math books to Marist. The books are now available in the Cadden Faculty Reading Room, which was dedicated May 7. Taking part in the dedication were

Mrs. Cadden and her family; Marist President Dennis J. Murray; Marc vanderHeyden, vice president for academic affairs; John MacDonald, professor of computer science; and Onkar Sharma, chairperson of the Division of Computer Science and Mathematics.

Cadden, a longtime employee of IBM, established the Software Engineering Research Fund with a major gift in November of 1985. The fund supports faculty research in various areas of computer science. At present,

the funds have been allocated for faculty stipends, books, software and supplies. Plans are underway to begin a lecture series in the spring of 1989 involving experts in the field of computer science.

At the close of the 1987-88 fiscal year, a total of \$44,740 had been received for the research fund. This total includes major gifts from Dr. and Mrs. Cadden and IBM matching gifts.

After retiring from IBM, Cadden joined the Marist faculty in 1984 as the recipient of the Linus Foy Chair in Computer Science, which he held until his death in December 1986.

Back in the U.S.S.R.: Thomas Watson, Jr. at Marist recounts a Siberian odyssey



Thomas J. Watson, Jr. retraces his 1987 return to Siberia.

THOMAS J. WATSON, JR., chairman emeritus of IBM and former United States Ambassador to the Soviet Union, recounted some of the highlights of his experiences in the Soviet Union in a presentation at Marist College last spring.

In 1942, as a captain in the U.S. Army Air Force and co-pilot of a B-24 *Liberator*, Watson was an integral part of the team that opened the Alaska-Siberia (AL-SIB) air ferry route. The AL-SIB route was extremely important to the Allied war effort as the route for delivery of 8,000 U.S. aircraft to the Soviet Union between 1942 and 1945.

In July of 1987, Watson retraced the AL-SIB route in a flight that commemorated the 1942 trip. Watson piloted his own plane—a twin-engine, eight-seat Gates Learjet 55—from New York to the U.S.S.R., flying across Siberia and Alaska. Watson and his passengers were the first Westerners to make a private flight through Siberia to Alaska. The itinerary included Moscow, Novosibirsk, Yakutsk and Anadyr.

After flying for the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II, Watson returned to the IBM Corporation, becoming president in 1952, chief executive officer in 1956, and chairman in 1961. In 1971, he was named chairman of the Executive Committee and became chairman emeritus in 1981.

After his retirement from IBM, he was named by President Jimmy Carter as chairman of the General Advisory Committee on Arms Control and Disarmament in 1978, and the following year, President Carter appointed him to the post of U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, a position he held until 1981.

During his presentation at Marist, Watson shared anecdotes and insights regarding his work and travel over the years in the Soviet Union. From his 50-year association with the country, Watson has come away with a respect and understanding for the Soviet way of life that few Americans have.

"If you opened the [Soviet] borders, there would not be a huge exodus," he said.

What the Soviet Union

needs, Watson said, is strong leadership—strong enough to change a nation's thinking, from the people at the top on down.

"If Mikhail Gorbachev is able to pull that country into the modern world...to begin to have real competition within their own country and the world, he will be the greatest Russian to have lived in a thousand years," Watson said.



Nikki Giovanni

Writer Nikki Giovanni is keynoter

THE NOTED writer, poet, journalist and recording artist Nikki Giovanni was the keynote speaker of the Black History Month Celebration at Marist last February.

Giovanni spoke about her experiences as a poet and how the 1960's civil rights movement has affected her work. She has written many books, including, *Black Feeling Black Talk*, *Night Comes Softly*, *Black Judgment* and *The Women and the Men*. She is also an editorial consultant to *Encore American* and a columnist for *Worldwide News* magazine. Her column, "One Woman's Voice," is syndicated by the Anderson-Moberg Syndicate of *The New York Times*.



ABC News correspondent and Marist College graduate Bill O'Reilly (right) speaks with a student and Marist Associate Professor of History Peter O'Keefe during a recent visit to Marist. O'Reilly, '71, spoke on a variety of topics, including television news production, success and Marist College.



The Rev. Peter J. Henriot



Michael Novak

Noted theologians offer divergent views on wealth and poverty

HERE IS A CONCEPT: Efficiency and equity.

"Can we be efficient as an economy and equitable as an economy?" asked the Rev. Peter J. Henriot.

"God is not an egalitarian. He made each one of us different," said lay theologian and social critic Michael Novak.

Henriot, director of the Center of Concern in Washington, D.C., and Novak, director of Social and Political Studies at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research in Washington, D.C., came to Marist to debate the issue of equity and efficiency in the U.S. economy.

The presentation, entitled "Equity and Efficiency: Commentary on The Catholic Bishops' Pastoral Letter on the Economy," was sponsored by the Division of Management Studies and the Cunniff-Hackett Lecture Series, and was organized by Jack Kelly, division chairperson, and John Griffin, associate professor of economics. Eileen Taylor-Appleby, assistant professor of social work, and Curtis Cadorette, assistant professor of religious studies, participated in a discussion

that followed Henriot's and Novak's presentations.

To Henriot, the problem of poverty is a problem in the economic system. To Novak, poverty is a problem of individual attitudes. Henriot called for changes in public policy that are instilled with a moral vision to help the poor. Novak said individual initiative alone will lift people out of poverty.

"Is wealth created in such a fashion that, in its creation, it can be more equally distributed?"

Here are some facts cited by Henriot: More than 35 million Americans, or 15 percent of the population, are poor and living below the poverty line. There are some 20 million to 30 million hungry people in the United States. Among all the industrialized nations, the United States has the widest gap between the rich and the poor. Roughly 28 percent of the nation's wealth is held by 2 percent of the population. The bottom 20 percent of the

population received 4.7 percent of the gross income earned by the nation's people. Poverty is increasing in the United States, not decreasing.

The causes for this apparent backslide in the country's economic evolution are many and, in the eyes of Henriot and Novak, disparate.

"Is wealth created in such a fashion that, in its creation, it can be more equally distributed?" Henriot asked. "Participation in the creation of wealth is the central question in the Pastoral Letter. The letter is about participation, not the receiving of the fruits of the economy."

Said Novak, "The virtue of enterprise needs to be trained, like anything else. One needs to see opportunities to fill a need where others don't. . . . Poverty has nothing to do with the economy but with social behavior." He made three strong recommendations for individuals to avoid poverty: 1.) Complete high school; 2.) Work at any job, even for minimum wage, and; 3.) Get married and stay married. Once you've done this, he said, "your chances of ever being poor are extremely low."

The welfare system that began in the United States in the 1960's helped the old, Novak said, but created for the young a social situation that encouraged "the maximization of irresponsibility." It left people in a position in which marriage was no longer necessary for economic survival, as it had been in the past to a great extent, he explained. And, by forsaking marriage, the maturity and responsibility that come with family life were delayed, if not sidestepped altogether, he said.

We are seeing the outgrowth of this condition in the nation's homeless, Novak said. In the past, we lived with relatives if needed. "Today," he said, "relatives don't take care of their own. This disturbs me."

Novak maintained that America is the "most just society in the world" for allowing practically unimpeded individual initiative and creation of wealth. "This is still a country of tremendous opportunity," he said.

Henriot concluded, however, that the United States has "a long way to go" before it is a just society. "Our level of poverty is unacceptable," Henriot said. "There are much greater unjust countries in the world, but I'm a U.S. citizen and I want my country just," he said.



Charles J. Hynes, special prosecutor for the Howard Beach case.

Charles J. Hynes tells Marist community to help eradicate racism

"OUR GREATEST strength in this society is our diversity."

Charles J. Hynes, special prosecutor in the Howard Beach case, had these words—and many more—to share when he visited Marist College to speak on racism in America, and on the lessons he learned from his work on the Howard Beach case. The case involved an incident in which one black man was killed, and another was severely beaten by a group of white teen-agers.

"Words can kill, but they can also heal," he said. And, in the case of Howard Beach, Hynes said, words killed. It was an incident provoked entirely "by the hate and the fury and the power of words," he said.

"Sticks and stones do break bones and words can destroy you forever," he said.

Some 500 students, Marist faculty members, administrators and people from the surrounding area listened as Hynes eloquently and forcefully denounced racism as a societal plague.

"When the true story of Howard Beach is told we will not be able to count the bro-

ken hearts," he said.

"Violence against an individual because of our differences is destructive to the fabric of our society," he said. A racially motivated crime, he added, should be punished more severely than a simple assault if law enforcement is to control racism in any way. But, he continued, there is little law enforcement can do to curb racism.

"I am here not as an expert on race relations, but as a prosecutor to tell you that law enforcement has no power in race relations," Hynes said. The answer, he said, is to be found within the daily conduct of human affairs. "We must stop calling each other names and we must lower our voices and we must begin to communicate," he said.

"If this world is to be a better place, we must realize we are the world," he said. "Mindless intolerance, whatever its motive, has to end."

Each individual is responsible for eradicating racism from society, he said. "He who can protest and does not is an accomplice to the act," he said.

Marist Institute brings national correspondents to the college

THE MARIST INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC OPINION sponsored a series of speakers on "Media Coverage of the 1988 Presidential Campaign" as part of the college's Cunneen-Hackett Lecture Series. Evans Witt, national political correspondent for the Associated Press, spoke on the use of polls in covering Presidential campaigns. Robert Boyd, Washington bureau chief for Knight-Ridder newspapers, and James Dickenson, political correspondent for *The Washington Post*, together gave an assessment of current media coverage of the Presidential campaigns. Bonnie Angelo, the northeastern bureau chief for *Time* magazine, addressed the European perspective on campaign coverage in the U.S.



Bonnie Angelo, northeastern bureau chief for *Time*.



James Dickenson, political correspondent for *The Washington Post*.



Robert Boyd, Washington bureau chief for Knight-Ridder newspapers.



Evans Witt, national political correspondent for the Associated Press.

lar question contributes to the whole project. The overall questionnaire has to be concise. We start with a rough draft of about 50 questions, and use between 20 to 30 in the final questionnaire."

Unlike many polling organizations which conduct partisan polls or cater to interest groups, MIPO is a public poll. That is, it does not hire itself out to do polls for political parties, candidates or interest groups. Because of its public surveys on New York State officials and issues, it does not accept projects funded through state agencies.

"We don't cross lines or mix interests," Miringoff said. "This is vital to our success."

The institute also does not do polling for any individual newspaper, television network or magazine. Survey results are available to everyone. "There's no one else like us," Miringoff said.

Although more well-known now than at anytime in its 10-year history, MIPO is today what it always has been: an independent, nonpartisan, noncommissioned polling organization. "We are truly a public poll," said Carvalho.

In addition to election polling, the institute conducts polls on many public policy issues, including the legal drinking age, the seat belt law, taxes, the national budget deficit, defense spending and various other domestic and foreign policy concerns.

"We're able to provide in-depth information and analysis to decision-makers, the media and the public on a wide range

How is it that the Marist Institute gets consistently accurate results? "Our methodology is unique. . ."



Lee M. Miringoff and Barbara Carvalho of MIPO meet with New York Governor Mario Cuomo to research their recently published book *The Cuomo Factor*.

of issues and trends as a community service," Miringoff said.

It was a student project in 1978 that initiated the original idea of what would become the Marist Institute for Public Opinion. In a political science class called "Political Parties and Pressure Groups" taught by Miringoff, students conducted a poll of Dutchess County voters as they left the election booths in Democrat Lucille Pattison's uphill race for Dutchess County executive in 1978.

"We organized 100 students to go out to every election district in the county starting at 6 a.m.," Miringoff said. "The students had their maps

and we sent them out continually throughout the day. Back on campus, in a classroom, we hand-tallied the results. Each person doing the tallying was responsible for recording the vote by a different category—by party, by sex, by age, by region, by ideology, to name a few. Our data showed that Lucille Pattison would score highest in the most conservative parts of the county. We were skeptical, to say the least. But, as it happened, we were right."

Since then, MIPO's renown, credibility and impact have increased dramatically. During this year's New York Presidential primary in April, the institute's work appeared in broadcasts over ABC, CBS, NBC,

CNN and the BBC, and in more than 600 newspapers and magazines, including *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Business Week*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *The Los Angeles Times*.

"If you were going to set a table for the most influential political reporters in the country and invite them for dinner, then you could not have asked for a better group than the people who called us," said Miringoff.

"It was particularly rewarding for the students," said Carvalho. "They had seen what they had done. They were very proud. The strangers they were calling to interview for polls we were doing right up to election day would say things like, 'I know you. You folks from Marist are doing a great job.' At that moment, the door swings open."

But there can always be times when the door swings closed, and for the student pollsters, that is not always easy to cope with.

"A major hurdle is that in making the calls a good rapport must be established in a matter of seconds," Carvalho said. "In that time, our student interviewers must convince each person they speak to, without saying so, that even though you don't know me, I'm from a legitimate organization, what I'm doing is important, and I'm interested in your opinions on this topic."

Sometimes, even a strange twist of fate works to the institute's advantage.

"Once we called an Italian family in New York City, and the man answered in Italian saying he didn't speak English," Miringoff said. "It just so happened that the student interviewer was Italian and he replied in Italian. Then the man on the other end said in English, 'O.K. You got me. What do you want?'"

Student participation in the

Bush Leads Dole in NY Marist Poll

By MARC HUBERT Associated Press Writer

ALBANY (AP) — Vice President George Bush has improved his standing among New York Republicans to a better than 2-1 advantage over Kansas Sen. Robert Dole, an independent poll reported today.

Also, there is no clear front-runner among New York Democrats with former Colorado Sen. Gary Hart, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis and Illinois Sen. Paul Simon all registering in double digits in the latest survey by the Marist College Institute for Public Opinion.

Meanwhile, Democratic Gov. Mario Cuomo's approval rating continues to soar with 71 percent of New Yorkers surveyed saying he was doing a good or excellent job as governor.

And while Cuomo has said he will not seek the Democratic presidential nomination, 36 percent of New Yorkers surveyed say he should run for the White House and 41.2 percent of those actually think he will.

While Bush appeared to be widening his lead over Dole in New York, the Marist poll indicated that the vice president might be doing so at the expense of New York Rep. Jack Kamp.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Labels Don't Fit

More than most public figures, Gov. Cuomo eludes conventional labels. He is an urban, ethnic Democratic politician who has made what Lee Miringoff, the director of the Marist Institute for Public Opinion in Poughkeepsie, terms "misleading" inroads into the suburbs and conservative and independent voters who went for Reagan.

Mr. Cuomo advocates increased government spending on environmental and educational issues but quarreled with the legislature when he sought to reduce financing for personnel at state mental hospitals and the state university. He is proud of his record of lowering taxes but, according to Citizens Budget Commission analysis, his budget calls for a nearly 8% increase in state taxes over last year. He is deeply

divided—sometimes irascibly so, rivals say—about appointing two Republicans to a state's highest court and elevated a former judge to the post.

In fact, Mr. Cuomo—who reads the *New York Times* and dips into *Time* magazine—mixes easily with campaign crowds, usually holding his future wife Maria's hand in public when they were courting. He was the most popular governor in the

Subject of Speculation

As a result, Mr. Cuomo—reflective in style, studious in temperament, often stirring in speech—has emerged as a leading Democratic voice, raising speculation that, like Martin Van Buren, Grover Cleveland and Theodore Roosevelt, he might use the governor's mansion in Albany as a base to win the White House.

As a young man, Mr. Cuomo spent a year in the remote outposts of Bushville, Tenn., where he was a newspaper editor and a teacher. He was later elected to the legislature and then to the governor's office.

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He was later elected to the legislature and then to the governor's office. He was later elected to the legislature and then to the governor's office.

The New York Times

Poll Shows Dukakis Is Doing Better As the Candidates Stump New York

By MICHAEL ORESKES

The Democratic Presidential campaign in New York City yesterday as a new poll showed Gov. Michael S. Dukakis as the frontrunner in the state's primary election.

With New York's primary taking place on April 19, the Marist Institute for Public Opinion released a survey that showed 47 percent of probable Democratic voters supported Mr. Dukakis.

The poll also showed that Mr. Dukakis was the favorite among New York's independent voters, with 51 percent of them backing him.

Mr. Dukakis' lead over Mr. Bush was 10 percentage points, while Mr. Hart trailed at 13 percent.

The poll also showed that Mr. Cuomo's approval rating was 71 percent, up from 68 percent in a poll last month.

The poll was conducted by the Marist Institute for Public Opinion, a nonpartisan polling organization.

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Marist poll: Bush tops GOP; Hart viewed negatively

ALBANY (AP) — Gov. Bush topped the GOP in a Marist poll, but his lead over Sen. Dole was narrow.

The poll also showed that Mr. Hart was viewed negatively by many voters.

The poll was conducted by the Marist Institute for Public Opinion, a nonpartisan polling organization.

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10 years and counting

institute's work is, in fact, an integral part of its role. "Over the years," Miringoff said, "thousands of Marist College students have been directly involved in the polling process in a variety of ways. There have been more than 450 students involved this year alone. Some do the interviewing, some work in media relations, others work in data processing. MIPO attracts students from a variety of majors."

The institute, said *Newsweek's* Fineman, "seems to be a model for what other colleges and universities have done, and should do, to become laboratories for, and contributors to, public opinion survey work."

In addition to its surveys, MIPO organizes other educational activities. It has sponsored student trips to Washington, D.C. to meet with representatives, policymakers and the press. It regularly hosts seminars on campus for students, faculty and the



Ten years ago, students hand-tallied survey results.

community with national journalists and other key players in state and national issues. MIPO serves as a resource for faculty and students at Marist and other colleges around the country by providing current information on national and New York State election issues.

U.S. Senator Daniel P. Moynihan of New York said the Marist Institute provides "an

they look for jobs after college. A Marist graduate who'd been involved with the institute, Caroline R. Kretz, is now working in New York City Mayor Ed Koch's office. She worked for the institute in 1981 and 1982 when Mario Cuomo was first running for Governor of New York, and again in 1984, when President Reagan was seeking re-election.

"There are criticisms that the college students of the 1980's are apathetic toward electoral politics—as is evidenced by low voter turnouts—and are disinterested in politics in general," Kretz said. "However, at Marist Dr. Miringoff was able to recruit students from every academic discipline and encourage their avid participation in the institute's projects. These students—many of whom, most likely, had a course of study far removed from political science or who may have had no real interest in politics—were afforded an opportunity to gain an insight into and an understanding of the importance of the electoral process to a democracy and to the destiny of the nation as a whole; an understanding that they would not have gained otherwise."

Several other Marist graduates are now working in the press and in politics. "This is particularly rewarding," Miringoff said, "because there is no better measure of our success."

In addition to its growing authority on public policy issues, the institute's repeated appearances in the press help keep Marist alumni informed about the college. "The number of former students who see us now and send us clips from their local papers is remarkable," Miringoff said.

This fall, with a Presidential election in November, the institute has been busy conducting several polls to learn about the state's attitudes toward the candidates, this time using some of the latest computer technology.

Said Miringoff, "We've come a long way from the days we hand-tallied results and carried our phones around from room to room in a cardboard box." ■



CAROL ANADREWS COONEY

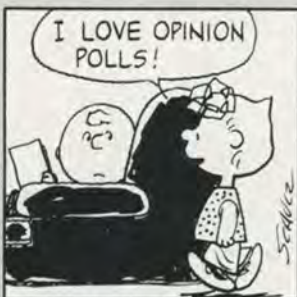
Student participation in the institute's work is an integral part of its role.

applied methodology most students never have the opportunity to experience." Moynihan once visited the institute's offices in Adrian Hall to speak to a class and to experience firsthand MIPO's work.

"In their innovative program," said Bonnie Angelo, *Time* magazine's northeastern regional bureau chief, "students are not passive note-takers. Lee Miringoff sends them into action, makes them participate in the vibrant world of politics and public dialogue."

This kind of education can be an asset for students when

PEANUTS



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Looking good



Architectural rendering of Donnelly Hall renovations.

Marist campus adds and updates

BEAUTY is skin deep—and deeper—on the Marist campus.

During the past several months, renovations have been underway at the college to give a new look to a number of buildings and, further, to significantly improve mechanical systems and energy efficiency.

Preliminary plans also are underway for a new residence hall and a new classroom building on the campus. The dormitory is tentatively scheduled for completion and occupancy in the fall of 1990. According to Marist Executive Vice President Mark Sullivan, discussions have begun on a new combined classroom and office building, scheduled for occupancy in three years when the college's lease at Marist East expires.

Major renovations were completed during the summer on Champagnat Hall, the college's largest dormitory.

The renovations included the replacement of the exterior glass walls with solid, insulated panels. The building's single-layer windows were replaced with insulated glass. Sullivan said that the improvements will save Marist several thousand dollars each year in fuel costs.

The Champagnat renovations were funded in large part with a \$300,000 low-interest energy conservation loan from the federal Department of Education. The total cost for the

energy conservation project is \$625,000. Other improvements to the residence hall were renovated study lounges, new lighting and new carpeting.

Another improvement to Champagnat Hall was the installation of fiber-optic cable providing for telephone service to the rooms in the residence hall and for future connections between Champagnat and Marist's new IBM 3090 computer in Donnelly Hall.

Planned for next spring are interior and exterior improvements to the central entrance area of Champagnat and the adjoining Campus Center building. "Improvements to the foyer will include the installation of a skylight to open up this area, to make it lighter and more appealing as a common foyer area," said Sullivan. The outside entrance area will become a small courtyard with plantings and benches.

Renovations began this fall on a major, three-phase project to improve the exterior, the interior and the mechanical systems of Donnelly Hall. The building is a major center for the campus, including academic and administrative offices, classrooms and the Marist Computer Center. The Computer Center received extensive renovations during the summer to accommodate the new mainframe computer that is the center-

piece of the Marist-IBM joint study.

The first phase of the Donnelly Hall renovations involves replacing and extending the exterior wall of the building. This will provide another 7,000 to 8,000 square feet of space. The building also will have a renovated lobby area and entry at the northwest entrance of the building.

Phase two will include the replacement of the building's mechanical systems—heating, air conditioning and air exchange systems. Phase three will provide for significant internal renovations. "Essentially, we are getting a whole

new building for approximately \$2.5 million. In today's market, it would cost \$10 million or more for Marist to construct a new building of this size (87,000 square feet)," Sullivan said.

The Marist library also received renovations during the summer, including an improved and modernized lobby area.

The preferred site for the proposed dormitory is an area directly behind the Campus Center where the land slopes down to the Hudson River. A contract for the design and construction is expected to be confirmed in early spring of 1989. ■

Continued improvements made to Gartland Commons



John J. Gartland, Jr. (right), long-time member of the board of trustees and chairman of the board's buildings and grounds committee, at one of the committee's weekly meetings. Gartland is pictured with trustee and committee member Jack Newman.

MARIST has made continued improvements to the Gartland Commons, a 21-acre parcel of land including garden apartments and athletic fields at the north end of campus. Named after prominent attorney and long-time member of the board of trustees, John J. Gartland, Jr., the Gartland Commons includes four two-story buildings which house more than 300 students. There also are several athletic playing fields.

Recent improvements include the construction of a stone river wall, providing an area for students to gather and enjoy views of the Hudson River; the completion of several new lighted basketball courts, and extensive landscaping and plantings.

A formal dedication of the Gartland Commons area, including the mounting of a bronze plaque honoring Gartland and his wife, Catherine, will be held in the spring.

Revolutionizing the college environment

by Susan DeKrey

EARLY ON JULY 27 a moving van backed up to the service entrance of Donnelly Hall on the Marist campus. Shortly after 9 o'clock, a thin, blue plastic seal—like a larger version of the hospital wrist bands worn by mothers and their newborn babies—was cut from the van door by Carl Gerberich, Marist's vice president for information services, and the unloading began. Wrapped in moving quilts, the contents could have passed for desks and chairs. Those boxes, weighing a total of 10 tons, contained something quite different, however, and far more valuable.

In those crates was the heart of one of IBM's most powerful computers, a system worth more than \$10 million. What was being unloaded with that system was even more valuable, a commodity without a price tag: possibility. The possibility of using computers as never before for teaching and learning. The possibility for a small liberal arts college to be a national leader in integrating technology in education. The possibility of exploring new territory, limited only by one's imagination.

Early last year, executives from the IBM Corporation and Marist College began informal conversations about ways in which Marist could upgrade its existing computer system, which it was rapidly outgrowing. A year and a half of discussions later, Marist and IBM have entered into a \$10 million, five-year joint study that has positioned Marist to be the most technologically advanced liberal arts college in the nation.

Susan DeKrey is Marist director of public relations.

How a big corporation and a small college combine technology and the liberal arts



GABRIEL AMARDES COONEY

Every academic area will benefit from the new computer system.

The joint study has given Marist one of IBM's most powerful computers, the kind usually found in large corporations, but never before at a small liberal arts college. The computer can meet all of the administrative and academic needs any college is likely to encounter today and well into the future. Further, the study has put Marist in a position to explore the most innovative possibilities for computer technology in education. And it has given the Marist library

electronic capabilities shared only by a few prestigious research libraries.

"This joint study will make Marist a truly distinctive American institution," said Marist President Dennis J. Murray. "There will be the large, technologically advanced research institutions and then there will be the purely liberal arts colleges and universities. There will not, however, be another small college with our mission of liberal arts and community service that will have

this kind of advanced technology."

For IBM, the study will provide the opportunity for the corporation to look 20 years into the future in a telescopic five years. During that period, IBM wants to test whether advanced computer technology can be used as easily and by as wide a variety of people as IBM has postulated it can. Marist, representative of a small to mid-size customer, will serve as a test site to see what works and doesn't work as students, faculty, staff and community members work with the new computer system.

"This study is one of the largest between IBM and a liberal arts college," said James Cannavino, IBM vice president and Data Systems Division president. "We are looking forward to working with Marist in developing academic applications of technology that can shape education in the 21st century. Marist is uniquely qualified to work with us because of our previous experience with Marist's graduate programs in business and computer science."

"There will be a significant academic improvement for every student at Marist," said Marist President Murray. Students in the field of computer science, he said, will be using truly state-of-the-art hardware and software not often found at a college. Majors in information systems will be exposed to the latest data bases and will see how data base technology is changing. In the communications area students will have some of the most current electronic systems for writing, editing and publishing. Business students will have the rare opportunity to use the kind of computer used by Fortune 500 corporations. Psychology

majors can study firsthand the role of human factors in computer technology. Science students will be able to conduct experiments through computer simulation that would be too costly or impractical to conduct otherwise. Education majors will find the networking system useful when they are doing their student teaching and want to retrieve materials from campus or communicate with faculty members.

The project has grown dramatically from what most people imagined in those initial discussions a year and a half ago. Beginning in early 1987, Marist conducted a study of the college's computer system to assess its strengths and weaknesses. Involved in the assessment were IBM technical personnel and people from the



Setting up in the Computer Center in Donnelly Hall.

HOWARD DRATCH

college, including admissions, the registrar's office, the business office, the controller and college advancement.

"During the assessment,

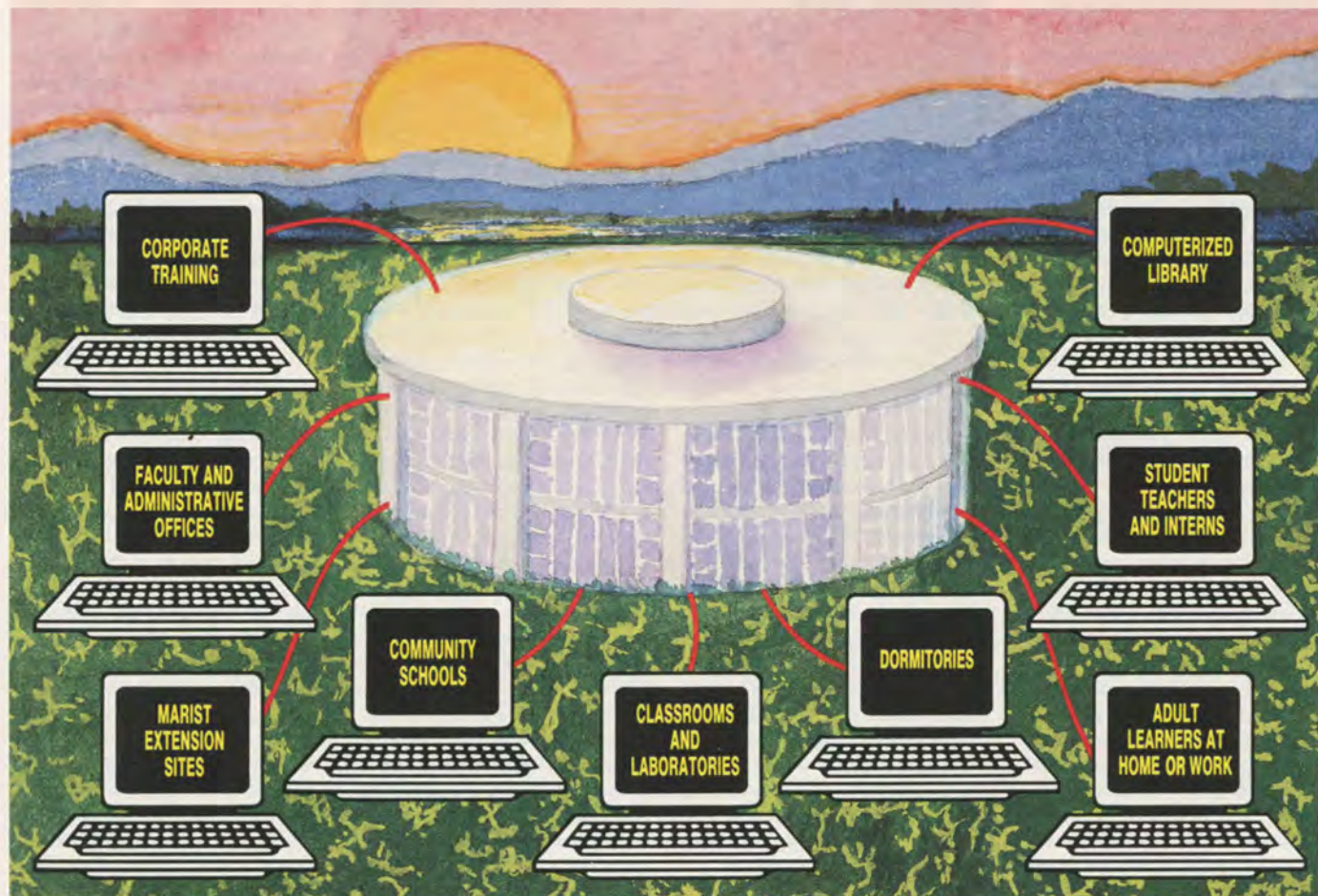
when we heard about the larger issues, such as upgrading the library or developing communication networks, we felt they were too big for us to

tackle, that they would require much more computing power than Marist could afford," said Gerberich, Marist's vice president for information services. "So our initial recommendations were for modest upgrades to the system, solutions to our most immediate problems," he said.

In response to those recommendations, the Marist Board of Trustees and Marist President Murray urged the group to broaden its scope, Gerberich said, "to think bigger and not to throw things like the library or communication links over the fence."

"Within that broader framework, we began to ask, 'Where do we want to go and what do we need to get there?'," Gerberich said. To become better acquainted with existing

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS of the Marist-IBM joint study will be computer connections throughout the campus and beyond. A fiber-optic network will branch out from the powerful mainframe computer in Donnelly Hall to computer terminals in dormitories, classrooms and laboratories, the library, Marist extension sites, corporate training sites, community schools and service organizations throughout the area.



WANDA YUEH

technology and what might best serve Marist's needs, Gerberich visited IBM laboratory sites in Austin, Tex.; and closer to home in Kingston and Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

"This is when I started getting very excited about the possibilities," Gerberich said. "I saw firsthand how the frontiers of technology were being pushed ahead very rapidly. There were new concepts that could be used to build an audio-visual computer. New ways were being developed for the computer to visualize things that had never been seen before—things such as the interaction of atoms within a complex molecule.

"Historically the computer has contributed to information overload by generating vast volumes of data; now the computer could also be used to summarize, combine and help people visualize results. Large columns of data could now be converted into timely and understandable information. The question remained, 'How could these technological advances be applied to meet the needs of people?' I felt Marist was uniquely equipped to help address that question," he said.

To give the project the benefit of ideas from several different areas of the college, a Marist committee was formed, including Murray and Gerberich; Executive Vice President Mark Sullivan; Vice President for Academic Affairs Marc vanderHeyden; then Vice President for College Advancement Anthony Cernera; Marist Librarian John McGinty, and Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations Mary Ellen Czerniak.

After meeting on their own for several months, the committee began what would become a series of fruitful and mutually beneficial meetings with an executive team from IBM. They began an exchange of ideas on what Marist wanted to accomplish and how best to do it. The library had started to become more and more central to the group's discussions, and, Gerberich said, "There began to be more and more discussion about Marist in the community—the role and re-

sponsibility of the college in the larger area."

What developed is a list of five basic objectives that Marist wants to accomplish:

1. Expand and improve the college's administrative management system;
2. Computerize all library operations and services;
3. Provide a computer communications network throughout campus;
4. Provide computer links between campus and off-campus sites; and,
5. Establish computer links to community schools and service organizations to provide access to Marist's



"If we only talk about power, hardware and technology, we're missing the boat. What we're really talking about are better services to students."

—Carl Gerberich



Two members of the joint study team, Carl Gerberich (right), Marist vice president for information services, and Charles Tuller, assistant to the IBM Data Systems Division president.

educational resources and personnel.

Cannavino, his assistant Charles Tuller, and Art Scott, IBM project coordinator for the joint study, were key players from IBM on the development of the study. They determined the kind of computer system Marist would need to accomplish its five ambitious objectives. "As we were kicking this around, the concept of infinite MIPS emerged," said Tuller. As he explained, infinite MIPS (millions of instructions per second, a measure of computing power) really meant giving Marist unlimited computing power in terms of the needs an institution of its size would ever have.

"I think that was the breakthrough for us, the concept of immense capacity," said Czerniak. "It opened up our thinking tremendously. It eliminated the stumbling blocks. Imagine—you're trying to solve a complicated problem and suddenly you're given almost unlimited resources with which to solve it.

"It was an exhilarating experience to have that concept to work with, but also overwhelming, especially initially," she continued. "The campus groups we met with had much the same reaction to the possibilities. There was excitement and then the reaction of 'This

in computing capability."

A great deal of the 3090's computing power will be used to make the system as easy to use as possible, to allow the student, the faculty member and the administrator to begin using the technology without extensive training and without the services of a programmer. How well this works is what IBM will be looking at very closely.

"We have a vision of the future in which information systems will be used to operate a huge data warehouse," said IBM's Tuller. "By asking a series of questions, people can access that warehouse for what they want and, in essence, do their own programming without realizing it. We give them the capability to use the data and everyone gets almost a tailor-made application. The capability to do this exists, but right now very few customers can afford enough computer power. With costs going down each year, customers will be able to afford it in the future. The joint study with Marist gives IBM the ability to look into that future a little sooner, to see if what we believe will work does work."

In short, the joint study is as esoteric as testing one's vision of the future and as down-to-earth as any solid marketing analysis of what products will sell. As Tuller added in regard to the latter, "It's the question of 'What if the clothes only look good on the model?'"

A team of IBM and Marist staff will monitor the joint study on an ongoing basis. Marist staff, faculty and students will provide feedback on how well the system is working, with particular emphasis on "human factors"—the ways in which people interact with the machinery and vice versa. That task involves looking at the computers themselves, the entire working environment—the lighting, noise levels, comfort of the chairs—the ways in which information gets communicated over computer networks.

"Do you like it the way it is? Don't put up with it if you don't like it. Tell us what it is that works and doesn't work,"

PETER BYRON



said Scott. As an integral part of the study, Marist will develop human factors courses which will be offered to students and to IBM personnel who have a hand in developing computers and information systems.

Tuller touched on another aspect of human factors—how well the machines can interact with people.

"When you use the system regularly, shouldn't it begin to know something about you, some things about your level of sophistication in using the system, to be able to tailor its uses to your needs?" he asked.

This point is one that is central in discussions about the role of computer technology in libraries and in research in general: If the system can't make the leaps the mind can make, the researcher is stymied. But how does a computerized library system provide for its use by a third-grader and also by a Ph.D. candidate? How does the system make adjustments for the particular individual?

"The library at Marist provides us the opportunity to see a broad spectrum of capabilities. And we'll want to find an answer to the question of 'Can the system tell the difference between different people using it?'" Tuller said.

Branching out from the 3090 will be an extensive fiber-optic network connecting the mainframe to computer terminals in dormitories, classrooms, laboratories, the library, faculty and staff offices, college extension sites and other community locations. This network will give students and faculty the ability to access information from many different locations; to communicate electronically on- and off-campus as never before, and to participate in classroom activities and research in innovative and time-saving ways. With a terminal and modem, adult students at their homes or offices will be able to participate in a class or use resources in the library. Marist will be able to offer training to corporate sites around the country and even in other countries.

"Access is the most impor-

tant thing," said Gerberich. "We believe we can make the system far more accessible. If we talk about power, hardware and technology, we're missing the boat. What we're really talking about are better services to students."

"Educators across the country are probing the increasing role of the computer as an active tool in the learning process," Sullivan said. "The joint study will allow us to see how well the computer serves that function—in the classroom, the library, laboratory, the remote training site or the quiet of one's own home. We are in the forefront of a move-

librarian McGinty calls the "electronic reserve room."

In designing the course work on the Vietnam War, the history professor and a reference librarian would have worked together to develop a collection of relevant materials on the subject—articles, books, maps, government reports, statistics—in effect compiling a new data base tailored especially for the students in the history class. That new data base is then available for use by students 24 hours a day from their dorms or classrooms. There is no waiting for someone else to be done with the materials, there is no need to make copies

aspects of the electronic library is the possibility of being able to use compact disks for the storage of information. Commonly called CD-ROMs ("compact disk read-only memory"), the disks can store an immense amount of information relatively inexpensively. One 5 1/4" laser disk can contain the same amount of information as 1,200 floppy disks. The 12-volume *Oxford English Dictionary* can be stored on two disks.

This technology, with the potential of putting entire volumes on disks, has exciting ramifications for libraries. Library holdings can increase many times over if books can be put inexpensively on compact disks. Storage and retrieval are simplified. It can give the library user access to resources from all over the world. "It could be much like the world's collection of literature right here on campus," said Scott.

As part of the joint study, IBM and Marist will explore the uses for these optical storage disks, both for academic and for commercial settings. When they are implemented as part of the technology in the Marist library, people will be able to get an electronic replica of the printed page, including the text, art, graphs and other visual elements.

"The technology of the optical storage units gives Marist capabilities that only the big research libraries like Carnegie-Mellon and Ohio State have," McGinty said. "This puts us in the forefront of liberal arts colleges as well as in the forefront of library development for the future."

That Marist remain a college dedicated to the liberal arts, to teaching and community service, has been an integral part of the joint study from the beginning.

"What makes it unique," Marist President Murray said, "is that it provides a liberal arts college known for its teaching and community service with an opportunity to continue its development in the most sophisticated computer and communications environment. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for any educational institution of any size." ■



"We are looking forward to working with Marist in developing academic applications of technology that can shape education in the 21st century."

—James Cannavino



A press conference announcing the joint study was held in June. Pictured (from left) are Donald Love, chairman of the Marist Board of Trustees; James Cannavino, IBM vice president, president of the Data Systems Division, and Marist trustee; and Dennis J. Murray, Marist president.

ment that could dramatically change the traditional methods of instruction in schools and colleges across America," he said.

A look at the Marist library, 1992: A student studying the Vietnam War for a course in late 20th century history needs to research and write a term paper. From his dormitory room he can access with his personal computer the indices and catalogues in the Marist library. He can find out what materials are available in the general library collection and he also can access what Marist

of materials, and students can choose the option of working from their dorm or classroom rather than going to the library—an option that provides maximum flexibility for students in using the resources.

"The idea," McGinty said, "is that the library will expand from a print-oriented repository to a more electronically-based resource. We will still provide the services libraries have traditionally provided, that is, 'You tell us what you need and we'll get it for you.' The difference will be that over time, many of our resources will be on computerized data bases instead of on the library shelf."

One of the most innovative

PETER BYRON

Marist College Vice President for Academic Affairs Marc A. vanderHeyden sponsored the Seventh Annual Faculty Retreat at Williams Lake Hotel in Rosendale, N. Y., on January 12 and 13 of this year. Following is an edited version of the text of vanderHeyden's opening address to the faculty entitled "Reflections on Bloom."

PROFESSOR ALLAN BLOOM'S book, *The Closing of the American Mind*, has caused a great stir. There is no doubt that a large number of academic people, primarily those over 40, at first found the book enjoyable and refreshing reading—enjoyable, in that it most likely confirmed many of the conversations academics have had with colleagues over the past decade about the decline of true intellectual pursuits; refreshing, because it was expressed in an engaging fashion that all academics have hoped they could one day do themselves. This was particularly true for those parts of the book that described student behavior today and in the 1960's. The book was pleasant to read—pleasant because to read about Rousseau and Kant, to wander through the writings of Plato, to regain familiarity with the Ancients, to peruse American university life are such civilized ways of spending a summer month. In the last analysis, it was a good and rewarding feeling that at least we fellow academicians understood what Allan Bloom was saying. The recognition that fortunately our minds were not closed could soothe even the most cynical among us, and, therefore, the wisdom of Bloom was widely accepted because it truly produced a great summer.

Only after summer vacation came to an end and conversations with colleagues ensued at the beginning of the fall semester, did we discern a different message. Only then did the real truths of Allan Bloom's book come through, and this was disturbing. When perceptive reviews appeared, beginning with one in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* by James P. Buchanan and concluding with

The opening of the American mind



Marc vanderHeyden reflects on liberal education

an even more insightful one by Martha Nussbaum in *The New York Review of Books* last November, it became more and more obvious that Professor Bloom's missive was more complex and less pleasurable than we had first thought. Among the critical observations that were seriously damaging to Bloom's position are the ones articulated by Nussbaum. These related primarily to Bloom's systematic ignoring of history, women, diversity of learners and true philosophy. Certain other aspects are disturbing as well, and I would

like to share them with you briefly.

First, Professor Bloom appeared to be so much in love with Socrates and Rousseau that he has found it necessary to explain most of his nostalgic review exclusively in terms of the impact of both. A man in love should not speak so loudly. Secondly, and more troublesome, is Professor Bloom's virtually dogmatic stand on the German ancestry of university life in America. He is depicting such an exclusive inheritance that it does not permit the full legitimacy of many other con-

tributing factors, in particular, the authentic American contribution to American university life, a contribution that has subsequently informed university life in most parts of the world. Finally, it is also clear throughout the book that Professor Bloom is angry. Not only is he angry about the current crop of students, whom he believes to be relativistic and atavistic, but angry at his experiences with students. Angry professors should not teach.

What Professor Bloom fails to see is that the education of the American mind is not the exclusive property, privilege, duty, or responsibility of the American professoriate. Education has never been relegated to the ivy domain of the university. The opening of the mind never had to wait for the final step of a university education. Professor Bloom's satisfaction with the Great Books education overlooks the fact that successful application of this method only had meaningful and lasting value when the books were read at home, not at the university. In the idealistic context of the European universities of the past, one that Professor Bloom seems to respect so much, it should not be forgotten that the Great Books were known before students came to the university and have, therefore, always been the proof and illustration that the real lifelong teachers are parents and grandparents, siblings and friends at home.

Another element that Professor Bloom seems to ignore is the efforts of the American professoriate and the American universities throughout the crisis of the 1960's and 1970's, a time period he so deplors. It was the American university that kept democratic ideas in front of the American public. It was the faculty and students who engaged the country in a severe critique of the Vietnam War. It was the universities that led people into the Peace Corps throughout the 1960's. It was the universities that were the incubating spaces for the free speech movement.

This misleading element in Bloom's book—his singular attachment to a German inheri-

tance, his exclusive focus on Rousseau or on the Ivy League—nevertheless, should not diminish the validity of his descriptions of the 1960's and 1970's. In addition, Professor Bloom's book certainly has enhanced and improved the discussions among the professors of our universities' renewed commitment to liberal education. It is important to be reminded of the fact that the liberal arts are only the trunk from which most other branches of study have developed and will develop. It becomes a dangerous exercise to focus exclusively on the liberal arts in a historical context. History has always been more firmly rooted in life than in school. It is important that we as professors be reminded that the "perennial questions"—Is there a God? What is life? What is the nature of the soul?—as phrased by the scholastics during the Middle Ages, are superseded by the basic and natural need to move from these questions to the frontiers of knowledge.

This movement will bring about, in due time and after painful exploration, new insights, new ramifications and new specializations in the future. The true opening of the mind will not lie in the perpetuation and consolidation of the liberal arts but rather in the furthering of the knowledge that is based upon them. That's where the excitement of true university life will remain. That is the intellectual game! That is the sparking of the mind! A liberal arts education that is not prepared to grow in such a direction will be ossified. It is exactly this kind of spirit that will permit us to move constantly forward and further into knowledge. It will help us grow bolder in what we are seeking. It will remain true what Plato said, that life is indeed dedicated to the excavation of the soul and that the most important thing for all of us who wish to be liberally educated is to "know thyself."

The citizens of Athens believed that virtue could be taught. The humanists of the 16th century believed that it must be taught. Here we have

one of the major shortcomings of Bloom's book: the absence of *mea culpa* (my fault), or an admission of guilt on the part of the entire professoriate, an acknowledgment that we have not lived our liberal education. We have been distracted from our task. In this technological society we have so many specialized demands, and they have limited our vision. Edward Foster argued: "Students concerned about jobs adjust or limit their goals; colleges concerned about survival accommodate; faculty concerned about professional advancement

can rise above the two cultures that C.P. Snow analyzed decades ago, describing the dichotomy between the humanities and technology. A science uninformed by the humanities all too easily becomes mindless technology, while a humanist who disallows science and technology is simply parading his or her own ignorance.

It will always remain, of course, to speculate on what the real demands of the humanities ought to be. The right goals are self-evident. We need history that confronts

the scholar with the liberally-educated person. We have equated courses and what happens in them with learning. We have, in short, confused the liberal arts with a series of historical accidents.

The liberal arts transcend university departments and curricula. They manifest a historical reality and presence which at times correspond to what happens in university settings but, just as often, they receive their major nourishment and vitality beyond the walls of the university. They vibrate in monasteries, in professional societies, in reflective individuals meditating on hill-sides or working on a farm or in internships, in extracurricular activities or in field experiences, in the homes of the affluent and of the poor. They are found wherever human beings choose to be human and choose to think about what that means. We are affected inescapably by what we know.

The liberal arts permit the human mind to play, to play the divine game. The liberal arts seek value and exhibit the necessity of an enduring commitment to value scrutiny. Dominic Iorio eloquently described this as the ability to recognize and expose the fraudulent; to respect the freedom and worth of the person; to respect the promise and the limits of our physical environment; to discern and enhance the beautiful and the worthy; to respect the excellent and, yes, to pursue the spiritual—the ultimate dimension.

In the final analysis, the *raison d'être* of the liberal arts is not for the purpose of developing a rational animal but a moral agent who combines the true and the good in a unified scheme. Thus we come close to the definition of the educated person espoused by John Cardinal Newman a century ago in *The Idea of a University*. He said that only when we are educated will we know how to be tender toward the bashful, gentle toward the distant, and merciful toward the absurd. Only this kind of person can bring order to a world that is always one generation away from intellectual and moral barbarism. ■



and personal security comply; and no one's ultimate interest is really served, especially not the republic's."

I am still convinced that it lies within all of us to reverse these gloomy predictions and descriptions, including Bloom's. There is no reason why the best cannot be moved by conviction and driven by a passionate intensity. This is precisely what we must ask from the American professoriate. We must all begin to combat that spiritual and intellectual disintegration. The opposition of student versus teacher, or professor versus administrator, or teaching versus research are polarizations that we can do without. We belong to the *universitas*. We

ideas, not just events or ideologies. We need philosophy and religion that examine values, not trends or obscurities. We need literature that seeks meaning, not esoteric dissertation. We need art that develops taste, not leisure skills. We need international studies that analyze, not describe. We need social and natural sciences that order and interpret, not just enumerate.

Certainly we must be careful that we do not continue one of the most fundamental errors we have persistently made with regard to the liberal arts. My mentor, Dean Dominic Iorio, stated a decade ago, and I paraphrase, that we have identified the disciplines with the liberal arts. We have identified

The Soviet Union Observed

Marist Friendship Tour provides a firsthand look

by Shaileen Kopec

THE SOVIET UNION, like any nation, is a product of its history and, at the same time, a malleable abstraction groping toward an unknown future. What made the Marist Educational Friendship Tour last March to the Soviet Union so special was timing. We saw a nation, led by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, in the throes of change perhaps no less dramatic than the Russian Revolution of 1917 which culminated in the proclamation in 1922 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The tour itinerary—selected by Dr. Casimir Norkeliunas, Marist's professor of Russian and leader of the tour—included visits to the nation's most ancient and important centers of culture, history and political power. There were Moscow, the symbolic heart of the Soviet Union and the government center; Leningrad, Russia's young, Europeanized city, the former capital, the world's most northerly city; Vladimir and Suzdal, ancient centers of Russian Orthodoxy, which this year is celebrating its millennium. All four are in the Russian Federated Soviet Socialist Republic, or what we call Russia.

Some of the 34 travelers on the tour, including undergraduate students, adult students and people from the community, took the trip for college credit. Others, such as myself, went for personal enrichment. The sightseeing and the history lessons that filled much of our days were only some of the memorable aspects of the trip. Another, perhaps more personally profound aspect for me, was seeing the people living there now, watching them, talking with them, learning from them. Seeing the kind of daily conditions the Russians live in was itself an experience more valuable than



Marist student Jennifer Nacif poses with a group of Soviet soldiers in Moscow's Red Square. Even a year ago, taking photos of soldiers would have been prohibited.

anything I could have learned from a book, particularly at this point in the nation's current affairs. I remember when we were preparing for the trip we were warned—despite *glasnost* (openness) and *perestroika* (reconstruction)—not to talk about politics with the Soviets we would meet. But, as it turned out, it was they, our Soviet guides in particular, who initiated such discussions.

"There were more people killed during (Joseph) Stalin's time than any other in our country," admitted one of our guides during a bus ride from Suzdal to Moscow. She said that she was neither "defending" Stalin nor "destroying" him. She, like so many other Russians, it seemed to me then, was at last trying to come to grips with an honest and public appraisal of a tyrant who for so long had been held sacred and above criticism. "It is so complicated," she said. "There were evil things, but there were also good things. It is human nature to divide this into good or bad, but that's not the way it is."

Still, despite the changes, there was the silent, suppressed, sad Russia. In Leningrad, leaving the Hermitage Museum, we stepped out into the snow, exhilarated at having seen some of the world's finest works of art. But I was suddenly upset when I saw the long line of Soviets waiting to get in. I remembered how foreign tourists are let in ahead of Soviets at museums, and while I enjoyed this privilege I felt at that moment that it was unfair. The group silently stared at us with a penetrating but emotionless stare. I looked back at them, a little self-consciously, and noticed how they were all waiting so patiently as a few others in our group frolicked in the falling snow.

Another reminder was the shortage of consumer goods. The black market for Western fashions is such that one student on the trip was offered \$200 for his blue denim, fleece-lined jacket and \$150 for his Ray Ban sunglasses. Also, when we tipped taxi drivers and hotel clerks we did not use money but ball-point pens, bars of

soap, pairs of stockings, small bottles of hand lotion and bite-sized chocolates. American cigarettes are especially prized. Even children learn at an early age to mine foreigners for treasures from the West. At more places than I can count, young people approached us, asking, "You trade?" which meant they wanted chewing gum in exchange for a small souvenir pin. It all seemed so demeaning to me, but in reality it was not so to them. "We want it," a guide told me.

During the end of our trip I realized that I never once saw a parent with more than one child. I mentioned this to another guide and she explained that, despite financial incentives given to parents to have more children, the average family in the cities has no more than one child. Our guide described to us what the Russians call a "Mother Hero." She is a woman who has at least six children. After the birth of her sixth child, she is given a large apartment, money and a van. Yet, the guide said, there are few takers.

Once, looking down from my 19th floor room in the massive Cosmos Hotel in Moscow, I saw a large skating rink full of children, sliding around on their shoes. A father chased his young son on the ice and the father let himself be chased. After a moment, it struck me how similar the whole scene was to something you'd see in some small town in America.

There is reason to hope that differences between our two countries will someday be less worrisome and threatening as each of us opens up to the other, and even shares a laugh. During a floor show intermission at a farewell banquet in Moscow I went looking for the women's room. I learned the hard way to look very carefully at the carved wooden silhou-

Shaileen Kopec is director of enrollment communications at Marist.

ettes on the bathroom doors when, in Vladimir, I mistakenly walked into the men's room. This time, certain of the skirted carving, I pushed open the door and was suddenly face-to-face with a portly Russian man wearing a hotel uniform. I looked at him and he looked at me. I looked at the sign, and then our eyes met again and he burst out in a hearty laugh and bowed with a flourish to allow me in. Then, with a grin he boomed out, "Perestroika!"

It is important for us to see how the Soviets live. It is equally important, however, for them to see how we live, and one encouraging sign of this was on the Aeroflot plane coming back to New York. We learned that on board there were several Lithuanians going to visit relatives who had emigrated to the United States years before. Dr. Norkeliunas was especially excited because he himself had emigrated from Lithuania to the United States when he was a child. I watched

"We saw a nation in the throes of change perhaps no less dramatic than what occurred during the Russian Revolution in 1917."

him as he walked around talking to them in their native tongue. Once he came back to tell me about them. One man who'd been imprisoned in Siberia for 22 years was on his

way to visit his brother in Queens. A 94-year-old woman was going to visit her sister. "One woman's brother is a famous artist and she hasn't seen him for 47 years," he said. Dr. Norkeliunas paused and then continued. "Imagine having Ireland closed off for 47 years," he said, referring to my Irish heritage.

"It's really happening," he said to me after talking with the Lithuanians. "I can't believe it. Gorbachev is really doing good things." ■

Window shopping on Red Square

ALICE PROVENSEN, of Clinton Hollow, N.Y., is a distinguished writer and illustrator of children's literature. Provensen, with her late husband, Martin, has written and illustrated more than 50 books. The Provenses earned numerous awards, including two prestigious Caldecott Medal awards, the more recent of which was in 1984 for The Glorious Flight. At Marist's 1987 Commencement, the Provenses were awarded a joint honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Provensen was one of the 34 travelers to the Soviet Union on the Marist Educational Friendship Tour. Pictured in the background is the Cathedral of St. Basil the Blessed in Moscow's Red Square. (The sign reads: Official Use Only.) While in the Soviet Union, she kept a detailed diary. Following is an excerpt describing her foray into the Soviet Union's largest store in Moscow, G.U.M., the State Universal Department Store. "The descriptions of the Soviet stores sound like rather a negative criticism," Provensen said. "I don't intend them that way, but only as an observation. Consumer goods are, after all, what a part of perestroika is about."

G.U.M., the state department store on Red Square, is a three-tiered, glass enclosed Victorian-like structure—in concept, a shopping mall. Its three-storied aisles are lined with small shops selling clothing, lingerie, men's wear, shoes, fabrics, linens, household appliances, kitchen uten-



Alice Provensen

sils and hardware, each in its cubicle, each with its patient customers, each with its separate line at the cashier, each with its poor merchandise. Everything looked as though it had been designed and fabricated in Iowa in the 1930's.

I stood on an iron balcony looking down at the whole complex. There was a gray and white crow-sized Russian bird perched on a baroque lighting fixture. He seemed to have the run of the entire enclosure.

I didn't buy anything but I was intrigued by what I saw. I began to spend what little spare time I had looking in shop windows and going in shops when they were open.

The home furnishing stores are the equivalent of our Salvation Army stores. The upholstered furniture is hideous, but I did see a few fragile, pretty chairs lacquered with

the same designs as the Khokhloma wooden bowls.

The home electrical appliance store had one iron, two fans, three hot plates and a few miscellaneous grinders, choppers and percolators. The lamps were, again, vintage 1930's. The refrigerators were small and fragile looking, and expensive. The clothes washers were scarcely automatic.

I ran into Natasha, our guide, in a shoe store. We debated the quality and appearance of a pair of shoes she wanted to buy for her husband. They were leather with composition soles and cost 60 rubles (one-quarter month's pay). They looked to me rather like inexpensive K-Mart shoes and were almost yellow in color. Most of the men and women in Moscow and Leningrad wore smart-looking shoes or boots. I didn't see them for sale any-

where.

The Gastronom shops in Moscow must be some sort of chain. I saw them everywhere. Again a largish space is divided into small cubicles selling, respectively, meat, fish, pastries, vegetables, delicatessen products, milk, eggs, bread, candies and bottled waters. There was not a large supply of any of it.

The fish looked fresh. The meat cuts were unrecognizable. Green peppers, onions, cabbage, carrots and dried mushrooms were offered at the green grocers—all winter vegetables. I wondered where the peppers came from. There were apples and small hard oranges for sale. Potatoes were plentiful, as were cereal grains and pasta in small packages.

It must take several hours to get a meal on the table. There were lines of four or five people at each stall where one was given a chit for the intended purchase. The accumulated chits were taken to a central cashier, again a line, this time very long. The accounting was done on an abacus. The food was paid for and marked-paid chits were then taken back to the respective stalls to pick up the original purchase, again standing in line to do so.

If a Russian were to wander around an ordinary Shop-Rite or a Caldor he would probably think we must have sold our souls. Perhaps he would be willing to go to the devil as well.

Hope and Change in the Soviet Union



Dr. Casimir Norkeliunas

An Interview with Dr. Casimir Norkeliunas

AT THE SOVIET UNION'S Communist Party conference during the summer, the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, gained widespread support for his unprecedented proposals of glasnost—openness—and perestroika—reconstruction. What was additionally striking were the candid admissions by many leaders of the failings of the Soviet system.

Dr. Casimir Norkeliunas, associate professor of Russian at Marist, who led the Marist Educational Friendship Tour to the Russian Republic last winter, has a sense that life there truly is changing for the better. His insights are especially meaningful; he was born in the Soviet Union—Kybarti, the Soviet Socialist Republic of Lithuania. The Norkeliunas family emigrated to the United States in 1949. Norkeliunas, 51, has been a member of the Marist faculty since 1963, and helped develop the Russian major and minor at Marist in cooperation with Vassar College

and the State University of New York (SUNY) at New Paltz. Norkeliunas is also an adjunct professor of Russian civilization at SUNY New Paltz. The following interview was conducted by James Kullander, assistant director of public relations, who also recently visited the Soviet Union, traveling on the Trans-Siberian train from Beijing, China to Moscow and visiting many of the same cities as

the Marist Educational Friendship Tour.

KULLANDER: For the past year we have been reading in the newspapers a great deal about the changes proposed in the Soviet Union, about glasnost and perestroika. Solzhenitsyn, as you point out in a paper of yours, has been telling the West that there cannot be any form of communism other than evil, there are no better variances of communism, that it is incapable of growing kinder. What does Gorbachev's proposal offer the common man and woman in the Soviet Union?

NORKELIUNAS: Greater economic opportunity in the future and a better standard of living. The reforms are addressed to improve and to modernize the country's economic backwardness.

The statistics that moved Gorbachev to introduce these reforms probably came forth at

the 27th Party Congress in February 1986. It was there that, after assuming leadership, he brainstormed the problems of the country. He had a whole army of experts who looked at certain aspects of the economy in industry and consumer goods, and I think that he conducted a think-tank approach on what some of the key problems were, and are still, in the Soviet Union. And these experts drew him a master plan, providing him with up-to-date statistics on the Soviet Union, especially on economic and industrial development, and compared the Soviet statistical development to that in the United States and other Western countries.

According to the comparative indices of the two superpowers, the gross national product of the Soviet Union has not progressed any more than 2 percent annually for the past two years or 2.7 percent over the past 10 years. Just from that point of view, economic growth in the Soviet Union by the year 2000 will put the country in the category of a Third World country. The consistent growth in the West in electronics and computer technology has actually set the Soviet Union back by at least 10 years. Without the technological leaps that the West has made, the Soviet Union seems to be falling further and further behind.

It is with this concern that Gorbachev has taken the initiative to bring around economic reforms. I think in the long run, economic improvement will mean for the country a higher standard of living and greater availability of consumer goods for the average citizen than he has seen since World War II.

—At the 27th Party Congress in 1986, Gorbachev was primarily concerned with freeing up the economy. But at the most recent Party conference (in July) he called for openness in every part of society. The resolution on perestroika approved by the Party conference endorsed these changes. It said: "Revolutionary perestroika is impossible without invigorating in every way the intellectual and



cultural potential of society." How can communism, which from my experience is fundamentally repressive, stifling and operates effectively only under censorship, square with this call for such openness?

NORKELIUNAS: I think that Gorbachev really doesn't indicate a carte blanche openness in society, doing away with censorship. It may be a grand kind of proposal, a tremendous revolutionary change in that sense. But I don't see a letting go of censorship, or creating an environment where the police would live up to the letter of the Soviet Constitution, i.e. complete freedom of the press. For intellectuals, the reforms are doubtful at this point, although that has been established verbally. Lip service has been given extensively at the recent party conference, but it has yet to be realized. The future will tell whether they will live up to it or not, and my doubt is based upon my historical knowledge of the Soviet Union; it will not happen very readily and will not be initiated overnight.

The intellectuals have had some freedom to discuss openly various aspects of Stalin's period, aspects that censorship had long outlawed. True, there is some republication of writers who have been dissidents in the Soviet Union, of those who were ousted by force, and the publication of a number of writers whose works could not have been published or circulated in the Soviet Union before. This is very positive. Pasternak is being published, Stalin is being denounced. But at the same time, this area of freedom of expression, freedom of speech and freedom of criticizing the past, which has been unknown in many instances, is the least reliable aspect of whatever conclusions the conference drew recently.

The more important aspect to be looked at is the revitalization of the economy. And in that respect, the great reform, or call it a revolution that really has occurred, is the return to capitalistic methods. The greatest revolution is the acknowledgment that the communist system of economics

has failed to work. Lenin recognized that fact in 1921, and went back to the methods of a capitalized, planned economy with profit motive and capitalist incentive, to some extent. That same thing has occurred now, how many years down the road, 67 years? Not in 67 years has the subject even been broached.

But the decline of agriculture and industry, the poor quality control, the tremendous absenteeism from the job, the alcoholism which has aggravated absenteeism at the work place, the perennial lack of being able to feed the population for failing to grow enough food, the fact that the country is relying on foreign imports, wheat, grain, and the fact that it invests a great deal in foreign technology, too—all of this really has to be changed to put the Soviet Union on firm ground as a country that is developing and growing.

As it stands now, the country is stagnant and regressive. Economic initiatives to do away with central planning in Moscow are the focal point. Regional and provincial managers could most effectively take control of their own businesses, of their own factories, of their own economic planning, so that the productivity would then rise, and perhaps the Soviet Union could at least have enough time to catch up with the Western countries.

This is such a mind-boggling event. If someone had broached this kind of reality in the Soviet Union three years ago, it would have seemed impossible. All these changes began in May 1987 when the government allowed private ownership to come into its own and allowed small private service industries to operate.

—When I was traveling through Siberia last year, some of the small train stations that we stopped at along the Trans-Siberian line would be crowded with local farm women selling homemade pickles from buckets and handfuls of small boiled potatoes sprinkled with fresh dill, all wrapped up in a sheet of newspaper. Is this something new? Is this something that I would not have seen had I gone there in 1986?



"This is such a mind-boggling event. If someone had broached this kind of reality in the Soviet Union three years ago it would have seemed impossible."

NORKELIUNAS: If you had gone there before May 1, 1987, you would not have seen that. Maybe the collective farm workers or farmers would have brought their produce to be sold at a village or a town market at competitive prices—food that was grown on their quarter-acre plots, that each farmer may consider as his own to do with as he wants. That was before last year. But since then, if an enterprising young fellow wants to sell cucumbers or pickles or pickled herring, or if he wants to sell shish kebab at the local train stations, which you probably have seen, and I have seen, too, he may do so because it is now private enterprise that the government endorses.

—I want to discuss a little bit about collectivization and the communist ideal. Everyone is supposed to participate and share responsibility, but in reality from my experience what you get is that nobody is responsible. And when that happens everyone becomes rather lazy and lackadaisical. When I was living in China you could walk into the national bank, the Bank of China, at the height of the business day, and there would be clerks with their heads down on their desk, half asleep, and they didn't care whether you

were there or not, so you just had to wait until they woke up. It's created a system in China, and in the Soviet Union, in which everyone gets money and food and shelter, no matter how hard they work. In China this is called the "Iron Rice Bowl." You get an image of a big rice bowl that everyone can eat from.

Recently the Chinese, as you know, have tried with some success to instill in people the idea of individual responsibility. The government parceled out little pieces of land to the farmers and told them, "You grow what we, the government, need, and then after that you can do whatever you want with the produce." It would seem that the Soviet Union now has to instill in people the idea of individual responsibility to get people in a situation in which if they don't work, they don't get paid. One of the party resolutions said the ideal now was to rule out a possibility of living a comfortable life while doing shoddy work. Is this something that is going to pervade the Soviet Union? If someone is not doing his job can he get fired or demoted? Are people not going to get paid?

NORKELIUNAS: That's what the indicators are. The individual farmer, now operating under these new guidelines of *perestroika*, has been allowed to rent land from the collective. And that's important because those private plots seem to be set up as they are in China, as you mentioned. Since 1933, when Stalin realized that his collectivization was a total disaster, the country has made concessions by giving each farmer, each family, a small plot of land, about a quarter acre. Today, 4 percent of total arable land in the Soviet Union is privately owned. And that 4 percent produces, or until recently it produced, 40 percent of the Soviet Union's total annual agricultural output.

So the idea then comes to Gorbachev's mind that if you allowed people to rent a large parcel of land from this particular collective, let's say 10 acres—I think the limit is 20 acres, from what I have read in the Soviet papers recently—then that would result in greater productivity, because the person views the land as his

own. There is a tremendous profit motive in this, tremendous incentive, not just of ownership, and not just of making a profit, but of management too. No collective until recently has been given the self-determination to manage its own collective farm. As I said earlier, everything was directed from Moscow's central planning. The assumption (under communism) is that everyone owns the land, but in reality nobody owns it. A person thinks, "It's not to my direct benefit." So the idea of socialized ownership really has been regressive.

Now you are going to see greater productivity because people are thinking: "This is my land, I own it. This is my property, and not some kind of a nebulous idea of ownership, that 'we' own it, that it's the 'people's land,' it's the 'people's industries,' the 'people's economy.'" You need to get away from this collectivized mass mentality that the individual does not count, that it is only the mass or the collective and conformity that count. So much credit has to be given to Gorbachev for recognizing this and acting on it. He is saying: "This is the time. This is the eleventh hour to act, to acknowledge that we have failed, that our economy has failed and that the capitalist economy does work and we must resort to capitalist incentives." I mean, it really comes right down to that.

—*I want to pick up on the last part of that, that Gorbachev's coming around to seeing that certain aspects of communism, that the way of doing things, haven't worked. It must almost seem to the casual observer of events in the Soviet Union that Gorbachev is renouncing communism, that he has realized it does not work, cannot work, and he is now turning to market forces of capitalism. This is like the United States renouncing the pursuit of happiness. How is the average Soviet citizen reconciling Marxist dogmas with capitalism?*

NORKELIUNAS: The average Russian person is confused by all of the changes. He is react-



"Gorbachev is saying, 'This is the time. This is the eleventh hour to act, to acknowledge that we have failed, that the capitalist economy does work.'"

ing in a confused way to all the changes that are taking place because they are destroying all of the former impressions and myths that he has developed over the years.

—*Joseph Stalin is now being criticized by the Soviets as never before, and Gorbachev has even given permission for a monument to be built in memory of Stalin's victims. Calling Stalin to task isn't new, as you know. In the Soviet Union, Khrushchev said much the same thing when he was in power. He never did anything about it, though. Now Gorbachev has authorized the construction of this monument. Some of the dissidents, Solzhenitsyn among them, say that Stalin has to be completely purged from the country for it to move forward. There has to be some kind of collective expression of redemption, something along the lines of what is going on today with searching for Nazi war criminals and bringing them to trial, and punishing those who are guilty. Do you think that the Soviet people who have demanded something be done and who have gotten this monument built, now see this as a sign to continue further in seeking some kind of justice from the Soviet Union in terms of what Stalin has done to their families?*

NORKELIUNAS: I don't think

it is going to be a search a la (Elie) Wiesel, let's say, to uncover all of the Nazi collaborators in the Holocaust. Simply for this reason: The conservative element still holds control today.

It came into position under Stalin's reign, under Stalin's rule. Stalin was the first one to introduce privileges for those who are loyal servants of the party. He established that near separate state, in which allegiance to the party made you deserving. That conservative element in the Soviet Union inherits those privileges. If your father was an important party member you will no doubt succeed to his position after his demise. You may not be a very intellectual person, and not have the intelligence to get into Moscow University, but because of your privileges, you will be given access to a university over someone else who has high scores on his entrance exams. In other words, it's an elite class. And it's hereditary. So that element that is giving so much resistance to Gorbachev today is the old vanguard which was appointed by Stalin. Maybe the original Stalin appointee or supporter is either retired or dead, but his son has inherited that position. And with those privileges come rewards that are commensurate to the scientific, business and political community rewards in our country. They have everything they want. If they want to visit France on some political or scientific mission, they visit France and they bring home the goods they want—the con-

sumer goods, the cars—and nobody questions them. They can just bring it all home.

Are they going to go out and hunt down the rest of them, hunt their own kind down, while they themselves are still entrenched there? That's really the problem, as you have read.

—*Gorbachev must be anathema to a great many people in the establishment. Is that where he is meeting—or is going to meet—most of his resistance? You mentioned that people get introduced into these positions of power that are hereditary, and in a country like the Soviet Union, as in China, it's more political power than money that is the legal tender in society, that gets you what you want. And Gorbachev seems to be threatening this, and that he is meeting most of his resistance within his own ranks.*

NORKELIUNAS: That's right. You have to conclude that. Because it is these ranks that are the major armies of managers and bureaucrats. And it is this slab of stone, really, that is the backbone of the party power elite. It is they that hold the power, and they would be the greatest obstacle to Gorbachev.

Let me just add something else because it just occurred to me. Gorbachev has got to be genuine because he is placing himself, even his own country, in a position of such danger. Not only could all of his reforms be swept away if people don't support him, if people in the party don't support him, but I think it could even be a threat to his life in the long run.



A sign of the times.

There are a number of things that show evidence to support the conclusion that he is genuine, and not just biding time to catch up with America and its technology and to pursue world communism, world conquest, again.

—Former President Nixon has said in his most recent book that the Soviet Union is instituting these changes in order to become a more powerful nation and thus in a better position to take over the world. Or, in the Marxist terminology, to liberate the world. And you yourself said back in 1985 that revolutionizing the world for communism is the first and foremost thought of Soviet leaders.

NORKELIUNAS: I made a mistake as far as Gorbachev is concerned. As far as the others go—the priorities of other leaders from Chernenko to Kosygin and to Brezhnev—that was the point.

—So in the three years since Gorbachev has been in power, you have had a rethinking about this man, about what his goals are.

NORKELIUNAS: Right. Just talking to you today has made some of these things come out. I mean, if he were not genuine, would he pit himself against the overwhelming odds of conservatism within his own party?

—Well, yes genuine, but genuine in terms of looking out for the Soviet Union, and world expansion.

NORKELIUNAS: Well, let's put it this way: It's hard to say because it will take them some time to achieve parity with us, not in arms but in quality of life and communications technology. It will take them time to achieve this. I would say at least 20 years.

—OK, 20 years is good, because I want to ask you something that is related to the 20 years here. I want to read you a short statement by a Soviet dissident who now lives in the United States, Vladimir Bukovsky. He said: "The Soviet Union is in rapid decline. The decline can be slowed down in the hope that something will happen on

the way, but it cannot be stopped. If radical reforms are not made, the system has about 20 years before it unravels and the empire crumbles." Has Gorbachev had a similar vision?

NORKELIUNAS: He has verbalized that as fact, but not the time period, not the 20 years. It is only a call to immediacy, as if to say, "Right now, we can't wait comrades, we can't wait." You know that phrase, we can't wait. No time to wait, do it now. But it has not been stated in terms of a threat, that they are in danger of being overrun by capitalism or what-not. But Gorbachev is stating that they should resort to new methods, capitalist methods at that. If they work, they are acceptable. Update. Modernize. That's what they say. They don't say that we should capitalize. They say modernize, modernize the economic system on the standards that exist, that have proved successful in the rest of the world today.

—What about freedom of the press?

NORKELIUNAS: I think the most radical change has been freedom of the press. Everybody is reading. Everybody is excited. I watched television a few moments that I could in the afternoon (during the Party conference). Everybody is debating. Once about 300 managers from various factories were debating on what would be the most effective way to initiate local factory planning. They were all discussing it, and some were almost in tears, as though they were contrite, because they had done something wrong in the past. It was like a public examination of one's conscience.

—It seems like floodgates have been opened in that country, that there were a lot of repressed energies, and a lot of repressed desires, and now all of a sudden they have been sanctioned and people are just going wild criticizing left and right, writing letters saying things that they never would have said before. People now are groping for positions of power, even by publicly denouncing colleagues. Is that the impression that you get?

NORKELIUNAS: Yes, yes. What you said in the beginning is very accurate. They don't know what to do with themselves, now that they have this freedom. You can't dispute this relief. When a Russian writes, he thinks, even subconsciously, about what not to say, in case somebody confiscates what he wrote. Now that they have this freedom, they're all confused.

A reporter might ask questions of a passerby on the street, and a Russian might walk up to the reporter and say, "What are you doing?" And someone standing next to the reporter, maybe even a policeman, might say, "Hey, haven't you heard? It's *glasnost* now. Reporters are allowed to interview passersby on the street." But to this fellow who has been conditioned to think in a certain way, he would say to himself, "What happened?" It is psychological, what is happening. It's a shock. It's a tremendous shock.

—What do you think your students gained from this trip to the Soviet Union?

NORKELIUNAS: Most of them were initiated in some background of Russia, either in the course of Russian culture, or Soviet history or Russian history. Those who had some initiation were able to notice

"Gorbachev has got to be genuine because he is placing himself, even his country, in a position of danger."



activities around them, to see what was happening around them, and interpret the activities in a more reasonable way. Those—and these were the minority—who were there or were exposed to Soviet life for the first time had some lessons to learn. Some commented that the food we were eating in the hotels was terrible and that the people who have to eat this food must surely be dissatisfied. But the food that we were eating only the party elite was allowed to have. So I said to a couple of them, "Go out into the vegetable stores and meat stores and see what you can find." And they forged out on their own, and one student said there was nothing there but some wilted carrots, that he didn't see any meat, that there wasn't meat that we would call meat, that there were only chicken heads. Before that these people had no comprehension of this because they were isolated in the hotels. When I was there I was eating this wonderful food and choking on it, because I knew that out in the city they had nothing, they weren't eating anything, they were going across town to the other side of Moscow, which probably took them two hours to get there after they heard that there was some meat, that meat was delivered somewhere.

—What would an American tourist going there today see that he would not have seen two years ago? What is not there that he would have seen two years ago?

NORKELIUNAS: Well, I think the Soviet people would not walk away from him if he wanted to talk to them. People come up to you, and you come up to people, and you can openly discuss something on the street. That's one of the most unusual things. You can discuss things with your guides. In fact, your guides bring out questions that would never have been discussed before. ■

Editor's note: Dr. Casimir Norkeliunas is planning to take another group to the Soviet Union early next year. Those interested in the tour can contact him at Marist College.

The Cutting Edge

Fashion Program at Marist moves ahead with top designers

WITH ITS ENROLLMENT TRIPLING and top-rated designers coming on board as advisors, the Fashion Program at Marist seems to be moving right to the cutting edge of fashion education in the country.

It is a move that has taken less than two years, due to the hard work of the program's students, faculty, industry advisors and, most of all, Director Carmine Porcelli. It is Porcelli's experience, vision and drive that have fueled the program's remarkable growth.

A 20-year veteran of the fashion industry in New York City, Porcelli was Oscar de la Renta's sportswear designer for seven of those years. Following that, he was the managing director and president of Albert Capraro, Ltd. His clients included former First Lady Betty Ford during her White House years.

Looking for a change from what had become for him the rat race of the business world, Porcelli left New York in 1985 and moved to the Hudson Valley. His enjoyment of having nothing to do but relax lasted, by his own account, about an hour. "It was then that I started to panic," he said.

"I remembered that a year or so before, I had been in an antique store in Stone Ridge, (N.Y.), and the owner had asked me if I knew of anyone who would want to teach fashion design at Marist College. I told him no, I couldn't think of anyone. Frankly, I was thinking why would someone in the fashion industry in New York want to leave the city to teach fashion design in Poughkeepsie. Well, a year later that someone was me."

Porcelli telephoned the Fashion Program at Marist, and was hired as a part-time faculty

TOP DESIGNERS Bill Blass, Marc Jacobs, Mary McFadden and Oscar de la Renta were the designer-critics for the 1988 Fashion Program at Marist College. Each of the designers worked with Marist students from the earliest stages of their projects through the actual construction of the garments. As the culmination of the year's work, each of the designers selected a student to receive a Silver Needle Award. The recipient of both the Bill Blass and Oscar de la Renta Silver Needle Awards was Stephanie Rose. Pictured below is the sketch and the actual garment designed by Ms. Rose, selected for a Silver Needle by Bill Blass.



member in the fall of 1986. A year later, he became the director of the program, and its transformation began.

"The Fashion Program had been a very low-key program and there was no involvement from the fashion industry," Porcelli said. "I began working to change that, and we've been incredibly successful in getting the cooperation of outstanding people in the industry. We've been able to combine the talent and experience of designers who have made it in the real world of Seventh Avenue," he said.

Among the designers who have played an integral part in the Fashion Program at Marist are Bill Blass, Mary McFadden, Oscar de la Renta, Marc Jacobs, Richard Assatly and the late Willi Smith. And they have liked what they've seen.

"These were the best I've seen of any group of students I've worked with," said McFadden commenting to a reporter on the work of last spring's seniors. "I don't know what goes into the program but it's amazing. From beginning to end I saw such a vast improvement, it was very impressive."

Blass compared the work of Marist's students favorably with that being produced at much larger, more established fashion design programs. Jacobs, last year's winner of the prestigious Perry Ellis Award, said about the students at Marist: "Great. Strong. They got excited about their projects. It's one thing to draw pretty pictures. They made them come alive."

Blass, McFadden, Jacobs and de la Renta served as creative advisors to the students during the past academic year, reviewing their work from its earliest sketches through the

"These were the best I've seen of any group of students I've worked with. . . I don't know what goes into the program at Marist, but it's amazing."

— Designer Mary McFadden

actual construction of the garments. Blass, Assatly and Smith had been the advisors for the previous year.

Students meet with the designers in their workshops in New York City, getting first-hand advice and constructive criticism on their projects. The designers also serve as the critics for Marist's Silver Needle competition, in which a design is selected by each of the designers for a Silver Needle Award in his or her name. The 1988 Silver Needle awards were presented in April at a gala fashion show held at the Wyndham Hotel in Poughkeepsie.

"Fashion creativity is something which is difficult to teach in a classroom and impossible to learn from books," said Porcelli. "You have to see fashion again and again, and meet people who are working in the industry to understand what is involved, what is going to be expected of you. We have been



Designer Marc Jacobs selected this work by student Doreen Bonci for his Silver Needle Award.

fortunate here at Marist. Our proximity to New York City and our links with some of the top designers in the business have enabled students to work with some of the very best talent in the fashion industry."

Another important addition to the program has been an advisory board of industry representatives to review and offer suggestions on the program's overall direction. That ongoing board includes Etta Froio, vice president and fashion director of *Women's Wear Daily*; Alan Grossman, vice president and merchandising manager of Saks Fifth Avenue; Mary McFadden, Mary McFadden, Inc.; Allen McNeary, president of Liz Claiborne, Inc.; Nonny Moore, fashion director of *Gentlemen's Quarterly*; and Gerald Shaw, president of Oscar de la Renta, Inc.

"We want to make certain that what we are teaching is as up-to-date as possible," Porcelli



PHOTOS BY GEORGE CHINSEE



One of the most exciting aspects of the Fashion Program at Marist is that students have the opportunity to learn from the experts. Designer Mary McFadden (above) meets with Marist students in her New York City workshop. At right Marc Jacobs offers constructive advice on a design by Jessica Panduro.



LARRY ABRAMS

Carmine Porcelli, director of the Fashion Program at Marist since the fall of 1987, is a 20-year veteran of the fashion industry.

*"It's one thing to draw pretty pictures.
Marist students made them come alive."
— Designer Marc Jacobs*

said. "We want our graduates to have those skills that the industry is looking for. Our advisory board gives us a direct exposure to and involvement with the fashion industry that would be difficult to match."

These connections with the fashion industry have been very useful in helping to place students once they have completed their degrees. Graduates have been interviewing with several of the top design firms in New York. Silver Needle Award recipient Stephanie Rose recently was offered a position by

Liz Claiborne, Inc.

And what about Porcelli himself, designer and businessman turned teacher? "I consider myself one of the really lucky people in this world, to have found a whole new career at mid-life," he said. "I have found a niche that suits me. It is a place where I can give generously of my experience and get new insights and the exuberance of youth in return. These young people will then give back to the fashion industry what they learn here. It's a very productive circle." ■



Designer Marc Jacobs confers with student Stephanie Rose. Rose, a 1987 and 1988 Silver Needle Award recipient, has been offered a position with Liz Claiborne, Inc.

NEARLY 60 DIFFERENT DESIGNS were presented at the 1988 Silver Needle Fashion Show sponsored by Marist College. The gala event included fall, winter, summer and resort collections designed by students in the fashion program. A selection is pictured below.





WANDA YUEH

The author standing in the door of the bedroom he and his wife lived in at their Chinese uncle's house in Beijing.

At home abroad; living in China

by James Kullander

*I do nothing to remember
But I cannot forget*

—Su Shih
(Sung Dynasty, 960-1279)

“YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER,” my Uncle Wang Chen was whispering to me in English, “that the universities in China are ruled with an iron fist.” He made a fist and held it up.

It was my first morning in China. It was winter and to stay warm my wife Wanda and I, and Uncle Wang Chen, a soft-spoken, stooping man of 70; his daughter Wang Hua, a shy woman of 49; and her husband, Li Chen, a rather boisterous man of 50, were huddling around a coal stove in the sit-

ting room of their old courtyard home in Beijing. The house, in addition to the university where we would be teaching English, would be our home for the next 18 months. And in this time we would learn that not only are schools ruled with an iron fist, but also just about everything else in China. We would learn how heavy China's long and torturous history weighs upon her people, how life is a struggle against monstrous odds as young and old alike try to recover from past revolutionary excesses and to cope with the meddlesome bureaucratic forces that rule the country now. We would find a China vastly different from the ancient mythical one we picture in our minds or the rapidly progressing one depicted in our newspapers and on television.

My residence in Beijing—from the winter of 1986 to the fall of last year—really begins four years ago. That was when

I married a Chinese-American and began a kind of odyssey into the lives of the Chinese. Although Wanda's mother's family—who had come from Shanghai—is living in the United States now, Wanda's father—who was born in Beijing—has an older brother still living in Beijing. For years there had been a standing invitation for us to stay with him in his home.

At a family picnic the summer of 1985 we spoke with a family friend who had recently returned from a year of teaching English in Beijing. Suddenly—as if we'd known all along but were only now reminded of it—we decided we would do the same. Wanda's father agreed to write to his brother to help us find work there. No teaching experience was required (we prepared on the plane trip), but with my education in journalism and my experience in writing I felt

comfortable with the idea of taking on the role of an English instructor. Wanda, an illustrator, was even less prepared. But teaching or writing experience was not as important, we would learn, as was patience and endurance to adapt to a strange and taxing country.

The school was modern by Chinese standards and, like most contemporary Chinese architecture, utilitarian to a fault. We lived and ate in a rectangular red brick and cement, four-story dormitory with eight other American teachers and several foreign students. This is a typical arrangement in China—foreign residents and travelers are invariably separated from the Chinese. China has long feared and resented certain Western influences, and in some cases rightly so. The present government wants to control how much exposure to Westerners the Chinese have in an effort to curb their individual wants. The present fear in higher Communist Party echelons—the fear of democracy—is as strong as any in the past. During the 1986/87 campaign against “bourgeois liberalization” (a governmental reaction to widespread student protests then), a nationwide decree ordered every college in China to keep a record of every Chinese setting foot in a residence of foreigners.

Foreign teachers, however, could always wander freely into the student dormitories, and that's what I did. The places are crowded, usually four to a room the size of a common double in an American college dormitory. The floors and walls are bare cement. Dim fluorescent lights flicker and hot running water does not exist. The students color their walls with posters of Chinese movie stars and starlets, and scenic pictures of the Yellow River, the Stone Forest or the famous, misty mountains of Guilin. Some had large maps of the United States, where my students—graduate English majors and doctoral candidates in the sciences—dreamed of visiting, studying or even living. One's privacy in these dormitory rooms is limited, however, so when you wanted to talk about personal

James Kullander is assistant director of public relations at Marist and managing editor of Marist Magazine.

affairs you went outside and walked. This was how I heard my students' stories about their tormented lives during the Cultural Revolution (1966-76), their problems now (which go back to the revolution and further), and of their attempts to go abroad. Almost every conversation I had seemed to be colored with a fateful sadness which no comforting words from me nor even the highest hopes they were able to muster could relieve.

There was always that one thing—that inescapable web of the past and totalitarian meddling—which spoke to them, haunted them, with the message that life is not supposed to be easy nor good, that you should not dare to expect so much, to change the Will of Heaven for your own personal advantage. I could see it in my students' eyes; a distant and forlorn gaze came over them whenever we spoke about their trying to get more from life than they, because of this conditioning, imagined possible. Communism, it seemed to me, had not thrown off the shackles of feudalism, as they say; it institutionalized it. No Chinese citizen is free to move from one job to another or from one city to another without official approval, and official approval comes only after one has correctly played his part and planted a few well-placed bribes. The job you are assigned after school is the job you will most likely have until you retire, where you are born is most likely the place where you will die. An official file is maintained on every Chinese from the age of 18, and it follows him throughout his life, "black marks" and all. Even if you should only fall out of favor with the one in control of your file—the Communist Party secretary of your college department or work unit—you will somehow earn yourself a black mark. Promotions, a chance to study abroad, or even getting a room of one's own or a good quality bicycle, are all weighed against one's file. It is a fate from which every Chinese I met wanted to escape, but could not.

One graduating student of mine who had all but pleaded



"Once I showed Wang Hua an old postage stamp of Chairman Mao. 'I don't want to see that,' she said."

with school officials to have his work assignment changed to Beijing from the less desirable city of Xian was told, in effect: "You are lucky to have even gotten to college. (Only 6 percent of the Chinese population is able to go to college.) Think of all those who will never go to college. Think of all those who during the Cultural Revolution were sent to the desert and still haven't been allowed to come home. You have it pretty good here, and have no right to complain." Eventually he gave up. "I'll just go to Xian and then try to go to America and maybe never come back," he told me. In his desperation he seemed to have clearly seen that in China there will always be hundreds of millions who will be far less fortunate than any one individual seeking greater opportunity for him or herself. In a country which belittles individual initiative as selfish arrogance and organizes itself under the forces of egalitarianism that drag one down rather than lift one up, the result is that few will ever realize their hopes or desires.

Wanda and I spent our weekends and occasional week nights at our uncle's house. The house sits in the heart of a vast, tumble-down and confusing neighborhood of old homes and shops. Uncle Wang Chen, Wang Hua and Li Chen live in

this old place together. Another Chinese cousin of ours, who would be a little younger than his sister, had killed himself in 1966 at the beginning of the Cultural Revolution rather than face the humiliation of a public interrogation—or a "struggle session," as it was then known—in which he was to confess his supposed crimes against the revolution. Our Chinese aunt had died in 1980 from cancer brought on by, Uncle Wang Chen is convinced to this day, the inner turmoil caused by years of revolutionary chaos. Uncle Wang Chen himself had spent seven years of the revolution in the countryside, like millions of other intellectuals, getting some kind of re-education from peasants. He showed me the welt he'd gotten on his right shoulder from carrying buckets of water on a pole. Wang Hua had been a nurse in a village in the Western Hills outside of Beijing trying to cure ills and wounds that no medicine could treat, and the experience seems to have marked her. Once when I showed her an old postage stamp of Chairman Mao I'd purchased as a souvenir, she winced and snapped, "I don't want to see that. I don't like that," and picked up a broom and started mindlessly sweeping the floor.

What remains of the house is what remains of most old houses in post-revolutionary Beijing. It is a dilapidated shell with makeshift repairs, and most of the antiquities that had been in it had been either destroyed by revolutionary Red Guards or taken and never returned. In Chinese, such a house is called a *si be yuan*, a four-walled garden. To me it was like a chest of silent memories. In this house, life outside—and the life I had long been familiar with—always seemed so far away.

It faded by degrees. Leaving the wide and crowded avenues and turning down the local lane, neighbors would stare at me, an obvious foreigner, as I made my way down a route few

foreigners ever found reason to take. I knew they were curious, if not suspicious. Our staying there was so unusual that when our family had registered us with China's Bureau of Public Security, as was required of them, the three young police officers behind the dias didn't know what the proper procedure might be. And sometime later, Li Chen had politely told us we would have to start receiving our mail from home at the school instead of his house for fear of having his house searched by Public Security to investigate the extent and significance of his overseas connections.

All of this was very strange to me. In fact, the longer I stayed in China and the more I learned about the country the stranger the place became. And all of this strangeness was a background of increasing density each time I arrived at the house. And each time I had a feeling that was not clear to me for a long time.

Eventually, from my daily conversations with my students at school, and from absorbing more and more of the life of my Chinese family in their house, I discerned in that courtyard a deep and unchanging force governing everything that existed in that country, a certain kind of gravity, or inertia, that made me realize in the end that, despite all the outward and outsized changes China has and would put on, the country has been and always will be cursed with the vast and unseen powers of a historical narrative woven with alternating colors of chaos and oppression. And this history informs the present and speaks to the future more than we in our young and indulgent country can truly ever know.

I remember a pair of old, small stone lions—whose heads had been smashed by Red Guards—standing outside the courtyard door of Uncle Wang Chen's house, and to me they are a symbol of the still ruinous state of China. There is no telling if another Cultural Revolution will happen in China, but one thing is certain: No one there will ever forget. ■

Vietnamese boat person recounts her harrowing journey to America

Vu Thanh Thuy urges 1988 Marist graduates to make the world a better one

Vu Thanh Thuy, a former Vietnamese boat person and currently a journalist and leader in an organization which helps rescue Southeast Asian refugees adrift at sea, gave the keynote address at Marist College's 42nd commencement exercises on May 21 before approximately 500 graduates and their parents and friends in the McCann Center. Vu, the Rev. Terence Attridge, founder and director of the Substance Abuse Ministry of the New York Archdiocese, and Floyd Patterson, former Heavyweight Champion of the World and now a prominent youth worker, received honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees. Vu received a standing ovation following a half-hour speech about her life in South Vietnam, her escape from that country after its fall to the Communists, and her life here in the United States. Excerpts from Vu's speech appeared the day after the commencement in The New York Times and in the June 13 Time magazine. Marist was one of only a total of 24 colleges and universities nationwide to have their commencement speakers quoted in the magazine's special section. Vu was also featured in the June 2 Catholic New York weekly newspaper. Also, an ABC 20/20 program on Vu and her rescue work was broadcast August 5. The following is a complete transcript of Vu's keynote address, which is entitled "Survival, Struggle and Commencement."

I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO MARIST COLLEGE for the privilege of sharing with you this special day. I feel very



Vu Thanh Thuy with her baby daughter, Trang-Thu.

honored and very humbled by your invitation to be a part of your commencement, and I would like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the graduates and their families.

This country opened its doors to us; it has been our

refuge since 1980, and we have become a part of it. It is truly a land of possibilities, a land that can welcome the stranger to its midst, as you have today, and offer such warmth, acceptance and hope. I can better understand now why this coun-

try has been called a "permanently unfinished" society, so open and free, and with an unmatched capacity to absorb immigrants and refugees from all over the world.

Today I would like to share with you my personal experiences from Vietnam to America. Although it is one person's story, it is fairly typical of refugees from Vietnam who escaped by boat after the fall of Saigon in 1975. It is a story of survival and struggle, and a story of commencement—of starting life all over again in a strange country.

I was a war correspondent in Vietnam. I covered the Indochina War at the front lines in Vietnam and Cambodia. In 1970, at the age of 20, I was awarded the Silver Star for valor. But I knew nothing then of true courage.

In 1972, I met my husband while at the front, walking on the ruins of the city of Quang-Tri along the "Boulevard of Horror," with thousands of decomposed bodies all around us. But I knew little yet of irony or faith.

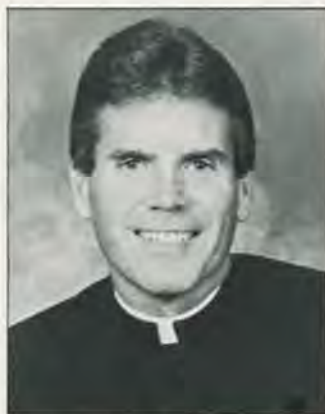
In April 1975, just before the fall of South Vietnam, I was in a Saigon hospital giving birth to our first baby, helplessly listening to the rush of events on the radio and the desperate goodbyes of my family and friends. One week later, on May 4, my husband and I left Vietnam with the rest of my extended family of 30 people on a boat. We were among the very first boat people in the history of the Vietnamese

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exodus, fleeing our homeland with hopes of being picked up by the American Seventh Fleet waiting along the coast of South Vietnam. After three days at sea, due to the poor sanitation conditions on the boat, my three-week-old baby became very sick. In fear that our baby would die if we continued for much longer on the ocean, my husband and I decided to return to Vietnam by climbing aboard a fishing boat that we met on the way which was going back to Vietnam. Later, I learned that just three hours after we left my family's boat, it was picked up by the Navy's Seventh Fleet. But we were to remain in Vietnam for the next four years.

Back in Saigon, my husband was soon imprisoned in a Communist re-education camp because he had been the newsroom chief of the Vietnamese Army's radio station. Two years later, in 1977, I helped to plot his escape. One day, posing as a peasant woman, I concealed a tiny note inside a cigarette telling my husband to be prepared to escape, that I would pick him up on his way to his daily routine of hard labor in the jungle, and that I had false ID's for him and a place to hide until we could board a boat to leave Vietnam. But by accident, a guard found the note and arrested both of us. My husband was tortured and locked in a six-foot by four-foot cage, but he managed to escape 10 days later. I was in jail for two months and then released as bait to capture my husband. But, with help from a group of close friends, we managed to avoid being caught by living in hiding for the next two years.

Twenty times we tried to escape by boat, and 20 times we failed. Most of those times, we never even got to a boat. There were people who knew our need to flee Vietnam at any price, and they took advantage of our situation. I remember one time when my husband and I had to walk for miles on rocky roads, through rice fields in the delta and along the coast of South Vietnam to get to the promised boat. We nearly drowned while half-walking, half-swimming through a river



The Rev. Terence Attridge (left), founder and director of the Substance Abuse Ministry of the New York Archdiocese, and Floyd Patterson, former Heavyweight Champion of the World, now a prominent youth worker. Both are recipients of Doctor of Humane Letters degrees.



with water up to our chins and our three-year-old on our shoulders—but the expected boat was not at the waiting place, and we had to go all the way back. Just walking, exhausted, with wet clothes and bare feet would have been enough proof for the police to arrest us for attempting to flee the country. By sheer luck, we were never caught. But there were also times when after a failed attempt, robbers would wait for us on our way back, putting knives at our necks to take away all of our possessions, knowing that we were fugitives and that we would never dare to report the incident to anyone.

Once, when I was six months pregnant, we got as far as the open sea, but the motor died after two days, and we drifted for 13 more days, surviving only by boiling sea water and drinking the condensed steam. In this way, each of us on the boat was rationed to no more than half a cup of water a day. During this time, many commercial ships passed by us, but none stopped to rescue us. One man in our boat died of thirst, and we had to push his body overboard. At that point, we lost all hope and simply waited to die. On the 15th day, fatefully, we discovered that we

had drifted back to Vietnam, where we were again arrested, and from where we again escaped.

In 1979, just after the birth of our second daughter, we fled Vietnam in a small fishing boat packed with 81 boat people. Once again our motor died, and this time we drifted at sea for 10 days, but with the currents taking us away from Vietnam. And again we were ignored by commercial ships that would not stop to rescue us. We can never forget those desperate moments at sea, begging for help and being denied.

On the 10th day we were attacked by Thai pirates. The pirates towed our boat to Ko Kra, a deserted island in the Gulf of Thailand, where for three weeks of hell most of the men were tortured and most of the women were gang-raped. In fear for my life, I had to abandon my four-year-old child and my four-month-old baby to their father while I hid in the brush with rats and scorpions. When the pirates set fire to the brush to smoke the women out, I and two others went deeper into the jungle, climbing the steep mountain that overlooked the ocean—a spot so dangerous that it gave us the option of jumping to our

deaths if we were ever found by the pirates. It was so cold from the wind and the storms, and we lived with constant fear and starvation. I sometimes wished for death to come and put an end to that desperate fear.

On the 21st day in Ko Kra, an oil company helicopter flew over the island and the pilot saw us. He reported what he saw to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the U.N. representative in Thailand came out the next day to rescue us. When I got to the refugee camp in Songkhla, I weighed only 70 pounds. I wonder still how I survived. But I did make a vow to myself on that island that, if I survived, I would do anything to make my experiences helpful to others.

As soon as we arrived in the refugee camps in Thailand, my husband and I helped to break the story of the boat people by writing an open letter which the United Nations released to the international press—a statement that for the first time, and from the victims' point of view, described in detail the tragedies of the boat people. Inspired by that open letter, a group of Vietnamese refugees founded the Boat People S.O.S. Committee in San Diego in 1980. We later co-authored a little book about our experiences entitled *Pirates in the Gulf of Siam*, and helped to start a human rights campaign against the still-continuing piracy. We still work with the Boat People S.O.S. Committee in assisting refugees nationally and internationally.

In 1980 we arrived in the United States from the refugee camps. While nothing can change the love we feel for our homeland or heal the hurt of our loss, we also cherish the fact that we have been accepted as citizens of our adoptive homeland. San Diego is now our home, and America is now the birthplace of our two youngest daughters, who restore anew our sense of beauty, joy and truth.

We started from scratch in America, but in this land of beginnings that respects sincerity and hard work, it hasn't

"No matter how hard the struggle, one can persevere and overcome."

been easy for us, this long and difficult struggle. For example, it has been very hard especially to learn the language, which is like learning to express oneself all over again. In fact, surprising as it may seem, the daily struggle of making a living in America is more difficult to cope with than all of the events we went through in prison and at sea. The reason is that there is nothing "heroic" about surviving the never-ending problems of daily life. There are few rewards and even less recognition for cooking, cleaning, raising a family, finding a job, going to work every day or struggling with a completely different language. There are no "enemies" to fight against; there are no clear-cut choices.

Still, no matter how hard the struggle, one can persevere and overcome, and in that process we learn some important lessons. We learn, in adapting to a new environment, the importance of being flexible and open. We learn that it is crucial to have faith and love as means of survival, and to never give up hope. And we learn just how important is the support of others, especially of family and friends, if one is to succeed in anything in life.

In addition, struggle itself can also make you stronger. Not least, it has helped me to appreciate and not to take for granted the things that are truly important in life—including the simplest acts of kindness. And because I have survived all of the things that have happened to me, I feel a mysterious debt—even a duty—to work to help other boat people, and to use my experience in the hope that it will inspire others never to give up struggling to overcome the obstacles that face them.

Although many people in this country do not realize it, to this very day the flow of boat people risking their lives on the high seas continues. Every month, about 2,000 Vietnamese are still fleeing their homeland on fragile, rickety boats. And to date, according to the United Nations, more than 250,000 boat people may have died trying to escape. Our third daughter, Binh-Minh, is

named after my closest friend from Vietnam, who risked her life for us during our years of hiding; she died at sea with her entire family.

Since 1985, the Boat People S.O.S. Committee has co-sponsored a mercy ship operating in the South China Sea to rescue the boat people. During the last three years, we have rescued more than 2,000 people; most of them have been resettled in other Western countries, since the United States has not issued visas to the refugees rescued by the mercy ship.

Last month, I had the opportunity to return to the South China Sea to participate in one such rescue mission. During the short period I was there, we picked up a small boat crowded with 40 Vietnamese refugees, among them 17 children. They were in a desperate condition after drifting for 10 days in the ocean. Their tank of drinking water had been broken on the second day, and they had to survive by drinking ocean water—some children even had to drink their own urine. They too had been ignored by many international ships that passed

them by. On the eighth day they had landed on a beach in Indonesia, but were pushed back to the high seas by Indonesian authorities. On the ninth day, they again reached shore, but once again their boat was towed back to the ocean. By then, they were expecting to die. When they saw us, they were so desperate that even when we approached them and were about to pick them up, some people kept repeating, in a state of shock and disbelief: "Please save us, please don't abandon us, we are dying!"

And so, that is my story. I came here to share it with you at your commencement. But I also came to say to you: Congratulations! Today, we come together to celebrate your story. You too are survivors. You too struggled to get here. Your achievement today is a milestone. It is an achievement that no one can ever take away from you. It is a vindication of honest effort. But it is also only a beginning, a commencement. Ahead lie many challenges, many obstacles, many opportunities. And because you have survived, much will be ex-

pected of you.

I wish you every success, knowing that what matters most about success is how a person achieves it.

I wish you the gift of courage, whenever you are faced with the crises that surely lie ahead.

I wish you the gift of compassion whenever you find others less privileged than yourselves, because we are all part of the same human family.

And I wish you the gift of wisdom. It will be your best guide and companion along the journey that commences for you today.

All of these ideals are at the heart of Marist College, and I am sure that they are also in your hearts.

I have learned from my experience that in this world there is much fear, cruelty and ignorance. But I am also sure that from your courage, your compassion, and your wisdom, each of you can help to make our world a better one—a world more beautiful, more peaceful, and more truthful than any we have ever known.

Thank you all very much. ■



Marist College President Dennis J. Murray (left), gathers with dignitaries (from left to right), Vu Thanh Thuy, 1988 commencement speaker; the Rev. Terence Attridge, recipient of a Doctor of Humane Letters degree; Floyd Patterson, recipient of a Doctor of Humane Letters degree; Donald Love, Marist College Board of Trustees chairman; and Brother Paul Ambrose Fontaine, founder of Marist College, who made a brief return visit from Liberia where he is the administrator of the Diocese of Cape Palmas.

Marist graduate commands ship and crew to safety

IN THE PAST YEAR the life of Commander Paul X. Rinn, a graduate of the Marist class of 1968, has been an odyssey which has taken him from a near violent death in the Persian Gulf and brought him home to South Carolina where President Ronald Reagan telephoned to invite him to the White House.

On April 14, the Navy destroyer USS *Samuel B. Roberts*, of which Rinn was commander, struck one of many submerged mines that had been placed indiscriminately by Iranians in the busy shipping lanes of the Persian Gulf. After months of routine operations in the Gulf, the incident came as a shock.

The explosion tore a 22-foot hole in the ship's side, injuring 10 of the 224 crew members and causing a chain reaction of events on board that, if in the hands of lesser men, according to naval officials, might have sunk the ship.

"My first feeling was that there was a real good chance we were all going to die," said Rinn in a recent telephone interview from his home base in Charleston, S.C. "The sound was that of an incredibly large explosion, then there were flames shooting up 100 feet above deck. I don't know how to describe what the roar of such a fire was like. The explosion pretty much broke the ship in two."

What took place after the explosion was a swift yet deliberate series of measures that kept the 3,740-ton, 445-foot-long ship afloat: The crew closed the watertight doors; Rinn ordered the two auxiliary engines turned on; mechanics repaired the ship's only helicopter, which had been damaged in the explosion; others put out fires and removed ammunition from areas where fires were encroaching. The ship deteriorated so badly that, in what seemed to be the final hour, it was held together with only steel cables and girders.

The situation in the Persian Gulf is a dangerous one that is

perhaps too little understood here in the United States, said Rinn, a 20-year naval officer. "You go into a hostile situation in which we are not at war and you have to keep neutral but you also have to defend your ship," he said.

There is also the weather to contend with: Crews there battle temperatures of up to 110 degrees and occasional sandstorms that blow from the deserts out into the open water. In addition, the Gulf being 8,000 miles from the United States can cause difficulties in communications between the

various capacities in several troubled areas throughout the world, including three previous missions in the Middle East, and a mission in Southeast Asia, where he was the last U.S. Navy officer to leave Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, before the city fell to the Khmer Rouge.

On his most recent mission, Rinn had been in the Persian Gulf roughly three months—the ship had left the U.S. on a six-month deployment to the Middle East on Jan. 11—before the explosion. He and his crew had several tasks, including

addition to several other ships that carried a total of roughly 100 million tons of cargo.

After the *Roberts* was damaged, it was towed through heavy seas to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and was put in dry dock for damage inspection and preparation for the trip back to the United States.

Shortly after Rinn returned to the United States and rejoined his wife, Pamela, and their three teen-age children August 1, President Reagan called him to congratulate him for saving the lives of his crew and the ship, and to invite him to visit him at the White House. Rinn has already been awarded the Legion of Merit with Combat V (Valor), the fourth highest military award and one of several other military awards he has received during his naval career.

High naval officials say they are planning to use Rinn's experience in the Gulf in the curriculum in damage control at the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. "Left to her own devices," said one naval officer, the ship "surely would have sunk."

Rinn was relieved as commanding officer of the *Samuel B. Roberts* on June 20 aboard the ship while it was in Dubai. The *Roberts* is currently in Newport, R.I., and soon will travel to Bath Iron Works in Maine for a new keel, a rebuilt engine room and other repairs which will cost about \$100 million, Rinn said. To replace the entire ship and its computerized technology would cost up to \$700 million, he said.

Would he go to the Persian Gulf again? "Going to the Gulf doesn't bother me," said Rinn, who is at present the chief staff officer—second in command—of Destroyer Squadron Six, a group of 18 ships. "If I were called to go there tomorrow, I'd go," he said.

"I have served my country to the best of my ability," Rinn said, "to bring peace to the world in the true sense of the word." ■



U.S. Navy Commander Paul X. Rinn, '68 and the USS *Samuel B. Roberts* at the pier in Newport, R.I. last November, two months before the *Roberts* deployed for duty in the Persian Gulf.

two places. The combination of factors, said Rinn, makes the Persian Gulf a "very difficult" location in which to operate.

In 1985 Rinn, who graduated from Marist with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science, became the youngest commanding officer of the *Samuel B. Roberts*. The destroyer is named in the memory of one of the most honored naval officers, Coxswain Samuel B. Roberts, who died during the battle of Guadalcanal during World War II. The *Roberts* is one of the Navy's most modern frigates. The ship has the most up-to-date technology and defense systems. Its gas-turbine engines have the power equivalent to that of a Boeing 707 jet, Rinn said.

Rinn's appointment as commander was the culmination of a career in which he'd served in

keeping open the shipping lanes in the Gulf, escorting cargo ships and oil tankers through the Gulf and preventing an attack against any U.S. flag-carrying ship.

Rinn said the Navy's mission in the Gulf is in the interest of the world economy: Without proper measures, the economy—which depends so much on shipping through the Persian Gulf—could very well collapse. He recalled the oil crises of the 1970's, and said that it was about to happen again when the Iranians began setting mines in the Gulf.

One oil tanker, he said, carries enough oil to fuel a medium-sized city such as Poughkeepsie—including all the cars—for an entire year. Rinn said he and his crew escorted 80 of these oil tankers through the Persian Gulf, in

FRIDA SQUIRES/PROVIDENCE JOURNAL

Five appointed to board of trustees

DOUGLAS EDWARDS, BRENDAN T. BURKE, ELLEN M. HANCOCK, HELEN M. MESERVE and ELIZABETH M. WOLF are the newest members to be appointed to the Marist College Board of Trustees. Each has been appointed for a three-year term.



Douglas Edwards

Edwards, a veteran journalist and CBS correspondent, anchored CBS' first weeknight news broadcasts from 1948 until 1962. He then moved to the CBS News weekday afternoon broadcasts, an assignment he held with *Newsbreak*, the CBS News headline service, until his retirement on April 1, 1988, after 56 years in the business.

In 1986, Marist presented its annual Lowell Thomas Award to Douglas Edwards in recognition of his outstanding career. Edwards and his wife, Mae, reside in Sarasota, Fla.

Burke, a 1968 graduate of Marist College, is director of personnel, Broadcast Facilities, East Coast for Capital Cities/ABC, Inc. He is responsible for personnel administration and employee



Brendan T. Burke

relations services for operations in New York, Washington, D.C. and Chicago.

Burke has been a very active Marist alumnus, serving as president of the Alumni Association from 1982 to 1987. He has been a member of the Alumni Executive Board and the Communication Arts Advisory Council. Burke and his wife, Betsy, have four children and live in Bayport, N.Y.



Ellen M. Hancock

Hancock's career with IBM spans 22 years. In January of this year, she was named IBM

vice president and general manager for Communication Systems. As general manager for Communication Systems, she is responsible for both the Communication Products Systems Division and the ROLM Systems Division. She was previously president of Telecommunications Systems for the Communication Products Division.

Hancock holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from the College of New Rochelle and a Master of Arts degree in mathematics from Fordham University. She and her husband, Jason, live in Ridgefield, Conn.



Helen M. Meserve

Meserve, with her husband Hamilton Meserve, owns Taconic Newspapers, which publishes eight weekly newspapers in Dutchess County, as well as *Dutchess Magazine*, *Orange Magazine* and the *Hudson Valley Guide*.

She was the chairperson of the Dutchess Arts Fund in 1987, and served on the Dutchess County Arts Council Board of Directors from 1980 to 1986. She was a trustee of the Dutchess Day School in Millbrook from 1983 to 1985.

Meserve currently serves

on the Board of Directors of Dutchess Bank. She is a member of the Marist College Adult Education Community Advisory Board, and a board member of the Millbrook Library and Upstate Films in Rhinebeck, N.Y.

Meserve received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Far Eastern history from Stanford University in 1961. She and her husband and three children live in Amenia, N.Y.



Elizabeth M. Wolf

Wolf is a prominent civic leader in Dutchess County. She is president of the Dutchess County Bar Association Auxiliary and vice president of the St. Francis Hospital Auxiliary in Poughkeepsie. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Cardinal Hayes Home for Children in Millbrook, and a member of the Alumnae Council of the College of New Rochelle, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1956.

Wolf is also an active church leader, serving as chairperson of the Dutchess Vicariate Council and as a delegate to the 18th Synod of the New York Archdiocese. She is a eucharistic minister and confirmation class teacher at St. Stanislaus Church in Pleasant Valley. She and her husband, John, and their two children live in Pleasant Valley, N.Y.



Donald Love

Donald Love appointed board chairman

DONALD LOVE, a nine-year member of the Marist College Board of Trustees, was appointed chairman of the board in December. He is serving a two-year term.

"Don Love brings a distinguished record of community service to this position, and follows in a long line of chairmen who have made tremendous contributions to the development of Marist College," said Marist President Dennis J. Murray upon the announcement of the appointment.

Love, an independent financial consultant and former president and owner of the Love Oil Corporation, was

first appointed to the Marist board in 1979. Prior to becoming chairman, he was the board's vice chairman for two years.

He is a lifelong Poughkeepsie resident whose philanthropic activities include service on the boards of Vassar Hospital, the Poughkeepsie Rotary, the Dutchess County Boy Scouts, the Poughkeepsie Area Chamber of Commerce, the United Way and several others. He is a graduate of Poughkeepsie High School, and attended Pace University and LaSalle Extension University.

Jack Newman, board member since 1985, is the board's vice chairman. Newman, a Poughkeepsie resident since 1948, is president of Drive and Park, Inc. Prior to his appointment as vice chairman, Newman served as board secretary.

James Cannavino was appointed the board's secretary. He has been a board member since 1986. He is an IBM vice president and president of IBM's Data Systems Division. Cannavino joined IBM in Chicago in 1963, and has had several assignments in Poughkeepsie since 1971.

Jonah Sherman is the board's treasurer. Sherman, a board member since 1983, is president of Sherman Furniture Corporation in Poughkeepsie. In 1971, he was presented a Marist College President's Award. In addition, he was chairman of a successful 1985 Marist Fund campaign.

Playing politics with "Hail to the Chief"



Jim Corbett, a 1973 Marist graduate, explains the rules of his game, "Hail to the Chief," during a recent promotional visit at Waldenkids in the Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall.

IT'S AN OLD SAW that anyone can become President of the United States. In a new board game invented by Jim Corbett, a 1973 Marist graduate, whether one reaches the Presidency is, well, in the cards. In his game, "Hail to the Chief," players vie for the Presidency by correctly answering questions on history, the Presidency, geography and the U.S. Constitution. (Who usually gives the oath of office to the President? What state has the fewest people? Who was the first President to publish memoirs? Who was his liter-

ary agent?) The game's first printing of 10,000 has sold out since it went on sale a year ago, and the producer has just made 5,000 more. The Smithsonian Institution and the National Archives are so impressed with the game that they are selling it in their gift shops. The game is also the 1987 Parents' Choice Magazine Silver Award winner. Corbett, 37, is currently a resident of Seattle. The answers to the above questions are, in order: chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; Wyoming; Ulysses S. Grant; Mark Twain.

Marist honors 10 employees for 20 years of service

LAST FALL 10 Marist College employees were recognized for their 20 years of service to the school.

Marist President Dennis J. Murray presented each honoree with a commemorative plaque at the eighth annual Founders Day Luncheon. Addressing more than 100 members of the Marist com-

munity, Murray spoke of coming together to "celebrate Marist College and, more important, the people that bring Marist College to life." The honorees were:

Italo Benin, associate professor of philosophy, Staatsburg, N.Y.; Sigrid Brandis, adjunct professor of German, Wappingers Falls, N.Y.; Gerard

Cox, vice president of student affairs and assistant professor of communications, Wappingers Falls, N.Y.; Vincent Kotschar, assistant professor of anthropology, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Joy Kudlo, secretary for the division of arts and letters, Hyde Park, N.Y.; Lawrence Menapace, associate professor of chemistry,

Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Peter O'Keefe, associate professor of history, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Lucy Pettway, food services worker, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Laurence Sullivan, assistant professor of religious studies, Hyde Park, N.Y.; Edward Waters, vice president for administration, Millbrook, N.Y.

New executive vice president at Marist



Mark Sullivan

MARK SULLIVAN became Marist's executive vice president earlier this year. Sullivan succeeded John Lahey, who last year became president of Quinnipiac College in Hamden, Conn.

"Mark Sullivan has been one of the leading educators in Connecticut and we are delighted that he joined the Marist community," said Marist President Dennis J. Murray. "Because of his unique combination of experiences in higher education, he is ideally suited for this position."

Sullivan, a former resident of West Hartford, Conn., previously served as vice president for administrative affairs at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven. Before his service there, Sullivan was Connecticut's assistant commissioner of higher education. He briefly served as the state's acting commissioner of higher education in 1981 and, from 1978 to 1981, was the director of the Connecticut Board of Higher Education's Office of Budget and Fiscal Analysis.

Prior to his career in education, Sullivan was executive budget officer in the Governor's office in Wisconsin. He also held the position of program analyst in the assistant

secretary's office in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

At Southern Connecticut, Sullivan was the university's chief administrative officer with broad responsibilities in the areas of planning, financial management, university operations, fund raising and external and government relations. Southern Connecticut State is the third largest public university in Connecticut, with an enrollment of more than 12,000 students.

Sullivan holds a Ph.D. degree in education from Harvard University, an M.A. degree in public administration from the Maxwell Graduate School of Public Affairs at Syracuse University, and an undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Rhode Island. He has lectured and taught courses at the graduate level in education policy, public finance and federal/state relations in higher education.

While in Connecticut, Sullivan staffed or served on a variety of special commissions and task forces dealing with higher education issues, including the Governor's Commission on Higher Education and the Economy and the General Assembly's Special Commission on the Future of Independent Colleges and Universities in Connecticut.

Commenting on his Marist College appointment, Sullivan said, "I feel very fortunate to have been chosen for such an important position at such a dynamic college. The Marist reputation as a fine liberal arts college with a commitment to excellence in a number of exciting program areas grows stronger every year. Its faculty is strong, its administration is creative and very professional, and its board is dedicated to building an institution of national stature. Add to that a strong and active relationship with the community and you have an atmosphere which is the ideal for colleges and universities across the country."

Paul J. Browne, '71, is new vice president for college advancement

PAUL J. BROWNE, a 1971 Marist graduate, has been appointed Marist vice president for college advancement.

Browne, 39, comes to the position as former Albany bureau chief of *The New York Law Journal*, the nation's oldest daily publication specializing in the law. Prior to that, he was Albany bureau chief for *The New York Daily News*. During his tenure there, he traveled with Mario Cuomo during the Governor's trip to the Soviet Union. Before joining *The Daily News*, he was chief of staff and press secretary for U.S. Senator Daniel P. Moynihan of New York.

"Paul was the unanimous choice of the collegewide selection committee," said Marist President Dennis J. Murray. "He is familiar with the inner workings of both Albany and Washington and will be invaluable to us as we seek state and federal funding opportunities."

While a student at Marist, Browne spent his junior year



Paul J. Browne

in Bogota, Colombia, studying Latin American politics and Spanish. After graduating from Marist with a Bachelor of Arts degree in American studies, he became a volunteer teacher at Marist Brothers High School in American Samoa.

After his return to the

United States in 1972, he went to work as a political writer for *The Watertown Daily Times* in Watertown, N.Y. During this time, he was granted a leave to attend the Columbia University School of Journalism. After obtaining his master's degree in journalism, he returned to the paper to work as its Albany correspondent. In 1984, he joined Moynihan's staff as executive assistant.

Browne also has been involved with Marist alumni fund raising activities, having volunteered in annual telephone solicitation drives and having served as president of the Albany Chapter of the Marist College Alumni Association. He was the recipient of the first Alumni Award upon his graduation in 1971.

"It is particularly gratifying to return to a Marist that has grown not only in size but prestige," Browne said. "As an alumnus, my work here is a labor of love."

Only the best: two from Marist faculty help judge TV Emmy Awards

"IT WAS LIKE DRIVING to Florida nonstop."

That was how Robert Norman, associate professor of communications, described a two-day judging session of nominations for this year's Emmy Awards.

Norman and Douglas Cole, a visiting instructor of communications, were two of six judges chosen by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences to select winners for the National News and Documentary category for this year's Emmy Awards.

Norman, Cole and the other four judges watched a combined total of 50 entries produced and shown by the nation's commercial and cable television networks in 1987. The task took two full days, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Norman said.

"It was just incredible to sit there for two days and watch some of the best television produced during the year," said Cole. "You're watching what the best people in the country are doing, and watching what they consider to be their best work."

During the judging period at the Roosevelt Hotel in Manhattan, none of the judges was permitted to discuss or comment on the programs, Norman said. The judges were seated in a room together to watch the entries. The programs, many of which were hour-long documentaries, were shown as long as any of the judges wanted to see them. Usually, Norman said, an hour program was watched for about a half-hour.

"When everyone wanted to see more of a certain program, you knew it was good," said Norman.

Norman has been involved with broadcasting for more than 30 years, and has worked for NBC, ABC and WCBS Radio, in addition to



Robert Norman (right), associate professor of communications, and Douglas Cole, instructor of communications, at work in Marist's television production studio.

Poughkeepsie's WEOK and Kingston's WKNY. In addition to his teaching at Marist, he is also the director of Marist's communications internship program.

The programs and news segments in the Emmy competition covered the spectrum of human events in 1987, including AIDS, the homeless, Oliver North, Chernobyl, Afghanistan, South Korea, Israel, the stock market crash, the Iran-Contra hearings, South Africa, drugs, and the California redwoods.

"There was nothing that was not good," said Cole. Cole joined Marist in 1986 and has had extensive professional experience in commercial television and radio, as well as in advertising agencies as a producer, writer and announcer.

Programs were judged on the quality of the film, organization of the story's concept and execution of the project—a fairly objective approach. Yet, because of the nature of the programs, which focused on continuing news issues, many involving

tragedy and pain, Cole said the overall effect on him was somewhat disturbing. "I wound up with nightmares," he said. "I saw a lot of people dying."

The experience, Norman said, was unique and rewarding; unique in that one watched so much good television in one sitting, and rewarding in that he and Cole have had the opportunity to be a part of a nationwide and important television competition. Marist interns at the Academy, Carrie Boyle and Ed Eberling, helped organize and run the event.

Norman and Cole have already been asked to participate in next year's judging of the Emmy Awards, and they said they have tentatively accepted. The drive to Florida, in other words, is a long one, but it's worth the trip.

Marist names assistant vp for academic affairs



Linda Cool

MARIST HAS APPOINTED Linda Cool as assistant vice president for academic affairs and dean of academic programs and services.

Cool oversees the areas of academic advising, faculty development, student and program assessment, career

development and field experience, the Higher Educational Opportunity Program, the Special Academic Programs and the Learning Center.

Cool received her B.A. degree in anthropology from Bryn Mawr College, graduating magna cum laude. She holds a Ph.D. degree in anthropology from Duke University. She served as the chairperson of the department of anthropology/sociology at Santa Clara University, where she had worked for the past 11 years.

Citing Marist's efforts to provide educational opportunities to minorities and to disabled persons, Cool said, "I am impressed with Marist's interest in reaching out to the whole population, not just the ones that are traditionally represented, but the ones which are underrepresented, as well."

Eleanor Charwat becomes new executive director of adult education



Eleanor Charwat

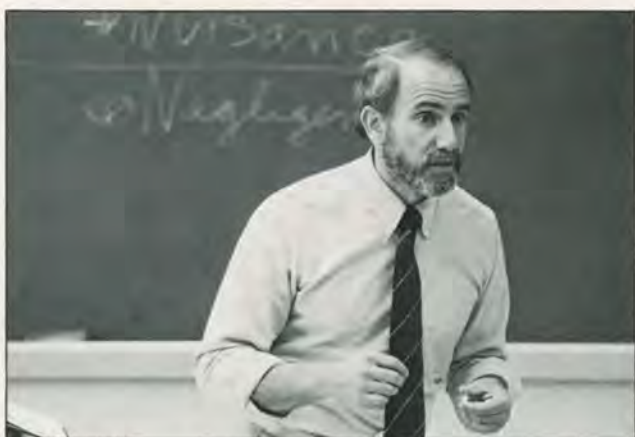
ELEANOR CHARWAT was recently appointed executive director of adult education. Charwat began her career at Marist in 1984 as coordinator

of the Fishkill Extension Center. From there, she became director of degree programs at the School of Adult Education, and most recently served as the school's assistant dean.

"Eleanor is uniquely qualified, both personally and professionally, to assume this new position in adult education at Marist," said Marc vanderHeyden, vice president for academic affairs.

Charwat has a bachelor's degree in political science from Cornell University, and in 1985 she received her Master of Public Administration degree from Marist.

"She is familiar with the college from both the student's and the education professional's perspectives," vanderHeyden said.



Robert J. Grossman

Robert J. Grossman chosen 1988 Teacher of the Year

ROBERT J. GROSSMAN, associate professor of marketing, was chosen to receive the 1988 Teacher of the Year Award by Marist College seniors.

Grossman joined the Marist faculty in 1983 as a visiting professor. He teaches undergraduate courses in business and society, business law, marketing management,

marketing communications, and a graduate course in organization and the environment.

"The award is perhaps the finest honor I've ever received," Grossman said.

Grossman received his B.A. degree in 1965 from Hobart College. He received a law degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law in 1969. In 1971, he received a postgraduate degree in law from the New York University School of Law.

Prior to joining Marist he held various faculty and administrative positions at Brooklyn College.

Throughout his professional career, he has received numerous fellowships, scholarships, honors and awards, and he has been widely published in law and higher education professional journals.

Each spring, the senior class at Marist chooses a faculty member deserving of the award. The award is presented at the baccalaureate ceremonies the evening before the commencement exercises.

"It is very exciting for me to be in the classroom," Grossman said. The award, he said, serves as a kind of symmetrical element in the give and take of teaching and learning. "I got back as much as I gave," he said.

Marist appoints new librarian

JOHN MCGINTY is Marist's new librarian. Announcing the appointment last fall, Marc A. vanderHeyden, vice president for academic affairs, said, "John McGinty's experience in library management and his familiarity with new technologies used in the library make him an ideal addition to the Marist community."

Prior to joining Marist, McGinty was the associate librarian at Fairfield University in Connecticut. He was in charge of all library departments and an annual budget in excess of \$1 million. At Fairfield, McGinty introduced microcomputers into the library, organized a microcomputer lab for student use, developed information services using compact



John McGinty

disk technology, and modified internal accounting procedures. In addition, he developed a program for faculty and student feedback on collection resources and services.

McGinty's previous experience includes seven years of service at the University of Connecticut Health Center Library and two years at the State University of New York Medical Center Library.

McGinty received his B.A. degree in anthropology from Columbia University and his M.L.S. degree from Rutgers University. He also holds an M.B.A. degree from the University of Connecticut in Hartford, where he is a Ph.D. degree candidate in the higher education administration program.

Eugene Melan elected Fellow of prestigious quality control society



JAMES KILLANDER

Eugene Melan

EUGENE MELAN, visiting associate professor of business in the Marist Division of Management Studies, has been elected a Fellow of the prestigious American Society for Quality Control (ASQC). A 13-year member of the Society, Melan received the honor at ASQC's Annual Quality Congress in May in Dallas, Tex., where he also presented a paper. The award recognizes Melan's "outstanding professional work in the areas of quality, reliability and quality improvement, his technical papers and oral presentations, his development work in computer microelectronics, and his teaching activity in the area of quality improvement and quantitative methods."

ASQC has a membership of more than 50,000 professionals dedicated to the advancement of quality in industry, government and academia. Fellow is the highest level of membership in the society, and the honor recognizes outstanding professional accomplishment and distinction. Melan is the only Fellow

of the society from the Hudson Valley region.

Melan has had a long and varied career with the IBM Corporation. He was a member of the first generation computer design team in the Poughkeepsie product development laboratory after completing his graduate work at New York University. In his 34 years with IBM, he progressed through a number of different technical and management positions in the corporation's domestic and world trade operations.

Melan has taught extensively within the IBM Corporation as well as at Marist College. Regarding his teaching activities at Marist, he said: "I recognized the need for an individual to contribute to society—in effect each of us should pay 'civic rent' in our own way. Teaching in the management studies division was a natural way for me to enrich the content of the courses and contribute my experience to the younger generation."

Donald Calista receives Fulbright award



HOWARD DRATCH

Donald J. Calista

DONALD J. CALISTA, associate professor of sociology and public administration, and director of Marist's graduate program in public administration, has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright scholarship to teach and lecture abroad.

Calista will spend nine months in Japan beginning next spring lecturing and holding seminars at universities, as well as speaking at public forums and with Japanese journalists. He has been to Japan previously on two different fellowships.

Calista, an expert in policymaking, will focus on the differences in Japanese and American policymaking, emphasizing America's decentralized approach in comparison with the very centralized public policymaking in Japan. In addition, Calista is concerned with the effects of post-materialism on society, and intends to explore whether post-materialism is

affecting Japan as much as it is affecting Westerners. Post-materialism means that, under the conditions of affluence, society's values will change toward openness and less rigidity.

The J. William Fulbright scholarship, established in 1947, is the U.S. government's international education exchange program. The scholarship is awarded to students and teachers to study or teach outside this country. Nationwide, about 1,000 scholarships are given each year.

Cernera appointed Sacred Heart president



CHIP PORTER

Anthony J. Cernera

ANTHONY J. CERNERA, formerly vice president for college advancement at Marist, assumed the presidency of Sacred Heart University in Bridgeport, Conn., in July.

Cernera served in several administrative positions at Marist over the course of seven years, including executive assistant to the president, assistant vice president for academic affairs, and vice president for college advancement from 1985. Under his leadership, the area of college advancement at Marist experienced significant growth.

The number of donors increased more than 78 percent, and the Marist Fund saw a 44 percent increase.

Cernera was an active participant in other areas of the college and the community as well. He was a highly respected teacher in the Marist philosophy department, and his publications have included articles on world hunger and global education in *Worldwright: A Rhetoric Reader for Global Awareness*, published by Marist College, and *Marist Today*.

Evelyn Rimai Fisher remembered

Evelyn Rimai Fisher, professor emerita of art and design consultant at Marist, died May 30, 1987, after working at Marist for 30 years. She was 75 years old.

Evelyn seemed to have been everywhere and to have had a hand in everything at Marist. Beginning in the summer of 1957, she designed the interior and exterior colors of Fontaine Hall which, at the time, was a residence for the Marist Brothers at what was then Marian College. She did the same, and much more, during the construction of Donnelly Hall. And she not only designed; she constructed. She poured concrete and welded railings. As Marist grew and changed, Evelyn was involved in the redesigning and reconstruction of Donnelly Hall and many other buildings.

Last May 5 at a memorial service for Evelyn in the campus chapel, Marist Chief Financial Officer Anthony Campilii and Marist Brother Joseph Belanger delivered two of four tributes to Evelyn. Campilii graduated from Marist in 1962 and began his career at Marist after that. Brother Joseph is a 1948 Marian College graduate and joined the Marist faculty as a French instructor in 1959. He is currently a professor of French. Below are excerpts from their tributes. The first one is by Campilii, followed by the words of Brother Joseph.

EVELYN FISHER passed away after having given almost 30 years of her life to the spirit and growth of Marist College.

It is difficult to say when I actually met Evelyn, and under what circumstances, but I can recall as a student, this woman who walked around Donnelly Hall—then under construction—with a clipboard and who created the stained glass mosaic on the windows that are now part of the Computer Center facing Adrian Hall.

I remember the Evelyn Fisher who saw everything as a



Evelyn Rimai Fisher

potential sculpture or work of art, and who had the courage and conviction to make a statement with her art. She was aware of her admirers, and her critics. She would say, "If it causes someone to stop, look and perhaps make an evaluation as to what the sculpture was, or just to think about it—whether they liked it or not—then it did its job."

I can remember the days when we had to put railings around Donnelly Hall or on stairways throughout the campus for the safety and protection of the students. It could never be just an ordinary railing; it had to become part of the theme, a theme of the building or the surrounding area. The welders constructing these railings sometimes balked, but after it was finished, they would comment, "Hey, this doesn't look half bad!" Her designs had structural integrity while being aesthetically pleasing.

I can recall the Evelyn Fisher who, after putting in a full day of classes with her students, would stay to work on a design or building project for the administration. It was not uncommon to see the lights on in Evelyn's office well into the evening.

I also remember the Evelyn Fisher as she coped with her illness. She was grateful for any telephone call or visit, no matter how brief it might have been. Always, always, she never talked about herself but of how things were at the college or of how you and your family were

and what kind of day one had. It never failed that in trying to lift her spirits with a visit, the visitor got the uplift, witnessing her courage, unselfishness and acceptance of the reality of her situation.

We often speak of the heritage of this college and the contributions of the Marist Brothers. I would like to add a name to that heritage, and that is of Evelyn Fisher. She was of the Marist Brothers' era, and subscribed to all that was a part of that heritage. The Marist Brothers and the college administration chose her to become a part of their team to move this college forward. Her untiring efforts on behalf of the college's bricks and mortar, her ability to reach and inspire her students, her ability to create and see beauty and art in all things, her untiring work ethic and most important, her dedication to the ideals that Marist aspires to, entitle her to be a part of that heritage.

WHAT SPRINGS TO MIND at the thought of Evelyn is commitment. She gave herself wholeheartedly, spontaneously, immediately in the philosophical sense of that word, to whatever she did: painting, writing, purchasing, designing, teaching, most of all just plain being, being herself so as to be for others. She was there. Nilus (Donnelly) and I could not remember a single day she was absent, and we are talking of 30 and more years.

And Evelyn's commitment was not the dutiful, legal, servile, functionary type. It was creative, inspired. The old-timers among us will recall a certain prosaicism to the campus. Oh yes, there were, thank God, Gerry Weiss' flower beds everywhere. But the older buildings themselves were monkish, functional things. Evelyn instilled a sense of design, of beauty.

When Champagnat was planned, the gallery lounge was her idea, and we still marvel today at the time and energy she put into those monthly

hangings and receptions over 15 years. I miss them, Evelyn.

As battle-fatigued teachers struggling to shape tomorrow's generation, we can still learn much from Evelyn's 15-credit courses in creative coping which she initiated and directed with the help of Norm Olin and Ron Pasquariello and John Sullivan, and the course on painters and poets with Milton Teichman, forming students' hearts and minds on campus, while Mal Michelson formed them off campus in inner-city projects. How I thank God for the prophetic vision of Linus Foy (Marist College President from 1958 to 1979) who, like Emmanuel Mounier, several years before Vatican II wanted an ecumenical "Catholic" college where all people of good will, whatever their religious persuasion or none at all, could work shoulder to shoulder to build a better world. In his oral history, Linus paid eloquent tribute to Evelyn, instinctively and rightfully singling her out as the type of person he wanted to found Marist College with him: not the stereotypical professor, but the unusual, the inspiring, the creative individual. This type he found preeminently in Evelyn.

I remember once Evelyn stopping me on a campus road and telling me, deeply concerned, to stop my hectic pace of life and smell the roses. I told her that I did stop, totally, for an hour each day to meditate and recollect at Mass and other prayers. She nodded appreciatively and said, "That's good, I was not aware of that." She may not have understood the Mass, but she herself lived instinctively a deep, spiritual life and recognized and accepted it in one varied form or another.

Humans are not primarily matter. Spirit informs. And your spirit, Evelyn, still lives. It lives in the sculptures and mosaics and paintings and poems you created; it lives even more so in the hearts of your students and fellow workers. May we all, young and old, learn from you what we are all about, what life is all about.

Adult graduates honor families in "Putting Him/Her Through" ceremony; one graduate offers his reflections

JOSEPH STEFANI, a 1988 Marist graduate, gave a moving tribute to his wife, Jean, and their joint efforts to earn his degree at a special graduation ceremony last spring. Called the PHT ("Putting Him/Her Through") ceremony, it was an opportunity for graduates enrolled in the School of Adult Education, most of whom are part-time students with full-time jobs, to honor those who had helped make their graduation possible.

Stefani, 36, who graduated with honors, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business with a marketing concentration. It is a degree that took 10 years of part-time college to complete. Employed at IBM in Fishkill as a production operator (Jean is also employed at IBM in Fishkill), he said that in spite of the trials and sacrifices that are often part of the life of a full-time worker and part-time student, he's going to do it again.

Asked if he's interested in pursuing any other degree, Stefani said, "Oh yes indeed, probably a few more—eventually." Among the degrees he's considering is a master's degree in industrial administration or maybe a doctorate in business administration.

An aspiring writer by avocation, Stefani has tried his hand at both fiction and non-fiction and wishes he had more time to write. There could be; he did say that "maybe after the next degree for work, I'll do one for fun, maybe English or history."

Below are excerpts from Stefani's PHT speech:

WELL, IT'S ALL OVER, fellow graduates—and high time, too. Congratulations to us all. It's been a long time coming! I don't know about you, but I've been at this student business for 10 years. How many people can say they've been a graduating



Joseph Stefani and his wife, Jean.

senior for more than two years, and that they're proud of it?

Tonight, we honor, and thank, those people who have supported us while we have been Marist students. If I may, I'd like to begin by offering my personal thanks to the adult education office staff. These people truly understand the special needs of—and the extra burdens that can be placed on—adult students. They treat us with unflagging respect, and have an uncanny way of boosting our confidence.

As I mentioned before, my career as a student has been a long one, and a hard one. But

I cannot consider Saturday to be my graduation day, no matter what the accomplishment. It is, rather, our graduation day. My wife Jean's and mine.

This past year may have been the toughest. I've been working nights and taking classes days. My wife and I would see each other on weekends—if I wasn't working overtime. But we all know that it's not easy going to school, working, and trying to maintain some semblance of a normal home life. We've asked ourselves to squeeze 25 hours of life from each day. Something had to suffer.

Work couldn't suffer be-

cause we are all providing for today. School couldn't suffer because our intent was to provide for tomorrow. The normal home life, then, becomes the sacrifice for our drive to succeed. In our case, an abnormal home life has become normal.

The truth is that our priorities have changed. They had to. Adult students are a different breed, a driven breed, a sometimes difficult breed. College was something we wanted to do, not had to do. It was a decision we made, not one that was made for us. And once the decision was made, we knew we had to do our best to make you all proud of us.

I know I wouldn't have done as well, and may not have done this at all, without Jean's love and support.

I like to think that I have been building a house of sorts. I had the desire, the tools and the skills. But without my wife to supply the foundation and building blocks, would I have been as successful?

Our house has taken years to build. It took sweat, determination and strength. Now that the trim is painted and the house is finally complete, I know that Jean is proud of me for building it. As I am proud of her for helping. As we are all proud of you.

You've given us all we've needed or asked for and more. You've given willingly, even when understanding the sacrifices that would have to be made, and how long the sacrifices would endure. And despite knowing what's in store for us, some of us are crazy enough to prolong it all, and enroll in graduate school.

But it's over for now, even if temporarily. Some of us will go home and enjoy a sit-down dinner. Some of us will notice that the house needs painting or the lawn needs mowing. Still others may notice that their children are bigger than the last time they looked. I intend to reintroduce myself to my wife.

HOWARD DRATCH

The end of an era: Rik Smits leaves Marist for the Indiana Pacers

ON MAY 21, 1988, Marist College commencement day, a four-year record for Marist basketball ended when Rik Smits crossed the platform in the McCann Center and accepted his diploma. Those four years may be written down as the most memorable in Marist College basketball history.

Rik Smits, a 7'4" center for Marist College, was the second pick of the National Basketball Association (NBA) draft, and is now an Indiana Pacer. His career at Marist was more than exciting; it gave the college national exposure and turned an unknown young basketball player from Eindhoven, Netherlands into an NBA rookie.

Smits started his career at Marist in the 1984/1985 sea-

son at 17 years old with only two years of basketball experience behind him. (He played for the Dutch national team.) His statistics had improved from 11.2 points, 5.6 rebounds, 2.6 blocks per game his freshman year to 24.7 points, 8.7 rebounds, and 3.9 blocks per game in his senior year.

But what made an Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference-Metro Division I player so spectacular? It seems that all the scouts agree: It was his height and natural ability to run the court, and his dedication to the sport. Smits not only improved in four years, according to Marist coach Dave Magarity. He improved in every game.

Smits has been called a "project" by the NBA scouts, a term used by the coaches to describe a player who needs to improve in certain aspects of the game before he will be truly useful to the team. The Pacers see Smits as a project well worth the effort. With few centers as tall as 7'4", Smits will be a noticeable addition to the NBA. And, according to some scouts, in about five years may be one of the best centers in years.

Said one sports writer about Smits joining the NBA: "He will get beat up a bit and take his lumps as a rookie, but by season's end he will have made an impact, and by his third year in the league he will be among the NBA's top five centers. He can score, rebound and block shots, but he needs to improve his passing."

The Pacers are counting on that improvement; they were, of course, impressed with Smits from the start.

"A player like him comes along once every 20 years," said Pacers' General Manager Donnie Walsh.



Off to work. Rik Smits receives his diploma from Marist College President Dennis J. Murray.

KEN BRIZZOLTI



Rik Smits, known as the "Dunking Dutchman," is now playing for the Indiana Pacers. "A player like him comes along once every 20 years," said Pacers' General Manager Donnie Walsh.



Rik Smits at the National Basketball Association draft in New York City talking with officials of the Indiana Pacers shortly after he was chosen to play for the team.

SPORTS CLIP: A. SCHNOOR, JR.

Marist equestrian team rides to the top

by Mercedes M. Cardona

JUST CALL the group of horse riders from Marist College "the little team that could."

Members of the equestrian team rescheduled final exams and defeated a regional champion to participate in the 15th Intercollegiate National Championship Horse Show last May, placing sixth in three events and eighth in another. The team competed against about 260 riders from across the country at the event in Laurinburg, N.C.

"It was tough competition down there. It was the toughest we'd seen all year," said team member John Struzzi.

Team captain Ginger Mion agreed, saying, "We were up against the best of the best." Mion took eighth in the novice fence-jumping category.

To win a spot in the national competition, Marist had to beat three-year champion Pace University at last April's regional competition.



Marist equestrian team member John Struzzi shows off *Crescendo* at the Rose View Stables in Hyde Park, N.Y. The equestrian team, which was started in 1983 by Joyce Knox, placed high in the Intercollegiate National Championship last May. Struzzi, '91, from Poughkeepsie, placed sixth in the top class open competition against 260 riders from across the country.

Coach Ed Calabrese said Pace has an established equestrian team that practices three times a week, while Marist riders practice together only once a week.

"It's the first year for Marist to get that far in the regionals, so it was a real learning experience for some people," Struzzi said. He placed sixth among all riders in the top-class open equitation.

In addition to the competition from Pace University, the riders had another opponent to beat: the school calendar.

"About half the team had to move their finals," said Mion.

The experience of meeting riders from all over the country will help the team members to improve their riding, Mion said. And they'll be back, she said.

"Now that we know what it feels like, we want to keep on doing it," she said.

Reprinted from The Poughkeepsie Journal.

A quick look at the year in Marist Sports

Women's Tennis

Ending a successful season with a 7-6 overall record, the Marist women's tennis team placed third in their conference tournament. Allison Block, '88, left Marist with an impressive three-year record of 32-8.

Women's Swimming

The 1987/88 season was the Marist women's most successful yet. The team placed first in its division and second in the entire Metropolitan Conference. Two Marist women obtained impressive victories. Lisa Burghbacher, '89, was named Diver of the Year by the Met-

ropolitan Conference. Kindra Predmore, '91, placed first in the 100- and 200-meter butterfly at the Metropolitan Conference. Coach Doug Backlund ended his first season as Conference Coach of the Year.

Lacrosse

The Marist lacrosse team had a fine season with a record of 8-3. They ended the Knickerbocker Conference with a 6-2 final record.

Men's Swimming

Ending the season with a 7-3 record, the Marist men placed third out of 18 in the Metropolitan Conference. Twelve school records and 57 individual records were set at the conference.

Football

The 1987/88 season ended with a 2-7 record for the Marist team. Senior Chris

Keenan completed his Marist career as best defensive player at Marist. His brother, Brian, '89, has returned this fall as a defensive back.

Crew

Marist once again completed a good season and took home the trophy for first place in the President's Cup Regatta, which was held April 30 at Marist.

Soccer

In his 26th season coach Howard Goldman led the Marist soccer team to a 5-10-2 regular season record and a 3-3 ECAC Metro Conference record.

Women's Basketball

With an overall record of 9-19 and a 6-10 ECAC Metro Conference record, the women's basketball team placed fifth in the conference.

Men's Basketball

Led by coach Dave Magarity, the 1987/88 season ended with an 18-9 overall record and a 13-3 ECAC-Metro Division I Conference record. Senior Rik Smits became the second draft pick of the National Basketball Association and shed his Marist red and white for the Indiana Pacers' blue and gold. (See feature on Smits, page 47.) Marist retired three team members' numbers this year: number 45, belonging to Rik Smits; number 3, belonging to Drafton Davis, '88; and number 12, belonging to Steve Smith, '83, who was Marist's all-time leading scorer.

Volleyball

Under the direction of Victor VanCarpels, the women's volleyball team closed out the season with a 22-23 record.