

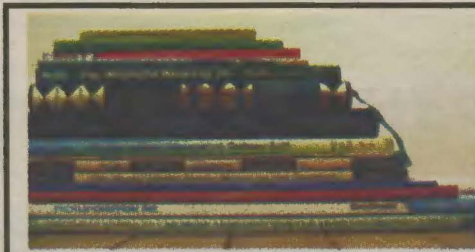
Mod'Spe Program joins Charlie Hebdo rally

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The Circle

The Student Newspaper of Marist College



VOLUME 69, ISSUE 8

FOUNDED IN 1965

Thursday, February 5, 2015

Junger's "Korengal" offers glimpse into war

BY ADRIANA BELMONTE

Opinion Editor

Last Thursday, students filled up the Nelly Golletti Theatre to see "Korengal," the latest war documentary from award-winning journalist, writer and filmmaker Sebastian Junger. A sequel to the Oscar-nominated "Restrepo," "Korengal" focuses on the emotions and experiences of the soldiers in combat.

The film featured in-depth interviews with several of the soldiers stationed at the Restrepo post in the Korengal Valley of Afghanistan. For some of the men, being overseas was better than being at home. "It's hard to talk about problems back home," said Specialist Miguel Cortez.

When asked what he will miss in Restrepo once he goes back home, another soldier said he'd miss shooting people, firefights and adrenaline rushes. There's nothing like a bullet whizzing by your head, according to him. Private Misha Pemble-Belkin added, "I'd rather be there [Restrepo] than here. I'd go back there now if I could."

While many of the soldiers enjoyed the combat and the adrenaline that came with it, others questioned the moral implications.

"I'm not religious or anything but for a moment, I thought God must hate me," Sergeant Brendan O'Byrne said. "That's the terrible part of war when you got to do terrible things and live with it afterwards. I hate being told 'you did what you had to do.' I didn't have to go in the Army. I didn't have to

become airborne infantry. I didn't have to do any of that, but I did. Is that what God's gonna say? 'You did what you had to do.' Punch you on the shoulder and say, 'Welcome to Heaven?' I don't think so."

While the common stereotype of soldiers is that they are stoic and emotionless, O'Byrne's interview proved that there are at least some who struggle with the consequences of war.

"I was inspired by the raw pre-

sentation of our troops—everything we didn't know and everything we thought we knew. Regardless of politics, Junger demonstrated the reality of war in a society that so often romanticizes it," sophomore Olivia Jacquith said. In the Q&A session following "Korengal," Junger stated that one of his intentions with his film was to show the true aspects of war, not how Hollywood portrays it. Junger was asked which films were most realistic in their portrayals of war, based on his experience in Afghanistan. He criticized "The Hurt Locker" and said that "American Sniper" had realistic combat but lacked the moral dimensions of killing. With "Korengal," audiences are able to see how each soldier handles killing, whether by celebrating or by maintaining their composure.

For Junger, his experience in war reporting has left his life forever altered. After the filming in Afghanistan, both he and Hetherington suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder. Before "Korengal" was



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIST PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Sebastian Junger's current award-winning war documentary features personal interviews with soldiers about their experiences in Afghanistan.

SEE "RELEASED," PAGE 3

Construction rekindles "Insta" hotspot

BY MICHAEL CONWAY

Circle Contributor

Marist is constantly changing and becoming more modern, while trying to keep in touch with its rich and storied past. The stone facade that encases some newer campus buildings is representative of the Hudson River Valley, paying homage to the area. Current renovations have focused on adding this now-exemplary stone design to buildings throughout campus.

This year's major renovations include the Rotunda, Lowell Thomas and a new science building that has just broken ground across Rt. 9, on the upperclassmen side of campus.

The Rotunda, a unique, picturesque and iconic part of the Marist campus has recently undergone a rather lengthy, yet much needed, face lift. The repairs went way beneath the surface of the building, however, as during construction several setbacks delayed the project.

Originally scheduled to be completed in fall of 2014, the project was prolonged and is nearly done at the beginning of spring semester.

"One underlying problem that the Rotunda construction faced was that we didn't know the full extent of the damage until we pulled off the entire facade," said Greg Cannon, Chief Officer of Public Affairs at Marist College.

Once seeing the extent of the damage, the construction team realized that the project would entail more work than they had originally planned.

"Once we understood the extent of the damage we were able to address the water damage and stone deterioration, which resulted in the stripping down and rebuilding of the structure," Cannon said.

"Weather was a minor factor in the rebuilding of the Rotunda, as things like freezing rain slowed the process down a little," he added.

SEE "THE DRASTIC," PAGE 3

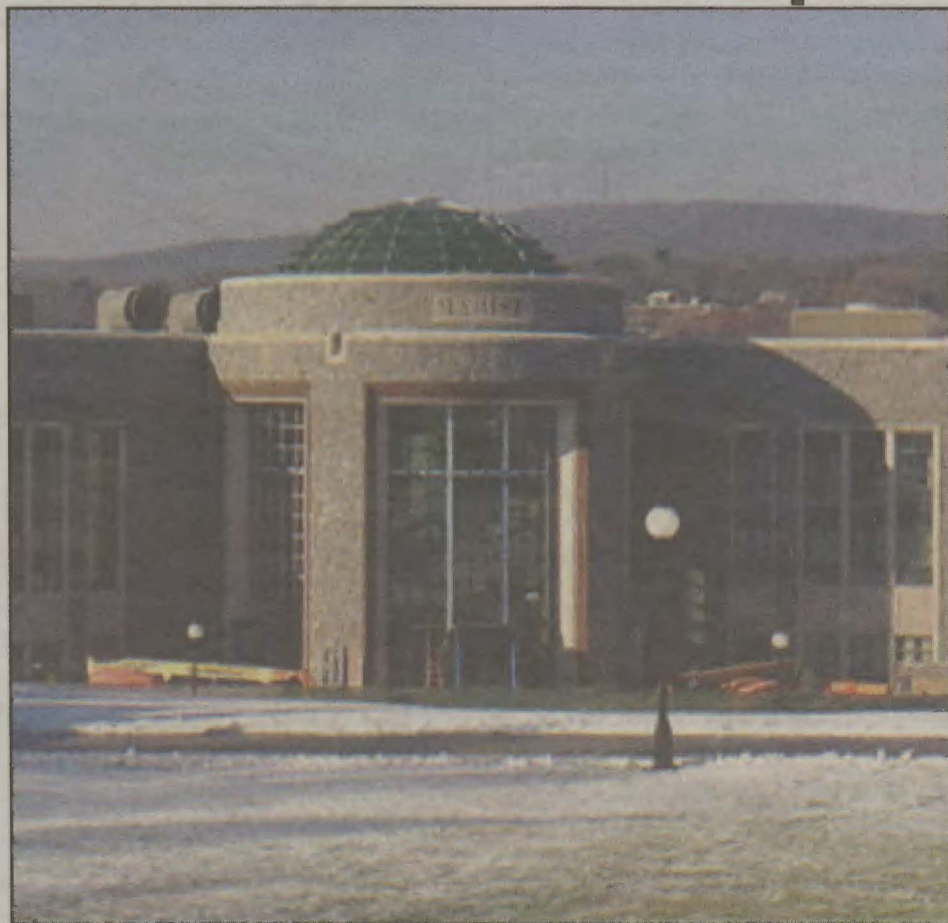


PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIST PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Marist community is very familiar with bustling sounds of machines working around campus. The iconic Rotunda is looking better and better each day.



Campus

Thursday, February 05, 2015

www.maristcircle.com

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THIS WEEK

Thursday, 2/5

Mentors in Violence Prevention
11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
SC 1207

Friday, 2/6

Men's Basketball v. Niagra
7:00 p.m.
McCann Center Arena

Friday, 2/6

"The Princess King" Auditions
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
SC 1205A

Friday, 2/6

SPC Movie: "Fury"
6:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.
SC 3101

Saturday, 2/7

SPC Movie: "Fury"
2:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, 2/7

Tau Beta Sigma Game Night
7:00 p.m.
MU 3202

Saturday, 2/7

Open Mic Night
8:00 p.m.
SC 3101

Wednesday, 2/11

Political Science Debate #1
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Cabaret



Letter from the Editor

If you've managed to shovel yourself out of last week's fake snow and the real fluffy white stuff on the ground now, congratulations! After two weeks of barely any classes, we would like to officially welcome you to the "spring" semester! Even though the groundhog has seen his shadow and granted us with six more weeks of winter... maybe we'll eventually have Monday classes.

It's going to take more than a little snow, though, to shut Marist down as the college has come back going full throttle.

In News this week, read up on the semesterly construction updates. Also, war correspondent and author of "The Perfect Storm" Sebastian Junger presented a screening of his new documentary "Korengal." Thinking internationally, hear about what happened at Charlie Hebdo in Paris and the

Marist students studying in Paris.

Over in Features, learn about the groups making a difference on campus from Project Taaluma to Teachers of Tomorrow. Also, find out how to be involved in the Senior Class Gift Campaign.

Feeling spring semester blues? Check out some helpful tips to survive the spring semester in Lifestyles. Maybe it's the vegetarian chili recipe provided by one student or some helpful hints from our advice columnist. Also, find out the happenings of Habitat for Humanity.

Opinion strikes a political note when a student explores Michelle Obama's decision to not wear a headscarf in Saudi Arabia. With the Super Bowl over, football fanatics are still up in arms over Tom Brady's deflated balls...controversy.

Over in A&E, Katy Perry's tiger had a roar that threw some air back into those oblong balls. With music on the mind, learn about one

student's experience trying out for American Idol.

Lastly, Sports highlights new freshman transfer from Wake Forest University Tony Romanelli. Also, check in on how the men's tennis team is doing this semester.

For all our Circle enthusiasts, you may notice we have a slightly new format. We have finally entered the 21st century using InDesign thanks to our Features Editor Shannon Bales.

So, good luck surviving freezing cold temperatures while you move your car from one side of Beck to the other probably until April. Therefore, we impart this wisdom: maintain hibernation weight, study hard and, of course, read the Circle.

- Amber Case
Managing Editor

- Katie O'Brien
Managing Editor

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The Circle

The Student Newspaper of Marist College

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Junger depicts realistic combat situations

From page one

released to the public, Hetherington was killed while reporting on the Civil War in Libya. It was his death that ended Junger's 20 year career as a war reporter, which started in 1993 with the Bosnian War. Junger realized how dangerous the job had become and was no longer willing to risk his life. Despite Hetherington's death, however, Junger believes that Syria is worse than

Libya, in terms of safety because journalists are deliberately targeted for propaganda. As a result, the number of freelance reporters has doubled because major news organizations do not want to risk the lives of their main journalists.

Despite labeling himself a liberal and revealing that he refused to cover Iraq because he felt he would not be objective, Junger has received mostly positive feedback in both the production and

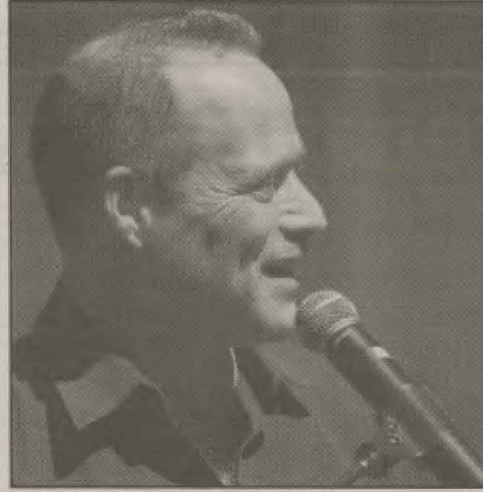


PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Junger captivates audience members with personal tales of the struggle of war and attempt at rectification.

release of "Korengal," especially from the men featured in the film. According to Junger, the military quickly agreed to allow Junger to film a battalion once he proved his credentials and never asked him to censor anything. This added to the integrity of Junger's work.

Marist gets a facelift for spring semester

From page one

"The drastic changes to the Rotunda include the new look, it was dated and had column wrapped in metal sheathing, the new stone facade and reconfigured entryways give it a more modern look, while including its heritage."

"The minor changes include the new flooring, trim, stairways and railings," added Cannon. Alongside the aesthetic changes, structural updates were a major part of the construction.

"We made these changes in order to make the building more structurally sound, although

refacing the building was the main point," said Cannon.

With the finishing touches being put on the building now the Rotunda will be competed shortly.

The Lowell Thomas Communication Center renovations were completed in the fall 2014. Being a two-phase project the building was under construction for quite a while. The first phase included the actual technology of the building.

"Also updated is the technology in Lowell Thomas, the building now includes better technology, media production studios, improved resources, control rooms and equipment," Cannon said.

The second phase of the proj-

ect included the new glass front of the building as well as some interior updates.

"As of the fall of 2014, the Lowell-Thomas building is completely finished," said Cannon. "The second phase of the construction is a new renovated top floor that includes more current standards. There are new windows, wood paneling and a more modern interior."

While Lowell Thomas is finished and the Rotunda nearly there, there are still some long-term projects in the works for Marist College.

The most recent project on the agenda is a new science building, which will sit on the Marist College campus extension on the other side of Rt.9.

"The new science building project has broken ground, near the Steel Plant studio, and the bridge near the upperclassmen housing," Cannon said. "A warehouse, used by the school for storage has been demolished, paved over, and a foundation has been dug."

With the project running smoothly we should see the steel structure by this March and then the completion of the building around this time next year.

"The new science building will house a PA (Physician's Assistant) program, which will be operational around May of 2016," said Cannon.

Fashion students march for Charlie Hebdo

BY GABRIELLA GAMBA

Staff Writer

Before setting off to spend an exciting two weeks in Paris, seven of Marist's fashion design students expected to delve into the fashion world while being immersed in authentic French culture. While they definitely got what they were hoping for, they experienced much more as well.

On Jan. 7, the second day of the winter intercession Mod'Spe Program, Islamic extremist terrorists attacked the offices of a political satire magazine called "Charlie Hebdo." 12 people, including cartoonists and editors, were killed, making this the largest terrorist attack in France since 1961. The magazine had put out an anti-Muslim cartoon, stirring the pot with extremists in France.

On the morning of the attack, the girls' trip guide went to their apartment to let them know what had happened.

"I looked into it and saw that it was legitimate, but I think that a lot of the girls who were there weren't really concerned until their friends and parents started texting them," sophomore Cara Benevenia said.

Jenna Dickinson, a sophomore, agreed. "I didn't feel unsafe at all, probably because I had no idea of how big an event it was,

or really what even happened until after the Je Suis Charlie gathering," Dickinson said.

She noted that she, the rest of the girls and the group leaders made points to stay in touch with friends and family at home and with each other as often as possible. Dickinson said that although their classes and sightseeing trips didn't allow them to think about the incident as much as they could have, they really all "grew so much closer in a time of tragedy." As the day went on and the news progressed, people began

to realize the severity of the attack. The city was on high alert, and security was everywhere.

"We weren't allowed to go into the city the day after the attack, and even a few days later, there were snipers guarding the Eiffel Tower," Benevenia said.

On Sunday, Jan. 11, the Mod'Spe girls joined nearly 4 million French civilians in a somber yet patriotic rally towards the Place de la République. According to Benevenia, people were waving French flags, and holding posters that supported Charlie Hebdo and freedom of

speech. The girls chanted along with the French saying, "Je Suis Charlie" meaning, "I am Charlie" to show their solidarity and support. Dickinson explained that it was called a "silent gathering" and that even though "it wasn't totally quiet, it was as if the world around you suddenly turned the volume down to low," even in the midst of so many people.

Both Benevenia and Dickinson agreed that being in Paris during this time enhanced their experience as a whole. Dickinson "was excited to experience a part of history firsthand." They were both in awe that some Parisians approached them, thanking them for being there and supporting the fight against terrorism. The girls also noted that it changed their outlook on terrorism.

"Before going to the gathering," said Dickinson, "I wouldn't have noticed how countries all over the world, not just the U.S., are fighting against terrorism."

Benevenia explained that, "although the attack wasn't as huge as something like 9/11, it was very serious, and it was amazing to see how much people can do to stop such an issue when they just come together for a cause."

She believes that if only 4 million people in France can have such a large impact, "the world can do big things."



PHOTO COURTESY OF GABRIELLA GAMBA

Protestors march with the French flag in the recent Je Suis Charlie protest against terrorism and the recent attack on magazine Charlie Hebdo.

Making a difference, one book at a time

BY MEGHAN JONES

Circle Contributor

The president of Marist's Teachers of Tomorrow organization, senior Kristen Mateja, spent all of last semester working with a young girl who only has one book at home. "It's 'Charlotte's Web', and she reads it over and over," said Mateja. "She knows the whole story."

This girl's situation made Mateja realize that college students "have so many leftover children's books... in [their] houses that are just collecting dust, and these kids would thrive so much from having them."

Teachers of Tomorrow, a club for students studying education, has over 150 members. "Teachers of Tomorrow...tries to make the majority of their events as a club community service related, because we're surrounded by so many school districts and...the City of Poughkeepsie's a pretty underprivileged area," said Mateja.

Teachers of Tomorrow runs the same several events every semester, including a Box Tops collection; "Princesses and Pirates," an event where children from the surrounding school district come to Marist for a Halloween party; and gift donations for the nearby Astor Home

for Children. "When we were preparing for this semester, we were trying to do something different, so that we didn't keep...repeating the same types of events," said Mateja. "We thought that a book drive would be pretty fun."

Aside from providing a new activity for the club to do, the book drive was also created as a way to help out in the local community. "We've had a lot of field work experiences... in the Poughkeepsie school district, so we've seen firsthand how hard it is to teach a class that has such little resources," said senior Kelly Stein, the club's webmaster.

Teachers of Tomorrow still did all of its usual events, but the book drive served as the main community service event for the fall 2014 semester. "Each of the club members was asked to bring in a minimum of two books," said Mateja. However, many students went above and beyond, bringing in 30 or 40 books.

The club did everything they could to collect as many books as possible. "We asked the faculty members, and put flyers up around Marist, and then we also paired with Dance Ensemble and asked them to put a box at their dance show at the end of the semester," said Mateja. "They donated a pretty big portion too."

The books were finally counted up at the end of the semester. The members of Teachers of Tomorrow were ecstatic to discover that they had collected over 1,000 books—1,266, to be exact. During finals week, Dec. 15-19, the books were given to several different organizations. "It's really exciting," said Stein. "They were so thankful, and it was wonderful to see their reactions."

The club divided 722 books between the five different Poughkeepsie elementary schools, as well as the Poughkeepsie Early Learning Center for preschoolers. They donated about 300 books to Poughkeepsie High School, including some SAT prep books. "There's a very high dropout rate in...Poughkeepsie High School," said Stein. The club hopes that these prep books will encourage more students to take standardized tests, finish high school, and try to get into college.

Almost 200 books were given to the R.E.A.L. Skills (Relationship Empowerment Affirmation Leadership) Network, a local after-school program run by Tree Arrington. Arrington promised that all of the books donated to the network would be given to the children as gifts. "A lot of their families can't

afford presents for the holidays," said junior Dani Schatz, the club's treasurer. "This is just something that they can open on Christmas morning."

Finally, about 70 books were given to the Marist College library. The library has a juvenile section, because education majors need children's books to help them practice creating lesson plans. The library had been low on kids' books, until now.

When the book drive started, no one in the club could have anticipated the success it would have. "We knew there were going to be outliers that brought a bunch, but we didn't expect anywhere near over a thousand," said Stein. Mateja agreed. "A lofty guess...would have been 500 books," she said. "I'm so happy. I'm really just excited about it." Stein believes that the book drive will "make a little bit of a difference and...give the kids a better education, honestly."

Mateja is happy knowing that the drive will be able to help children like the girl she worked with this semester. "The fact that these kids can now...even have one more book in their house...could make a big difference for them, and that's what we want to do," she said.

Murphy's struggles inspire a friendly foundation

BY CORINNA KAUFMAN

Circle Contributor

Jaclyn Murphy sat in the waiting room on the ninth floor of the hospital patiently waiting for her doctors. Floods of text messages poured onto her phone; which is unusual considering cancer patients lose friends. A little girl curiously turned to Murphy and asked who kept messaging her; she replied it was her friends at Northwestern. After the little girl left, Murphy turned to her father and said, "We need to get that girl a team."

This was the beginning of the Friends of Jaclyn Foundation whose mission is to help kids with brain tumors. These kids and their families are paired up with either a high school or college sports team to create a support network through these difficult times.

When Murphy was just 9 years old she began throwing up every morning for two weeks. Her parents started off thinking it was just a stomach bug, but quickly their opinion changed. Murphy lost her



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACLYN MURPHY
Northwestern University's Women's lacrosse team celebrates with Murphy.

sense of balance and coordination and something seemed "off." This resulted in her concerned parents taking her to Vassar Brothers Medical Center, and there she was misdiagnosed with anorexia.

"I was told I could go home when I stopped throwing up" says Murphy. After realizing she didn't have an eating disorder, a CAT scan was done which showed devastating results; the doctors wanted to tell the family in person which Mur-

phy says "is never a good sign." The tests showed that she had a malignant brain tumor the size of a golf ball.

Murphy had surgery that removed the majority of the tumor and underwent chemotherapy soon after. "I struggled with shortness of breath, balancing problems, hearing loss, my growth was stunted, I lost my hair, and went from 80 to 50 lbs." Despite having a 30 percent survival rate Murphy remained

positive, "I always thought I would get better." For children under the age of 18, brain tumors are one of the leading causes of death. Her family and support network are what allowed her to overcome this tough time.

Before she was sick, Murphy played lacrosse at a local gym with about 32 other kids (she was one of two girls) and her coach noticed a lot of potential. When she didn't come back for a while, her parents contacted him and let him know she was sick. "He wanted to do something for me with connections he had to Northwestern University's lacrosse team. They sent me a care package a few weeks later." They sent her a media guide with all their signatures and well wishes along with other goodies. The team was playing at Johns Hopkins University and Murphy begged her dad to take her to the game. He did and that was the first time she got to meet the team in the morning, then my dad at night, and they would switch off" explains Murphy.

SEE "TARYN", PAGE 5

From page four

Friends of Jaclyn expands from humble beginnings

Taryn was also too young to visit her sister in the hospital so she often stayed with family friends and neighbors. Their relationship is a lot stronger now that they both are older and Taryn thought it was important to provide support to siblings like her.

Looking at the list of teams involved is very impressive and there are over 500 currently on the list participating. "My dad was just at Pennsylvania State University adding their lacrosse and football teams." There are over a thousand teams on the waiting list for

Friends of Jaclyn.

Murphy has great advice for anyone dealing with a difficult situation like hers- she suggests taking one day at a time and connecting with people who will understand. Family is a great outreach but so are true friends. "I wish I involved

my close friends more in my life at that time" says Murphy who admits to not wanting them to see her so ill. The biggest piece of advice is to live by the motto "live in the moment, play in the moment" which she lives by every single day.

Students bring smiles to West African women and children

BY LAUREN ZAKNOUN

Circle Contributor

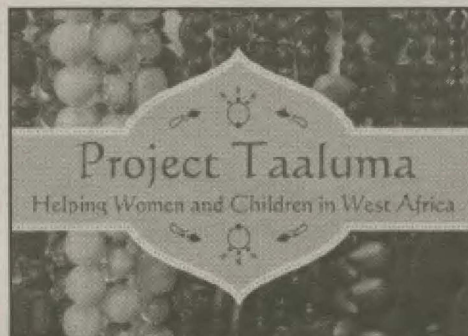
We're now well into the winter season and with the holidays now behind us, the less fortunate often fall out of sight and out of mind. After another year of strife in Africa including the Ebola crisis, Taaluma brings joy and peace of mind to some of the families struggling to make ends meet.

Taaluma is a company that operated primarily in Ghana and Togo dedicated to helping African women become self-sufficient. Based in France, they provide the education and training the women need to raise their families, earn their own livelihood and fund rescue and recovery efforts for victim of human trafficking, particularly child trafficking. Feeding the Orphans, a U.S.-based company founded by 10 year-old Sydney O'Leary, sells homemade jewelry, head wraps, purses, wallets, pocketbooks and a range of other products made by these women. Both of these companies are partnered closely together to "provide food, clean water, shelter, medication and education to Ghanaian families, as well as orphans and former child slaves."

On each individual piece of handmade merchandise is a tag with a woman's story. They range from mothers of several children whose husbands died or abandoned them to abuse victims looking to start their lives over and give their children the best chance for success that they can. For Marist senior Emma Christiantelli, this message hits close to home.

"[The mothers] hearts are their children," says Christiantelli.

Last fall, Christiantelli decided she didn't just want to do any old capping event. She wanted it to be meaningful and impactful. Lisa Finnegan, a close family friend of hers, is the president of Taaluma and mother of two children adopted from an orphanage in Ghana. And so, she teamed up with Taaluma and Feeding the Orphans to bring Project Taaluma to Marist. On Dec.



2, Christiantelli organized a sale in the Student Center. Attendants could enjoy the handmade wares, the stories attached right to them, delicious food and a pen pal exchange for the children from the village. Students were provided with stationary and stickers to send to the children with the option of providing their mailing address so the kids can reply.

The orphanage coordinator told Christiantelli that "the kids were ecstatic when she told them they're gonna be getting letters." Christiantelli has volunteered her own mailbox to any kids whose letters do not include a mailing address. "I want all the kids to have a chance to write back."

Christiantelli recently heard back about the arrival of the letters at the orphanage, reporting that "[the children] were all so excited!"

Emma Christiantelli was more than pleased with the turnout. With more than 55 attendant surveys with dozens more in attendance, 45 letters written, and over \$550 in profits, Christiantelli deems her capping project as an academic success and more importantly a personal success. All the money generated from the event will go towards generating an aquaponics farm in Ghana which is an efficient and environmentally friendly form of farming that can help make the village and the inhabitants more self-sufficient.

Because Taaluma and Feeding the Hungry are not particularly well known organizations, Christiantelli felt obligated to present them in the best manner possible by ensuring the event had a fantastic turnout. Because of all the work that's out into the organizations, Christiantelli feels that including the

women's stories "and how they got to Feeding the Orphans and how they're now talented seamstresses and jewelry makers and to show their progress" was an extremely important aspect of the project. "How far they've come and how far they'll go is phenomenal."

As a PR major, reaching out to people is Christiantelli's specialty. "Because I'm so passionate about Taaluma and Feeding the Orphans, I took any chance to talk about by project." Christiantelli produced her own specially printed fliers to market the event in a more professional way than the cheaper black and white fliers most people just make and copy in the library. To her excitement, even well after the date people have held onto their cards because they're so eye-catching. More than anything though, news traveled by word of mouth. "What I thought was most important was not pitching it like 'this is my event,' I wanted it to be more 'come see what these organizations do.'...they're changing the lives of these women and children every day."

As fairly well-off college students, many people are unaware of the daily hardships of life in such desolate places. "They don't understand that child slavery exists, they don't understand that if these women can't support their children, they're literally taken away from [the mothers] and put on fishing boats. I don't think we can grasp that idea because it seems so archaic.... We are sheltered over here."

The reaction to Project Taaluma was "overwhelmingly positive." From the letter writing to the merchandise, people were very impressed and enlightened by the cause. People commented that they were more aware about child slavery "the whole idea of holding something that was handmade by a woman who didn't know how to sew, how to boutique fabric, how to make jewelry... connected two communities. That was exactly what I was going for."

She doesn't deny that putting to-

gether the entire event was challenging but "I would do it again in a heartbeat." Now that she's established this connection between the organizations and Marist, Christiantelli feels it's only right to keep following the thread. She's been talking with Finnegan about possibly making a trip out to Ghana together with the girls she adopted who go back every so often see their friends and birthplace. "Right now I'm very removed...but if I was able to go and meet the women, shake their hands, meet their kids! I would be so happy."

A small part of Project Taaluma's success was the season of giving. Many of the attendants bought things not just for themselves but as gifts for others. The organization has a website from which people can make their purchases. "It means more than something you'd buy from a corporation because you know the hard work that went into it and the mission behind it and what it's doing for the families out there." However, items are created year round and sold online so anyone looking for meaningful gifts with a real story behind them can look no further.

As for the immediate future, Christiantelli is committed to spreading the word about Taaluma and Feeding the Orphans.

"The opportunities are endless," Christiantelli said.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF EMMA CHRISTIANTELLI

How to successfully swing into second semester

BY GABRIELLA GAMBA

Staff Writer

Just as quickly as it arrived, winter break has come to an end. Now, as we are nearing the end of January 2015, we find ourselves starting yet another semester.

As college students, we are constantly running from place to place, trying to fit the gym, work and socializing in between our heavy class schedules and workloads. Winter break, however, tends to move at a much slower, more relaxing pace.

Sophomore Michelle LaGrutta said, "Aside from working while I was home, it was really nice to get away from the stress of classes and just be able to relax with my friends."

Since students often find it easier to fall out of the fast-paced school lifestyle than to fall back into it, it may be difficult for some people to get back into the swing of things at the beginning of second semester.

In order to beat the back-to-school struggle and make your transition into the new semester smooth and successful, try following these five tips.

Tip 1: Get Your Textbooks. Before you get back to school, be sure to check the Marist bookstore, Chegg, and Amazon to find the best prices for your textbooks. Try to order them either before classes

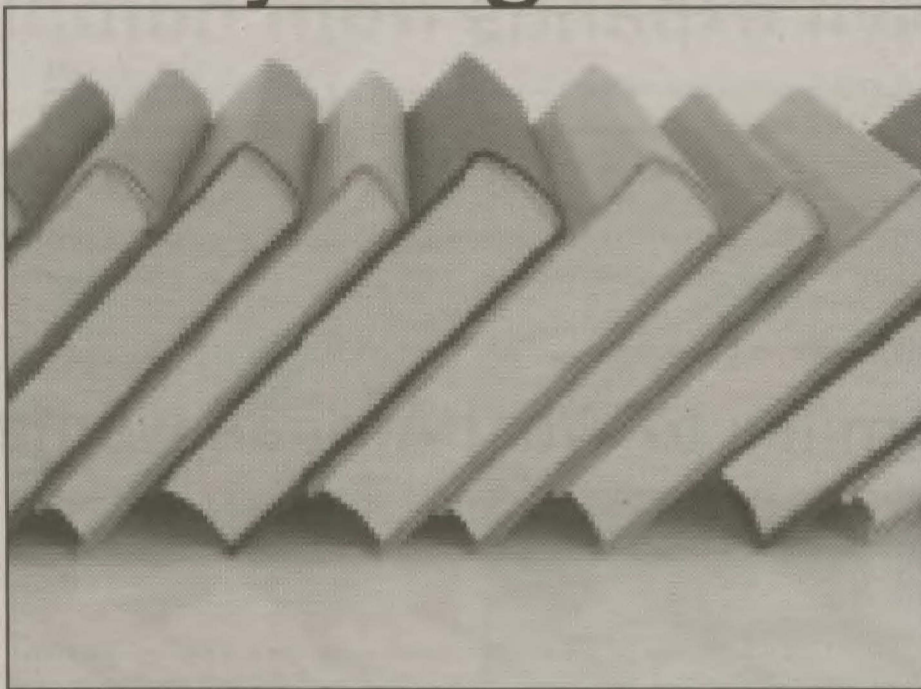


PHOTO COURTESY OF TEXTBOOKACE.COM

In order to have a smooth transition into second semester, get your textbooks, get organized, look through your iLearn account, make a new routine and nix Netflix.

start, or within the first week of classes to ensure that you start off the semester ready to complete any homework that your professors may assign.

Tip 2: Get Organized. Make sure that you are prepared with all of the textbooks, notebooks and other supplies that you might need for your classes. Go into the first day of the semester prepared to take notes or write down any important

points that your professors need you to remember. This will not only allow you to get a good start for yourself, but also allow your professor to notice that you came ready and responsible on the first day.

Tip 3: Check iLearn. Although some professors may not put their iLearn sites up over break, it is still important that you check. A few days before coming back to school, take a minute to

look online to see if any iLearn sites are up for your new classes. If they are, read through the syllabi to get a sense of what your classes are going to be like.

Tip 4: Make a Routine and Stick to It. Although your initial instinct is to spend the first week back staying up late and waking up even later, try to get into a daily routine as soon as possible. Definitely set aside time to go out and see friends, but first and foremost, check your schedule. See when your classes are and when you will have time to fit everything else – the gym, club meetings and meals – in, and start to follow that schedule almost immediately.

Tip 5: Get Netflix Out of Your System. If you are like most college students, you're going to spend a majority of your time over break watching an entire series (or two) of a popular television show on Netflix. That's perfectly fine, but we all know how distracting Netflix can be when we have tons of work to do during the semester. In order to avoid mid-semester Netflix procrastination, feel free to challenge yourself to finish that series over winter break so that when you get back, you have one less distraction.

By following these five tips, you will be sure to make a smooth, painless and successful transition from your relaxing month-long break.

Charity on campus: Habitat for Humanity

BY SHANNON DONOHUE

Lifestyles Editor

How often do you complain about your housing assignment here on campus? There's a hole in the wall, the heat doesn't work, stinkbugs are everywhere - the list goes on. What we don't realize is that people around the world, even here in Poughkeepsie, would be thrilled to have the housing conditions that we do.

Right now in the U.S., there are about 48.5 million people living at or below the poverty line. The National Center on Family Homelessness says that the housing crisis here has reached "epidemic proportions."

Worldwide, there are 827.6 million people living in urban slums, a number that is expected to reach 1 billion by 2020. That means that within the next six years, about one in every seven people on earth will not have a safe place to sleep at night.

If you are familiar with Maslow's hierarchy of needs, you know that one of the basic human necessities in order to live a fulfilling life is shelter. This means that if millions of people do not have housing, they cannot achieve greater aspects of life such as an education, a career or contribute to society in any other way.

Eradicating the global housing crisis would contribute to a more vibrant global economy and a better quality of life for the entirety of the world's population.

Habitat for Humanity International is an organization determined to alleviate the global housing crisis. They have chapters all over the world, including 1,400 in the U.S. and 70 worldwide in countries such as Ethiopia, Serbia, Haiti and Cambodia. The organization has built over 800,000 houses worldwide, helping about 4 million people. In order to build these houses, Habitat relies on volunteer labor and donations from partner organizations and people like you.

According to Charity Navigator, Habitat for Humanity has a 97 percent score in terms of accountability and transparency. A majority of the organization's proceeds (about 85 percent) goes to its building programs. It spends 11 percent on fundraising programs while the other four percent is designated for administrative costs.

Every year since 2009, the organization's total revenue has been millions of dollars less than its expenses, meaning that they desperately need your donations and volunteer work now more than ever.

Marist has its own Habitat chapter right here on campus,

run by students and supported by students. Joining the club allows you to attend monthly meetings, participate in fun events and fundraisers, and attend an actual build in the surrounding area. The chapter also takes part in the annual collegiate challenge, an event in which students have the opportunity to travel across the country and spend their spring break building and repairing houses with Habitat for Humanity. You can join the Marist chapter of Habitat by signing up at the activities fair at the beginning of

each semester or by coming to one of the monthly meetings and speaking with the student board.

"It's an amazing organization that helps so many wonderful families...I have really seen what a difference we can make in the world. Everyone should have a roof over their head," said student president Christine Venuti.

Consider joining Habitat and remember how fortunate you are to have a roof over your head as snowy winter weather approaches.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHANNON DONOHUE

Marist's chapter of Habitat for Humanity recently did a build in the local Dutchess area. The picture above shows the fruits of their labor.

College cooking: Vegetarian chili

BY SOPHIA BRANA

Circle Contributor

Those of us who have moved into the on-campus townhouses this year have found ourselves in a position of balancing classes, activities, jobs, and now the added need to cook for ourselves. Finding the time to prepare and cook healthy meals while dealing with classes and college life can seem like a daunting task. Luckily, there are countless easy and inexpensive recipes that are perfect for the busy college student on a budget.

VEGETARIAN CHILI

Total Time: 30 min.

Ingredients:

- 2 cans crushed tomatoes
- ½ can beer (optional)
- 2 green peppers
- 2 carrots
- 2 stalk of celery
- 2 peeled white onions
- 1 can red beans
- 1 tbs. olive oil
- chili powder (to taste)

Instructions:

1. Cut and peel all vegetables.
2. Add olive oil to a small pot and lightly grill peppers, carrots, celery, and onions.
3. Add crushed tomatoes, red beans, beer, and chili powder to the mix.

4. Heat on low to medium, stirring periodically until mixture is hot throughout.

Enjoy your delicious chili and check back weekly for more easy and healthy recipes!

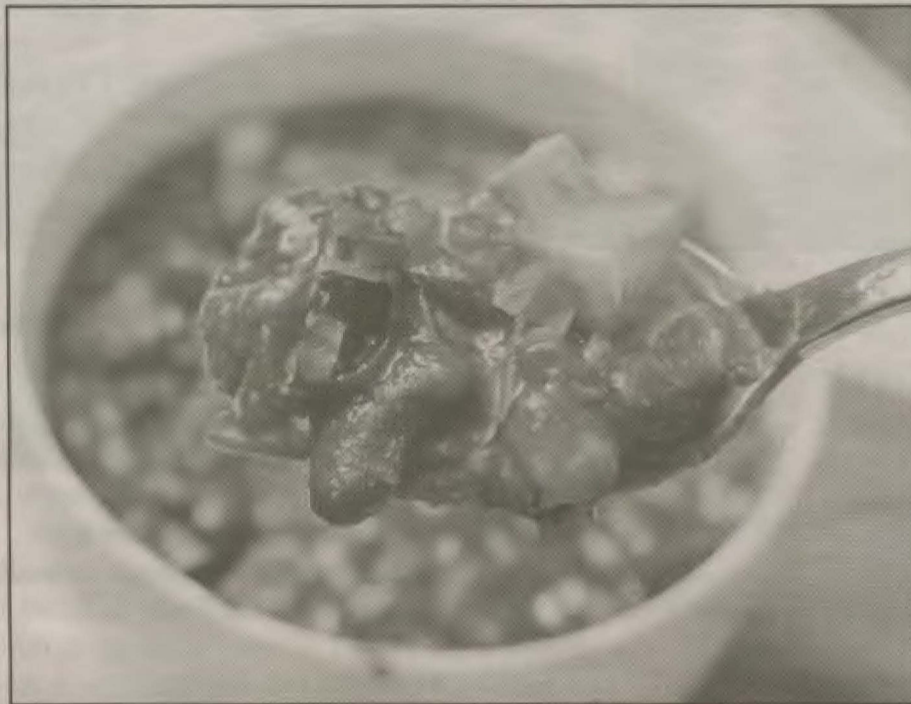


PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

Chili is a healthy and nutritious meal that you can eat for lunch or dinner!

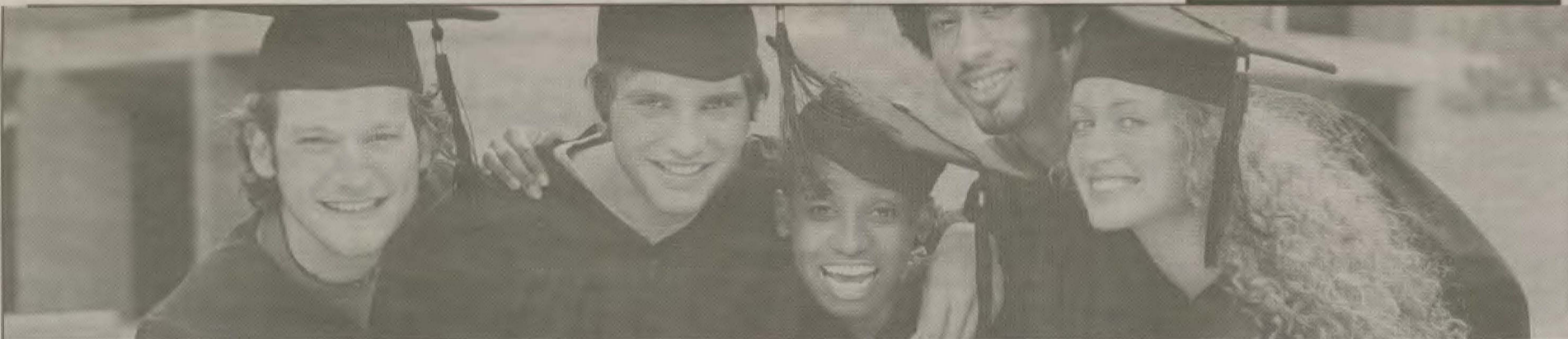
Dear Penelope,

My roommate has been having her boyfriend sleep over a lot recently. Every once in a while used to be fine, but now it is almost every night. I really like him, but I'm starting to feel uncomfortable. My roommate and I are really close so I don't know how to tell her without making her mad at me. Please help! Sincerely,
Rotten Roommate

Dear Rotten Roommate,

Let me start by saying that I think most girls would feel uncomfortable in this situation. Unfortunately, conversations regarding boyfriends when two girls are sharing a room are often very awkward. However, I think addressing your roommate as soon as possible is best so that negative emotions and tensions do not build up over time. I would preface the conversation with your roommate by saying that you really like her and her boyfriend but you wonder if it would be at all possible to split the time they sleep at your place and his more evenly. If you are worried that your roommate or her boyfriend may react in the wrong way, speak with your housemates and see if any of them are open to talking to her as more of a third party looking in at the situation.

~Penelope



What are your plans after graduation?

Graduate Programs

- Business Administration (M.B.A.)*
- Business Analytics (Certificate)*
- Communication (M.A.)*
- Computer Science (M.S.) Software Development*
- Education (M.Ed.)
- Educational Psychology (M.A.)*
- Information Systems (M.S.)*
- Information Systems (Certificate)*
- Integrated Marketing Communication (M.A.)*
- Mental Health Counseling (M.A.)
- Museum Studies (M.A.)**
- Physician Assistant Studies (M.S.)
- Public Administration (M.P.A.)*
- School Psychology (M.A.)

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Think MARIST

Stop ballbusting the Patriots over Deflategate

BY DAN IPPOLITO

Circle Contributor

The deflategate “conspiracy” has become one of the biggest stories in professional football and should not be taken seriously. It seems to be just another reason for people to hate the New England Patriots and especially Bill Belichick, the head coach of the Patriots. People need to stop trying to find reasons to explain why the Patriots win games, other than the fact that they have proved themselves to be a Super Bowl-winning caliber team.

Some say the Patriots cheated in the AFC Championship Game against the Indianapolis Colts in mid-January. The statistic that really caught my attention was that the Patriots outscored the Colts 28-0 in the second half and only 17-3 in the first half. Several sources revealed that the balls in the second half were correctly inflated and approved.

So what doesn't make sense is that the Patriots played better in the second half with the correct balls, than in the first half

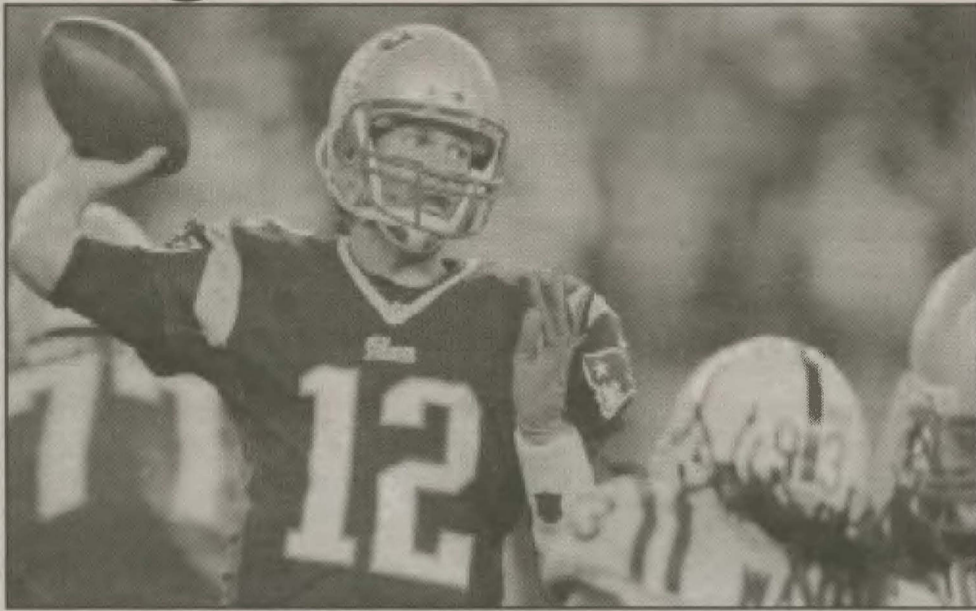


PHOTO COURTESY OF NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO

Tom Brady and the New England Patriots have come under fire for Deflategate.

with the so-called deflated balls.

There is another example to prove that the Patriots were not cheating and that this entire Deflategate commotion is just for the hype. The footballs under investigation in the first half were also approved by the referees who were officiating the game that night according to both ESPN.com and NFL.com. If the footballs passed the pre-game inspection, then how can that be the

Patriots' fault? It isn't their fault because they still won the game 45-7. There shouldn't have to be any more proof than the score itself. If a team is really going to outplay their opponent so badly, then having footballs deflated by a pound or two is going to make no difference. Beating the Seattle Seahawks in the Super Bowl is enough to back up that statement. The Patriots proved they clearly were the best team by beating the

supposed best defense in football, to be awarded the Lombardi Trophy as World Champions.

I am clearly a Patriots fan, but that doesn't affect my opinion on the matter because I have the statistics to back up my case. The entire Deflategate “conspiracy” has become a joke not only to Patriots fans but to NFL fans. They have recognized these statistics and realized how the Patriots were clearly the better team and that nothing was going to change the outcome of that game. Some say the New England Patriots are the most hated team in football because they are cheaters. The Patriots were found guilty of the Spygate incident in 2007, but this has nothing to do with that. Ever since that incident the Patriots have been a fair team and a talented football organization.

Deflategate should be in the past because the Patriots did nothing wrong or anything that would change the outcome of the AFC Championship. I'm done hearing about Deflategate now that they won the Super Bowl.

Veilgate: A political, not fashion choice

BY ROSE SHANNON

Staff Writer

There are moments in the political atmosphere, when a fashion faux pas becomes international news.

Last week, President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama were in the Middle Eastern Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to honor the passing of the late King Abdullah.

The faux pas occurred when Michelle Obama did not wear a headscarf during this short visit. She did, however, dress conservatively, with her legs and arms completely covered. Her head remaining uncovered caused much attention, as many said it was not right that Mrs. Obama was covered during a recent trip to Indonesia, but not in Saudi Arabia.

This situation, dubbed “Veilgate,” is more than just about the first lady not covering her head. This is not about fashion; this is political. From a public relations standpoint, Michelle Obama wearing a headscarf in one Muslim majority country and then not wearing one in another within weeks of each other does not look good. Yes, it is very important to honor a country's unique culture when visiting, especially

if you are the wife of the President of the United States. But, before the white House calls in Olivia Pope, there are a few aspects to this situation to consider.

First, although Saudi women have to be covered at all times as part of the kingdom's strict sexist dress code, foreigners are not required to do the same, as the Associated Press (AP) reported.

Second, Mrs. Obama is following in the footsteps of other first ladies, Laura Bush and Hillary Clinton, both of whom have opted out of wearing a headscarf. German Chancellor Angela Merkel has also chosen during visits to

go uncovered. All three women have made multiple visits to the kingdom, both covered and uncovered. Perhaps the next time the Obamas visit, Michelle will want to cover up, but maybe not. Due to this loophole, Mrs. Obama did not break any Saudi law or go against Saudi culture

The first lady's attire also sparked a discussion about Saudi women and that is the bigger issue here. There has been discussion about whether the first lady going uncovered could be read as a feminist action- was she trying to tell the world that the treatment of women in this kingdom was un-

fair? This self-proclaimed feminist would like to believe so.

Mrs. Obama was standing up for the millions of voiceless Saudi women. Michelle Obama went uncovered, something Saudi women are not allowed to do in under any circumstance. As the AP wrote, “For first lady Michelle Obama, just a few hours in Saudi Arabia were enough to illustrate the stark limitations under which Saudi women live.”

The lives of Saudi women are dictated by restrictions resulting from a strict understanding of Islamic Sharia law, Wahhabism.

Under Wahhabism, women have to be completely covered, are infamously banned from driving, and need a man's permission to travel, marry, obtain an education and have specific surgeries. These are things American women and women around the world take for granted. By not wearing a headscarf, Michelle Obama silently made her opinion about women's rights in the Arabic world very clear. She is a modern woman and all modern women want to see young girls around the world grow up in societies that respect and value women, where “girl power” is always fashionable.

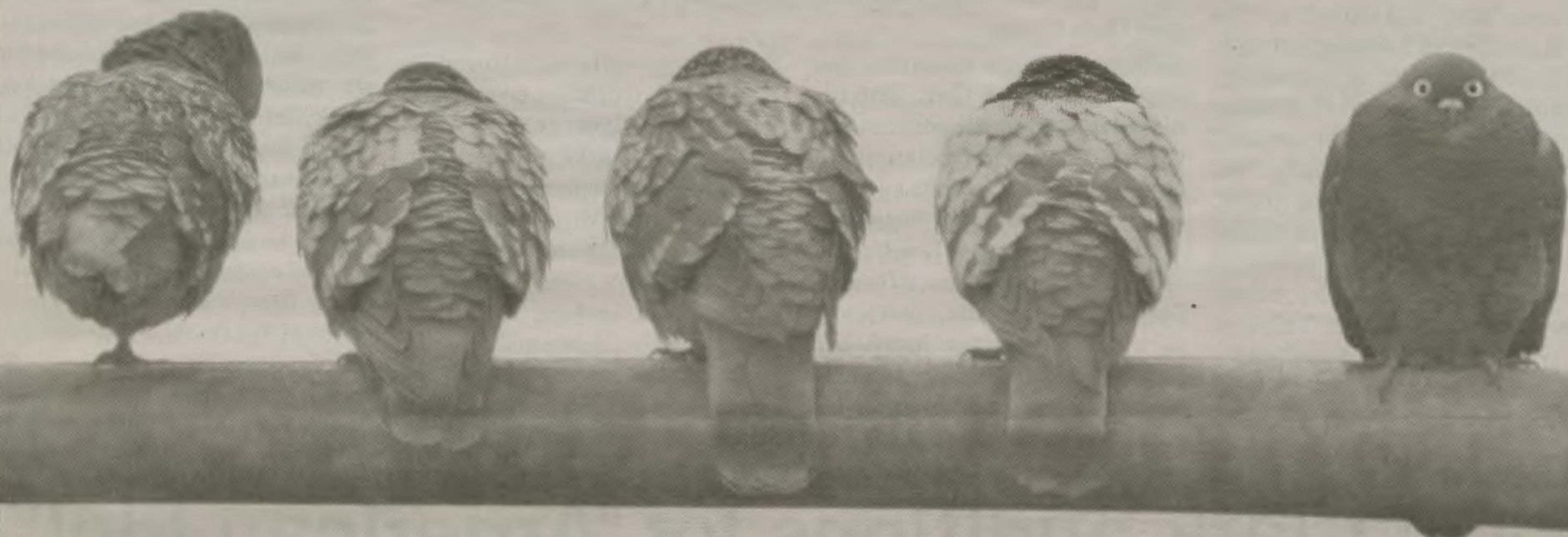


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HUFFINGTON POST

Michelle Obama's decision to forgo a headscarf on her recent trip to Saudi Arabia sparked a debate over whether or not to follow customs in foreign countries.

dude!

fly *the* **coop!**



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INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAMS

Katy Perry elevates her status at halftime show

BY MALLIKA RAO

Staff Writer

Many are still talking about that controversial winning pass made by Malcolm Butler and the bizarre fight that followed during this year's Super Bowl. Unfortunately that seemed to interfere with Katy Perry's fabulous halftime performance, which is—let's face it—the part of the annual tournament that everyone looks forward to the most. Still, Perry did not disappoint with her usual sexy, kooky fun.

She opened with her girl power anthem "Roar" and roared onto the field in a Trojan horse-styled tiger sculpture wearing a flamed-out costume reminiscent of Katniss Everdeen in the "Hunger Games." Jennifer Lawrence clearly got a run for her money that night.

A band of horses then came out for "Dark Horse," in a spectacle that could top the Beijing Olympics' Opening Ceremony. This was cleared out to introduce guitar god (and "Hunger Games" alum) Lenny Kravitz who performed a decidedly more family-friend-

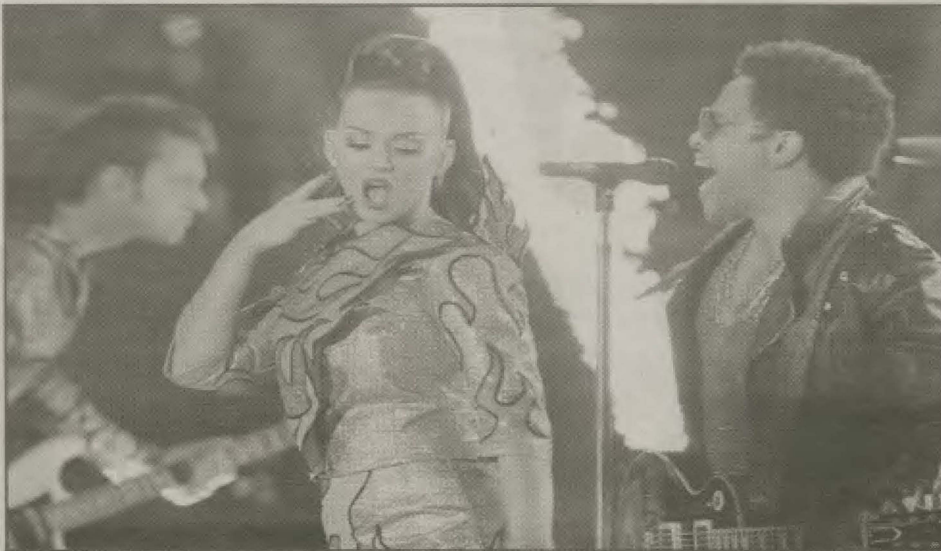


PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

Katy Perry dressed in her flame outfit singing "I Kissed a Girl" alongside special guest Lenny Kravitz.

ly duet of Perry's titillating first single "I Kissed A Girl." The two rocked it out, but the performance was slightly underwhelming given the hype over Kravitz as a special guest during the festivities.

Palm trees and beach balls emerged for the song "Teenage Dream" which she performed in a two-piece latex beach ball ensemble with sharks as her back-up dancers. She followed with her popular summer anthem, "California Gurls." Rapper

Snoop Dogg—who is featured on "California Gurls"—even joked during the show that he was one of the sharks, in a tweet.

The biggest surprise was the return of rapper Missy Elliot, who had fallen off the radar in recent years in spite of countless rumors of new music. Looking better than ever in combat boots and a leather jacket, the rap veteran got her "freak on" with Perry during performances of her songs, "Work It" and "Lose Control." Missy could

be in for a comeback in 2015, as sales of her music went up exponentially on Spotify shortly after the performance. For this performance, Perry stormed out in a bedazzled football jersey.

Her final costume change was a star-powered dress that she donned for a moving performance of her hit "Firework." Perry was hoisted up on a platform with a big shooting star on top and lifted across the stadium as fireworks (what else?) blasted outside.

Like many of her fellow pop stars, Katy Perry is often dismissed for making insubstantial music and having less-than-powerful vocals. Still, the critics were silenced for one night as Perry brought her quirky energy to the biggest concert of the year. Her act may not have pleased everybody watching; however she did not let her fanbase down and even brought some new fans into the picture as well.

Katy Perry's show will certainly increase her fandom even though she is currently the most-followed celebrity on Twitter, with 64.5 million followers and shows no signs of slowing down.

Ryan Clark auditions for "American Idol"

BY DANIEL ABRAMSON

Circle Contributor

Ryan Clark might seem like your average sophomore on campus, but he is far from it. It was for this reason why I decided to interview the 19-year-old marketing major, who is a singer-songwriter who tried out for American Idol. He started off by telling me about his experience on the day he tried out this past summer.

He arrived to his audition bright and early to a humongous line. There were cameras interviewing people, producers judging at different booths and a lot of waiting. Clark did not get to audition until 9 hours after he got to Nassau Coliseum on Long Island.

He told me how he met a bunch of incredibly talented people during the long wait. He made a group of friends and before they all auditioned, they said a big prayer to help lift their spirits and push them to do their best. Out of those 10, just Ryan and one other person made it past the producers. This experience greatly impacted Ryan moving forward.

"This is what I want to do for a career," he stated.

He knew before Idol that he

wanted to pursue his dream of becoming a musician while simultaneously obtaining a degree, but his American Idol experience helped him even further along.

"American Idol tied the ropes and made it more believable for me to go after my dreams," said Clark. The experience gave him hope that one day he could make it in the business.

For his future goals, Clark is putting more music and content on his YouTube channel. He is trying to become more popular as an artist and he is using the Internet

as his biggest asset. He currently manages himself and has a team that helps him record music in different studios and produce videos right here on campus.

"I want to keep working with the same team because they are incredibly talented," he stated, "I couldn't do it without them."

Clark wants to grow as an artist and he continues to research how to become more popular. He has learned to stay humble and stay true to himself for his own sake moving forward. Now he realiz-

es that his dreams can come true, but there is always room for improvement. With constant practice and preparation, he knows that he can always get better.

He wants to continue playing shows, realizing the importance of being a good studio musician as well as a good live musician. When playing music, Clark realizes he needs to provide entertainment value to those listening to him.

As for Idol, he's coming back next year to try out. Just a year later, with even more drive and goal in mind, it may make the difference for him moving forward in the competition. For now, he has been releasing content on YouTube and each cover song getting more popular than the next.

His last video was a cover of "Wonderwall" by Oasis, which received about 2,500 plays in its first day. Clark also plans to release an album of covered songs on iTunes, find other musicians to collaborate with, create some original material and continue to find new gigs to play at both in Poughkeepsie and in his hometown of Queensbury, NY.

Make sure to check out Ryan Clark's music and social media accounts on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RYAN CLARK FACEBOOK PAGE

Ryan Clark posing outside of the "American Idol" audition room with his guitar.

Men's tennis looks to keep dominating MAAC

BY NIKOLAS DOBIES

Staff Writer

With the new year comes another new season for the Marist men's tennis team. The Red Foxes were selected second in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Preseason Coach's Poll behind Monmouth marking the first time in eight years the Red Foxes were not picked first.

Monmouth is returning five of their top six players while the Red Foxes have a lot of young players who look to step up and fill the shoes of four seniors that departed after last season.

"Seedings and polls are what other people think of you. Production and results are what you think of yourselves. I truly believe we can be competitive with every team in the MAAC and I look forward to playing all the teams," said head coach Tim Smith.

So far the team has faced some tough competition in nationally ranked number 29 Harvard, a tough Binghamton team and a good Bryant team. The Red Foxes were competitive in all three matches, and were able to earn a victory against Harvard at fifth singles with freshman Timo Tanzer winning the match 4-6, 6-3, 10-8.

"I'm very proud and pleased with the way our entire team performed. There were a lot of long points and the guys never gave up, this was an exciting start against the #29 team in the country," Smith said. "Our doubles are still a work in progress but this group of guys are eager to learn and I feel that we are going to peak come MAAC tournament time."

In their second match of the season, Marist came up just short against Binghamton in a 4-3 de-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIST MEN'S TENNIS

The Red Foxes look to continue their reign over MAAC foes. Marist was not picked first in the MAAC Preseason Poll for the first time in eight years.

feat, but won two out of three doubles matches. Joe Motta and Fredrik Bjerke defeated Binghamton's Sid Hazarika and Ismael Dinia 6-4, while Rudolf Kurtz and Joseph Dube teamed up to take down Binghamton's Thomas Caputo and Vihar Shah 6-2. The other victories for the Red Foxes came in singles with the triumphs of Rudolph Kurtz and Justin Chanthalangsy.

In the third match of the season Marist defeated Bryant, the reigning Northeast Conference Champions, and earned their first victory of the spring season by a 5-2 score. The Red Foxes pulled out two victories in doubles and five total singles victories. Fredrik Bjerke and Joe Motta defeated Bryant's Oliver Welsh and Ernesto Arguello 6-4 while Justin Chanthalangsy and Matteo Guidici earned a hard fought 7-6 (3) win over Bryant's team of Matt Kuhar and Richard Sipala. In singles Joseph Dube, Timo Tanzer, Justin Chanthalangsy and Matteo Guidici

all picked up wins for the Red Foxes.

"This season I expect the team to perform and behave the way we have for the past two weeks. I am very proud of our team we have fought for every point in each match so far. Our ultimate goal is to win the MAAC and go to the NCAA tournament and I am confident we can achieve [just that]," said Guidici, the team's captain.

The Red Foxes return to Poughkeepsie to face Big East powerhouse Georgetown, but with matches already played against high-level competition, Marist will be up for the challenge.

"I have seen the best attitude I have had on the team in eight years which will help us grow and compete during the season," Smith said.

The team has already showed that they can remain focused throughout the season in order to achieve the ultimate goal, being the last team standing at the end of the MAAC tournament.

Regular Season Schedule:

Feb. 7: Georgetown, 11 a.m.

Feb. 20: @ Army, 5 p.m.

Mar. 7: @ Yale, 9 a.m.

Mar. 8: @ FDU, 9 a.m.

Mar. 28: @ Fairfield, 2 p.m.*

Mar. 30: vs. Rider 3 p.m.*

Mar. 31: vs. Hofstra 2 p.m.

Apr. 1: vs. St. John's 3:30 p.m.

Apr. 7: vs. Quinnipiac, 3 p.m.*

Apr. 10: vs. St. Peter's, 3:30 p.m.*

Apr. 11: vs. NJIT 12 p.m.

Apr. 13: vs Siena 3:30 p.m.*

Apr. 15: @ Monmouth, 3 p.m.*

Apr. 18: @ Niagara, 12 p.m.*

*Conference Games

Romanelli comes home to the Hudson

From page twelve

career. The coaching staff seemed great, and I just thought it was an all-around great fit for me," Romanelli said.

An important factor that led to Romanelli transferring to Marist was the fact that he is already comfortable with the area.

"I am very exciting to be able to play where I have been playing my whole life," Romanelli said. "It's nice to be able to continue right where you left off with your family and friends around to support you. Being here, I feel very comfortable and I think that all of these factors will play in

to my success here at Marist."

Once Marist and Wake Forest finish working out the details that will allow Romanelli to play during this upcoming spring season, Romanelli expects to benefit from a lot of playing time.

Marist is hoping that the addition of Romanelli will greatly improve a pitching staff that struggled in 2014. Every single starting pitcher on the Red Fox roster had an ERA that was worse than 4.00, and the only pitcher that posted a winning record was then-freshman Sean Keenan (4-1), who started just 3 games while appearing in 14. Finishing with a 17-32 overall

record and a 10-14 record in the MAAC, Marist definitely has room for improvement in 2015.

Although the Red Foxes were already excited about this upcoming season, the players believe that the addition of Romanelli will provide Marist with the extra edge that they needed to bounce back and have a great turnaround season.

The players are "very excited to have Tony as a part of the team," sophomore pitcher Tyler Dearden explained. "He is a great guy on and off the field with a lot of talent." With the addition of Romanelli, Dearden is very confident about the upcoming season, saying "getting a player from an

ACC organization is very exciting. If everyone performs to the level they are capable of, Marist baseball can accomplish anything."

Romanelli, along with the nine other new freshmen recruits should prove to be very important in the Red Foxes' return to MAAC dominance.

Marist opens the 2015 season in two weeks with a three-game series in Charlottesville, Virginia against another prominent ACC team, the University of Virginia. The first game will be Friday, Feb. 20, which will be followed by one game each on both Saturday and Sunday.

Marist baseball welcomes ace Romanelli

BY BEN HAYES

Circle Contributor

Tony Romanelli is coming home. Romanelli, a coveted prospect who grew up just 25 minutes from Marist, has transferred from Wake Forest to Marist College to play baseball.

Having grown up in the Hudson Valley, Romanelli has been recognized as an elite starting pitcher in the area as early as his sophomore year of high school.

Back in 2012, after the completion of his sophomore year and second varsity baseball season where he posted a 6-3 record with an impressive 0.41 ERA and 75 strikeouts in just 51 innings, MSG Varsity writer, Kevin Devaney Jr. labeled Romanelli as "Section 1's brightest baseball star" and "among the elite on the East Coast."

Devaney could not have written truer words at the time. In fact, going into his senior season at Beacon High School, Romanelli was listed by National Prospect as the fourth best pitcher on the entire East Coast. Romanelli certainly lived up to the pre-season hype, pitching Beacon High School to the Section 1 Class A quarterfinals with 7-0 record and a 0.57 ERA. In 49 innings, Ro-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL WALLACE

Local superstar pitcher Tony Romanelli (Beacon, N.Y.) is returning to the Hudson Valley this semester. Romanelli, a freshman, transferred from Wake Forest.

manelli allowed just 21 hits, while striking out a whopping 81 batters.

As a true freshman, the 6'2" left-handed pitcher is expected to be a dominant figure at the helm of the Marist pitching staff and have an immediate impact.

Wake Forest received a verbal commitment from Romanelli to play collegiate baseball shortly after he completed his outstanding

sophomore season. As expected, Romanelli then proceeded to officially commit to the ACC powerhouse.

However, coaching changes discouraged Romanelli from wanting to play for the Demon Deacons. Former Wake Forest pitching coach Dennis Healy, who happens to have also been the head coach at Marist from 2005-2009, played a major role in recruiting Romanelli

to sign with the Demon Deacons.

Romanelli and Healy formed a close bond, and Healy was a big factor in Romanelli's decision to commit to Wake Forest. The Demon Deacons decided to release Healy from their coaching staff during the summer and signed former Missouri pitching coach, Matt Hobbs, to replace him.

Romanelli was able to maintain his full scholarship and played for Wake Forest the entire fall, but did not feel as comfortable playing for the Demon Deacons as he once did. Despite still being on the active roster for Wake Forest going into the spring season, Romanelli decided that he wanted to transfer.

When asked why he chose to transfer to Marist, Romanelli explained that it was the best choice for him to make.

"Marist was always a school that I found interest in," said Romanelli. "Being that it was so close to home, I knew so much about [Marist]." Although Romanelli also considered Hofstra and Fordham, he said that Marist was his clear-cut favorite.

"When I decided that I was leaving, I felt that Marist would be the best move for me in my baseball

SEE "ROMANELLI", PAGE 11

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