

Marist Brothers form global support network

By KRISTEN ALLDREDGE
Health Editor

"I know with the tsunami I lost my future, my hope to become something in life," writes Dilath, a young Sri Lankan boy who attended a Marist school destroyed by the tsunami.

Dilath is among the many students who attended Holy Cross, a Marist Brothers school located near the shore in Sri Lanka. The Marist Brothers in Poughkeepsie are heading a campus-wide effort to help reconstruct the schools and lives of students affected by the devastating tsunami.

The Marist Brothers serve communities and children around the world and have their headquarters in Rome. The headquarters has appealed to all Marist Brothers schools for donations to aid students and their families, as well as the rebuilding of schools destroyed by the tsunami.

Campus Ministry is collecting money from faculty and staff and planning a collection for students, beginning Feb. 10. Brother Frank, director of Campus Ministry, hopes to collect several thousand dollars from the student population. The three steps to reaching the goal include setting up tables for collection on Feb. 10 and 11, located in the dining hall; Donnelly; Dyson and McCann. The second step, to be taken in the upcoming weeks, involves Campus Ministry members collecting in the upper class housing residences. Finally, student organizations will be invited to contribute through individual fundraising efforts.

"We guarantee that 100 percent of the funds collected will go to direct aid," Brother Frank said. "The money will be used in two ways: to help the families of students in the rebuilding of their lives and the rebuilding of the schools."

Holy Cross serves 1600 students and the annex located close to the beach was used to educate

about 400 first- and second-grade students. This building was completely destroyed by the tsunami.

"When the gigantic waves hit the school, the walls gave way and the roof collapsed and everything inside—desks, chairs, schools supplies, books—everything was destroyed," said Brother Sales, a teacher at Holy Cross. "Luckily the tsunami hit on a day when the school was closed or most of our students would have died here as well."

Brother Michael de Wass, Provincial of Sri Lanka and Pakistan, wrote a letter about his recent visit to Kalutara.

"There are students in the refugee camps. They are being identified now. Most of them have lost their properties completely," de Wass said. "My sense is that this school will need a long-term plan to help the victims and survivors."

"We are still not sure where the students in the branch school will meet ... maybe in the church just near the school or outside under the trees, or under a tent," Brother Mervyn was quoted in the letter.

The children of Sri Lanka are receiving the additional help of UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund. They aim to ensure the health, safety and education of the student. UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy says the organization's mission is "to give this devastated tsunami generation a fighting chance."

Bellamy said that rebuilding the schools quickly is imperative to success. "Nothing will signal hope more clearly than rebuilding and reopening schools," he said. "Being in a learning environment gives children something positive to focus on, and enables the adults around them to go about the business of rebuilding with greater confidence."

In the upcoming weeks the Marist community will have the opportunity to help the students in Sri Lanka rebuild their educational community.



Courtesy of Marist Brothers of Sri Lanka

A Marist brother and community members survey the damage of a part of Holy Cross College used for the instruction of first and second graders.



Courtesy of Marist Brothers of Sri Lanka

Remnants of the Marist Brothers' secondary school in Kalutara, Sri Lanka, destroyed by the tsunami in December.

Yashita's Story

My name is Yashita. I am living in the southern part of Sri Lanka. I am in Grade 4 and studying in Holy Cross College, Kalutara.

On 26, December 2004, I was attending Holy Mass with my family in the parish church. The Mass was a little long due to Christmas celebrations. I was very happy because it was the second day after Christmas. After Mass, when we came out into the church compound, I saw the first wave coming towards us. In a loud voice I shouted to my mother: "Water is coming!" We were in panic. We didn't know where to go and how to escape. Everyone was

SEE STORY, PAGE 2

Lure of single bedrooms tempered by long walk



ERIC KIMMEL / THE CIRCLE

The new Fulton Street Townhouses, shown here under construction, are expected to open in the fall of 2005 across Route 9, between Fulton and West Cedar Streets. They will accommodate 248 students in eight buildings, with all units completely furnished and air-conditioned.

By ANGELA DE FINI
Staff Writer

Juniors and seniors will have another housing option to consider when filling out housing paperwork this spring. Expected to open in the fall of 2005 across Route 9 between Fulton and West Cedar Streets, the Fulton Townhouses will be available to accommodate 248 students in eight buildings.

Adjacent to the Upper West Cedar complex, each unit has eight single occupancy bedrooms, a living

room, dining area, kitchen and two bathrooms. The common unit will have four bedrooms and a bathroom on the second floor, with four more bedrooms and the second bathroom located on the third floor. Four two-story units are available with four bedrooms and a bathroom on the ground level and an additional four bedrooms and bathroom on the second level.

All units will be completely furnished, including curtains, with two full-sized refrigerators in the kitchen area. All units will be air conditioned. Similar to the rest of the townhouse complexes,

residents are responsible for their own cooking as well as the cleaning of their living area. Microwaves are permitted in the kitchen and 3.6 cubic feet refrigerators are allowed in bedrooms if desired.

A smoke-free residence area, laundry facilities are located under the "V" block of Upper West Cedar complex. Fulton Townhouses will also share a community center with Upper West Cedar. Residents 21 years of age or over are permitted to consume alcohol in the privacy of their own townhouse out of the presence of minors.

Many students are excited that this new housing presents students with the option of living in a single.

"The Fulton Street housing complex has several advantages for Marist. It offers a completely new living arrangement for juniors and seniors with its desirable single rooms," junior Lori Ann Trenholm said.

Other students agree and are excited about the privacy of single rooms.

"I think it is convenient that Marist is building a housing complex that has single rooms, but allows you to still live in a house with your friends," junior Tim Feltman said.

"Juniors and seniors become very busy with harder classes and internships, so having the single is very important so you can work on your own hours and not affect another person's lifestyle," junior James Hornby said.

Despite the attractions of single rooms, some students are hesitant about choosing Fulton Townhouses because of their location.

"I think it is a good idea since Marist does need more housing, but I wouldn't want to live there since it's so far away from everything," junior Alison Van Brero says.

Junior Keith Voss echoes this sentiment, saying "The singles are appealing for students with past roommate problems, but many might be skeptical about the walk."

Junior Laura Monroe also points out the possible inconvenience of sharing the laundry facilities with the Upper West complex.

"I think it's weird that they don't have their own laundry facility. That's a lot of people to share the Upper West Cedar washer and dryers," said Monroe.

According to the assistant director of housing, Patricia Petacchi, the entire housing selection process is going to be different for students this year then in past years. Starting on March 1, forms will be available online for students to fill out who they would like to live with. Each group will be given a date and time slot in April to visit the Cabaret and choose their housing based on priority points. "This new arrangement will allow students to know their housing options before going home for summer break," Pettachi said.

For more information on the Fulton Townhouses, including sketches of the living room / kitchen areas and floor plans, visit <http://www.marist.edu/housing/fulton.html>.

For more general housing information, visit the Marist Housing and Residential Life homepage at <http://www.marist.edu/housing>.

'The singles are appealing for students with past roommate problems, but many might be skeptical about the walk.'

— Keith Voss
Junior

THE CIRCLE Campus

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2004

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PAGE 2

Security Briefs:

Be our (guest pass-bearing) guest!

Compiled by DAN ROY
Campus Editor

1/25 — An officer heading up towards Talmadge ran smack into a Marist on Marist car accident at 3:40 p.m. Tuesday. One car was leaving Talmadge; the other was going back. I'll tell you right now, if it were up to me to find that accident, they'd still be blocking that road. I've been here for three and a half years now, and I still have absolutely no clue where Talmadge is. I'm proud of it.

1/25 — Going with that for a second, the second fakes thing next to Talmadge has to be the Steel Plant. It took until my junior year to figure out it was for fashion and art people and not engineers. And I only learned where it was last semester. If you are an artist who works in the Steel Plant and lives in Talmadge, God help you, you're a better person than I am. Anyway ... a student came to the security office at 3:00 p.m. and reported that her books had been stolen from her book bag while she was in class. That's right, the book bag and the books were in the same room as her when they got stolen. She told security that after class she went up to talk to the teacher, and when she got back to her desk, the books were gone. Well you know what Sally, no one likes a suck up.

1/26 — The fire alarm went off in Townhouse C at 2:03 p.m. Wednesday. Evidently, it was grilled cheese that pulled the trigger. After everything was aired out, students were allowed to return to their rooms. Yeah, but how that grilled cheese was made is the question? It takes someone to cut the cheese first. You see folks, it wasn't the grilled cheese that caused the smoke detector to go off, it was the cutting of the cheese. Peeeuuwww!

1/27 — Remember when people would honestly ask you if you cut the cheese. Man I got that all the time as a kid.

Anyway ... this is the first of many unauthorized entry attempts this week ... hence the headline, aren't I clever? At 11:30 p.m. a guest tried to enter Midrise using a student's ID, and was promptly escorted off campus. It's not your fault guest. It's your idiot friend's idea to live in Midrise sophomore year instead of Gartland.

1/28 — Two non-Marist kids tried to get into Champagnat at 12:30 a.m. Friday with Marist IDs. These fine chaps were escorted off campus as well. This is really no one's fault. As freshmen, you have no choice about living with security. Unfortunately, I can't say the same thing for my moronic friend from Midrise. That lame-brain chose to live with security instead of being free in Gartland. "Maybe they like being close to everything instead of being cast away like some war-time hussy." Watch your mouth!

1/28 — Sweet Strait of Gibraltar, it happened again. At 1:29 a.m. a student gave their ID to a non-student in attempt to infiltrate the Marian border. Security caught this hoodlum before he could cross that proverbial border, and sent him back to his own land. To make this easier for security, we should just take Pat Buchanan's advice and build a giant wall around our dorms. "Yeah, there's a great idea Einstein. Then you wouldn't even be able to see Marian ... Dan, you know for once I think you are on to something."

1/28 — Here's a sad story. A student in the bookstore at 3:30 p.m. got her camera stolen. That really stinks. She said she put it down for a second to grab some books, and when she turned around, it was gone; all \$200 of it. Man that reeks! I mean it really smells bad that that happened. Great Pete's Wicked it has a stench to it! The odor of that happening really offends me! That funk is so rotten ... "Ok, enough."

1/31 — ... That my nose broke itself in attempt to never have to sniff that wretched aroma again. Heh heh. This just in, Townhouse C still can't cook. They caused another fire alarm at 4:50 p.m. Monday due to food on the stove. Come on, that's bush league C, you're better than that.

1/31 — Our last unauthorized guest appeared at 11:10 p.m. He tried gaining entry to Champagnat with a Marist ID, but was seen right through by security. But you know, keep trying to cover the picture with your thumb. I mean, it's got to work sometime right?

Alcohol-related incidents this week:

— none

Total alcohol-related incidents:

1. Leo — 2
2. Champagnat — 1
3. Gregory — 1
4. Talmadge — 1



Upcoming Campus Events

Friday, Feb. 4, 2005
SPC Comedy Club Presents:

Robbie Printz
9 PM
Cabaret

Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2005

Maya Angelou
5:45 PM

Bus leaves from Midrise

Friday, Feb. 11, to
Saturday, Feb. 12, 2005
Mall Trip

Friday 6 PM - 12 AM
Saturday 12 PM - 8 PM
Bus leaves from Midrise

Sunday, Feb. 20, 2005

SPC Presents:

Dane Cook
8 PM

McCann Center

Monday, Feb. 21, 2005

Marist Idol:

Second Round Premiere
8 PM

Young Tsunami survivor tells story of her struggle ... continued from page 1

confused and running here and there. Parents were shouting at their children and the children were crying with fear.

My mother pulled my arm and ran towards the road. Unfortunately the water was coming from the same direction therefore it was very difficult for us to reach the road. The waves were coming like giants. I had

never seen this much water running towards the town. The wave hit me so badly I couldn't keep my balance and fell down into the water. Still we beat the waves and reached the bus stop and managed to get into a bus and escape.

On that day my whole family was scattered. We were not sure about each other's life. My

mother and I embraced each other and cried. I was so frightened and worried about my younger sister, brother and father. Throughout the day I thought that maybe they had become victims of the waves. It was in the evening that we found each other again and knew that we were all safe. I was so happy. Now in the night time I hear the

cries of the people and the noise of the giant waves. I get very afraid and cannot sleep. Maybe I won't forget this terrible scene in all my life.

After some days when we came back to see our property, I saw that our house is no longer there. It is completely demolished. Our TV, books, pens, coloured pencils, bag, bicycle, bat and ball

and collection box — everything was washed away. My dreams have also been broken but I believe God will help me in some ways.

Now we need a new house, proper food and things for school. My father can no longer go fishing and has no job. Who will provide these things? I don't know.

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

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

Student Government Flash

The Student Government Elections are coming soon. Here are some dates to keep in mind.

Feb. 7 — Declarations due in the SGA office by 4:00 p.m.

Feb. 11 — Petitions due in the SGA office by 4:00 p.m.

Feb. 13 — Campaigning begins.

Feb. 14 — Speech Night - 9:00 p.m. in the PAR.

Feb. 15 — Meet the Candidate - 9:00 p.m. in the PAR.

Feb. 17 — Debate Night (Student Body President Candidates only) - 9:30 p.m. in LT 210.

Voting begins 11:00 a.m. Monday, Feb. 21 and ends Wednesday, Feb. 23 at 7:00 p.m. Don't forget to cast your vote.

* For more information on these events, visit our homepage at clubs.marist.edu/sga/ or call x2206 *

Whether you're secretly lascivious or your heart aches openly, your chance to pine in public on the pages of The Circle has arrived. Why bother to buy a Valentine's Day card for that special someone in your life? Do yourself a favor — save those three dollars and instead get us to print up a little blurb about how much you love that person. Even if you couldn't care less, 2,000 copies of the paper can't be wrong. Send your Valentine's Day message to writethecircle@hotmail.com by Sunday, Feb. 6, and it will appear in the February 11 issue.

THE CIRCLE Opinion

Let the voices of the Marist community be heard.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2005

www.maristcircle.com

PAGE 3

Iraq election provides step in right direction and host of questions

By IGOR VOLSKY
Staff Writer

Sunday's elections were a great success. An estimated 60% of Iraq's 14 million eligible voters cast their ballots and all went as expected. While Sunni turnout was low, the Shiites voted in great numbers. In the insurgent-Sunni stronghold of Ramadi for example, only 1,700 of the eligible 400,000 went to the ballot box, but in the Shiite town of Najaf, 85% of eligible Iraqis voted. The Iraqi Election board reported that even as 80% of all polling places documented irregularities, the election was fraud-free. To the relief of many, Election Day was also relatively bloodless. Out of 175 attempted attacks, only 44 Iraqis and 11 U.S. soldiers lost their lives.

Once final election results become available, the newly elected 275-member-assembly will serve out an 11 month term. The group will select a governing council--which will elect a prime minister--and draft a permanent constitution which, if approved, will clear the way towards a national election of a permanent body in mid-December.

Above all, the elections are a powerful victory and credibility boost for the president. But he can't take all the credit. The Washington Post reminds us that "the Bush administration initially resisted the idea of holding elections this soon and only succumbed under pressure from Iraq's most powerful cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali Sistani. The original plan, designed by then-

U.S. administrator L. Paul Bremer, was a complicated formula of regional caucuses to select a national government, which would write a constitution, and then hold the elections."

"It was Sistani who demanded one-person, one-vote elections. So to the extent it's a victory, it's a victory for Iraqis. The Americans were maneuvered into having to go along with it," said Juan Cole, an Iraq expert at the University of Michigan.

But while credit allocation is superfluous, voter intent and objective are not. Opinion polls have long shown Iraqis' desire for U.S. troop withdrawal. A new Zogby poll is no different. According to the survey, 82% of Sunnis and 69% of Shiites now favor a U.S. pullout. As the Post

points out, "many Iraqis viewed the election as one way to accelerate the U.S. withdrawal rather than a vindication of U.S. policy." Put another way, the Iraqis went to the polls and voted for troop withdrawal. But the president has never respected freedom of choice and "ruled out creating a timetable for withdrawing U.S. troops from Iraq" even before the election.

In the eyes of Iraqis, a troop withdrawal is well justified. And despite administration fiction, Iraqi justification is rooted in ground-war realities, not anti-Americanism sentiment (although that might be a contributing factor). Figures from Iraq's Ministry of Health suggest that of the 3,300 civilians killed between July of last year and the New Year, over 2,000 were killed

by the U.S. coalition and Iraqi forces; 1,200 were killed by the insurgency. Occupation opponents (and I'm not talking about the extremists) are mothers and fathers, and a perception that Americans only intensify conflict and violence persuades many to vote for withdrawal. (Whether this will happen or not is of course impossible to predict).

Still, many questions lie unanswered: If great majorities of the Iraqi people want American troops out, but the newly elected government doesn't yield to popular demand, what does this mean for democracy in the region? Or, what if Iraqi policy goals don't match American foreign objectives?

What will the elections mean for other Middle Eastern coun-

tries? What kind of precedent have they established? Major conflicts must be avoided: How will the new Shiite dominated government attract the secular Sunnis? When will Iraqi troops stand on their own? And what about reconstruction? Only \$2.7 billion of the \$18.4 billion appropriated has found its way into Iraqi rebuilding efforts. With the elections behind us, will the focus shift to reestablishing basic services?

Igor Volsky is an undergraduate at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY and the host of the *Luske-Volsky Show* (with Dr. Bruce Luske) and *Political Thought*, two public affairs programs airing every Monday and Friday from 4-6 p.m. on WMAR 1630AM. Both shows can be streamed at www.politicalthought.net.

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THE CIRCLE Features

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2004

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PAGE 4

Top name in comedy set to light up lives at Marist

By TARA DRIGGS
Staff Writer

At 12:00 PM on Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2005, it was a guarantee that the line at the College Activities Center would be down the hall and around the corner for tickets to an approaching show. Wherever top comedian Dane Cook goes, the crowds follow. The young comic's uninhibited and natural stand up is loved and enjoyed by all audiences, young and old. His jokes are unbelievably unique yet fans can easily relate them to everyday experiences.

Cook's present CD/DVD entitled "Harmful If Swallowed" continues to be a success. He has appeared on many well known

television shows such as "The Tonight Show," "Jimmy Kimmel Live," "Premium Blend," "Crank Yankers," "The Late Show with David Letterman,"

and "Comedy Central Presents." His career and accomplishments in comedy have led him to appear on television and in film. He has roles in the movies "Torque," "Stuck on You," "The Touch," and "Mystery Men" and he also debuted his own short film called "Spiral." Dane Cook made his first directorial appearance in 2003 with the film "8 Guys," which he also wrote and starred in. In addition, he has written the script for an upcoming



photocourtesy of www.imdb.com

On February 20, Dane Cook, who has appeared on shows including "Jimmy Kimmel Live" and "Crank Yankers," will perform at the McCann Center at 8 p.m.

ing action film entitled "Thieves Fortune."

Cook has a new CD coming out in March entitled "Retaliation." His official tour, dubbed "Tourgasm," begins on April 1, 2005. This tour includes 20 shows in 30 days across the entire United States, and Marist College is getting a sneak peek. Don't miss your chance to see the incredible and hysterical Dane Cook.

Since February is Black History Month, The Circle will be including work from different members of Marist's Black Student Union in each issue this month. Black History Month was originally Black History Week, but in 1976 was expanded into Black History Month. The idea to honor the accomplishments of Black Americans was originally thought up by historian Carter G. Woodson. It has been said that the reason Carter chose February to be Black History Month is because Frederick Douglass, a famous abolitionist, was born during this month, as was Abraham Lincoln, who also played a major role in the abolition of slavery.

Brown Skin

Brown Skin ...

Bitter sweet
Never ending memories
Smooth like whipped cream
Chocolate covered surface
Truly keep me wondering
With a touch of your skin
on my restless fingertips,
All I want is a taste of you
on my lips.
Just one dip of that perfect
blend, that frosting
And my desires will
become reality.
Your smell clutches my
mind
And I'm left in bliss.
My eyes are wide shut
And the hotness from the
outside cold
Begins to embody me.
Every corner I wish to

explore

So that you can see that I
really do adore
Your brown skin.
There are layers upon
layers
When it comes to your
touch
My emotions for you are
just too much.
I can't resist the urge
Our bodies begin to merge
Intertwine, mixing brown
sugar with ice
Melting away my
anticipation
And behind these closed
doors we begin a creation.
Every second brings a
better sensation ...
Delightful I am
I give up my sanity
Showing you my

capability

Of simple agility.
Time and space all reach a
stop
And for a second
My soul reaches the top.
The heavens above
Couldn't deliver such free
love.
Our connection is cosmic
Regardless of the logic
Whether is true or false
Real or fake
Crooked or straight.
Your brown skin
My brown skin
Together at last
One beginning.
No ending
Just blending
Non-stop ...

— Yaritza Fanny Mejia

Need advice on relationships? Family? Friends?
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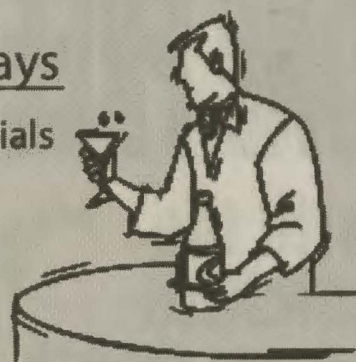
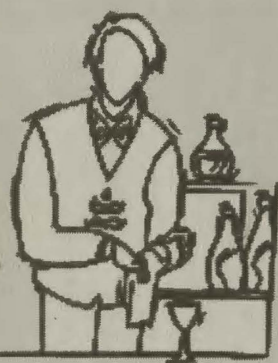
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Oberst's power shakes Town Hall

By CARL GUASTAFERRO
Circle Contributor

On Wednesday, Jan. 26; it was a typical chilly night in New York City. Omaha, Nebraska's Bright Eyes (singer/songwriter Conor Oberst as the creative force leading his back-up band of often-replaced talent) headlined the sold-out second of three shows for the "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning" tour at the historic Town Hall theater. The tour is in

Story Is in the Soil, Keep Your Ear to the Ground." The album is more concentrated around Oberst, his trembling voice, and his guitar. It is noted for always-present acoustic roots and a degree of country influence. The 24-year-old sings of relationships, personal philosophy, sociopolitical issues, uncertainty, growing up, and the human condition in a way that reminds you of the way Bob Dylan's folk songs on life seemed so honest.

tions over Nintendo-style beats. In so many ways, the dual-release of these albums shows the coming-of-age of this artist.

The Town Hall is known for its acoustics and personal setting and certainly lived up to the reputation. Opening acts included Tilly and the Wall and Coco Rosie. The first band to play was the five-piece Tilly and the Wall, another act from Omaha, which played indie-pop in ways like never before. Guitar, bass, and keyboards are nothing new but tap-dancing for percussion? It was definitely a sight to behold. The set was marked with Jason Boesel from Rilo Kiley playing drums on a trash can. Boesel would go on to play drums for Bright Eyes later in the evening. The next act was the duo Coco Rosie, who sound innocent and sweet yet twisted; a cross of Bjork and Joanna Newsom. The group consisted of sisters Bianca (acoustic guitar, keyboards, harp, and opera-style singing) and Sierra (funny noises off of toys and random chirps and squeals). Although not part of the official line-up, there was an anonymous man who, donning a Native American headdress, beat-boxed like Biz Markie and then freestyle. They performed songs off of "La Maison De Mon RêVe," recorded in Paris in the spring of 2003. This all went on while a digital projector displayed various pictures and paintings.

Honestly, I wasn't very into this group as they traded talent for noise-making toys, failing to "fit" into the night.

Bright Eyes finally took the stage, led by Oberst, beer bottle in hand. The night was literally filled with songs from "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning" such as "Old Soul Song" and "Poison Oak." The set also included favorites from other albums such as "A Scale, a Mirror, and These Indifferent Clocks," "Method Acting," and "Bowl of Oranges." He played the new song (as introduced) "I Must Belong Somewhere" and the crowd shouted approval at "When the President Talks to God" as Oberst sang: "When the President talks to God / do they drink beer and go play golf? / When they pick which country should we invade / and which Muslim souls still can be saved? / Yeah, I guess God just calls a spade a spade / when the President talks to God." Don't go crying "Liberal elite!" just yet; Oberst has played benefit concerts for Tibet and is involved with Amnesty International, donating proceeds from pre-orders of the two new albums to the Human Rights campaign.

The band's set ended with "Landlocked Blues" and after a few minutes the band returned for the encore, consisting of



Bright Eyes frontman, Conor Oberst, sings of relationships, personal philosophy, sociopolitical issues, uncertainty, growing up, and the human condition.

"Lua" and "Road to Joy." The night ended with the anthem "Road to Joy" and the chorus: "The sun came up with no conclusions, / Flowers sleepin' in their beds. / The city cemetery's hummin', / I'm wide awake, its mornin'!" shook through the Town Hall. The band continued to rock out as Oberst put his guitar down next to the amp, reverb shaking your insides, stepped back, and kicked the guitar neck in a drunken stumble. The feedback still trembled throughout the venue as the band left. Even after an intimate night of honest music, he still had something to let out.



With two new albums gracing the stores, Bright Eyes played three sold-out shows for the "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning" tour at the historic Town Hall theater.

promotion of the Jan. 25 releases of Bright Eyes' fifth and sixth albums "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning" and "Digital Ash in a Digital Urn" for the indie record label, Saddle Creek.

The folk-indie rock "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning" is reminiscent of 2002's "Lifted or The

The electronic-backed "Digital Ash in a Digital Urn" sounds more "produced" yet refined. Eerie beats flow, matched with Oberst's quivering voice. "Digital Ash in a Digital Urn" incorporates electronic beats into indie-rock in a way that supercedes general thoughts and lamenta-

2004 proves to be a year of rich musical discovery

By ROB CELLETTI
Circle Contributor

On Feb. 13, the best artists and albums of 2004 will be honored at the Grammy Awards. So here, I present my own favorite 10 albums of 2004—or, at least, the ones I personally discovered last year. Here we go:

10. Snow Patrol – "Final Straw"
On what is actually their third full-length release, Snow Patrol not only made a great album, but they were successful in earning some mainstream success. They might remind you of a noisy version of Coldplay at times, but Snow Patrol definitely has a sound of their own. Gary

Lightbody's voice is soothing and his melodies are simple yet beautiful. The album's highlights include "How to be Dead," "Run," and "Chocolate."

9. Elliott Smith – "XO"
Elliott Smith died in October of 2003 from what most believe to be self-inflicted knife wounds. When 2004 came around, I purchased "XO" and listened to it over and over again because it was simply that good. Just two or three spins revealed to me that Smith was a true lyrical and musical genius whose life came to an end way too soon. Highlights on this album include "Waltz #2," "Pitseleh," and "Everybody Cares, Everybody

Understands."
8. Incubus – "A Crow Left of the Murder"

Incubus proved a few things with this release in early 2004. One was that they would not adhere to industry standards just to keep their fanbase (for example, you won't find songs like "Drive" or "Wish You Were Here" on this album). Also, they proved that they were willing to challenge themselves as a band by extending their songs and changing their sound. Incubus really matured on "A Crow Left..." and proved that they are a group that has staying power even without hit singles. Highlights include: "Pistola,"

"Sick Sad Little World," and "Here in My Room."

7. The Format – "Interventions and Lullabies"

This is probably some of the catchiest rock music I've heard in a very, very long time...maybe since the Gin Blossoms' "New Miserable Experience" which I like to compare this album too. But what sets it apart from most alternative pop albums is its rawness, honesty and ambition. The band experiments with different sounds to add flavor effectively to its batch of pop songs. It's a great warm-weather album and its highlights include "Tie the Rope," "On Your Porch," and

"Let's Make This Moment a Crime."

6. Various Artists – "Music From Garden State"

There's really no reason to harp on this one. It is an absolutely brilliant collection put together by the film's director Zach Braff that seems to tell not only his life story, but everyone else's judging by how often these songs are quoted. Highlights of this soundtrack are Simon and Garfunkel's "The Only Living Boy in New York," Frou Frou's "Let Go," and Iron and Wine's rendition of "Such Great Heights."

5. U2 – "How To Dismantle an Atomic Bomb"
SEE ALBUMS, PAGE 6

my two cents

You'll have to 'Seek' harder for a movie worth your money

After his wife's traumatic, sudden suicide, David Callaway (Robert De Niro) relocates himself and his daughter, Emily (Dakota Fanning), to upstate New York to seek a quieter life than the one they'll leave behind. However, their peace is short-lived due to Emily's growing loneliness, which eventually breeds her imaginary friend Charlie. A great-looking cast is backed by a horribly put-together story, leaving very little for the audience to "seek."

"Sure, this one doesn't look bad," an innocent movie-goer might think, especially with the legendary Robert De Niro and the very talented child actress Dakota Fanning on the marquee, but do not be fooled. Seemingly a desperate attempt to mirror "The Sixth Sense" in horror-value, this film has Fanning either staring with a stupefied look at the camera or ranting about how her imaginary friend is having a temper tantrum. A good amount of my discontent is dedicated to the writers for stapling together plot twists that do anything but twist. Most of the story's surprises and scares fall short and turn what should have been a scary thriller into a mind-numbing waste of time.

As bad as it sounds, De Niro has always proved to be a good entertainer and softens the blow that is "Hide and Seek." The saddest part of this movie is that it has managed to hold its own at the box office and therefore successfully trick viewers into its illusory trap. So, for those of you who have seen the movie, you can look forward to viewing next year's exciting sequel, "Red Light, Green Light, One Two Three," where Emily's new imaginary friend comes back and has an affair with her dad, sending her into a barbiturate overdose.

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Women's swimming and diving suffers loss at UMBC

By DAVID HOCHMAN
Staff Writer

The Red Foxes' swimming and diving team experienced just their second loss of the season this past Saturday, Jan. 29, in Baltimore, Md.

Marist was defeated by University of Maryland-Baltimore County by a score of 126-106. However, the meet did see some great individual per-

formances out of a couple Red Foxes.

As always, Marist was very dominant in the diving portion of the meet. Junior Meghan Duffy won the 3-meter with a mark of 240.15.

Duffy placed second behind freshman teammate Melissa Mangona in the 1-meter competition. Mangona placed first with a score of 238.79.

Head coach Larry VanWagner said Mangona is one of the top

divers in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

"We consider Meghan to be the best diver in the conference," he said. "And now that Melissa is competing this well with her, it's great."

Coach VanWagner said this performance should make the MAAC Championships a worthwhile event to witness.

"This should make the MAAC championships very interesting," he said.

On the flip side of the coin, sophomore Ashley Papuga had a career day in a combined four swimming events. She started off by leading her leg of the 400-yard medley relay, and she not only equaled a season best in the 100-meter backstroke, but also set a lifetime best in the 200-meter freestyle.

If that wasn't enough, Papuga also came within .4 seconds of her season best in the 200-meter backstroke. Papuga's great day

still couldn't edge out the unstoppable Retrievers, though.

Another notable performance came from senior co-captain Emily Heslin, who was the only Marist victor in a swim event on Saturday. Heslin took the 1000 freestyle in 10:48.80.

The last dual meet of the season is coming up Saturday, Feb. 5 at Seton Hall. The tail end of the schedule this year sees the Red Foxes go up against major competition as always.

The last three meets, which are against Southern Connecticut State University, UMBC, and Seton Hall, were planned accordingly to help prepare for the MAAC Championships.

"It's always a tough meet against the Pirates," VanWagner said. "Last year was the first time we ever beat them, and we expect this coming competition to be as difficult as any."

2004 highlight for Death Cab, U2, Green Day, among many others ... continued from page 5

Atomic Bomb"

When U2 releases an album, it usually doesn't disappoint. Such was the case with "How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb," which finds the aging Irishmen at the top of their game once again. Bono's voice still soars, the Edge's guitar work is more recognizable than ever, and the album seems to have that mystical healing power that only U2 can deliver. The highlights from Bomb are "Miracle Drug," "City of Blinding Lights," and "Crumbs From Your Table."

4. Pearl Jam - "Live at Benaroya Hall"

The sole surviving band from

the "grunge" era proves that it is still one of the greatest live acts of all time, despite the fact that it has slipped under the radar over the past few years. Pearl Jam strips down to mostly acoustic instruments, though lead guitarist Mike McCready does break out the electric on several songs. This was a benefit show played in a small theater in the band's hometown of Seattle, and the acoustics of the small room make the instruments as well as Eddie Vedder's voice sound phenomenal. "Live at Benaroya Hall" is truly one of the most pure-sounding live albums ever recorded.

The highlights from this particu-

lar set include "Nothing as it Seems," "Immortality," and "Black."

3. Death Cab for Cutie - "Transatlanticism"

I probably listened to this album more than anything else in my collection in 2004. Ben Gibbard's lyrics are so poignant and perfect that they are hard to ignore, but the music that supports them isn't too shabby either. I particularly fell in love with the sounds of Chris Walla's ethereal lead guitar riffs and the various other sounds that the band experimented with that make this album as close to musical perfection as humanly

possible. The only way to understand is to listen to it all, as it is all outstanding.

2. Green Day - "American Idiot"

This was one of the most critically-acclaimed albums of 2004 and really deserved all of the recognition it got. Not only did we see a resurgence of Green Day with this album, we saw them really mature as a band. They weaved their songs about teenage apathy and fit them wonderfully into the current, volatile American political context. Musically and lyrically, "American Idiot" contained some of the most effective and

ambitious songwriting of the past decade. This is another album with no real highlights and considering it's a rock-opera, you should listen to it from start to finish.

1. Jeff Buckley - "Grace"

This album was originally released in 1994 but re-released as "Grace: The Legacy Edition" in 2004. Buckley was a musical mastermind with undisputed talent; not only was he a virtuoso on the guitar, but he possessed, arguably, one of the best pure voices in rock music history. His vocals are the driving force behind almost every song on "Grace." You can't help but be

captivated by them as he ranges from whispers to shrieks and everything in between, giving life to his poetic vocals. Such as the case with Elliott Smith, there will be no more new music from Jeff Buckley (he drowned in 1997), which is disheartening. In my mind, Buckley had the talent to elevate alternative rock music to a level it now may never reach. Though it seems impossible to pick highlights, my three personal favorites on "Grace" are its title track, "Last Goodbye" and "Eternal Life."

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Red Foxes receive third MAAC loss

By BRIAN HODGE
Staff Writer

The men's basketball team once again took the floor without second leading scorer and leading rebounder - senior center Will McClurkin. And, for the second time in as many games, the results were not encouraging.

The Red Foxes, in one of their worst performances of the season, fell to St. Peter's by a final score of 71-57 last Monday. Plagued by turnovers, including four in their first four possessions, Marist could not sustain an offense amidst the intense Peacock attack.

"I thought [St. Peter's] came out very aggressively," he said. "We were not ready for that kind of energy ... We turned the ball over way too much and allowed too many fast break opportunities."

Indeed, St. Peter's held significant advantages in the points off turnovers category (28 to Marist's 14) and fast break points (15-2). Combined by a lack of ball control with shooting a frigid 34 percent from the floor, the Red Foxes

found themselves facing a 47-21 deficit at halftime.

Sophomore guards Jared Jordan and Will Whittington led Marist offensively. Jordan finished with 15 points, while Whittington added 13 points. Jordan and Whittington were the only two Red Foxes to reach double digits in scoring.

Peacocks' junior guard Keydren Clark, the nation's leading scorer with 28.0 points per game and the reigning MAAC Player of the Week, finished with 19 points. Last year, Clark led the nation in scoring with 27.0 points per game.

Senior guards Corey Hinnant and Terrance Watkins contributed 16 points and 12 points for St. Peter's, respectively.

The loss dropped Marist to 10-9 overall, 7-3 in the conference. Additionally, the upcoming schedule does not look favorable for the Red Foxes, playing five of their next six on the road.

Marist will finish their road trip with a Saturday, Feb. 5 visit at Niagara and a Monday, Feb. 7 visit against Canisius.



Jared Jordan was 1-2 from the free-throw line, bolstering his point total to a team leading 15 points in the 71-57 loss to St. Peter's. Jordan had a career-high 32 points against Iona last Friday.

The Purple Eagles of Niagara boast the conference's second leading scorer (behind Clark), Juan Mendez. Mendez, a 6-8 senior forward, averages just over 23 points per game and leads the conference in rebounding. This will certainly be a strong test for the McClurkin-less Marist.

Brady said the Purple Eagles will be looking for a payback after the Red Foxes defeated them 88-87 on Jan. 15.

"Niagara certainly presents a tremendous challenge," he said. "We've beaten them once (a one point squeaker at McCann) and they're going to be looking for a little bit of payback."

Men's swimming and diving sees record with its first blemish

By GABE PERNA
Staff Writer

The men's swimming and diving team suffered their first loss of the season recently in dual-meet action against the unbeaten University of Maryland-Baltimore County Retrievers by the score of 142-96

Leading the way for the Red Foxes was senior co-captain Matthew Castillo and freshman Devan O'Nalty, who both won at least one event.

Castillo took home first in the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:10.57 while O'Nalty won the 1-meter diving platform with a score of 240.75.

Castillo also earned second in the 200 yard freestyle with a time of 1:42.32.

Head coach Larry VanWagner said the Red Foxes could have been more intense.

"I think we could have been more competitive in this match," he said, whose team falls to 9-1 on the season, "There were four events that could have changed

the outcome of the match or at least drawn us closer. Two of the matches we lost in the waning moments in the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle."

Also doing well for the Red Foxes was senior co-captain Jeff Paul, who earned two individual second place finishes in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 22.27, and the 100-yard freestyle, with a time of 48.35. Finishing .21 seconds behind Paul and placing third in the 50-yard freestyle was sophomore Patrick Collins.

Sophomore Daniel Garaffa placed second in the 200 yard backstroke with a time of 1:56.48.

O'Nalty had himself a career day, earning his second career win in the 1-meter with a score of 240.75. His success didn't stop there as he managed third place in the 3-meter platform with a score of 207.44.

"He's made tremendous progress since he's been here," said coach VanWagner on the freshman sensation, "We've been

in the pool now for twenty weeks and he just continues to get better and better."

The only other win by the Red Foxes came in the 400 medley relay. Freshman Greg Jablonski, junior Patrick Collins, Garrafa, and Paul made up the winning team that swam for a collective time of 3:33.29.

The other relay squad consisting of sophomores Will Shearouse and Brandon Youse, Collins, and Castillo earned second in the 400-freestyle relay with a time of 3:16.35.

The Red Foxes will conclude their dual-meet season against Seton Hall this upcoming Saturday at 1 p.m.

However, coach VanWagner said that he definitely has the MAAC Championships which are approaching rapidly in the back of his mind

"We have a dual meet upcoming against Seton Hall to learn from our mistakes," he said. "Then after that all our focus goes on the MAAC Championship."

Distance medley team qualifies for IC4A championships with standout performance

By CHRIS TORRES
Circle Contributor

Don't be surprised if you see the men's track team walking around with I Love New York t-shirts this week after their trip to the Big Apple for the 68th annual Metropolitan Championships.

With record-breaking and IC4A qualifying performances, the Marist Red Foxes had their best performance in school histo-

ry at the New Balance Army and Track Center Sunday night, finishing seventh out of fourteen teams with 50 total points.

The standout performance of the event came from the distance medley relay team as they placed first overall with a time of 10:19.37. Led by sophomores Bryan Quinn, Brian DeMarco, Mike Bamberger, and senior Geoff Decker, the team qualified for the IC4A Championships in

March to compete with some of the best schools in the Northeast.

The star of the relay was undoubtedly Brian DeMarco as he finished the 400-meter leg in an astounding 49.8 seconds. Following this relay split, DeMarco showed the kind of toughness that makes him a leader on the team as he lowered his own school record in the 400-meter dash by finishing sixth in 50.40 seconds, even after he was

gashed in the leg with another runner's spike in the late stages of the race.

"Brian was actually frustrated that he got tangled up and finished that part of the relay in over 50 seconds even though he broke a school record." Marist coach Pete Colaizzo said. "Right now he's just doing great; he's been a horse on our team."

There were several other personal accomplishments as all

three Marist entrants in the 3000-meter ran personal best times. Senior Steve Hicks led the way, placing second with a time of 8:40.25. Sophomore Mark Fernandez was fifth with a time of 8:47.19, while freshman Brandon Cartica finished 10th with a time of 8:55.73.

Colaizzo said that he expects his team to continue their success.

"The work ethic is there," he

said. "We've had some solid performances and as long as we keep working hard, we can expect to be successful."

The Red Foxes look to continue their success in the Big Apple as they return to action on Friday for the school's first appearance at the Millrose Games at Madison Square Garden.

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PAGE 8

Upcoming Schedule:

Men's basketball: Saturday, Feb. 5 - at Niagara, 4 p.m.

Women's basketball: Saturday, Feb. 5 - vs. Fairfield, 7 p.m.

Foxes snag Eagles for seventh straight MAAC win

By ERIC ZEDALIS
Staff Writer

It all starts with defense. Just ask Marist head women's basketball coach Brian Giorgis, whose Red Foxes notched its seventh straight win against Niagara on Sunday, and first-ever win at the Gallagher Center.

Heading into Sunday's action, Niagara was first in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference standings, and averaging 66.8 points a game. However, a red-hot Red Fox team stifled the Purple Eagles offensive attack en-route to a 69-41 win.

Giorgis said the Red Foxes' defense succeeded in shutting down the Purple Eagles potent offense.

"I think we made a statement early defensively, especially on

the leading scorer in the conference at the time, Shaunna Ambrose," he said. "We did an incredible job holding her to 1-13 for the game."

Giorgis said that Marist also got off to a great start on the offensive end of the floor, but shutting down the two top-ranked scorers in the MAAC was the key to victory.

"We were able to shake people open on screens and find the open man, and we shot well from three," he said. "Not only in the game were we 6-10, but we shot especially well in the first half. Megan Vetter hit one, Kristen Vilardi hit two, and that really kind of propelled us."

Giorgis said the highlight of the Marist defense was diminishing the Purple Eagles open looks from behind the arc.

"But it really came down to the job we did on the two leading scorers in the conference - Ambrose and Eva Cunningham. Cunningham did finish with 16 [points], but she was 7-19 and only 1-6 from three," he said. "[Niagra] was also a top-10 team in the country shooting threes, and we held them to 3-11. I thought we did a real good job."

Not only did the Red Foxes hold the Purple Eagles to 27.3 percent from three-point land, but they accumulated one of their largest three-point percentages as well. Senior guard Megan Vetter was three-for-four from behind the arc, bringing her point total to 14 along with five rebounds and assists each.

According to Giorgis, throughout the streak, defense enables the Lady Red Foxes to, if not-

ing else, keep the game within reach early on, and then come out on top at the final buzzer.

"We've done a very good job of holding everybody that we've played during this streak to under their average," he said. "We've played good team defense and really gotten after [teams]. It's kept us in games, especially when we've struggled," he said.

Also during this seven game span, Giorgis said he has seen improved guard play, as well as continued consistent play down low from Kristin Keller and MAAC Player of the Week, Fifi Camara.

"[Guard] Megan Vetter has really stepped up on both ends of the floor," he said. "[Guards] Alicia Kresge and Kristen Vilardi have done a great job defensively, and are doing a lot of the little

things offensively. [Forwards] Kristin Keller and Fifi Camara have been steady on the boards, and scoring-wise. And now we're getting contributions from our freshman, Nikki Flores, Stephanie Youdath, Sarah Smrdel. They have come in and done a nice job. It's been a nice team effort, and good to see the team coming around."

With the win, Marist ties Niagara for first place in the MAAC.

Besides Vetter, two other Red Foxes were in double figures. Camara led the Red Foxes with 15 points and 14 rebounds, leading the team that night in both categories. Kristin Keller, the reigning MAAC Sixth Player of the Year, scored 12 points and ripped down seven boards.

The Red Foxes will host the



ERIC KIMMEL / THE CIRCLE
Junior forward Fifi Camara drives to the basket for two of her team high 15 points. Fifi was MAAC player of the week.

Iona Gaels on Thursday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m. at the McCann Center.

McClurkin is suspended indefinitely for violation of university policy

By ALEX PANAGIOTOPOULOS
Opinion Editor

A few minutes before the tip-off of Marist's home game against Iona, 6'9 center Will McClurkin strode out of the locker room tunnel and felt four thousand eyeballs affixed on him.

The stares didn't come for the usual reason, that he is the critical player on a first-place basket-

ball team.

They came because he wasn't wearing a uniform, but a button-down shirt with a large chain dangling from his neck. As the game went on, the crowd could only speculate what had happened. The news became official shortly: Marist suspended McClurkin indefinitely for a "violation of institutional and department policy".

McClurkin's case is being

reviewed by the Marist Athletics Department and his exact punishment will be determined some time next week. The violation, as per standard Marist procedure, is being kept under wraps, although unconfirmed rumors are flying on various Internet message boards.

He was also suspended last season by former coach Dave Magarity for unspecified reasons.

Sophomore forward Miles Orman has taken McClurkin's spot in the starting lineup. Orman is averaging 3.3 points and 2.1 rebounds for 13 minutes per game. Marist has lost its last two games by a combined score of 167 to 142.

McClurkin said that he is aware of his actions and will use the experience to learn.

"I'm deeply disappointed in my behavior and understand that I

must be held accountable for my decision," he said in a press release. "I accept all responsibility in this matter and look forward to putting this behind me."

Marist sports information director Jason Corriher said that the NCAA will review the suspension once the internal review is completed.

The heavy-handed suspension is consistent with the Marist basketball program's history of

integrity. Magarity has said that he prided himself on running a clean program for the last 18 years, after inheriting a team that had endured multiple NCAA violations.

Current coach Matt Brady continued that legacy by cutting promising sophomore forward Kerry Parks from his scholarship prior to the 04-05 season, citing a lack of confidence in Parks' behavior on campus.

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MAP Info Meetings

Wednesday, February 16 & Wednesday, February 23

11:00 am PAR/SC346