



One family's history, brought alive by piece of the past

By JAMES Q. SHEEHAN
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Feb. 28, the Marist College Honors Program presented its spring 2005 lecture, featuring speaker Carol Ione, author of the book "Pride of Family."

Despite the snowy weather, the lecture was well attended by both honors students and other classes which used the event as an alternative experience.

The book consists of memoirs, a story and a history which takes root from a family diary that Ione came across. The diary belonged to her great-grandmother Frances Rollin. The piece spans the lives of four generations of

African-American women. From the day she received the diary to the day the book was published, a span of 18 years had passed.

"[It was] a major life undertaking for me to create this book," Ione said.

She pointed out that while she was researching for the book the luxuries of the Internet and other useful technologies had not yet been widely accessible, making the process much more strenuous than it would be today.

In setting out to write the book, Ione did not want to put out a work that was glossed over or a work which only focused on the positive elements of her families' history. Ione wanted to write a book that was an honest account

of what actually happened. She said that this approach often slowed her down when researching and trying to get the book published since she would not

settle for the easy answer. The prologue of the book was read by Ione to give the audience a sense of where she came from and how her experience began. In this section, she highlighted her situation growing up; being raised by three women. There was an anecdotal quality to some of the passages and stories on which

lone elaborated. One such instance was when she described the lifestyle some of her ancestors experienced as actors, remarking that segregation

was almost as bad as that faced by the African Americans. While not always informative or pertinent, these sections did seem to grab the attention of the audience and make it seem more personal an account.

One aspect of Ione's story that was unique is the fact that her

great-aunt was a doctor in a period when it was rare for women, let alone African-American women, to go to medical school. This was a true testament to the societal restrictions her family managed to overcome and how, despite adversity, education and success were still possible.

As for the diary that began her journey in writing "Pride of Family," Ione is considering passing it along to an archive. She feels a strong emotional connection with the artifact; however, in terms of preservation and the benefit of others, she said, it would be better suited in another facility. Ione also was hesitant to place the journal in an archive because then she would no

longer own it. This was a problem she ran into when searching for a picture of her great-grandmother. After looking for 10 years, the New York Public Library had a photo but she was not allowed to have it and needed their permission to use it even though she felt like it was hers.

Junior Louis Ortiz enjoyed the lecture, and said he walked away with some new knowledge.

"It was insightful, the way she [Ione] put pieces of a diary together to make a publication," Ortiz said. "I learned a lot about her roots and she added to the inspiration I already have to become a published writer."

'It was insightful, the way she put pieces of a diary together to make a publication.'

— Louis Ortiz
Junior



ERIC KIMMEL / THE CIRCLE

Poughkeepsie Oxygen Bar, PK-O2 for short, fills the physical space which was once occupied by Marist hotspot McCoy's Bar. Whether or not the trendy oxygen bar can fill the emotional void that was created when McCoy's closed down last year remains to be seen.

Purified air offered instead of alcohol

By JEREMIAH HOSTETTER
Circle Contributor

Before it lost its liquor license, McCoy's was a favorite destination of many at Marist. On March 2, the space that used to be McCoy's reopened, but this time it will not have any of its past problems.

Though reopening under the same owners, it will now be alcohol-free. Renamed Poughkeepsie Oxygen — PK-O2 for short — this former bar / Marist hotspot will offer people a place to hang out and have fun, but now without the students having to worry about a hangover, a fake ID, or the hassles of trying to swipe in and get past security when you have had one too many drinks. PK-O2 looks to offer a breath of fresh air to the whole bar / club / hangout scene.

Coming out of southern California and endorsed by a bevy of stars, oxygen has become an increasingly popular trend. Sonny Fichera, the proprietor of PK-O2, discussed the

benefits of an oxygen bar versus those of an alcoholic bar.

"What makes this lounge different is that it offers something very different in the way of a high or buzz," Fichera said. "While your average bar offers a variety of alcoholic drinks, PK-O2 offers purified air, which has been filtered almost to the point of being surgical quality oxygen." Fichera described

the olfactory benefits that heighten the experience.

"This oxygen comes in a variety of different smells," he said, "so not only do you have the relaxing effects of the purified oxygen, but you also get a sort of aromatherapy."

Fichera explained the process. "You go into a small area that's set apart for PK-O2's two oxygen hookups," he said.

"There, you can get 10 minutes of purified oxygen for 10 bucks plus four bucks for the disposable nose hose, so that it's all hygienic. Then you plug in. You can choose one of eight different scents, from spiced apple pie and maraschino cherry to winterfresh evergreen and tangerine tango, and just sit back and relax."

Despite the trend of oxygen bars,

WebMD.com reports a lack of scientific evidence that recreational shots of pure oxygen provide any health benefits. However, some would point out that the medical community also does not recognize chiropractics as causing any benefits, yet much like chiropractics, oxygen has attracted a wide range of devotees.

As Booth Moore of the L.A.

Times noted, the effect is unique to any drug.

"It [gives] a mild high, one that made one oxygen-therapy virgin feel, well, a bit 'smiley,'" Moore said.

It is not known whether the oxygen merely acts as a powerful placebo, or if there are actual benefits the body receives from not having to filter the air. Still, many swear by the oxygen experience, claiming that it's very relaxing. Proponents of oxygen claim a wide range of benefits, ranging from better tans to balanced emotions, and even helping with hangovers.

Fichera believes that it may even have academic benefits for students.

"It can serve as a great stress reliever during the crazy days of midterms and finals," Fichera said. "[It is] a good idea to have an alcohol-free place to go out to, for those who don't care to drink, or have exams the next day. This is what Marist has needed for a long time: a place to have fun, to dance and

SEE PK-02, PAGE 3

Animal activism emerges on campus

By ANDY JOYCE
Staff Writer

FOXPAW, a new animal rights advocacy group on campus, had its first meeting last Thursday.

Among many of the topics discussed was the film "The Witness," a riveting documentary that will no doubt change the way you view animal rights. It is the story of a construction worker who was never allowed a pet as a kid, and when he adopts a kitten, he develops a fondness for the four-legged creatures.

Robin Henderson, junior, brought the group together after meeting several other animal-conscious Marist students, on theFacebook.com. Her own views on animal rights issues come from reading PETA literature since an early age, and also,

an experience she had in grade school. "During recess we could tend to baby cows and play with

them. Then it would come time for dinner, and we'd have veal. It was the first time I'd made that connection, and it was shocking," Henderson said.

"We were just chartered last week. Up until now we've held several unofficial meetings" Henderson said.

FOXPAW's agenda is to foster a sense of compassion and respect for animals. They feel through films like "The Witness" and education they can change everyday decision making, such as maybe staying away from meat, or only buying products that haven't been tested on animals.

Most people wouldn't look or feel the same way about a pig or a chicken as they would the family dog, and according to many

animal rights' advocates, that doesn't make sense.

"A lot of people don't make connections between the 'cute' animals they would never harm and the types of animals we consume for food," Henderson said.

Among many of FOXPAW's goals are to attract representatives from Boca Foods, makers of the Boca Burger and other soy products. Henderson also hopes to see the addition of more vegetarian goodies to the menu at the cafeteria. And those cosmetic products tested on animals being sold in the bookstore? FOXPAW would like to see them replaced with other high quality products, just ones that aren't tested on animals.

Henderson and many of the other club members realize this may be a bit of a struggle at first,

but their goal primarily is to educate Marist students about animal rights, and to increase their awareness.

Kerri Kennengieser, a senior from Medford, NY heard about the group at a SEED meeting earlier in the week. SEED is a Marist environmental advocacy group.

"I'm really excited for an animal welfare group, through my involvement I personally hope to learn more about animal welfare issues," Kennengieser said.

FOXPAW also hopes to promote Meatout 2005, which aims to help individuals change to a "non-violent" diet of fruits, grains and vegetables. It also promotes the availability and selection of meat and dairy alternatives in grocery stores and restaurants.

Many families throughout the SEE ANIMAL RIGHTS, PAGE 3

THE CIRCLE
845-575-3000 ext. 2429
writethecircle@hotmail.com

3399 North Road
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HEALTH: CLEAN AIR REFORM FOR N.Y. IF NOT IN U.S.

Circle contributor Jeff Varecka on the Kyoto Protocol and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

PAGE 6

NEWS: BEAT SUMMER BOREDOM WITH A TRIP TO ROTC TRAINING

Andy Joyce writes about how you can fill all those summer months by doing something worthwhile.

PAGE 3



THE CIRCLE Campus

The "Security Briefs" and the "Alcohol Fantasy Beat" are intended to be a parody and not a representation of The Circle's editorial stance on drinking — illegal or otherwise — nor is it intended to be a statement regarding the official Marist College policy on alcohol consumption.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2005

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PAGE 2

Security Briefs:

When your bank says no, John Stamos says yes!

Compiled by DAN ROY
Campus Editor

ATTENTION:

There have been a series of harassing prank phone calls to the female population at Marist College. Here are some tips from security guru John Gildard: don't stay on the phone, and don't give out any personal information. For your room's voicemail, don't leave your names. If you are thinking to yourself, oh my God, how does he know my name, it is probably because of your voicemail. Also, have a male friend record the message. If the harasser gets through to your voicemail and hears a man's voice, chances are, he won't call back. And if you experience one of these calls, call security immediately to make a report.

2/22 — A fire extinguisher from Leo's third floor was shot off at 4:47 a.m. Tuesday. The dust from the blast then triggered the fire alarm, causing the whole building to be evacuated. I hope you guys remembered your Toast Toasties because not only was it cold out, it was slippery too.

2/22 — There was a minor accident in the Donnelly lot at 10:25 p.m. A 1992 Pontiac was backing out of a space and struck a 2002 Dodge passing by. Really no one's fault here. Once you reach a certain age, like our '92 friend over here, vision and reaction time just deteriorate. It's science.

2/23 — An attempted unauthorized entry was put down at 3:00 a.m. Wednesday. It was a Marist student from

another dorm trying to pull the fast one. I'm insulted, I really am. When it is a student and a guest, just one person fails to read my briefs. But this means both of you don't read them! What is this school coming to?! Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles?

2/23 — What a surprise, another failed attempted entry. At 3:37 a.m. a guest was caught trying to get into Marian with a student's ID. That's just gross man. If that is your idea of foreplay, then no wonder Marian didn't let you in.

2/25 — A guard making rounds in Midrise found two wall lights broken on the first floor at 7:30 p.m. The two lights were right outside the elevator. A note was taped near the damage. It read, "Start taking the steps, or your EXIT sign is next."

2/26 — Gartland F's filth finally caught up to them at 2:45 p.m. Saturday. A fire alarm was set off because of a dirty burner on the stove. A student from the apartment said, "Yeah, we were copying a Christina Aguilera DVD and it just burst into flames."

2/27 — A student approached Champagnat's entry desk at 12:15 a.m. Sunday. The student, completely disoriented, couldn't keep his balance and fell to the ground. Security called Fairview and he was taken to St. Francis. Here, he met his Made coach, Bello the Clown. Bello had him walk a tight rope and he got his balance back in no time. "Great job lad, you are now ready to swipe in," Bello announced. The student returned to Champagnat with a swagger, swiped in, and went to bed. The yell of the security guard was then heard around campus, "Damn you Bello! Damn you to hell!!"

2/27 — Fittingly our last brief is an illegal entry case. At 2:15 a.m., a Marist ID was given to a non-Marist per-

son for the purpose of entering Marian Hall. However, since Marist security has seen more of this than snowflakes on the ground, he was easily caught and sent away. Now, you might be saying to yourself, "That's not fair, they use Head and Shoulders! That eliminates 99.9 percent of flakes." Of course there will be more illegal entries!" If you are saying that to yourself, then you are dumb. I wasn't talking about those kinds of snowflakes ... I was talking about cocaine.

Alcohol-related incidents this week:

1. Champagnat — 1

Total alcohol-related incidents:

1. Leo — 3
2. Champagnat — 2
3. Gregory — 1
4. Talmadge — 1
5. Upper West Cedar — 1
6. Lower West Cedar — 1



Upcoming Campus Events

Thursday, Mar. 3, 2005
SPC Performing Arts
Presents:
Tea for Three
8 PM
PAR

Saturday, Mar. 5, 2005
Mall Trip
4 PM - 12 AM
Bus leaves from Midrise

Sunday, Mar. 6, 2005
SPC Broadway Trip:
Beauty and the Beast
9 PM
Bus leaves from Midrise

Tuesday, Mar. 8, 2005
SPC Performing Arts
Presents:
Rob Gonzalez
8 PM
PAR

Thursday, Mar. 10, 2005
SPC Presents:
Battle of the Bands
9 PM
Cabaret

Friday, Mar. 11, 2005
SPC Comedy Club
Presents:
Leighann Lord
9 PM
Cabaret

Saturday, April, 30, 2005
SPC Spring Concert:
Reel Big Fish

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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

To All Undergraduate Students,

An academic initiative, referred to as 'The Unit,' is being considered for implementation within the Marist community. Administrators and faculty have been actively involved. If implemented, this proposal could potentially change our educational experience. Student Government members who have been sitting on the various planning committees pertaining to 'The Unit.' Students have expressed their opinions regarding the merits and deficits of this proposal.

At this time, based on the general consensus of those who could be affected, the Student Government Association is not confident with the information that has been provided to the students thus far. Until all parties involved are able to ensure the smooth and detailed transition from the credit system to the unit system, we are unable to fully support this tentative initiative.

Respectfully, through forums and presentations, the Student Government Association has informed the students of the details concerning these tentative alterations. These forums and presentations have been conducted by SGA.

Sincerely,

The Student Government Association



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

“ It’s only four weeks of your life, but it was the most rewarding four weeks I’ve ever had. ”

— Andrew Christensen
Cadet

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2005

www.maristcircle.com

PAGE 3

Beat summer boredom with a trip to ROTC training

By ANDY JOYCE
Staff Writer

Looking to avoid another summer of lame jobs and sitting in your living room staring at your parents? If this is the case, Marist Army ROTC has a cure for the summertime blues.

The Army ROTC’s Leader’s Training Course or LTC may be what you’re looking for. It is a unique, challenging and fun way to spend four weeks of the summer and possibly earn a 2-year scholarship.

Each summer, students from universities and colleges across the United States travel to Fort Knox, Kentucky to take part in a 28-day leadership experience, the Army ROTC’s Leader’s

Training Course. And it’s not just for students. As a part of the LTC training experience, educational representatives, including university presidents, deans, coaches, trainers and various administrators, are invited to visit to observe and actually participate in the instruction and leadership training that their students are experiencing.

The Leader’s Training Course is the Army’s 2-year ROTC Program entry point. Army instructors observe each student’s progress throughout the course and determine their officer potential in a leadership oriented, motivating 4-week training program.

The Leader’s Training Course offers students without previous

ROTC or Army experience an opportunity to examine the Army before making any obligation. The course qualifies students for entry into the ROTC Advanced

Course. Most students with a 2.5 or higher GPA may also qualify for a two-year scholarship worth nearly \$50,000.

When most college students think of military training, they conjure up images from “Full Metal Jacket”, where sadistic drill sergeants brainwash hapless enlistees into becoming killing

machines. However, this is inaccurate and the reality is different.

Andrew Christensen, cadet, junior business administration major, completed the course last

summer, and recalls only fond memories of his experiences at Fort Knox. “Above all else, it was a great learning experience,” Christensen said. “I learned for the first time in my life the true limits as to where I could push myself mentally and physically.”

— Andrew Christensen
Cadet, junior

After graduation, Christensen said that he took home more than

a Sharpshooter badge and the ability to walk in cadence. He gained skills that will guide him through the Leadership Development and Assessment Course this summer and be useful when he becomes a Second Lieutenant in the Army.

“It was challenging and most of all enjoyable,” he said. “I’ve also made some great friends out of it. You wouldn’t think such a setting would be good for building friendships, but that’s it, you build great friendships.”

The instructors, many former Army Rangers and Special Forces operators, will observe and guide students through the one-of-a-kind training course. The different types of Army training include Basic Rifle

Marksmanship and squad leading exercises, as well as Confidence Courses, not unlike the ones seen on Fear Factor or MTV’s Road Rules Challenge.

Jeff Stevens, junior information technology major, is preparing to go to LTC this summer. One of the first cadets in Marist’s new ROTC program, he’s been preparing himself since August. Plenty of PT, or physical training, like the early morning workouts at McCann, and keeping up with ROTC coursework has given him the edge on many of the cadets he’ll be training with from around the country. Is he scared? Don’t count on it.

“I know I’m going to do real well, and the best part about it is,”

SEE ROTC, PAGE 5

From Page One

Owner of oxygen bar PK02 hopes to attract students sans alcohol

to hang out, without the alcohol.” PKO2 will be open for lunch and dinner seven days a week, and entrance is free during the day, but will be five dollars for the weekends after 9 p.m. A

poker table will be there on the weekends, with a pool table, WiFi network and jukebox there at all hours. PKO2 will also serve Fichera’s popular Buffalo wings and (non-alcoholic) beverages.

The food is 10 percent off for Marist students with their ID.

Pichera said that students can leave their fake IDs home.

“If you feel the need, you can bring your own liquid refresh-

ment; just don’t try walking in holding a bottle of Jack Daniels,” Pichera said. “There are no age restrictions whatsoever.”

Sonny’s daughter, Phyllis Ann, added that there will even be

entertainment available even for those who prefer to stay in their room and play video games.

“We are also setting up a big screen TV with an Xbox and we’ll have Madden and Halo 2 in

the balcony area for all the hardcore gamers to go at it.”

PKO2 is open this weekend, featuring DJs and free late-night snacks.

Animal rights group FOXPAW fosters respect for creatures large and small

United States rely on the raising of livestock to make a living. Chicken farms and cattle farms

have been in these families for generations, and for one Vermont farmer, activism sometimes bor-

ders on “fanaticism”.

Leslie Eyer, owner of Mount Independence Farms in Orwell

Vermont, believes if an animal is being raised for consumption, then it should be eaten.

“We’ve been eating meat for centuries. Going against that seems to defy the laws of nature,

evolution. I condemn anyone who tries to tell other people how to live their lives,” Eyer said.

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Bush's army will treat you right, unless you're poor, black, or gay

Commitment to religious secularism compromises homeland security in the name of bigotry

By IGOR VOLSKY
 Staff Writer

My last column addressed the army's recruitment shortage. "For the first time since 2001, the Army began the fiscal year with just 18.4 percent of its recruitment goal met ... that amounts to less than half of last year's figure and falls well below the Army's goal of 25 percent."

The cost of troop recruitment has also gone up. The army is forced to offer large bonuses to secure troop reenlistment and is currently experiencing difficulty filling undesirable (truck drivers in Iraq) and highly-skilled positions. While minori-

ties and the financially underprivileged are already overrepresented in the forces, they are becoming harder to recruit. (See Feb. 25 column). Yet their openings are not being filled by middle class or upper class children. We, like Dick Cheney, "have better things to do." Meanwhile, our army is overstretched and underprotected.

America is at war yet it refuses to allow all those who volunteer to join her armed forces. Some restrictions rest on credible weight or strength minimums, others are rooted in institutional discrimination. Last Thursday the General Accounting Office found that under President Clinton's

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, hundreds of highly skilled troops were forced out of the forces after it was discovered that they were gay or lesbian. The American tax payer financed this disenfranchisement to the tune of \$200 million. "The estimated cost was for recruiting and training replacements from 1994 through 2003 for the 9,488 troops discharged from the Army, Navy, Air Force or Marine Corps."

Clinton's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy allows gays to serve in the armed forces as long as they do not take part in homosexual activity or disclose their sexual orientation. Of the

gays and lesbians pushed out of the service, 757 held hard-to-fill jobs and 322 spoke Arabic, Farsi, Korean, and Mandarin, "which the Pentagon has called critical skills amid threats from

terrorists." U.S. intelligence agencies and the 9/11

Commission have lamented the death of properly trained and educated translators. Many believe that sufficient interpretation of pre-9/11 communications could have resulted in pre-emptive action or greater threat

awareness.

Yet conservative ideology triumphs over American safety. A majority's personal distaste for homosexual activity is extended into the public policy sector and

its discriminatory tactics serve to strangle the opportunity of a minority and endanger the whole. American fear of homosexuality transcends the terror of Islamic fundamentalists.

Fear should not supercede morality. Discrimination

against a sexual preference is as immoral as racial segregation or gender inequity. While gay marriage has replaced social security as the "third rail" of American politics, its acceptance is forthcoming. Until then Americans deserve a reassessment of Clinton's ill fated military policy.

Igor Volsky is 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.

Thompson's exit as bizarre and unique as entrance into American culture 35 years ago

By HAYDEN BATES
 Circle Contributor

Dr. Hunter S. Thompson, a.k.a. Raoul Duke, has played a seminal role in my development as a writer and as a person. Upon excitedly pouring over his modern masterpiece "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" at the tender age of sixteen, I cheerily announced to my parents that I knew what I wanted to become when I grew up: a dangerous dope fiend of a journalist, carousing the continent in search of the American dream, a type-writer slung over my shoulder.

At seventeen, I read Thompson's "Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail '72," which motivated me to trade in the

journalism half of my vision - but certainly not the dangerous, adventure-seeking addict part - for a more lucrative post as a campaign hack. As you may have presumed, my parents greeted each of my announcements with long, indignant

stares. Over the years since, I have countless times stolen Thompson's "gonzo" writing style - a form that is part journal-

ism and part personal memoir - in sculpting my own pieces.

Fellow, ardent Republicans often recoil with astonishment when I glowingly praise Thompson, a hardcore leftist. Despite our obvious differences in political ideology, Hunter has

always held a special place on my bookshelf and in my heart. Thompson's larger-than-life, roguish character celebrated the American essence for which he was perpetually searching. His no-holds-barred approaches to both writing and living heightened back to a purer (even with the drugs) vision of freedom than you'll ever find today. "I hate to advocate drugs, alcohol, violence or insanity to anyone," he once said, "but they've always worked for me." Only if America could such a crude, licentious character make the entire square culture quake in its

shoes. From his early days on a Harley with the Hell's Angels through his long stints with Rolling Stone Magazine and the ESPN web site, Thompson fearlessly blazed himself into the annals of American literature.

The hardboiled quality of Thompson's writing is comparable only with Hemingway's, and thus, it is somewhat fitting that both men should exit the stage in the same tragic way. Last week, the seemingly invincible dean of gonzo journalism felled his own pen with a fatal gunshot to the head. In death, he has rekindled public interest in his life's work.

Amazon.com reported that in the one week since Hunter's suicide, it has sold as many copies of "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" as it does in one year. His darkly comic writings will live on in publication, and his persona has been immortalized by Johnny Depp in celluloid. His body may be gone, but his free soul still rumbles through the heart of America like a bull on acid in a china shop. I, for one, am thankful for that.

Letters to the Editor

A message from Student Body President-elect Kenneth Juras

To The Marist Community,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Student Body President-elect. My involvement with Student Government began during my first year of study. My experience includes serving under the McAlpin administration as the Assistant to the Vice

President of Club Affairs and under the Gibbons administration as the Vice President of Club Affairs. Currently, I work with the current Student Body President, Linda Crane, as the Speaker of the Senate. My duties involve being the acting chair of the General Members Committee, which is something entirely new to Student

Government Association. It has opened Student Government up to many new students and has provided ideas that otherwise would not have realized.

I look forward in continuing to work on addressing the concerns of the student body. It is imperative for Student Government to continue to work on implementing the Rape Aggression

Defense (RAD) program on-campus. There also needs to be a continuation of a dialogue regarding the status of having a yearbook for future classes. Student Government also needs to provide an atmosphere that encourages student involvement in the issues we face.

The Student Government Association still has a lot of

work to accomplish and a long road to travel. Anyone who wishes to help the student body advance should apply for an Executive Board position. If interested, applications are available in the Student Government Office, located in the Student Center, room 347. I am more than willing to address any student's concerns that they may

have. Student Government can be reached via e-mail at SGA@marist.edu. I look forward to working for the students of Marist College now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Juras
 Student Body President-elect

Volsky responds to last week's reader arguments

Dear Chris,

I thank you for your comments. Let me reply to your arguments in the order you presented them.

— Gang violence
 You assume that gang prevention programs contribute to gang violence. Condom use does not increase pregnancy rates, sir.

— Fighting terrorism
 As you might have read in my Feb. 24 column, Porter Goss (the CIA Director) has admitted the obvious: the illegal invasion of Iraq has turned that country into an epicenter of terrorism.

We are less secure today than we were four years ago.

— Job training
 Mr. Bush has systematically slashed both vocational training and job training. Consider the following:

In his 2004 budget, Bush proposed a 25 percent cut (\$300 million) to federal funding of vocational education.

In his 2004 budget, Bush proposed to consolidate job training grants to states for adult services into a single grant program, totaling \$3.080 billion — a \$60 million cut from the grants it consolidates from a year ago.

In his 2004 budget, Bush proposed to eliminate all funding for the Youth Opportunity Grants — a program that provides job training to the nation's youth.

In his 2003 budget, Bush proposed a 9 percent (\$476 million) cut to the overall budget for job training programs.

Bush's 2002 budget proposed to cut 541 million (10 percent) from job training programs — North Korea

There is a difference between six-party talks and bilateral negotiations. While it is true that the Bush administration took part in six-party diploma-

cy, it failed to directly communicate with the Koreans.

As Jack Pritchard, former U.S. special envoy for negotiations with North Korea noted, "the North Koreans are not satisfied with the six-party process, they are prepared ... to have a serious discussion, within the context of multilateral discussions, but directly with the United States, to resolve these outstanding issues."

The North Koreans ... cited an example in which they tried to communicate with the United States through what is called the New York channel ... We would exchange messages — we didn't

do any negotiation — but, nonetheless, it was an open channel of communication. [The] North Koreans now are sending or trying to send messages to the United States for which there is no return communication. They cited as an example [a situation] in which the United States had some questions that they wanted the North Koreans to answer. They were substantive questions ... on the six-party talks ... but the United States sent the questions to China to be delivered to the North Koreans. The North Koreans were livid ... There is an opportunity to simply deliver

such messages directly through the New York channel, so they are unhappy at what they see as an amateur approach."

Also, after the North Koreans admitted that they had nuclear weapons and withdrew from the multilateral negotiations on February 10, they demanded bilateral negotiations with the Americans. Washington refused to re-open diplomatic channels.

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A dining committee consisting of students, faculty and staff continuously meet each year to discuss issues and concerns regarding any of the Marist Dining services.

The next Dining Dish meeting will be held on March 7th in the South Dining Room.

THE CIRCLE Features

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2005

www.maristcircle.com

PAGE 5

With the many benefits of continued education, find out if graduate school is right for you

By AUBREY ROFF
Circle Contributor

Although the law and our parents make us go to elementary school, we finish high school in hopes of making more than minimum wage, and we go to college dreaming of a career and comfortable life in the suburbs, we don't really have to go to graduate school.

There are many things to consider when deciding if attending graduate school is the right step for you. First, there is the phenomenon of "jobless recovery," where the economy continues to improve without new jobs being added. This will force people seeking good employment to be more competitive within the job market.

Attending graduate school also increases your likelihood of making more money throughout your career. Individuals with master's degrees make about

\$139,000 more in their lifetime than those with bachelor's degrees, and those with professional or doctoral degrees earn about \$600,000 more than those holding undergraduate degrees.

However, graduate school isn't just an instant ticket to high salaries and great jobs.

Those seeking master's degrees will have at least a one-year commitment, and those seeking higher degrees could be devoted to as much as a decade of work and apprenticeships.

Also, graduate school programs have become more cautious to accept students straight out of undergraduate programs. The reason is that many students apply to graduate school, just because they are not sure of what else to do. This situation usually leaves them unprepared for the demands of graduate school, causing them to drop out before the program has ended. Therefore, schools have begun to

consider both the students' academic accomplishments, as well as their seriousness of purpose. It's important to make sure that you are truly ready for graduate school before you make the major decision to attend.

And then, of course, there's the financial aspect of attending graduate school. Tuition and living expenses usually amount to about \$26,000 a year, and many students find it difficult to finance their ongoing education.

Although this seems like a staggering amount, there are ways to help reduce the financial burden. A fellowship or assistantship could provide tuition, as well as

an income. **If you're truly dedicated to your field and career, and ready to face the demands of the program, graduate school may be the right choice for you.** Good loan organization could help you pay for your education after you've earned your degree. In some cases, your employer will finance your advanced degree. Also, you could take advantage of tax breaks and savings plans.



Courtesy of EARTHLINK.NET

But if you're truly dedicated to your field and career, and ready to face the demands of the program, graduate school may be the right choice for you. You could attend right after college, or try a couple of jobs, and apply when you are ready. It's never too late to pursue your education further, or try something completely new.

The Center for Career Services at Marist has a wealth of information about graduate school, as well as Graduate School and Fellowship Advisor Pat Taylor who is available to help you along the way. To get more information or make an appointment, contact the Center for Career Services at X3547.

The Phantom

Cure for class induced sleep

So how often do you doze off in class even when it's unintentional, or just find yourself in a fantasy world where the



MICHAEL

MAYFIELD

ground is made of chocolate and you have complete control over nature? Just me huh? Liars! It's quite frustrating to hold those eyelids open when they must weigh about the same as a car. And the things that come from the end of the pen during those times, well knock me sideways and call me Shirley, it's insanity! I'm trying to spell Communism, for instance, and it comes out "Commsbfg ..." and some scribbles. Apparently, the Soviets were trying to perpetuate "Commsbfg ..." and some scribbles, but the United States just didn't see that in the cards for the world, according to my notes. I'm totally acing that test, I can feel it.

And those other times when you're in a different place at a different time, like Ancient Rome in the giant public baths ... wait ... what? Drifting off into other thoughts is just

inevitable sometimes. So what happens? Doodles, of course! What fun those designs are; swirls, shapes and shading beautifying the page. Who wouldn't want to read it after that? These margins are quite dazzling indeed. Or it so happens that I'm writing this fine article to keep my mind from drifting to parallel universes ... I didn't say that.

Time is our enemy on those days. It creeps along almost as fast as Bush's thought process. "Gasp!" Who said that? Ah well, all's fair in politics and writing, right? Anyway, time, yes, time indeed. I swear, sometimes the hands of the clock move backward. Every tic of the second hand booming in my ears and it never seems to make it to 12:15. But sometimes it's the class and others it's just the day; gloomy and dreary. Either way, it takes all the energy one is willing to spare to focus, to listen, to keep those eyes open so as not to disturb the entire class by waking up with a start. Every one of you knows what those jolts are like.

Coffee makers. Yes, that is what every classroom should have. Nay, free coffee! Free coffee, just as good as penicillin. Who's with me! All in favor, say "Aye!"

Shakespeare rounds out MCCTA performances

By ALEXANDRIA BRIM
Staff Writer

Marist College Council on Theatre Arts (MCCTA) will conclude its 2004-2005 mainstage season March 4-6 with a production of William Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" in the Nelly Goletti Theatre.

"Merchant" tells the story of friends Antonio and Bassanio and their dealings with the shrewd Shylock. To help Bassanio wed his love Portia, Antonio borrows money from the vengeful Shylock with one strange demand, Antonio's business fails and he cannot pay Shylock back. Shylock, upset at his daughter's sudden elopement, demands a pound of his debtor's flesh. Bassanio fights to

save his friend, but Antonio's fate is determined by a mystery witness.

"We're approaching Shakespeare in an ageless manner to make it accessible to everyone," Jennifer Goldsmith, president of MCCTA as well as Jessica in the production, said.

Joe Matero, who is playing Shylock, agreed calling Shakespeare a "classic" and this particular play "a great show." "Shakespeare ... would a name by any other evoke such fear?" said Justin Zacek, who plays Antonio — the Merchant of Venice. "We embrace our fear with the help our fearless leader."

The director of MCCTA's production of "Merchants of Venice" is Nancy Chu, a New

York City director. Chu is a member of Lincoln Centre Theatre Directors Lab. She also serves as a director for the Shakespeare Project and the Drilling Company.

"With time short, we pooled together our efforts and created a great show," Zacek said.

The show promises to be one of MCCTA's finest and is open to the public. Performances on Mar. 4 and 5 will be held at 8 p.m. while the Mar. 6 performance will be held at 2 p.m. Tickets will be free for local high school students, \$3 for Marist students, and \$10 for general public admission. Reservations can be made by calling the MCCTA box office at X3133 or online at www.mccta.com.

From Page Three

Spend your summer getting paid with ROTC training

even if you haven't been as prepared as I am, they don't expect cadets coming in to know everything," Stevens said.

Even though LTC is a basic training for officers-in-training, it is far different from the basic training endured by Army enlistees.

"I look at it more as a paid summer Army internship," Stevens said.

Frank Licameli, lieutenant colonel, assistant professor of military science, notes that there are differences between what most students think about Army training and what actually occurs.

"Training that occurs in LTC is designed to build confidence, and in turn, enhance ones' abilities," Licameli said. "The old mindset that cadets are beaten down and rebuilt up a certain way doesn't apply here."

He also noted that there is an

ROTC lunchtime information session on Thursday, Mar. 3 at noon in the Student Center, room 348.

LTC consists of four phases, or training cycles. They are the Soldier First Phase, the Warrior Leader Phase, the Bold Leader Phase and finally, the Future Leader phase. The Soldier First phase is primarily an introduction to the Army and its history. It is in this phase where cadets will learn all the necessary skills for success in the following three phases. Skills like marching, military customs and courtesies.

In the Warrior Leader phase, cadets learn basic military skills. It is also considered the "adventure" aspect of the training, where cadets build self-confidence and esprit-de-corps, or the "gung-ho" attitude that is essential for success in any military training, or civilian life.

In the Bold Leader phase, the

cadets are finally put to the test on all they have been taught. In the field, cadets are tested in land navigation and assume leadership responsibilities, like squad or team leader. Cadets also take part in their first Field Training Exercise, or FTX. It is intentionally tough and introduces the element of stress. Cadets are evaluated on how they respond to the stressful conditions of this part of the training.

And the final phase, the Future Leader phase introduces the trained ROTC cadets to the social aspect of the Army. This is when Family Day takes place and the cadets graduate.

Christensen looks back on his graduation day with pride, and remembers the hard work it took to get him there.

"It's only four weeks of your life, but it was the most rewarding four weeks I've ever had," Christensen said.

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“ For the modern-day zoo to have elephants does nothing for the preservation or conservation of the species. And it does nothing for the welfare of the elephant. ”

— Carol Buckley
Elephant sanctuary owner

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2005

www.maristcircle.com

PAGE 6

Clean air reform for N.Y. if not in U.S.

By JEFF VARECKA
Circle Contributor

Recently the Kyoto Protocol came into force in 126 nations, not including the United States. New York has taken an initiative in protecting the environment despite the country's refusal to join the world wide effort.

The aim of the Kyoto Protocol is to fight global warming by reducing the production of greenhouse gasses. CO₂, a greenhouse gas, is building up in the atmosphere and has been linked to a rise in temperatures worldwide. CO₂ is mainly released into the atmosphere as a by product of fossil fuel combustion, from burning coal to produce electricity right down to the gasoline that burns in a car's engine.

The United States is the leading country in energy consumption and CO₂ emissions. The U.S. produces over 5.3 million tons per year, while China the second largest producer, emitting 3.3 million tons of CO₂ per year. These top two producers of CO₂ in the world, the U.S. and China, have not signed the Kyoto Protocol.

President Bush's refusal to sign the Kyoto Protocol has come as a shock to many. Kyoto is the beginning of a solution. Since the Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012, the provisions in the Kyoto Protocol are projected to only reduce CO₂ levels by 5.2 percent from their 1990 levels by 2012. Without the cooperation of three of the top five CO₂ producers, many critics believe that the goal will be difficult to reach.

Global warming and pollution have been

issues for many years. Before Kyoto, in 1970 the Clean Air Act was passed in an effort to reduce harmful pollutants being emitted into the atmosphere. The Clean Air Act targets pollutants such as carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide found in acid rain, nitrogen oxide which contributes to smog and causes lung problems, and mercury which has caused mental retardation in babies. The Clean Air Act forces polluters to keep up with technology that will reduce the amount of pollutants they produce.

A major obstacle on the way to reform is that the Clean Air Act is not enforced. The Clean Air Act has laid out a set of laws meant to but not effective in reducing pollution and fighting global warming. The Clean Air Act has also been weakened by the Bush administration's Clear Skies Act.

The Clear Skies Act proposes a 70 percent cut in pollution over 15 years, though in truth it weakens the Clean Air Act. By 2015, Clear Skies allows for 450,000 more tons of nitrogen oxide, one million more tons of sulfur dioxide, and 9.5 more tons of mercury than allowed by the Clean Air Act. The Clear Skies Act does not address carbon dioxide. Clear Skies also lets polluters ignore the Clean Air Act mandate to use cleaner technologies.

In the spirit of the Clean Air Act, Governor Pataki of New York State has proposed the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, or RGGI, includes 11 northeastern states from Maine to Maryland, and its purpose is to reduce industrial production of CO₂ and greenhouse gases in these 11 states. The RGGI is based on a cap system, which sets a limit on how much of these gases are going

to be allowed to be produced. States and producers that do not use all of their allowance can sell the remainder to other producers who cannot stay below their own allowance. The RGGI is set to have this allowance system in place by April 2005. This is the first regional plan to deal with pollution and production of CO₂ based on incentives.

However, there are still 39 other states that contribute to the United States' number one position among greenhouse gas producers.

The RGGI mainly addresses industry. Infrastructure and transportation are also important in solving problems of energy consumption and pollution. While industry is a main producer of CO₂, production of electricity and the car fumes account for much of the CO₂ production in our country.

Responsibility for controlling greenhouse gases and global warming depends on more than Kyoto and the RGGI. Moving towards use of renewable resources and helping developing nations to do the same are vital to sustaining the goals of the Kyoto Protocol. Seven years of partial cooperation with respect to solving the problem of CO₂ production, and setting a limit for CO₂ production within one region of the United States are not going to achieve a long term goal. Nevertheless, they are steps in the right direction.

Getting results will ultimately take more than regional policies and failure to enforce the laws already created. Work needs to be done within this country and in conjunction with others. Only when global warming and CO₂ production are recognized as legitimate problems can there be a legitimate solution.

Science Briefs

By KRISTEN ALLDREDGE
Health Editor

Elephant Rights

Animal Rights protesters argue with zookeepers over the purpose of zoos, following reports of disturbing behavior from animals and the deaths of four elephants. CNN reports both sides of the issue: zoos are important for research and survival of species, while critics say animals are subjected to physical and mental stress in captivity.

Bill Foster, president of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association believes that the animals' natural habitats are being ruined by human populations and will cause their reduction and extinction if not preserved by the zoos. A spokesman for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) pointed out that animals are behaving oddly in zoos and this disturbance on spectators is defeating the exhibition's educational purposes.

Reports show that zoo elephants that are kept in cramped quarters and susceptible to infections often die younger and are less capable of breeding than many left in the wild.

"For the modern-day zoo to have elephants does nothing for the preservation or conservation of the species. And it does nothing for the welfare of the elephant," said Carol Buckley, creator of a sanctuary for a dozen cast-off zoo and circus elephants.

Environmentally aware cities span globe

One hundred cities and 60 countries have formed a global network to share information in tackling the climate crisis. After the Kyoto Protocol's implementation, cities in countries that have neglected to sign such as China and the United States are set to take action in combating against global warming.

The campaign is called ZeroCarbonCity, launched by the British Council is focused on those cities that are the biggest consumers of electricity and generators of greenhouse gases, CNN reported. Neil Kinnock, chairman of the council said the campaign is designed to generate new ideas and awareness of the issue. An exhibition will travel to 100 cities showing the victories and failures of solutions to the climate change issue, from urban planning to living styles.

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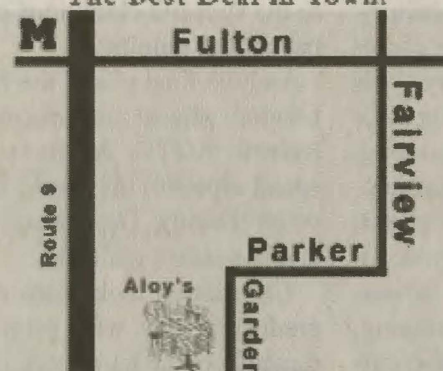
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Central Park Gates warm barren winter landscape

By KERRI MARKS
Circle Contributor

The trees add color in most seasons, but since February 12 "The Gates" are what have been adding color and life to Central Park.

The celebrated exhibit that lines the paths of Central Park is the work of Christo and Jeanne-

Claude, two artists who petitioned the city for nearly thirty years in order to see their idea materialize.

Mayor Bloomberg finally approved their idea in 2003, and was the first to drop the fabric from one of "The Gates" at the opening ceremony held on February 12.



"The Gates" in Central Park were exhibited for 16 days, warming up the desolate winter atmosphere.

After 21 million dollars of financing by C.V.J. Corp., which is headed by Christo, this idea can be now be observed by all the visitors to Central park. For 16 days till February 28,

7,500 of "The Gates" that Christo and Jeanne-Claude imagined can be seen standing 16 feet tall throughout all 23 miles of pathways in the park.

"The Gates" are actually vinyl frames with saffron colored fabric hanging from the top-inside until about 7 feet above the ground. According to the Christo and Jeanne-Claude website, the saffron fabric chosen by the artists was meant to be a "golden ceiling creating warm shadows." The fabric, however, has been disputed by many people and even newspapers such as the New York Times, since it appears much more orange than saffron in reality. Despite the actual color of the fabric, it serves its purpose as a warm welcome by adding color that the now bare tree branches in the

park lack.

Junior, Jody Menna, who visited "The Gates" on February 19 said the exhibit added color and life to the park unlike any other time she had been there in the winter.

"I have never seen that many people in the park at one time during the winter, regardless of the cold weather," said Menna. "There was a variety of people gathered there; families, couples, students and all to experience the art."

The Christo and Jeanne-Claude website also states that the idea behind the project was to appear like a colorful river flowi



JESSICA BAGAR / THE CIRCLE

Costing \$21 million, "The Gates" stand 16 feet tall and stretch 23 miles throughout Central Park in NYC.

ng around the park when looked
SEE GATES, PAGE 8

'In Between' outstanding and ordinary, Jack Johnson's third album released

By KATE GIGLIO
Managing Editor

Jack Johnson
"In Between Dreams"
Universal Records
2005

After seeing the video for "Sitting, Waiting, Wishing," I developed some rather high hopes for the new Jack Johnson album. After all, the veritable "singles" from his first two albums weren't even my favorite songs on the discs, albeit they were really good. So here I am, giddy with anticipatory glee, pressing play on track one of "In Between Dreams."

Well, I wasn't immediately disappointed—the first track is my second-favorite on the album. But as it turns out, the single is by far the best on the CD. And while it is a great song that evokes Johnson's break-out "Brushfire Fairytales," it is a bit disheartening that there are no hidden gems on this one like there are on "Fairytales" and his sophomore effort, "On and On."

The opener of "Dreams," "Better Together," is a relaxed, sweet opener, proclaiming that "Love is the answer / At least, for most of the questions in my heart." Besides being one of the stronger songs on the album, it also demonstrates classic Jack Johnson—his pure, easy voice

singing charming, poetic lyrics, and his relaxed guitar. The light piano in between verses is another element that pushes this into the top echelon of the album.

The next track, "Never Know," is more of a rhythmic segue way than anything else over to track three, "Banana Pancakes." With the sound of rain in the background, Johnson preaches the oft-overlooked importance of slowing down life a bit, taking it easy, staying in bed and making some banana pancakes. And who's going to argue with that?

"Good People" is next on the list, in which Johnson poses a rather ingenuous question. "I've been changin' channels / I don't see them on the TV shows / Where'd all the good people go? / We got heaps and heaps of what we sow." He also claims television is "desensitizing the nation." Likewise, in "The News" from the "Brushfire Fairytales" album, he sang "A billion people died on the news tonight / But not so many cried at the terrible sight." Though it's a legitimate rumination, it seems out of place on something as mellow as Johnson's albums. And on "Staple It Together" (track seven) and "Crying Shame" (track nine), he speaks out against the chronically denial-ridden and warmongers, respectively. What's going on here, Jack? Shake the sand out

of your board shorts, leave agitated lyrics to Disturbed, and keep singing about pancakes and peace.

"No Other Way," track five, is again a sort of blah, Jack-Johnson brand filler, like "Never Know" and, sadly, several of the other songs on the album. Granted, I like Jack-Johnson brand filler better than many other types, but after two CDs like "Fairytales" and "On and On," I had hoped for something a little more. Luckily, the disc picks up with "Sitting, Waiting, Wishing," the aforementioned best song on the album. This is where he comes closest to hitting the feeling of "Fairytales," where you listen on a loop. It is probably the tightest song on the album, as well, and for anyone who's heard other stuff of Johnson's, this is the category where his not-as-good stuff is not as good. Sometimes he tends to linger and lag on tracks, and while it works on some of the really lazy surfer stuff, sometimes it just gets, well, tired.

The roughly one and a half minute-long "Situations" pops up after the filler-esque "Staple It Together." Not sure why he included it on here, but the last tiny song I liked on an album was the Foo Fighters' "Doll" on "The Colour and the Shape"—you don't need to ask, What is this song doing here ... It's only

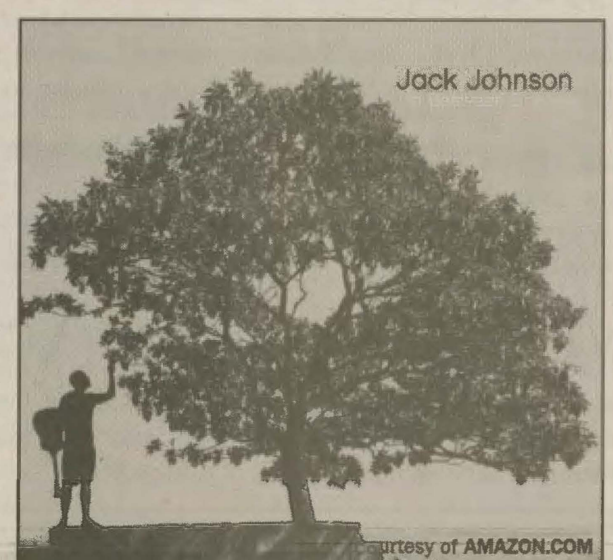
a minute point five and there's really no point. "Situations" like this need to be avoided—the album becomes stilted.

"Crying Shame" and "If I Could," the next two songs, again, are standard-issue Johnsonian, with steady melodies and insightful lyrics.

Track eleven, "Breakdown" is another one of the better songs on the album. Though the metaphorical lyrics could be cheesy if they were another musician's, indeed, Johnson makes them work. The chorus is catchy, and the guitar work is nice.

"Belle" comes closest to being that hidden gem I complained about not really finding. The French-sounding accompaniment, French lyrics, and an O. Henry-esque twist in this vignette of a song make it glisten with originality.

"Do You Remember" continues to pick up the album. It is short, but sweet. And the last song, "Constellations," is a good closer, in both its dreamlike melody and wistful message. "Listen to



Cover art for Jack Johnson's third album, "In Between Dreams."

all the translations / Of the stories across the sky / We drew our own constellations," Johnson sings. As the track melts away with the same simple guitar lick with which it started, you are left thinking, "That's all?" Alas, the album is only a mere 40 minutes long. None of the songs are more than three and a half minutes, and most are between two and three. The album's overall weakness is that none of the songs, though they are enjoyable (for the most part) sound particularly distinctive. The only real exceptions are "Sitting, Waiting, Wishing," and "Belle," pretty much because it is half sung in French.

SEE JOHNSON, PAGE 8

my two cents Oscar calamity takes away from awards ceremony

Well, now that it's over and done with we can step back and look at the annual calamity that is the Oscars.



In the wake of this traumatic event we are left with winners and losers, villains and heroes. The numero uno winner of the night was Clint Eastwood's baby, "Million Dollar Baby," which took home Best Picture, Best Director, gave Hilary Swank the Oscar for Best Actress and Morgan Freedman for Best Supporting Actor. Yet some of the most controversial parts of the awards had nothing to do with movies and everything to do with egos.

"Sideways" was unfortunately one of the forgotten bunch from the award ceremony, but I was quite happy to see Charlie Kaufman take his first Oscar for Best Original Screenplay for "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind"; an Oscar long overdue for perhaps the most unique screenwriter in the business today. Jaime Foxx swept away the Best Actor Oscar for his role in "Ray," praising a performance that was obviously ground breaking; there are still some scenes that I forget that Jamie Foxx is not actually Ray Charles. "The Aviator" was sadly misrepresented as well, but managed to collect a lot of technical awards including Best Costumes. Scorsese was once again left crying in the aisles as Clint and the rest of his "Million Dollar Babies" soaked up all the glory of the night.

Chris Rock's loved and legendary comedic stance was at an absence as some of his material fell off track and sent the likes of people like Sean Penn aiming for his vitals. This is not what the Oscars are about. The fact that Beyonce Knowles bought out most of the live performances for the night is sickening and,

SEE OSCARS, PAGE xxx

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Fifth place finish at ECAC compliments strong season

Women's swimming and diving place in top fifteen for second time in school history

By CHRIS TORRES
Staff Writer

The women's swimming and diving team capped off a largely successful season by placing fifth at the ECAC Championships this weekend in Pittsburgh, Pa. Coming off their first place finish in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Championships, the Red Foxes had a strong outing by accumulating 284 points, behind only Boston College, New Hampshire, Harvard, and Wagner.

Coach Larry VanWagner said he was pleased with the performance but admitted last week's MAAC Championships was the peak of the team's performance this year. "I think we had our best performances at the MAAC Championships," he said. "Our finish this weekend was what I expected but I'm still extremely pleased with how we did."

This year marks only the second time in Marist school history that the women's swimming and diving placed in the top fifteen at the ECAC championships.

Nonetheless, this year marks only the second time in Marist school history that the women's swimming and diving placed in the top fifteen at the ECAC championships after finishing fourth a year ago. Marist was led by their superstar swimmer, sophomore Lauren Malski, who broke her own school record in the 200-yard breaststroke by finishing

the event with a time of 2:16.92. She also swam to her second NCAA "B" standard time in that event this year. By qualifying for the "B" standard time, Malski will be taken into consideration to compete in the NCAA Championships. The announcement of the field will be Friday. The 400-yard freestyle relay squad of sophomores Kimberly Koehler and Victoria Fresalone, senior co-captain Emily Heslin and reigning MAAC swimmer of the year Jamie Falco placed sixth in a time of 3:36.67. Heslin also

chipped in a 12th-place finish in the 1,650-yard freestyle in 17:45.63. This may have been the last team competition for the 2004-2005 season, but the diving team will be sending two of its stars to the NCAA Zone A Diving Regionals in two weeks. Junior Meghan Duffy and freshman Melissa Mangona will go to Annapolis, Md. on Mar. 11-12 in hopes of qualifying to compete in the Division I championships this year. After coaching the team to a MAAC championship and see-

ing the girls break an incredible amount of school and MAAC records, coach VanWagner said he feels that this team has made great strides in their improvement since last season. "I couldn't say this at the beginning of the year, but I actually think we're a better team now than we were last year" he said. "We had some really great accomplishments and I'm extremely pleased with the way the girls performed throughout the year."

From Page Seven

Gates give NYC splash of color amid winter snow

upon from the surrounding buildings, but it has actually served as much more. "The Gates" do serve as a colorful river but have also served to bring about a livelier atmosphere into the park. "The Gates" have brought an influx of people gathering in Central Park despite the hostile

winter weather. The Park is overwhelmed with people who want to experience the work of Christo and Jeanne-Claude as it runs along the pathways. Many people can be seen gathering on large rock formations which over look the skating rink. This is one spot where a portion of the color-

ful river idea can be seen without entering a surrounding building, but from actually inside the park. Menna said she experienced that sight when she stood on the rocks herself. She thought that the view from those rocks showed the river of color that Christo and Jeanne-Claude want-

ed their audience to experience. "I stood on rocks so that I could get a better view of "The Gates," said Menna. "It was really pretty, with the orange color highlighting all

the paths in the park." Menna also stated that many people she saw walking around the park were expressing different opinions toward the exhibit.

"When I was walking around, I could hear a lot of people talking about what they thought of [the exhibit], some liked it, some didn't," said Menna, "but either way they were still there in the freezing cold to see it, so I think just that makes the project successful."

The Park is overwhelmed with people who want to experience the work of Christo and Jeanne-Claude.

Classic Jack Johnson compilation promises to please fans, not strangers

Keep in mind, though, that although this all might sound somewhat harsh, it is only a relative comparison of past Johnson albums, not a cold review. "Dreams" is solid and will be a fixture in my car's CD player.

Johnson's lyrics are always something to look forward to. They read and listen like poetry, seeming somehow to always phrase

If all the songs sound the same ... none can really be bad.

things perfectly; things that many songwriters would have difficulty saying without being awkward. Also, even though most of the

songs may not stand out musically, per se, the Jack Johnson fan already has this album and loves it for what it is—a Jack Johnson album. There is no song that I'm itching to skip over. I'm not even

going to argue his anti-war views; it's just odd that he incorporated them into one of his trademark beachy, laid-back compilations. And granted, while chocolate chip pancakes are better than "Banana," it's still

a pretty good song. Overall, "In Between Dreams" just needs a little extra oomph—some proverbial chocolate chips thrown on top.

Resident movie critic views Academy Awards ceremony as major calamity

dare I go so far as to say, vomit inducing. Not only that, but P. Diddy also made an appearance

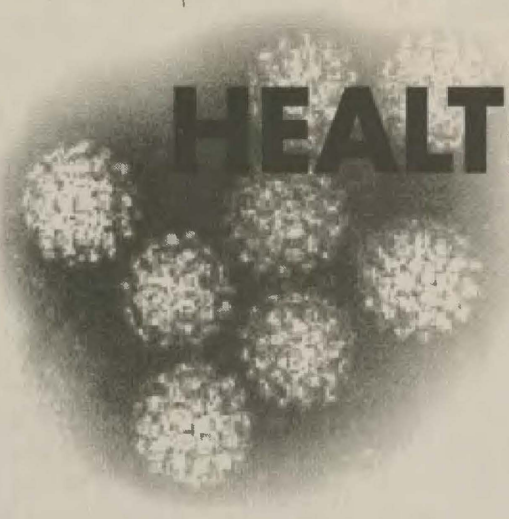
at an event that he has absolutely nothing do to with and should therefore have no part in. To top

off all of this, Chris Rock actually had the balls to yell out "Brooklyn!" at the end of the

show. Dear Mr. Rock, you're not in Brooklyn, so shut up. What ever happened to the old fash-

ioned Oscars when the actual subject of the matter was focused on good movies rather than




social political bull ...ya know.



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Seniors drop last home game; seeded eighth in MAAC

By GABE PERNA
Staff Writer

The men's basketball team suffered a heartbreaking 85-81 loss to Canisius in front of a packed McCann Center full of 2,563 Red Fox fans, excited for the last home contest of the year and the events of "Senior Night."

The seniors for the Red Foxes, center Will McClurkin and guards Brandon Ellerbee and Pierre Monagan, did their best to help the Red Foxes overcome the Golden Griffins and leave the McCann Center on a winning note.

Monagan posted a career high 21 points to go with seven rebounds and four points. McClurkin added 22 points, 15 boards and three blocks in the losing cause.

But despite the efforts from the seniors, Marist could not stop a Canisius offensive onslaught. This especially was true in the first half, when the Golden Griffins scored 50 points and shot 60 percent from the field.

Three players from Canisius, sophomores Darnell Wilson and Chuck Harris and red-shirt junior Kevin Downey, had 17 points, in which all three led their team in scoring during the contest.

Head coach Matt Brady said Canisius has an offense that is arduous to contain.

"I think they are the most talented offensive team in this league," he said. "They sometimes force you to play small, and we played small. We weren't as quick to the ball tonight. We couldn't come off screens and gave them too many open shots. This game I think was decided in the first half as was the last game."

Brady had to be frustrated during a late stretch in the first half when his team committed several turnovers and gave up several second chance points to the Griffins.

Canisius ended the half on an 18-5 run, giving them a ten point lead at the break 50-40. The Red Foxes made several comeback efforts in the second half, even coming within one point during one point of the game.

However, the Red Foxes couldn't overcome Canisius and suffered their ninth loss in ten tries, which ends their regular season with a record of 8-10 in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference and 11-17 overall.

Brady said the loss to Canisius capped an unfortunate end to the regular season for the Foxes, one that he did not envision.

"This is not finishing strong; this is not what I envisioned or something we are building to," he said. "We have to keep our heads up. The hardest thing in athletics is when you lose some game is to stay confident."

For the seniors, the loss was a tough way to end their careers at the McCann Center, especially after the celebration and events surrounding "Senior Night." The seniors on the basketball team, as well as in the band, cheerleading squad and dance team, were celebrated with plaques and walked on to the court with their parents in earlier ceremonies.

The Red Foxes will coincidentally get another chance at the Golden Griffins next week in the MAAC tournament in the first round.

Brady said he hopes the three times in a season effect, where in all forms of team sports it's hard to beat the same team three times a season, comes into play.

"In sports and in college basketball, it is hard to beat a team three times," he said. "These guys [Canisius] are going to be playing in Buffalo with some fans, but when we went up there before, we had a lead late and we were undermanned."



Senior center Will McClurkin scored 22 points while grabbing 15 boards in his last game.

Point guard, Monagan's Marist career gives better handle on life

By ALEX PANAGIOTOPOULOS
Opinion Editor

Any cliché-spouting jock can tell you that basketball is a game of inches, that a season of good fortune can turn to disaster in an instant. Pierre Monagan can tell you that life is the same way.

Both from his age (23) and the hardship he's experienced on and off the court, Monagan is a man among boys on the Marist men's basketball team.

He came to Poughkeepsie in the fall of 2002 as a junior transfer from Utah Valley State College, along with big man Chris Handy. It feels like it was an eternity ago, and in college basketball years, it was.

A 6-foot-2 point guard with a sick handle and a quick first step, he was touted as one of the top five junior college point guards in the country. As practices began in October, all indications were that Monagan would be starting for then-coach Dave Magarity when games began in November.

On Halloween, he dressed up as Oakland Raider Rod Woodson and headed to McCoy's across Route 9, to hang out with friends. He wasn't there for long before a stray .38 caliber bullet went from the side of his face out through his neck.

The gunshot was the result of an altercation between two other patrons, unbeknownst to Monagan. Fate threw him a no-look pass.

A few inches here or there, and the result would have been a lot worse than having to take a red-shirt season.

His jaw was wired shut for six weeks, and according to Magarity, he had a year in stasis to recover mentally and physically.

"I think he was a little depressed that whole year," said Magarity. "I can't even imagine what was going through his mind after something like that happened. Complete victim of circumstances, he had nothing to do with anything, and it completely changed his life."

Monagan said that despite the difficulty the situation, it made him a stronger individual.

"It was tough, to go through it all just made my skin tougher," he said.

In 2003, he was ready to give basketball another try. In a pre-season National Invitational Tournament home game against

Hofstra, Monagan was welcomed back by a frenzied crowd of almost 3,000 at the McCann Center and showed glimpses of why he had caught former coach Dave Magarity's attention. Sharp crossover dribbles, tightrope forays into the lane and brilliant passes to wide-open teammates gave Monagan 12 points and 8 assists and the memory of the best game of his career.

"That first game was the high point," Monagan said.

Monagan wasn't able to keep it going, and the team went a disastrous 6-22. For the rest of the season he

shot only 34 percent from the field while trying to shake off both rust and issues related to the accident. Handy, since graduated, said that Monagan never was the same as he was at Utah Valley State.

Magarity said he is still upset about what Monagan had to endure.

"I think there's no question about the fact that it was physical and mental," he said. "Can you imagine having to deal with the issues he dealt with? He said things to me that I wouldn't ever think about... something like that would really mess anyone up."

On Feb. 5, 2004, he tore the posterior cruciate ligament in his right knee while blocking Niagara All-MAAC point guard Alvin Cruz's shot, and missed the rest of his junior year.

Monagan said that he watched as freshman Jared Jordan took over his job and became the cherubic new face of the team, but he wasn't jealous.

"Jared's my boy," Monagan said. "I knew he had it in him from the start."

Monagan watched as Jordan took over his job, but he wasn't jealous. "I do know I could've did that too, it just didn't happen that way."

He returned home to Chicago to live with his mother, and spent summer break playing pickup games with old friends.

Monagan said he was discouraged by his struggles to rehabilitate his knee and his horrific luck at Marist, but he said a flashback to his childhood was what he needed.

"I remembered what I had to do to get here," he said. "I really fell back in love with the game."

New coach Matt Brady said he saw huge differences in Pierre

Monagan's play when he returned to Poughkeepsie.

"Pierre is healthy and much improved... he's the guy who's improved the most shooting-wise," he said at the time.

It sounded like the perfect start to a fairy tale senior season, for someone harboring dreams of playing professionally after graduation. Knee pain struck again, and Monagan had surgery to repair his right knee's meniscus on Oct. 29, almost a year to the day of the accident at McCoy's.

Knee problems have ended many basketball careers, but Monagan said he pressed on.

"[Quitting] never crossed my mind," he said. "There were tough days. Where I'm from we never give up."

Monagan returned to action on Dec. 6 against St. Peter's, at home. He sported a bulky brace on his right knee, but Monagan said he was able to spell Jordan at point for a few minutes.

"I felt awkward, I felt like I didn't belong with the team," he said.

This season, he has averaged four points a game while shooting 42 percent from downtown in twelve minutes a game. If all had gone well, Monagan would have been a senior carrying the team last year while Jordan was his understudy, but instead, Monagan is stuck playing behind a future All-MAAC guard.

"He should've been done playing here, but instead he got caught in a whole different situation," Magarity said. "My heart goes out to him."

Against Iona on Feb. 21, Jordan suffered a high ankle sprain and has been on crutches since. Monagan had another chance, albeit at the expense of a friend.

On Senior Day against Canisius, with Marist needing a win to salvage playoff position,

Monagan was himself again. He poured in a career-high 21 points, shot

four-for-five from three-point range, grabbed seven boards, and dropped off four assists, though the team lost.

"I just felt the most comfortable that I have here," said Monagan. "I didn't think about anything, I was just playing out there."

And as he talked friendly trash with Canisius guard Jon Popofski or screamed with joy as he drew a foul on a layup, Monagan looked like a teenager running in a pickup game, without scars, without a burden. The way it should have been.



Sophomore guards Jared Jordan and Will Whittington were named third team All-MAAC conference, while red-shirt freshman Ryan Stilphen was named to the All-Rookie team. On the women's side freshman guard Nikki Flores was named to the All-Rookie team while senior center Kristen Keller and junior forward Fifi Camara headlined the first team All-MAAC.

Five men's and women's players receive postseason accolades

By PAUL SEACH
Staff Writer

While the men's basketball team may not have had much success on the court this season, some player's hard work did not go unnoticed. On the women's side, the accolades they received reflect the solid team work that has delivered them a 15 game win streak and a regular season Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Championship.

Three players from each team were selected to various All-MAAC teams as announced by the conference on Feb 28.

Sophomore starting point guard Jared Jordan and shooting guard Will Whittington were selected to the All-MAAC third team. Jordan, who is currently sidelined with a high ankle sprain, finished the season second in the conference with assists per game at 6.4 as well as assist to turnover ratio. Jordan was selected to an All-MAAC team for the second year in a row. Last year, he was part of the All-Rookie team.

Whittington found a spot on the third team for continuing his solid play that dated back to last year's MAAC tournament in Albany, when he finished with 18 points while nailing five three-pointers in 73-64 loss to Siena. This year, Whittington finished the season ranking among some of the top shooters in the nation, placing 12th in three point percentage at an even 50 percent. Whittington averaged 16.6 points per game, tops among his teammates.

Redshirt freshman Ryan Stilphen garnered MAAC All-Rookie honors, after a stellar season in which he added size to the front court next to senior Will McClurkin. Before going down with a back injury, Stilphen led the team in offensive rebounds with 2.3 per game, and grabbed a board in the loss to Canisius last Saturday.

For the women, senior Kristin Keller and junior standout Fifi Camara made All-MAAC first team. Camara made a big impression on the MAAC, gaining 13 of her school record 14

double-doubles against MAAC opponents. She nearly averaged a double-double for the season, bringing 15.7 points and 9.5 boards to the table during each game.

Keller, who was selected to the pre-season first team, did not disappoint this season, posting a solid senior season in which she averaged 14.7 points and 7.3 rebounds a game. She had a team high 27 blocks and combined with Camara's 57 steals, contributed to the stifling defense that is third in the nation, giving up 51.0 points per game.

Freshman guard Nikki Flores made the All-Rookie team, shooting a team-best 75 percent from the free throw line, while totaling 22 assists and 12 steals.

Both teams gear up to play in the MAAC tournament in Buffalo this weekend. The men will play tomorrow against Canisius in the 7-8 game, while the women earned a double bye and will wait to play on Saturday.

Red Foxes devour Terriers in decisive road win

By PAUL SEACH
Staff Writer

The Marist men's tennis team won their fourth straight match, defeating Boston University 6-1 in Boston, Ma. last weekend.

The Red Foxes started off the match by sweeping the doubles set. Number one doubles Pedro Genovese and Leonardo Rodriguez defeated Boston's number one duo Mike Orden and Barrett Wolf 8-3.

Last semester's surprise player Ray Josephs and comebacker Alain Boletta defeated Kris

Kubacki and Phil DeMeo 8-3. Genovese's only win came from his doubles victory as he dropped his singles match to Wolf in straight sets, winning 7-5, 6-2.

Marist took the rest of the singles matches often going to three sets in each match. The only two set win for the Red Foxes came from number four Ray Josephs, who cruised past Kubacki 6-2, 6-3.

With Pedro at one, Rodriguez playing two, Mark Santucci at three, Josephs at four, Federico Rolon manning the five spot and

Brandon Van Wassbeek rounding out the order at six, the singles formation seems to be more in place as the team prepares for Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference play beginning on Apr. 2 at home against St. Peter's.

Newcomer Federico Rolon escaped with a victory in overtime of the third set, defeating Ross Loh in three very close sets 7-5, 5-7, 11-9.

The team takes a break from competition for a few weeks before heading to South Carolina to play Lafayette and Coastal Carolina on Mar. 17.

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THE CIRCLE Sports

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2005

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PAGE 10

Personal record set by Berry

By DREW BUDD
Circle Contributor

The men's track team competed in the NYU Fastrack Invitational this past weekend at the Armory Track and Field Center in New York City.

Senior Clayton Berry tossed a personal-best distance of 13.59 meters (44 feet, 8 inches) in the shot put. His previous best was 13.52 meters which he set earlier this season.

Also having a strong performance was sophomore Bryan Quinn, who placed sixth in the 1,000-meter run with a time of 2:30.13. He became the second fastest runner in school history in the event, now trailing Chris McCloskey.

In the 1,600 meter relay, sophomore Brian DeMarco ran a personal-best split time of 49 seconds. DeMarco will run in the 400-meter run at the IC4A relay next week.

The IC4A Championships will take place at Boston University this weekend. It will be the men's final indoor meet of the season.



ERIC KIMMEL/THE CIRCLE

Above, junior forward Fifi Camara goes up as she scores two of her game high 22 points while grabbing 11 rebounds and earning her 14th double-double of the season. Marist improved to 15-3 in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference and are the first seed in the MAAC Tournament.

Fifteenth consecutive win caps historical season for Foxes

By ANDY ALONGI
Assistant Sports Editor

The Red Foxes erased a two point halftime deficit and clinched the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) regular season title last Sunday as they defeated the host Rider Broncos 55-49.

Junior forward Fifi Camara posted a school record 14th double-double of the season while leading all scorers with 22 points and grabbing 11 rebounds, eight of which were off the defensive glass.

Senior guard Megan Vetter was the only other Marist player scoring in double figures, earning 15 points and hitting three of Marist's four three point field goals. Additionally, senior center Kristen Keller scored nine points while shooting 75 percent from the free throw line in her last regular season game.

The Broncos were led by senior forward Leanne Moore who scored 15 points and sophomore guard Kara Borel, who notched a game-high 15 rebounds. However, Marist out-performed the Broncos in the rebounding column 40-35.

The Red Foxes outscored Rider in the paint by an overwhelming 24-10 margin and capitalized off Rider turnovers, scoring 14 points

to Rider's 4.

Multiple Marist players received postseason accolades. These players included freshman guard Nikki Flores, Camara and Keller. Flores was named to the MAAC All-Rookie Team. Flores came off the bench this season seeing significant minutes in all 27 games played by the Red Foxes.

Camara was given First Team All MAAC honors. Camara averaged 15.7 points per game while shooting 43.4 percent from the field. She also led the MAAC in rebounding with 9.5 rebounds per game, averaging 3.26 offensive rebounds per game, and defensively averaged two steals per game.

Keller shot 42.6 percent from the field and placed fifth in the MAAC in scoring averaging 14.7 points per game and averaged 7.4 rebounds per game.

The Foxes received their last loss

was on Jan. 8, at the hands of Canisius, the second place team in the MAAC, only losing by three points, 61-58.

Since then, they have won 15 games in a row, captured a second consecutive MAAC regular season title, and given up an average of 51 points per game, which was the third best average in the nation only behind eleventh-ranked UCONN and Delaware State.

Marist is the number one seed in the MAAC tournament this weekend in Buffalo, N.Y. The team will play their first tournament game in the semi-finals on Saturday, Mar. 5 at 11:30 a.m. against either fourth seeded Fairfield Stags, fifth seeded Siena Saints, or tenth seeded Iona Gaels. The game will be aired on MSG Network, channel 17.

If defense wins championships, then Marist is in line to repeat as MAAC champs.



Final Standings

Team	Record	Team	Record
1) Marist	15-3	6) Loyola	9-9
2) Canisius	14-4	7) St. Peter's	7-11
3) Niagara	11-7	8) Manhattan	6-12
4) Fairfield	9-9	9) Rider	6-12
5) Siena	9-9	10) Iona	4-14

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