

# THE CIRCLE

The student newspaper of Marist College



www.MaristCircle.com

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2006

## Students promise to stay 'Up 'till Dawn' for charity

By ALEX PANAGIOTOPOULOS  
Campus Editor

There is going to be a big party on campus with lots of people, and instead of benefiting beer distributors and malt liquor wholesalers, it'll help a children's hospital.

Marist students are invited to "Up 'til Dawn," a Friday, Feb. 24 fundraiser that will go from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the McCann Center Auxiliary Gym, benefiting St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. The night will be a culmination of four months of fundraising at Marist, and will include performances

by four local bands, the Dance Team, the "That's a Shame" crew, Time Check, and performers from MCCTA.

St. Jude's Hospital was founded in Memphis, Tennessee by the late Danny Thomas, star of the popular 50s television show "Make Room for Daddy." Thomas aimed to create a racially-neutral children's hospital in the South after hearing about an African-American child who died after being refused admission to a hospital.

Today, St. Jude's is lauded for providing treatment to uninsured families, as well sharing its work in finding a cure for cancer and

other diseases.

Catherine Graviano, a junior, a member of the SGA's St. Jude's executive board, said students can write three brief letters asking

for donations at the door or pay \$20 to attend.

"It's gonna be tons of fun!" said Graviano. "Bring friends."

Other activities will include t-shirt making, RC car racing, a pie eating concert, musical chairs, and crafting cards to be

sent to St. Jude's. Prizes and supplies are being donated by businesses such as Giacomo's, Gerry's Pizzeria, and Europe Screen Printing Company.

Jake Marshall is certainly considered a friend of St. Jude's. In 2000, the then three-year-old was diagnosed with a brain tumor and was given a 30 percent chance to live.

His family credits St. Jude's Hospital for giving them "hope,"

and now Marshall is cancer-free. His grandmother was an employee of Marist College.

The fundraising was spearheaded by Student Government Association board member Matthew Hittenmark, a senior, and Patrick Killie of the Housing Department, who attended a summer conference at the Memphis, Tennessee hospital and brought fundraising material back to Marist.

Graviano and Hittenmark are joined on the St. Jude's executive board by Siobhan Skeritt, Alex Hansen, sophomores, Brooke Heithoff, a senior, and Alyssa Oxford, a junior.

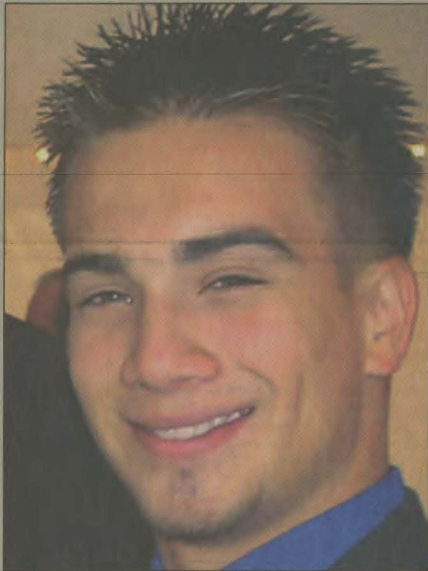
In November, they organized a 200 student letter-writing marathon that had each volunteer writing 50 letters to friends and family requesting donations.

"It was an awesome event," said Graviano. "We had a greater turn out than expected."

The volunteers are invited to a 6:30 p.m. "thank you" dinner and will be admitted free to "Up 'til Dawn."

For more information on St. Jude's Hospital, visit [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org) or call 1-800-822-6344.

## 2006 Student Body Presidential candidates



Todd Bivona

Junior, communications major



Maryellen Conway

Junior, behavioral science major

"The Marist students have the ability to make changes to their college and I would enjoy representing their ideas in the Student Government Association. I want to further my role in the organization, in order to challenge the student body and myself, to be more vocal about on and off campus issues."

"We, the Marist College student body, can make a difference together. In running for the position of Student Body President, I would like for us to leave the past where it is, build and strengthen on the present, and create a future for Marist like no other. With each of our prior experiences, goals, dreams, motivation, and enthusiasm, we can unite the Marist College community."

Important election dates to remember

Monday, Feb. 27 - 'Speech Night,' 9:30, PAR

Tuesday, Feb. 28 - 'Presidential Debate Night,' 10 p.m., LT 210

Wednesday, Mar. 1 - 'Meet the Candidate Day,' 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., Cafeteria

Monday, Mar. 6 - Online Voting begins

Wednesday, Mar. 8 - Online Voting ends, results announced live on MCTV, 8:45 p.m., LT 210



## College Bowl Tournament to take place on campus this weekend

By MARIANNE SHAFER  
Circle Contributor

Marist will host the ACUI Region 1 and Region 2 "Battle of the Regions" College Bowl Tournament this weekend, Saturday, Feb. 25 and Sunday, Feb. 26, in Donnelly Hall.

The tournament involves teams of students facing off in a quick,

witty and intellectual game of questions and answers.

"Questions of general knowledge are asked, with topics including science, history, politics, etc.," Colin McCann, mentor and past moderator, said.

Seventeen teams are registered, from schools such as Syracuse University, University of Rochester, Canisius College,

UMass Lowell, University of Hartford, Stonehill, and Binghamton University facing.

According to Michelle Fischetti, assistant director of student activities, the Marist team has been practicing for the College Bowl tournament each week by answering questions in the tournament style format.

Each spring an official

National Championship is held between the top teams in the country, which the Marist team hopes to attend.

"As winners in the Sportsmanship Award last year, we have big shoes to fill," Fischetti said.

College Bowl, known as "the varsity sport of the mind," has a long history on radio, television

and college campuses.

Between 1953 and 1957 the College Bowl aired on NBC radio networks, and later became a network television show. By 1977 the event was considered an important activity on college campuses.

Volunteers are welcomed for both Saturday and Sunday's matched. If interested in being a

moderator, judge, scorekeeper or runner you can contact Michelle Fischetti via e-mail or at X3279.

All students and faculty are encouraged to attend the College Bowl and support the Marist team.

THE CIRCLE

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OPINION: FUR TRIM EQUALS FUR SHAME

FoxPAW president wonders how Red Foxes can wear faux fur in her Letter to the Editor.

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FEATURES: LEGEND RAY CHARLES REMAINS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

A tribute to the singer, songwriter during Black History Month.

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**Security Briefs:**

**Unauthorized guest thrown in Hudson**

*Request form contained semi-colon, says English major desk guard*

By **BRIAN SABELLA**  
The Steel Stringbean

It's me again, your ole pal Brian "I definitely should have been a planeteer" Sabella. And if this past week without any briefs has been hard for you, imagine the pain I've been going through. But not to worry, I am back now and everything is going to be alright. Like a mother, I will hold you all close to my bosom and make everything ok. So lets get into it.

**2/15 2:27 AM Midrise**

What better way to start the week off than with a good ole fashioned unauthorized guest. This one happened in the old Midrise where the good kids with all the priority points supposedly live. HA! There goes that myth. See, even the good kids can be vagrants some times.

**2/14 1:11 AM LWC**

This next brief makes me proud to be a resident of Lower West Cedar. A complaint was registered about a party going on and when security showed up, there were only 8 people there.

That's right. These kids were so good at what they do, it only took 8 of them to get complained about. Hats off to .you fellas. Role models for us all.

**\*\*JOHN GILDARD**

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

Before I get into this, my main man John Gildard was on fire this week with his one liners. It was a long list, but this one came in above the rest.

**2/15 5:25 PM B-Block**

A fire alarm was set off, again, by a student here at the college. Although the cause of the flames has yet to be identified, the perpetrator was not so easily concealed.

Even though his identity will not be disclosed here, our fearless security leader John Gildard was heard saying this of the young Iron Chef: "This one should stick to basketball and stay out of the kitchen."

**\*\*BRIAN SABELLA'S BRIEF OF THE WEEK\*\***

**2/17 1:45 AM Champagnat**

This one truly signifies the type of special student we have here at Marist. Early in the morning on this Friday, security responded to a strange complaint in the halls of the mighty Champagnat, the sumo wrestler of dorms if you will.

It was a water balloon fight. There were dozens of broken balloons and water all over the floor. When security arrived they found the combatants. One participant lacked the proper attire, however. He was as naked as the day he was born. His parents must be proud.

**\*\*SPECIAL GUEST BRIEF OF THE WEEK\*\***

by Sugar Shawnyx

**2/17 1 PM Dyson**

A fire alarm was set off in the Dyson Center. It wasn't a drill. It was a FACULTY member who set it off.

The cause was a brownie wrapped in plastic in the microwave. As a special guest brief writer whose identity is held confidential, I have one thing to say to you brownie microwave: Next time take the plastic off. . . IDIOT!

**Announcement**

If you would like to be considered to write the special guest brief of the week, get on your local Facebook account and send me a message. All are welcome.

**2/17 9 PM Marian**

I told you those kids from Marian were crazy. They've been on a roll these past few weeks and this time, they brought reinforcements. Someone tried to enter as an unauthorized guest, but the security officer had popped his Flintstones that day and was ready for anything.

Upon search of his belongings, a 2 liter bottle of

Baileys was found. The tasty treat was taken and the guest was forced to leave thirsty. As he left, someone yelled "JUICED" at him. No news on the phantom shooter yet.

**2/18 12:59 AM Leo**

Uh-oh, we got our first drunk kid of the week. This little tyke was caught in Leo Hall, soon to be named "Land where the drunks roam free." The faithful of Fairview were summoned and they ferried the young fawn to St. Francis where he was honored as the one thousandth Marist student to get his stomach pumped. Plans for the parade are still in their early stages.

**2/18 1:55 AM Fulton**

Upon hearing the news that freshman were going to the hospital, this upper classmen got heated and took matters into his own hands. They took at least ten vodka drinks as quickly as they could and they two had to be taken to St. Francis. But I salute this person. They took one for all upper classmen. Let us rally behind this young patriot. GET YOUR STOMACHS PUMPED SENIORS! There's only so much time left for us to do it.

**2/19 3:55 AM Gartland**

Another day, another fire alarm on this campus it seems. This one, however, made our old friend the Lone Ranger a wee bit angry when I told him about it. The fire extinguisher was there but, and this time there were a few casualties.

No reason has been given yet for why the extinguisher was shot off, but word on the street is The Lone Ranger is looking for blood. I have a feeling he's gonna get it.

**2/19 1:35 AM Lower West Cedar**

What better way to celebrate the end of the weekend than by spraying condiments all over the place? Well someone apparently couldn't think of one so they decided to spray ketchup all over one of the doors of S-block in Lower West Cedar.

The only clue to who did this tasty crime is that the culprit was heard shouting "Alex Huot Rules" as he ran away from the scene. Authorities are baffled at its meaning, as is this reporter.



**Upcoming Campus Events**

**Thursday, Feb. 23, 2006**  
Student Coffeehouse  
9 P.M. PAR

**Friday, Feb. 24, 2006**  
SPC Broadway Trip:  
The Phantom of the Opera  
4 P.M.  
Bus leaves from Midrise  
\$25 With Marist ID

**"Chicken Little"**  
9:30 P.M.  
PAR  
FREE FOOD

**Saturday, Feb. 25, 2006**  
Andrew Kennedy  
9 P.M.  
Cabaret

**"Chicken Little" Encore Presentation**  
9 P.M.  
PAR

**Thursday, Mar. 2, 2006**  
Poet, Memoirist:  
Mark Doty  
8 P.M.  
Nelly Goletti Theater

**Friday, Mar. 31, 2006**  
O.A.R.  
Ticket Prices:  
Marist students: \$10  
Other students: \$15  
Public tickets: \$25  
Student pre-sale: 2/27  
General on-sale: 3/7

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

**Loose Ends**

**SGA Payroll Inquiry**

SGA Vice President of Academic Affairs Brandon Lee promised an inquiry into Marist's student worker pay scale at Monday's board meeting.

When minimum wage was \$6.15, student workers would receive a 25-cent raise every year, denoting their expertise and experience at their jobs.

Now that the minimum wage has been hiked to \$6.75, there are only 5-cent raises, so that the difference between a senior and a freshman in a skilled Information Technology position only have a 20-cent difference in pay.

Lee wondered what Marist will do when the New York State minimum wage is upped to \$7.15 in October. "There isn't enough money in the budget," said Lee.

-Alex Panagiotopoulos

**Disability Awareness Day**

The Psychology Club, Campus Ministry, College Activities, and the Office of Special Services are sponsoring "Disability Awareness Day" on Wednesday, March 8 in the student center during activity hour.

There will be a speaker, and booths set up for students to get a better understanding of what life is like for a person with a disability. Refreshments will be served as well.  
(From Marist press release).

**Karate Kid wins Mr. Marist**

Chris "Cowboy" Cardella won the 2006 Mr. Marist. Competition as "Mr. Karate."  
"I think what solidified his place in 1st was his karate demonstration during the talent portion of the show," said co-host Eric Ashmont. "And he had charisma too."

Chris "Mr. Cheerleading" Lee came in 2nd, while Bryan "Mr. Dodgeball" VanSteenbergen placed 3rd.

The contest was judged by Marist professors James Fahey, Paula Wilcoquet and Jeanette Kindred. "The crowd loved it and rightfully so," said Ashmont. "This year's competition was by far the best I've seen."  
"Congrats to the Comm Arts society for another great success, and more importantly congrats to the competitors, they made hosting a blast for Mike and myself," he

added.

-Alex Panagiotopoulos

**Doty next on Lit Docket**

Award-winning poet and memoirist Mark Doty will speak at Marist on Thursday, March 2.

The program will be held at 8 p.m. in the PAR. Doty will provide a short reading and will answer audience questions. Admission to this event is free and open to the public. A book signing will follow the event.

Mark Doty is the author of six books of poems and the recipient of the Ambassador Book Award, the Bingham Poetry Prize, and a Lambda Literary Award.

He has received fellowships from the Guggenheim, Ingram Merrill, Rockefeller, and Whiting foundations and from the National Endowment for the Arts. He lives in Provincetown, MA, and Houston, TX, where he teaches at the University of Houston.

Doty's reading at Marist is part of the 2005-2006 Lecture Series.  
(From Marist press release).

**THE CIRCLE**

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

## SGA election candidates for the 2007-2007 academic year



Karl Minges  
2007 President



Mary Cornetta  
2007 President



Omar Diaz  
2008 President



Casey Paluskiewicz  
2008 Vice President



Alicia L. Sharp  
2009 President



Julie Lavín  
2009 Vice President



Andrew Gaeta  
2009 Treasurer



Kelly Lautner  
2009 Historian

Amanda Nethaway  
2007 Treasurer

James Q. Sheehan  
2007 Resident Senator

Corey Allen  
2007 Commuter Senator

Joseph H. DeLisle Jr.  
2009 Resident Senator

Nicholas Staropoli  
2009 Resident Senator

## News Briefs

World News

Mexican Miners remain trapped underground after explosion Sunday; rescuers forced to dig by hand through walls of rubble

65 miners remain trapped in a Mexican mine after an explosion at 2:30 a.m. local time trapped them belowground. Rescuers have been digging by hand through the Pasta de Conchos mine due to explosive gases that are present in the air. Rescuers had been digging for about 50 hours when they hit a second wall of debris. Behind that wall, they believe, are two conveyor belt operators, though many of the miners may be trapped as far as five kilometers below the surface. The miners had been carrying about six hours worth of air when they were trapped, though fans continued to circulate fresh air from the surface until Tuesday, when the mine suffered a short power outage.

Iranian officials fly back home from Moscow after negotiations fail to definitively resolve uranium enrichment controversy

After two days of talks, Iranian officials left Moscow and headed back to Tehran. Russian negotiators had met with the Iranians to offer assistance in enriching uranium in Russian territory for nuclear energy, with the promise that Iran would halt every phase of its current nuclear development activities. Further negotiations are expected to occur, but Iran still insists on its peaceful intentions, and thus its right to enrich uranium on its own soil.

National News

Possible management of U.S. ports by UAE based company draws heavy criticism from lawmakers

Controversy still rages over the corporate buyout of British Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company (P&O) by Dubai Ports World, a company based in the United Arab Emirates. Under the deal, management of six United States maritime ports would be turned over to DP World, which has critics raging over the potential threat to national security. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, (R-Tennessee) among other lawmakers, urged President Bush to delay the implementation of the contract. Frist said that if the administration could not, he would introduce legislation to place the deal on hold until it could be more thoroughly scrutinized. The president indicated on Tuesday that he believes the deal does not pose a threat to the country's security. Bush also said that he would veto legislation to delay the deal.

Supreme Court to review constitutionality of federal ban on partial-birth abortion procedure

The Supreme Court agreed Tuesday to review the constitutionality of a federal law banning late-term abortions, also known as partial-birth abortions. Justice Samuel Alito, who joined the court on January 31, replacing Sandra Day O'Connor, will have a perhaps crucial vote in the court's decision. The federal Partial-Birth Abortion Act of 2003 was never implemented due to appeals against it. A federal appeals court had recently ruled against the government, because the law made no exceptions for women with medical emergencies.

Three men indicted on charges of conspiracy to commit acts of terrorism against U.S., coalition troops in Iraq, world

Three men from Ohio were charged Tuesday with plotting to commit acts of terrorism against U.S. and coalition troops stationed in Iraq and other countries. The indictment says that Mohammad Zaki Amawi, 26, Marwan Othman El-Hindi, 42, and Wassim I. Mazloum, 24 had traveled together to a shooting range to practice, and had taught themselves how to make homemade explosives. Both Amawi and El-Hindi are citizens of the United States and Jordan. Mazloum is a Lebanese citizen who came to the U.S. in 2000. Amawi is additionally charged with threatening to kill or injure President George W. Bush.



## News and notes from the class of 2007

What exactly do you think about when someone says, "The Class of 2007?" The class has been working hard the past two semesters to create a better environment for the students.

Last semester, the officers of the Class of 2007 participated in various activities, including the 'Up Till Dawn' letter writing event, many SGA club challenges, barebeques, the Miles for Medals Walk, and the Liberty Partnership Harvest Festival, as well as other community service activities.

This semester, the officers collaborated with the Class of 2009 in creating Valentine's Day Cards for the Dutchess Assisted Living Center, held a Volleyball Tournament, and participated in the club challenge for February.

As the semester continues, the Class of 2007 is having a Study Break in the lobby of the library from 10 p.m. until 12 a.m. on Wednesday, Mar. 1. All are invited to come out and have dessert and hot beverages.

Additionally, the Class of 2007 is working

hard on the upcoming Ring Ceremony. The last chance for seniors to buy rings and for juniors to participate in the Ring Ceremony is Tuesday, Feb. 28 through Thursday, Mar. 2 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Rotunda. The class officers have decided to turn the Ring Ceremony weekend into a Junior Class weekend.

On Friday, Apr. 21 from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., there will be a semi-formal at the Villa Borghese in Wappinger Falls, NY. The cost of the dance will be \$20 per person, which includes transportation to and from the restaurant, dinner, and a cash bar for those who are 21.

Tickets will be on sale from Monday, Mar. 20 to Friday, Mar. 24 in the Dyson and Donnelly lobbies from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day. On Apr. 22, the Ring Ceremony will take place.

The Class of 2007 will also be helping out with the set up of the 'Up Till Dawn' event this weekend, the College Bowl, Relay for Life, and Unity Day.

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# THE CIRCLE

# Opinion

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2006

www.maristcircle.com

PAGE 4

## Israeli, U.S. sanctions remain sensible precautions

By JAMES MARCONI  
News Editor

Violence, rage, and fear – they all seem to be so prevalent in the world in which we live. News headlines are filled with graphic examples worldwide, illustrating the human race's stunning proclivity for needlessly and ruthlessly hurting one another. The recent outbreak of bloodshed over the cartoons published in the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten is one such example.

In an earlier column, I made a point about the right of Muslims to feel anger at having their religion insulted. I also (not nearly as strongly as I should have) denounced the actions taken on those feelings. Virulently lashing out, in some cases against countries that played no part in publishing the cartoons, is not at all justified, and rightly deserves the international condemnation it has received.

That violence, though lasting through the past few weeks and showing no signs of slowing down, is relatively spontaneous and disorganized. The chaos and destruction caused is horrific, but is not nearly as insidious as organized terrorism. Terrorism on that level, which inspires such fear and loathing, remains firmly in the domain of groups like Al Qaeda, or Hamas.

Hamas, incidentally, has become the democratically elected majority of the Palestinian Legislative Council, and is currently in the process of forming a new government for the Palestinian people. Hamas is a political party and Palestinian domestic aid organization, this is true. It is also a terrorist group, one responsible for hundreds of planned, deliberate, and deadly attacks on Israel. Is it any wonder, then, that the leaders of countries including Israel, the United States, the United

Kingdom, and Germany have expressed concerns regarding Hamas's intentions?

The Israelis, in response to this perceived threat, have just decided to withhold 50 million dollars a month that would normally go to the Palestinian Authority. Acting Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said that because of the Hamas victory, "...the Palestinian Authority is, in effect, becoming a terrorist authority... Israel will not agree to that" (www.cnn.com).

This type of preemptive action taken by Israel (and also the U.S.) against the Palestinians, against the Hamas-led government is, I think, at the heart of the future relationship between the Palestinians, Israel, and the world. By withholding financial aid to the Palestinian Authority, Israel is basically saying that it means business. Israel has declared with its actions that it will use whatever means neces-

sary to ensure that Hamas will moderate its position regarding terrorism and the destruction of Israel, something that it has thus far failed to do.

The question is, though, whether this type of action will be of more harm than good for both the Palestinians and Israel. Former President Jimmy Carter, in a column published in the Washington Post on Monday, said that the result will indeed prove harmful. Carter cited the genuine need for humanitarian aid amongst the Palestinians, something that will now be reduced. He stated his belief that Hamas is not as powerful as it appears in the PA, that President Mahmoud Abbas still has a great deal of influence to guide the Palestinian government for the better.

Despite this, there were a few quotes in Carter's column that gave me pause. For example, he

SEE HAMAS, PAGE 5

## Bush's guns drawn again; our environment in their crosshairs

By DAN BLACK  
Staff Writer

It is a beautiful day in Poughkeepsie, or so said my boss last Thursday. He was referring, of course, to the beach weather we were enjoying in mid-February. The following morning when I went into work it was snowing furiously and the wind was fierce. By the time I had clocked in and settled into my routine, I went across the street for a coffee and realized the sun was so blinding I needed my sunglasses. Anybody who doesn't believe we are trashing this planet, I thought to myself, is delusional.

Global Warming, the gradual rise in mean temperature of the earth's atmosphere attributed to the increase in "green-house" emissions has, according to scientists, reached a point where its effects may be irreversible. There are efforts, ardent ones, all over the world to come up with strategies to restructure the ways in which environmentally-influential countries impact the earth; global warming is foremost on their blotters. "To keep climate change within tolerable limits", says European Union environment commissioner Stavros

Dimas, "we need the full participation of all major emitting countries - such as the United States." He speaks in advocating participation in the Kyoto Accord, a dialogue comprised of many industrialized countries attempting to devise incremental cultural shifts out of our environmentally-destructive lifestyles over a long period of time.

Unfortunately for Dimas, those involved with the Kyoto Accord, and every other living thing on this planet, the U.S. has declined its invitation. President Bush doesn't feel compelled to participate; after all, does the world's greatest consumer of natural resources and most dominant generator of pollutants have any obligation to take part in efforts to reverse the devastating effects of its environment trashing? Bush's sentiments exactly. Ignore the problem, let someone else fret over it, soon enough it will go away.

This problem is not likely to disappear, and those of you quick to blackball me as a tree-hugger or hippie should bear in mind that this is the world you live in too. When polar ice caps melt and sea levels rise, permafrost thaws, water supplies

become tainted, crop yields are reduced, and numerous other life-sustaining processes of nature are derailed, it will not matter how much of a tough front you put on in the face of the environmentally conscious; you will be no less dead. Thank the S.U.V. you love and worship, for it has killed you, but leave some gratitude for the neurologically incapacitated Texan oil cowboy you voted for twice because he facilitated our society's eciamnesia, the forgetting of the environment's needs. We have been so driven to oil-dependency by our government's legislation that even those who fight the societal current for the sake of our natural habitat are stigmatized for it.

The most depressing plot development I have seen in this drama is in the State of the Union Address from President Bush. That he actually said our nation is addicted to oil and that we need to overcome this addiction is mortifying. I have never been addicted to drugs, but with confidence, I will make the uneducated guess that if I was a heroine addict, my smack dealer would most likely not suggest that I go to a detox clinic. President Bush and the corpora-

tions that control him have done more to deepen America's petrol-addiction than any other Presidential entourage in generations. He says these things as he slashes budgets for alternative energy research, reduces taxation on emissions-producing industries, and attempts to silence top scientists in the field of environmental research like James Hansen. Through these actions, Bush is systematically undoing decades of environmentally sound legislation and flaunts it. With oil's corporate lievathans' profit interest off to one side, and the public's health and common good to the other, this administration stands on the fulcrum of our culture's energy usage-trends and navigates it through their politics. They have repeatedly prioritized the wealth of the few over the livelihood of the masses, and they will continue to do so until, quite simply put, we are all dead and they've got the cash. Don't believe they will do it? Guess what, they've already started; this will be undeniable when, some year, during our February beach weather, the shores will reach the third floor windows of Fontaine Hall.

Let the voices of the Marist community be heard.



Letters to the Editor

## Fur trim equals fur shame

To the Marist community:

Correct me if I'm wrong, but we are the Marist Foxes right? I mean that's what I thought. Apparently some of our students don't know that the fox is our mascot, because I've seen fox fur worn by many people around campus. I just wanted to educate the general public on a couple of things; first the source of fur. Unfortunately, unlike snake skin, it is not shed by the animal painlessly, but rather cut from the animal by humans. Although it is believed that fur-bearing animals' populations need to be "controlled" by trapping, most fur comes from fur farms; farms which raise animals in small cages until they've reached fur maturity and are then killed only for their "fabric."

Fur trapping is still used by some furriers, and can be more inhumane, considering the animal caught may languish in a leg-hold trap for days before it is retrieved by the trapper or even chews off its own trapped limb. Many "accidental" animals are caught in these traps yearly, including thousands of dogs, cats, deer, and even bald eagles. Some animals that can be found unwillingly in the fashion scene include chinchillas, foxes, raccoons, mink, lynx, beavers and rabbits. The animals who live packed in cages meet their end usually in a gas chamber, or by anal or vaginal electrocution, that way

the fur remains intact. Some animals wake up during the skinning process. Now I'm not trying to shock and anger everyone, just educate, because people really don't know what goes down; and then they wonder why I approach them on campus. For some of you who may have said, "No my fur is fake!" I can tell the difference, and sadly, if the garment has less than 10 percent fur, it does not have to be marked on the tag. Would you ever consider wearing cat or dog fur? Well new undercover investigations have revealed a fur industry in China where dogs and cats are skinned and shipped to the US and used in garments; if the garment is under \$150 it does not have to reveal the source of the fur. I'm sorry for this harsh wake up call; some of you may be thinking, "Good thing my fur collar is fake," well honestly I don't totally support the fake fur look either. "Gasp" Congratulations, you picked faux over real, but most people can't tell the difference, they see you're faux fur and think it's real and you unintentionally are still supporting the look of using animals for fashion. (I'll tackle leather another day.) As a simple Marist guideline, never wear your mascot, or any of their forest friends.

— Robin Henderson  
President of FoxPAW  
People for Animal Welfare  
Rockinrobin0705@gmail.com

## Black sets record straight

Dear Circle readers:

Upon reading a pair of passionate letters to the editor in the most recent edition of The Circle, I've become aware of a few misinterpretations floating around within the Marist student body. A couple of outspoken conservatives in our school have read and taken strong opposition to the article

I composed about Bush's proposed budget. I think it is wonderful that people are taking an interest in politics on this campus, even if it carries such an insulting tone. Unfortunately, their responsive letters do not refute my perspective with related facts or arguments, neither do the writers succeed in stringing together

SEE BLACK, PAGE 5

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

The Circle welcomes letters from Marist students, faculty and staff as well as the public. Letters may be edited for length and style. Submissions must include the person's full name, status (student, faculty, etc.) and a telephone number or campus extension for verification purposes.

Letters without these requirements will not be published. Letters can be dropped off at The Circle office or submitted through the 'Letter Submission' link on MaristCircle.com

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# Health

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2006

www.maristcircle.com

PAGE 5

## Cuddling; the intimacy solution

By ALEXANDER TINGEY  
Health Editor

In today's fast paced get it done yesterday market, American's log more office hours and less vacation time than nearly every other country in the world. As a result, work often overflows from the office to the home; many Americans spend upwards of two hours per day finishing their work at home.

Long hours at the office, coupled with the often underappreciated role these members of the everyday workforce endure, have overarching effects; problems which stem from the office tend to flower in the bedroom, a recent study suggests. The national study, conducted by the Berman's Center for Women's Health in Chicago, suggests couples turn up the volume on their cuddle sessions if they want to reignite that honeymoon spark.

As many as one in three women complain their current relationship is lacking in the intimacy department, as opposed to one in five men. A glob-

al study funded by Eli Lilly, the manufacturer of the anti-impotence drug Cialis, found that among the top complaints: frequency and romance, were most common to men and women respectively. Eli Lilly surveyed 1,200 married men and women in South Korea, Japan and the United States found that the French reported the most satisfying relationships, followed by Americans.

An estimated 66 percent of Americans rate their love lives at the "fair to good" level, Berman's study suggests these couples turn off the television for a few more minutes a week to fix the growing trend. Those Americans who bring home 2 or more hours of work a week were twice as likely to have intimacy problems.

The solution?

An "Intimacy Index" was created by the scientists in charge of the study, and was administered to over 3,000 randomly selected adults in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. No surprise that the study found newlyweds to have the greatest degree

of intimate satisfaction in their lives as compared with couples who had been together for numerous years. This phenomenon, often referred to as the "disenchantment theory," has been affecting married couples across the nation for decades.

"Intimacy is multi-faceted; it's not a synonym for sex," says Berman. "It's the sense of feeling close and connected to your partner." Among other factors, similar social goals, emotional connection and intellectual compatibility played parts in determining the success or failure of the relationship. Couples who kiss frequently and spontaneously were more likely to achieve better love lives within the bedroom as opposed to those couples who refrain from physical displays of affection outside of the bedroom. The bottom line: couples who don't connect outside of intimate



Courtesy of STUMPS.ORG

settings rarely achieve satisfying levels of intimacy within the relationship. Pepper Schwartz, a University of Washington sociologist reminds couples that "just turning off the TV won't help if there's nothing to talk about, you need to fight boredom by creating ongoing things that make you feel close and are fun. You have to have experiences in common."

### Science Briefs

By ADAM GUARINO  
Co-Health Editor

#### SCHOOL LUNCH LINKED TO OBSEITY

With the ever increasing obesity rate in this country, it is clear that drastic action must be taken. But how exactly did this start? New research suggests that high school lunches may have indirectly wired bad diet habits into its students. In a survey of schools, researchers at Penn State University found that schools with lunch periods starting at 10:30 a.m. or earlier have the highest a la carte sales, with the biggest sellers typically being burgers, pizza, cookies, and soda. While they are quick to point out that other alternatives such as salads do exist, the problem remains that these children must make do until dinner; meaning that a salad simply won't cut it. Many students expressed the feeling that they spent their days "grazing." While this "grazing" could be beneficial if the teens make the right choices, the likely hood of this is quite low. As nutrition professor at Penn State Claudia Probert points out, the only options for teens after school is a vending machine.

#### NEW HOPE FOR CURBING HIV

HIV continues to be one of the largest epidemics the world has seen. However, in the ever continuing attempt to battle the disease, a shard of hope has emerged. A new study conducted with rhesus monkeys has shown that an injection of two drugs commonly used to treat HIV completely protected the monkeys from becoming infected. Researchers stress that while it is still too early to tell whether people will be able to pop a pill and escape infection, the study has provided the strongest evidence yet that it might be possible. The injections consisted of a version of Truvada, Gilead Science Inc.'s once-a-day pill that includes its drug Viread. Truvada had previously been proven effective at suppressing the virus in those already suffering. While it is not a cure, it is among the drugs that can help HIV patients remain healthy. The researchers cautioned the drug dose was slightly different from that seen in people taking Truvada and said studies under way will answer the question of whether the findings will translate to humans. The future outcome of this research may some day change how we handle HIV, but until then, researchers hold that safe sex or abstinence remain the most successful way of avoiding the disease.

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# Features

## Legend Ray Charles remains in the spotlight New album's release shows legendary songwriter's tunes still popular today



Ray Charles was a singer, songwriter who pioneered soul music in the 1950s. His array of hits can still be heard today.

By MICHAEL MAYFIELD  
Features Editor

Probably one of the most well known names in music entertainment is that of Ray Charles – full name, Ray Charles Robinson. Blind at seven, he entered the St. Augustine School for the deaf and blind and studied music. Then orphaned at fifteen, he dropped out and began playing professionally and started to make a name for himself. He played in various night clubs and swing lounges with a style reminiscent of his major influence, Nat King Cole.

In 1952, Charles created his own sound and worked with Atlantic Records to release several top hits. Most of them were gospel songs with secular lyrics but Charles had also put in a jazz background. He was now mainstream. A decade later he switched to ABC Records and released his most famous song "Hit the road Jack" in the early sixties. In the mid sixties, Charles was arrested on heroin charges but quickly cleaned up his act and began focusing on live performances mainly. Following his mega hit was a string of both ups and downs; some songs scored well, while others floundered and were lost altogether, but that was short-lived.

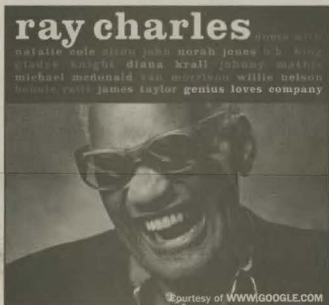
A renewal of interest in R&B and soul music helped Ray Charles break onto the scene

again. With a performance on Saturday Night Live – bolstered by James Belushi and Dan Aykroyd's unmatched comic energy – under his belt Charles was able to connect to the younger audiences of the late 1970's. Fans flocked to see the 1980's film, *The Blues Brothers*, where Charles played an invigorating version of "Shake your tailfeather." To further his grasp on the younger fan base, his song "Night time is the right time" was featured on an episode of *The Cosby Show*, and with this appearance, Charles secured himself a deal with Diet Pepsi as a spokesperson.

In his later years during the 1990's he performed "Georgia on my mind", which became the official song of Georgia and his very unique rendition of "America the beautiful" at the Olympics. His greatest hits album was released posthumously and won several Grammys. He died at 73 but he had

already lived a full life.

Ray Charles was a pioneer in soul music, combining jazz, gospel, rhythm and blues, country, and pop. He was also surrounded by controversy at times, especially during the civil rights movement, his promiscuous personal life and even his music. Sometimes accused of selling out, he adapted to the times but never forgot his roots. He was a legend. Even the one and only Frank Sinatra called him "the only genius in the business". A humble man, Charles summed up his life very simply; "I never wanted to be great. I only wanted to be great." Remember the man, remember the music, that is Ray Charles.



Ray Charles' 2005 album cover, featuring duets with many of today's top artists.

From page four

## Sanctions remain as rational precautions to deter violence by Hamas

wrote that "The spokesman for Hamas claimed, "We want a peaceful unity government." If this is a truthful statement, it needs to be given a chance." He further wrote that "...the likely results [of Israel's denial of monies] will be to alienate the already oppressed and innocent Palestinians, to incite violence, and to increase the domestic influence and international esteem of Hamas. It will certainly not be an inducement to

Hamas or other militants to moderate their policies." Finally, he wrote that "The election of Hamas candidates cannot adversely affect genuine peace talks, since such talks have been nonexistent for over five years" ([www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)).

It seems to me that all of these statements are made on two pivotal assumptions. The first of these is that Hamas is being truthful about wanting peace and willing to openly and actively

moderate itself. As for the sincerity of Hamas, their words and actions say it all. Its leaders have issued statements saying that they will not make an attempt to negotiate with Israel, but at the same time will not seek any further conflict. Essentially, those two declarations cancel each other out. Thus, in lieu of redefining itself, Hamas basically said that it will maintain the status quo of their policies (i.e. gunning for the destruction of

Israel).

Second, by saying that Israel's actions will 'incite violence' and that the dominance of Hamas in the PLC 'cannot adversely affect genuine peace talks,' Carter assumes that violence on the part of the Palestinians is currently a non-issue, that all Palestinians are completely peaceful innocents. Sad to say, but this just isn't the case - the violence already exists. We hear all the time in the news about suicide

bombings, about new attacks on Israelis. Carter is putting the chicken before the egg - the Israelis did not impose sanctions that in turn will CAUSE violence, they imposed sanctions because of a refusal to denounce a past HISTORY of violence.

In light of this, to give Hamas unconditional opportunities to reform after it has restructured the government to its liking is sheer lunacy. What should the world wait for, more attacks,

more killings? History is rife with examples of the dangers of issuing empty threats, paper tigers. This precedent that Israel and the U.S. have recently set is the only sensible action, one that will hopefully force Hamas to moderate. But, as always, preventative measures can never predict future decisions. The ball is, and will be until it makes its intentions clear, in Hamas's court.

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# Political satire comes 'Black'

Lewis Black stirs up refreshing political debate

By JUSTIN CALDERON  
A&E Editor

This past Sunday Lewis Black touched-down in Poughkeepsie opening to a full house at Marist College's own McCann Center. The infamous political satirist, mostly known from his hit commentaries on the Daily Show with Jon Stewart, was in rare form with new material and fresh anger at his disposal.

Black's rare breed of political satire is edgy and has stirred audiences from New York to LA into political debates, anger, and laughter simultaneously.

Valerie Kucneskus commented, "His commentary on our nation was very funny. I hardly stopped laughing the entire time." Although Black is known for his angry and forceful politi-

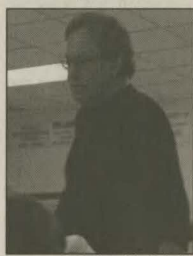
servative, nor liberal; I just hate authority." Although most of Black's fans recognize him from his political satire besides Jon Stewart on the Daily Show, Black got his first real break on the Conan O'Brian Show and various Comedy Central Presents stand-up gigs.

**'I'm neither conservative, nor liberal; I just hate authority.'**

Yet, even before lady luck had dropped him on Conan's doorsteps, Black was a working playwright and large participant in the New York theatre scene. "I was a playwright," Black exclaimed, "Theatre was my doorstep into the comedy business."

Even though those days are far away from his upscale apartment off of Times Square, Black still takes time to remember the importance of intelligent come-

dy, the fact that good material is never easy to acquire, and his parents for inspiring his material and supporting his career. Black's irreverent-style of come-



Lewis Black paces during post show interview  
Courtesy of Jay Thalacker

dy births a new age of comedy by raising the bar on what can and can't be said about profanity, government, and religion in today's society.

"The Old Testament is a nice book, but it's not true," Black said during his routine. "The fact is the world wasn't created in seven days. I know this because... I think." It is understandable how a lot of this material has been met with concern, especially in the south.

His problems with religion and government have placed him on the top of the most-wanted list of big-mouthed comedians in the country, while simultaneously propelling him into a category unto himself. Black commented, "Comedy isn't always what it's cracked up to be. There are no groupies waiting outside my shows." With new comedic styling's like this, it seems that his main fan basis will continue to be ignorant politicians and devil-fearing Christian fundamentalists.

Today Poughkeepsie, next week Kansas. Black's busy schedule was apparent in his face and mannerisms after Sunday's show. Black reported, "Tomorrow I'm going back to Manhattan to record voice tracks for an upcoming project with Bob Sagat and Eddie Griffin. Stay in college as long as possible. Find the money and never leave."



Lewis Black performs in McCann Center  
JUSTIN CALDERON / The Circle

perspectives, beneath his hard exterior lies a politically moderate middle-aged comedian. Lewis opened his political bits by saying, "I'm neither con-

throughout campus that Cook's did. Given the SPC's open meetings and off-messaged screen name (MaristSPC), Brooke Heithoff, the club's board president, said that performances are not put on by accident.

"We get requests from hundreds and hundreds of students through our screen name," she said. "But if [the act is] in California, we can't get them. Sometimes they won't play colleges, and there are only a couple of weekends where we can have shows. Those are the most common weekends that other colleges have shows."

OAR's spring tour, which sandwiches Marist College between shows at Utica College and Indiana University of Pennsylvania, is in conjunction with Sony Playstation and Major League Baseball.

The corporate sponsors will be demoting the upcoming baseball game MLB '06: The Show on game consoles and Playstation Portable, and according to an OAR fan site, a few fans will be able to play against the band members themselves.

The opening band, Scratch Track (billed as being an amalgam of acoustic, hip hop, and soul), is being featured on MLB '06's soundtrack.

Heithoff stressed that successful concerts require a mighty stew of student input, hard work and scheduling, rather than a lot of money. A group of 30 volunteers worked from 9 a.m. until after midnight on Sunday for the Lewis Black show.

"It's always the same percentage of student activity money," she said. "We all get certain percentages, between [SPC], clubs, and intramurals."

All full-time students pay an activity fee of \$110 a semester.

"None of [the volunteers] are paid, they just do it for fun," Heithoff continued. "I am amazed and awestruck. Without them, we couldn't put on anything."

Heithoff said that the SPC is going to strive for variety going forward.

"We always try to hit someone's genre of music before they graduate."

## Movie Trivia Madness

James Franco auditioned to play Peter Parker in Spiderman, but was cast as Harry Osborn instead.

Dirty Dancing was set in the summer, yet the lake scene where they are practicing the lift was filmed in October. Since the leaves were already turning, they handpainted the leaves in the background. If you look closely you can see where they missed a few in one spot

Harrison Ford played the school principal in ET, a screenplay originally written by his ex-wife, but his only scene was cut because Spielberg considered his presence would be too distracting.

The final quote from Danny's paper in American History X is from the closing words of Abraham Lincoln's first Inaugural Address in 1861

Jon Heder was paid \$1,000 to play Napoleon Dynamite yet the movie grossed over \$40,000,000 in the United States alone.

In the Waterboy most of the extra fans present at the Bourbon Bowl are UCF students.



Caryn Shatraw, Susan Yzquierdo, Edward Grosskreuz and Jeff Hogan look over floor plans, contemplating going through the rubble.  
Courtesy of WWW.MCCTA.COM

## Student written play depicts America in trying times

The Marist College Council on Theatre Arts (MCCTA) will present Jason Robert Brown's popular contemporary musical "Songs for a New World." Performances will be held on Friday, March 3 and Saturday, March 4 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, March 5 at 2 p.m. in the Nelly Goleiti Theatre, located on the third floor of the student center on the Marist campus.

"It's about one moment. It's about hitting the wall and having to make a choice, or take a stand, or turn around and go back," said Brown. Originally written to showcase Brown's talent as a revue of his works, Ryan DeFoe, student director and Marist junior, has created a storyline among seemingly unconnected songs that remains true to the artist's original vision.

Set in a subway station soon after September 11th, the powerhouse cast of ten students struggles with their internal

fears, insecurities and longings as they rush to catch their next train. DeFoe says his concept is "about America on a precipice, how we found ourselves lost and displaced after September 11th. It's about how we cope with difficult times. It's about confusion after crisis."

Susan Yzquierdo, whose character is central to DeFoe's

Falls. She is majoring in communications with a concentration in radio/TV/film and aspires to become a producer.

MCCTA is sure to keep up its success following the five consecutive sold-out performances of Richard O'Brien's "The Rocky Horror Show" last semester.

The rest of MCCTA's 2005-2006 season includes a children's theatre production, "The Spell of Sleeping Beauty," and a festival of student- and student-directed shows.

Tickets for "Songs for a New World" are \$7 for general admission, \$5 for seniors and Marist alumni, and \$3 for students and faculty. Due to limited seating, reservations are recommended by calling the box office at (845) 375-3133 or by logging on to www.mccta.com. Tickets can also be purchased at the door, subject to availability.

**DeFoe says his concept is "about America on a precipice, how we found ourselves lost and displaced after September 11th."**

plot, is a native of Newburgh and a Valley Central High School graduate. She has also performed in "Godspell," singing, "Bless the Lord," Yzquierdo has been involved in multiple community shows with Poughkeepsie's 4th Wall Productions, most recently appearing in "Seussical" as Gerttrude. In addition, she recently starred in "Cabaret" as Helga, a Kit Kat girl with the County Players of Wappingers

## Arts &amp; Entertainment

## Two music legends play unannounced concert in Manhattan

Cultural icons of "Fish" and "Grateful Dead" come together on stage for one night only during biggest snow storm of the year

By TOM CLANCEY  
Staff Writer

No one knew what they were in for.

Whoever made it to New York City's Beacon Theatre on the day of the record-setting 26.9 inches of snowfall was in for a special treat as an unannounced guest prepared to join "Phil Lesh and Friends" to play their third show out of five on the same stage.

Cultural icons Trey Anastasio of "Phish" and Phil Lesh of the "Grateful Dead" combined with 4 other musicians for one night on stage.

Scott Filizkowski, a junior at Marist, was surprised to hear that Trey not only was the special

guest of the evening but played the entire duration of the show.

"Had this been announced in advance tickets would have sold out in minutes as opposed to days," Filizkowski said.

The main lobby buzzed with excitement right before the show. People in drink lines or conversation circles dressed in tie-die garb interacted. Dread-locked youth mingled with older dead heads. A man in a wheelchair rolls bye, in full Grateful Dead Gear, and a sign on the wall reminds us of how small the crowd is.

"Occupancy of these premises by more than 3,017 people is unlawful."

The snow storm had surely pre-

vented the entire crowd from arriving as it caused major transit problems for the city. Soon everybody realized how special the night was when a stranger reported a rumor that swept through the crowd like a wild fire.

**Trey Anastasio has become an icon to legions of fans, most recently touring Africa in a VH1 series "Trey and Dave go to Africa" with his infamous co-star Dave Mathews.**

"Trey's here! He's setting up on stage."

Trey Anastasio has become an icon to legions of fans, most recently touring Africa in a VH1 series "Trey and Dave go to

Africa" with his infamous co-star Dave Mathews.

Soon the lights went down and the applause of the crowd rivaled the volume of the instruments. Almost instantaneously the smell of marijuana penetrated the entire building, embodied in

swirling smoke flowing through a sequenced light show.

The band performed 2 sets of music and an encore of 2 songs, all thoroughly driven by improvisation, putting force to a great

night of "Grateful Dead" music. Trey fit right in as he had been present in the initial "Phil and Friends" performances at San Francisco's Warfield Theatre in the summer of 1999.

The cross-pollination between Phish's front man Trey Anastasio and the Grateful Dead's bassist Phil Lesh is a rare and unique opportunity to see two legends recreate the magic of each bands songs," Filizkowski said. "In addition Anastasio and Lesh's collaboration bridges the generation gap between the two audiences that left everyone in attendance or who listened to the recording with a magical feeling that surely will Not Fade Away." Joe Girarde, a 53 year old self

described "dead-head," recognized the significance of the concert coinciding with the snow storm.

"It's cool, whenever some event is happening, like the blizzard. Everybody who makes it to the show has something in common."

At the early hour of 1 o'clock the show concluded. The emergency doors were opened and the smoke poured out faster than the crowd into the New York City night and streets filled with over 2 feet of snow.

Everybody now had two things in common: witnessing both the meeting of two musical juggernauts and the largest snow storm in New York City history.

## Sports

## Raucci earns second consecutive IC4A berth at MAAC Championships

By ERIC ZEDALIS  
Layout Staff

Freshman David Raucci and junior Mike Bamberger qualified for the IC4A Championships, and senior captain Justin Harris was runner-up in the 3,000-meter run to pace the Marist College men's track team's 31-point, fourth place overall finish at the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championships last Friday night at the Armory Track and Field Center.

Raucci placed third in the 5,000-meter run in 14:42.92, which earned him his second IC4A berth in two weeks. Last week in Boston, Raucci qualified for the IC4As in the 3,000-meter run.

Head coach Pete Colaizzo said Raucci's goal going in was to qualify for the IC4As, and he was able to do just that.

"David ran a perfect race," he said. "He unleashed a great kick at the end, improving his time by about 15 seconds."

Mike Bamberger placed fifth in

the 800 and earned a spot at the IC4As with a 1:54.61.

"This is Mike's second year in a row that he's qualified for an IC4A spot," Colaizzo said. "This is now our fourth individual going to the IC4As, and it's the most we've ever had."

Senior Captain Justin Harris placed second in the 3,000-meter run in a personal-best time of 8:35.81.

"Justin really picked us up," Colaizzo said. "Our top freshman, Girma Segni, came to the meet but could not run because

he was under the weather. So Justin did a tremendous job filling in for him."

Colaizzo said Harris had told him that he too was fighting illness going into the race, but still managed to run a personal-best.

"Justin told me he was fighting an illness as well, and that he wasn't 100 percent, but he sure looked fine to me," Colaizzo said. "He really gave us a special effort."

Freshman Brian Karl placed fifth in the long jump with a personal-best leap of 6.76 meters,

which is just one centimeter off the school record.

Senior captain Rob DeAngelo was fifth in the 55-meter hurdles in 8:08 seconds in his first hurdle race of the season after recovering from an ankle injury.

Freshman Kris Geist was sixth in the mile run in a personal-best time of 4:27.58. Geist has run personal-best times in each race he has run this winter.

Only one week after qualifying for the IC4As in the 1,000-meter run, junior Bryan Quinn was sixth in the 800-meter run in

1:55.45.

In the distance-medley relay, Raucci came back and anchored with a 4:17 1,600-meter leg as the team placed fourth in 10:20.34, missing an IC4A record by less than one second.

"Raucci did all he could. It certainly wasn't his fault that relay team didn't qualify. He really showed a lot of determination."

The Red Foxes return to action on Friday, Feb. 24, at the NYU Fastrack Invitational at the Armory.

Letters to the Editor ... continued

## Call for student support of music department

Dear Circle Editors:

Throughout my three years being a member of the Marist College Band, I have seen the organization grow in the direction of success. Many people do not realize the amount of time and dedication that those members put in. On a typical week, the Marist College Band students put in about nine to fifteen hours of playing time between rehearsals, football games, basketball games, set ups, and break downs.

Additionally, the students also play in many concerts and travel with the sports teams to vari-

ous events. In the past year, the Band has traveled to the Sacred Heart football game, the Women's Preseason NIT basketball game at UConn and will be traveling to the MAAC Tournament up in Albany, and hopefully, to the NCAA Tournament.

Aside from the Marist College Symphonic and Pep Band, the band students here also participate in various ensembles which are directed by talented musicians. Arthur Himmelberger, Director of Music, is one of the most dedicated, talented, and caring people I know. He spends hours of his time trying

to make this band the biggest and best it can be. In 1986, the band started out with two trumpets, and today has over 130 student musicians. Michael Napolitano, Manager of Operations down in the Music Department, also dedicates his life to this band. Michael is a graduate of Marist College and former member of the band. Both Arthur Himmelberger and Mike Napolitano are members of the National Honorary Band Sorority and Fraternity. The National Honorary Band Sorority and Fraternity (Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi) also deserve to be recog-

nized for their service to the Marist College Band and community. Both of these organizations participate in various events on campus such as Take Back the Night, the Liberty Partnership Harvest Festival, and Relay for Life. They also participate in events within the community such as Bowl for Kids Sake. Because of intense preparation and dedication, both organizations will be hosting a regional meeting of fraternity and sorority chapters throughout the Northeast in February 2 0 0 7.

In addition to the band, the Marist Singers are an integral

part of the music department.

The students in the choir are not only exceptional singers, but incredible students. I have seen the choir perform in many concerts and rehearsals. Besides the Marist Singers, the choral division has two a cappella groups, Sirens and Time Check, Gospel Choir, Chapel Choir, a select Chamber Choir and Women's Select Choir. I really commend all the effort that the choir always puts in as well. Janet Davis, Director of Choral Activities, and Chris Sheehan, Director of Women's Select and Men's Choir are both extremely dedicated and talented individu-

als that push the choir to reach the highest standards of excellence.

The Marist College Music Department is getting excited for their annual Spring Concert at the Bardavon Opera House on April 2, 2006 at 7:00 pm. Please come out and support the organization. With your support the Music Department is on its road to only success in the future.

Respectfully Submitted By,  
Marilyn Conway  
President of the Class of 2007

## Dan Black responds to last week's student criticisms

er their thoughts into well-reasoned, respectable rebuttals. Every contention in their letters fits neatly into one of two categories: objective but irrelevant facts, and attacks directed personally at me which have no bearing on any political issues at all. The insults do not bother me, but the misguidance they reveal does, it is for this reason I need to address a few points through the medium of remedial instruction.

In response to the words of Jared A Penella, I would like to remind The Circle readers that the captures/deaths he cites are not the result of "homeland security", but rather the positive side to an almost apocalyptic-caliber foreign affairs policy that has effected far more harm than good on our nation's international reputation. Those Americans like myself whose homes are somewhere other than the Middle East are not justified in affixing the label

"homeland security" onto the taking up of arms in that region of the world, it's a direct contradiction. The so-called "interceptions" he refers to are merely cases of translucent Republican propaganda. The government admits most intelligence turns out to be bad, or "fallacious" shall we say? Dig a little deeper and you'll discover these "attacks" are nothing more than memes circulating around defense department offices that politicians outlandishly exploit to sire support for the "war against terror." Further, I would like to point out that although Jared offers a very detailed and well-expressed account of the events of 9/11, he makes no attempt to detail how this tragedy is even linked to the war in Iraq, where over 90 percent of the resources in the war on terror go and the overwhelming majority of American losses have been suffered. This is because, of course, there is no

such link. The only severe and embarrassing miscalculation I have made was in hoping Marist students would not be so submissive to the blatant lies fed to them by Bush and his cronies: I must've misplaced a decimal or something. In the future Jared, please don't presume to do anything "for my sake"; your words, venomous they may be, are a welcome break from silence.

In response to the words of Stephen Butka, I think he's dualistic in ascribing America the "obligation" of "helping those in need" (I'm assuming he refers to atrocities and oppression around the globe?) but failing to account for the fact that America has stood idly aloof, knowing of "those in need" (being mercilessly slaughtered, that is) in places such as the Congo, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Rwanda and East Timor, Rwanda, Armenia, Tibet, (I'd continue but I don't want the

circle to become a cylinder.) America is very selective in their humanitarianism; these poor victimized countries don't have the oil resources beneath their land it takes to garner Bush's intervention. I will offer Circle readers my perception of America's true "obligation": as the world's most authoritative and influential nation, with the proven ability to shatter entire cultures and erase them completely from the pages of history, our obligation is in respecting the dimensions of our power. We must wield it wisely, ensuring that the safety and livelihood of peoples within our sphere of influence is not compromised. Incinerating hundreds of billions of dollars on an overzealous but poorly reasoned defense initiative is not the answer; don't hold President Clinton's fiscal genius against him. I'd like to add that Saddam Hussein fits the definition of terrorist not quite nicely, but not at

all; he is an ousted dictator, not a terrorist.

Lastly, I would like to inform The Circle readers of precisely what a "future marine" is: a civilian, plain and simple. Our "future marine" summons into the spotlight what I have been up to the last four years: "locked in his room writing poetry and listening to folk rock..." Well, I would feel less than honest if I did not dispel this misperception.

Never seeing it as relevant to the political issues about which I wrote, I never discussed my pre-Marist personal life in my articles. Now I feel that I must share with The Circle readers, readers like Jared and Stephen especially, that my last four years we're most certainly not spent locked behind a bedroom door, 20 days after the towers of the World Trade Center fell, I was promoted to Lance Corporal in the U.S. Marines. For five years, I served honor-

ably as a troop and a Non-Commissioned Officer in the Corps, including two 7-month tours overseas where I served in places like Fallujah, Tqadumb, and Camp Fox. During our time in the Middle East, I and numerous other marines composed poetry, and we are not ashamed to say so. Don't speak self-righteously of the U.S. military's accomplishments, Stephen, suggesting I undercut them; the accomplishments you speak of are mine.

I hope my letter has served to bridge these and any other comprehension gaps concerning my article. If it bothers any of you that I write these things, you should know that it bothers me even more that I am forced to write them.

Peace always and Thank you all,  
Daniel Black





# THE CIRCLE Sports

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## Marist succumbs to ODU in ESPN's BracketBuster



Jared Jordan contributed a double double scoring 15 points and 10 assists. It was his sixth of the season. Marist's record went to 16-9 with two games remaining.

By **JOE FERRARY**  
Staff Writer

Old Dominion senior forward Alex Loughton scored 27 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead the Monarchs to an 84-71 victory over the Red Foxes on Saturday afternoon at the Ted Constant Convocation Center in Norfolk, Va.

With the loss, Marist falls to a record of 16-9 while ODU improved to 19-8.

Three other players from the Monarchs scored in double figures. Brian Henderson scored a career high 20 points, shooting 6-of-8 from three point range.

Old Dominion's leading scorer, Isaiah Hunter, scored 16 points. Arnaud Dahi had 12 points to go along with three blocked shots. Drew Williamson lead ODU with a career high 10 assists and three steals.

**Jared Jordan had his sixth double-double of the season in the loss, scoring 15 points and notching 10 assists.**

Junior forward Will Whittington scored 27 points, shooting 50 percent (7-of-14) from three-point land. Jared Jordan had his sixth double-double of the season in the loss,

scoring 15 points and notching 10 assists. James Smith rounded out of the double digit scoring for Marist, adding 10 points.

The Monarchs jumped out to a quick start on Senior Night, to an 18-11 lead with 13:01 left on in the first half. Monarch guard, Brian Henderson was the reason for the quick start as he scored 12 of his 20 points in the first seven min-



utes. The Red Foxes, however, would fight to keep the score close the rest of the half.

Marist would take their only lead of the game, 33-32, on a Whittington three-point field goal with 4:19 left in the first half. Both team traded buckets the rest of the half, and the Red Foxes found themselves down by two points (37-35) at half time.

However, the Monarchs exploded out of the gate in the second half and went on a 17-2 run, which was sparked by a Dahi three-point field goal. They found themselves leading the Red Foxes 54-37 with 14:11

**The Monarchs exploded out of the gate in the second half and went on a 17-2 run.**

to go in the second half.

Marist would continue to battle back and cut the ODU lead to just 12 points (61-49) with 8:43 left in the second half. That would be the closest that Marist would come the rest of the afternoon.

On the afternoon, Marist only shot 41 percent from the floor and 34 percent from three-point range, while the Monarchs shot 52 percent from the floor and 53 percent from three-point range.

ODU out-rebounded Marist 38-30.

The Red Foxes return to action Thursday as they host Niagara on Senior Night at the McCann Center. The game is scheduled to start at 7:15 and is a part of a double header, as with the women's team hosts Fairfield University at 5 p.m.



Junior Will Whittington shot 50 percent from three point range Saturday at ODU in an 84-71 defeat.

## Men's swimming captures MAAC title

*Marist leaves competition drowning in pool winning back-to-back conference titles at Loyola last weekend*

By **DAVID HOCHMAN**  
Staff Writer

The Marist men's swimming and diving team won the MAAC Championship ... again.

Saturday's victory made it back-to-back titles for the men, who used their depth to swim and dive to victory past Rider and the rest of the competition.

As always, Rider provided the biggest team challenge to the Red Foxes, but that challenge was not enough. The Foxes' depth led them to victory as it has in previous seasons. This is ironic due to the fact that coach Larry VanWagner said it was almost a hindrance to them in their dual meet with Rider in November.

"Depth is rewarded in championships," he said. "In a dual meet, it isn't about the depth nearly as much. We won this meet on depth just as we often have in years past."

If depth was the number one reason Marist won this meet, the seniors were the number two reason.

Kevin Bobenchik and co-captain Kevin Connors swam lifetime bests in three of the four races in which they competed. Joe Pilewski swam his lifetime best in two of the three races he was in, and co-captain Alec Troxell swam lifetime bests in all three of the races in which he participated.

This would appear to be the icing on the cake of four great careers, and VanWagner quickly credited this class as an enormous part of the championship.

"The senior class had an outstanding season," he said. "Winning this championship meet by 170 points after losing

the dual meet by 14 is extremely gratifying to our program and illustrates the improvement of these men since November. And this evolution is directly associated to the seniors."

Those four swimmers may be closing out their careers with back-to-back championships, but there is a core on this squad who is starting its careers with two consecutive championships.

Sophomores Devon O'Nalty, Jesus Santos, and John Luboja added their points to the team on the other end of the pool in the diving portion.

In the one-meter, O'Nalty took third, Santos placed fourth, and Luboja finished in seventh, all sending points toward the team total. That was the case in the three-meter as O'Nalty finished third, Santos took fifth, and Luboja placed sixth.

Assistant Coach Melanie Bolstad put the divers' finishes into perspective.

"We were the only school with three in the top eight," she said. "Our three divers provided points as if they were another swimmer. We have a little motto of dive within yourself, compete the way you've been competing all year. They did that well all season."

O'Nalty scored points with hard work all weekend, as did the rest of the trio, but O'Nalty scored the most points. He said it was all due to his mental preparation.

"After everything all season long, I just tried my hardest," he said. "I put all my effort into it and kept an even mindset. I tried not to concentrate on any one part of my dive more than another."

Now the team as a whole is fin-

ished for the year. However, 16 of the 19 men on the team qualified for the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) championship, which is this weekend.

These championships include the best teams on the east coast; teams from the Big East, America East, and more are participants.

O'Nalty said he is not very nervous about the meet.

"There may be a higher level of competition here, but it's not the same kind of pressure as in the MAAC's," he said. "We get to meet swimmers and divers from other schools and see what competition is like outside the MAAC. This is my last chance to do well."

Marist has finished in the upper tier of this meet for the last few years and looks to be very competitive again this year. It is very hard to handicap though because of a few different factors VanWagner mentioned.

"You never know who is going to show up at the ECAC's," he said. "Also, this week starts with a lot of recovery. Most of the men swam about ten times in three days. There is a lot of psychological recovery that is warranted after a championship meet, too. This program has come so far since we started competing at ECAC's around 1991, '92. I'm extremely proud of our program competing in the top five like we do."

The ECAC Swimming and Diving Championships begin Friday, Feb. 24 in Pittsburgh, Pa. The Red Foxes send 14 swimmers along with two divers.

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