THE CIRCLE

The student newspaper of Marist College

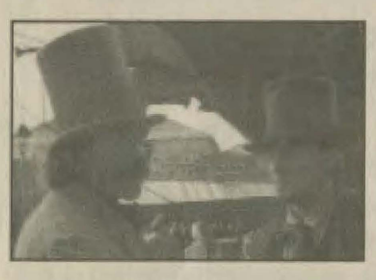
VOLUME 56, ISSUE 13

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2003

MARIST

Astonishing Neal just doesn't disappear

Neal hypnotised Marist once again with his crazy antics. pg. 4



Gangs of people go see *Gangs of New York*

Dicaprio and Day-Lewis battle in one of the years best movies. pg. 5

'The' bands are back

This new age of bands prove that 'The" bands are more than just garage rock. pg. 5

Hockey skating on thin ice

Marist hockey keeps playoff hopes alive by beating Stony Brook. pg.6

Girls' basketball 'D' up

Lady foxes hold Niagra to a season low of total points. pg. 6

Welcome back!
The caring *Circle* staff hopes everyone had a wonderful vacation. The spring semester is now underway and we wish everyone the best of luck. *The Circle* has a few new members on its editing team and is using a new broad sheet layout for your reading pleasure. Enjoy!

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Crosswalk influenced by new law

New law passed by state may help save lives

By ROB McGUINNESS
Staff Writer

Crossing Route 9 at the Donnelly crosswalk may soon be a little safer, due to a change in state vehicle and traffic law.

Effective Sunday, Jan. 19, the new law requires motorists to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks without traffic control signals, even if walkers and drivers are on different sides of the road.

Previously, in crosswalks without lights or signals, motorists were required only to yield to pedestrians on their half of the roadway.

The law can be directly applied to the Donnelly crosswalk, according to Marist Director of Safety and Security John Gildard.

"The law applies to crosswalks not controlled by signal lights," Gildard said. "It changed in favor of the safety of the pedestrian."

Gov. George Pataki signed the bill into law on Aug. 28, 2002, in hopes of eliminating confusion and reducing the number of accidents involving pedestrians. In 2000, more than 17,000 pedestrians were injured in accidents statewide, and 355 were killed. Statistics for Dutchess County show 61 pedestrian injuries and one pedestrian fatality from accidents that year.

For some, such as former New York State Department of Transportation Region 8 bicycle and pedestrian coordinator Russell Robbins, the new law is not strict enough.

"It is my personal feeling that the law should [require] motorists to stop for pedestrians, not just yield," Robbins said. "Also, penalties and fines should be increased for motorists who ignore pedestrians in crosswalks."

CHIRS TOMKINSON/PHOTO EDITOR

Students cross Route 9 by the Donnelly crosswalk after late afternoon classes on Monday afternoon. Since Jan. 19, students do not have to yield to oncoming traffic, as stated on the sign.

The Dutchess County Traffic Safety Board is planning a media campaign to inform the public of changes to the law, according to Dutchess County STOP-DWI/Traffic Safety Administrator William Johnson.

"The only way to decrease the number of pedestrian related personal injury and fatal crashes is to educate both drivers and pedestrians as to their respective responsibilities," Johnson said.

The Governor's Traffic Safety Committee is also expected to conduct a public education campaign, according to Robbins.

"I think a major media campaign to educate motorists and pedestrians is way overdue," Robbins said.

Revisions to the law also make it illegal for a vehicle to pass another vehicle that has stopped to allow a pedestrian to cross.

Even with the extended right-of-way, pedestrians still have to exercise common sense in crossing at crosswalks without traffic control signals.

"No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impractical for the driver to yield," the new law states.

Furthermore, existing laws state pedestrians crossing at any point other than a marked crosswalk are required to yield to oncoming traffic.

In an attempt to alleviate possible confusion in the Donnelly crosswalk, Gildard requested that the NYSDOT install a sign indicating the pedestrian's right of way.

"The DOT said 'not at this time,'" Gildard said. "I've sent a second request to the traffic engineering and safety office asking that they reconsider that decision."

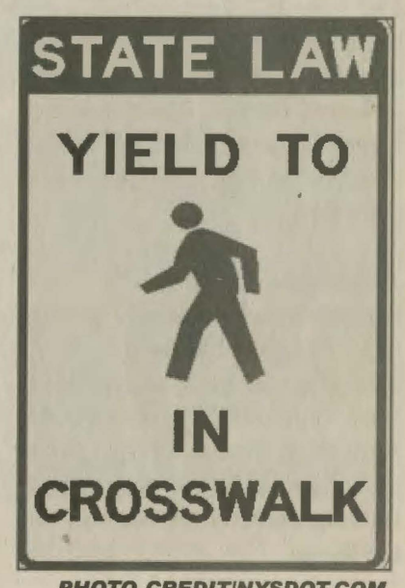

PHOTO CREDIT/NYSDOT.COM

NYSDOT provides this image on their website as a sample to what new signs will look like.

Nearly half of the fifty states have enacted legislation similar to New York's revised pedestrian law. Public awareness is essential for the law to be effective, according to Dutchess County Executive William R. Steinhaus.

"It is critical that both drivers and pedestrians act responsibly," Steinhaus said in a DCTSB statement. "Yielding the right-of-way on either side of the roadway is not just the courteous thing to do, it's the law."

For more information log on to:

New York State Department of Transportation at http://www.dot.state.ny.us/

Dutchess County Traffic Safety Board at http://www.dutchessny.gov/trafficsfe.htm

View Article 27 of New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law at http://www.senate.state.ny.us/ by clicking on *"Bills and Laws"*

'This call of history has come to the right country'

President George W. Bush gives his second State of the Union Address

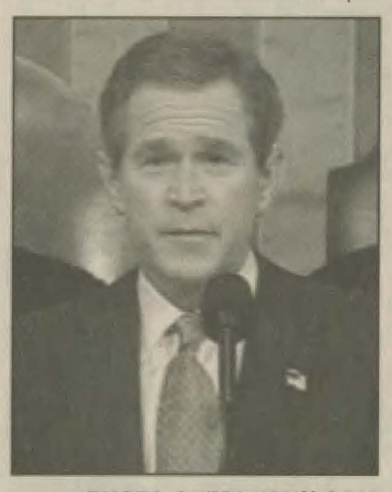

PHOTO CREDIT/CNN.COM

President Bush addresses the nation in his State of the Union address.

by Katherine Slauta
Managing Editor

President Bush announced Tuesday in his State of the Union Address that Colin Powell will meet with the U.N. Security Council on Feb. 5 to discuss Iraq's weapon's program and its ties to terrorist groups.

"If Saddam Hussein does not fully disarm for the safety of our people, and for the peace of the world, we will lead a coalition to disarm him," he said.

Iraq was the focus of Bush's address. Recent polls show an increased concern with a possible war with Iraq.

During his speech Bush discussed Iraq's failure to disarm over the last 12 years, saying this failure shows "utter contempt for the U.N. and the opinion of the world."

He said the terror did not only extend outside of the country, it is also directed toward the Iraqi people. This terror includes the torture of children, dripping acid onto skin, mutilation and rape. He promised the Iraqi people the same food, medicines and supplies as the U.S. is providing to Afghanistan.

"Your enemy is not surrounding your country, your enemy is ruling your country," he said.

Bush also addressed the U.S.'s growing concern for North Korea's development of nuclear weaponry, stating that it will not help poor conditions in the country.

"The North Korean regime will find respect in the world and revival for its people only when it turns away from its nuclear ambitions," he said.

In a speech that used the uncontrollable weapons, radical governments and terrorism to create a sense of fear and danger, Bush reassured listeners the U.S. was an honorable country. He told listeners that the U.S. makes sacrifices for the liberty of strangers. He called this benevolence 'God's gift to humanity.'

"We go forward with confidence, because this call of history has come to the right country," he said.

Bush began his speech discussing the importance of high public school standards and proceeded to another major issue of U.S. concern: the economy. He said the best way in which to improve the economy is not through increased taxes, but through tax relief. With the U.S. tax relief program, 92 million Americans will keep $1,100 more this year.

Bush also discussed the American system of medicine, stressing the importance of strengthening the Medicare program with $400 billion over the next decade.

Other highlights in his address included the importance of promoting energy dependence. He proposed $1.2 billion dollars in research funding so that 'America can lead the world in developing clean, hydrogen-powered automobiles.' This development would create much less dependence on foreign sources of energy.

Bush addressed the increasing problem of AIDS in Africa, stating the nearly 30 million people have the AIDS virus in Africa alone. With drugs costs having dropped from $12,000 to less than $300 a year, he said it was the U.S. duty to help the people of Africa.

"Ladies and gentlemen, seldom has history offered a greater opportunity to do so much for so many,"

Other topics within the speech included a $450 million proposal in the recruitment of mentors nationally, and a $600 million program to provide 300,000 drug addicts with treatment.

"The miracle of recovery is possible, and it could be you," he said.

Weekend Weather

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mostly sunny. Highs near 30.	Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 30's.	Cloudy with rain or snow. Highs near 40.	Mosty cloudy. Highs near 40.

THE CIRCLE

CAMPUS COMMUNITY

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Security Briefs

Sunday 1/19
Mother nature got the best of an Upper West Cedar X-block apartment at about 6:30 p.m. The arctic temperatures of Marist caused the water pipes to freeze underneath the kitchen sink and break. There was no water damage, housekeeping cleaned the leak, and the pipes were fixed.

Wednesday 1/22
Security came across a large pile of feathers and broken pillows at 9:35 p.m. in the Sheahan Hall West stairwell. There were no signs of an existing pajama party or pillow fight, so the pillow fighting perpetrators are still on the loose.

Thursday 1/23
It didn't take long for Marian Hall to be under assault once again. A 1 ½ ft. by 3 ft. hole was found in the 2nd floor lounge wall at 12:30 a.m. Before the semester is over these walls may have a frightening resemblance to a piece of Swiss cheese if these shenanigans persist.

Thursday 1/23
An upstairs Gartland E-block apartment toilet was flushed, but would stop running and overflowed. The overflowing water managed to leak to the downstairs apartment causing damage to the apartment. There was no property damage, and since the toilet had already flushed there were no reports of foul odors.

Friday 1/24
The watchful eyes of the entrance guard in Champagnat proved to be too tough to fool yet again at 3:50 a.m. An attempt to get two unauthorized visitors into the building through use of other people's Marist ID's failed and the visitors were escorted off campus without incident. The entrance guard in Champagnat caught two more unauthorized guests on Saturday at 1:44 a.m., and the incident ended with the same result. Later that morning the Leo Hall entrance guard caught another student and had him escorted off campus. Then at 3:25 p.m. on Saturday, the Leo Hall entrance guard caught a former student trying to use their old and deactivated ID card. The ID card was confiscated, prompting the former Marist student to let the guard know where he can put it.

Saturday 1/25
Security spotted three subjects walking from the Campus Deli back to the Marist campus. The students were carrying a bag, and security proceeded to check its contents. The search uncovered a 12 pack of Budweiser longnecks. The frosty brews were confiscated, and the students were sent home beer-less.

Saturday 1/25
Perhaps in an effort to practice proper fire safety, a fire extinguisher was found to be discharged between the fourth and fifth floor stairwells of Midrise at about 3:45 a.m. The extinguisher was replaced and the mess was cleaned up by housekeeping.

A message from the Office of Safety and Security:

This is just a reminder for the new semester that the Bank of New York parking lot is not a parking lot for Marist College students unless they are conducting business in the bank. Marist students have been taking parking spaces away from bank customers, and the bank will not hesitate to tow cars that do not belong in their lot.

U.S. bank launches Internet scholarship search engine

MINNEAPOLIS--(BUSINESS WIRE via COLLEGIATE PRESSWIRE)--Jan 15, 2003--U.S. Bank (NYSE:USB) has partnered with Petersons.com to offer students a free scholarship search engine at usbank.com.

Petersons.com is a leading provider of educational information and services, and is part of The Thomson Corporation. The search engine content is provided by Petersons.com.

"This new feature is free, and allows students to come to usbank.com and search for scholarships to assist them with paying their education," said Russ Kruse, vice president and manager for U.S. Bank student banking. "At the same time, they can check U.S. Bank out and see if there are other financial services that can help them manage their money while in school."

To reach the scholarship search engine, users go to usbank.com/studentbanking, and click on "Scholarship Search" icon located on the left side of the web page.

"The state of the economy has made it much harder for families to afford a college education," said Mary Gatsch, president of Peterson's. "We are pleased to support U.S. Bank in its efforts to help students find the money they need."

The Circle

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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.

Retraction

In the December 12, 2002 edition of *The Circle,* Sodexho was misrepresented in the security briefs. In the 12/6 brief, the misrepresentation is as follows: "Usually better known for their appearances in food poisoning related briefs, Sodexho makes an appearance in a motor vehicle incident this week." This comment about food poisoning was suppose to be a humorous aspect of the security briefs, and was not intended to insult those who work for Sodexho. We apologize for the misrepresentation.

EVENTS CALENDAR

ON-CAMPUS

Tonight! *Thursday, January 30, 2003*

The Animal Rights Ninjas will be holding a meeting tonight in Lowell Thomas 211.

Tonight! *Thursday, January 30, 2003*

MCTV is holding their first general meeting of the spring semester in the small dining room (by the mailroom) at 10 p.m.

Tonight!
Thursday, January 30 & Friday, January 31, 2003

Marist foreign film program will be showing *The Wedding Banquet*, at 7 p.m. in SC 346. Rated R.

Friday, January 31, 2003

Mark Reedy, who has appeared on Showtime, MTV and HBO, will be performing at 9 p.m. in the Cabaret for the SPC Comedy Club. Admission is free with Marist ID and free food and beverages will be served.

Saturday, February 1, 2003

SPC is sponsoring a ski trip to Hunter Mountain. Tickets are on sale at the College Activities office. Only cash will be accepted. The costs is as follows:
Ticket: $25
Ski Rental: $21
Snowboard Rental: $21
Snowtubing: $15
Group Lesson: $15

Monday, February 3, 2003 - Friday, February 14, 2003.

Senior pictures will be taken in the Student Center.

Thursday, February 6 & Friday, February 7, 2003

Marist foreign film program will be showing *My Life in Pink*, at 7 p.m. in SC 346. Rated R.

Friday, February 7, 2003

The bus leaves from Midrise at 4 p.m. for the Russell Simmons Def Poetry Jam on Broadway! Tickets are on sale now for $25 with a valid Marist ID. This show airs on HBO!

Saturday, February 8, 2003

Billy Burr will be performing at the SPC Comedy Club at 9 p.m. in the Cabaret. Admission is free with valid Marist ID.

Monday, February 10, 2003

Mike Reiss, the writer for "The Simpsons," will be in the Nelly Goletti Theatre at 9 p.m. Pick up you free tickets at College Activities Office.

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

At 7 p.m., Tom Cornell will be presenting a lecture on "Catholic Views on War." Sponsored by the Catholic Studies Program and by the Political Science Honor Society and Pi Sigma Alpha in the Performing Arts Room. All are welcome to attend. Admission is free with Marist ID.

Thursday, February 13 & Friday 14, 2003

Marist foreign film program will be showing *Like Water for Chocolate,* at 7 p.m. in SC 346. Rated R.

Sunday, February 16, 2003

SPC is sponsoring a trip to "La Boheme," known as the "best love story ever sung," and the source of "Rent." Tickets go on sale Wednesday, February 5 at 12 p.m. at College Activities.

ON-CAMPUS

Attention Circle writers & photographers!

We will be holding a general meeting for all those interested in writing and taking pictures for *The Circle* this spring semester on Tuesday at 9:30 p.m. in LT 211.

Hypnotist "astonishes" Marist students

by Dan Roy
Layout Editor

The Astonishing Neal returned to Marist this past weekend to mesmerize students with magic tricks and hypnotism.

Being a regular at Marist, his act did not differ greatly from last January; however students still enjoyed the feeling of being powerless and submitting to his command under hypnosis Saturdayevening.

The first part of Neal's "astonishing" acts consisted of reading minds of audience members, cheap jokes and bending nails and keys with the power of the mind.

The more highly anticipated part of the show came later in the evening when students stormed the stage in effort to be hypnotized.

To begin, Neal instructed students to concentrate and relax to be able to free one's mind for hypnosis. The first exercise consisted of students holding a large "dictionary" in their left hand, and almost immediately, students began to bend over due to the "weight" of the "book." In the right hand, Neal informed the students that a "helium balloon" would lift them off the ground. Students indeed followed suit. Those who could not be hypnotized left the stage, leaving the remaining fifteen to "perform" for their audience.

Junior Jen Haggerty, hypnotized for the second time by Neal, said that the activities on stage were similar to the previous year.

"Neal spiced up the hypnotism by having us 'ride motorcycles' this year in front of the whole audience, and picked four Marist men to pretend they were 'Ricky Martin' on the stage," said Haggerty. "Otherwise, we pretty much did the same skits as last year."

Neal ended the show by gracing his hypnotized followers with his "three gifts of the mind," which included the ability to relax, study and remember.

Especially to remember he'll be returning next year for all of you who missed his astonishing 'magic.'

SEAN KEENAN/*PHOTOGRAPHER*
Marist students feel the effects of being hypnotized and were huddling together to feel warmth.

An abroad adventure in Dublin, Ireland

by Maura Sweeney
Staff Writer

Ceud mile failte is what can be read all over the city, translated from the official language in Ireland (Gaelic) into the English meaning: a hundred-thousand welcomes. About a month ago, seven of us from Marist - myself, Will Gakos, Amanda Augustine, Beth Sloan, Jon Hinkaty, Lorraine Kelly, and Bridget O'Brien landed in Dublin to be greeted by that sign and start the adventure of our life.

As a whole, we are known as the Dublin Group, studying at Dublin Business School, while doing an internship with various companies in Dublin, and living 20 minutes outside the city with host families in a wealthy suburb called Dalkey.

To put it in the words of one of my neighbors, Bono, from U2, I am "Stuck in a moment and can't get out of it." Every morning I wake up and pull the curtains on my picture window expecting to see the Hudson. But instead I am delightfully surprised when I see the brilliant green grass, palm trees, rolling hills, the Bay of Dublin, and the city itself. It takes my breath away. I cannot believe in January the grass can be so green and the weather not so frigid. I cannot even imagine the customary site of snow. It has been a month and every time I experience something new that I never could at Marist or in the United States, I stop and think how lucky I am. This 'moment' will last four months.

These first few weeks have been about adjusting to the new country, learning about the Irish culture, finding our way around Dublin and the surrounding towns, and also looking for the perfect pint and pub!

Dublin is a very young city and is said to have the largest population of people under the age of 25, which always makes for a good time and crowded pubs.

Before I left in early January, people asked me why I chose Ireland. I usually responded with 'why not?' There was really no one reason for coming here except the country and experiences themselves.

Marist students currently studying in Ireland PHOTOCREDIT/MAURA SWEENEY

I came to college knowing that I wanted to study abroad. It sounded like such an amazing experience to be able to become completely immersed in a culture, and live in a foreign country for four months with little responsibility except for a couple classes and an internship. I knew I would probably never again in my life have this opportunity either. It was difficult to finally make the decision to come this year. This meant leaving behind family and most importantly a group of friends, especially my housemates and close friends whom over the past years have become my family.

As I was getting ready to board the plane to Dublin, many thoughts ran through my head and one was - why? Why had I chosen to leave something behind that has become such a part of me and go to place where I know no one and nothing? The answer become clear to me on the plane: I was going on this adventure to experience something the campus of Marist College could not give me, and each day I am here the answer becomes so clear.

While I had to leave behind my housemates and friends, I was extremely lucky to be with six others who chose to do the same thing I did. We have formed a bond that will not be broken. We have come to learn to rely on each other for a good laugh, share a story, or talk with when we get homesick. We will never be able to replace our friends at school, but they serve as the perfect substitute.

This semester is going to amazing. I encourage anyone thinking about going abroad to apply. Marist will always be there but this experience is once in a lifetime, at least go to the informational meetings, research about the countries, and talk to others who have been there.

We are very lucky to have such a great abroad program. So many things that one would not think of are taken care of for us. The people in the Marist Abroad Program (MAP) office are well organized, as are the Resident Directors in each country. It provides every student with an easy adjustment.

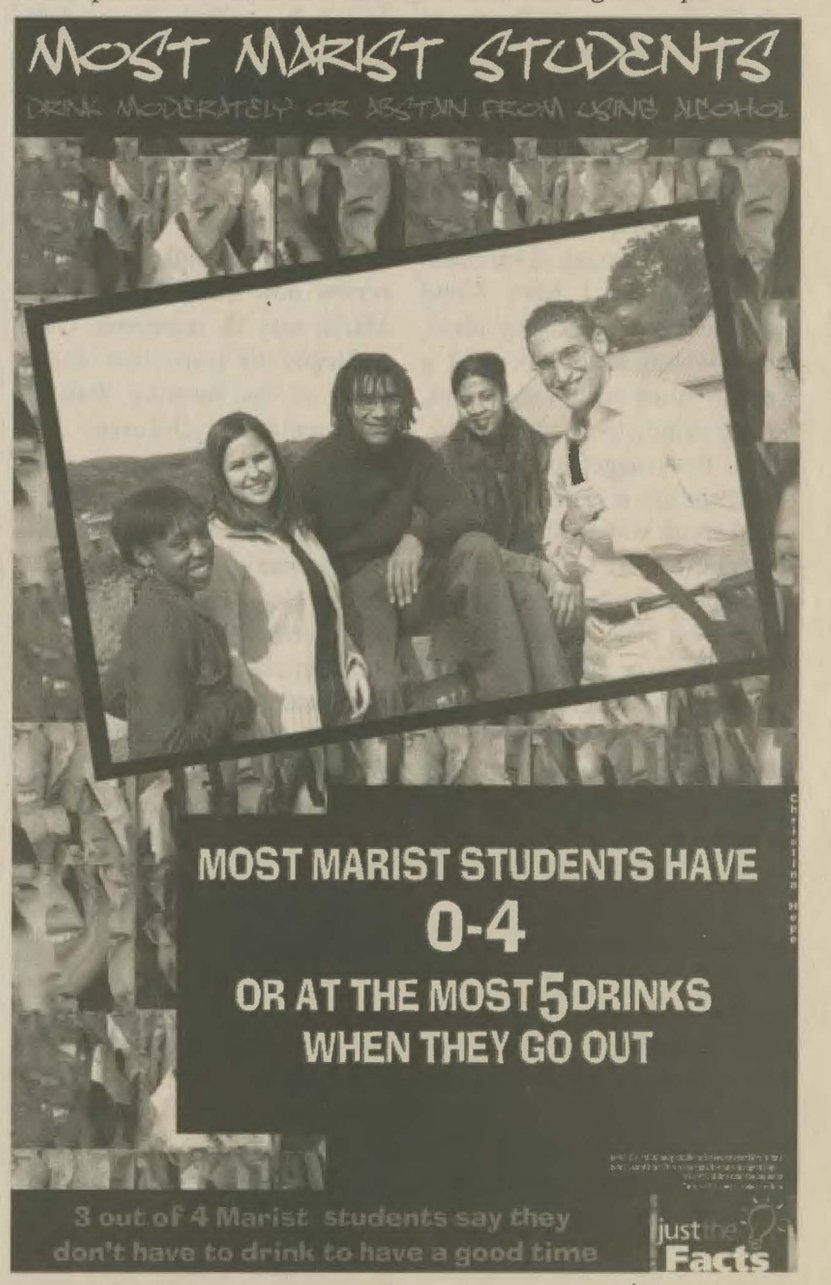
We have trips planned and organized, our homes are carefully selected, and we have a great foundation course, which teaches students a great deal about the country we are in before being mainstreamed into classes with the other students.

The Dublin group wishes to say a special thank you to everyone in the MAP office who made this semester possible. They would also like me to pass on a special hello to all their housemates and friends back at campus. *Maura Sweeny is a Marist junior. She was the co-Business manager of* The Circle *last semester. We wish her a great experience!*

IS THERE SOMEONE SPECIAL IN YOUR LIFE?

This Valentines Day leave a few lines of love for them in *The Circle*!

This is free and you may have up to five lines.
E-mail your requests, with your name and who it's for to *Megeliz711@hotmail.com*
SPACE IS LIMITED!
All requests must be recieved by 2/9/03



Open Letters to the Editor: students express concerns

Letter to the Editor:

Fifty-four pages of text, nine nude pictures, two tales of rape,

Literary Arts Society Presents
The Mosaic

Fall 2002
Voices and Visions

one rim job, and a partridge in a pear tree. Or at least a pear in a coffee mug. No, I am not looking at a magazine sold in a black plastic cover at the gas station. I am referring to the Fall 2002 edition of the Mosaic!

The Literary Arts publication, which previously contained a plethora of artistic student submissions and discerning pictures, has transformed immensely. To say that some of the current material is offensive, vulgar, and distasteful would be putting things mildly.

Disturbing, to me, are not only the authors of these works but also the editors who put them there. It was only one semester earlier when one of these depraved poems was submitted to the Mosaic in the aftermath of a series of alleged rapes on campus. Needless to say, the editors thought that it was objectionable and not fit for publication in the school-funded magazine.

Flash forward to this year. The same odious submission was sent in, this time with another attached piece that states, "...censorship is worse than intolerance, you cowards." Apparently such an attachment motivated the editors to not only publish the poem, but attach a disclaimer from the chief editor as well. The disclaimer goes so far as to imply that such a piece will "teach and entertain" its readers.

Although I do not think this should have been published, I am, in fact, against censorship. I believe that everyone should have a forum for his or her opinion, and even art. However a religiously affiliated school-funded literary arts magazine is hardly the place to do it. Such a forum is created with the idea of publishing tasteful material.

It boggles the mind how in such a short time, an editor could change her opinion so significantly as to first condemn and now embrace such a thing. Perhaps we are in a world where if someone calls you a name, you will do what he or she says. Where it is better to write an illogical defense of a disturbing submission than to be labeled as repressive. Maybe next you can include official submissions from NAMBLA? Shame on you. It is horrible to see that people cannot hold true to their values through obstacles and time.

Signed,
Kent Smith

Dear Opinion Editor,

Don't like cell phones then don't use one.

So at home one night I decided that I want to talk to a friend of mine. I don't want to have a long conversation with him or anything, it's just that I haven't spoken with him recently. I live off-campus and he lives on-campus, I would end up spending more time driving to campus to talk to him than actually talking to him. So I pick up the phone, dial his number, and talk to him for a couple of minutes. Now according to a recent article printed in the opinion section of The Circle, I have just taken an action that may result in becoming more of a social hermit. Let me remind you I did this by talking to someone on the phone.

My cell phone allows me some degree of freedom. When I'm on campus and I feel the desire to call someone, be it friend, family or other, I can do so without using a payphone and without going over to a friend's place and asking if I can use their phone. If I need to call a cab from say, outside Noah's, I don't have to walk down to the train station to use a pay phone. I just use my cell phone. Not only does it save me from having to produce the necessary amount of change needed to make the call, but also it prevents me from wandering around the streets of Poughkeepsie looking for a phone.

Now imagine this: I have some need to make a long distance call. Maybe I'm calling a friend who goes to a college outside of the 845-area code, or I could be calling my grandmother to wish her a happy birthday. My cell phone can do it, really. I don't get charged for long distance charges since just about every cellular plan out there allows for calls in multiple area codes to all be included in the plan. I can call my aunt who lives out in Chicago or my cousin out in Colorado at no additional cost, because the plan that my phone is on includes nationwide long distance. In addition, since the area code for my phone number is the same area code as my parents, they don't have to call long distance if they want to get in touch with me.

So I'm sorry if my phone plays a ring that you find annoying, but I didn't pick it out for you. I'm sorry if you think cell phones should be reserved for emergency workers, but then again, if I get into a car accident they will be on the receiving end of a cell phone call won't they.

I'm sorry if I tend to communicate to people on a cell phone, but then again, I often call people who I'm planning on visiting, to make sure they are home. If you really have that big a problem with cell phone advertising on television, then why don't you actually go out and interact with a person. Whatever the incident that traumatized you about cell phones was - let it go. And if you really have that big of a problem with cell phones then don't use them.

Signed,
Zak Naldrett
cell phone user

Dear Opinion Editor,

On December 10th the Humarists held their show in the Nelly Goletti Theater. My friends and I were really looking forward to this semester's performance. Those of us who had seen one of their shows were raving about them, and the rest of us were looking forward to a night of comedy.

Unsurprisingly, the theater was packed and it was impossible for us to get seats altogether. When two of the actors came out on stage for the opening skit, the audience welcomed them with an eruption of cheers. With a build-up like that, I personally couldn't wait for the show to begin.

The lights went out and two of the cast members appeared on stage. One of the performers was dressed in the vestments of a Catholic priest. He held a whip in one hand and a half eaten banana in the other. His partner, who was kneeling on the floor with his hands folded and an apple stuck in his mouth, was barely clothed at all. A third member of the cast came out to issue a disclaimer about the show. Before he was done, the actor portraying the child got up from the stage floor to reveal a back covered in blood.

I had debated leaving the show when I saw the first part of the scene, but I reasoned that although it was a very cheap shot, no one else seemed to care. I thought maybe I was the only one who found it offensive. Yet when I saw how the "child" was presented, I just couldn't stomach it anymore and left the theater.

I did not find the scene funny at all. As much as I try to put it in a non-Catholic perspective, I still cannot see the amusement in it. Where is the humor in the depiction of an anally raped child?

I respect the Humarists for all the work they did on the show. However, I wish they had taken into consideration audience members who would think the opening scene went too far. For all their hard work, I wish I had felt comfortable enough to see the show in its entirety.

Signed,
Joe Email
aka JMAM9249@aol.com

The editorial section of *The Circle* is an open forum for members of the Marist community to express their opinions. The opinions expressed in the forum are not neccessarily those of the Editorial Staff or Marist College.
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Letter to the Editor:

As the next semester begins, students such as myself prepare to organize our rooms, buy our books, and reacquaint his or herself with friends. The coming year will bring new challenges to every student who seeks to be academically successful. Similarly, the college administration also faces new challenges as it attempts to improve an already excellent institution of higher learning.

I would like to take this opportunity to share a few ideas on how the college may improve student life. Through discussions with my peers I have found agreement in many of my ideas, all of whom have expressed a want to voice such suggestions, but are simply too busy to do so.

My first suggestion might be perceived as a small one, but could speak volumes about what direction Marist College is taking. Speculation is widespread about what plans the administration has for the physical plant of the campus. Rumors circulate concerning projects such as Long View Park or a Technology Center without any clear answers on when they will be completed or if they even exist. If Marist had a section on the web page dedicated to providing such information, it would give prospective students and contributors a glimpse of what the future holds for the campus.

Another aspect of the campus that is of particular concern to both current and prospective students is the quality of food served in the dining hall. I would not raise the issue, however, it is the most discussed aspect of student life among my peers. Sodexho, the company that does the food service, could serve students better through making a few adjustments to their policies. I have suggested improvements such as making grilling machines available for students to make their own hot sandwiches only to have them rejected on the basis that they do not make good business sense for Sodexho.

I serve on a board comprised of faculty and students who meet to review how the food service at Marist may be improved. I was saddened to learn that during most of the meeting Sodexho representatives discussed why the operation at Marist was dominant to the food services of other Mid-Atlantic-Athletic-Conference colleges, also operated by Sodexho. How can any improvement be made when those in charge are content with the system the way it currently exists? Other institutions like Susquehanna University have won awards for their food service, is there any reason why Marist students and faculty should accept anything less than the best?

It is my sincerest hope that when Sodexho's contract is up in 2005, Marist will seriously examine how their food service stacks up against other schools outside of the MAAC. When you are the tallest of the midgets, you're still not very tall.

Every rose has a thorn as the old saying goes, and if the thorn of student life at Marist is not the food service, it is the issue of guest passes. I am well aware of the debates that take place between the Student Government Association and the administration, but I feel this issue is worth a moment of study.

Marist seeks to protect its students and many students simply want to be able to have friends visit without jumping through hoops to fill out paperwork. Most colleges are more liberal on this issue by not requiring students to fill out guest passes. These same colleges also maintain the safety of their students. It is not an issue of safety as much as it is one of conservative values from the Catholic heritage of the school.

As time passes, Marist may find students increasingly vocal about this issue and should consider phasing it out over time. As the college receives more applications, it will become apparent that perspective students do not want to attend a school that is governed by an old moral code long abandoned by other institutions.

The next semester does indeed pose challenges to students and the administration. Hopefully through considering some of my suggestions, Marist will continue to grow into an institution that reflects excellence both academically and in student life. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Gregory Paris

Breaking the mold

Garage-rock's got company with newest crop of 'the' bands

by **Matt Dunning**
A&E Editor

The Exies - *Inertia*

In an age in which rock 'n' roll is so desperate to recalibrate itself, and bands must decide from the get-go if they are metal, punk, or garage, it seems as if there is little middle ground anymore.

The Exies do what they can to remain neutral in the genre wars with their major label debut *Inertia*, an 11-track pop-rock romp laden with crunchy guitar riffs, accessible lyrics, and an overall driving-with-the-top-down atmosphere.

Inertia follows a pretty rudimentary formula: ten or eleven tracks, all of which maintain a 2 ½ to 3 ½ minute range with the exception of "Genius," which clocks in at an epic 3 minutes and 46 seconds. At least five of the 11 tracks deal with the end-or inevitable end of a relationship. The rest are an assortment of the sort of generic twenty-something malaise that is usually dismissed as contrived and uninspired.

What makes *Inertia* different and worth listening to is that the Exies seem genuinely interested in their craft. Where most bands of their particular breed would have been content to simply record the album and call it a wrap, the Exies enlisted the help of Grammy award-winning producer Matt Serletic (Collective Soul, Matchbox Twenty) to add an electronic element to an already solid arrangement. The result is an album that makes up for in energy what it lacks in depth.

Indeed, the Exies hope to earn themselves a seat at the pop rock elite table that has been, until now, exclusively reserved for bands like the Goo Goo Dolls and Third Eye Blind. And though a bit heavier that its contemporaries ("Without" and the bass-heavy "No Secrets" would probably feel more at home on Reveille's Laced than they would on A Boy Named Goo), *Inertia* is certainly a step in that direction.

The Streets - *Original Pirate Material*

The last time an internationally popular musical act rose from the dismal patch of Earth known as Birmingham, England, it was not long before he arrived biting the heads off of various winged creatures and urinating on American landmarks. Now, the city from which Ozzy Osbourne descended from playing for the unsuspecting masses has a new ace up its sleeve - 23-year-old Mike Skinner, A.K.A the Streets.

Skinner's brand of delivery is truly unique, muted yet confrontational, and intensely British. Immediately, we get the sense that if all the world is a bar fight, Skinner is the guy trying to talk some sense into the two instigators, just before smashing beer bottles over both their heads.

His worldwide debut, *Original Pirate Material*, is a breath of fresh air into the insanely repetitive realm of hip-hop. The beats are refreshingly clean and simple, and the album is generally free of the inane shout-outs, tiresome guest spots and dull, uninspired skits that seem to plague the American rap industry. *Original...* is more geared towards raising consciousness than it is celebrating the wealth of its mastermind. That is not to say that Skinner does not do his fair share of boasting his own rhyme skills. Whether challenging fans that say they are fed up with the monotony of pop music with the alt-rock radio favorite "Let's Push Things Forward" or purging his own demons by way of the Shady-esque "Too Much Brandy," Skinner always manages to slip in a few lines dedicated to his own lyrical fortitude. The real gem, however, is the album's closer. The darkly ironic "Stay Positive" serves as a reminder that no matter how doomed your life may seem, it could (and according to Skinner almost always will) get worse.

If the MTV2 playlists are any indication (The Streets' video has been in heavy rotation for more than 14 weeks), big things lay ahead for Mike Skinner. Only time will tell, however, if he and his family will get their own reality TV series.

The Used - The Used

Make no mistake, the Used are a far cry from a "the" band. While their sound is jagged and gloss-free and their appearance is unpolished and tangible, they subscribe to a whole different theory or rock 'n' roll.

At first glance, the MTV2 smash hit "The Taste of Ink" appears to be the product of yet another assembly of pop-punk criminals out to be the next Blink 182 (and what an honor that would be!). But as the song progresses and the lyrics remain sincere and perhaps a bit nervous, we get the sense that there is something better at work here.

The line "As long as your alive, here I am. I promise I will take you there..." indicates an urgency in not only the music, but in the band's way of life. In fact, there is little mystery behind the desperate and agitated sound of the debut release from this Utah foursome. The Used have had to wade their way through homelessness, addiction, and growing up in a town that is, well, less than creatively conducive.

Musically, the Used are doing what they can to blur the lines between pop-punk, metal, and hardcore. Frontman Bert McKracken spends as much time shredding his vocal chords a la Pantera's Phil Anselmo as he does emitting a high-pitched and very marketable croon reminiscent of New Found Glory's Jordan Pundik.

The guitar work is all over the map, ranging from crushing, Deftones-ish growls ("Maybe Memories" and "Box of Sharp Objects") to quick, punchy chops ("Buried Myself Alive, "Bulimic," and "Say Days Ago"). The unlikely addition of a backing string section on "On My Own" and a piano lead on "Blue and Yellow" indicate that the Used have their sights set on the kind of credibility not usually afforded to bands that share a marquis with Simple Plan and Good Charlotte.

The Used does not proclaim itself to be a punk album, nor does it even try to convince us that it its a metal album. Simply, it presents itself a testament to what four guys from Orem, Utah, perceive rock n' roll to be all about: guitars, noise, experimentation and, above all, heart.

Gangs of New York Triumphs

Day-Lewis steals show in latest Scorsese epic

By **Paul DeMichele**
Staff Writer

Director Martin Scorsese's latest movie is bringing audiences around the world through an epic tale of gang life in 19th century New York City. This beautifully staged film manages to create a seamless plot of adventure and revenge during its 168-minute run-time.

Gangs... begins in 1846 with a large gang war in which the result will determine who controls "The 5 Points." During this gruesome battle, Priest Vallon (Liam Neeson), the leader of the "Dead Rabbits," is slain. His murderer is William 'The Butcher' Cutting (Daniel Day-Lewis), the leader of "The Natives." The death of Vallon leaves his son, Amsterdam Vallon (Leonardo DiCaprio), distraught and his clan in pieces. Amsterdam is spared through the good will of 'The Butcher' and sent off to a correctional school. After spending the next 16 years at the correctional facility, he returns with the sole intention of seeking revenge on his father's killer.

Scorsese certainly proved his abilities as one of the great directors of our time. When taking on *Gangs...*, he traveled to Italy to re-create the streets of New York City in the 19th century. After picking up a Golden Globe award for "Best Director" this past month, he will certainly be in line to receive his 3rd Oscar nomination at the Academy Awards.

When I look back on *Gangs...*, the glaring standout was Day-Lewis' portrayal of 'The Butcher.' He completely dominated the pace and intensity of the film every time he was on screen. His over-the-top character along with his charisma and talent as an actor turned the movie into "The Daniel Day-Lewis Show" at several points during the movie.

In fact, the only flaw I found in the film was just how good Lewis was. He completely overshadowed the rest of the cast, especially the promising young DiCaprio. Lewis' Oscar nomination is certain although he will have strong opposition from several other actors. Oddly enough, one of those actors may just be DiCaprio, however, not because of his performance in *Gangs...* but because of his performance in Catch Me If You Can. DiCaprio delivered mediocre work in *Gangs...* and certainly performed well below his abilities.

John C. Reilly and Cameron Diaz deliver solid performances in their supporting roles as Happy Jack and Jenny Everdeane.

Gangs of New York definitely belongs on every top ten list, as one of the must see movies of the year. Between the masterful directing styles of Martin Scorsese and the brilliant acting of Daniel Day-Lewis, the viewer's entertainment is never in question.

Any one who may feel queasy when it comes to viewing gratuitous gore may want to shy away; otherwise, this movie should not be missed.

Sex, Lies, and Headlocks takes hard look at World Wrestling Entertainment

Assael and Mooneyham portrays Vince McMahon as savage, savvy businessman

by **Mike Turpin**
Circle Contributor

Although it's been on a decline in popularity as of late, World Wrestling Entertainment has come a long way since the days when Jesse Ventura was still "The Body." In, Sex, Lies, and Headlocks: The Real Story of Vince McMahon and the World Wrestling Federation, Shaun Assael and Mike Mooneyham rip the backstage curtains open and focus upon the evolution of wrestling from a carnival sideshow to a multi-million dollar industry. Vincent K. McMahon, current owner of the WWE, has been hailed as a creative genius by many, and this book gives him credit where it is due.

Most of *Sex, Lies, and Headlocks,* though, focuses on McMahon's darkest moments as a businessman. A sexual harassment scandal rocked the company in 1992, and a high-profile steroid trial in 1994 nearly landed McMahon in jail. Ted Turner and his WCW promotion challenged McMahon when he was at his nadir, and for the first time in years, McMahon was losing a ratings war. More recently, in 2001, the XFL debacle ruined his reputation as a businessman.

All the while, though, McMahon stayed the course, and as a result wrestling enjoyed its highest level of popularity, ever. This in-depth examination of his actions paints a compelling portrait of a powerful man, and yet still allows readers to pass their own judgment on him. In this respect, Assael and Mooneyham craft a great read for those who wonder what happens after the cameras go off.

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Lady Foxes defeat Niagara

Defense, solid team play propel women to victory

by **Mike Benischek**
Staff Writer

Marist College can cancel their yearly trip to Six Flags Great Adventure.

Any student searching for the wildest rollercoaster in the country needs look no further than their women's basketball team.

On Sunday afternoon the Red Foxes followed up an ugly loss to Canisius from Friday night with a masterful victory over the Niagara Purple Eagles, the top team in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC), 64-51.

It was the first time in program history that Marist was able to defeat the top-dog of the conference. The victory ended a two-game losing skid for the Red Foxes and revived their chances of capturing a first round bye in the MAAC Tournament.

Head coach Brian Giorgis said his team's refusal to let Friday night's game affect Sunday's play was a key to the game.

"I really tip my hats off to the kids," Giorgis said, "They could've come out today and really have been lethargic and stuff after the loss the other day. And now we kind of put ourselves right back in the thick of things."

The Red Foxes' play was anything but lethargic. Marist scored on their first four possessions of the contest. Vicki Wancel opened the scoring with a three-pointer.

Maureen Magarity stepped out from the post to knock down a jumper from 15 feet. Next time down Kristen Vilardi connected from behind the arc. After a Magarity free throw capped the 9-0 Marist run to open the game Niagara was forced to call a time out just one-hundred seconds after the tip-off.

The key to the Marist victory, however, was hard-nosed defense. Niagara was held to their lowest point total of the year, scoring 20 first half points.. MAAC player of the year candidate Eva Cunningham, who averages over twenty-points per contest, scored just 11points.

After the game, Giorgis expressed his appreciation for the team effort it took to stop the Niagara star.

"I can't say enough for the job that Vilardi, and Vicki Wancel, and Laura Whitney did on Cunningham," he said. "They did a great job to lock her up to eleven. I'm very proud of the kids."

Vilardi and Laura Whitney had three steals a piece to lead a defensive assault that forced Niagara into 19 turnovers and created many easy fast break opportunities.

Despite only hitting one three-point shot after Marist's initial offensive surge, Giorgis said early effective perimeter shooting forced the Purple Eagles to play honest defense allowing Magarity to thrive.

"The key to Maureen's success is really the key of what the other people do," he said. "Its all a matter of how much people try to take her away. You can take away Maureen, it takes more than one, but if people do that then other people need to step up."

Magarity enjoyed her second straight good game, scoring fifteen-points and collecting 5 rebounds. The Red Fox Captain has ironically played noticeably better while school is in session, scoring eighteen-points per contest and shooting nearly sixty-percent from the field, as compared to just 12 points per game during the winter break.

Much like Giorgis, Magarity said she attributes her success to her team's balanced attack.

"It was a great team effort," Magarity said. "Everyone had a great game."

Not the least of which, Magarity said, was Whitney, who set a new career highs with 10 points and 7 rebounds.

"Whit came in right off the bench and in the last two games she's really brought a lot of energy with steals and fast breaks."

Vilardi, recipient of the MAAC Rookie of the Week award for the second straight week, scored ten on four of nine shooting, and Kristin Keller added to the Marist scoring with nine points, her highest total since December 12's meeting with Hartford.

The Red Foxes' second leading scorer on the season, Stephanie Delpreore, left the game early in the second half with a sprained ankle after falling hard to the ground jumping for a rebound. The initial prognosis is that she will be out of action for at least ten days, with a possible return date set for Friday, Feb.7 when the Stags of Fairfield come to Poughkeepsie.

With the victory, Marist improves to 8-9 overall for the season and a sixth place standing in the MAAC with a 4-4 record. Niagara falls to 6-3 in conference play with the loss and out of first place.

TEAM NOTES

The next challenge for Marist will be Friday night at 7:00 p.m. when the Gaels of Iona come to the McCann center. The Red Foxes disposed of Iona, the worst team in the conference, with ease in their first meeting of the season 58-45. Delpreore collected 15 points and nine rebounds in the game while Nina Vecchio scored seven points grabbed six rebounds and dished five assists.

REBECCA CRISPI/*PHOTOGRAPHER*

Marist Hockey team skating easy after defeating top team Stonybrook last Friday at Mid Hudson Civic Center

Hockey team upsets Stony Brook

Win keeps slim playoff chance alive for Red Foxes

by **Scott Montesano**
staff writer

The Marist Red Foxes club hockey team's national tournament hopes may not be dead quite yet.

Unranked in the American Collegiate Hockey Association's (ACHA) poll in the middle of January, it appeared as though the Foxes were guaranteed another March without a national tournament appearance. However, a recent string of upset victories has turned a surprising season, into one that could have a most unexpected finish.

Marist has positioned itself into the #9 ranking in the ACHA's Northeast region. The top four teams in the northeast region qualify for the national tournament, which will be held in Los Angeles, CA. The final rankings will be announced on Feb. 4th.

"(Making the national tournament) is definitely in the back of our minds," said junior captain Jerry Tavella.

With their 3-1 upset victory over the number three ranked Stony Brook Sea Wolves on Jan. 24th at the Mid-Hudson Civic Center, the Red Foxes continued a late season surge, which helped them climb into national tournament contention.

Sophomore Chris Walling and juniors Jerry Tavella and Lou Gugliemetti each scored a goal, while senior goaltender Matt Allatin continued his MVP caliber play to lead the Foxes to the win before 325 fans.

The victory was nothing out of the ordinary for this resurgent group of Foxes.

Over the past three weeks, the Foxes have defeated Penn State and Indiana (PA), as well as tied San Jose State, all of which are highly ranked in the ACHA. The Red Foxes are an impressive 6-4-1 in their last 11 games, and an acceptable 10-13-2 overall.

This is all coming from a program, which had won only 13 games over the previous three seasons combined.

"We are having fun right now," said Tavella, who added that the team trusts each other on the ice.

Marist's national tournament hopes have also been helped by the failure of higher ranked teams to win lately. Fifth ranked Central Connecticut State lost twice last weekend, while sixth ranked New York University split their two games.

Still, while the Red Foxes are performing well, their chances are realistically slim at best. However the clock is running out for the Red Foxes.

With only two games remaining until the final rankings are announced, the Red Foxes must win, and preferably win big, to impress voters.

The Red Foxes play host to the Ramapo Rangers on Friday, Jan. 31 at 9:30 p.m. at the Civic Center in a non-league game, and then travel to Westfield State on Saturday, Feb. 1st for a Super East Hockey League (SECHL) game.

Made up of players who are between the ages of 16-20, the Ramapo Rangers are a junior-level team, not a collegiate squad. Nevertheless, using a style of play that has been described as "chippy," by Marist head coach Bob Simmons, the physical Rangers have proven to be a tough foe to many northeastern college programs this season.

Siena struggled against Ramapo early in the season before pulling out a victory. Meanwhile, Ramapo recently defeated a junior college varsity team in central New York.

A win by the Foxes over Ramapo would set up a showdown the following night just west of Springfield, MA, against SECHL foe the Westfield State Owls.

Although Westfield (11-1-1) is ranked #4 in northeast, the school is ineligible for postseason play because the Owls are in their first season as a member of the ACHA

Nevertheless, the Owls have become a dominant force, led by a roster full of marginal Division III varsity level talent. This should come as no surprise since the school's purpose for having a team is to drum up support for what is perceived to be an inevitable move to varsity status for the program in a couple of seasons.

Westfield beat the Foxes 5-3 at the Civic Center in early November.

"We are looking forward to playing them again. We feel we can beat anyone," noted Tavella.

After this weekend Marist will still have one more regular season game on Feb. 7 against New York University at the Civic Center.

FOXES' NOTES

* In addition to making a last ditch charge towards nationals, the Red Foxes will try to lock up a playoff spot in the Super East Hockey League this weekend. At 4-7-1 in SECHL play, Marist can clinch a playoff spot with a win over Westfield on Feb. 1 coupled with a win by Montclair State over the University of Albany on the same night. Marist's magic number of points to clinch a playoff spot is three.

The Foxes currently hold the sixth and final playoff spot in the league, which will hold its single-elimination tournament in Newburgh from Feb. 14-16.

Men's basketball team slumps

Foxes lose and Magarity is honored for 300th win

by **Andrew Pearson**
Staff Writer

Defend. Rebound. Execute.

That is the philosophy of Siena head coach Rob Lanier.

Unfortunately for Dave Magarity, the Red Foxes did neither of those things in losing to the Saints 81-68 at the McCann Center on Superbowl Sunday.

"They had us in just about every area," said Magarity. "Offensively they were really clicking."

The Red Foxes did their best to make a game of it, though, as they pulled to within 37-36 on an Eric Siegrist three-pointer at the outset of the second half. However, Siena promptly went on a 17-2 run, highlighted by a Justin Miller dunk. A Brandon Ellerbee three-pointer temporarily stopped the bleeding with 10:38 remaining, but Siena would prove to be too much for the Red Foxes.

"We had a few bad shots, people trying to force plays, and defensively we went into a lapse," said Marist guard David Bennett.

The Red Foxes were hurt early on by senior Nick Eppehimer, the third leading scorer in the MAAC conference (17.5 ppg), getting into foul trouble and having to sit for much of the opening half. Eppehimer would turn out to be a non-factor in the game, with all four of his points coming in the first half.

For Magarity, the lack of involvement by Eppehimer really hurt.

"After we went up five, I didn't want to take a chance and have Eppehimer get a third foul," said Magarity. "Nick never got in the flow of the game. It completely changes the way we play when Eppehimer is in foul trouble."

Bennett, though, refused to blame his team's poor performance on the sub-par effort by Eppehimer.

"I feel we have personnel on this team to make up for Nick having a bad night," said Bennett.

The Red Foxes were ultimately done in by a Saints team that proved to be too strong, too big and too quick. Five Saints finished the game in double figures, led by Justin Miller's 17 points and 8 rebounds. Siena repeatedly used their muscle inside to get easy baskets, exposing the Red Foxes undersized frontcourt. As a result, the Saints shot nearly 53 percent for the game, with the lead at one point ballooning to 24 points.

Not to be forgotten for the Saints was the play of point guard Prosper Karangwa, playing only his second game at the point position. Karangwa efficiently ran the Saints offense, nearly garnering a triple double with 11 points, 12 assists and 8 rebounds.

On the positive side for the Red Foxes, junior Chris Handy played perhaps his best game of the season, finishing with 16 points, 9 rebounds and 3 blocked shots. Brandon Ellerbee finished with 15 points, though many came with the outcome already decided.

Prior to the game, Magarity was honored by Marist College for attaining his 300th victory which came January 10 versus Canisius. However, Magarity surely would have liked a different outcome against Siena.

"I'd trade it all for a win, to be honest with you," Magarity said.

Questions? Comments? E-mail the sports editor at TheCircleSports@yahoo.com

MAAC UPDATES

Compiled by **Paul Seach**
Sports Editor

Women's Basketball

Kristen Vilardi named rookie of the week

After making three consecutive starts and recording a career-high four assists and tying a career-high with three steals against Niagara, Red Foxes freshman Kristen Vilardi was named the MAAC Rookie of the Week. Over the week, Vilardi averaged eight points, four rebounds and two and a half steals a game. This is the 2nd consecutive Rookie of the Week honor for Vilardi.

Canisius' Stevens named MAAC player of the week

Janel Stevens was named the Women's MAAC player of the week coming off an all star performance week. In a loss to Niagara, Stevens scored a career-high 36 points, while also pulling down a career-best 16 boards. Her hot playing continued with a win over Marist, with Stevens posting a double-double with 25 points and 10 rebounds and then scoring 24 points and grabbing 10 rebounds in a win at Iona.

Men's Basketball

Flores and Mendez named Co-MAAC players of the week

Luis Flores of Manhattan and Juan Mendez of Niagara were named the MAAC players of the week. Flores scored 44 points against Fairfield, which ties three others for 2nd highest point total scored by a player in a MAAC game. Mendez averaged a double-double during the week, averaging 21 points and 10.5 rebounds a game. Marvin McCullough of Iona took home Rookie of the Week honors, scoring 12 points, eight assists and six rebounds against Marist.