



THE **CIRCLE**

Got housing?
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How healthy are yours?
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Volume 55 Issue 11

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Recent incident on campus makes some students question safety



PHOTO CREDIT/JENNIFER HAGGERTY

Would you think twice before entering this stairway in the dark?

by **JENNIFER HAGGERTY**
News Editor

Late last Wed. night, Feb. 20, there was a reported incident of a possible sexual assault on campus that took place in the Midrise stairwell that leads from the parking lot to the rotunda.

According to an eyewitness, two males were observed, one acting as a lookout and the other pinning a young woman to the wall. However, when security arrived on the scene, no one matching the description was found. A second call was placed soon after and security was dispatched once again, but did not encounter anyone suspicious.

The students who were involved in reporting this incident felt that security did not take the matter as seriously as it should have been.

Stacey Caswell, who made the second call, was surprised to hear that her roommate had been startled by the same man on Tues. evening. She immediately called down to security to report what her roommate had relayed to her.

"During the course of the call, my roommate became upset that they did not seem to be paying attention to her observation of the same man, as they dismissed the seriousness of the incident by saying that it was just some kids playing on the green, who were probably goofing off," said Caswell.

"I had seen those same kids who

were on the green, and realized the description that my housemate had given of the man on the stairwell did not match that of the kids at all, so I called a second time on behalf of our suite to tell security that we felt that our concerns were being belittled and that it was necessary for them to meet with us in order to file a security report, which they later did," said Caswell. "However, it took one actual report to a security guard and two phone calls to the security office for them to seriously pay attention to our concerns."

After the incident, the Resident Director of Midrise, Jason Dunlap, requested foot patrol in the adjacent Midrise stairwell.

"As far as I know security is well aware of the situation and are working on doing extra rounds and installing lights," said Dunlap. "I wish this wasn't an issue, but we're addressing it to increase safety."

John Gildard, the new Director of Security, stated that security followed procedure; the stairwell was checked twice before obtaining an incident report.

"We have patrols that have been assigned to walk that stairway periodically. [There are] increased patrols in that area," said Gildard.

As of right now, the foot patrol of Midrise stairwell will be continued until May, when security will reevaluate the problem.

In response to the incident last Wed. night, additional floodlights

are being installed to brighten up the stairwell by the end of next week.

Additional entrance to Midrise?

While Marist is very strict with their card swiping policies to get into freshman and select sophomore dormitories, these measures do not prevent an attack from taking place on the stairwell of Midrise or anywhere else on campus.

Perhaps a preventative measure would be swipe access through a security guard station at the bottom entrance of Midrise. Only assessable from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. with the swiping of a valid ID card, the doors remain locked at all other hours, except for fire emergencies, to resident students.

Midrise resident, Lauren Russell, feels that access to these doors would provide a safer Marist community.

"I would definitely feel safer coming in at night if we could just swipe in at those doors instead of going up the dark stairwell," says Russell.

Gildard explains that Marist does not have enough manpower to place guards at all doors.

"All students channel through one guard. It is easier to control access [to dormitories] with limited amounts of entry points," said

See... **Safety, 3**

Students lead protest to save sign on Route 9

by **J.R. HORAN**
Staff Writer

Last Thurs., rush hour traffic started a little earlier than usual.

Groups of students were demonstrating along the Route 9 crosswalk in order to save the pedestrian-crossing sign. The students handed out fliers that encouraged Marist students, and stopped drivers and other pedestrians to voice their safety concerns to Marist administrators and local transportation officials.

"This is a lot calmer than the protests in the 60's," said one of the police officers directing traffic. "At you least you guys aren't being violent."

The town of Poughkeepsie police arrived to direct traffic after hoards of demonstrating students walked back and forth along the crosswalk to show their concern for student safety. The demonstration made

for a huge disruption that caused traffic along Route 9 to slow to a crawl as motorists waved their fists and honked their horns.

"I think it was a success," said junior Nicole Wallace, the organizer of the demonstration. "The purpose of this was to get the sign re-activated and the speed limit lowered."

Wallace and her group believe that the crosswalk is much more dangerous to use now that the lights are not working.

"It's so dangerous now, especially at night when you're trying to walk across," said Wallace.

It is her hope that increasing aware-

ness for this issue will force administrators to act in a positive way on behalf of its students.

Wallace and other students decided to demonstrate after voicing their concerns to Marist administrators about the dangers of keep-

ing the lights for the crosswalk deactivated. Marist claims that the crosswalk is actually safer now with the lights off than they were last semester when they were activated.

"When the lights were in use it created a great amount of confusion and this created more of a risk," said Scott Brown, the former Director of Marist security. "The lights were put there with good intentions, but it is to my understanding that they created more confusion for the people driving."

Brown also said that Marist

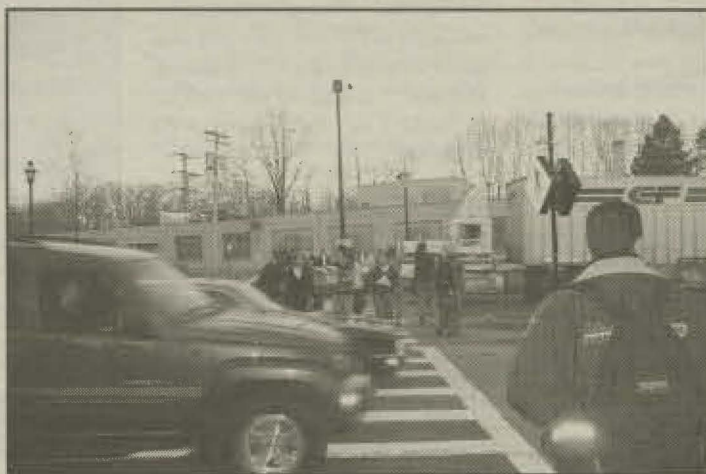


PHOTO CREDIT/MARISTONLINE.COM

Students let their voices be heard last Thurs. with a demonstration to save the pedestrian-crossing sign.

Question of the Week

How common do you think eating disorders are on campus?



"I don't really see a problem with them at all. I haven't witnessed it."

Jon Hackett
Sophomore



"I don't think there is a severe problem, but the disorders are present on campus."

Jake Morrison
Sophomore



"I think it's pretty widespread. You see people who don't eat and exercise uncontrollably."

Bridget Tracey
Sophomore



Security Briefs



compiled by **ED WILLIAMS III**
Managing Editor

2/19 Tuesday

At about 11:25 a.m. there was a complaint of a larceny reported at the Old Townhouses, B block. One person reported \$25 missing, and another reported \$40 missing. The investigation is ongoing, and no one has been caught.

2/19 Tuesday

A Champagnat female resident got more than she bargained for after ordering a delectable meal from the Golden Arches across the street. At about 6:45 p.m., the female resident complained to the entry desk officer that she had sprained her ankle at McDonald's. She was transported to St. Francis Hospital to have the ankle more thoroughly checked.

2/19 Tuesday

Maturity seems to be running low on campus lately as evidenced by a complaint at around 7:30 p.m. in regards to threatening phone calls. A Champagnat fifth floor resident said that they were the recipient of several harassing phone calls over the past few days. The calls mainly consisted of some heavy breathing followed by a dial tone, and were received during early morning hours. This is another ongoing investigation.

2/20 Wednesday

Perhaps trying to explore his feminine side, a male tried entering Marion Hall at about 11:50 p.m. using a female's ID card. After refusing to allow the male entry into the building he sped off on foot and was pursued by security until he left campus. The ID card was also confiscated.

2/20 Wednesday

A larceny was reported for the second consecutive day, this time in Sheahan Hall. The theft was re-

ported to have taken place sometime between 11:00 a.m. and 2:35 p.m. The student that registered the complaint told security that he had went to sleep, and when he woke up he was missing \$50. He was advised to call the town police to further look into the case.

2/21 Thursday

The continued abuse of Champagnat started up again this week on Thursday. The wheel on the standpipe of a water valve was broken, leaving the chain hanging free. In addition, the Pepsi machine had also been cut into. The damage was reported at about 9:12 a.m.

2/21 Thursday

A security van was almost a victim of some sophomoric tomfoolery at about 3:20 p.m. A sharp nail about 3 inches long was placed under two wheels of a security van in the Donnelly parking lot. The security guard who was about to go on patrol in the van noticed the sharp objects in front of his wheels before any damage was done. The attempted criminal mischief case is an unsolved one as of now, though.

2/21 Thursday

There was a miscommunication in the Lower West Cedar parking lot as a fender bender occurred at about 4:25 p.m. One of the vehicles was exiting a parking spot, but it was unclear in the security report which driver was responsible for the motor vehicle snafu.

2/21 Thursday

Gartland E-block must not be feeling itself lately as it's not on of the buildings with reports of fire alarms this week. The blaring noise of the fire alarms sounded in Benoit at about 6:40 p.m. on Thursday. There was some trash burning in the men's room trash can. A student reported that the can was outside his room, but the detector had gone off inside of his room. The Fairview fire depart-

ment was kept on its toes as they had to travel back to campus at about 4:50 a.m. early Friday morning. This time the alarm sounded in Champagnat and is believed to be originated from vandalism to a smoke detector head on the eighth floor.

2/22 Friday

There was a report of criminal mischief in the upper Hoop lot at about 2:10 p.m. The back window of a 1990 Chrysler was broken. The town of Poughkeepsie police were called onto the scene for further investigation as well.

2/22 Friday

In one of the more unusual alcohol confiscation cases, 10 bottles of Bass Ale were confiscated from Upper West Cedar. At about 10:20 p.m. the on-duty RA found the unopened bottles of alcohol on the lawn and had security confiscate the beverages in the bizarre event.

2/23 Saturday

The odd events of Friday ran into Saturday as housekeeping observed something they'd probably rather soon forget at about 7:10 a.m. An authorized guest was observed to be urinating in the hallway. He was immediately escorted off of campus and told never to return. It's a well-known fact that it is bad for the bladder to "hold it in," but this was a bit extreme.

2/24 Sunday

The eighth floor of Champagnat continued to be ravaged as there was another report of property damage at about 3:18 a.m. An RA called in a report that a table had been damaged. The RA had seen a student sliding down the stairs on a piece of the broken table. The snack machine was also unplugged and pulled away from the wall. Further inspection

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The Circle is the student newspaper of Marist College. Letters to the editors, announcements, and story ideas are always welcome but we cannot publish unsigned letters. *The Circle* staff can be reached at 575-3000 x2429 or letters to the editor can be sent to Circleletters@hotmail.com.



Campus Corner



Tune into WMCR 88.1 FM and the Ed and Malf Show on Tuesdays from 9:00-11:00 a.m. and listen to all kinds of music ranging from 80s, to rock, to punk, to alternative and everything in between. The campus radio station can also be heard on the Marist television channels and on the Internet at <http://www.marist.edu/wmcr/stream2.html>. Give the D.J.'s a call with requests and comments at x2132. Also tune in to the Eric and Greg Show on Wednesday mornings from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Check out Kim and Alisa on Fridays from 12:30-2:00 p.m. for the Oops we Messed up Again rotational show.

If you like Dave Matthews Band, you'll love this band too! Come see Jimson's Lyric with special guest The Projekt on Thursday,

Feb. 28 in the Cabaret at 9:30 p.m. The cost is \$1 for students with a Marist ID and \$3 for all others. The following is a list of dates and times for future Galleria Mall trips:
Saturday, 3/2 1:00-8:00 p.m.
Sunday, 3/3 6:00-midnight
Friday, 3/15 6:00-midnight
Saturday, 3/16 1:00-8:00 p.m.
Friday, 4/5 6:00-midnight
Sunday, 4/14 noon-6:00 p.m.
Saturday, 4/20 1:00-8:00 p.m.

Want your poetry, prose, photographs or artwork published? You can send your work to The Mosaic, Marist's literary magazine by the extended deadline of March 15. Drop off your pieces in the Literary Arts Society mailbox in the Council of Clubs room or e-mail them to Maristlas@yahoo.com.

ATTENTION:

The News section has a retraction for last week's article, "Vandalism plagues Marist campus." In the article, Assistant Director of Housing Patrick Killilee's name was misspelled, and his job title was incorrect.

revealed that the couches from the lounge had been pushed into the elevator as well as the trash being emptied as well.

2/25 Monday

Champagnat must be racking up some serious fines as vandalism again plagued the freshman dormitory. This report covers three floors this time. There was damage to the candy machine on the

sixth floor. The plexiglass cover was broken and much of the contents stolen. Whatever candy was left was confiscated by security and is being sent back to the distributor. The circuit breaker cover on the ninth floor was pulled loosed. And the eighth floor could not escape the students' wrath as the wire molding was pulled away from the wall.



Yvonne Poley spoke to the Marist community about the grave consequences of eating disorders for both males and females.

PHOTO CREDIT: JEN HAGGERTY

Eating disorders subject of talk

by JENNIFER HAGGERTY
News Editor

More than five million people suffer from eating disorders.

Monday night, students and faculty alike gathered in the student center to kick off National Eating Disorders Week.

Yvonne Poley, M.A., from the Marist College Counseling Center, spoke to a large audience about the high-risk college students face for developing an eating disorder. She also spoke briefly about her own personal experience of battling an eating disorder.

Poley referred to college as a "climate that breeds this [eating disorder] problem." This is because college students commonly have to deal with social and financial stress, along with competition amongst themselves to get a boyfriend or girlfriend.

Individuals turn to eating disorders

to cope with life situations that feel unmanageable. This primary focus of losing weight brings out positive attention and praise from others.

"Our society exemplifies lookism [which is making] a judgment on people based on how they look on the outside," said Poley.

There are three different types of eating disorders: anorexia, bulimia, and binge eating. There can also be crossing over between these three disorders.

Anorexia is mainly the restriction of eating foods and compulsive exercising. Bulimia can involve starvation, dieting, and purging to achieve a desired look, while binge eating is the consumption of foods until extreme discomfort. This behavior turns into the main focus of one's life, also known as the "cage" of an eating disorder.

90% of anorexia and bulimia occurs in females; college women 18-

22 have higher rates of bulimia than those younger, not in college, or over 21.

Poley explained how there is not one single cause that begins a disorder. Instead, it can be triggered by dieting or traumatic events, such as death. It is even estimated that 50% have suffered some sort of sexual abuse.

Contributing factors to the development of a disorder are perfectionism, poor body image, extreme need for approval, "all or nothing" thinking, low self esteem, and anxiety or depression.

It should be noted that males also suffer with eating disorders, statistically five to ten out of every 100 cases. Those with disorders were more likely to have been overweight previously, but are less likely to pursue treatment. However, disorders are just as dangerous for men as they are for women.

Students question safety; remedies proposed ...From 1

Gildard. "A lot of dormitories don't have dorm officers. Access is pretty open. We go to extra lengths to make sure major dormitories are controlled."

By entering through one main entrance, security believes that this is a preventive measure that keeps people not invited on campus out of dorms. It also provides security with the ability to keep an eye on students and control the guest policy.

"Students have the right to be free from rowdy and unwanted guests," said Gildard. "This maintains a quality of life in the dormitories that everyone can accept."

An additional entrance to Midrise would not only require more manpower, but possibly higher tuition.

"We have to balance the cost of security with the ability of students to fund that," said Gildard.

Look over your shoulder

Given the recent incident, students feel shaky about safety on campus.

Gartland resident Darren Murphy feels that the pathways getting to and from Gartland are not as secure as they should be.

"Security fails to realize that there are a lot more places other than parking lots that need to be monitored and checked to ensure students' safety on campus," said Murphy.

This is not to say that security does not try to provide a safe campus. In fact, Marist has a greater number of security employees compared to other colleges of our size.

"For our size, ratio of security to students is high," said Gildard.

Security does provide escorts upon request to make students feel safer walking on campus after dark. They also patrol the campus

with security vehicles. There is, however, difficulty in requesting an escort during daylight hours.

However, security cannot be in all places at all times, and given that Marist is located in Poughkeepsie, more preventive measures should be taken to make students not only safer, but more aware, of their surroundings.

Parking lots cause suspicion

Students feel that there is a lack of security present in both the Beck and Hoop parking lots. In the wake of the rape that took place last semester in the Beck parking lot, there is a cry from the student body to up the level of security on campus.

Sophomore Mary Mestrandrea, who last semester parked in Beck and currently parks in Hoop, is dissatisfied with the issue of safety in the lots.

"Safety - what safety? I don't feel safe in Hoop Lot or Beck," said Mestrandrea. "But security is greatly needed in Beck parking lot."

Beck in particular poses a direct threat to students because of its relative remoteness, where students still have to cross Route 9 to get back on campus.

"There is a patrol assigned to West Cedar and Beck," said Gildard. "There is no one directly assigned to Hoop Lot but there are emergency phones and new lights in the stairway there."

Matt De Rubeis, sophomore, is also dissatisfied with the safety in the parking lots.

"I always walk my girlfriend back to her car because I just don't trust this campus," said De Rubeis.

Security has been told to make themselves visible when classes get out, especially at night.

Many feel the college should seriously consider a security booth located in both parking lots to secure the safety of students who park their cars there after sunset.

However, Director of Security John Gildard explains that if security is placed in a booth in a parking lot, that they are obligated to remain in the booth. The security guard would not be able to leave the booth for random patrols.

"The area is limited and wouldn't be effective," said Gildard.

Gildard explained that by allowing security to use vehicles to patrol campus instead of being placed in designated booths, people will not know when a vehicle or foot patrol will be around. "People aren't sure of your timing," said Gildard.

During the hours of 3 p.m. and 7 a.m., the coverage consists of four patrol vehicles, two foot patrols and five entry officers. Office and classroom buildings have security coverage from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Mon. thru Fri., and restricted hours on weekends and holidays. When not staffed, the buildings are closed.

Suggestive preventive measures

Gildard suggests crime prevention techniques that students can use, such as walking in groups, having keys ready to unlock vehicles and looking quickly into the backseat of the car before entering.

"If you see a problem, don't confront it. The best thing is to back away and make a report," said Gildard. "We'd rather have you report it and check it out."

There is also a suggestion of more mandatory awareness semi-

nars on campus concerning safety and self defense on campus. The aim of this would be to heighten awareness and inform the student body to how to react if ever in the situation of an attempted rape.

Kathryn Muller, sophomore, is in favor of workshops and seminars that would heighten awareness on campus.

"As a freshman last year, I never thought twice about walking on this campus alone," said Muller. "Due to the rapes that took place earlier this school year, this campus doesn't seem as safe as it should be. Marist should really require workshops that would educate students, especially incoming freshman, of the risks that face them."

The idea of seminars does not only apply to females. Males also should be educated because while they are not necessarily at high risk for rapes as females are, they are affected by the ripple effect; one's sister, girlfriend or even friend can be a victim.

As of 2000, there has only been one reported forcible sexual offense. The statistics for the 2001 semester will be available next fall.

What's in store for security?

Gildard is proposing the possible installation of security cameras in Beck and other parking lots. This would be subject to approval by Marist.

"That way there would be cameras, a call box and patrols that patrol these lots," said Gildard.

Gildard is also considering the possibility of using students as part of the escort service. Students would work through student employment. They would be screened and used only for walking escorts. They would also be identifiable to other students.

Also, in the works right now is

the publication of the actual locations of blue lights on campus in the student handbook for this coming fall. Security is also planning on publishing it in the "Safety Awareness at Marist" brochure.

What students should know

Roberta Staples, Counseling Center, encourages anyone who has been a victim or has seen a possible attack to speak in private about the situation.

"If a student wants to come to the Counseling Center, call and make an appointment because we will maintain confidentiality," said Staples. "It's a safe place to start and we want to be available to students."

To contact the Rape Crisis Hotline, a 24-hour service, call 452-7272.

If students wish to request an escort, call ext. 2282.

In emergency, only dial 5555.

Look for the blue lights on campus

If you're ever in a situation where you have to reach a security, know where the security emergency boxes are located on campus.

- McCann - one in gym and one in the lot
- Hoop Lot - one each in upper and lower
- Beck - one in the art gallery and one in the lot
- North End - one located in building
- Upper West Cedar - two on campus
- Lower West Cedar - two on campus
- Riverview - one on maintenance building

FEATURES

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Champions made of sweat, practice and superstition

by ALEXIS LUKES
Staff Writer

If you want to remain on top of your sport, rule number one is to stay off the cover of "Sports Illustrated."

Since August of 1954, athletes throughout the world have believed that making the cover of the most famous sports magazine in the world is a bad sign for a single player or team. According to "Sports Illustrated's" own researchers, 37 percent of the bad luck happens to the person or team within one week of the cover appearance. Almost 12 percent of these suffered injuries or death.

Writers for "Sports Illustrated" have tried to explain the Jinx to readers. They say that all hot athletes eventually get cold. It just so happens that this usually occurs right after they appear on an SI cover.

Michael Jordan, a graduate of North Carolina, wears his blue North Carolina shorts under his uniform in the NBA.

Red Sox shortstop Nomar Garciaparra has one of the most noticeable routines in all of sports. He steps on each dugout step with both feet when he enters and leaves. His batting routine is what makes many laugh, however. During each at bat, he tugs his batting gloves and taps his toes.

Many athletes wear the same clothes to every game or race. Some have a pair of lucky underwear or socks. However strange it may be, these athletes swear that they play better when they do them.

Athletes at Marist do not stray from the norm. Superstitions and pre-game or race routines are a common occurrence on campus.

Matt Clark, a sophomore on the Crew team, says he has a few rituals. Last year, the mother of another rower in his boat bought all of the members of the boat an angel pin.

"We all had them pinned to our uniforms for all of our big races at the end of the season," he said. "Personally, I have a gold chain

that I always wear."

Other Crew team members have their own rituals.

Brad Maxwell, a freshman, says that before each race, he says a Hail Mary to get himself focused.

Becky Faucher, a freshman on the track team, said that good sportsmanship is the most important thing to her.

"Before I run, I always keep to myself for a few minutes," she said. "I pray to run a good race, and I pray that others will run well also."

No matter the outcome, she said, she always shakes hands with her opponents, to keep a good attitude towards other runners.

Katie Nielsen, also a freshman on the track team, had a different pre-race ritual that she felt made her do better.

"I taped a cross to my skin, over my heart, before each race," she said, "And I did well."

No matter what the superstition or ritual, as long as these athletes do their best, nothing else matters.

Good luck to all the athletes here at Marist!



PHOTO CREDIT: Taylor Rogers

Athletes sheepishly admit to believing in superstitions for luck.

"Dead meat:" a matter of taste for vegetarians

by ALEXIS SCARPINATO
Features Editor

The absence of meat in your diet may be unhealthy.

According to Marilyn Stephenson of the Food and Drug Administration, meat contains nutrients that are hard to find in other food groups.

"The more you restrict your diet, the more difficult it is to get all the nutrients you need," said Stephenson.

Vitamin B12 and iron are two important factors of a healthy diet that are often lost within a vegetarian lifestyle. A diet of increased soy protein, bran, and fiber inhibit the absorption of iron into the body.

According to the Institution of Food Technology, there are various types of vegetarians. Semi-vegetarians eat dairy food, eggs, chicken, and fish, but no other ani-

mal flesh. Pesco-vegetarians eat dairy foods, eggs, and fish, but no other animal flesh. Lacto-ovo vegetarians eat dairy products, eggs, but no animal flesh. Lacto-vegetarians eat dairy foods, but no eggs or animal flesh. Ovo-vegetarians eat eggs, but no dairy foods or animal flesh.

Experts from the American Dietetic Association advise vegetarians to find nutrient supplements. Fortified soymilk and cereals contain vitamin B12. Fortified margarine and the sunlight contain the essential vitamin D. Tofu, broccoli, seeds, and legumes contain calcium. Breads and green, leafy vegetables contain iron. Whole-wheat bread and nuts contain the needed zinc.

The ADA recommends a carefully planned diet. Minimize intake of less nutritious foods, such as sweets and fatty foods. Choose low-fat varieties of milk products and limit intake of egg yolks to

only two to three a week. In addition, anyone can benefit from increasing their vegetable and fruit intake.

Reasons for eating a vegetarian diet vary from person to person. Often, meat is an unacceptable meal for religious purposes, such as the Seventh-Day Adventists. Others believe it is a better use of the earth's resources to eat low on the food chain. Yet others simply dislike the taste of meat products.

Nonetheless, the FDA spokesperson relates vegetarianism with positive health aspects.

"Data are strong that vegetarians are at lesser risk for obesity, reduced muscle tone, lung cancer, and alcoholism," she said.

According to the Resource Group Zogby poll, which surveyed 986 adults, said 2.5 percent of the population could be considered vegetarian. Six percent of people from the ages 18 to 29 never eat meat, poultry, or fish.

Vegetarian Recipe:
Easy Garden Quiche

Ingredients:

- 2 cup chopped fresh broccoli
- 1/2 cup chopped onions
- 1/2 cup chopped green peppers
- 1 cup shredded non fat Cheddar cheese
- 1 1/2 cups skim milk
- 3/4 cup reduced fat Bisquick
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper

Directions:

- Heat oven to 400 degrees.
- Lightly spray pie plate with vegetable oil.
- Heat 1 cup water with 1/2 teaspoon salt to boiling.
- Add broccoli, cook until tender, drain thoroughly.
- Mix broccoli, onion, green pepper and cheese in pie plate.
- Beat remaining ingredients until smooth, 15 seconds in blender.
- Pour into pie plate.
- Bake until golden brown and knife inserted halfway between center and edge comes out clean, 35 to 40 minutes.
- Let stand 5 minutes before cutting.

Microsoft reinvents the video game with X-box

by JASON SHAW
Staff Writer

College is well known for its tradition pastimes of drinking and sleeping, but advancing technology has added yet another tool for procrastination and stress relief to campus life.

That's right-video games. Video game technology has evolved in leaps and bounds in the past de-

cade as new console after new console have entered and left the market. One of the newest additions is Microsoft's first venture into console gaming, the Xbox.

Since Microsoft is such a powerhouse of a company, one would assume that they would construct a powerhouse of a video game machine. But the results of the Xbox aren't as favorable as I'm sure they'd like.

The package sure sounds nice:

with an Intel-powered processor, an 8 gigabyte hard drive, and 64 megabytes of RAM, the Xbox boasts that playing it feels more like you're gaming on a computer than on a console. In addition, the Xbox contains a state-of-the-art DVD player so that when you're not wasting time gaming, you're wasting time watching movies. It also has Internet capabilities, giving people yet another excuse not to get up from the TV.

But before you put some more money into Bill Gates' pocket, keep in mind that competition for the Xbox is fierce and Microsoft's baby system has some pretty big shoes to fill-namely the Playstation 2, Sega Dreamcast, and Nintendo Gamecube.

"It's over-priced and it'll never be able to compete with the Playstation 2 in the open market," said junior John Paige.

The Playstation 2 offers the same

features as the Xbox and has a much larger library of games to choose from, since it can also run Playstation 1 games. Most college students are already loyal to the Sony system, and the Xbox's three-hundred-dollar price tag isn't helping them to change their minds. The Sega Dreamcast, having gone out of business, can be found at prices under a hundred dollars.

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Dental health often forgotten

by **STACEY CASWELL**
Business Manager

Even though we live in the fast-paced and hectified college environment, we still try to live up to certain hygienically sound practices, such as making sure to shower everyday, washing our faces and wearing deodorant, etc. Who would want to be around us if we didn't?

However, it seems that the one area that has been neglected by most is that of dental hygiene. Sure, we all brush our teeth, but do we actually realize that our bodily well-being is affected by how well we take care of our pearly whites?

It's a subject that no one really enjoys talking about but its essential to incorporate into our health routine beneficial dental practices that will leave us with more fresh-feeling, germ-free and kissable mouths. (And who doesn't like to experience a peck or two once in awhile?) So before you reach for that Snickers bar and Pepsi brimming with enamel-eating sugar, take a look at these mouth saving techniques to ensure a brighter, more brilliant future for your smile.

First, it's important to brush at least three times a day, preferably after meals. However, if you can't brush, (no I'm not going to recommend using Trident), the new tooth towels are sold in individual packets of four each. Resembling the small handy wipes in the basket as you leave the cafeteria, these small parcels can easily be slipped into a front pocket and used during a brief interlude at the bathroom in front of mirror. They are extremely beneficial because they are soaked in type of toothpaste/mouthwash solution that helps to eliminate plaque. Also, after completing a meal it aids your dental health to drink a glass of water. This act alone allows for swallowing of any excess food particles that could have become trapped in your teeth and will leave you with less of a tainted taste in your mouth of your previous meal.

Second, it is vital that when you brush you use the right toothbrush. You can actually cause damage to your teeth and gums by using a brush with stiff, inflexible bristles. Brushing too hard for an extended amount of time will cause painful receding and bleeding of your gums, which can later lead to gum and periodontal disease.

Nancy Best, a licensed R.D.H. (Registered Dental Hygienist) for twenty years, recommends the use of a battery-powered or electric toothbrush to maintain that all areas of the mouth are reached while brushing. She said, "I always recommend electric toothbrushes because studies have shown that they clean better than manual toothbrushes and people tend to brush longer when they use them." She

continues by saying, "The electric sonic toothbrush moves at high speeds creating sonic waves that have been found to clean better than most regular toothbrushes because the waves actually penetrate the crevices in between your teeth."

She advises the use of either the Sonicare or Sensonic toothbrush which range anywhere from \$15 to \$20, or the Colgate Actibrush which has the ability to have its head replaced for just a few dollars. Although she realizes that college students are short-changed for cash, she sees it as a small investment to the amount of money that a student for will have to pay for a dentist to perform damage control on their mouth in the long run.

The third unbreakable rule of dental hygiene is to floss! Most students neglect to perform this portion of their dental routine due to the fact that it is painstaking and time-consuming. However, most do not realize that not flossing at least once a day can cause bad breath! So unless you want to go around covering your mouth or popping endless amounts of tie tacs, then its imperative to floss in order to reduce the amount of plaque and food particles that build up between your teeth. However, new technologies in floss manufacturing have created a gentler, more slippery product that easily slips between those tight crevices to remove the gunk that is in there. Hygienist Best recommends both Oral B Satin Floss and Glide Floss, which are both coated with gortex, which is a type of wax that makes it easier for the floss to sashay through your chompers.

Last but not least of importance is probably the MOST ignored part of your mouth: the tongue. Just like your incisors, your tongue needs to be brushed every time your teeth are brushed. According to Best, "There are a lot of food particles and bacteria in between the teeth that can cause bad breath, and also on the tongue so it is important to brush the tongue daily too." She also says that bad breath is a direct result of volatile sulfur compound, which is what gives you the occasional icky taste in your mouth. Both tongue scrapers which derive the bacteria from your tongue, and tongue brushes are available for about three dollars in any drugstore and will help to greatly reduce the amount of bacteria buildup which your mouth experiences on day to day basis.

By putting some of these tips to use before settling yourself to sleep for the night, you will be helping to ensure your mouth is an anti-bacterial and carefree space which will leave you grinning for years to come.



Looking for something like this? You won't find this kind of housing on a student budget.

Students increasingly look off campus for housing

by **JENN WEINTZ**
Staff Writer

Living off campus may become a more appealing option.

With the Marist population growing each year and more and more students forced to live in triples or in housing that wasn't their first choice, off campus housing has become a more and more increasingly better choice for many Marist students each year.

Although there are many pros and cons to living off campus rather than on, many students are taking the plunge and acquiring an off campus address due to several circumstances. Each year Marist accepts more students than housing can afford to cover.

A few years ago housing was guaranteed till junior year, but for the past few years, coverage has diminished to cover only freshman year. Off-campus housing has become a more favorable option for those students who are not up to priority level standards are who can no longer deal with the strict Marist security rules. Off-campus housing allows students to park close to their homes without receiving parking tickets every ten minutes, as well as not having to register guests as if they were in high school.

This type of living arrangement offers many different types of options, including the freedom to do

what every college student dreams of: answering to no one but the landlord. Many apartments/houses offer different rent and utilities agreements depending on where the student chooses to live. The houses are usually two-level complexes that offer students a better size living arrangement and the guarantee of specific roommates.

Marist College informs students where they will be living in the upcoming year in August, which does not allow much time for those students, which did not receive the housing of their choice to find other options. However, the Housing Department does have a bulletin board outside of their office that frequently advertises off-campus apartments and houses. The Housing Department is very helpful in advising students where they can find the best rent and safest neighborhoods in Poughkeepsie and surrounding towns.

Students that find themselves without housing or in a roommate predicament may feel that moving off-campus is the best solution. There are several streets and neighborhoods that are crowded with college kids, making it more friendly and safe. Most times landlords will rent their apartments solely to college kids each year, making it easier for kids to find homes.

Although living on-campus gives students easy access to classes

and the library as well as a quick internet connection, it might not be the best solution for everyone. Sometimes students feel that they are too confined under Marist rules and need the freedom that off-campus housing provides. Each living arrangement provides a certain set of pros and cons that students need to consider seriously. Depending on a particular group of people, one option may be better than the other.

As the Marist population continues to grow, more and more rooms and apartments are overcrowded with students. After freshman year, it is important that each student consider whether living on-campus is the best choice for them. If not, there are a myriad of other options out there waiting for them.

X-box...From 4

Despite the cheap price and failed business, the Dreamcast is home to some great sports and party games, making it a campus favorite for those with thin wallets. And although the Gamecube has yet to catch on with the older crowd, it still has its fair share of games that will make you think twice before going Microsoft.

With games like WWF Raw, NFL 2K2, and Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 2x, the Xbox can be the source of a very welcome study break. But the bottom line is, with fewer quality games and a hefty price tag, cash-deficient college students may be forced to pursue other forms of video game entertainment.

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Congress shall pass no law...abridging the freedom of speech or of the press.

Pentagon prepared to spread lies across world

by CHRIS KNUDTSEN
Opinion Editor

The Pentagon's newly formed Office of Strategic Influence is "developing plans to provide news items, possibly even false ones, to foreign media organizations...to influence public sentiment and policy makers in both friendly and unfriendly countries," according to the Feb. 19 *New York Times*. The OSI was created to drum up support for America's "war on terrorism" shortly after Sept. 11 by manipulating propaganda to portray the US in a positive light.

Besides the basic ethical argument of intentionally lying to the rest of the world, critics of the new OSI, including Pentagon officials, have expressed concern that the OSI may have a range of negative consequences. Pentagon credibility will be questionable, both internally and externally, especially since "even many senior Pentagon officials and Congressional military aides say they know almost nothing about its purpose and plans," according to the *New York Times*.

Similarly, it is a realistic and unnerving concern that misleading information will come back to the US public through international media agencies. Stories placed abroad by the OSI can easily transfer to US mainstream media, especially considering the downsizing trend of many media corporations such as CNN that leave them increasingly dependent on any source of wide news syndication. It is interesting to note that

spreading misleading information to the entire world is not illegal but it IS illegal for the federal government to mislead the American public. Thank god they've never tried doing that before...

The OSI is employing the Rendon Group, a public relations firm that has formerly worked for the Kuwaiti royal family. The Rendon Group is currently on the Pentagon's bankroll for nearly \$100,000 a month, a steep price to pay but Rendon has already demonstrated their style when they played a leading role in the CIA's \$23 million a year propaganda war against Saddam Hussein shortly after the Gulf War. The OSI as a whole has been allocated a multi-million dollar budget out of the \$10 billion military budget increase given to the Pentagon after Sept. 11.

Reports from the Dutch newspaper *Trouw* and France's *Intelligence Newsletter* in Feb. 2000 exposed a collaborative project from 1999 between the US Army's 4th Psychological Operations (PSYOPS) Group at Fort Bragg and the news division of CNN's Atlanta headquarters. Several officers from the PSYOPS worked in the newsroom, including one officer in CNN's satellite division.

Rear admiral Thomas Steffens, a psychological warfare expert in the Special Operations Command told a PSYOPS conference that the military needed to influence commercial news satellites to bring an "informational cone of silence" in areas where special operations were being held, according to the *Intelligence Newsletter*.

The 4th Army PSYOPS group had a number of officers during the 1980s staffing a government propaganda agency, the National Security Council's Office of Public Diplomacy, that gained a reputation for planting stories in the US media supporting Reagan's policies in Central America.

Long before this however, President Roosevelt created the office of the Coordinator of Information (COI) in July 1941; the office, headed by William J. Donovan was "a novel attempt in American history to organize research, intelligence, propaganda, subversion, and commando operations as a unified and essential feature of modern warfare," according to historian Thomas F. Troy.

Roosevelt had classified Hollywood as "an essential war industry" to promote a war fervor at home. Has anyone else heard about the supposed upcoming "Rambo in Afghanistan"? Stallone may not even be necessary with the wave of war movies in theatres, from the openly racist "Black Hawk Down" to Mel Gibson's "We Were Soldiers".

If one is willing to justify misleading information and propaganda to foreign sources, how much a stretch is it to justify misleading our own citizens? Blatant attempts to brainwash our people into a war mentality is questionable at best and outrageous at most. It wasn't very long ago that our government was showing cartoon turtles avoiding death from nuclear catastrophe with a simple "duck and cover".

weight behind one nation. If the government chooses to continue supporting the Israelis over the Arabs they must take themselves out of the conflict. By keeping out of the affair it is more likely that future terrorist attacks will be avoided within Israel and America. This is not an American problem and the entire world should be aiming to help bring peace to the two warring sides.

The main reason why a peaceful solution has yet to be reached is because of the city of Jerusalem. Both the Palestinian and the Jewish people want to have the ancient holy city as the capital of their respective states. Neither side can live without it because of its religious context for the members of the Islamic and Jewish religions.

For Muslims the city is the third See..INTERVENTION, 7

Correction

The Circle would like to issue a correction on last week's article by Damian Bednarz. The article, "Privatizing prisons, the Sodexho question" did not mention that the partnership between Sodexho and the Corrections Corporation of America has been terminated.

In a press release, Sodexho Alliance Chairman Pierre Bellon said, "we have now determined that our CCA investment is no longer in line with our strategic objectives and is in conflict with our policy."

We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.

Letter to the editor....

We knew Starbucks was opening a store in the Home Depot plaza well before the lease was signed for the Poughkeepsie location of our Kona Coffee House experiment. This point has relevance to Jen Weintz, the staff writer whose lack of coffee culture is apparent in her article "Another Marist convenience opens across the street" and also to the those expressing their concern about the McDonalds of coffee houses opening next door.

In the coffee industry, Starbucks has a nickname, Charbucks. The reasoning behind this is that Starbucks coffee is very dark roasted. Dark roasting, although having its place in a broad spectrum of coffee roasts, masks inadequacies in the quality of coffee beans. This roasting process enables Starbucks to pass any old brew into the cups of the American people and through very impressive marketing, convince them that this is how coffee is supposed to taste. Just as the best burger in town is not to be found at McDonalds, the best cup of Joe is not to be found at Starbucks.

To Miss Weintz, in direct rebuttal: just because Starbucks is conspicuous does not make them superior. In reference to ambiance: as we all know, ambiance is a matter of opinion. If you are inclined to enjoy the cookie-cutter, all-the-same, commercial qualities offered by all mainstream monster chains, you will probably enjoy the new car smell at Starbucks.

Miss Weintz also refers to Kona Coffee House as a "small" coffee house. In fact, Kona encompasses 900 square feet in contrast to Starbucks 1100 square feet. I would dare to say that both establishments are "small". The bottom line is we knew Starbucks was coming and we opened anyway.

We look forward to the comparisons and the "struggle" Miss Weintz refers to. This rebuttal might shed some light on Miss Weintz's lack of coffee culture and more importantly offer this piece of information. You don't have to work at Starbucks to afford quality coffee.

ChristieLyn Diller
Jude Ihlenfeldt

Letters to the Editor can be sent to *The Circle* by emailing Circleletters@hotmail.com. Anonymous letters cannot be published.

NY to Mayor, stop selling our parks

The following is a letter recently sent to the Mayor of New York City, Michael Bloomberg. For a full list of co-authors visit www.nyc.indymedia.org.

Through the course of your career you seem always to have had a strong interest in philanthropy. Your charitable works, at Johns Hopkins University and elsewhere, have been impressive, and you even endowed a chair in philanthropy at Harvard University.

Now you have become mayor of New York, which is a world capital of philanthropic giving and endeavor. From the legacies of Henry Ford and John D. Rockefeller to the outpouring of generosity that followed the tragedy of September 11, this city has embodied in exceptional degree the tradition of giving to meet individual and social needs.

Given this record, we were surprised...LETTER, 7

No US in Israel, Palestine

by MATT GILLESPIE
Staff Writer

Here we go again. America is once again sticking its nose in business where it does not belong, in the Arab-Israeli conflict. It has been a particularly explosive issue that has caused many deaths in various countries around the world. I am concerned that America's position in this conflict may cause many more deaths both abroad and at home.

If you question the fact that America has lost lives due to the Arab-Israeli conflict please recall that Mr. Bin Laden cited Americas intervention in the affair as one of the many reasons for his terrorist attacks against the United States. I firmly believe that this conflict can be resolved without America interfering any further.

America has long been a supporter of freedom and democracy.

It has demonstrated this many times as the United States wielded it's military might to challenge communism wherever it arose. The difference this time is that the Arab-Israeli conflict truly does not adversely affect American interest. The idea of justice and freedom is being put aside in favor of one particular nation.

The politicians in charge of our country feel it is necessary to support the Israelis at all costs. This is because they are the only democracy in the Middle East. This policy has slighted the Arabs that live inside Israel. The policy has also led to more deaths for Palestinians, Israelis, and Americans. It is time for our government to understand that both sides should be treated equally regardless of what political system they support.

The United States should be focusing on getting the two sides to the peace table, not throwing their

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The views presented are not necessarily those of *The Circle*

ACTIVIST CORNER

Monday Nights: "Phoenix Project", a plan to renovate and revitalize Poughkeepsie. Contact Aaron.d.frechette@marist.edu for meeting times/places

Thursday nights at 9:30 in LT 209B the Marist Animal Rights Ninjas will hold their weekly meetings.

The Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) meets every Thursday at 9pm in the Henry Hudson Room of Fontaine Hall.

The Marist Animal Rights Ninjas will be working at Pets Alive, a no kill animal shelter on the weekend of March 2 and 3. If interested in helping at the shelter contact Jared.C.Avigliano@marist.edu

For information or to submit an event contact cknudtsen@hotmail.com

Information resources:

The Guardian/Observer: Mainstream newspapers in the UK. www.guardian.co.uk

Indymedia: Independent media, stories that go uncovered in mainstream American press, links to different chapters in the US as well as international chapters of the IMC www.indymedia.org

The Nation: Progressive magazine with in depth stories on major issues/events. www.thenation.com

Salon Magazine: Columnists from the left and the right on a wide scope of issues, some big and some comical. www.salon.com

Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting: Media watchdog organization that analyzes mainstream media in the US for bias, inaccuracies, etc. www.fair.org

Dutchess Outreach: Information on public service organizations in the Dutchess area, contact and volunteer information for a list of sites. www.dutchessoutreach.org

Bush's power words

by TONY HEYL
Staff Writer

The President of the United States is arguably the most important person in the world so when he speaks, his words carry a heavy weight to them. Everybody listens to what this one person out of six billion has to say and they take nothing for granted.

Hopefully he doesn't mess up. Our current President is well known for his gaffes, or snafus if you will. During the 2000 election, people paid more attention to how he was messing up his words than to what he was actually talking about, which was probably a good thing for him. Bush supporters laughed it off as saying this showed he was human and just like all the rest of us. Apparently this means that most Americans can't string together a sentence.

Opponents yelled at the top of his lungs that having a president that could not speak correct English would be an outright embarrassment for the country. Recently, they have been proven correct.

In an otherwise routine trip to Japan to drum up hatred of evildoers, our commander in chief's propensity for dyslexic behavior actually caused damage to their already dwindling economy. During a press conference with Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, Bush said that they had discussed "the devaluation issue". What he

should have said and what his handlers eventually corrected him on was "the deflation issue". Before that correction could be made, the dollar had risen by a quarter of a yen against the Japanese currency. Who's laughing now?

What once was just a safe target for late night talk show hosts has now finally come to a head as a serious issue. Bush's predilection for slips of the tongue is causing him more grief than people originally suspected. This could just be the impetus of things to come. It was funny back in 2000 when he said things like "the woman who knew that I had dyslexia-I never interviewed her" and when he said that he wanted to make America a "more literate country and a hopefuller country." I'd write more, but my spell check can only handle so much.

But now that he's actually in office, misusing language is turning out to be a significant problem. During the same trip to the East, he said "My trip to Asia begins here in Japan for an important reason. It begins here because for a century and a half now, America and Japan have formed one of the great and enduring alliances of modern times. From that alliance has come an era of peace in the Pacific."

Sure we are on good terms with Japan now and there is nothing bad to say about the Japanese at the

present, but he conveniently forgot about a few years in the 1940's where Japan wasn't exactly an ally. Very rarely are "enduring alliances" marked by atom bombs. Maybe he meant to say for a half a century, but that's not what he actually said, and that is the problem.

Much has been said about Bush's State of the Union address where he called Iraq, Iran, and North Korea an "Axis of Evil". However, unlike previous gaffes, this one was intentional. When I see three countries labeled an axis, I get the impression that they are all united, possibly in pursuit of evil. Now everybody knows that Iraq and Iran don't quite get along and neither of them have anything to do with North Korea. So where's the axis come from? If you ask the president, he'll probably say something about putting food on your family or something similarly unintelligible.

One year ago, it was funny to hear the leader of the free world mess up on his words day in and day out. There was something nice to be able to look at him on television and have some logical reason to say "hmm, I'm smarter than the president". Now, however, it's no laughing matter. When the president talks, no matter what he says, he's using some powerful words. Maybe with experience, he'll learn to choose those powerful words a little more carefully.

Letter to Mayor Bloomberg ...From 6

prised and disappointed by the crass and cynical note in your proposal for corporate donations to help this city's parks. You did not speak to civic pride and the spirit of philanthropy, but rather to corporate tendencies to self-promotion and the craving for attention and reward.

According to The New York Times, your administration plans to help close a \$5 billion budget deficit by selling the naming rights to portions of the city's parks. City Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe says that you even are considering whether to sell the naming rights of entire parks. There is nothing inherently wrong with corporate support; nor with recognition of a suitable kind. But to rename the parks for corporations would be literally to sell the city — its heart and soul — for money.

It also would violate the spirit and purpose of the parks, which is to provide a refuge from the commotion, stress and incessant huckstering that plague our lives. In their preliminary plan for Prospect Park, Frederick Law Olmsted and

his colleague Calvert Vaux wrote that the aim of urban parks was to provide "the feeling of relief experienced by those entering [the park], on escaping the cramped, confined and controlling circumstances of the streets of the town."

The parks provide an escape from the aggressive commercial culture in its many manifestations. To sell the names of the parks to corporations would subsume them to that very culture. It would erode the city's civic spirit, that special feeling of being a New Yorker that is hard to define and would be even harder to replace. That spirit is tied to places, to the magic of place names. Riverside Park, Flushing Meadows, Washington Square — is there a New Yorker for whom such names do not rub the lamp of memory and intimate association? Now try substituting Enron Central Park, or the Arthur Andersen Riverside, or the General Electric Greenbelt. Is that really the legacy you want to leave to this city? What will be next? Will Gracie Mansion become Disney Mansion and City Hall Citicorp Hall? Will you,

as mayor, wear a corporate logo on the back of your suit jacket, like a Little League baseball player, if the price is right?

The parks belong to all New Yorkers, past and present. They are our sanctuaries, the landmarks and locations of our memories. We have walked and jogged in them, pushed strollers with our kids. We have picnicked, attended concerts, dozed, fallen in and out of love, all in the parks. We have supported the parks with our tax dollars and in some cases our volunteer efforts, through good years and bad. We deserve better than to have the names of these special places taken from us.

You have an opportunity to start to lead this city back to a genuine spirit of philanthropy. You can start to shift the focus to generosity and community, and away from corporate self-promotion and the craven seeking of reward for good deeds. Raise this banner. Hold it high. If you ask the best of New Yorkers, rich and poor alike, you just might find that they give it to you - many times over.

Intervention ...From 6

holiest site in their religion. The Jewish people believe it is the holiest site within their religion. The best way for this issue to be solved would be for one side to realize the other sides need for Jerusalem as their capital. Perhaps one day it will be recognized as the capital city of both Israel and Palestine. The only thing that would be needed is cooperation among the two sides and an international peacekeeping force.

clear to almost everyone in the world that America means business when it comes to terrorism. In this case, however, it appears that the United States has become the source of more terrorism both within Israel and at home. The government must decide on a plan for the conflict and follow through. They must either treat both sides fairly (and help bring them to the peace table) or leave the situation alone entirely. If they are able to do this well then perhaps many lives will be saved in the future.

It has come across loud and

The Opinion section of The Circle is looking for an eventual replacement as Opinion Editor. Experience will be provided during the semester as an assistant editor. If interested contact cknudtsen@hotmail.com

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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For Lent, can you hold out for *40 Days and 40 Nights*

by PAUL LUKASON
Staff Writer

"One man is about to do the unthinkable. No sex. Whatsoever. For 40 days and 40 nights." Now, I know everyone out there, especially at this school, is thinking the same thing. He must be crazy, or pretty stupid, for that matter. First, just take a look at the whole 40 days and 40 nights thing.

This time period is taken from the Catholic faith, and is the time period that Catholics are supposed to give up their one vice. They give this up for Lent "in honor" of Jesus wandering the desert. However, Catholics do not believe in premarital sex. Basically, the entire plot of the movie is hypocritical. I am sad to say that the film does not even acknowledge this fact either. If you can go into this film with the ability to put this minor flaw aside like I did, then you will no doubt have a good time.

40 Days stars Josh Hartnett (of *The Faculty* fame) as, Matt Sullivan, our boy who does the unthinkable. The unthinkable in this situation means total abstinence; no sex, no touching, no

kissing and no self-gratification. Michael Lehmann directs the film. He is the current director of the television series, *The West Wing*, and has also directed the comedies *Airheads* and *My Giant*. First time writer Rob Perez writes the story and screenplay. Even though this is a freshman effort for Perez, he actually writes a hip, clever and smart script.

Our story opens with Matt and his girlfriend Nicole (Vinessa Shaw) being completely happy together. We are shown through various attempts a sense of what their happiness is and how we should feel about it. After the opening credits finish, we are told that Matt and Nicole are no longer together. They have been broken up for six months. In a way to "cope" with Matt's loss, he brings home a different girl every night and sleeps with her. After the deeds are performed, Matt still feels empty inside and endures a recurring illusion. He always sees the ceiling start to crack in the fashion of a black hole.

Matt does not know what this means or how to deal with his life except to ask for assistance from his brother who just happens to be training in a seminary to become a priest. Matt finally comes up with the bright idea that he will give up sex for Lent. No one thinks that he will be able to

put this plan into action because of his track record with women. Matt has no idea what he is getting himself into. He soon finds his dream girl (Shannon Marie Kahoolani Sossamon of *A Knight's Tale*), while doing laundry on a Saturday night and cannot do anything about it. What is a celibate guy to do? As we are shown, a high five seems to be the most appropriate thing in this situation. Our adventure into celibacy continues with magnificent jokes in abundance.

Even though almost all of the jokes in this movie have been used before, Perez puts such a great spin on them that they appear unique, original and outstandingly funny. Our heartthrob Josh Hartnett proves that he is not only a man of action films, but he can also do comedies with great success.

His journey into celibacy appears to be easy, but he shows us how jaded one can become. Overall, Hartnett proves that he is no longer a cardboard cutout as he may have appeared in parts of *The Faculty*. He definitely put his game

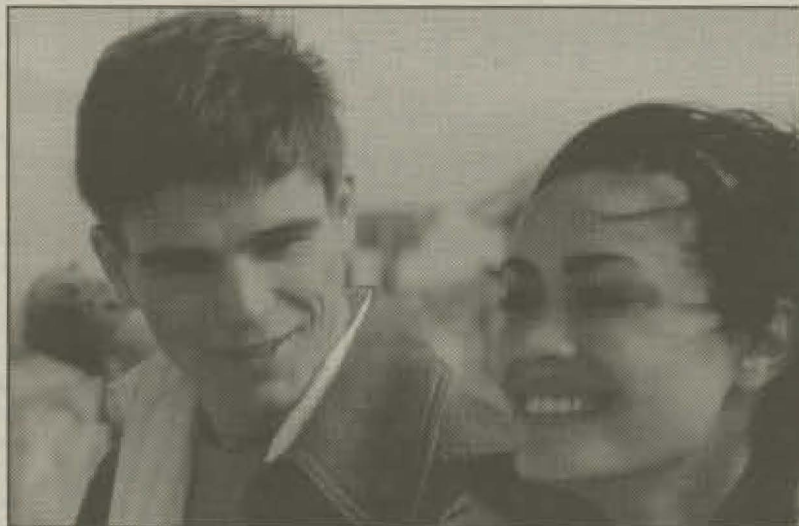


PHOTO COURTESY OF JIMBRUER.COM

Hartnett and Shaw in *40 Days and 40 Nights* comes to theatres on Friday.

face on for this movie and shows us how he certainly has a talent to act. The supporting role from the very beautiful Shannon Sossamon was certainly a surprise treat in my eyes because of her limited acting background.

40 Days is a movie that will entertain most. The movie attempts to constantly throw jokes at the audience left and right to try and keep them entertained. Their at-

tempt certainly worked. A great deal of comedies nowadays fall flat on their faces from the repetitive nature of their jokes. Hartnett certainly fuels and carries this film on his shoulders, and I hope to see many other great works from this up and coming talented actor in the near future.

Grade: B+

What trends will you be wearing this spring?

by CHRISTINA DIAS
Staff Writer

Just when you thought it was impossible for celebrities to show any more skin, fashion turned the tables on them. The designs for spring 2002 are decidedly more conservative than the trends from 2001.

That's not to say last season's low-rider jeans and stiletto boots are now pleated khakis and a strand of pearls, though. As the almighty fashion dictators are known for creating, a great divide has formed between the two factions of spring trends. Spring design inspiration has clearly ranged from the war on terror-

ism, to Madonna, to a late summer vacation on Martha's Vineyard. On one hand, there are the bold colors and sharp silhouettes of the 80's revival, and conversely there is the ultra-feminine romanticized vintage wave, each with its own subgroups. Maybe it all sounds too complicated so this complex issue should be broken down into its specific parts.

Unsurprisingly, the most ubiquitous were the militaristic looks. For men this means shades of khaki and brown, black and olive green. Women will find belted jackets with epaulets, aviator shades, nautical stripes and oversized dress pants. Similar to this is safari inspired apparel, particularly strappy gladiator sandals, turquoise or ethnic jewelry and suede (but do

be a friend to the animals and let them keep their skins; opt for faux). Also, Spanish influenced apparel for women provides a subtle use of bold colors while still commanding attention. Look for floral embroidery embellishing shirts, ruffles abound on dresses and crinson, yellow and black colors.

If louder clothes are more your forte, retro '80s styles will be abundant in the coming months. This is including, but not limited to, torn t-shirts, wrist cuffs, fringe, shocking pink and abstract prints. Take care not to wear all these trends at once, lest Cyndi Lauper rises from obscurity and slaps you for being overly non-conformist. Retro style generally reads better on men.

Slash the sleeves off a t-shirt, throw on some black shades, whip out a bottle of Stiff Stuff aerosol hairspray and voilà, you're Vanilla Ice! Then again, some trends aren't worth resurrecting.

What looks to be the dominant trend for 2002 is the romantic vintage clothing. After tragedy, as America turns away from glamour and materialism and casts a renewed gaze toward the home and family, so does art imitate life. Patchwork, long skirts, cotton and flower prints reminiscent of *Little House on the Prairie* are being integrated into mainstream apparel. White is the color of choice for spring, with cream coming in a close second. Everyone's friend,

denim, hasn't gone anywhere. It appears now in deconstructed, faded and vintage washed versions, especially for men. A spin-off of romanticism is hippie styles such as lace, off-the-shoulder peasant blouses and sheer fabrics.

Overall, fashion is getting a lot more relaxed as painted-on tight jeans play second fiddle to roomy pants. Chunky, awkward platforms and ultra-high heels are tossed in favor of comfy flats and sandals. However, no matter what the fashion bureaucracy says, you'll always look good if you have personal style and feel comfortable in your own skin.

The band "Swim" dives to Marist to perform

by CHRISTINA GUZZO
Staff Writer

When I got the assignment to cover the SPC coffeehouse featuring the band Swim, I must admit that I was a bit reluctant. I didn't want to spend my precious weekend at a college-sponsored event that would most likely be boring and/or lame. However, after a few minutes of music, I was in the hallway on my cell phone calling my friends to come see this band I claimed was, "so awesome."

I hesitantly stumbled into the cabaret a bit early, grabbed an over-priced cup of coffee and sat down at a table near the back. Noticing the face that had graced

flyers on some of Marist's hottest bulletin boards, I decided to try my luck and approach lead-singer Joshua Kobak.

Besides heading up Swim, Joshua also works on the Broadway musical *Rent*.

As an understudy, Josh told me he enjoys working on the popular musical, however, performing with his band Swim is "where his heart is." They are used to entertaining audiences at New York City clubs like CBGB's and The Bitter End. When asked to describe the type of music Swim plays, Josh replied, after a moment of thought, "eclectic acoustic folk world rock." I scribbled the five words in my notebook quickly, hoping I could somehow gather a relationship between them all later.

Lastly, Joshua, who writes most of

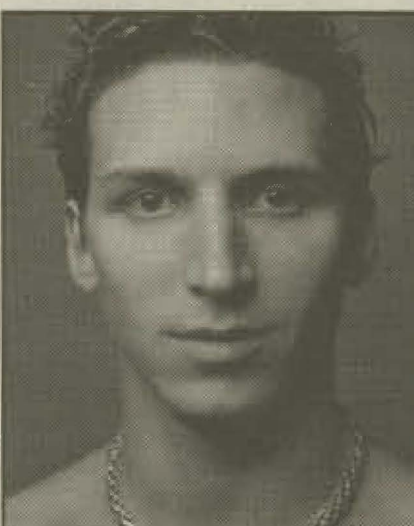


PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSHUAKOBAK.COM

the band's music, told me his favorite things to listen to included

"Sting, Peter Gabriel, Jeff Buckley and Mongolian and Indian music."

While the setup of amps, drums and stage lights was drawing to a close, I surveyed the things happening around me. Nervous girls introduced themselves to the humble but gracious Joshua, and a cautious student lit small candles on each of the tables as the house lights began to dim.

A drummer, who bore a striking resemblance to Phish's Jon Fishman, was seated amongst many foreign-looking hand drums and a few cymbals. Joshua, showing off a wiry boyish physique with a tight, tan shirt, stood center armed with an electric (and at times, acoustic) gui-

tar. A tall, black woman with a ponytail full of dreadlocks stood to his left, violin nonchalantly tucked under her chin. These three musicians made up Swim that night (there were 3 other members missing.) The lead vocals were provided by Josh, who has a sweet, almost theatrical voice. His style somewhat reminded me of a younger, more innocent Rob Thomas. Tara Reynolds, on violin, chimed in on some occasional back up vocals, but the sounds from her strings were haunting, and at some times, even tear-jerking. Dan Johnson, the snow-hat clad drummer, provided the heart beat for the trio with percussion ranging from a

See... Swim, 9

February 28-, 2002

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Ed Said... It's another dazzling Denzel drama!

by ED WILLIAMS III
Managing Editor

With his latest film, *John Q.*, Denzel Washington has done it again. He has proven to the world one more time why he is one of the most talented actors of our time. Along with a strong supporting cast, Washington undertakes the daunting task of making a movie about a politically controversial topic (healthcare), but at the same time not turning it into a sermon. I'm not sure any other actor could have pulled this off. If this role was handled by anyone else it might have come off as preaching, but instead this is just one more example of excellent acting from the Academy Award nominee.

Nick Cassavetes directs this film that tells the heartwarming story of a dedicated father who will stop at nothing to save his dying child. Washington plays the role of John Q. Archibald, a loving father and husband who has come upon hard times as he has been reduced to only 20 hours a week at the factory at which he works. The first scene involving the Archibalds sees his car being towed away because he hasn't paid his bills. But after a while, losing his car is the least of John's worries.

The movie doesn't waste much time in getting to the meat and

potatoes of the story as soon after the car is repossessed we are brought to a little league game where John's son Mike, played by the adorable Daniel E. Smith, collapses on his way to second base. John rushes over to him in a panic and transports him to the nearest hospital where he is stabilized. Dr.

Turner, played by James Woods, and the hospital director Rebecca Payne, played by Anne Heche (both of whom start off as characters we love to hate but make complete 180 degree turns during the movie) meet with Mike's parents and tell them the last thing they could have hoped to hear. Somehow, Mike's heart had grown to three times the size of a normal heart and will need a transplant in order to live. Realizing that the Archibald's insurance policy cannot cover an operation of such high expense, Payne heartlessly tries to convince them that they should just concentrate on improving Mike's quality of life in his last few days.

John's wife Denise, played by Kimberly Elise, calls John and



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMBD.COM
This heart warming story captures a father's commitment to his son.

screams at him to do something otherwise their son is going to die because the hospital is going to release him. Not knowing what else there is left for him to do, John takes matters into his own hands and takes the emergency room hostage so that his son's name can go to the top of a transplant list.

This is where the strong supporting cast comes into play as we are introduced to Frank Grimes, played by Robert Duval, who is the hostage negotiator and hotshot Police Chief Monroe played by Ray Liota. Duval's and Liota's characters clash immensely as Duval is from the old-school of policing while Liota is just out to look good for the press, and their differences make for an interest-

ing subplot. Eddie Griffin, who plays a shooting victim in the ER also adds some comic relief to an otherwise grave and serious plot.

This is also where we get to learn more about John Q. During the time of the takeover, we learn more about what is going through John's head. We learn the pain and anguish he feels knowing that his son is dying. We learn of his deep and undying love for his wife as well. We also learn that he really is a nice, normal guy who has been thrown into extraordinary circumstances and is in over his head. Towards the end of the film, John gives one of the most emotional speeches that I have seen in a film in a very long time. He is alone with his son by his hospital bed and tries to cram in a lifelong's worth of advice into a five minute speech as he feels his time with his son is drawing to a close. As Denzel's eyes begin to well up with tears, you could just sense that everyone else in the theater was about to start crying with him.

With many actors, this scene could have come off as a cheesy and trite diatribe, but instead, Denzel turns it into a scene for the ages.

Any more plot description would be giving too much of the film away, but this movie basically is attacking the nation's current healthcare system. It is showing that way too many Americans are currently under HMO programs that don't cover the medical services that one may need in extreme circumstances. It is basically trying to show us that only people with money can survive if they are faced with a life and death situation like the one Mike is going through.

The casting for this film was right on the money. I don't think anyone else could have pulled off this role like Washington did. In fact if anyone else was in this role, it would have felt like Cassavettes was just trying to pound our heads with anti-HMO propaganda. But instead, we are treated to a very moving film about family, but also a film that sends a message about an important issue facing our nation. I give this film 4 1/2 stars, missing a perfect five only because it could have used a little more of the Liota and Duval subplot.

Swim...from 8

synthetic covered djembe to some regular cymbals.

They played a total of about ten songs, which were musically diverse. At one point during the performance, Joshua noted this fact. After hearing just a few minutes of Swim's different style of music, I realized what Josh was talking about when he tried to categorize the music. It most certainly, with the help of the drums and occasional chanting, resembled world music while still being appropriate for today's tastes. Most of these tracks can be found on Swim's unsigned album "Above and Beneath," which was produced by Kobak's label.

After the show, which about only 40 people attended, there was time for mingling, album-buying and autographs. All of the people I talked to said they enjoyed Swim's music, and some even sprung the ten bucks for the CD.

In the end, Swim's first college performance turned out successfully. The band played with so much energy and passion you would have thought the Cabaret was over capacitated.

Maybe Marist students should start paying more attention to the some of the bands the SPC brings in week after week. Even though the crowd wasn't large, their presence was still felt, and an appreciative audience welcomed them. I think Josh may have said it best that night on stage, "There's something here that's unspoken...its loud and clear, but its softer than the wind."

The Foreign Film Program adds diversity

by MEGAN LIZOTTE
A&E Editor

I'm sure everyone has seen the colorful signs around campus advertising the Foreign Film Program.

Co-Directors of the program, Ivette Romero and Kevin Gaugler, both of the modern language department, have put the program together to expose the entire Marist community to foreign films, languages, historical situations and diverse cultural aspects.

In the past, the program was only campus wide because the modern language department used to require students to view the films. Due to a lack of funds, the program was drastically reduced. College Activities has co-spon-

sored the program this year.

There are films to complement modern language courses, history, philosophy and political science. According to Ivette Romero, "We have great resources and a wonderful collection of videos. There is something for everyone to see."

In addition to complementing coursework, there are comedies, historical videos, documentaries and love stories. Just last week, *A Place Called Chiapas* was shown. This was a documentary, which exposed the tough political situation taking place in Mexico. There were interviews shown with Zapatista commandants.

Senior, Olidia Valencia, a Political Science and Spanish major, went to see the film for her own personal interest. She states, "It was a good

introduction to the situation in Chiapas. I wanted to see it (the movie) because of my interest of international politics, and third world countries. It was interesting to see the total injustice against indigenous groups."

Marist is second to Columbia University for having the largest library of foreign films. Prior to Romero and Gaugler taking on the program, Joseph Belanger previously ran it for 30 years. Romero states, "The Marist brothers have a commitment to participate in a global activity. Belanger, in particular, had a large interest in travel."

The films are a great experience for people who may not be able to travel. They are also good for people planning to travel abroad.

There is good cultural conversion.

This will continue to be a yearly, ongoing program. "We plan to continue the Marist tradition and strengthen it. Eventually, Kevin and I would like to host a conference on Literature and Film," according to Romero.

Tonight and tomorrow evening, *The Emperor and The Assassin* will be shown. This film depicts Ying Zheung and how he was out to seek the domination of six Chinese kingdoms. It includes an intertwined love story. The film will be shown in Chinese with English subtitles.

The films are shown in Student Center 346 on Thursday and Friday evenings at 7 p.m. Admission is free and anyone can attend.

Come one, come all, to the Black Box

by LISA BURKE
Staff Writer

The Marist College Black Box Studio (BBS) will be host to its first annual theatre festival in Spring 2002. Opened in 1999 in Fontaine Hall, the black box has been host to theatre workshop classes, auditions and student showcases, but this event marks the first official "season" of productions taking place in this unique space.

The spring season begins this weekend with Steven Dietz's

"Lonely Planet," directed by senior theatre minor Chris Clemens. It will be followed next weekend by our first festival of perhaps the most intimate form of dramatic performance—Theatre in the Round: produced, acted, directed by and featuring original one act plays by students in the class of the same name. This event, held Thursday, March 7 and Friday, March 8 at 7 p.m. in the black box, will also premiere "Roman Fever," a play directed by and adapted from the short story by Edith Wharton by theater professor Donald Anderson.

Slated next for the BBS will be an evening of one-acts in mid-April, dramatizing "terrorism" in forms one usually doesn't associate it with: LeRoy Jones' "The Dutchman," directed by Tad Richards, and Eugene Ionesco's "The Lesson," directed by Don Anderson. The season will end with a second festival of Theatre in the Round during the last week of classes.

"The Black Box Studio was basically my baby when the new Fontaine was being designed," said Anderson of the desire to have this additional and experimental

space, "but it was well supported by others." "Dennis Murray was a more-than-a-little-interested supporter of the project," he said.

The BBS exists partly to serve the performance classes of the English and Communication programs and also to provide a performance space for experimental student work. While it still functions somewhat as a classroom, it will be gaining more and more over the next year the look of a studio or lab with the addition of moveable platforms and theatre lighting.

CLASSIFIEDS

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MOST MARIST STUDENTS DRINK MODERATELY OR ABSTAIN FROM USING ALCOHOL

MOST MARIST STUDENTS HAVE

0 - 4

OR AT THE MOST 5 DRINKS WHEN THEY GO OUT

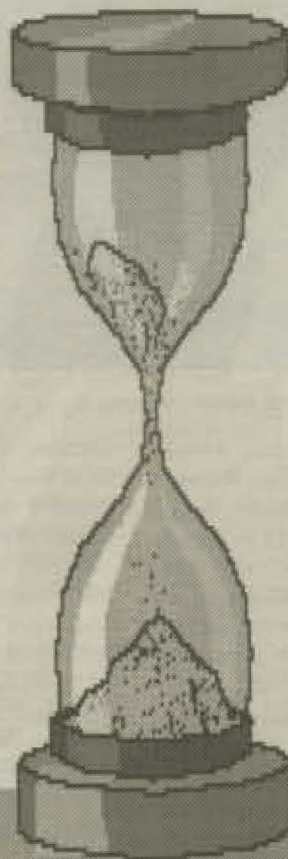


Based on 2001 survey data collected from randomly selected Marist students by the Division of Student Affairs in conjunction with Education Development Center.

One drink = 12oz. Beer = 4 oz. wine = 1 oz. liquor

12.2% of Marist students abstain from using alcohol

Time Is Running Out

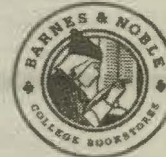


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CARD OF THANKS

The family of Jarrett Williams would like to thank all those who extended so many acts of kindness and generosity during this very sad and difficult time. Especially, we would like to thank Diane DiCaprio, Mr. Dennis Murray, the Marist College Administration, faculty, Athletic Department, coaches, teammates and student body. Our special thanks to Rev. Richard LaMorte, Brother Frank Kelly, Jarrett's roommates and the pall bearers for all of their support.

Jarrett loved attending Marist College and all of the people and friends he met over four years. After meeting so many of you at our home in Taunton, we can understand why Jarrett cared so much for all of you.

Sincerely,
Mark, Joanne, Stephanie and Ian
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The guy who talks about sports gives his thoughts

by SCOTT DESIERE

PARCELLS

Bill Parcells is without question a Hall of Fame coach, despite recently being kept out of Canton by a group of sports writers that are either bitter or clueless. He turned a dormant New York Giants franchise into an NFC powerhouse for the better part of a decade, a run of excellence that included two Super Bowl Championships.

Perhaps the only team that was as dormant as the Giants before the arrival of Parcells was the New England Patriots before the "Tuna" arrived in Massachusetts prior to the start of the 1994 season. Two short years later, the Patriots were AFC Champions and played a highly competitive Super Bowl against the Green Bay Packers who had Brett Favre playing at his prime.

Parcells also did good things for

the New York Jets, bringing them from 1-15 to the verge of Super Bowl were it not for a slew of mistakes one late afternoon in Denver.

But the way in which Parcells handled the Jets in his last season can only be described as selfish. He knew that 1999 would be his last season and with that in mind he turned the selfishness into overdrive, back-loading every contract he could so as to maneuver the Jets into the best position to win in his last year without any regard for the years to follow. Then Vinny Testaverde tore his achilles tendon in the season's first game and the season was as good as done.

Parcells bolted after that season and left somebody to clean up a salary cap mess the likes of which have forced the Jets to lose four starters already this off-season,

including both of their starting cornerbacks, one of their leading tacklers and a young steady offensive lineman. And there is still likely more damage to come. And while Parcells did do some good for the Jets, their current cap crisis is all, emphasis on all, all his fault. Maybe the Tampa Bay Buccaneers got lucky after all.

MAYBE THEY DIDN'T

On second thought, maybe the Bucs did not get so lucky after all. Sure, Jon Gruden is one of the game's top young offensive minds, and should be able to work wonders with Keyshawn Johnson, perhaps the game's best all-around wide

receiver. Giving up four draft picks, including two first-rounders and two second-rounders, however, is ridiculous. That might someday turn out to be four quality players. Heck, maybe even a few All-Pros.

This too, is Bill Parcells fault. He gave every indication that he was going to take the job, so much so that Bucs brass fired Tony Dungy, and then changed his mind. Not enough money, not enough power - who knows. But the Bucs were left with a public relations disaster that in the end cost them four high-round draft picks.

WINNER SHOULD HOST

The Marist College men's basket-

ball team won 19 games during the regular season and tied for first with Rider. What do they get for it? A road game in the first round of the MAAC tournament. Why play the regular season at all?

In the strange world that is MAAC basketball, non-neutral host sites are chosen for the end of the season championship tournament. So Marist (great season), ends up having to play in Albany at the Pepsi Arena, home of Siena (not great season), where thousands of screaming falls will be rooting for the upset. Play the tournament at a neutral site or let the regular season champion host the tournament.

Anything else is ridiculous.

Track members await IC4A/ECAC Championships

by ROB McGUINNESS
Staff Writer

As the 2001-2002 indoor track season draws to a close, both the men's and women's teams are looking to finish strong at the IC4A/ECAC Championship meet this weekend in Boston.

Senior Mike Nehr, the first individual in Marist history to qualify for three IC4A events, will compete in the 3000-meter run on Saturday. Nehr also met the standard for the 1000-meter run and was a member of the qualifying distance medley relay team. En-route to achieving the IC4A standards in the 1K and 3K, Nehr shattered the school records at both distances. The records stand as a testament to the quality effort put forth by Nehr during the indoor campaign, according to men's coach Pete Colaizzo.

"Mike has really distinguished himself this winter as one of the better middle distance/distance runners not only in the MAAC but also in the Northeast region," Colaizzo said.

Nehr's main challenge this weekend, however, will be qualifying for the finals in the 3K. Competitors in the 3000 must compete in a preliminary heat on Saturday for the opportunity to advance to Sunday's finals. Previous experience in highly competitive meets should benefit Nehr, Colaizzo said.

"His experience at last year's IC4A championship should serve him well," Colaizzo said. "Qualifying for finals is a very difficult task, but he'll give it his best, as he always does."

The distance medley relay team of Chris Camp, Pat Driscoll, Adam Pakiela and Chris McCloskey will also compete on Saturday. The team is comprised of an interesting mix, according to Colaizzo.

"The relay is an interesting blend of youth and experience," Colaizzo said. "Camp and Pakiela have a lot of experience running big races in high school, and McCloskey and Driscoll are guys I have grown to rely upon in their years here. They are battle tested...and they do what they have to do to succeed."

Both Nehr and the relay team will aim for the school records in their respective events. Nehr already holds the 3K record, having set it earlier this season (8:24.42), and the DMR record of 10:16.12 was set in 1997.

"Our goal as a team is to make a run at both of those marks this weekend," Colaizzo said. "It's been a great winter season, and the men are hoping to cap it off with a strong final run in Boston."

Three members of the Marist women's track team will also be in competition at the ECAC championships, the highest number of individual qualifiers in school history. The previous best, in terms of qualifiers, was two individuals and one relay.

In the 5000-meter run, senior Liza Grudzinski could find herself in scoring position with a strong performance. Grudzinski qualified for the 5K with a time of 17:36.12.

"Liza should run in the 17:10-17:20 range this weekend and could be a scorer," Kelly said.

Junior Sue Golden is also looking to qualify for the finals in the 1000-meter run. Earlier this season, Golden broke the school record and met the ECAC standard with a time of 2:53.87. Another potential finalist is freshman Alison Keller, who will compete in the 55-meter hurdles. Keller already holds the school records in the 55 and 60-meter hurdle events and met the ECAC standard with a time of 8.36 seconds.

BC too strong for Marist tennis team

by PAUL SEACH
Staff Writer

Boston College routed the Marist men's tennis team 7-0 last weekend, but the score is not representative of the effort put forth by Marist.

Three matches went to three sets, with Marist narrowly missing out on the chance to take a few victories. Martin Aldorsson, Mike Sowter and Victor Sapezhnikov all lost in the close matches. David

Slater lost 7-6 and Alex Ilchenko let his set slip away, losing 7-5. Both close games came out of the first sets.

Head coach Tim Smith said that the outcomes of the matches could have been different and in favor of Marist, with more preparation.

"With more practice, these losses could have been easy wins," Smith said. "We have three weeks until practice in Scotsdale Arizona."

In Arizona the team will train and drill extensively in the morning and

play inter-squad games during the afternoon.

Marist next match is against MAAC rival St. Peters on March 20. The team now holds a record of 9-6 overall. St. Peters is considered to be one of the top teams in the MAAC, losing only one player over the past two seasons.

St. Peters is still a "strong team" and that the team is going to need extra practice to stay focused on the MAAC tournament that's not too far away, according to Smith.

MAAC Tournament...From 12

Chrissy Loeliger led Siena with 15 points, followed by Gunta Basko, who added 11.

Despite struggling late in the season, the team has won two out of its last three games, and played Siena to a close game, giving the

team much needed confidence heading into the tournament, according to Lamb.

"It's positive for us," she said. "We can go into the tournament and be confident with ourselves and know that we can play tough

against every team."

"We're hungry and focused," she said. "We played well in the last three games and we hope that can carry over into the tournament. We know we can play well and now is the best time to be playing our best."

Sophomore Stephanie Del Preore appeared to have injured her foot in the Siena game, but will be ready to play in the tournament, according to Lamb.

With the loss, Marist fell to 11-16 overall and 7-11 in the MAAC.

The women's games will be broadcast throughout the tournament on goredfoxes.com

Men's basketball seniors Rick Smith, Mark Prosser, Matt Tullis, and Sean Kennedy are honored prior to their final home game. Their families, as well as head coach Dave Magarity and school president Dennis Murray took part in the pre-game ceremony



PHOTOCREDIT/Taylor Rogers

Sports briefs and upcoming events

Playing in its first games of the season, the Marist College baseball game took one game out of three against Elon College in North Carolina. Sophomore Chris Tracz earned his first victory of the season, 6-4 in the second game of a double-header on February 23.

Junior Chuck Bechtel gave up

three earned runs in the first game against Elon, in his first performance on the mound in nearly a season and a half. Bechtel only gave up three hits while striking out one batter.

Marist honored basketball senior

players Mark Prosser, Matt Tullis, Rick Smith, and Sean Kennedy prior to Thursday's game against St. Peter's.

Prior to the start of the women's game on Sunday, the team honored the achievements of seniors Diesa Seidel and Marie Fusci.

Athletes of the Week

Sean Kennedy was named MAAC Player of the Week for the third time this season. Kennedy averaged 13 points and 12.5 rebounds in two games last week. He also set a school record with 17 assists against St. Peter's

Quote of the Week

"We're hungry and focused. We played well in the last three games and we hope that can carry over into the tournament. We know we can play well and now is the best time to be playing our best." Women's basketball head coach Kristin Lamb, as her team heads into MAAC Tournament play

SPORTS

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Swimming and diving teams sweep MAAC Championships

by MIKE BENISCHEK
Staff Writer

For the seventh straight year the Marist men's swimming and diving team stands on top of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) as Champions. For the fifth year the women's team can claim the same. After three days of competition both teams won titles as the 2002 MAAC Swimming and Diving championships concluded last Saturday.

The Men finished with a final score of 967, over 250 points more than second place finisher Rider

(703). Rounding out the top five was Loyola, Fairfield, and Niagara.

David Dobbins led the Red Foxes' attack with wins in the 100, 200, and 500-yard freestyle. He set new MAAC records in the 100 and 200, en route to winning the Most Outstanding Male Swimmer Award. For Dobbins, it was the fourth time he won the award in his four years in Poughkeepsie.

Marist also took first in the 400-yard freestyle relay in school record time, 3:03.90, with a team of Dobbins, Nick Lakin, Ricky Kapusta, and Mathew Castillo. Castillo also set a school record in the 200-yard butterfly, breaking a twelve-year

old record held by Joseph Bubel, as well as a new school record in the 200-yard individual medley. The Marist men dominated the freestyle events throughout the tournament as they had all season long.

Marist holds the top performances in every freestyle event at the end of the 2001-02 the season. Capping the awards for the Red Foxes was their coach, Larry Van Wagner, who won the MAAC Coach of the Year Award.

The Women registered a final score of 838 for the weekend, defeating second place Loyola by over 150 points and defending

champion Rider by over 300. Jennifer Meyer won four titles in the competition. She won two individual titles, the 50-yard and the 100-yard freestyle, as well as two relay titles as part of the 200-yard freestyle relay and 200-yard medley relay teams.

The team of Kristen Schnitzer, Sarah McKinnely, and Jennifer Gelsomino took first in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Gelsomino and Schnitzer also took individual titles home, in the 400-yard individual medley and the 200-yard freestyle respectively. In diving Missy Gifford took first at the one-meter height. Siena's Kelly Pangburn won the Women's Most Outstanding Swimmer Award, while Loyola's Brian Loeffler was awarded with the MAAC Women's Coach of the Year Award.

The men's title is their seventh straight since joining the MAAC conference in 1995, and it's the women's fifth. They had won four straight entering the competition

last year when they were upset by Rider by a mere twenty-one points.

Other winners for the Marist men include: Michael Gunaman who placed second in one meter diving. Justin Burkhardt and Jeremy Virgil placed second and third in 1650-yard freestyle. Trevor Charles and Joseph Murin placed second and third respectively in the 200-yard backstroke. Will Reagan placed third in the 200-yard breaststroke. And Matthew Castillo placed third in the 200-yard breaststroke.

Other winners for the Marist women included: Karen Finnerty, who placed second in 1650-yard freestyle. Kristen Schnitzer placed second in the 200-yard backstroke. Jennifer Meyer and Sarah McKinnely placed first and second respectively in the 100-yard freestyle.

The next challenge for the Marist Swimmers is the ECAC Championships in Pittsburgh on February 28 through March 2.

Men's basketball to face Siena/St. Peter's winner in MAAC Tourney

by SCOTT MONTESANO
Staff Writer

The Red Foxes are regular season co-champions of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

Marist (19-8, 13-5) earned a share of the league's regular season title after a 60-57 victory against Rte. 9 rival Siena February 23.

However, a share of the MAAC regular season title, and a \$1.50, will only buy Marist a soda in a vending machine. Even though the Foxes finished tied with Rider for first place, Marist enters this weekend's MAAC tournament in Albany as the #2 seed because the Broncs hold the tiebreaker.

Marist takes on the winner of the #7 Siena / #10 St. Peter's preliminary game at 7:00pm March 2 in a quarterfinal matchup. The semi-final is 2:30pm Sunday while the championship is 9:00pm Monday on ESPN.

Still, in a conference where upsets happen as frequently as protests at the recent Olympics, seeds mean almost nothing. A strong case can be made for why one of seven teams can take the championship and the automatic berth into the NCAA tournament. Along with Marist; arguments can be made for Rider, Manhattan, Niagara, Iona, Fairfield and Siena.

Rider boasts MAAC player of the year candidate Mario Porter in its' front court, plus a strong shooting back court. Porter leads the league in points, averaging 20.3 ppg, and 8.4 rpg. Meanwhile, newcomer Jerry Johnson has provided Rider with depth.

Then there is Manhattan College, which has struggled in MAAC play after faring well during a tough non-conference schedule. The Jaspers upset Big East foe St. John's on their way to taking the ECAC Holiday Fest in December. However, since then Manhattan has

had trouble.

The Jaspers were swept by Rider, and also took losses at the hands of Niagara and Canisius. Still, The Jaspers lead the league in offense, averaging 75.3 ppg, led by Luis Flores' 18.9 ppg.

Fairfield is a team that could sneak up on many. After not living up to early season expectations, the Stags have gone on a roll entering the post-season, winning four of five.

Iona, the preseason favorite was never able to get hot during the regular season. Nevertheless, it is hard to write off the two-time defending champions.

The same goes for the Siena Saints, who will be playing host to the tournament for the ninth time. After a disappointing regular-season with a new head coach, the Saints will look to become the first team to win after having to play in the preliminary round.

Still, with the tournament being held on the Saint's home court, it is conceivable that they may be able to feed off of the crowd.

Not to be left out is Marist. Led by MAAC player of the week Sean Kennedy, the Foxes enter the postseason as a favorite for the first time since the 1996 NEC tournament.

Going in Marist's favor is that the Foxes' have proven to be a strong road club. Marist is 9-4 away from Poughkeepsie and have won four straight away matchups. Rider, at 10-3, is the only other MAAC team above .500 on the road.

Senior leadership is also a strength for Marist, with Rick Smith, Matt Tullis and Kennedy. Without a doubt, much of the pressure will fall on the shoulders of the veterans, who have had to answer talk of a possible NCAA tournament trip since November.

Marist enters the MAAC Tournament, after an emotional win at archrival Siena last weekend. The

Foxes overcame an 11-point early second half deficit to earn their first victory at the Pepsi Arena since 1995.

Kennedy sent on ally-ooop pass to Tullis who scored to give Marist a 54-53 lead with 5:09 left. The lead was the first for the Foxes' since the first 30 seconds of the game.

Siena recaptured the lead at 57-56 on a Justin Miller lay-up with 2:47 to play. However, Marist would take the lead for good after David Bennett scored to make it 58-57 with 1:21 left.

Tullis converted two free throws to give Marist a 60-57 lead with 4.2 to play. The Saint's Dwayne Archbold missed a three-point attempt as the buzzer sounded.

"We were in a great position for most of the game and it came down to making shots and making plays" Siena head coach Rob Lanier told the Albany Times-Union.

Kennedy scored 14 points while Bennett added 13 in the effort. Overall, the Foxes were an impressive 16-17 in free throw attempts.

The Saints played the game without second leading scorer Prosper Karangwa. Saint's head coach Rob Lanier initially said it was simply a case of resting Karangwa. However, he later told WTEN-TV in Albany that the decision was done for punishment.

For Marist, the victory proved that the team can win in the Capital District as well as come through in a close game. The Foxes have had trouble winning tight games at times.

The win gave Marist 13 league victories, the most since posting 14 league wins in the NEC during the 1995-1996 season. Meanwhile, the loss dropped Siena into the preliminary round of the MAAC tournament.

Note: All of the men's basketball games at the MAAC tournament will be broadcast live on 88.1 WMCR.

Marist women face Jaspers in MAAC quarters on friday

by PETER PALMIERI
Sports Editor

Seeded sixth in the 2002 HSBC Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Tournament, the Marist women's basketball team will face Manhattan in the quarterfinal round on Friday at 2:30pm.

The two teams split the season series, with Marist winning the first contest 61-57, and Manhattan winning the latest meeting, 81-71.

Marist head coach Kristin Lamb is confident that the team can defeat Manhattan in the tournament. "We definitely see this as a winnable game," Lamb said. "We played them close both times and we're confident with where we are seeded in the tournament."

One main focus of the Marist game plan is slowing down the play of Manhattan forward Rosalee Mason, who was named MAAC Player of the Week. Mason, who is second in the league for scoring with a 19.1ppg average, will be one of the targets for the Marist defense.

"We're going to go in with a game plan to try to throw them off with our defense," Lamb said. "They have a very good player in Rosalee Mason, so we're going to try and focus on slowing her down."

Marist will also have to pay close attention to freshman Donette Reed, who was named MAAC Rookie of the Week, after averaging

12.5 points in the team's final two games, including 17 points in a double-overtime defeat of Siena.

Two years ago, the Red Foxes fell to Manhattan, 54-48, in the first round of the 2000 HSBC MAAC Tournament. Since joining the MAAC, Marist is 0-4 in tournament play, never making it out of the first round. This is the first time that the team will play in the quarterfinal round of the tournament.

Siena holds the number one seed in the tournament and will await the winner of the game between Rider and Iona. Number two seed St. Peter's will face the winner of Niagara and Loyola. In the other quarterfinal match up, Canisius will take on Fairfield.

If Marist advances to the semi-final round, the game will be played on Saturday at 9:45am and will be televised on MSG. The finals are set for Sunday at 7:00pm, also on MSG.

In the team's final game of the season, Marist fell to first-place Siena, 55-52 at the McCann Center. Senior Diesa Seidel scored a game-high 25 points, playing in her final home game. Marie Fusci, also playing in her McCann Center finale, scored seven points and added six assists, while also logging the entire 40 minutes of playing time.

Marist held a lead late into the second half, including going up by as many as 14 points before a 19-6 run by the Saints to cut the lead to