

Seating in the dining hall becomes limited

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Dramatic turn around of football program

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The Circle



The student newspaper of Marist College

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Metro-North derailment shocks student community

By SHAWNA GILLEN
News Editor

Thousands of commuters are still displaced in the aftermath of the highly reported Metro-North train accident that occurred during the Thanksgiving break. On Sunday, Dec. 1, a Metro-North train headed for Grand Central Station derailed in the Bronx. To date, the incident has resulted in a total of four deaths and a staggering 75 injuries. While the investigation of the accident is still impending, no definitive factor has been determined as its main cause. Rescue crews continue to work at the crash and the MTA administration is actively gathering further information. For now, service on the Hudson Line has come to a complete shutdown. Marist students reflect on how this tragic event hits close to home, as they use Metro-North frequently to travel to campus as well as commute to Manhattan.

At approximately 7:20 a.m. Sunday morning, the train derailed after it rounded a curve along the Harlem River bank, approaching the Spuyten Duyvil station in the Bronx. At the crash site, four cars could be seen on their side and the front car just feet away from the water. The New York City bound train left the Poughkeepsie station that morning at roughly 5:20 a.m.

The Sunday after Thanksgiving is

one of the busiest travel days of the year, so the Metro-North derailment left tremendous impacts on the masses of travelers. According to the MTA website, approximately 26,000 commuters use the Hudson Line on the Metro-North on an average week-



FROM REUTERS/CARLO ALLEGRI

FDNY members assessing the damage of the front car at the derailment site.

day. For those traveling northbound between Yonkers and Poughkeepsie stations, train service has become very limited.

While the investigation is still ongoing, new information has surfaced that speeding may have been the cause for the devastating derailment. In a press conference held Monday evening, Dec. 2, the National Trans-

portation Safety Board (NTSB) stated that the train was speeding around the curve at 82 mph, in a zone where the speed limit reduces from 70mph to 30mph. Based on these alarming findings, the train's conductor and engineer are bound to

come under fire for the incident.

Senior Caitlin Goettler shared her experience traveling back from the Thanksgiving break, having to take alternate routes to Poughkeepsie.

"It was a smooth process as far as getting from one step to the next. It did, however, add quite a bit of time to my trip between taking a different train and transiting to Tarrytown. I

just think it's crazy that something like this happened so close to home.

"That train is so familiar to me. When I interned in the city, I took the train twice a week. I've taken it every Thanksgiving, Christmas, fall break. I've taken it so many times over my four years at Marist and I've never felt unsafe. I was even in Manhattan last semester and rode the last train north during the snowstorm and didn't even think twice about it. It won't affect my future train travel at all - I'll continue to take the train. It's essential," Goettler said.

Senior Jamie Bracci also discussed her experience traveling back to school and described the chaos in Grand Central station in the aftermath of the accident.

"When I got to Grand Central there were no trains scheduled to go to Poughkeepsie, so I found a Metro-North worker who told me I had to take the train to White Plains where I would get on a bus to Tarrytown, and when I got on the bus there were barely any seats and the driver didn't really know where he was going. Eventually it was all figured out and I got back to school," Bracci said.

The MTA and NTSB are still grasping as to why the tragic derailment occurred. The Circle's thoughts and prayers go out to the victims and their families of those who passed and are in critical condition from this accident.

Marist Poll holds 35th anniversary celebration

By JENNA GRANDE
Managing Editor

The Marist Institute of Public Opinion, known as MIPO or the Marist Poll to most students, celebrated its 35th anniversary on Saturday, Nov. 16 in the newly renovated Student Center. Families, friends, colleagues, student workers and supporters of the poll gathered to reminisce on the outstanding strides and accomplishments achieved over the years. The night celebrated MIPO's many years of success under the tutelage of directors Dr. Lee Miringoff and Barbara L. Carvalho.

Before the dinner, the MIPO team could be found entertaining the hundreds of guests in attendance. The energy in the room from the night's events left Jamie Lynn Bishop, MIPO's Administrative Coordinator, beaming with delight.

"It is very exciting to be a part of this tonight, and how everything came together. I am amazed at how many people turned up, and am at a loss for words at how amazing tonight was," Bishop said.

Miringoff and Carvalho also spoke



FROM JENNA GRANDE/MANAGING EDITOR

MIPO directors Dr. Lee Miringoff and Barbara Carvalho all smiles as President Murray thanks them for their 35 years of accomplishments.

about the journey the poll has taken them on. They never quite imagined it to be as influential as it is today.

"I absolutely did not picture the Marist Poll growing to be the entity it is today. We never sat down and did a 'five year plan' or anything like that," Miringoff said. "People want political independence, people who know what they're doing, people who have a good

track record. Outlets are willing to come back to us."

Shaileen Kopec, Senior Development Officer for Planned Giving & Endowment Support, remembers the Marist Poll from its humble beginning, and is happy to have seen such great things arise from what was (at first) a simple classroom idea.

"I remember hearing about the first

poll because WKIP was a local AM radio station that was very popular," Kopec said. "That's where Lee took his first class to do the polling. It rose to very quick prominence, since being located in New York there was plenty of exciting things to poll on. Barbara and Lee knew how to focus on what was important and how to interpret the data. Over 3,000 students over the course of the past 35 years have been involved in the Marist Poll. This gives us a front row seat to politics."

College President Dr. Dennis Murray was also a part of the evening; he later spoke about the poll and the outstanding success it has had over the past 35 years. He explained that he never lost faith in Miringoff and Carvalho, and while he had some hope and expectations for the poll, they exceeded his wildest dreams.

"I had a great deal of confidence in Lee and Barbara, and I knew it could be a nationally recognized part of Marist College, but I think what they've accomplished has really exceeded expectations. We're all really proud of them," Murray said. "They're calling this

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THIS WEEK

Thursday, 12/5

SLA Finals Basket Distribution
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Champagnat Breezeway

HuMarists Big Show
9:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Nelly Goletti Theatre

Friday, 12/6

SLA Finals Baskets Distribution
12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Champagnat Breezeway

Fall 2013 World Film Program:
"Vicky Cristina Barcelona"
7:00 p.m.
Cannavino Library

SPC Movie: "Mortal Instruments: City of Bones"
Student Center Room 3102
10:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Saturday, 12/7

SPC Movie: "Mortal Instruments: City of Bones"
Student Center Room 3102
10:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Letter from the Editor

"Blink and you will miss it," they say. Semesters at Marist are no exception. The days turned into weeks, and the weeks into months. Time flew as we filled our schedules. And, just like that, the semester is over. Here at The Circle, however, we are coming out strong in the homestretch with one final print issue.

In our News section, our news editor breaks down the details of this past Sunday's Metro-North tragedy. As details regarding the incident are still being investigated, The Circle staff sends its regards and sympathies to anyone who may have been affected from the accident.

Our Features section also has an in-

spiring piece on Joey Suchanek, a student suffering from a rare muscular deficiency disease.

In Lifestyles, our sex column takes tips from "Cosmopolitan" magazine on what to do in bed, and our columnist essentially tells you to do the opposite. Or, in other words, what not to do in bed.

Our opinion section partakes in the game of politics with a piece on libertarianism in our political system today. While it seems messy and complicated, one author tries to break it down into something we can all understand.

Keeping up with the most recent entertainment news, our arts and entertainment section reviews the latest film in the "Hunger Game" se-

ries. It dives into the pressing issue Katniss-Peeta-Gale love triangle in "Catching Fire."

Rounding out the paper, our sports section highlights the accomplishments of our football team, recent champions. The team has successfully transitioned from one of the lesser-successful teams at Marist to a well-run program.

It was an exciting semester at Marist, and we were honored to inform you about all of it. From all of us here at The Circle, have a great break and happy holidays.

Jenna Grande
Managing Editor

A security briefs sing-a-long

By DAVE CENTOPANTI AND DANNY LEMMEN

Staff Writers

11/19 4:30 p.m. Leo Hall

'Twas the night before finals, and all through the school, not a creature was stirring, aside from some fools. The grade-A students were snug in their beds, while visions of 4.0s, danced in their heads. And all of a sudden there arose such a clatter, there were girls drinking vodka labeled: cake batter. They shuffled outside towards Darby's and Union, to dance all night in unholy communion. So pull some chairs, barstools or barrels, and listen in to these new Christmas Carols.

11/15 11:47 p.m. Leo Hall

Oh, his breathing sounds kind of frightful, and that vomit smells delightful... but if his BAC is low; let him go, let him go, let him go. Man, he doesn't show signs of stopping, and his eyes are surely popping, but as long as he swipes in slow; let him go, let him go, let him go. It sounds like he's softly crying, and the noise of vomit's dying, so if he's got no more chunks to blow; let him go, let him go, let him go --- A student in Leo was caught hugging the toilet one Tuesday, slurring his speech, and was somehow NOT sent to St. Francis.

You're a mean one, Laundry Thief. You needed some clean socks. So you stole all of my clothes, and you angered this Red Fox, Laundry Thief. I want to hit you with a thirty-nine-and-a-half-foot pole! --- Some poor Cindy Lou Who got his laundry stolen a couple of weeks ago, he was quoted as saying "he doesn't know of any enemies that would've taken them." Not to worry, Cindy, he's not your enemy. His heart is just two sizes two small.

11/24 12:25 a.m. Donnelly Hall

I should go home now, *baby*, it's cold outside. Please put me down, *baby*, it's cold outside. I'm going to throw up... if I don't get home, I'll hold your hands they're just like ice. My roommate will start to worry, *beautiful*, what's your hurry? My RA will be pacing the floor, *listen to that fire place roar*. The room is starting to look blurry, *beautiful*, please don't hurry. Maybe just a half a drink more --- Security spied a male student carrying a female student over his shoulder into the Donnelly lobby. They were both sent back to their rooms.

11/25 10:55 p.m. Champagnat Hall

He sees you when you're smoking, he knows when you are baked, he knows if you drink Pabst or Goose, so be good for Gildard's sake. Ohhh, you better not puff, you better not pass, you better put out all of your grass, John Gildard is coming to Champ --- Last Monday security confiscated one grinder, two pipes, an empty bottle of vodka, and a partridge in a pear tree from one naughty Champagnat resident.

11/26 11:30 p.m. Donnelly Hall

A new building for the band, pa rum pum pum pum. With Art Himelburger, pa rum pum pum pum. I'm in the band with you, pa rum pum pum pum. I've no trombone to play, pa rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum. Wait, someone found my horn, pa rum pum pum pum. It was security, pa rum pum pum pum. I played my best for Art, pa rum pum pum pum, and then he smiled at me pa rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum, me and my bone --- Someone lost their trombone and security found it. Merry Christmas everyone

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

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SGA plans for more campus wide connections

By KATHLEEN O'BRIEN
SGA Columnist

Preparations for the upcoming breaks have SGA not only busy with transporting students home, but also looking forward to their return next semester. From buses to safety to new committees, last week's meeting was comprised of initiatives to further connect and interact with the student body.

Representatives from Marist's Safety and Security were present at the meeting to spread the word about the new component of their established communications system. Currently, the communication system consists of email alerts, phone messages for faculty and staff, PA broadcast systems, college website alerts, the campus TV station and the security officers located in every building. However starting next semester, Marist will be implementing a new system called Marist Alerts.

A company called Everbridge, based in California, sponsors Marist Alerts. It is used by organizations such as Virginia Technical Institute, University of Connecticut and the American Red Cross. In a few weeks, students will receive an email from Marist, followed by a subsequent email from Everbridge, explaining the program and inviting students to join.

Under this new system, in emergency situations, every student will automatically receive an email from Marist Alerts detailing the situation and correct procedures. However, by signing up to receive additional alerts from Everbridge through the portal in their email, students will be able to receive those alerts to their cell phones as calls, text messages or both. This way, students will be able to receive emergency messages regardless of where they are on campus. Emergency situations included in the messages are criminal activity, severe weather conditions, life safety conditions, maintenance and testing.

John Gildard, head of Marist security, said "our goal is to make technology work for us."

Student Body President Deborah Akinwunmi agreed with Gildard that the new alert system will be a positive addition to the campus.

"I believe that we as a school are forward-thinking and continuously dedicated to enhancing the experience of students on campus, which includes protecting students from potential harm," said Akinwunmi. "That being said, I am very excited to see Marist implementing this new alert system."

Continuing the need and initiatives for increased communication, a new committee was created to increase awareness of and advocacy for stu-

dents of all cultures. The Multicultural Committee, started by Senator Brandon Heard, will work with and expand the efforts of the Center for Multicultural Affairs (CMA) and HEOP. Heard's main goal for the committee is to educate students on all cultures and hold forums for students on how to deal with issues of cultural differences, utilizing various professors on campus as well.

"The idea of college is to prepare students for the real world and formulate a global way of thinking," said Heard. "Marist receives students from all over the world, and by having this committee students will not only expand their knowledge on different culture, but will be prepared to work with many different types of people in the work force."

The committee will work with CMA to host programs on campus for students and serve as a student liaison for the CMA. In addition, SGA's Civility Campaign will coordinate with the new committee to hold programs that will increase awareness.

However, some members of SGA were unsure of how this committee's goal will be carried out and how effective they will be. Chief Public Affairs Officer Sam Policano was the one dissenting vote in regards to the establishment of the committee. She voiced concerns regarding the rela-

tionship between the committee and the Center for Multicultural Affairs, as well as how Heard plans to get people to attend his events.

"I dissented on the vote for the multicultural committee because I felt like it wasn't exactly clear what the office of multicultural affairs does in regards to the issues the committee would be focusing on," said Policano. "[This] is something that I thought really needed to be discussed possibly with administration more before an entire committee was needed to focus with issues such as racism."

Despite her concerns, Policano is confident in Heard and his ability and charisma to lead the committee.

The transportation committee is further facilitating connections by continuing their transportation systems for Thanksgiving traveling. Buses supplied rides for students to Long Island, New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts. Masses of students continue to sign up for the buses.

As Marist looks to attract more diverse students, they are increasing their initiatives to appeal to students and facilitate their experience on campus. Through Marist Alerts, the multicultural committee and the transportation committee, efforts are being made to bring the campus closer together.

Prominent speaker talks future of journalism

By CATHRYN VACCARO
Staff Writer

Writer's block and procrastination are very familiar to Marist students, especially during the stressful weeks before finals. Courtesy of the Media Leaders of the Communication Department, Betsy Morgan brought some inspiration and advice to the student body. Morgan, the president of The Blaze and former CEO of the Huffington Post, came to speak to the students and faculty members of the Communication Department on Wednesday, Nov 20. The talk was held in the newly renovated Nelly Goletti Theatre.

Betsy Morgan discussed her journey from working at Huffington Post to taking a leap in her career path to join The Blaze team. Working with its founder Arianna Huffington, she helped take Huffington Post to the top. Huffington Post was

one of the first sites to use user-generated content to form blogs. These blogs set Huffington Post apart from the competition. They created an authentic and transparent relationship through the use of their early blogging network, distinguishing themselves from their online counterparts.

"I think that what was really interesting at Huff Post was, at the time, we really believed that an audience wanted to see both opinion voice and news content side by side...the audience really responded to having that big melting pot of content all together," Morgan said.

Morgan did not follow a specific career path. She decided to take her dominant voice and turn it into something groundbreaking in the journalism world. Morgan is used to being different. She was one of the youngest people in board meetings surrounded by older CEOs of major companies. She was also one of the

only women at the table. That's what made Morgan different and she embraced it. Morgan remained true to herself and did things that she was passionate about. She wakes up ready and excited to go to work.

"Be authentic, do things with personality," Morgan said.

With jobs and internships being so competitive, everyone is always looking for an answer to what major companies are looking for in their new interns or employees. Morgan gave insightful and inspiring advice to help an audience of young journalists trying to find their unique way of getting their foot in the door.

"You will stand out. You will be your best self if you are yourself," stated Morgan.

She told students not to work to fit into a mold that is already made. A company wants to hire someone with their own unique and fresh

ideas. Having your own voice is the way to get your foot in the door. Morgan also explained that working for a company that has a clear direction and their own voice is key to deciding if they want to work for that company in the future.

"I thought Betsy gave really good advice and was very honest. When she said that you have to really have a passion for what you want to do in your life because if not, you shouldn't do it," explained Rose Shannon, a sophomore Communications major and Political Science minor who attended the event.

Morgan encouraged the audience that there are so many more opportunities and different paths to follow that there will always be journalism jobs available. Do not settle for something that you are not passionate about. You have the power to pick what jobs and internships suit your personality, dreams, and career goals the best.

From page one

MIPO reflects on 35 years of great success

a 35th anniversary of MIPO, but it's really more of a celebration. I think outlets continue to use the Marist Poll for multiple reasons. Our work is known for its accuracy, its independence, and its fairness. Those are great qualities for pollsters to have."

The night's sequence of events went smoothly, from one speaker to another, including Dr. Murray, Lee Miringoff, and Barbara Carvalho. An in-depth video presentation of the Marist Poll's history, a raffle, and a performance from the improve comedy troupe "The Capitol Steps" in the Nelly Goletti the-

ater all took place during the evening.

Unlike other polling institutes like the Quinnipiac Poll that hire outside workers, all the polls conducted by MIPO are done so by students. Miringoff testifies to this, acknowledging the poll would not be the same without the students.

"This is nothing without the students, and the talents Marist brings to the table. We are and always will be an educational program. The polling is the visible side of that," Miringoff said.

The feeling appears to be mutual, as both current students and

alumni students came out and spoke highly of the polling institute and what it means to them personally, and to the school community.

So what is in store for MIPO? For many, it is to keep improving the poll and relationships it has with major media outlets. In fact, because of the astounding reputation the poll has built over the years, the poll continues to grow in recognition.

For the MIPO staff, it makes it even better when the Marist community responds positively to the work they are doing. They appreciate the support they get from stu-

dents, faculty, and outside supporters alike.

"We've seen a great response from the Marist community. We cannot thank Dennis Murray enough for his support and his resources. We are the Marist community: Marist students make up our workforce. We couldn't do this without them," Mike Conte, a graduate student assistant for MIPO, said.

For Miringoff, though, there is one thing he wishes he could change about the poll.

"Turn back the clock!" Miringoff said.

Joey Suchanek: more than one in a million

By DEREK ROSE
Circle Contributor

The thing about Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva is that it starts in the feet.

At birth, the first telling sign of one of the world's rarest diseases is a malformed big toe. Then, it moves up to the heart, suppressing any scant remnants of hope. Finally, it spreads to the mind, obscuring all thought, until all the person knows is pain and slow suffering and the hopeless feeling that they are forever trapped in a failing body.

FOP, often referred to as "Stone Man Disease," causes muscle to be ossified either spontaneously or when damaged. In the first couple years of birth, humans grow bones at an incredibly fast rate. A mutation in the dominant allele, which leads to this rapid bone growth is the cause of FOP; essentially, the switch is never shut off. The body is not told when to stop growing bones, causing fibrous tissue, such as muscles, tendons and ligaments to turn into bone. The disease decreases mobility, causes issues breathing and shortens life expectancy.

With a mere 800 cases worldwide, Joey Suchanek, a junior at Marist College, is far more than one in a million. At birth, Joey was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer because no doctor knew just how rare he really was. After three years of searching for elusive answers, an unlikely person finally figured out what was causing Joey so many issues.

"My father technically diagnosed me with FOP," Joey said. "He didn't agree with the doctors, so he went to Borders every night and looked up diseases to see which matched my symptoms. Then he found my

disease and went to the doctor and the doctor said, 'No that can't be,' since it was so rare."

His father knew that the spontaneous and agonizing lumps, known as flare-ups, did not align with the doctors' diagnoses. Before he was diagnosed with FOP, Joey's flare-ups were believed to be tumors and were removed at a young age. Normally, it is dangerous to remove the bone growths in people with FOP because leftover scar tissue is susceptible to ossification. Even today, as doctors fervently work for a cure, surgical removal of growths is rarely attempted.

Although he was able to take part in most childhood activities, by high school, Suchanek began to notice that he was unlike every other kid.

"It kind of just hit me that I'm different and there wasn't anything I could do about it," he said.

Without hesitation, that was when Joey decided to try and make his life as normal as every other teenager. Courageously, he chose to attend Marist College—a school hours away from his home, his parents, and any familiarity.

"Something about this school just felt magical to me," Suchanek said. "I felt like I wanted to be here for the next four years."

Coming to college, most people have the luxury of being able to hide their scars. They can conceal from the world what they wish, but Joey ceaselessly bears the scars of his disease like fresh graffiti on a decaying statue. When people see him, it is difficult to see the public relations major who likes watching football and listening to Owl City.

And as his disease grows more severe, its effects become more noticeable. Joey's arms, permanently bent at 90 degrees, wrap around his body, trying to give himself a big



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEREK ROSE

Joey Suchanek dreams big in the face of a Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva.

hug. One of his legs is four inches shorter than the other. This is half of his body pulling him down, telling him to concede, while the other half is telling him to stand tall and fight. His smile, restricted by a flare up in his jaw-bone last year, will never be as full as it once was, yet it still emits more light than a blazing roman candle in the black of night.

"I can't change anything, no matter how hard I try," Suchanek said. "My body is a uniform that I can't change, but I can change my complexion and my mindset."

Following college, he hopes to become a motivational speaker. He believes that his story can help others with similar struggles, and he wants to inspire those people to chase their dreams like he does.

In the fall of 2012, Suchanek took all of his inner motivation and made something tangible to drive him even more. On the wall above his bed rests a handwritten bucket list of the things he wants to accomplish or experience in life.

"It leads to hope for a good future, that things will change," Suchanek

said about the list.

Among the one hundred different tasks on the list includes: going sky-diving, writing a book, dancing with a girl, going on a safari and paying for a vacation for his parents. While he dreams at night, his real dreams hang above him. They wait until he awakes in the morning and sees them again. The list provides Joey with that extra bit of motivation to persevere. It provides him with a map to follow when he feels lost. It provides optimism. It provides hope. It provides courage.

And the thing about courage is, it starts in the feet. When everything is spiraling away, it arises when you plant yourself firmly on the ground and shout that you are going to fight. Then it moves up to the heart, where you can feel it, rising and falling with your pulse. Finally, it spreads to the mind, a sensation so strong that you could never consider defeat. From his bodily prison, Suchanek has proven that no matter how severe his condition may become, he has always been made of stone.

The daily balancing act of a resident assistant

By EMILY HOUSTON
Circle Contributor

As Resident Assistant Anna Carbone rushes from class, to dance practice, and back to the Foy Townhouses for duty, she merely sees it as another day in the life as a sophomore RA.

As a Communications major with a concentration in Public Relations and a minor in Theater, the activities Carbone is involved in reflect her skills and interests. In addition to being an RA, she enjoys the position as Community Service Manager for the Marist College Dance Ensemble board, is a member of Ambassadors, part of the Marist College Club of Theater Arts and works as a tour guide.

Carbone enjoys all of her commitments, but feels a personal connection to her RA position

"It's corny, but to be honest, last year I had kind of a rough transition to college," Carbone said. "I don't know if I was completely ready to be away from home, and

to take on all the things that were put in front of me."

Originally, Carbone wanted to be a freshmen RA, as that was what sparked her interest in the position, but when she was placed as a sophomore RA, she viewed it as "a blessing in disguise."

"I'm so happy that I get to live with my friends – not even in my house, but all the houses around me," Carbone said. "I like being surrounded by people my own age and the rewards are different, but I'm definitely gaining a lot from being with people my own age and having an effect in a different way."

Although living with friends may seem to add to the stress that inevitably comes with being an RA, for Carbone, it is a way to de-stress. Whether it is hanging out with friends to bake or watch a movie, Carbone sees it as an important part of her college experience.

This is not to say that Carbone does not feel the stress of her com-

mitments.

"I've definitely been working on compartmentalizing my brain in that sense, just because thinking about doing your homework and thinking about doing your job, and thinking about your social life," Carbone said.

"They all require really different thought processes and sometimes it gets overwhelming because when they all blend together, the room kind of spins and you have to try and figure out how to think of them each separately," Carbone said of her varied responsibilities.

Organization is the key to Carbone's balancing act. Every Sunday, she sits down and makes a schedule of everything she has to do for the upcoming week, which includes meetings and events, as well as schoolwork.

"Anna is the type of person who is constantly busy, but she manages to balance everything," Shannon Dempsey, her housemate, said.

Once Carbone is able to narrow

down her interests, she hopes to gain experience in the PR field, specifically in family entertainment. Out of everything though, she is most excited to study abroad in Florence during the spring of her junior year, as she is particularly fascinated with Italian language and culture.

"I couldn't imagine coming here and not going and not taking advantage of it," Carbone said about studying abroad. "I have to; I've been excited about it since eighth grade. That was definitely a factor in choosing here."

While there is still time left in the first semester, Carbone already knows she wants to continue being an RA for the coming years, as she finds the personal interactions and teamwork rewarding.

"It's definitely like being on a team," Carbone said. "I didn't play a lot of team sports, but I think that this is the closest thing to having a support system and working together to achieve something."



I can see what is happening with news, sports, and more on campus!

Why didn't I think of that..

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czlga



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Ryan So...

Holiday gift giving without the stress

By JASMINE GUERINE
Circle Contributor

Gift giving during the holiday season can be a real struggle. Most people enjoy receiving just a little bit more than giving, because receiving is easy and giving can be a serious pain. We all set out with good intentions to try to make someone genuinely happy during the holidays, but these intentions can lead to a bad gift that you will never live down. Yes, it is the thought that counts. I am not trying to undermine that age-old saying and endorse blind materialism. But in order for that to be true, you have to put some thought into the gift. If done correctly, an inexpensive gift can have more meaning and value than an extravagant one. Unlike your typical holiday gift guide that just throws a list of items at you, I'm here to give you the skills and tools to always find the perfect gift for anyone, on any budget.

A good gift has only one requirement: to show that you know something about the person, or at least tried to understand them. Chances are you're not giving a gift to a total stranger, so this component shouldn't be that hard. Gifting is really an easy process; all you need to do is listen and observe.

We don't realize how often people around us mention things they desire or need. On average,

someone will mention or complain about something that they need at least twice a week, and this is where great gift ideas can come from. From the moment you know you're getting someone a gift, start listening to them closely and make mental notes.

For example, your buddy doesn't shut up about *Breaking Bad* and how upset he is that the series is over. Take this information and utilize it! If he loves *Breaking Bad* and can't handle the fact that it's not on TV anymore, a DVD box set will definitely fill that void. It is exactly what he wanted without realizing it. Plus, you no longer have to listen to him complain.

Now, whether you're shopping for your mother or the co-worker you got for Secret Santa, chances are you see the person you're giving a gift to. This is where observation comes in. Observation plays its own role in gift giving because some things can be seen and not heard. For example, you're with your best friend and you notice her wallet is basically being held together by string and duct tape. While she may not mention wanting a new wallet, it is fair to assume that if she got one as a present, she wouldn't complain.

Now that we have covered the basic skills of gifting, here are some holiday gifting don'ts and their alternatives.

Don't: Give someone soap. Un-

less your friend has explicitly stated that they would like a basket of fancy soap or they are a Bath & Body Works regular, don't give them soap! Soap is the universal way to say, "Hey, I know nothing about you, except the fact that you bathe." Plus if they hate or are allergic to the scent you gave them, you will see that soap basket being regifted sometime in the very near future.

Alternative: The alternative to a soap basket is gift cards. Gift cards are great for when you're stumped. They are just as - if not more - affordable than a soap basket. Plus, they come in so many different varieties so you can specify it to the person. If your friend is known for burning his money on music, an iTunes gift card or a concert certificate is perfect. The best part is that, if utilized correctly, a gift card can completely cover up the fact that you had no idea what you were doing.

Don't: Give someone health or fitness related items. If the person you're giving a gift to is a gym rat, or a fitness instructor, then get it for them. Otherwise, stay away from this genre of gift! It is a danger zone! Even if you mean well in getting your BFF that gym membership they have been talking about for the last three months, it can still be taken very poorly. What started as a supportive gesture can

quickly turn into a friendship-ending gift gone wrong.

Alternative: Get a different gift! Just stay away from these kinds of gifts in general. You don't want to give someone an item that can be misconstrued. It is best to get gifts that are straightforward and can't be taken the wrong way.

In the end, gift giving should bring you, and the gift recipient, joy. Hopefully, with this advice, giving will be even easier and more rewarding than receiving this holiday season.



TWODOLLA/FLICKR

Buying gifts this holiday season can be a real easy process if you listen to and observe who you're buying gifts for.

Five things you should never do in bed

By ALYSSA ROSSI
Sex Columnist

After a weekend of relaxation, and by that I mean scrolling through endless BuzzFeed articles and old *Cosmopolitan* articles, I felt that I needed to address something. BuzzFeed published an article titled "16 Sex Positions From *Cosmo* That Would Never Work," and I realized there are a lot of suggestions *Cosmopolitan* makes to their readers that just don't seem quite right....

1. 30 Things To Do With a Naked Man: Make Him Hot, Then Cold

Cosmo Says: "You can do this by drawing an icy line from the back of his neck all the way down his body." Apparently doing this only makes him "hotter."

What Would Happen: Now what are the logistics of this? You can either pause the moment, run to your nearest freezer, then run back, follow their oh-so brief directions, and then, oh, throw it on your desk to let all of your apple

products drown in water damage. Or you can invest in an icebox to put under your bed strictly for these occasions. Even if you prep for the moment, and put the ice cube in a bowl, odds are it will be melted by the time you remember it's sitting on your nightstand, waiting to be used.

2. Expert Course: Eight Advanced Sex Positions

Cosmo Says: The following positions are not only possible but extremely satisfying: Passion Propeller, Bootyful View, Carnal Crisscross, V is for Vixen, The Pinwheel, Arc de Triumph, The X-Rated, and The Head Game.

What Would Happen: I'm speechless. After seeing these photos, and reading their basic instructions, there's no way someone with all of their limbs attached to them will find pleasure in any of these.

3. Hot Morning Sex Positions: Torrid Tug-of War

Cosmo Says: This is an "amaz-

ing pleasure boost."

What Would Happen: Basically envision a tug-of-war with your arms linked and tugging at the bottom half of your body. Sounds really pleasurable.

4. *Cosmo* Kama Sutra: Bad Girl Edition: Nips Ahoy

Cosmo Says: The male sits with his legs stretched out forward, while the female straddles him, resting her back on his thighs, leaving her head to rest on the bed.

What Would Happen: This can only last for so long, since 1.) Mobility is very limited, and 2.) Once her back is thrown out and she has a stiff neck, there is no way this will be tried again.

5. Great Sex Positions: Mover and Shaker

Cosmo Says: "Lie facedown on top of a washing machine, with your feet flat on the floor (if you're short, try standing on a phone book). Have your guy stand facing

your behind, between your legs. Once you're going at it, turn on the machine. Have him lean forward so that his thighs are pressed against you. The vibrations will rock through his entire body."

Let's Think About This: *Cosmo* listed in their demographic profile that 34 percent of their readers range from 18-24, and 58 percent total range from 18-34 years of age. Going off of that, most 18-24 year olds are still living at home with their parents, or attending college. This just doesn't seem feasible at all. From sharing utilities with your entire family, or even the communal laundromat at your college, to the mere fact that they suggest you retrieve a telephone book, it all seem humorous.

Don't get me wrong. *Cosmopolitan* produces some great articles, and clearly they have great customer loyalty. But I'm truly curious if anyone has ever sat down after they've researched and written these articles, and thought about how these will work out logistically.

Students experience restrictions in dining hall

By KATHLEEN O'BRIEN
Opinion Editor

Marist football finished this season with an 8-3 record and a share of the PFL title, setting a new standard for the team in our college's history. This is a great accomplishment for the athletes and the team should be proud of their achievements, especially considering all of the hard work that they put in to the season and training.

However, despite this, there are a few occurrences looming before me that I cannot seem to move past. In September and October, for two of the home football games, a section of the dining hall was reserved for the football team for dinner and breakfast. Students were unable to occupy that section even when the team was not present. Even though the team is performing at a high level and is bringing money to the college, it does not warrant preferential treatment over the rest of Marist students.

The hours of 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., and 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., are the busiest times of operation for the dining hall, as noted by Sodexo. These are also the times when the section was blocked off for the football team. Even though the expanded and renovated dining hall provides enough seating for all students even with the section being

out of commission, the principle still remains that all seating should be available to students.

Marist students pay approximately \$40,000 per year to attend the institution. As students attending an institution of higher learning, they should be subjected to fair and equal treatment with equal opportunities.

However, it would appear that their rights are being limited, as their ability to sit wherever they please is restricted. This is especially disconcerting considering that Marist is a private college, meaning that most of the money the college receives is through the tuition and donations from alumni, not taxpayer money. The students should have these rights since their tuition is paying for the operation of the college.

Restricting sections of the dining hall for athletic teams or other organizations would not be a problem if it occurred for all organizations. Marist teams attend the MAAC championships every season, but do not get dining accommodations the night before or day of their respective competitions. Considering that other Marist teams have actually won the MAAC championships, including softball and crew, it seems particularly unfair and biased.

Furthermore, Marist College

Dance Ensemble and MCCTA host performances every semester, but they do not receive this preferential treatment either. The appropriate action would be to either restrict seating for all of these organizations or not restrict seating at all, making it open to the entire student body.

The inequity is not simply between athletes and non-athletes, but between the various athletic teams as well. In addition to other sports teams not having reserved seating, club sports are facing discrimination as well. Club teams were told that due to a shortage of athletic trainers, they would be unable to use the athletic trainer's office. Although not as intense as the varsity schedules in regards to practice times, club sports such as men and women's rugby still occupy a large portion of the student's time, and the students are just as susceptible to injuries.

Rugby is highly physical and utilizes barely any protective gear. Because of this, these teams should be at the top of the list for access to the athletic trainer, but now the athletes are not allowed inside. This is extremely disrespectful, considering the women's team made it to the national championship this season.

I have been told before that sports reflect society and can show us much about the growing trends, and I am starting to believe this is



SLGCKGC/FLICKR

The reach of Marist athletics extends beyond the field into the dining hall and other areas of the campus arena.

true. Perhaps sports are showing us that various inequalities still exist in our society, and that our emphasis can often be placed on the wrong subject. Although there are numerous benefits of participation in athletics, it is important that it does not overshadow the other intricacies of life and place others at a disadvantage, particularly at an institution whose emphasis is higher learning.

Libertarianism moves to take center stage

By TIM KIRTLAND
Circle Contributor

With the Republican Party, as well as the Tea Party, seeing increasingly dismal approval ratings, some may be hoping that conservatism as a whole is gradually fading away from contemporary popular opinion. However, the actual scenario is quite different. Across many economic issues, it seems that people are losing a great deal of patience with liberal policies, while embracing more conservative approaches to handling our country. More than ever, a majority of Americans are reportedly sick and tired of the federal government creating an "entitlement state" through wel-

fare, Medicaid, food stamps and even social security.

On the other hand, there is also a rising discontent with banks and large companies cheating middle and lower class citizens. People often blame Republicans for pampering these institutions at the expense of their voters.

Moreover, Americans are clearly falling out with many social conservative policies; specifically, with regards to education, drugs, women's rights, government surveillance, drones, abortion (to a certain extent) and most notably, same-sex marriage.

Meanwhile, the Tea Party is slowly becoming more of a minority today, having lost the broader population's admiration, especially after viewing their influence on Congress. To summarize, both political extremes are noticeably fading from the spectrum of American public opinion, while an alternative trend of Republicanism is quickly gaining a considerable following.

Libertarianism, in its basic form, is a different branch of conservative thinking that endorses a society where the state plays a minimal role in how it develops. Now, contrary to what most contemporary Republicans believe, libertarians also oppose the federal government stepping in to do things such as protecting Wall Street and big businesses, limiting women's

reproductive rights, keeping drugs off the street, and preventing LGBT individuals from exercising their human rights.

That being said, they are reportedly against all types of social programs and believe that they should eventually be terminated, which is something that makes a lot of their Republican colleagues uneasy.

From my own experience, this way of thinking is definitely gaining support from young, middle-class Americans, as a response to the apparent failures of modern-day liberalism, as well as conservatism. While they often associate themselves with the Republican Party, they mostly view themselves as a middle-grounded, balanced, and far more intellectual group than both the Democrats and the Republicans.

I can certainly see why libertarians would see it that way, considering they are more in touch with the reality of how our economy works, understand the evils of social conservatism, and, best of all, do not try to act patriotic and scream, "God Bless the USA!" to enforce traditional American values. In other words, they simply make far better Republicans, or rather a superior rival to liberals.

Personally, I see little to no problem with libertarianism becoming so popular in this country, especially if it means replacing the Tea Party conservatism with which I

have lost patience. I mostly agree with them on social issues and ending special interest subsidies, although I am firmly against their rather extreme approach to free-market capitalism due to its consequences on lower-class individuals.

In fact, I find their opposition to any kind of federal welfare or safety net very troubling, due to my passionate concern for those who cannot make ends meet alone without these social programs.

Nevertheless, in my opinion, representatives like Ron Paul and Gary Johnson make far superior candidates than Ted Cruz and Chris Christie. The latter are politicians who seem more concerned with pleasing constituents and maintaining the status quo than improving the lives of everyday Americans. Despite my disapproval of their proposals to "end the Fed," I would love to see them elected into office much more often, as opposed to Tea Party favorites. I might even consider voting for one if they were up against a Democratic candidate I couldn't get behind.

At the very least, we have to give them credit for being substantially more open-minded and reasonable in their views, giving them a nice welcoming hand-shake. Therefore, step aside old-fashioned, outdated conservatism and make way for the forward-thinking, though still heavily misguided libertarianism!



DEREK BRIDGES/FLICKR

As the Tea Party, conservatism and liberalism become more irrelevant, it is time for a new wave of thinking known as libertarianism.

From all of us at The Circle, we would like to thank our staff writers and contributors, photographers, and our loyal readers for a great semester.

We hope you all have a wonderful winter break, and a safe holiday season.

We look forward to welcoming you back for the spring 2014 semester with new stories and ideas, and being a part of your Marist College experience once again.

Thank you again for a great semester, and enjoy our final print issue for the fall 2013 semester.

“Catching Fire”: a fiery love triangle heats up

By **STEPHEN BERES**
Circle Contributor

“Catching Fire” is the latest sequel to the 2012 blockbuster film “The Hunger Games,” and the first to be helmed by director Francis Lawrence. Although the film has been celebrated for its faithful adherence to the novel on which it is based, the lack of first-person narrative in the film clouds many plot elements. The most notable is Katniss’s conflicting romantic feelings toward her male companions, Gale and Peeta. This new film gives us a chance to analyze the developing love triangle as presented on the big screen.

“The Hunger Games” ended with “star-crossed lovers” Katniss and Peeta victorious, and eager to return to District 12. This love of course, is fictional, created to catch the attention of the feeble-minded citizens of the Capital. “Catching Fire,” however, leaves the viewer wondering exactly how fictional the romance between Katniss and Peeta is. In the first “Hunger Games” it is clear there are multiple reasons for the genesis of Katniss and Peeta’s “love.” We learn that both are noble, each unwilling to let the other perish at another’s or their own hands. The

countless attempts to protect each other during the first movie creates a strong bond between them, which is arguably the foundation of what seems to be true love. This being the case, is it really believ-



“The Hunger Games: Catching Fire” gives us an opportunity to examine Katniss relationship with both Peeta and Gale without a guiding first-person narrative.

able that Katniss and Peeta return to District 12 and continue to ignore each other like they had for years before? Not really. But of course, there is Gale to consider.

While the first “Hunger Games” gives little information about the status of the relationship between

Katniss and Gale, “Catching Fire” makes the true nature of this relationship even harder to interpret. Apparently, they love each other, with multiple scenes depicting the pair’s admiration for

since they returned home from the previous one. As the Hunger Games unfold, however, one is left to question whether Katniss’ relationship with Peeta is yet again just another obligatory act to ensure her survival.

Watching Katniss and Peeta this time around might as well be a flashback to the first movie, where the viewer was equally unsure of what was going on between them. Make up your mind, Katniss! Is it fair to Gale to tell him you love him and then go off smooching and snuggling Peeta?! Maybe she loves both of them, or maybe her love for either of them is just situational. I think it is pretty clear that Katniss’ feelings for Peeta have transcended the charade they created in the first movie. It is safe to say Katniss has got herself one hell of a love triangle (of course, it would be a square, but fortunately, Miley is out of the picture).

All in all, there are still mysteries about Katniss’ true feelings in the film. While this new release definitely points towards Katniss being in love with Gale, her true feelings toward Peeta are still under wraps. It appears we will have to wait until “Mockingjay” for the final answer.

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To The Marist Student Body and Campus Community

On behalf of the Marist College Women's Basketball Team, I would like to thank each and every one of you who attended this past Friday's game against Kentucky and made it truly a memorable evening for all those involved. You showed tremendous spirit and enthusiasm and left a lasting impression on both our team and the Kentucky program. It didn't go unnoticed on the national media who were in attendance. The following are some of the tweets said over twitter and others who responding on our special evening:

"Marist is really one of the top atmospheres to catch a women's game. I suggest it to any fans of women's basketball." - Doug Feinberg, Associated Press sportswriter.

"A special atmosphere at Marist was no surprise". Graham Hays, ESPN sportswriter.

"Great way to start the year - sellout crowds at MTSU and Marist!" NCAA on Twitter.

"Its too bad that Marist probably won't have the pleasure to host an NCAA Tournament game. This would be perfect site for opening round!" - Doug Feinberg, Associated Press sportswriter.

"This was a terrific game with an incredible atmosphere. From the time we got into town it's been a tremendous experience to be at Marist. They have a great program, great fans!" - Matthew Mitchell, Kentucky Head Women's Basketball Coach.

You made an impact. You made a difference. It's part of what the college experience is all about. More importantly, you helped to make a difference in the fight against hunger. It helped Matt Mitchell to match my donation for the year to help stop hunger. It helped to bring awareness of the magnitude of the problem in this area. And, hopefully, it helped each and every one of you to do your part in fighting this problem.

Again, I can't thank you enough for being there for our team and the cause. You were simply amazing! A special thanks to Br. Michael Flanigan and Campus Ministry and Mary Marshall of Catholic Charities of Dutchess County for their efforts in making this evening so special. Even in defeat, I couldn't have been more proud of my players and my school! I hope it doesn't end there. I hope that we see you at all home games to support our program and to fight hunger. Matthew and I look forward to donating as much money as possible to campus ministry in YOUR name. I also urge you to support all of the athletic programs here at Marist. They represent all of us here at Marist and your support would be appreciated!

You're the best!!!

Coach Brian Giorgis
Marist WBB

Column: Marist's own comeback kids

By RYAN CALVI
Sports Editor

In writing this column, where do I even begin?

For the senior class who entered this school four years ago, all the sports talk was about how good our women's basketball team was and how our football team struggled to compete and draw big crowds from the student body on game days.

I refused to believe it until I actually saw it for myself.

Sooner rather than later, my fellow seniors and I found this to be very true as we watched them lose four out of their five home games our freshmen year.

"Just a fluke," I said. "They'll turn it around next year."

Nope.

Sophomore year came and went, and so to did Marist football's season. Another year that ended in disappointment, another losing season.

Junior year the team began to show signs of progress heading into this year, but once again finished the season with a losing record and not much to write home about.



COURTESY OF JOSEPH S. MILLER/THE CIRCLE

The Marist football team finished the 2013 campaign with a program-record eight wins, including their first PFL championship in team history. Not only did they win the championship but they also gave the Marist community a reason to believe once again.

Then came this season, where there was much hype coming into the year because this was said to have been one of the better teams this program has ever seen.

I've always been a believer in that talk is cheap, and unless you perform on the field, everything else is irrelevant.

And so this season began.

It did not start so hot as the group fell to 0-2 with losses to Sacred Heart and Bucknell to open up the year.

"Here we go again," I thought. "On our way to yet another losing season and I'll graduate Marist, having never seen a winning football team."

And then, boom, the switch all of a sudden was flipped. In the remaining nine games, everything instantly became amazing.

Winning eight of the last nine was certainly no mistake. It was earned. Game after game the phrase started to sound like a broken record, "explosive on offense, phenomenal defensive effort."

We got to see quarterback Chuckie Loonie break several school records, and defensive end Terrence Fede register the most sacks in program

history.

We got to see life come back to Tenney Stadium (and around the outside via tailgates) as it was always filled to capacity on Saturdays with white and red paraphernalia.

The eight wins were the most wins any Marist squad recorded in a year, all topped off with winning the first PFL title in team history.

Although not making the FCS playoffs is a story for another day and something that will haunt us forever, what this team accomplished this season is something nobody will ever be able to take away. Putting Marist football back on the map and winning a conference championship can never be replaced.

So from Coach Parady to Looney to Atiq Lucas to Fede and the rest of the 2013 Marist football team, we thank you, not only as members of the media but also as fans of the Red Foxes for the memories that will truly last us a lifetime.



COURTESY OF JOSEPH S. MILLER/THE CIRCLE

Senior running back Atiq Lucas finished this season rushing for 820 yards and 11 touchdowns. Lucas averaged 72.5 rushing yards per game for the Red Foxes.

ESPN's "The Classroom" finds instant success

By GEOFF MAGLIOCCHETTI
Staff Writer

In a region where the sports talk radio personalities are as renowned as the athletes they cover, a new Saturday morning duo is turning heads, opening ears and maybe inciting a donut revolution.

They are Dr. Keith Strudler and Geoff Brault, hosts of The Classroom, on 1220 (AM) ESPN Radio in the Hudson Valley. Broadcast on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. until noon from the radio studio in the basement of Lowell Thomas, The Classroom offers a smart and entertaining look at the hottest topics in sports.

"We're not the average sports talk radio show," Brault said, a Marist graduate who, in addition to his Classroom duties, works as a commentator for Marist's championship football and women's basketball teams. "A lot of today's sports talk is mainly things to get ratings, saying controversial things to rile people up, to gener-

ate anger, to make you listen just to get angry. What we're trying to do is discuss issues that are going on, things that maybe don't get the attention they deserve, and present them in a smart perspective while having fun at the same time."

Among the topics that Strudler and Brault have covered include brain injuries in football, fan etiquette, and college basketball freshmen leaving after one year. The Classroom has welcomed numerous guests to their program, including former NFL player Brian Toal, Newsday writer David Lennon, and Boston.com sports editor Matt Pepin. Other Classroom trademarks include "Esoteric Sports Topics Debated in Unnecessary Detail", in which Strudler debates former college roommate Jim Cotter about anything from whether a marathon runner or a baseball player is more of athlete to what would America's 3rd favorite sport would be if football ceased to exist.

In Picks of the Week, where

Strudler takes on his five year old son Sloan in picking some of the most anticipated matchups in sports. Father and son usually compete for a prize, which usually ranges from simple (doing Dr. Strudler's laundry) to ludicrous (A 2 week vacation for Sloan, which must be daddy-free). The show always ends with "Keith's Commentary," where Strudler tackles an unusual or lesser-known topic in sports.

Perhaps the most unique and important aspect to The Classroom is its connection to ESPN, the Worldwide Leader in Sports and America's most popular sports network. Thanks to this exclusive connection, The Classroom is able to use clips from ESPN's audio database. Several student interns gather research on the week's topics, book guests and run audio equipment. With graduation looming for some of them, having a connection to an ESPN-sponsored show will greatly impress a future employer.

"That connection to ESPN is

huge," explains Brault. "If you're going to offer a concentration in sports communication like Marist does any potential student interested in that program probably wants to be on ESPN. To have a relationship in-house with an actual ESPN affiliate and branding, to tell people that you can work on a show that's broadcast on ESPN airwaves, is fantastic."

While The Classroom will host its "season finale" this Saturday, it will return for another edition after winter break. Brault is extremely excited about the future.

"[Dr. Strudler] and I have talked about [the future] and we agree that the sky is the limit," he said. "We're trying to do something that you don't really hear on the radio. We're not the scores and highlights show. Instead we're into larger issues. We're not into ranting and raving opinions, we care about actual issues and hopefully it's entertaining and informative at the same time. If we continue to do that well, the sky is definitely the limit for this show."

Women's basketball gets back on track

By JOE FITZHENRY
Sports Editor

The perfect storm it was not for the Marist women's basketball team to open the 2013-14 season.

Dealing with a rash of injuries along with a difficult non-conference slate was not the ideal scenario for head coach Brian Giorgis's squad.

Heading into the Hall of Fame Challenge on Nov. 22, the Red Foxes sat at 0-3 looking for their first win on the young season.

A week and a half later, Marist has now won three of four, going 3-1 in the four games that took place as a part of the Hall of Fame Challenge.

"Bowling Green and St. Bonaventure were two big wins for us. We seemed to have found ourselves a bit in the Hall of Fame Challenge and hopefully we can continue that going forward," Giorgis said.

In the Bowling Green game, the opening game of the challenge, sophomore Madeline Blais posted a then career-high 24 points, including 4-6 from beyond the arc, and the Red Foxes notched a 74-60 victory, their first of the season.

Senior co-captains Emma O'Connor and Leanne Ockenden chipped in with 17 and 16 points, respectively. Each also had three of assists.

Following an eight minute stretch of play in the second half that featured eight lead changes and four ties, the Red Foxes clung to a 54-53 advantage with just under nine minutes to play.

From that point on, Marist went on a 20-7 run to seal the deal. Ockenden had half of the team's 20 points during the run, while Blais added seven of her own.

Playing their third game in three days at the time, the Red Foxes recorded their second win of the season with an 87-82 overtime decision against Old Dominion.

O'Connor posted career highs in both points and rebounds (28 and 11) to pace the Red Foxes, while Ockenden contributed with 24 points and three assists.

A Sydney Coffey three-pointer at the buzzer gave the Red Foxes a 32-31 lead at the half.

The teams traded punches for the majority of the second half. With 1:31 showing on the game clock, the Red Foxes held a 70-69 edge following a pair of free throws from O'Connor.

Over the next 83 seconds, Old Dominion's Shae Kelley went to the line on two separate occasions, making three of four for a 72-70 lead with eight seconds to play.

Freshman Brittnei Lai took the inbound pass, brought the ball down court, and made a jumper with a single second showing on the game clock to force overtime.

O'Connor had seven points in the overtime period, including the layup and free throw that gave the Red Foxes the lead for good at 79-76 with 1:57 remaining.

The lead would get as big as eight, but Becca Allison hit a long three-pointer to cut it to 85-82 with 10 seconds left. Lai was fouled and sank both free throws to account for the final margin of victory.

The first three games of the Hall of Fame Challenge were played in Columbus, Ohio on the campus of Ohio State University. But this past Sunday's contest against St. Bonaventure was played at the MassMutual Center, site of this year's MAAC tournament in Springfield, Mass.

Blais recorded a new career high with 25 points, 16 of those coming in the opening stanza as the Red Foxes took control of the game.

Ockenden added 15 points for Marist to continue her strong play of late. She was named the MAAC Player of the Week for the week of Nov. 25 after scoring 63 points in the three games held at Ohio State.

"Maddie's one of the best shooters around. We got her good looks and she didn't disappoint. She's doing a better job in motion as far as shaping up and getting to the basket along with shooting the three," Giorgis said. "She's playing with a lot of confidence."

Marist scored the first eight points of the afternoon and closed the first half on 35-16 run on the way to a 68-51 victory over a team that has given them problems over the past few seasons.

"They had won the last four meetings and their two losses thus far were to NC State and UConn. We knew we had our hands full and to jump out to a 26 point lead in the first half was mind boggling," Giorgis said. "To be able to sustain that, I think both coaches were stunned, a lot of people were stunned, we typically have close, hard-fought games against them."

The Red Foxes led by as much as 28 at one point and shot 49 percent from the field on the afternoon, including 38.9 percent from beyond the arc.

During this recent stretch, the only loss for Marist came at the hands of Ohio State with a score of 62-59.

Ockenden led the Red Foxes with a career high 23 points, including 6-7 from three-point range



COURTESY OF AMY MORSE/THE CIRCLE

Senior co-captain Leanne Ockenden was named MAAC Player of the Week last week. The Syracuse, N.Y. native scored 63 points over three games and is currently averaging 17.4 points per game to lead the way for the Red Foxes.

in the losing effort.

The game was close throughout and was tied at 59 entering the final minute of regulation before the Buckeyes hit three free throws to give themselves the win. Katherine Fogarty missed a three at the buzzer that would have tied it for Marist.

Sitting at 3-4 on the season, up next for the Red Foxes is a trip to Connecticut to take on new MAAC foe Quinnipiac in the conference opener for both teams. The Bobcats won 30 games last season and won the league championship in their final year in the Northeast Conference. Tip-off is set for Friday at 6 p.m.

Struggles in paradise for men's basketball

By STEVE RAUM
Staff Writer

While most of us were getting ready to stuff our faces with turkey, mashed potatoes and pie, the Marist men's basketball team competed in the Paradise Jam Tournament in the Virgin Islands last week. The beautiful 80-degree weather was certainly a nice treat, but the sunshine and clear skies seemed to be the only thing going for the Red Foxes down in St. Thomas.

Marist finished 0-3 in the tournament, falling to 0-7 to start head coach Jeff Bower's first season at the helm. The team opened the tournament against hit Maryland, an ACC team, right out of the gate, but battled them to a 26-20 score in favor of Marist in the first half. However, the Terripans came out firing in the second half and went on to defeat the Red Foxes, 68-43. Maryland went on to win the tournament.

Marist lost its next two games to



COURTESY OF MARIST ATHLETICS

Senior captain Jay Bowie is averaging 10.1 points per game so far this season and leads the team in three point percentage at 41.7 percent beyond the arc.

Loyola Marymount, 76-70, and a heartbreaking overtime loss to Morgan State, 74-67. The Red Foxes shot a mere 33.5% from the field and committed 44 turnovers in the three games.

Although it was tough going on the court, the tournament served as a team bonding experience as well.

"This tournament definitely brought us a lot closer [and] we experienced a lot together including off the court [activities]," Chavaughn Lewis said, who paced Marist offensively with 15.7 points per game. "We played a lot of experienced teams and I feel we competed well, but not to the best of our abilities. But I believe we are striving in the right direction."

The Red Foxes begin Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play this week. The team played Iona on Wednesday, and will host the Manhattan Jaspers this Friday, Dec. 6. For the results of Wednesday's game, please check out www.maristcircle.com.



COURTESY OF MARIST ATHLETICS

Junior captain Chavaughn Lewis seen here in action in the home opener against Elon University of the Southern Conference earlier this season.