



The



Circle

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Program promotes peer intervention

By MYLES WILLIAMS
 Staff Writer

Marist's Office of Student Affairs has created a new program called Interpersonal Violence Prevention to help students handle different types of violence on and off campus.

Roberta Staples, director of professional and student development said, "We're really excited. The program was only launched two weeks ago."

The Interpersonal Violence Prevention program is Marist's newest student support program. The goal of the program is to teach students how to avoid situations that can be extremely dangerous to their well-being. The program is part of the Office of Violence Prevention Education and Crisis Support whose mission is "dedicated to the prevention of interpersonal violence through education, and collaboration and to the provision of support and advocacy of students impacted by acts of violence or other critical incidents."

The office also works with the Interpersonal Violence Prevention Committee, a consultative group, helping the Marist program provide training on topics including crisis intervention, M.O.A.B. (Management of Aggressive Behavior), sexual assault, intimate partner violence, self-defense and bystander intervention, according to Staples.

The bystander intervention skills presentation is being created with the help of Dutchess County Crime Victims' Assistance, which is provided through Family Services, Inc.

It includes a one hour and fifteen minute presentation, which will take place in the classroom. The presentation will also be available to student groups and can be presented at other locations. Staples and program volunteers are working with Marist staff to make sure students have an opportunity to attend. She is asking all Marist students to make the time to attend.

She said, "The program is every student's first step to avoiding dangerous circumstances, staying safe, and being more aware of their surroundings."

In fact, Marist considers this presentation so important that staff are being asked to consider having the Bystander Intervention presented in their classes. Students attending the meeting during fall semester will be able to do community service by participating in the train-the-trainer bystander intervention course for spring semester.

"Student safety has always been a concern," Staples said. Even before this program, Marist counselors met with individual students on issues of violence to help them speak up for themselves. "It takes a lot of courage to come forward," says Staples. Studies show that three percent of women will be assaulted in the nine months of school. "There is a probability of 80 cases on Marist," said Staples, "there has been one report."

Everyone is eligible to take part in the program; the only concern is knowing how many students will actually participate. Staples encourages students to attend

'TIS THE SEASON



ANDREW OVERTON/THE CIRCLE

Students celebrate the start of the holiday season by making a visit to the newly lit Christmas tree on campus. The lights were illuminated Sunday, Nov. 30, to welcome students back from Thanksgiving break, marking an annual tradition.

Course to examine Olympics in media

By MARINA CELLA
 Staff Writer

Imagine predicting what a city will look like 8-10 years in the future from the buildings that will rise, the mass transit systems that will be constructed and to the people that will come to and from the city. For most, this would seem almost impossible, but for the International Olympic Committee, they deal with this transformation every four years when athletes and spectators alike flood into the city, changing its image for good.

Next year on Feb. 12, the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver,

Canada will commence, marking the third time that Canada has been host to the Olympic Games after the 1976 Summer Games in Montreal, and the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary.

To coincide with the games next semester, for the first time ever, a special topics communication class will be offered at Marist called 'Olympics and the Media.' The class, taught by Prof. Michael Koch, will focus primarily on the media's role in the Olympic Games, as well as the city bids and planning that goes into them years before they begin.

"We're not only going to talk about global sponsorships and the media, but how technology has

changed the face of the Olympic games, as well as the history, business, political and cultural aspects behind them," said Koch.

The class is open to junior and senior communications majors, interested in learning about the Olympics and its portrayal by the media in society and will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

The Olympic Games are unique compared to other sports, because other than broadcasting solely the sporting events, the media dives into the personal lives and stories of the athletes, portraying them as people overcoming great adversity.

Course to examine Olympics in media

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The Olympics has become an

event not only about the sports and athletes, but also about the host city and its culture.

"It's a chance for the city to build its image in the minds of people all over the world," said Koch.

Koch also explained that people may see the Olympic city on television and decide that it looks like an amazing place to visit, which can also help the city develop economically.

The Olympic torch left ancient Olympia, in Greece, on Oct. 22, 2009, in a relay that will culminate in Vancouver, Canada on the day of the opening ceremony of the games.

whether they have been victims of violence or seen certain acts of violence.

According to Staples, "This is the kind of thing students can always find an excuse for doing, but it can make a difference for them or a friend if they do it."

There are services for men and women. The goal is to push men and women to do the right thing, which means telling someone or intervening at the scene.

"One out of 12 men will sexually offend and think they can get away with it," said Staples. The biggest problem is that someone knows something and they do not report it. "Say something," she said, "do not be part of the problem."



THIS WEEK

Thursday, 12/3

No Events Posted

Friday, 12/4

The Time Traveler's Wife

10 p.m., in the PAR
Free with Marist ID
Sponsored by SPC

Women's Basketball

Vs. Tulsa
7:30 p.m., McCann Center

Saturday, 12/5

Lessons & Carols

3 p.m., Free
Marist Music Department
At Redeemed Christian Fellowship
100 Cannot St, Poughkeepsie

NYC Shopping Trip

Bus leaves Midrise at 10 a.m.
\$10 with Marist ID
Sponsored by SPC

Sunday, 12/6

Radio City Christmas Spectacular

0 \$25 with Marist I.D.
Bus leaves Midrise at 11 a.m.
Sponsored by College Activities

Monday, 12/7

No Events Posted

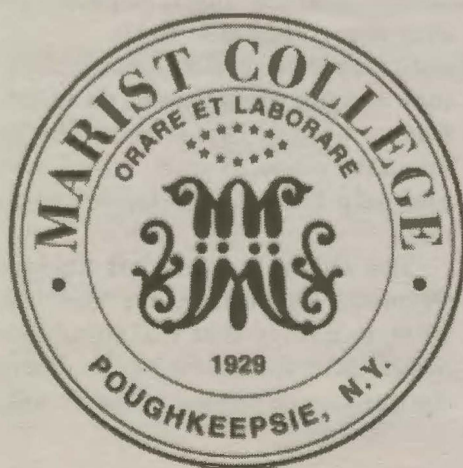
Tuesday, 12/8

No Events Posted

Wednesday, 12/9

Holiday Bingo

9 p.m. in the Cabaret
Sponsored by SPC



Security Briefs

Students stay sharp before holiday break

By CHRIS RAI

11/20 - Student Center

11/23 - Talmadge Court

Welcome back. I hope everyone's Thanksgiving was enjoyable, but since we were busy all week with Thanksgiving traditions like watching football, sleeping, eating turkey and awkwardly stumbling through conversations with distant family or random family friends we never see, there were no security reports during that time. So we're going back in time to two weeks ago. But practically nothing happened two weeks ago; in fact, this week was the first time the head of security looked at me and said, "You are going to have nothing to work with this week." That's not a very good sign... anyway, let's get through this, and we'll be back to normal next week.

11/18 - Foy

Fire alarm due to burning food. Typical. I can't say anything because I have no idea how to cook. Apparently, neither does anybody else. I blame the parents. **5 points**

11/19 - Upper West

A student had a meeting with his RD, and when he went into his pocket to grab his wallet, a knife fell out of his pocket. Um...yikes. Weapons are bad. **10 points**

Three people were seen wandering around the student center asking where things were. Mr. Gildard told me the questions they were asking made it obvious that they didn't go to Marist, because any Marist student would know where these rooms were. Well, they didn't go here, but that makes me a little afraid to ask questions. I have the worst sense of direction in the entire world, I've been here for almost three semesters and I still don't know where everything is. I don't know how to leave Lowell Thomas. The room numbers in Donnelly Hall do not make sense. At all. And I hate explaining the whole thing about how when you enter the library through the front door, you're on the second floor. I just realized I barely know what I'm talking about right now. The point is, Marist can be confusing, and if I were with these kids, I would have gotten kicked off campus in a second even though I am a student here. I'm oblivious to everything, and I very rarely carry my ID with me.

11/21 - Midrise

Oh, alcohol confiscations. At least this article has one of them. A guest of a student in Midrise tried to bring in seven cans of Natty Ice. It didn't work. Ugh. Don't lose interest! I'm trying. **7 points**

A student reported some of his clothes missing from the laundry room. He was missing a Northface and two pairs of shorts. I doubt he was very happy, especially if those missing shorts had pockets. With the exception of pajama pants with pockets, there is nothing better than comfortable shorts with pockets. Anyway, my friend sitting next to me wants me to reference an episode of Rocco's Modern Life, where Rocco's socks go through the drier into another dimension, providing an explanation as to why socks always seem to go missing. But that's a stretch. Even though it's true. Socks disappear.

11/24 - Sheahan

Last story of the week. An RA was doing room checks around Sheahan Hall, and found a switchblade knife in a student's room. What is going on? This week featured two students caught with knives. I know that's better than guns or other weaponry, but why do we need knives? Do we really need protection on our long walks to Fontaine Annex? Just call SNAP or walk with a friend. Leave your knives at home. **10 points**

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



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Life long food junkie discovers exercise

By MORGAN NEDERHOOD
Staff Writer



There are a few things in life where I can usually be counted on. I'll always be the one eating cereal for breakfast and dinner – lunch is superseded by me having breakfast at noon. Every trip to the dentist results in me lying about how much soda I drink, while someone else reminds me that I'm systematically destroying my teeth. At least once a day, I find myself fiending for chocolate or soda like a meth addict trying to go cold turkey.

If you hadn't guessed, I love food. To clarify, I don't love food with anything containing nutritional value. Nope, I prefer junk food, soda and just about anything that can be categorized as having empty calories.

I should've known this would happen, I was born into it. At birth, I wasn't breathing. As the doctors rushed to save the life of her first-born, my mother simply asked, "Can I have a root beer now?"

Like I said, I was born into it.

Things didn't get much better as I got older. On my first birthday, I apparently fell asleep in my own cake

– I loved food enough to want to be near it even as I slumbered.

Sadly, and like most great things in life, my habits caught up to me. I can't pinpoint the exact moment or



NICKNGUYEN/FLICKR.COM

day this happened, but it was around the time that I decided soda counted as water, simply because it had water in it.

For most people, eating habits don't really improve once college rolls around (unless you actually use the gym for which we all have memberships.) You go out, revel in collegiate life, and make a trip to your pantry or a pilgrimage to Campus Deli.

Either way, you're likely to spend your weekend destroying any diet or healthy eating habits you might have developed over the week.

I had a particularly bad (or enjoyable, depending on how you look at it) morning during my sophomore

year. I woke up to find crumbs all over my bed and a bag of tortilla chips in my sheets.

Most people wake up with people in their beds. I wake up with Tostitos.

After a moment of reflection on the pathetic situation, I came to my senses. Reaching under my bed, I opened the mini fridge, grabbed some salsa and a water bottle, and settled back into bed. My roommate returned from church to find me curled up in bed with a jar of salsa, a bottle of water, and a bag of chips. It was a good morning indeed.

Looking back, I realize that that was not exactly one of my finer moments in life. What kind of person falls asleep with a bag of tortilla chips in their bed? What the hell was I doing with my life?

I tend to shape up for a week or two whenever I have these moments of clarity. Recently, my friend and I have discovered the McCann Center and its gym – apparently, McCann is for more than just sporting events and concerts.

I'm genuinely surprised to find myself writing this, but I actually like the gym. My body hurts and turns an unnatural shade of red, but I enjoy knowing that my muscles haven't completely atrophied.

The gym is also surprisingly entertaining, as there's always something to watch – both people and

television. Televisions on each cardio machine allow me to watch any shallow program I want – if Hollywood's finest can't shame me into shape, then I don't know who can.

Going to the gym also gives me a weird sense of euphoria as I congratulate myself for breaking a sweat. I even went as far as bringing my sneakers and some workout clothes home with me over Thanksgiving break. True, I only used them when my mom and I took the dog for a walk, but I figure that counts. I texted my friend later and we vowed to go back to the gym this week, so at least the intention was there.

Unfortunately, as it seems to happen in my life, fate intervened with our plans. I returned to Marist to find a plate of Funfetti cupcakes waiting for me on the kitchen counter. There they sat, mocking me with their bedazzled goodness.

Needless to say, my health kick lasted about as long as it took for me to walk to the table.

Hopefully, though, this too shall pass. My friend and I still have plans to go to the gym...tomorrow...if we're not too busy...so I'll just burn it all away. The cupcakes are now gone, so that battle is over.

Too bad there's a pint of Ben and Jerry's in my freezer.

Football ends to lackluster applause

By PHILIP TERRIGNO
Sports Editor



In between the early stages of the school year in late August and the closing of the fall months in late November, something great took place

on the Marist College campus.

This great success didn't come in the form of an academic accolade or prestigious financial grant, but rather from what many would consider to be an unlikely source: the Marist Football team.

Even after finishing in fifth place in the Pioneer Football League when they were picked to finish dead last in the preseason, and stringing together an impressive six-game winning streak, the Red Foxes somehow did not receive the support and attention from the student body that they deserve.

Perhaps the average Marist sports fan has a disillusioned concept of college football, filled with visions of BCS bowl games and sold out stadiums of 100,000 plus in attendance, and maybe this had led them to be disappointed with the Red Foxes.

Any such approach to collegiate

football at the Division 1 Football Championship Subdivision level, formerly Division 1 AA, is juvenile and uninformed.

Though Marist may never reach the height and success of Florida, Notre Dame or other historic programs, that does not mean it lacks its very own particular importance here in Poughkeepsie.

As with anything in sports, it's important to put things into perspective.

Marist is a small liberal arts school with an undergraduate enrollment just over 4,000 students. Also, it is located in the Northeastern part of the United States, an area certainly not considered to be a hot-bed of football talent.

An immensely high commitment level from players and head coach Jim Parady's staff is evident with the daily grind of a 3:30-6 p.m. practice schedule during the season, not including film or weight lifting sessions.

The fruits of this team's labor have certainly shown in the win column this season and the high entertainment value of the football that it plays.

Undoubtedly some of the hits that linebackers Nick Andre and Kevin Foley delivered to opposing players were absolutely frightening, and quarterback Chris Debowski always seemed to be able to hook up with

one of his receivers downfield even when the play seemed doomed.

A professional level of efficiency also led the Red Foxes to last-second wins over Jacksonville and Georgetown, and an explosive offensive clinic put on in a 24-0 romp over Valparaiso.

From the student body perspective, it's understandable to see why interest in the team was low in past seasons. Starting in 1994, Marist toiled in the former MAAC football league with no real sense of purpose.

The MAAC featured a system in which up to three teams could share a piece of the league title. In essence, there was no clear winner. Fortunately, the league folded in 2007.

For the five home games that were played at Tenney Stadium this season, the average attendance was 2,425. This is not an embarrassing figure by any stretch, but with help from fans in the local community, Marist students should have no problem filling their 5,000 seat capacity field.

There is now a clear-cut goal ahead of Marist that certainly was not present during its days as a member of the MAAC: Win the PFL and compete in the Gridiron Classic, a contest between the PFL champion and the top team from the Northeast Conference.

After posting an impressive 7-4 overall mark and a 5-3 in-conference record, Marist has established itself as a competent team capable of competing every Saturday in a league that follows a highly structured, non-scholarship model.

As senior halfback O'Neil Anderson told me earlier this season, "We just want to show that we belong in the PFL."

You already do belong, Red Foxes.

It's time for your fellow students to realize it as well.



Submit letters to
the editor to
circleopinion@gmail.com.
Please include your name
and class year.

SGA works to improve campus life Prepares swine flu kits, works for longer library hours

By BRYAN TERRY
Circle Contributor

Gatorade, apple sauce, hand sanitizer and cough drops - just some of the items spread out on the table in the Student Government Association office as the officers prepare flu kits for Health Services. The officers stand in assembly line fashion, ready to begin filling the bags.

"Alright everybody man a station - we're going to get this show on the road," said student body President Steve Townsend as everyone begins to stuff the bags.

In less than an hour, more than one hundred bags were packed and ready to be given out to people in the Marist community who have been struck with the seasonal or swine flu.

SGA is currently working on many projects, small and large, such as this one. Despite this, however, the student government is often overlooked by Marist students as a place to go to voice their concerns. President Steve Townsend says that students

should look to the student government for any issue that they think should be brought to the table.

"SGA can do anything - academics, sports, clubs, social life. It's not just the office you go to for your parking tickets," Townsend said.

Currently, the organization is working on a variety of tasks, ranging from getting the library hours changed to modifying the core curriculum. They have taken many active steps to pursue these goals.

"During last year's elections, we included an online survey that asked what students wanted to see changed about the core," Townsend said.

Since then, the student government has been working with the college administration to see what can and will be changed.

Townsend added that the administration listens a great deal to the student body. "The student government is one of three votes in the college administration which is very powerful for a student body," he said.

James Napoli, president of the

class of 2012, has also been working hard with the college administration on a separate project.

"We put together a petition for a change in the library hours," Napoli said.

The goal is to get the library to be open later on weekdays. In order to do this, surveys are being done in the library from 11 pm to midnight in the library and from midnight to 1 am in the Donnelly computer lab.

Students are being asked whether or not they have completed all the work they wished to complete in the library that night and whether or not, if they could have stayed in the library for more time, they would have.

"It's fantastic that the student government can say that we want something changed, and the administration will work with us to try to get it to happen," said Townsend.

As freshman class president, Townsend was successful in getting the cafeteria hours extended.

It's not all easy for SGA, however,

in getting students to be active in participating in their government.

"We struggle sometimes with an apathetic campus," Townsend said. "Students sometimes don't care so we have to take a pro-active approach."

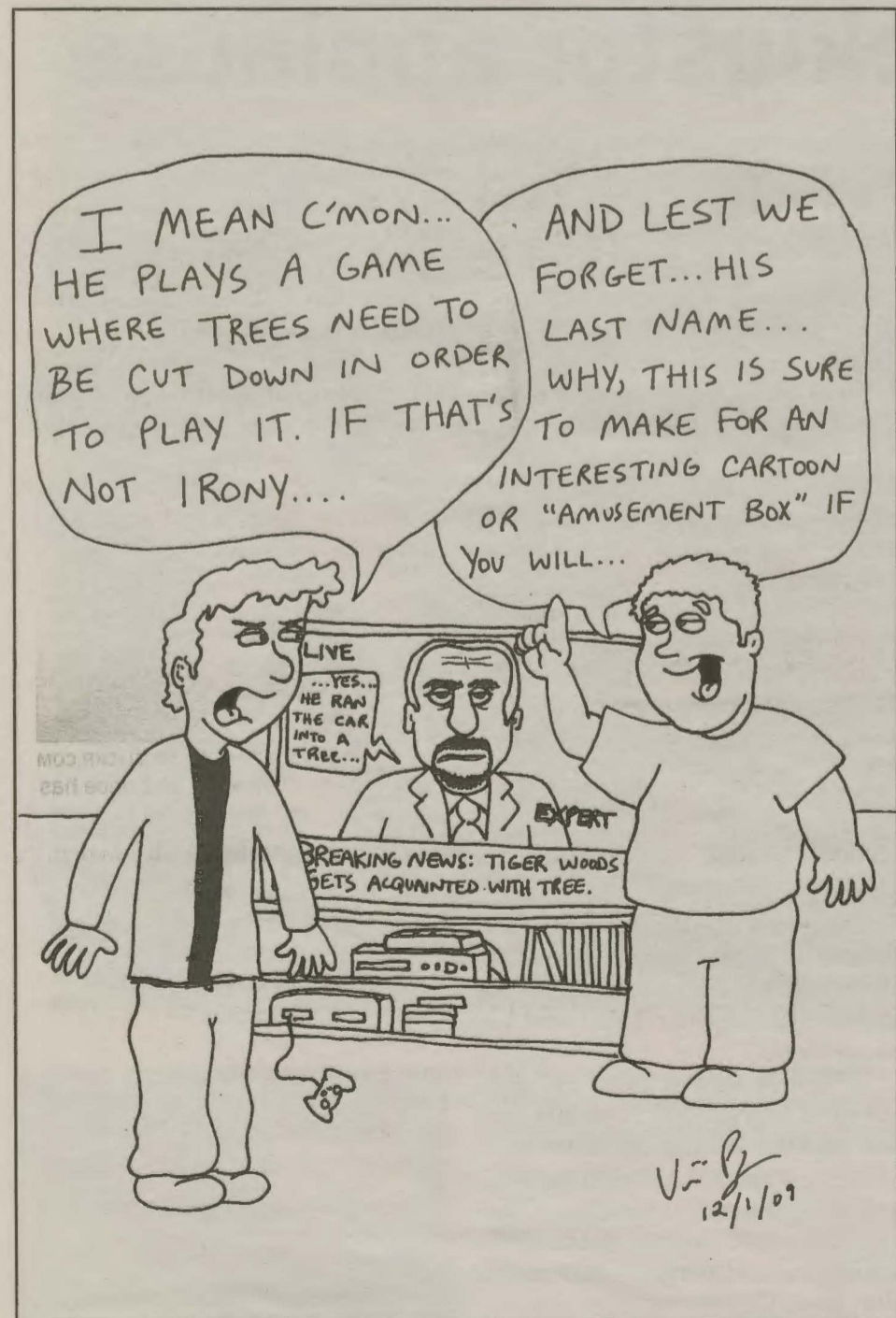
Also, making these types of changes brings up many concerns which need to be dealt with at the administrative level of the college. This sometimes presents a few issues in progressing SGA's proposals.

Overall, Townsend wants students to voice themselves more if they want to see things changed or done differently.

"Contact your class presidents and senators," he said. "They are there for the students to bring their concerns to the table."

The SGA is working on a new website as well as trying to implement a unified format for all club websites to use. For more information on student government and how to get in contact with them, go to <http://clubs.marist.edu/sga/main/index.php>.

cartoon corner By VINNIE PAGANO



Swiss tennis captain weighs in on life in U.S.

By AMY WHEELER
Staff Writer



Everyone hears about Marist students traveling internationally, but what about the students who choose to come to Marist from abroad? Senior Ioic Sessagesimi is one of 18 undergraduate international students who is currently attending Marist, and for him, it is the best decision he ever made.

Sessagesimi is an international business major with a global studies minor, originally from Blonay, Switzerland. He decided to come to the United States for college so that he would be able to continue playing tennis and is now captain of the Marist tennis team.

While there are not many international students at Marist, Sessagesimi said that many Swiss and European in general, tennis players come to the United States to play tennis because they do not have that opportunity in Europe.

"If you decide to go to college in Europe, you can't play tennis at a high level anymore," he explained.

As a testament to this, there are three European players on Marist's tennis team. In comparison to Switzerland, playing tennis is very

different in the United States. Sessagesimi explained that it is much more team-focused here.

"We don't really play for a team at home. I only played for my team in May and June, and the rest of the year you play for yourself." He continued, "Here, you play for yourself, your coach, your team and your school, which I like a lot. You have so many people behind you every time you play!"

Playing tennis at Marist has afforded Sessagesimi many opportunities to travel across the United States. "Since I am on the tennis team I have been able to visit places I would have never visited, even though the only two places I see are the tennis courts and the hotel!" he said. He has been able to go to California, Florida and Mississippi, just to name a few.

Coming to school in the United States has also allowed Sessagesimi to develop his English language skills. When he first arrived, the language barrier was very challenging.

"All my classes were in English (except one French class) which made it very hard," he said. "I wasn't comfortable at all and I was kind of scared to go to classes and have to talk! Freshman year I would listen more than I would talk. It was hard because sometimes I wanted to say something but I didn't know

SEE U.S., PAGE 5

Talking Tarot: The King of Wands can help you survive exam week

By JENNIFER MEYERS
Staff Writer



With Thanksgiving break over and being well-fed, it's time to really get serious. We only have a couple weeks left in the semester and then it's final exams. Where did all of our time go?

Instead of panicking over these last couple weeks of instruction worrying whether or not you'll get the work done on time, pay a little more attention to your goal. The King of Wands didn't become King overnight.

If you are able to obtain the same characteristics as the King of Wands, you will have discipline, competitiveness, impulsiveness, intuition and vision. This card represents the ability to develop the strength of having multiple talents while constructing those talents into certain goals as long as

you have the ambition to stick with it and not give up. This King is impulsive when it comes to his work and obtaining what he wants the most in life.

College is our place to achieve these lifetime goals. We write these tiring, stressful, 20-page papers and study for eight hours straight just to get a piece of paper—a diploma. That little piece of paper is our key into the world of doing what we love and achieving our life goal.

This card is not just telling you to strap yourself down and do your work, but rather to understand the purpose of why you are doing what you are studying. For example, I'm writing this column not because a teacher told me to do so, but because I love to write and hope to be a journalist. The written word can be so powerful in its own way, and I hope that whoever reads my column will get something out of it and understand what I am trying to pass it on.

The King of Wands does not chase after opportunities—he creates his own. He knows how to bring attention to himself and create a sort of

charisma to draw in the support that he needs to succeed. The charisma that we create could open many doors to a successful future. Some people just like his confidence and glamour. This King has daring ideas and acts swiftly upon them, usually finding the people necessary to help. All this will result in gaining amazing adventures for his life. Being that he is also a maverick, he's a natural born leader but has trouble working with others. He may become impatient with those whom he believes to be uninteresting and dull. He's not the type that is able to appreciate others' opinions that are different from his own. The King of Wands will generally panic like a normal person, thinking that he has a pending failure on his goals rather than seeing the possibilities of success.

The "Shadow" side to this King is that he could be arrogant, intrusive and domineering. He may have denial, like I said earlier, in his power and end up becoming less competitive and let the other competitors win. If this card sounds at all like yourself, you have the ability to become moti-



FROM HELLO KITTY TAROT

vated in your work and disciplined. You have the ability to be charismatic and competitive and not be afraid of a challenge. Just remember what you hope to accomplish in these college years. A piece of advice offered by the King of Wands is "Temper your ambition."

From Page 4

U.S. lifestyle rubs off on Swiss tennis captain

how to say it in English."

However, with time, he has become more and more comfortable with the language. He has also adjusted to the distance from home.

"Being away from family and friends was difficult freshman year because it was the first time I was away from them for that long," he said. "Now I am kind of used to it. I still miss them a lot but with Skype it is almost like I am with them all the time."

In addition, some of his friends and family have been able to visit the United States and Marist while he is here.

While there is not a large cultural difference, Sessagesimi has noticed some differences between the United States and Switzerland. "I really miss eating lunch or dinner like a family. At home we always sit down with families or friends and take our time to eat," he explained. "Here everyone has a different schedule and is so busy that is so hard to eat all together."

He also said that he misses being able to walk everywhere.

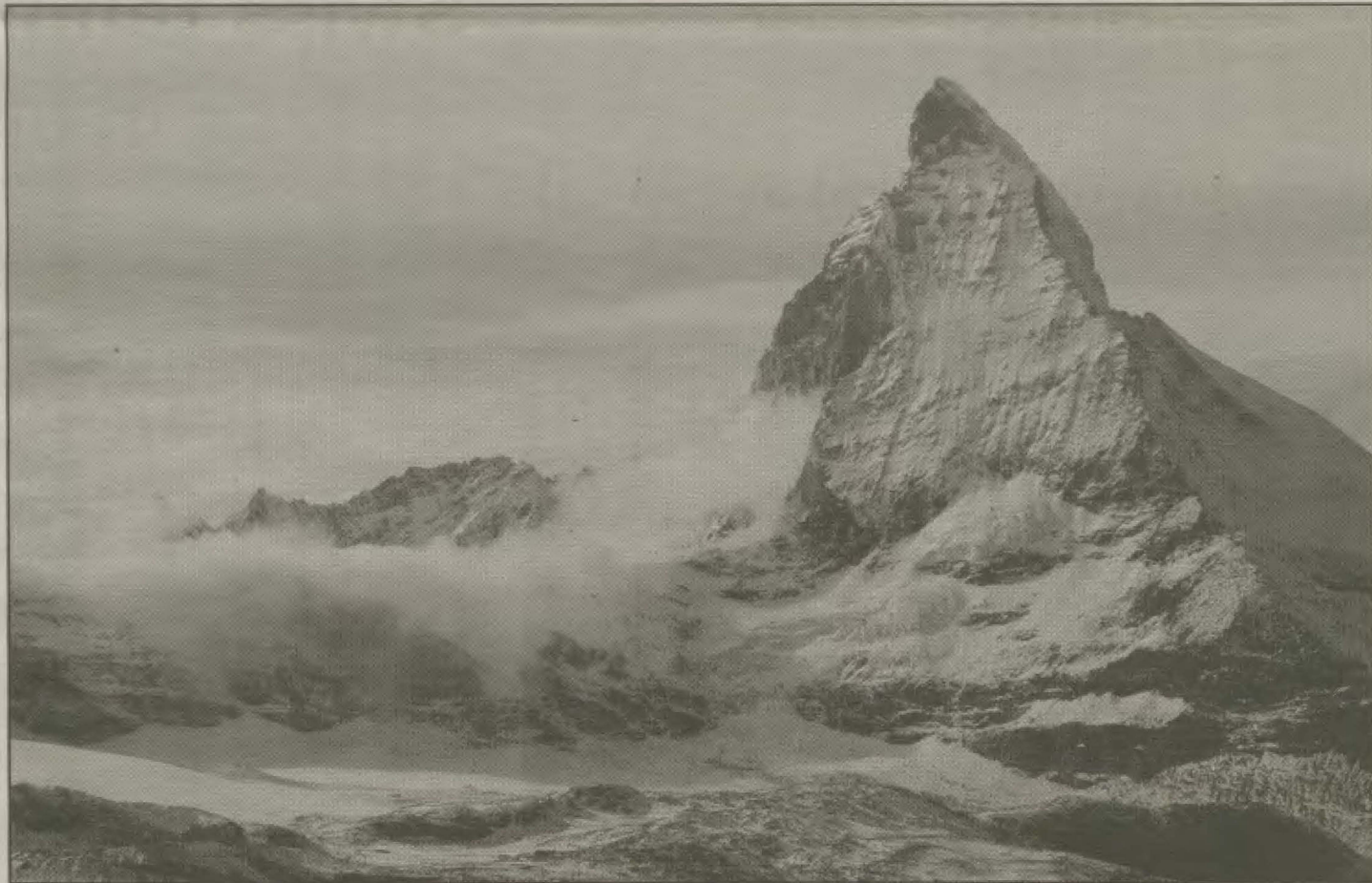
When he goes back to Switzerland, he has noticed that he brings some of the customs that he has picked up in the United States.

"For example I don't pay attention to how I look when I go grocery shopping in sweatpants, which no one does in Switzerland!"

He also said that he likes that in the United States, you can always just pick up fast food when you don't have enough time to make a meal.

Sessagesimi has only positive things to say about Marist.

"I have never regretted coming to Marist. I have loved every second of it. Marist is an amazing campus, and amazing place to be," he said. He also



JUANRUBIANO/Flickr.com

Marist tennis captain, Loic Sessagesimi, left the Swiss Alps for the Shawangunk Mountains and the Hudson River. Not once has Sessagesimi regretted coming to Marist.

is very happy with the tennis program. "My team and coaches are great. The athletic staff and faculty are great as well."

Most importantly, he is grateful for the great friendships he has formed. "I have developed so many friendships which I wouldn't have if I would have not come to Marist," he said. "I just want to thank everyone for making my experience so amazing."

Sessagesimi does not feel as though he is seen as an outsider here.

"People want to know more about you because you are from a different country. I think it's a good thing to be

'different,'" he said.

He has tried to be very involved on campus, and said that being an athlete makes it easier to be well-known and accepted.

Sessagesimi used this opportunity to share his home country with Marist students.

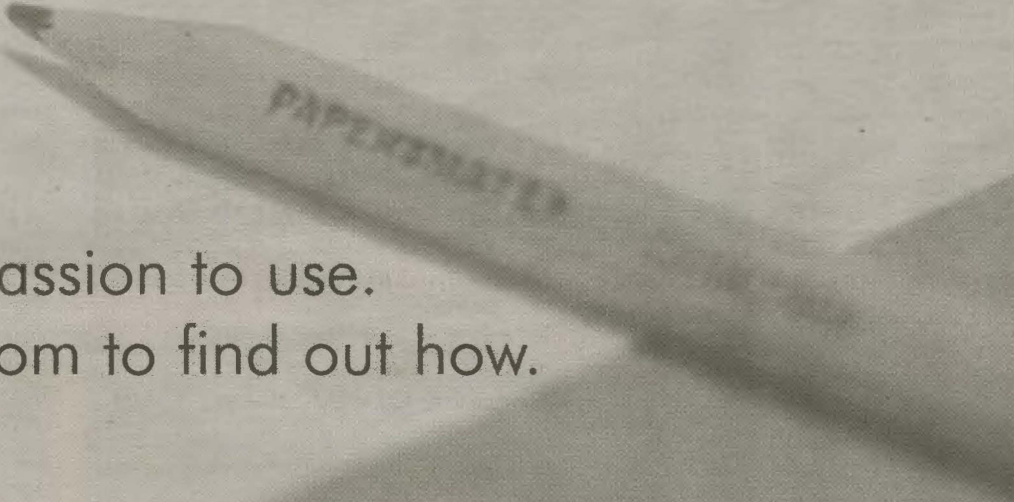
"I try to teach the students about my country," he said. "Lots of students have never been to Switzerland so they always have tons of questions. I like to answer them and make them discover more about my country and make it more known. Some people don't know that Switzerland is a coun-

try or they get confused with Sweden," he explained.

As for the future, Sessagesimi plans on staying at Marist for graduate school. He is planning on being the assistant tennis coach and getting his MBA at the same time. After that, he is not sure what he will do.

"I kind of live day by day and see what happens!" he said. "Hopefully my future will be bright but I think I will be happy either way (being in Switzerland or the United States). I would love to work for a company that will send me back and forth between the two countries."

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'New Moon' sucks in Twilight fans



J-FERIA/FICKR.COM

"Twilight: New Moon" has made nearly \$230 million in the first ten days of its release.

By **KAIT SMITH**
Editor-in-Chief

"This is the last time you will ever see me," Edward said to Bella. With a kiss on her forehead, he was gone forever. Yeah, right.

If such a statement were true, there would be no multimillion dollar "Twilight" franchise; just a barely believable love story that consistently rips off of famous literary works like Romeo and Juliet but has still managed to turn females young and old completely insane.

That being said, the recent release of "The Twilight Saga: New Moon," the film adaptation of the second book in the series, is no cinematic masterpiece and the acting is quite sub-par. But the brains behind the bloodsuckers give fan girls just enough to keep them coming back for more - mainly sexual tension, professions of undying love and bare, sculpted male chests.

Avid fans of Stephenie Meyers' immensely lucrative books won't need to be told that in this sequel our heroine Bella (Kristen Stewart) en-

ters her senior year of high school, and is deserted by her vampire boyfriend Edward (Robert Pattinson).

Though depression is the initial result of the breakup— one scene shows Bella absently staring out the window as seasons change — she soon becomes wild and reckless, riding motorcycles, running off with strange men and jumping off of cliffs. Why? Because it is only when her clumsy stupidity is about to kill her that Edward appears... as a hallucination. During the process of her self-destruction, the burden falls upon Native American hunk Jacob (Taylor Lautner) to fill the heartthrob role. Jacob has his own supernatural secrets to suppress, and since Bella seems unable to say no to anything that could savagely kill her, she is soon torn between the only two men she has chosen to allow into her life.

Lautner doesn't quite have the acting chops to fill the leading male role, but he certainly has the six-pack to make up for it. Pattinson, still as brooding as ever, appears

just enough to tease Edward-obsessed fan girls. Stewart shows no progression in terms of talent; her screams are more like howling screeches, she still constantly bites her lip and touches her hair, and her emotional depth is seemingly nonexistent. I vote her for every Razzie imaginable.

Despite the poor acting, this film is sexier, darker and funnier, rising well above the anemic 2008 film version of "Twilight." New director Chris Weitz ("The Golden Compass") injects more humor and visual style than Catherine Hardwicke ("Thirteen") did in the original. Though still not outstanding, the special effects in "New Moon" are a vast improvement; Weitz opts to skip out on the scenes with vampires running and climbing trees at lightning speed and instead focuses on the newest addition to the film: werewolves. Standing at six-feet tall, these CGI monsters tower over the actors, and their fight scenes are as realistic as a story about vampires and werewolves can get.

If nothing else, the film is worth watching for the humor. Hardcore fans will catch on to the subtle laughs built within certain scenes (for example, Bella flies to Italy on Virgin Atlantic. Nice.) Those unaccustomed to the back story will find the awkward romantic scenes chuckle worthy, especially an uncomfortable kiss shared between Bella and Edward early in the film, complete with unnecessary moans and painful facial expressions.

In terms of comparison, "New Moon" soars above "Twilight" on all accounts. With the release of the next installment of the saga, "Eclipse," next summer, though, let's hope the actors can step up their game and accurately portray the drama, action and turmoil that is bound to ensue.

currently singin'

By **RYAN RIVARD**
A&E Editor



30 Seconds to Mars f/ Kanye West "Hurricane" — Giving Weezer and Lil Wayne a run for their money in the oddest collaboration of the year award, Jared Leto and 30

Seconds to Mars paired up with Kanye West to create an apocalyptic dystopian song, with electronic drums and a climatic array of strings. West's Auto-Tuned pseudo rap/singing verse sounds like it was ripped out of his last album, "808s & Heartbreak." For the record, West does let Leto finish the song.

Hot Chip "One Life Stand" — This is the official single from their Feb. 2010 album of the same name. Fat, thick bass synths set the groove for this one, while Al Doyle penetrates our love for the 80s with a seductive chorus. The sound is a blissful mixture of vintage and futuristic tones.

Timbaland f/ Miley Cyrus "We Belong to the Music" — Timbaland now belongs to the dump. He was once an established producer in the pop industry, responsible for monster hits from Justin Timberlake ("SexyBack") and OneRepublic ("Apologize"), is now a polluter of music airwaves. This teenybopper trash exploits the Disney diva in attempts to scoring a meaty paycheck.



FROM STEREOGUM

"Transference," Spoon's seventh studio album, will be released on Jan. 19 of next year.

Spoon "Written in Reverse" — Our first taste of Spoon's upcoming album, "Transference," was "Mystery Zone," this taste is the official single. Initially sounding like the band recorded it in an old Western saloon. Much like "Mystery Zone," "Reverse" has some more elaborate instrumentation, demonstrating the perfected tight sound that the band became notorious for on their previous album "Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga." If this is what writing a song backwards sounds like, then artists should practice this method more often.

Blast off into Christmas Spirit with Rockettes

By **LISA GLOVER**
Staff Writer

Aside from watching the infamous movie "Elf," decorating a Christmas tree or making a gingerbread house, the best way to get into the holiday spirit is to see the Radio City Christmas Spectacular! Nothing beats the bright lights, in sync dancing of the Rockettes and the magic that surrounds the theater. There is an overwhelming sense of magic that will leave you more excited than ever for the holidays!

The Rockettes hold the title for being the world's most recognized precision dance group for nearly a century. The eight-week show has been a sell-out success since its debut in 1933. The *New York Times* said, "The Rockettes '12 Days of

Christmas' routine seems wittier than ever; their journey through Manhattan on a red double-decker Gray Line tour bus seems to have added mileage to its sightseeing, with scenery and towering backgrounds that include not only Central Park, and its ice skaters but also the heart of Times Square, where the enormous illuminated signs show the saucy dancers as they perform, and live fireworks top off the spectacle." Sitting in an audience, you feel as though you are part of the story. The Rockettes brilliantly minimize the gap between watching a performance and actually being in it.

Perhaps the most noted scene of the show is the Nativity scene, which premieres live animals on stage, including camels, donkeys,

horses and sheep. My personal favorite is when you get a tour inside Santa's workshop. The stage is filled with bold colors, lively animation and brilliant lighting effects. It is the perfect childhood memory of what Santa's North Pole would look like.

Marist's College Activities is having an off campus trip to see the Radio City Christmas Spectacular on Sunday Dec. 6. It is the perfect mental breather between studying for finals and packing up to go home for the holidays. If you haven't experienced the Rockettes yet this season, I highly suggest making the trip to New York City; it is a magical holiday show you will want to relive again and again.

Got Woodie for good music? mtvU has cure



JOE WALSH/THE CIRCLE

Passion Pit was nominated for the "Breaking Woodie," along with Grizzly Bear, Wale, La Roux, Friendly Fires, and Never Shout Never (winner). The electronic/indiepop band from Cambridge, MA, performed their hit "The Reeling" at the mtvU Woodie Awards after a tremendous breakthrough year led by their debut album "Manners."

By **ANDREW OVERTON**
Managing Editor

The American Music Awards proved on Nov. 22 to be a totally irrelevant award show. Despite one homoerotic kiss and a post-humorous tribute to the King of Pop, if you were following your Twitter you saw more than you needed to.

It seems that the AMAs, Grammys, and any MTV award show are increasingly irrelevant. However, there is one wing of the MTV family that has maintained one shred of dignity.

On Nov. 18, mtvU, MTV's 24-hour college network, hosted its sixth annual Woodie Awards at the Roseland Ballroom in New York to recognize the best of college radio and music television.

While the list of winners might not be the best representative of new, important music—Kings of Leon (Artist of the Year), Tech N9ne (Most Original Artist), Matt & Kim (Best Video), and Green Day (Best Tour)—the nominee and performers were quite impressive.

The performances were some of the most electrifying in the history of the Woodies. To start off, Diplo was the house DJ for the evening, responsible for keeping the casted audience jumping. It wasn't a difficult job considering Matt & Kim's opener, "Lesson's Learned," featured background singers who danced and disrobed throughout the song.

The infectious synth-beats of 2009 breakthrough artist Passion Pit kept the "Little Secrets" and "The Reeling," two standout tracks from quintet's full-length studio album, "Manners."

What is admirable about mtvU is their ability to showcase up and coming bands like Passion Pit, but give a nod to long established artists still making relevant music.

Established artists like indie go-liath Death Cab for Cutie treated Twilights and music fans alike to

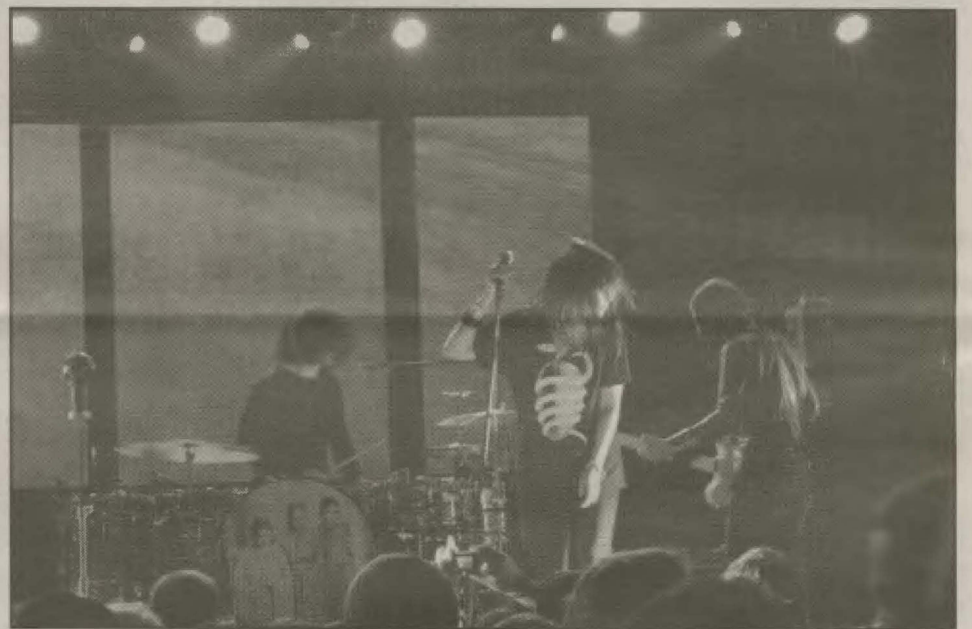
a rousing performance of "Meet Me on the Equinox," the single from the "New Moon: The Twilight Saga Soundtrack." Then, Death Cab pleased all "The O.C." fans in the room by playing the song that put them on the iPod minis of millions of young teens, "Sound of Settling" from their 2005 album "Plans."

Since the 2000s were probably the most important decade for hip-hop, a rap performance had to be part of the show. Clipse, joined by Cam'ron, kept the night going with a performance of "Popular Demand (Popeye's)," just before Rick Ross joined forces with the duo for a collaboration on "I'm Good (remix)."

The closing performance featured rock legend Jack White and his newest project, the Dead Weather. White, arguably the hardest working artist of the decade (seven full length albums between the White Stripes and the Raconteurs in addition to one with the Dead Weather), was mesmerizing in his newest role—behind a drum set. The band, featuring Dean Fertita (Queens of the Stone Age), Jack Lawrence (The Raconteurs) and Alison Mosshart (The Kills) finished off the evening with grinding guitar riffs and hair raising vocals. Their short set consisted of "I Cut Like a Buffalo," "Treat Me Like Your Mother" and "Hang You from the Heavens."

Just when you've had enough of Taylor Swift, mtvU is able to restore faith in music award shows. The winners are determined by votes cast online and therefore may not be the most deserving, but nominees included the likes of Drake, MGMT, Grizzly Bear, Passion Pit, Kid Cudi, Yeah Yeah Yeahs, Phoenix, and Animal Collective, each of which have significant contributions to popular music in the last year or two.

The 2009 mtvU Woodie Awards will premiere on Friday, Dec. 4 at 10 p.m. on MTV, MTV2, and mtvU.



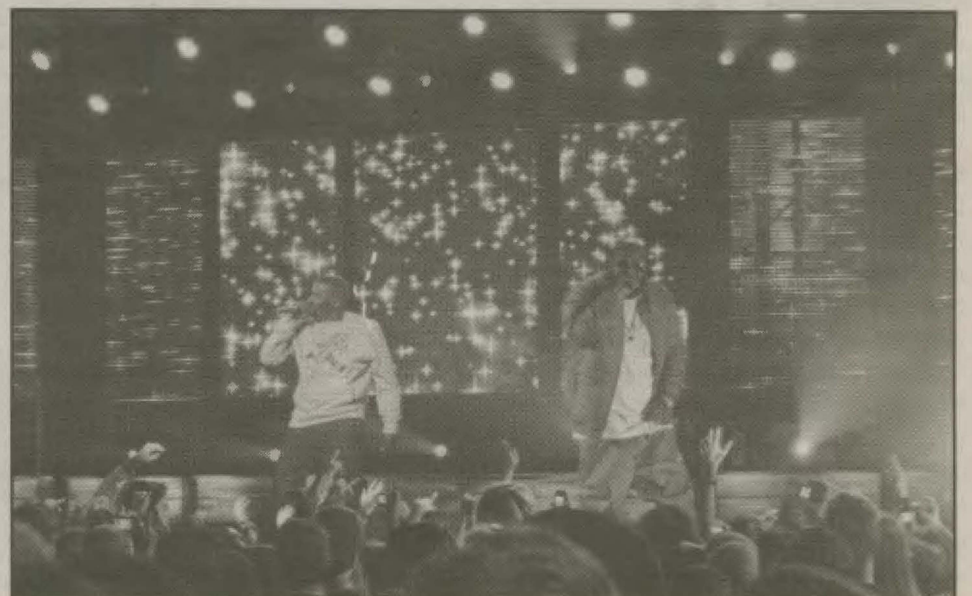
JOE WALSH/THE CIRCLE

Above: Jack White and the rest of The Dead Weather closed out the Woodies with a three song set, featuring "I Cut Like A Buffalo."



Left: While presenting a Woodie, 30HIT3 pokes fun at Lady GaGa's fashion choices in her most recent video "Bad Romance."

Below: Clipse, joined by Rick Ross, brought a hip-hop flavor to the Woodies with a performance of "Popular Demand (Popeye's)."



Kicking the [Marist] bucket: Bar hopping

By KAIT SMITH
Editor-in-Chief

Let's face it – Marist is a bar school. Though parties happen on and off campus on the weekend, during the week the best bet for intoxicated fun is heading to one of our many local pubs, taverns and clubs. Keeping in mind that the seventh day, Sunday, is a day of rest – and homework – here is a pre-planned itinerary of bar hopping for your post-capping celebrations.

Monday

Mondays at Darby O'Gills mean two things: townies and karaoke. Start your night here; wings are 35 cents apiece and pitchers are a mere \$5. While you listen to the locals slaughter Taylor Swift songs, you can catch a football game and snack on some delicious Irish Nachos. Beware: townies will attempt to woo you. Their game is weak, but they are persistent, so deny them at all times.

After you serenade the locals with your favorite 90's jam, head over to Rennie's to spend time with a more-Marist crowd. Pitchers are \$5 here, too, and you won't have to worry about shooing away any unwanted attention.

Tuesday

Since I have been putting together *The Circle* every Tuesday night since sophomore year, I have no idea what bars you all go to. That being said, I asked around and the consensus from the few who actually do go out included Backstreet and Hatters.

But if freshmen and sophomores aren't your thing, Tuesday at Mahoney's is Pub Games Night. They run two tables of beer pong and Wii sports for your drunken enjoyment. It's a relaxed atmosphere that draws an older

Either way, there are drinks to be had, sloppy mistakes to be made, and hangovers to endure. Cheers!

crowd, but if you bring a group of friends it's bound to be a good time.

Wednesday

Where else would you spend your hump day than at Rennie's? Mug Night is perhaps the cheapest drinking option in the Hudson Valley, with practically free refills after your initial purchase of a glass beer mug. For \$1 a pop you can fill up as often as you want while mingling with what sometimes seems like half of the upperclassmen population of

Marist.

A word to the wise: find a way to make your mug unique. Everyone's starts the same, and if you can't distinguish your glass from the slew of others surrounding it, you may grab the wrong one and drink an unwanted surprise; swine flu, anyone?

Thursday

Start early on Thursdays with Stump Trivia at the Hyde Park Brewery. It's free to play, and you don't have to be 21 to get in on the fun, although being of age comes in handy if you're looking to sample some of their freshly brewed beers or a \$3 margarita. Trivia starts at 8:30 p.m., but get there early – it typically gets crowded around 7:45 p.m.

Once you've won trivia, head over to the Nuddy Irishmen, where the rest of Marist gathers to crowd the bar and sing karaoke. Pitchers are \$5, and the prize for the best singer is tickets to shows at the Chance Theater.

Friday, Saturday

To be honest, there is no best option for Friday and Saturday nights, because all bars have some kind of specials and all draw a certain crowd. Mahoney's is a good option either night; they typically have live music and plenty of dancing. If you dare step foot into Darby's on Sat-



ROBIN MINITER/THE CIRCLE

Three cheers for friends and fun!

urday you'll have trouble moving a few feet without having to squish by a fellow classmate, but will still have a good time. Hatters is always an option for those looking to spend the night dancing, and if you're not too annoyed by long lines you can always try Rennie's. Either way, there are drinks to be had, sloppy mistakes to be made, and hangovers to endure. Cheers!



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Road swing unkind to young Foxes

By JIM URSO
Staff Writer

As the fall semester winds down, there's much to look forward to over Christmas break.

For Marist coach Chuck Martin, the middle of December brings the men's basketball gift of 6'10" center Casiem Drummond to the lineup.

So far, the young Red Foxes are off to a predictably bad start. Marist is 0-4, suffering three double digit losses in its last three games, all of which came on the road. With three freshman players seeing over 20 minutes per night, Marist lacks the experience to perform well, especially on the road.

The Nov. 18, 75-38 shellacking that Marist suffered at Hartford is one everyone would like to forget. The Red Foxes shot 24 percent from the field, and 36 percent from the charity stripe. Hartford, who the Red Foxes defeated by 22 points last season, scored more points in the first half than Marist scored in the entire game.

Ten days later, Marist suffered a 72-58 loss to New Hampshire. Coming off the bench, Dane DiLiegro led New Hampshire with 27 points and eight boards. The Red Foxes played well in the second half, but they couldn't overcome New Hampshire's large halftime lead.

On Monday night, Marist lost its

fourth game of the season to Holy Cross, who picked up its first win. The Crusaders led Marist 14-1 early in the first half. Marist played well in the second half, giving Martin some encouragement.

"The second half last night [Monday night] was an improvement," Martin said. "Intensity was better, execution was better, and we got back into the game."

Their last three losses have been characterized by slow starts. The Red Foxes trailed by 20, 19, and 18 at halftime in their last three losses, respectively.

"They're just very young, very immature, and very inexperienced," Martin said. "Because they're so young, they don't understand how hard you have to play from the very beginning."

In high school, talented players can afford a slow start, because usually their talent can overcome it and take over.

"They need to continue to play," Martin said. "There's nothing I can say that will be a bigger teacher than experience."

With Korey Bauer being their only true big man, Marist has been outscored 98-60 in the paint over the last three games. Bauer's production has been limited because of the increased minutes he's been forced to play. As soon as he leaves the game, the defense attacks inside.

One bright spot for Marist is Candon Rusin. At forward, Rusin leads Marist in minutes, points and steals, and is shooting nearly 49 percent from the field and 38 percent from behind the arc.

Rusin came off the bench during the first three games, but started in place of Daye Kaba against Holy Cross. Kaba's production over the first three games was below expectation. However, he scored a season high 12 points on 5-for-9 shooting coming off the bench.

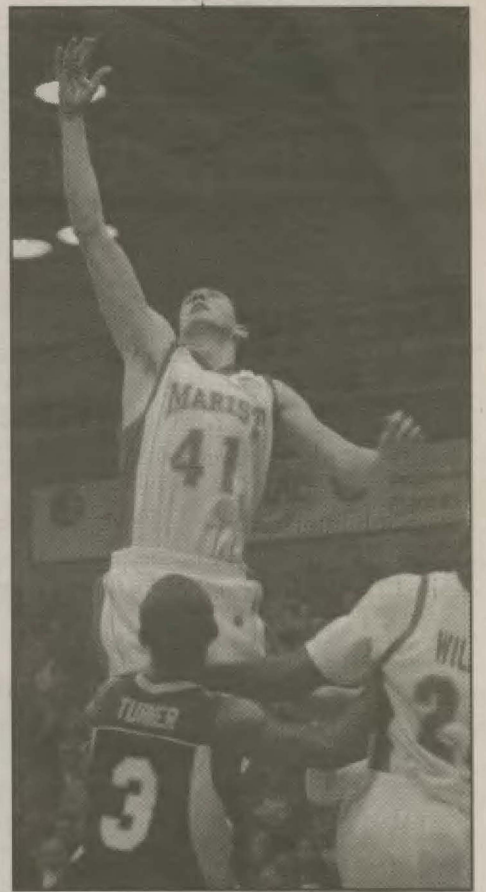
"He's [Rusin] been working his tail off," Martin said. "He deserved the start."

For the average student, expectations of Winter break can occasionally run unreasonably high. The same could prove to be true for Marist and its expectations of Drummond's return.

Marist expects Drummond will save its season by opening up opportunities for other players, but if they can't capitalize, his impact will be diminished. Increased size won't solve its 36 percent shooting from the field, or its 53 percent shooting from the free line.

For this reason, the Red Foxes development before Drummond hits the court will determine if they can compete in the second half of the season, not just Drummond himself.

On Dec. 3 at 8 p.m., Marist squares off against MAAC foe Fairfield. Expect the Foxes to struggle



FILE PHOTO/THE CIRCLE

The Red Foxes were embarrassed at Hartford on Nov. 18, and have lost their last three games by an average of 21 points.

against the Stags, who are 5-2 this season. On Sunday Dec. 6, Marist will play their final game of a six game road trip before their home opener against Boston University on Dec. 12.

From Page 12

Women's basketball faces tough non-conference slate early



MIKE CAIOLA/THE CIRCLE

Over the Thanksgiving break, the Marist Red Foxes women's basketball team traveled to Grand Bahama Island in the Bahamas for the Junkanoo Jam basketball tournament. Marist lost to Oklahoma State, but routed George Washington during the trip.

for Australia at the under-17 and under-19 national level, brings a high, arcing jump shot that is accurate from long range to Giorgis'

arsenal off the bench.

Although the 2009-2010 Red Foxes do feature a fairly young roster, Giorgis could not ask for a better group of seniors to guide his

team in Rachele Fitz, Lynzee Johnson and Brittany Engle.

Fitz, Marist's all-time leading scorer, earned her second MAAC Player of the Year award last season, and has the chance to become the school's all-time leading rebounder this year.

Johnson, a former MAAC Sixth Player of the Year, has shown a knack for hitting three-point shots in tough situations, and her production off the bench will definitely be needed by the Red Foxes.

Engle, a guard, missed all of last season, but hopes to regain the form that she displayed in 2007-2008, appearing in 33 games.

"They [the seniors] know that it's their place to get the team together when we look down," Kresge said. "They've done a good job. They've worked really hard at being leaders."

Caron, forward Maria Laterza and guard Erica Allenspach are the three juniors on this year's roster.

Allenspach will certainly have the largest impact offensively after an enormously successful sophomore campaign. She is averaging 13.8 points per game so far this season.

Junkanoo Jam and what's next?

The Red Foxes played the Oklahoma State Cowgirls and the George Washington Colonials early last week in the Junkanoo Jam basketball tournament held in the Bahamas.

Marist will have its next home

contest when the Tulsa Hurricanes travel to Poughkeepsie on Friday Dec. 4. Last season, the Red Foxes defeated the Hurricanes 73-53.

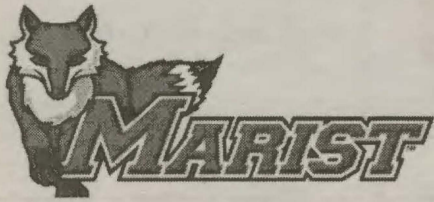
"Tulsa is athletic, their post players are very long and mobile," Leger said. "They crash the glass so we have to make sure we're rebounding, because that's something we've had a problem with this year. I think it'll be competitive, and another challenge in a team that's quicker and faster than us."

While in the Bahamas, the Red Foxes had the opportunity to relax and enjoy the atmosphere of being away from college for a short time.

"It was a blast," Kresge said. "It's good to get our kid's minds off of basketball for a couple of hours here or there. We had banana boats, jet skis, water trampolines and they got to lay out by the pool."

Although the fun in the sun may be over for the Red Foxes, the fun inside the McCann Center for Marist basketball fans in 2009-2010 has just begun.





The Fox Trot

Quick hits of the week in Marist athletics

The Marist cross country team finished off its season Saturday as **cross country** both the men's and women's squads competed in their regional tournaments.

The women's team made school history by finishing first overall and capturing their first Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) title.

Sophomore Addie DiFrancesco led the way in the 5km race finishing in 17:51.8, a school record. She was

named to the ECAC All-East team. Senior Brittany Burns and sophomore Kathryn Sheehan were also awarded All-East honors, and finished seventh and 15th in the race, respectively.

"It was a real good step in the right direction for the women's program," Colaizzo said. "We made amazing progress this year."

The men's team finished sixth out of 13 teams competing in the Championship division of the IC4A Championships. Sophomores

Matthew Flint and William Griffin came in 12th and 23rd overall in the five mile race, and earned IC4A All-East honors. Colaizzo was happy with his young leaders' performances.

"They're really the future of this program," he said. "They're both sophomores and they're both very good."

The men battled through injuries to sophomore Adam Vess and freshman Arquimedes Delacruz, as well as a team-wide flu outbreak.

"We really got hit with the flu on the men's side right before regionals," Colaizzo said. "So that hurt us pretty bad."

Colaizzo is excited about his program's bright future.

"The men's program had a very good rebuilding year which makes us excited for our future," he said. "And for the women, getting this ECAC Championship was a huge step for the entire program."

-Compiled by Scott Atkins

The Marist women's volleyball team fell to Niagara in straight sets in its first appearance in the MAAC championship on Nov. 23. The match was broadcasted on ESPNU.

Niagara swept Marist 25-20, 27-25, and 27-25 to win its first MAAC Championship and advance to the NCAA Tournament.

Alexandra Schultze and Leeann Harridsleff each had nine kills to lead the Marist offense. Senior setter Dawn Jan had a double-double of 30 assists and 10 digs. Jan and Harridsleff were both named to the MAAC All-Tournament Team following the match.

After falling in the first set, the Red Foxes went on an 8-1 run to start the second set, and led by a score of 12-6. Then, the Purple Eagles went on a 7-0 run to take a 13-12 lead.

Niagara led up to 23-21. Marist

got a Schultze kill and a Hanna Stoiberg ace to tie the set at 23, but couldn't pull out the second set.

Leading 2-0, the Purple Eagles led for the majority of the third set. Marist tied it at 15, and then the teams traded the next 16 points. Marist had the set point at 24-23, but again they couldn't win the set and extend the match.

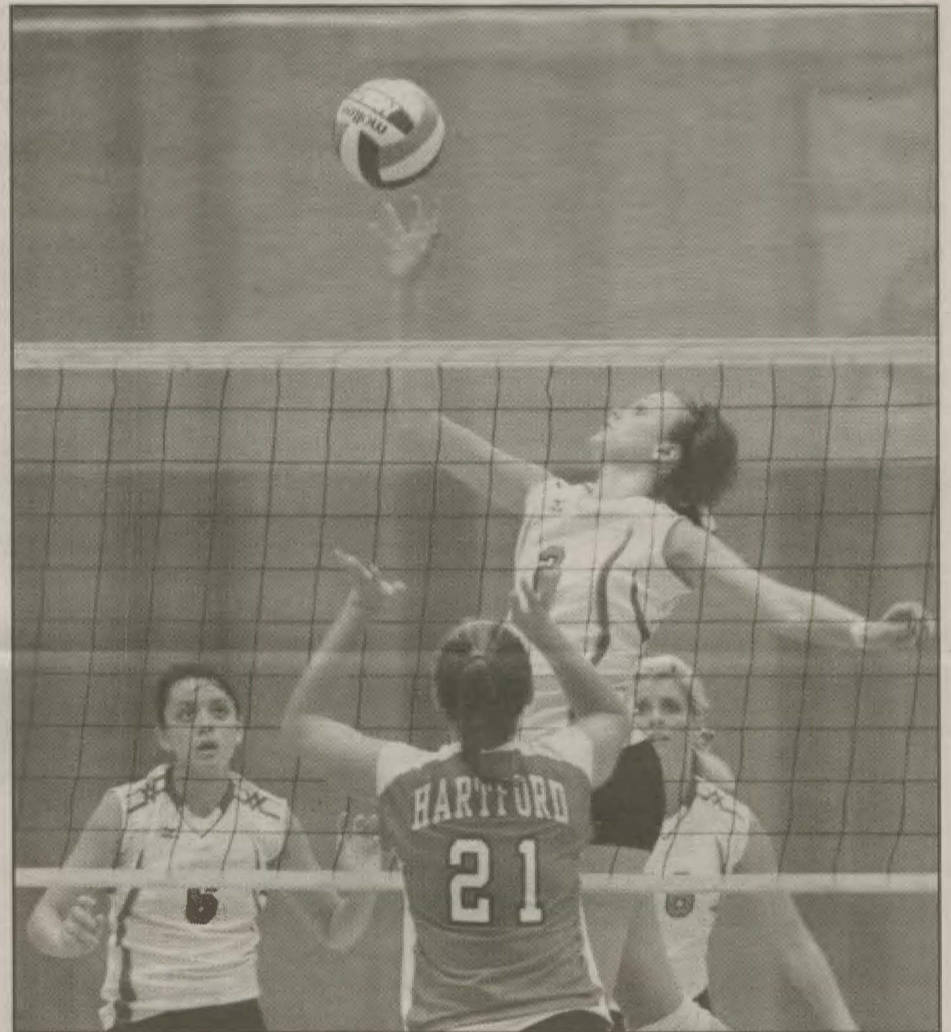
Marist finished the season with 18 wins and 13 losses.

Although the Foxes were unable to rally in the championship game, they did succeed in rallying around Raeanna Gutkowski, who was diagnosed with Osteosarcoma, a form of bone cancer.

"A Rae of Hope" started out as a capping project, but became much more. The four students who spearheaded the project raised over \$5,000 for Osteosarcoma and the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center: Pediatrics Cancer unit through a number of different events.

Over \$4,000 was raised via donations and the raffling of prizes for the "Rae of Hope" match against Iona, including several items of Jets autographed memorabilia. 1,212 people attended the match, the largest single-match crowd in Marist volleyball history. Marist fell to the visiting Iona Gaels in the contest.

-Compiled by Jim Urso



JAMES REILLY/FILE PHOTO

Junior middle blocker Lindsey Schmid (top) and senior setter Dawn Jan (left) each earned All-MAAC second team honors for the 2009-2010 season. Schmid led Marist with a .300 hitting percentage during the season and had 64 service aces during the regular season, tying the Marist single-season record. Schmid also broke the Marist career aces record. Jan broke Marist's all-time assists record.



Marist diving sweeps MAAC weekly honors

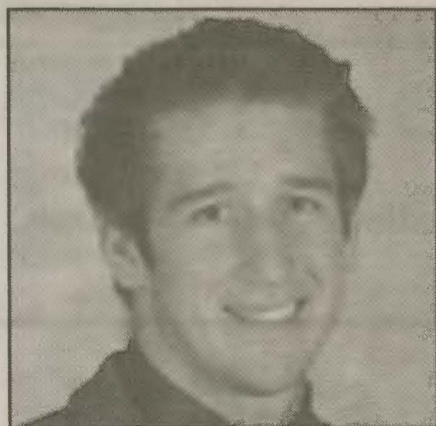
By VINNY GINARDI
Staff Writer

Marist diving won both the MAAC men's and women's divers of the week for their performances on Saturday, Nov. 21.

Junior diver Brian Bolstad enjoyed a successful day, winning in both the one-meter and three-meter boards. Bolstad's performance earned him the MAAC men's diver of the week for the fourth time this season.

The women's diving team was led by freshman Chelaine Eliazar, who claimed first off the three-meter board and second off the one-meter board. Eliazar's efforts earned her MAAC diver of the week honors for the second consecutive week.

As for the matches, the men's team fell to Binghamton 161-139,,



Brian Bolstad
Junior - Diving

despite some strong performances.. The women's team swept the match, beating Binghamton 173-125 and rival Siena, 194-103.

The men's team (2-2, 1-1) won four freestyle events, including a victory from sophomore Patrick Shea, who finished the 1,000-yard



Chelaine Eliazar
Freshman - Diving

freestyle in 9:56.06. Junior Steve Vendetta won the 200-yard freestyle in a time of 1:45.91 and junior Keith Miller also earned a victory, swimming the 50-yard freestyle in 22.20. A 400-yard freestyle relay team of Miller, Vendetta, Joshua Sklanka, and

Kevin Quinn beat Binghamton's relay team by .18 seconds, finishing in a time of 3:13.98.

The women's team (3-2, 2-1) performed very well, earning two victories each from senior Jenell Walsh-Thomas, freshman Kate Conard and freshman Chelsea Unger. Walsh-Thomas won the 1000-yard freestyle in 10:41.16 and the 500 yard freestyle in 5:13.00. Conard earned a victory in the 100-yard backstroke by swimming in a time of 59.88 and later won the 200-yard backstroke in 2:07.00. Unger finished first in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:07.09 and claimed victory with a 2:28.00 time in the 200-yard breaststroke.

The teams resume action this weekend in Baltimore, Md. for a quad match against Loyola, Iona and Delaware.



Foxes begin quest for next MAAC title

By PHILIP TERRIGNO
Sports Editor

Another basketball season begins, and still the question lingers.

Will this be the year that the reign of dominance ends and the Red **women's basketball** Foxes are finally knocked off their perch atop the MAAC?

Coach Brian Giorgis' staff and the 2009-2010 Marist women's basketball team are doing all they can to ensure that this particular question stays unanswered for another season.

The winners of six consecutive MAAC regular season titles and MAAC tournament champions five out of the last six years, the Red Foxes open their season against non-conference opponents in their first 12 games.

"We want to play the best opponents we can, because it's going to make us better in the long run," assistant coach and former Marist point guard Alisa Kresge said. "When we come to conference play, we'll be used to the bigger kids."

Marist has posted a 3-2 record so far this season, with victories against North Carolina A&T, Bowling Green and George Washington,

while the team's two losses have come against Oklahoma State and West Virginia.

Against Bowling Green and Oklahoma State, the Red Foxes have erased deficits of 16 and 14 points respectively, showing an immense amount of composure for such a young team.

"The girls have a lot of fight in them," assistant coach Erin Leger said. "They are a group that does not like to lose and they are very competitive. They're used to winning."

Following its final contest of the 2008-2009 season, a 68-61 loss to the Virginia Cavaliers in the first round of the NCAA tournament, Marist graduated Julianne Viani and Courtney Kolesar.

Kolesar played a more reserve-type role for the Red Foxes, while Viani was an instrumental part of the offense, averaging 15 points per game.

The departure of Viani has seen a wealth of changes being made to the starting lineup, including the implementation of three sophomores.

Kristine Best, Corielle Yarde, and Brandy Gang have all found themselves in a starting role after successful freshmen campaigns.



FILE PHOTO/THE CIRCLE

Senior Rachele Fitz looks to continue her dominance in the MAAC for her fourth and final season at Marist.

"They really matured, and they understand our game plan better this year," Kresge said. "Playing for Giorgis, you really need a whole year under your belt. They've done

a great job of stepping up, and that's what we need."

Best routinely splits time with junior defensive specialist Elise Caron at point guard, and is routinely regarded as the premier ball handler on the team.

Gang, a 6'2" forward, is a polished player who is extremely mobile and has shown an outside shooting touch.

After exploding for a career-high 28 points against Oklahoma State, Yarde has cemented herself into the starting lineup and has proven that she is the premier athlete on this Marist roster.

Emily Stallings, a sophomore forward, has displayed a crisp jump shot that she can connect with in spurts, and has also given Giorgis quality defensive minutes off the bench.

This year's freshmen class featured only two new players, Kelsey Beynnon and Kate Oliver.

Beynnon hails from Burlington, Vt. and has displayed impressive ballhandling skills and agility near the basket for her 6'2" frame.

Oliver is a 6'4" forward from the Sydney, Australia suburb of Beaumont Hills. Oliver, who competed

SEE WOMEN, PAGE 10

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