



Overcoming a battle against your toughest critic

Jessica Cunningham delivers heartfelt lecture on her harrowing struggle with anorexia

By DORY LARRABEE
Staff Writer

As college students, many of us can relate to a night spend hovering over a toilet after having one too many Amaretto Sours at Hatters. Now imagine that feeling three times a day. Or even worse, imagine not eating a substantial meal in three years. Eating disorders are becoming a huge national problem.

According to the National Eating Disorders Association, "in the United States, as many as 10 million females and one million males are fighting an eating disorder such as anorexia or bulimia. Approximately 25 million more are struggling with [a] binge eating disorder."

On Monday, Apr. 4, Jessica Cunningham shared her memories of recovering from anorexia, in "Jessica's Story," a lecture sponsored by the Counseling Center, SPC, and the Office of

Residential Life.

Originally from Natick, Mass., Cunningham attended New York University. While in college, at age 18, she began to suffer from anorexia.

"I struggled for about three years," she said.

Cunningham explained her anorexia came about by pressure from a combination of the media, her friends, her family, but "mostly myself."

"I was extremely depressed," Cunningham said, "like I was not worthy, not good enough, like a failure, out of control."

During Cunningham's struggle, she claims to have realized many important lessons.

"[It] is okay to express your feelings ... to be healthy," she

explained. "You need to be able to express yourself, to let your anger out."

Cunningham advised people who think they have eating disorders to get help and support as soon as possible.

"The sooner you address [your problem], the more completely it

can be solved," she said. "Get help now—you will be much better off."

The hardest part for her, she said, was constantly fighting back.

"Relapses, or whatever you want to call them, aren't failures," Cunningham said. "I see it almost as a positive thing because you learn more about yourself."

Finally, a spiritual realization lead to Cunningham's recovery.

"There was some reason that I was lucky enough not to have serious physical damage," she said. "Now I use my story to help others."

Now that Cunningham is healthy again, she enjoys indulging in her favorite food, ice cream.

"They are all so good; I can't pick a [favorite] flavor," she said.

The hour-long lecture was well received among students, parents, and faculty alike, with the crowd overflowing the Performing Arts Room.

Sophomore Maura McCue enjoyed Cunningham's lecture and learned a lot of new information.

"I thought the lecture was inter-

esting and informative," McCue said. "I didn't know that to be actually considered anorexic you have to weigh less than 85 percent of the expected normal weight."

Junior Ted Gilsinger agreed.

"I enjoyed the lecture very much," Gilsinger said. "It was

very well presented in an educational format and she did an excellent job of telling a little about her story ... presenting general information without making it all about her issues."

Roberta Staples of the counseling center said that eating disorders are "not an epidemic at Marist, but any problem in the real world is also a problem at a college of 4,000."

The counseling center deals

with all stressful issues including eating disorders, depression, anxiety, sexual issues, family situations, roommate and relationship conflicts, among others. After scheduling an appointment, students come in for an "assessment or intake, a consultation" to "identify what the issues are and the best way to meet the needs" of the student.

"You as the student decide the action; nothing is forced," Staples said.

The counseling center offers short-term counseling once a week for a semester or more. If more serious action is required, the student will be referred to an off-campus treatment center better suited to their needs.

The counseling center is located in Byrne house behind Champagnat and Leo Halls. It is open Monday through Friday, 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m. Appointments can be made by calling extension 2152.

'[It] is okay to express your feelings ... to be healthy. You need to be able to express yourself, to let your anger out.'

— Jessica Cunningham
Anorexia lecturer

'I didn't know that to be actually considered anorexic you have to weigh less than 85 percent of the expected normal weight.'

— Maura McCue
Sophomore

First-ever Poetry Slam a literary and literal hit



The Literary Arts Society in conjunction with Student Programming Council hosted the first annual Poetry Slam in the Performing Arts Room on Thursday, Mar. 31. Pictured above are some of the night's slammers with members of LAS. Prizes were given out throughout the night to various slammers as two rounds were held along with audience participation to announce the "worst poem ever".

Entertainment with a purpose at Unity Day

By JEREMIAH HOSTETTER
Circle Contributor

On the Saturday, Apr. 16, SGA in conjunction with the SPC, Students Encouraging Environmental Dedication (SEED) and all Marist clubs will be celebrating Marist's annual Unity Day. They will also be celebrating Earth Day, as the two days fall within a short time of each other.

Junior Matt Hittenmark, VP of Club Affairs for SGA said that while Marist celebrates Unity Day every year, this year is going to be bigger than ever.

"It's about coming together to

have a great time and just relax," Hittenmark said. "It will be a great time for students to lay back and relax and reflect on the year, as it draws to a close. We're inviting the elementary schools and high schools in the area and also

hope to see many of the faculty show up. It should just be a lot of fun."

They will be kicking off the action at 11 and it will go on until at least six in the evening.

An integral part of the success of Unity Day has been the participation of the school's clubs. This year, at least 30 will be attending. Each club will be representing a different country and culture. The clubs look to provide a real multi-cultural experience, as they are representing countries from such far-flung places as Yemen or the Czech Republic. Marist students will get to experience all of these cultures, as each club sets up its

own booth with all kinds of information. Students will even get to taste these cultures, if they try the cultural foods that the clubs prepare.

Even if you are not adventurous enough to try these exotic dishes, no one should leave Unity Day with an empty stomach.

"There will be free food," Hittenmark said.

This alone should be reason enough for many students to show up. However, if students are not tempted to go by the idea of cotton candy and snow cones and other refreshments, there

'It will be a great time for students to lay back and relax and reflect on the year, as it draws to a close.'

— Matt Hittenmark
VP, Club Affairs

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Event to thank student employees

By COURTNEY KRETZ
Editor in Chief

Spur yourself into action and get ready for the Wild Wild West-themed Student Employment Appreciation Day. From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

on Wednesday, Apr. 13, Marist student employees are invited to visit the campus green for games, prizes, and refreshments.

The financial aid office sponsors Student Employment Appreciation Day each year in order to recognize and thank students employed at Marist campus for their contributions to the school and campus.

Lisa Boyes, director of Student Employment, hopes that the Wild Wild West themed event will be a special day for stu-

dents, showing them just how much there work is appreciated.

"We couldn't do it without them," Boyes said, speaking of the daily activities student workers do to make the college campus run smoothly.

Sophomore Sarah Gunner, who works in the library, said she thinks that the day is a way for people to really understand just how important the student workers on campus are.

"I think it is nice to see Marist recognizing the students who work so hard to keep this campus running the way it does," Gunner said.

Student Employment Appreciation Day will feature activities such as line dancing,

mechanical bull riding, and a black-and-white picture booth. In addition, western-style food will be served, featuring root beer floats. All students who attend will also be given a free T-shirt.

With the success of Student Employment Appreciation Days in the past, many students are looking forward to the Wild Wild West event.

Junior Megan Hernandez said that she is anticipating one activity in particular.

"I think it's great that Marist appreciates us as employees, and I have had fun every year, but this year I'm really excited to ride the mechanical bull," Hernandez said.

Student Employment Appreciation Day is part of a national week that aims to thank student employees for their work. Colleges across the country participate, holding one or even multiple events.

'We couldn't do it without them.'

— Lisa Boyes
Director, student employment

Student Employment Appreciation Day is part of a national week that aims to thank student employees for their work. Colleges across the country participate, holding one or even multiple events.



THE CIRCLE Campus

The "Security Briefs" and the "Alcohol Fantasy Beat" are intended to be a parody and not a representation of The Circle's editorial stance on drinking — illegal or otherwise — nor is it intended to be a statement regarding the official Marist College policy on alcohol consumption.

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Security Briefs: Gildard imposter suspected in course offerings arson attempt

Compiled by DAN ROY
Campus Editor

3/29 — "Ok, Staind." An off duty Champagnat RA was in the Campus Deli at 3:00 p.m. when one of his residents came in and bought alcohol. The RA called ahead to Champagnat, warning them of the trouble heading their way. The unsuspecting student was stopped at the door, and his 30 of Genese was confiscated. Dude, you totally just got served. And for what? A case of Genese? My grandfather's piss tastes better than that crap. My advice, stick to the sausage, egg and cheese and live a longer, healthier, happier life. Gooooo cholesterol!

3/29 — "You drink your grandfather's piss?" I stand by whatever I say. Some morons attempted an alcohol transfer in the McCann parking lot at 3:50 p.m. Tuesday. An officer spotted two bottles of Smirnoff vodka and a bottle of Liquor removed from the trunk and placed in the student's backpack. Needless to say the backpack didn't even make it up the hill. The officer confiscated the booze and lectured the students on the art of lookouts. "See boys, if one of you were a lookout, you would have seen me sitting in my CRV in the spot next to you. You also would have seen me braiding the hair of my American Girl doll. I have Molly."

3/31 — One of our many students parked at Staples got back to his car at 11:40 a.m. Thursday and found a note waiting for him. The gist of the note was that we know you are a Marist student, and it is illegal to park in this lot. If you continue to do so, you will be towed. It was signed John Gildard, Director of Security. The student looked around and oddly, out of the 20 Marist cars parked there, his was the only one with a note. He brought the note into security, and he was told that that was not John Gildard's signature. "Looks like either Staples hates you, or someone is playing a trick." "Yeah, that must be it." Shaking his head, the student drove to work. "Stationary is totally going to get it for

this."

3/31 — A student returned to his Champagnat dorm room at 4:05 p.m. to find his door open, iPod and laptop stolen. He and his roommate both claim the door was locked when they left. The town police are investigating. Marist security on the other hand is playing Scrabble.

4/1 — Here's something you don't see everyday. You know outside the registrar in Donnelly, they have the listings of all the course offerings taped to the wall? Well, at 10:50 p.m. someone lit that on fire. A security guard noticed the flames and doused the wall with water. The fire department came shortly after to secure the area. Looks like somebody fell below the priority line...

4/1 — There was an intoxicated student stumbling and mumbling outside Gartland at 9:10 p.m. Friday. Due to his lack of balance and verbal acuteness he was taken to St. Francis. Well I know one thing for sure, if this was an indication of your gym aptitude and SAT score, I wouldn't call you!

4/2 — There was an intoxicated student outside Champagnat at 1:02 a.m. who couldn't walk or talk either. Because of this inability to operate, she was taken to St. Francis. Inability to operate? Who are you, Ron Jeremy post money shot?

4/2 — "Do you still stand by everything you say?" It doesn't even matter. A 2001 Hyundai received damage to its right fender and headlight in an apparent hit and run accident at 1:00 p.m. Saturday. Sure, that's the logical guess. Significant damage to a car, no note left; it has hit and run written all over it. Little do they know that I was just practicing for battle with my new sword. The car came out of nowhere and got in the way. "It was parked." Yeah? Maybe I'll practice on you next time.

4/3 — Some wild and crazy chicas threw a party in the

Upper New Townhouses, but unfortunately it got broken up at 1:24 a.m. Seven students along with six cans of Busch were on the scene. One of the partiers got really mad and was heard saying, "Man! Our game of Musical Beers was just getting good! We weren't even using chairs!"

4/3 — An officer observed a visitor being helped along by two friends at 4:30 a.m. Sunday. Upon further investigation, the visitor was deemed ok to continue with his friends. And continue they did, to the diner! There's nothing like a breakfast burrito at 4:30 in the morning to get your heart racing.

Alcohol-related incidents this week:

1. Champagnat — 2
2. Gartland — 1
3. Upper New — 1

Total alcohol-related incidents:

1. Champagnat — 5
2. Leo — 4
3. Gartland — 3
4. Lower West Cedar — 2
5. Gregory — 1
6. Talmadge — 1
7. Upper West Cedar — 1
8. Old Townhouses — 1
9. Bendit — 1
10. Sheahan — 1
11. Upper New — 1

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Friday Apr. 15, 2005
SPC Comedy Club Presents:
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9 PM
Cabaret

Saturday, Apr. 16, 2005
Paradise Lost Reading
9 AM - 9 PM
Henry Hudson Room, FN

Saturday, Apr. 30, 2005
SPC Spring Concert:
Reel Big Fish
Tickets on sale April 6

Friday, Apr. 8, 2005
SPC Broadway Trip:
The Phantom of the Opera
4 PM
Bus leaves from Midrise

Friday, Apr. 8 to Saturday, Apr. 9, 2005
Mall Trip
Friday 6 PM - 12 AM
Saturday 4 PM - 12 AM
Bus leaves from Midrise

Friday, Apr. 8 to Saturday, Apr. 9, 2005
Jack and the Magic Beans
Friday 8 PM, Saturday 7 PM
Nelly Goletti Theatre

Saturday, Apr. 9, 2005
SPC Trip:
Six Flags Great Adventure
8 AM
Bus leaves from Donnelly

Saturday Apr. 9, 2005
Cultural Dinner Dance
9 PM - 2 AM
Cabaret

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

Opinion

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Let the voices of the Marist community be heard.

Busheviks win prize with Foreign Policy for Dummies

Final intelligence report shows White House relied on suspect Iraq information

By IGOR VOLSKY
Staff Writer

On its surface, the final report of the presidential commission on intelligence is another white-wash and rehash of previous investigations into pre-war intelligence debacles. The president appointed the commission reluctantly, delayed its final report calculatingly and "did not authorize it to investigate how policy makers had used the intelligence they received." Yet a close read and a cursory knowledge of modern political events still confirms the President's role in deliberate deception.

The commission outwardly concluded that "in no instance did political pressure cause them [intelligence officials] to skew or alter any of their analytical judgment." The very next sentence contradicts this assessment. "That said, it is hard to deny the conclusion that intelligence agencies worked in an environment that did not encourage skepticism about the conventional wisdom."

This conventional wisdom was sought, crafted and manipulated by the administration. Since dissenting opinion did not complement the administration's presupposed ideological assumptions of

American foreign pre-eminence, it was conventionally expunged.

A quick reminder for the forgetful: In January of 2004, George W. Bush's former treasury secretary, Paul O'Neill disclosed that the Bush administration had been planning an Iraqi regime change "from the very beginning." According to O'Neill, "Saddam was topic A" ten days after the inauguration. O'Neill's remarks are consistent with the ideological outlook of the President's closest advisors.

Back in 2000, as members of the neo-conservative 'Project for the New American Century', current Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and former Deputy Secretary Paul Wolfowitz (the brains of the Iraqi invasion), signed onto a 'Rebuilding America's Defenses: Strategies, Forces and Resources for A New Century' memo, counseling America to "play a more permanent role in Gulf regional security." The document suggested that "while the unresolved conflict with Iraq provides the immediate justification, the need for substantial American force presence in the Gulf transcends the issue of the regime of Saddam Hussein." In 1998, Wolfowitz urged President Clinton to brand removal of

Saddam "the aim of American foreign policy."

The election of George W. Bush in 2000 brought regime-change advocates to power. That the ideologically blinded neo-conservatives eagerly manipulated the "group think" consensus of the intelligence community-the assumption that Saddam Hussein had re-started his WMD programs after inspectors left in 1998 to compliment their agenda of global hegemony is non negotiable.

Neither is the administration's policy of extending American global dominance. **The administration's pre-war theatrical performance was a thin veneer to appease the moderate's insistence on cosmetic public debate of policy.**

Consider the following assertion found in our nation's National Security Strategy (released on September 17, 2002). "Our forces will be strong enough to dissuade potential adversaries from pursuing a military build-up in hopes of surpassing, or equaling the power of the United States."

The President's ambitions and the intelligence community's conclusions were conveniently complimentary. Even the commission admits this. "Some ana-

lysts were affected by this conventional wisdom and the sense that challenges to it-or even refusals to find its confirmation-would not be welcome."

The commission's report details the reaction of former CIA Director George Tenet to news that the center-piece of Colin Powell's U.N. presentation (the existence of mobile biological labs) was of dubious origin. According to the report, Tenet dismissed the senior intelligence analyst raising doubts with "yea, yea" and told him that he was personally

"exhausted."

And while the sleeping patterns of our former CIA chief are certainly noteworthy, Tenet's quick dismissal of dissent is indicative of the former chief's low tolerance for unorthodox opinion. Reportedly it was this trait that later earned him the presidential medal of freedom.

Nonconformist conclusions were also shelved by the President. The new intelligence report indicates that since the Iraqi inspectors had tested and disproved almost "every piece of

fresh evidence," their conclusions were routinely dismissed by the White House.

For three months, between November 2002 and March 2003, the inspectors served as the verifiers of weapon claims-the eyes on the ground. During that time period they raised serious doubts of a supposed Iraqi nuclear program, questioned Bush's claims that Saddam purchased uranium from Niger, disputed CIA charges that Iraq had purchased aluminum tubes for use in centrifuges and found no evidence of mobile biological laboratories. U.S. intelligence dissenters had reached similar conclusions; only to find their concerns dismissed.

Such dismissals were made in the interest of efficiency. The administration's pre-war theatrical performance was a thin veneer to appease the moderate's (Powell's?) insistence on cosmetic public debate of policy. The decision to invade Iraq was made by the neo-cons in the 1990s. September 11th provided the opportunity for attack.

That this ideological bend sustained an environment in which 'pro regime-change' assertions were encouraged is the finding of the presidential commission (once one is able to read past the

report's paradoxical and contradictory language this point becomes clear).

President Bush's aura of political impunity is disingenuous. For if a groupthink mentality was able to effectively squash analytical defectors, the administration's positions only encouraged this practice. More importantly, for a president to outright dismiss contradictory opinion on intelligence undermines his commitment to protecting Americans and securing the well being of our armed forces. President Bush's illegal and reckless extension of American military might undermines both responsibilities.

To take these responsibilities seriously is to ensure that war is of last resort. To flaunt them is to enforce a conventional and convenient wisdom. The Bush administration stuck to the latter.

Igor Volsky is the host of the *Luske-Volsky Show and Political Thought*, airing every Monday and Friday from 4-6 p.m. on WMAR 1630AM. Both shows can be streamed at www.politicalthought.net

Marist makes effort to continue sector of national American Cancer Society fundraiser

By JAMES Q. SHEEHAN
Staff Writer

Marist will host the Relay for Life program on April 22 to 23 on the campus green. The nationwide program is run by the American Cancer Society. The event is, as the name suggests, a relay.

There are multiple teams and the members of each team do a series of laps for 12 hours. At least one member from each team must be walking at any given time. The teams typically set up "camp sites" consisting of tents and banners and participate in various recreational activities while others are walking. The event will also have on-campus bands performing as entertainment along with motivational speeches given by cancer survivors.

Rachel Worrell, a sophomore and member of the event's Entertainment Committee, feels that this is great opportunity for Marist students "who think that Marist can use all the community-building events it can find. So often we separate ourselves from the outside world, we forget that there are things out there bigger than us, and our school-work."

Worrell also commented on how the event benefits those outside of Marist.

"Relay for Life gives us a

chance to give back to the community, and those who need help the most."

Marissa Connelly, who is also on the Entertainment Committee, commented on some of the activities which take place.

"During the night we have some bands from the school play or set up games, and then when it's more peaceful and relaxed, we usually have the luminaria ceremony or hear a speech from someone who's been affected by cancer."

Team sign-up is available online. A \$10 registration fee also serves as the participant's donation for the event. Many clubs and organizations on campus have formed teams, although it is open to anyone willing to form a team and be a "team captain."

There are currently about 40 teams organized for Marist's event. Some teams have fundraising goals of up to \$4000. With such ambition, the event seems promising to be a success and raise a large amount of money for cancer research. Teams in the past have made t-shirts showing unity and their dedication to the cause. Sophomore Paul Stavish joined a team because he said he wants to help out on a global level.

"I'm involved because it's a great chance to aid in accom-

plishing a common goal that takes on a worldwide problem."

Rob Celletti, sophomore, is participating in the Relay for Life because cancer has had a significant impact on his family.

"I am participating because my family has been deeply affected by cancer on both sides. My dad lost his brother to cancer in the early 90's and my mom's sister is currently battling breast cancer," Celletti said. "This is a disease that leaves you feeling helpless in a lot of ways, but what you can do is help raise some money to fight it. That's what participating in the Relay for Life does."

Marist is not the only institution hosting a Relay for Life in the Mid-Hudson Valley. SUNY New Paltz is hosting one a week after Marist's and there are other events in Fishkill, Newburgh, and Rhinebeck.

The American Cancer Society runs programs aside from the Relay for Life. The society has a strong emphasis on cancer prevention which includes campaigns to help quit smoking and being tested early and often for various forms of cancer. They have a large focus on cancer education as well as informing those who are diagnosed about treatment options and coping. For information regarding the Relay for Life please contact the SGA office.

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IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN, GET EXCITED, YOU MIGHT JUST PASS OUT FROM ALL THE EXCITEMENT, SERIOUSLY

The second episode of MCTV'S new Talk / Variety show "That's a Shame" with host John Larocchia will be airing WEDNESDAY, APR. 13 AT 9:30 PM. After the 13th catch it everyday at 1:30 PM, 9:30 PM, AND 2 AM. A danish proverb once stated, "The road to a friend's house is never long." That has nothing to do with the show, it's just nice to read. Okay so anyway ... umm ... watch "That's a Shame" ... and watch it often ... ROCK ON!

THE CIRCLE Features

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Questions of morality raised in ongoing debate

By ALLYSON CORCORAN & KELLY GLYNN
Circle Contributors

Michael Schiavo may be a murderer or a saint.

After 15 years in a vegetative state, Terri Schiavo's husband, Michael Schiavo, removed the feeding tube which had sustained her life. Schiavo's parents, however, Bob and Mary Schindler, fought to keep her alive. Controversy surrounding this case ended when Schiavo died on Thursday around 9 a.m. after almost two weeks without a feeding tube.

Jacquelyn T. Tacey, dean of Frankford Hospital School of Nursing in Philadelphia, said she was concerned about who had Schiavo's best interests in mind.

"Old pictures show her arms contracted; if they were doing proper therapy she wouldn't have the contractions she has now," Tacey said. "Everyone is focusing on the feeding tube, but for me, as a nurse, I look at the quality of life, and the quality of life isn't there."

Barry Pinckney, a Marist security guard of 19 years, said that he disagreed with Michael Schiavo's decision.

"If I were in Terri Schiavo's position, I don't know how I would feel; when it comes down to it everyone just wants to live,"

Pinckney said. "If she was on oxygen and hooked up to machines for survival it would be a different story, however, they are starving her."

In the past few months, the media attention has centered around the controversy over the quality of life, and who has the right to determine when life should end. Terri Schiavo has spent the past 15 years in a vegetative state, with only the ability to breathe on her own. Her husband, Michael Schiavo, now lives with Jodi Centonze, the mother of his two toddlers.

Patricia M. Laffin, administrative secretary for the Academic Learning Center, said that she was skeptical about Michael Schiavo's motives.

"I have this theory about him," said Laffin. "He is living with a woman for many years now, he even has two children by her, doesn't that make her his common law wife? That would make him a bigamist, and shouldn't that allow the parents to have control over the well-being of their daughter?"

Tacey, dean of nursing, mother of two, said that she questions Michael Schiavo's allocation of funds.

"Michael receives \$300,000 from a legal settlement," Tacey said. "The parents have used all their money to have Terri cared

for, and he spent his to go to school...if he really cared he should have given his money to the parents."

Bob and Mary Schindler did not want their daughter to die. They had been spending time and energy in efforts to reverse the decision to remove their daughter's feeding tube. It appears that they were convinced that one day she would regain normalcy, and they wanted to give her that chance of survival.

Shaheed N. Mohammed, PhD., assistant professor, communications, Marist College, said that he could empathize with Schiavo's parents.

"After 15 years with no sign of life I wouldn't want my daughter to suffer," Mohammed said. "I understand what they are trying to do, it's hope against hope."

Although Schiavo has been in this condition for the past 15 years, the media has only recently taken a great interest in her final hours. Political figures such as president George W. Bush, his brother Jeb Bush, the governor of Florida, Rev. Jesse Jackson, a political activist, and Rev. Patrick Mahoney, a conservative Christian activist, have flocked to the political upheaval involved in this case.

Bria K. Soucy, Marist sophomore, said she was disgusted by the media attention.

"I personally don't feel that it is anyone's business but her family's," Soucy said.

Another Marist College sophomore, Laura A. Perugini, said she was also skeptical of the media coverage of Schiavo's story.

"It's good that this has been brought to light by the media, however, I think their coverage of it is overkill," said Perugini. "I don't believe that political figures should be involved because they are using this for their own political gain."

Doctors removed Schiavo's feeding tube on March 18, and she did not receive any water or nutrients thereafter. Michael Schiavo's attorney, George Felos, had been battling the Schindler's appeal to the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to have the feeding tube restored.

Complications from bulimia caused Schiavo to suffer from cardiac arrest, which resulted in permanent brain damage.

Tacey, who earned her nursing diploma from Fitzgerald Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, BSN at the University of Virginia, and her master's from University of Pennsylvania, said that she believes the quality of life Schiavo received was poor.

"The feeding tube is physiologically keeping her alive and there is more to a person than that," Tacey said. "There is her mental

ability, her ability to care, and there is her soul."

Schiavo's life ended on March

31, in Woodside Hospice in Pinellas Park, Florida.

Be an active learner and traveller

If life came with a manual, as is often heard, would that actually help people? Absolutely not. How many people read manuals anyway? Few, I'm sure. I think we're more inclined to learn by doing and experiencing; by tripping up and making mistakes. Keeping this in mind, I acted on the thought as I suggest others do as well. Recently, I went on a short-term abroad program and it was by far one of the best choices I have made thus far in my life. It removed the blinds from my eyes, for we are sheltered, kept in a cage that is our home, our town, our city. Don't get me wrong, I am not saying we live in a horrible place, because it's surely far



from it, but there are six other continents just waiting to be seen by these sheltered eyes. There aren't tropical rainforests nor giant radio telescopes built into lush, green mountain sides here. None that I've seen, anyway. But there were where I visited and I will never forget my time abroad. Experience other cultures, visit exotic cities, do something out of the ordinary. By going abroad, I had the chance to do just that and I am 110 percent sure it will improve the spirit of any other participant. At the very least, it will change lives. Go somewhere. Do something. We were not meant to simply be lectured. As humans, we already have the drive to want more, but most just will not go after it. The first step is always the most unnerving, but it is well worth it. It is how we live, how we survive-by taking chances and hoping, trying for the best outcome. I urge everyone to take a trip, study somewhere that isn't Donnelly, Lowell Thomas, Dyson or Fontaine. It will do wonders, I promise.

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THE CIRCLE Health

“For years we have known that perceived stigma has been a barrier to discussion of STDs, and this survey shows that people simply don't believe they are at risk.”

— Dr. James R. Allen, President and CEO of ASHA

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2004

www.maristcircle.com

PAGE 5

STDs are a silent, widespread epidemic

By KRISTEN ALLDREDGE
Health Editor

“One out of two sexually active young people will contract a sexually transmitted disease (STD) by the time they turn 25,” the American Social Health Association's (ASHA) study reported on April 5.

The ASHA is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting health. With a focus on preventing sexually transmitted diseases and their harmful consequences, they sponsor National STD Awareness Month in April. STD's are at epidemic levels, while public knowledge is quite low. The latest estimates of ASHA

include that one in five people in the U.S. has an STD and two thirds of all STDs occur in people age 25 or younger.

ASHA's report is called “State of the Nation 2005: Challenges Facing STD Prevention in Youth.” Their findings show that for effective STD prevention, health care for adolescents, compliance, testing and counseling need to be combined educational programs in schools.

One of the most disturbing findings of a study done by ASHA revealed that people are not communicating about STDs, thus putting themselves unknowingly at risk for contracting and spreading diseases. A 2004 survey revealed that 93 percent of people believe their current or recent partner

didn't have an STD, but one out of three did not discuss STDs with their partner. Only half said their partner was tested.

“Despite the fact that STDs are extremely widespread and have severe consequences,” James R. Allen, president and CEO of ASHA said, “it is troubling that there is such a large portion of people who still feel invincible.”

The ASHA data showed that two-thirds of adolescents think they are being tested for STDs on regular health visits, but such testing is not routine. Some STDs may not show up on a pap smear. People are often hesitant to talk

Condoms are typically effective in reducing the risk of STDs but not guaranteed prevention.

to their health care providers. Less than half of those surveyed talked to their doctors about STDs.

“For years we have known that perceived stigma has been a barrier to discussion of STDs, and this survey shows that people simply don't believe they are at risk,” said Dr. Allen.

STDs are spreading at a rate of 15 million new cases each year. An estimated 45 million Americans have genital herpes, and over five million Americans acquire genital warts each year. Sexually active people are at risk.

Shockingly, many STDs have no symptoms or are too minor to see. Relying on symptoms to appear before getting tested puts one's health at risk and increases the possibility of passing on the STD to an unknowing partner.

The only way to know if an STD is present is to get tested. The ASHA reports that less than half of adults ages 18 to 44 have ever been tested for an STD other than HIV.

One is not immune to an STD once they had it, even after treatment. They can get infected again. Genital herpes is a lifelong disease that can be passed to a partner even through using a condom and when no symptoms are present. If symptoms for an STD are present, abstain from sexual relations get tested immediately for the most precise diagnosis.

Condoms are typically effective in reducing the risk of STDs but not guaranteed prevention. Some STDs are transmitted through the touching of skin. STD's such as HPV are not testable without symptoms. Genital herpes can also reveal a negative blood test if the body has not yet built up antibodies against it. The test for herpes requires a different blood test than the one for chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis.

STDs are preventable through abstinence, using condoms consistently and getting tested before sex. Most STDs can be curable or controlled to prevent difficulties.

One can get a free and confidential STD test at the Dutchess County Department of Health in Poughkeepsie. Hours for STD testing are Tue 3:00-5:00 and 4:30-6:30. For further information on STDs, visit the Dutchess County Department of Health online or the ASHA website, www.ashatd.org.



Science Briefs

By KATE GIGLIO
Managing Editor

NEVER TOO LATE TO QUIT

The Associated Press reported that government officials announced Tuesday that Medicare will immediately start paying for counseling for certain Medicare recipients who want to stop using tobacco. Only those who have an illness caused or complicated by tobacco use are eligible for the new benefit, and it only covers counseling sessions—not the cost of nicotine products like gum or patches. Medicare officials said they did not yet know how many people would utilize or qualify for the program, but according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 300,000 senior citizens die from smoking-related ailments every year. And though senior citizens may not seem immediately like the most ideal candidates to quit smoking, the report quoted AMA trustee Ronald Davis, M.D. as saying, “Studies have shown that seniors who try to quit smoking are 50 percent more likely to succeed than all other age groups, and seniors who quit can reduce their risk of death from heart disease to that of nonsmokers within two to three years after quitting.”

BOOB TUBE BLAMED FOR BULLYING

According to a Reuters report, a new study from the University of Washington concludes that the more time kids spend watching television, the more likely they are to become bullies. Likewise, the more time parents spend reading to their children and taking them on outings—in general just paying attention to them—the lesser the chance of them becoming aggressive. The study was done on 1,266 four-year-olds whose bullying was tracked from ages 6 through 11. The researchers found inter-personally aggressive behavior in about 13 percent of the children. One research finding suggests that children who learn more actively are better equipped to deal with their peers and conflicts that might arise. Previous research also suggests that emotional support from parents helps young children to be empathetic and socially skilled.

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“ This identification of character to reader is what makes Greer’s stories so compulsively readable and intense. ”

— Sarah Gunner

Heartbreaking and thought-provoking, Greer’s collection deserves recognition

By SARAH GUNNER
Staff Writer

Andrew Sean Greer is best known for his most recent novel, “The Confessions of Max Tivoli,” which was featured as a Today Show Book Club book several months ago. His 2000 book of short stories, “How It Was For Me,” is a collection that is both heartbreaking and thought-provoking, and deserves the acclaim that “Max Tivoli” has garnered.

“How It Was For Me” begins with “Cannibal Kings,” a semi-autobiographical account of a young man named Davis in need of a job in San Francisco. Desperate for cash, he asks a friend if he can help her squire Vietnamese boys around to various private schools on their interviews. She agrees, and he is given the boy Trung. The story follows the two on their trip to several different schools, closely examining the issue of truth through the actions of both characters.

The title story, “How It Was For Me,” comes next. The story is a tightly woven piece about four boys and their plans to destroy their piano teachers whom they believe to be witches. Greer subtly moves from the present to the future, giving the

reader a glimpse into the fate of the four boys, a technique used often in both his stories and novels.

“Lost Causes,” the third story, is about a man who was beautiful for only four months out of his entire life. At every other point in his life he was an average looking man, save for the time he spent in Portugal with a very distinct cast of sup-

Greer is a master of taking small, usually mundane moments of people’s lives, like attending a soccer game or going out to eat, and contrasting these events with the inescapability of time and what the future holds.

porting characters.

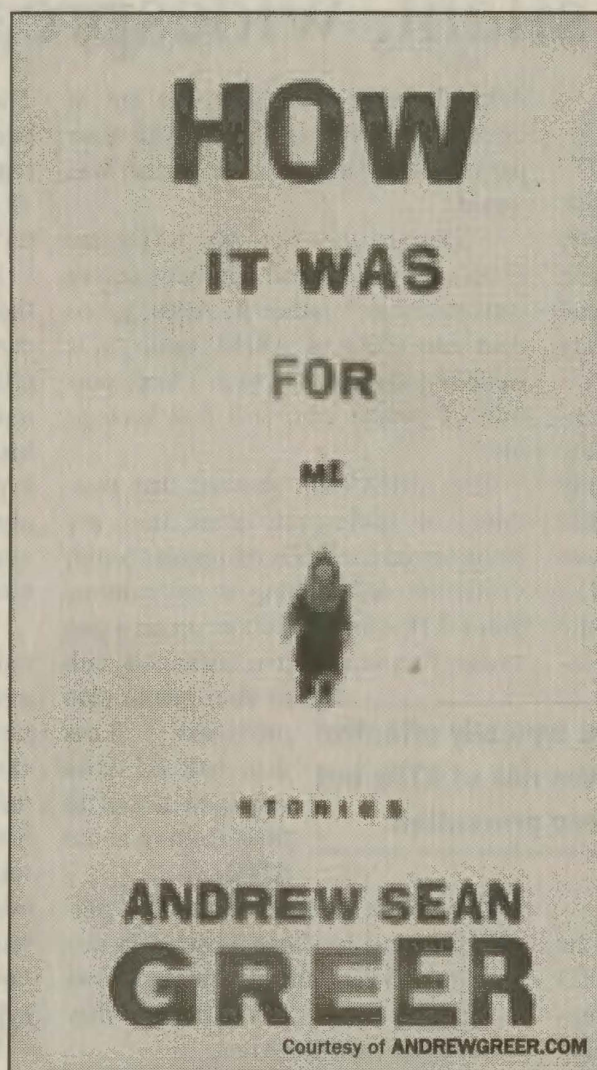
“Life is Over There” is named after a line in an Emily Dickinson poem and switches constantly between the present, a children’s soccer game, and the future lives and tragedies of the families watching. “Blame it On My Youth,” perhaps my favorite out of all the stories, follows “Life Is Over There,” examining the relationship between a gay man and a straight woman as they become close friends and then lovers.

The next three stories, “Titipu,” “The Art of Eating,” and “The Walker” are unremarkable. Though they are well-

written and thoughtful, they are lacking in the impact Greer’s stories usually have on the reader. They do not take away from the collection, but seem to function as moving the book forward towards better and more intense stories.

“Four Bites” follows the life of a man as he matures from childhood to adulthood through four separate meals in his life during which he could not eat—no matter how much he tried to force himself. “The Future of the Flynns” is the story of a family during one night in which they wish to go out to eat at an Italian Restaurant. Greer also incorporates jumps into the future lives of each member of the family, contrasting a simple family dinner with the complexity of what is to come.

The last story, “Come Live With Me and Be My Love,” has Greer returning to a familiar subject—the relationship and ensuing marriage of a gay man to a lesbian woman to enable them to live their lives in privacy, told as a flashback from the gay man on his fortieth birthday.



Greer’s short story collection, “How It Was For Me” (cover art shown above) includes 11 short stories, all of which work together to portray Greer’s unique and thought-provoking writing style.

my two cents
Spring film shows that “Sin” is in

“Sin City” is a three part vignette, based on the stories of Frank Miller set in his fictional town filled with lawless chaos. “Sin City” chronicles the trials and tribulations of a well rounded trio made up of Hartigan (Bruce Willis), Dwight (Clive Owen), and Marv (Mickey Rourke) as they struggle with their own unique problems of survival in the City of Sin.

“Sin City’s” initial appeal is revealed in its visually enticing format. The black and white, comic book-esque visuals bring the city to life in a dark tone appropriate for a movie of this caliber. At times, watching “Sin City” made me feel like I was twelve, watching my dad’s late night cable again. Needless to say, however, the R rating was assigned for due cause and used to its extent. “Sin City’s” opening week rank is no surprise because sin obviously sells; that and the trailer of Jessica Alba making love to a pole. Jessica Alba unfortunately does not strip for the occasion, but there are other sins to indulge in. This picture’s sinfulness is occasionally a bit over zealous and can distract the viewer from formulaic plot twists riddled throughout “Sin City.” This movie’s uniqueness and intense action scenes are sure to thrill anyone. Willis is a perfect cast for this film; plus, it was a delight to see Mickey Rourke in a good picture considering I haven’t witnessed that since I was twelve. Of course, I was busy watching other things then anyways.

Sin City is the first decent movie of the spring season. So my suggestion is take a break from your hectic life, bring your little brother and/or sister, and go see “Sin City” before the sin runs dry. Personally, the sin is my favorite part, but if you can’t handle it, you can always borrow my suitemate’s copy of “Finding Nemo.”



SEE GREER, PAGE 9

The Postal Service goes gold, a sure sign that they should not “Give Up”

By JAMES Q. SHEEHAN
Staff Writer

Independent music as we know it may be taking a new shape. In February of 2005, The Postal Service, a side project of Death Cab for Cutie’s front man Ben Gibbard, had their first LP certified gold by the RIAA, an honor given to an artist when their album sells 500,000 copies.

While many artists have been certified gold, it is rare that an artist should achieve such high standing with-

I hope these artists remain with a label such as Sub Pop and not accept offers from others who will try to mold them into what will produce the most profits.

out heavy commercial air play. The only other album to ever go gold on Sub Pop records was Nirvana’s “Bleach,” happening only after the band had received commercial success with their mainstream album, “Nevermind.”

The Postal Service is not the only artist on Sub Pop with high album sales. In late March, both Shins albums, “Oh, Inverted World” and “Chutes too Narrow” sold 300,000 copies each. Iron & Wine’s album “Our Endless Numbered Days” reached the 100,000 copies mark in late March as well. These numbers are not typical for artists not on a major label. The Sub Pop website explains in a jovial but accurate manner that there are about 20 people working for their label; one

laughs at this notion until the realization of its significance sets in.

I first learned that this was more than a few lucky bands when I tried to buy tickets to see the Shins, one of my favorite bands, in New York City. To my



The Postal Service’s “Give Up” (album art shown above) goes gold, setting a trend for other up and coming Sub Pop artists.

disappointment, all three shows in New York City were sold out; a band has to be pretty popular to sell out three consecutive nights at a venue over a month in advance. While I am disappoint-

ed that I will not be at the show, I am happy for the Shins that they have reached a point where their music deserves to be.

One can speculate why this phenomenon is occurring. I believe it is because lyrically and musically the music being released by these artists, while unique, is still very palatable. The Postal Service’s “Give Up” makes use of interesting electronic beats, the Shins have a pop sensibility on par with that of the Beatles, and Iron & Wine incorporate hints of country, folk and blues into a unique blend of acoustic rock. I would also like to think that this success is a result of these artists’ ability to do something popular music has failed to do for quite some time—write and record honest songs.

Another explanation for the success of these groups may be their recent exposure in Hollywood. Both the Shins and

SEE POSTAL, PAGE 9

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PAGE 7

Polanco and Merlino carry Red Foxes in sweep over Bulldogs

By BRIAN HODGE
Staff Writer

The season of spring represents a time for cleaning.

This past Sunday, the Marist softball team did some cleaning of their own, breaking out the brooms and sweeping Yale in a doubleheader.

The Red Foxes cruised to a 5-1 victory in the first game of the day. The team later returned to play just a few hours later and secured a 3-1 win.

Junior Jasmery Polanco opened up the scoring for Marist when she stroked a two-out single, driving in fellow junior teammate Chrystine McHugh.

That was just the beginning for Polanco (Bay Shore, NY). When the dust settled on the diamond, the junior catcher had enjoyed a five-for-seven day at the plate, including three RBIs.

Laurissa Riley, a junior transfer from Dutchess C.C., knocked in her first career home-run off of Yale pitcher Peggy Hunt in the third inning, opening the Marist lead to 2-0.

It would be a lead Marist would never relinquish.

After another McHugh dou-

ble, juniors Bridget Hurlman and Katie Eskin each recorded singles to put Marist ahead 3-0, ending the day for the Yale starter, Hunt.

McHugh would add another hit in the second game, stretching her season-high hit streak to 13 games. The junior also scored a pair of runs.

Marist freshman Megan Rigos was stellar on the mound in the first game. She pitched seven complete innings, allowing only four hits, while also striking out four. Rigos, now six-for-eight on the year, also came back for the second game, notching the save.

Another Marist freshman took the mound for the second game, and again, she failed to disappoint. Kristen Merlino (Wappingers Falls, N.Y.) pitched 6 2/3 innings for the Red Foxes, allowing only one run on seven hits.

Following a run-scoring single by Polanco in the fifth, Marist held a slim 3-0 margin heading into the bottom of the seventh.

When Yale scored in the inning and had two runners aboard with only one out, head coach Melissa Tucci went to

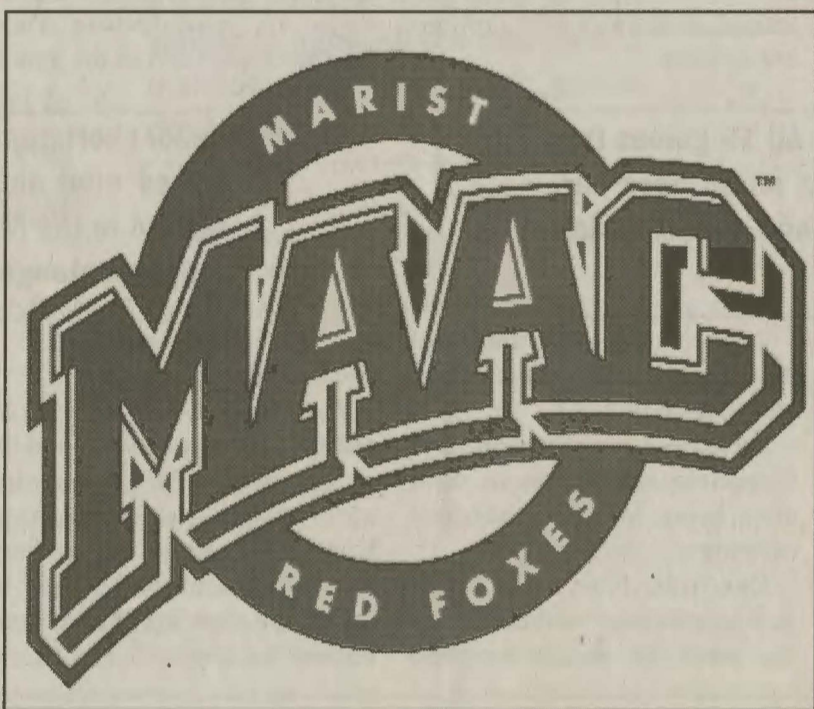
the bullpen. That was all she wrote for the Bulldogs, as Rigos came in to finish what she started, a sweep of Yale.

Marist currently holds an 8-12 overall record on the season, and a 0-1 record in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC). Their first and only MAAC loss came to the Siena Saints on Feb. 26, where they suffered a 6-0 defeat.

The Red Foxes will host the Rider Broncs in a doubleheader this Saturday, beginning at 1 p.m.



Courtesy of GOREDFOXES.COM
Junior Jasmery Polanco batted 5-for-7 while driving in three runs for the Red Foxes as they swept a doubleheader on Sat. Apr. 3.



Upcoming Schedule

Baseball: Saturday, Apr. 9 - at Manhattan, noon. (Doubleheader)

Softball: Saturday, Apr. 9 - vs. Rider, noon (Doubleheader)

Diener's hat trick stops three-game skid

By GABE PERNA
Staff Writer

Playing a Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) opponent for the first time all season while being on a three-game losing skid, women's lacrosse coach Noelle Cebron needed an impressive effort from her squad against Fairfield this past Saturday.

And that is exactly what she got.

The Red Foxes rolled over the Stags 12-8

on the strength of a four-goal effort from freshman sensation Lindsey

She [Diener] scored all four of her goals in the second half, and added an assist our draw controls and groundballs on the entire day.

Fairfield would pull within one goal, but Marist kept the lead, strengthening it on a goal

by freshman Jessica O'Brien.

The teams exchanged goals to put the score at 5-3 right before the half. However, Marist went into the break with a three goal advantage after senior Christine Connell hammered one into the back of the net, being fed from Diener.

With the game fairly tight, the Red Foxes would need Diener to start finding the back of the net frequently as she has done all season. And the freshman from Nanuet, N.Y., out of

Clarkstown South High School, answered the call and led the Red Foxes to victory. She

scored all four of her goals in the second half, and added an assist and four draw controls and groundballs on the entire day.

The Red Foxes, with a record of 2-4 overall and 1-0 in the MAAC, will battle conference rival Siena on the road on Saturday, Apr. 9 at noon.

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Van Hall scores three points and earns MAAC rookie of week

By DAVE HOCHMAN
Staff Writer

The Marist men's lacrosse team dropped its second consecutive game away from home this past Monday, Apr. 4.

For the second game in a row, expected heavy rains moved the home contest from Leonidoff Field over to Dietz Stadium in Kingston.

After losing to Colgate there last week by a score of 11-7, the Red Foxes lost to Manhattan 11-10.

This was an extremely close contest that saw Marist come back from a 4-0 deficit in the first few minutes of the game.

Junior midfielder Bill Duerr was the one who put Marist on the board to start. With 7:26 left in the first quarter, he netted a man-up goal assisted by sophomore midfielder Mike McGuire that got the Red Foxes rolling.

From there Manhattan managed to score another five first-half goals, but Marist stayed with them behind the leadership of junior midfielder Tim Iuculano.

Iuculano scored three of the next five goals the Foxes had in the first half, closing their deficit to 9-6 at half-time.

Marist came out in the second half really ready to play, especially on defense. The third quarter saw Iuculano achieve his fourth goal of the game, and freshman Pat Van Hall scored his first career

goal on a breakaway with just four ticks left in that quarter.

After junior goalie Stephen Gravino only allowed one goal in the third quarter, Marist was only behind by two, 10-8.

Unfortunately, the last frame wasn't their best.

After Iuculano scored again for fifth goal of the game early in the

fourth quarter, the Red Foxes just failed to break through for that game-tying goal.

The Jaspers' Justin Otto scored a goal with 3:38 to go which basically wrapped everything up. Down 11-9, Marist refused to quit, as Van Hall scored his second goal of the game with 3:01 to play.

From there on the Foxes struggled again to score and ended up losing after a solid effort.

The goalies were fairly matched in this contest with Gravino stopping six shots while

Manhattan's Justin Henry made five saves.

The squad now has an overall record of 1-4 with a 1-1 record in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC). The team also boasts the number three goal-scorer in the conference with Iuculano averaging three tallies per game.

Marist will continue its MAAC on the road when they oppose Fairfield University on Saturday, Apr. 9 at 1 p.m.

Three-run seventh inning rains on Red Foxes MAAC parade

Rider's Moronese throws complete game while only giving up two earned

By ERIC ZEDALIS
Staff Writer

Marist fell to 5-12 overall and 3-1 in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) with an 8-2 loss to visiting Rider on a cold, wet Sunday afternoon on Apr. 3.

Red Fox starting pitcher and Albany native, Scott Chambers (0-4), took the loss as he struggled with control in the wet conditions.

In his 3 1/3 innings of work, he allowed five runs on five walks and two hit batsmen.

Marist then used three of its relievers to pitch the rest of the game before it was called after eight innings because of darkness.

Freshman Tom Close, sophomore Bobby Hastry and junior Kevin Shurtleff allowed three earned runs in relief in the final 4 2/3 innings.

Rider starting pitcher Jeff Moronese allowed just six hits and two earned runs in the win, moving him to 3-1 on the year.

Moronese went the distance, striking out five while walking four.

Second basemen Jeff Reynolds led the way offensively for the Broncos with three hits and two runs scored, and third basemen John Rehm knocked in three RBI's.

Red Foxes' sophomore left fielder Thomas Ciccarone led Marist with two hits.

The Broncos galloped onto the board in the first inning, forcing the Foxes to surrender consecutive walks.

Rider leadoff batter Mike

Poalise, the center fielder, reached on a walk and moved to second when Chambers plunked in Broncos' right fielder Tom Letizia.

Catcher Scott Knazek moved both runners over with a sacrifice bunt, and then Poalise scored on Rehm's RBI ground-out to third.

The Red Foxes clawed back to tie it in the bottom of the second with some small ball of its own.

Senior Joe Sargent and Ciccarone reached on a walk after being hit by Moronese's offering.

One batter later, center fielder Kevin Grauer walked to load the bases for junior shortstop

Andy Kiriakedes.

The Great Barrington, Mass. native lifted a fly ball to center field to score Sargent on the sacrifice fly.

However, this would be the closest Marist ever got, as the Broncos consistently found ways to manufacture runs throughout the rest of the game.

Rider added two runs in the very next frame on two hits, a walk and a wild pitch.

With one out, Knazek walked and then advanced to second on a wild pitch. Rehm then singled to left center scoring Knazek. Later in that inning, Reynolds hit an RBI single to left field, scoring Rehm and upping the lead to 3-1.

The Broncos would then tally a run in each of the next two innings to go up 5-1.

The fourth inning saw Rider again capitalize on a lead-off walk, this time to infielder Bryan Wagner. Rehm did the job yet again, with a sacrifice fly to right field for his third RBI of the game.

Rider executed a sacrifice fly in the fifth inning as well when Wagner drove Reynolds home with a fly-out to center.

After a rain delay of just under an hour, the Red Foxes cut the deficit to three runs in the bottom of the sixth when designated hitter Justin Lepore drove in senior first basemen Kevin Buck, who reached on a

lead-off walk.

Despite Marist's comeback attempts, Rider was able to blow the game open in the seventh inning scoring three runs on four hits.

The Broncos' McCreedy led off the inning with a double, while Reynolds followed with an RBI single. One batter later, Wagner also singled and then trotted home on an RBI-single by Poalise.

Letizia scored the final run of the inning on a passed ball by Marist catcher Bryan Towler.

The Red Foxes hit the road on Saturday, Apr. 9 when they oppose MAAC rival Manhattan, in a doubleheader, beginning at noon. Marist concludes their series against Manhattan on Apr. 10 at noon while finishing their road trip against Albany on Tuesday, Apr. 12 at 4 p.m.

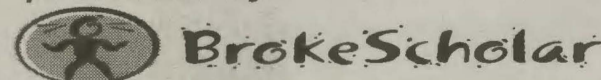
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From Page One

Earth Day and Unity Day combined to celebrate diversity of all kinds

should be more than enough other things to do. SGA, SPC, SEED and the other things to do. SGA, SPC, SEED and the other clubs have come up with a variety of fun activities.

Planned activities include face painting, basketball bungee, relay races and a game called toilet racing, a variation of go-carting, with the twist that your seat is not a traditional car seat, but

rather a toilet seat. There will be prizes given out, and Shooter is planning to hand out t-shirts.

If some students aren't into riding around on a toilet seat, there will be other more intellectual activities. Marist's chess club will be providing students with an opportunity to play Human Chess, complete with the swords. Also there will be mock duels by the Anime Society and the

Fencing Club which should give some insight into the differences between Japanese and Medieval styles of swordsmanship.

Unity Day also will feature great music, including a duet of the winners of this year and last year's Marist Idol competition. The bands Nine Pints Later and Parker House and Theory will be playing at two and four, thanks to SPC.

Along with celebrating Unity, this time will also be used to promote Marist Student's environmental awareness. In addition to planting a tree on campus, SEED will be on site presenting facts about the earth and encouraging environmental awareness through recycling. They will provide students with pots and seeds to plant.

Hittenmark noted that SEED

and SGA will also be unveiling a new program known as "Lug a Mug."

"This program," Hittenmark said, "promotes the environment by supplying students with non-disposable mugs. Rather than throwing Styrofoam after every cup of coffee, the students will be able to use these mugs. A real incentive for students also comes in the fact that they will get a ten

cent deduction on any drinks purchased on campus when they are using these mugs."

Unity Day looks to be a great time to lay aside the stress of ending the semester and just enjoy being alive.

From Page Six

"How It Was For Me" proves to an emotional collection by Andrew Greer

Greer's depiction of human nature is uncanny and mirrored in each character is a piece of every person who reads them. This identification of character to reader is what makes Greer's sto-

ries so compulsively readable and intense. Reading his sentences and paragraphs is like watching a work of art be painted right in front of your eyes; you can see the brushstrokes

being laid down that will change a character forever. Several times I was compelled to re-read particular sentences to fully appreciate the beauty of the language.

Greer is a master of taking

small, usually mundane moments of people's lives, like attending a soccer game or going out to eat, and contrasting these events with the inescapability of time and what the future holds. It

is through these stories that we get a hint of the depth of Greer's abilities with the language. While "Max Tivoli" certainly deserves the praise it has received, it is a shame that this

collection of eleven stories has been ignored for so long.

The Postal Service goes gold and other Sub Pop artists are not far behind

Iron & Wine feature songs on the soundtrack to "Garden State" and the song played by Iron & Wine was actually a cover of a Postal Service track. With the

popularity of the film came the popularity of the soundtrack, serving as a gateway for many people to get into independent artists.

I am not sure what is exactly happening with independent music these days but I do know that I like it. It brings me joy to see people who would not nor-

mally be exposed to independent music so enthusiastic about these artists. My hope for all of these artists is that they will remain with a label such as Sub Pop and

not accept offers from larger labels who will try to mold them into what will produce the most profits. These artists have proven that success and fame can

come without compromising their honesty and their artistic vision.

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Chris Beckman
Painter, writer, mentor, volunteer.
Chris works with and inspires
young artists to find their creative
voices. He also supports Free Arts,
a Polo Jeans G.I.V.E. organization.
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