

The



Circle

The student newspaper of Marist College

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Marist doesn't quite 'Pack the House'

By ZACH DOOLEY
Staff Writer

This year's Pack the House night was a night of firsts for the Marist women's basketball program. The team itself took care of business, defeating the Fairfield Stags 60-54 to earn sole possession of first place in the MAAC conference standings. The attendance, however, was for the first time in the five-year history of the Pack the House initiative, not a sellout.

The lack of a sellout ends the Red Foxes' claim as the only school in the NCAA to sell out Pack the House night for four straight seasons. Marist was also the first non-major conference school to win the national Pack the House crown last season.

An under-capacity crowd of 2,692 is nothing to scoff at for a women's basketball team from a small private college in Poughkeepsie, but when compared with the four years prior, in which Marist was able to sell out the formerly titled McCann Center with crowds of 3,000 plus, many were left disappointed. Coming off last season's national championship award for Pack the House, expectations were high, but it was not meant to be this year.

"I think it leads to some complacency, and people think it takes care of itself," Director of the Marist College Center for Sports Communication Keith Strudler said. "I think there's a small tendency to not feel like you need to do as many creative promotions to spread the word, and I think there needs to be that re-



RYAN RIVARD/THE CIRCLE

Fans in the student section channel Pack the House's prom theme as they cheer on the Red Foxes in their battle against Fairfield for first place in the MAAC conference.



RYAN RIVARD/THE CIRCLE

Shooter stands tall shortly before game time Friday night. His presence, a staple at big games, added to the buzzing atmosphere in the new McCann Arena.

minder that people don't want to just go because it's Pack the House; people want to go because there's going to be something exciting happening."

This year's theme was "Pack the Prom," which encouraged students to make the prom experience their own. The night was complete with bow tie and tiara giveaways to students, and was capped off by a king and queen and even a slow dance at halftime.

Although the theme seemed to be well-received by some, including much of the Marist staff and even Marist head coach Brian Giorgis who donned a tuxedo, it seemed that the prom concept did not click as well with students as themes in years past, such as last year's superhero theme.

"I love the idea of themes for Pack the House but the 'Pack the Prom' there just did not resonate how we would have hoped," Marist Student Booster Club President Patrick Dillon said. "Some people bought into the idea, but many did not. Fatigue was probably the biggest challenge we faced."

Strudler agreed, and believes that re-evaluating the theme for next year will be important to get more of a student turnout at the game. He said he will be looking for more student input when planning out the theme next year so students can feel like the theme is their own, rather than one just thrust upon them.

Despite the lack of a sellout, the McCann Arena was possibly as loud as it's been since its opening this fall, rivaled only by the

SEE OPENER, PAGE 3

Marist students come together against hazing

By JENNA GRANDE
News Editor

On Sunday, Feb. 12, 128 students gathered together to take a stand against hazing practices and rituals. Dominated by mostly sororities and fraternities, with a few athletes representing their respective teams, students assembled into the cabaret at 7 p.m. to discuss the very real dangers of abusive and forceful hazing.

Sponsored by SGA and Club Affairs, Travis T. Apgar came and discussed his own personal relationship with hazing, as well as addressed other serious, and most often deadly, situations that have arisen due to hazing. Apgar is the Associate Dean

of Students at Cornell University and has traveled across the country promoting students to take anti-hazing pledges.

Hazing is defined as "any activity expected of someone that joins or participates in a group that humiliates, degrades, abuses or endangers them, physically or mentally, regardless of a person's willingness to participate," according to the National Study of Student Hazing.

Theta Delta Chi and Alpha Phi Delta were the two main fraternities at the event, with Sigma Sigma Sigma and Kappa Kappa Gamma as the two main sororities at the event.

Though the mood was oftentimes light and relaxed, the seriousness of the topic was never forgotten. The seminar was interactive, with Apgar

encouraging students to participate when given the chance. Apgar used real-life examples where hazing rituals and practices have cost students not only their mental, physical and emotional well-being, but their lives as well. In fact, 20 percent of students arrive at college having already been diagnosed with mental illnesses. Apgar explained how most hazing incidents only exacerbate these illnesses.

In order to prove to the audience that he understood this topic more than he let on, Apgar shared his own personal history with hazing, stating that it cost him his chance to play collegiate football.

Apgar also used modern-day examples where students have died from alcohol poisoning after being

forced to drink much more than humanly safe as a part of initiation. This begged him to ask the question: After a night of harmful hazing tactics, why do some students get to wake up, and others do not?

The National Study of Student Hazing put together a survey of 11,482 students, both male and female, and between ages 18 and 25. According to the study, 64 percent of females reported to have experienced hazing, as compared to 36 percent males. Of the 11,482 students, 74 percent of them experienced hazing through participation on a varsity sport. 73 percent of them also experienced hazing through Greek life rituals.

SEE AS A MEMBER, PAGE 3



THIS WEEK

Thursday, 2/16

Swimming/Diving MAAC Championship
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
MAAC Championships

Friday, 2/17

Swimming/Diving MAAC Championship
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
MAAC Championships

Women's Basketball @ Canisius
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

SPC Movie: "The Muppets"
10 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
P.A.R. 346

Saturday, 2/18

Swimming/Diving MAAC Championship
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
MAAC Championships

SPC Movie: "The Muppets"
10 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
P.A.R. 346

Sunday, 2/19

SPC Broadway Trip: "Memphis"
9 a.m.- 8 p.m.

Women's Basketball @ Niagra
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, 2/21

ELG Workshop: "Transitional Leadership" with Melissa Lulay & Jennifer Unterbrink
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
P.A.R. 346

SGA Speech Night
9:15 p.m. to 11 p.m.
P.A.R. 346

Wednesday, 2/22

SGA "Meet the Candidates"
5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Main Dining Room



Letter from the Editor

Reviewing these past two weeks we've seen the G-Men high of the Super Bowl, the passion of the Adele fans from the Grammys and the love/hate of Valentine's day, which all left The Circle with a great amount of lively news.

This past weekend wished for a full McCann Arena for the annual Pack the House, which for the first time in years didn't succeed in filling the crowd. News covers the reaction to the non-selling out game. News also ventured into the Vassar admission's mishap, which left many Vassar students disheveled after being admitted, then not?

MTV's MADE traveled to Marist's campus last week with an unprecedented number of applicants, leaving the show no choice but to come back. Want to be the next Rachael Ray? Look out for the next tryouts and Features for the story!

After the Grammys, Whitney Houston's death and Adele's amazing performance and well-deserved wins has been on everyone's minds. This week A&E has a story on the Vagina Monologues coming to campus again, and a prediction list of The Oscars on Feb. 26.

Did you hear Marist made The

Huffington Post's list of Most Socially Awkward colleges? Opinion features an investigation of the socially awkward.

Lifestyles talks about the holidays we get every four years: Leap Day. We give a few ideas of what traditions to follow this year. Lifestyles also shares with us how we can spend more time on Facebook! We now can read about embarrassing sex stories so we can feel better about ourselves! Don't you love Facebook?

Hope you enjoy reading!

Emily Berger
Managing Editor

Security Briefs

#MaristSpringtimeTrendingTopics

By CHRIS RAlA
Staff Writer

This week, this article will be taking a different direction, primarily because I don't have access to any security stories due to a last-minute scheduling conflict. Instead of doing what we usually do, let's look ahead into the future. We have a lot to look forward to this semester. Here's a highlighted list of things to get excited about.

The Hunger Games Theatrical Release

"And may the odds be ever in your favor..." I just got chills typing that phrase. Imagine hearing it in surround sound in a crowded movie theatre, with Jennifer Lawrence on the silver screen and a gaggle of adolescent girls crying their eyes out wearing Team Peeta and Team Gale shirts. Stop. I'm too excited. Honestly, I never really believed in the Hunger Games hype until I started reading them out of boredom. Four days later, I had read three books, participated in more than one screaming match with other people who have read them, and developed a full-fledged crush on Katniss Everdeen. I'm going to marry that girl. You just watch.

Jeremy Lin

Carmelo Anthony was out, but is coming back this weekend. Amare's kneecaps look they're going to explode out of his leg every time he tries to make a post move, but will be back as of Feb. 14. Mike D'Antoni has been on the hot seat so long that I'm surprised his suit pants haven't developed a burnt hole in the rear. But they've won the last few games in a convincing fashion? What? How? I'll tell you how! Jeremy Shu-How Lin! After high school, he received exactly zero scholarship offers, but managed to walk onto Harvard's team. After college, no professional basketball teams expressed any interest in him and at first he was dropped by two other NBA teams. Somehow, he ended up on the Knicks. And somehow, he was receiving MVP chants in the Garden the other night. I am on the Jeremy Lin bandwagon. Come join me.

Springtime at Marist

This next sentence cannot be stressed enough: There is nothing in this world more glorious than Springtime at Marist. It's a time when we all collectively forget we're still in the world of academia and temporarily pretend we're all at a really terrific summer camp, a summer camp where there's day drink-

ing and wiffleball and Adirondack chairs as far as the eye can see. Where there are the freshest mangoes and DizzyBat and cheeseburgers and beer. Plus, there are sundresses, which are always just lovely to see.

Barstool Blackout Party

This is not something I'm personally looking forward to. Similar to most of your grandfathers or boring uncles, bright lights, loud noises and provocative dancing intimidate me. But for the rest of you, this is absolutely something to be excited about. The event's first party is tonight, so rage on!

Graduation

Just kidding. I don't think I'll ever say I'm looking forward to graduation. The real world can keep its jobs, families and responsibilities. I'd like to stay here, unemployed, and move back into Gartland where I can blissfully spend my remaining days on a stoop while listening to baseball games on the radio. But alas, that probably isn't going to happen. Let's just make the most out of springtime.

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

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From Page One

'Pack the House' falls short of expectations

opener against Villanova, which Villanova head coach Harry Perretta said was "as loud as UConn." "It's tremendous," Giorgis said of the atmosphere. "Unfortunately I got too riled up, a little too excited down the stretch."

The crowd noise at the beginning of the game seemed to affect both teams, as neither team made a field goal until 4:35 into the first half. Marist seemed especially affected, and the Red Foxes didn't hit their first shot from the floor until almost seven minutes into the first half.

"When you have a crowd like that, and you know it's for first place, I don't care who or what you are," Giorgis said. "These are still college kids in a big moment with a huge crowd, and especially our kids I thought would be a little nervous, but they used that energy on the defensive end to at least not let them score."

The crowd was able to propel Marist to an enormous win, which

vaulted them past Fairfield into first place in the conference, with a one game lead over the rival Stags. Senior forward Brandy Gang had a big night for the Red Foxes, dropping 15 points to lead all Marist players. Gang was playing in her fourth and final Pack the House night, but she realizes that for the players it's just another basketball game.

"It feels great, but we have to come into this game like any other game, and not take it too lightly," Gang said.

Sophomore Casey Dulin also played a strong game from the point guard position, dropping in 14 points to go along with five rebounds, five assists and three steals. The win was a big one for Marist, who now has a stranglehold on first place in the MAAC, barring an enormous slip up down the stretch.

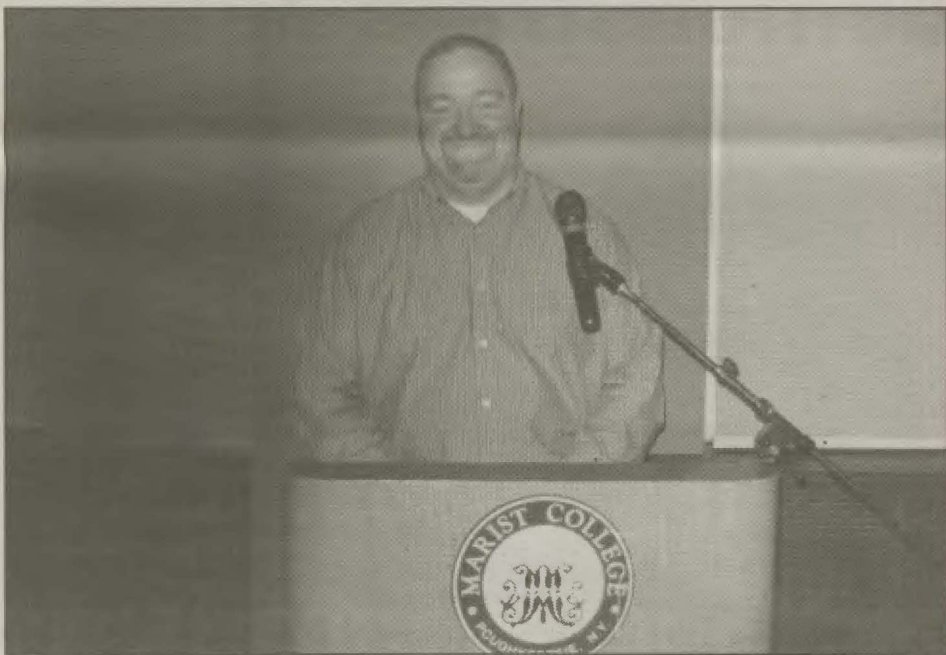


RYAN RIVARD/THE CIRCLE

Shooter eyes the dance team as they line up for pre-game activities. The dance team cheered on Marist from the student section the entire game and performed a half-time routine as well.

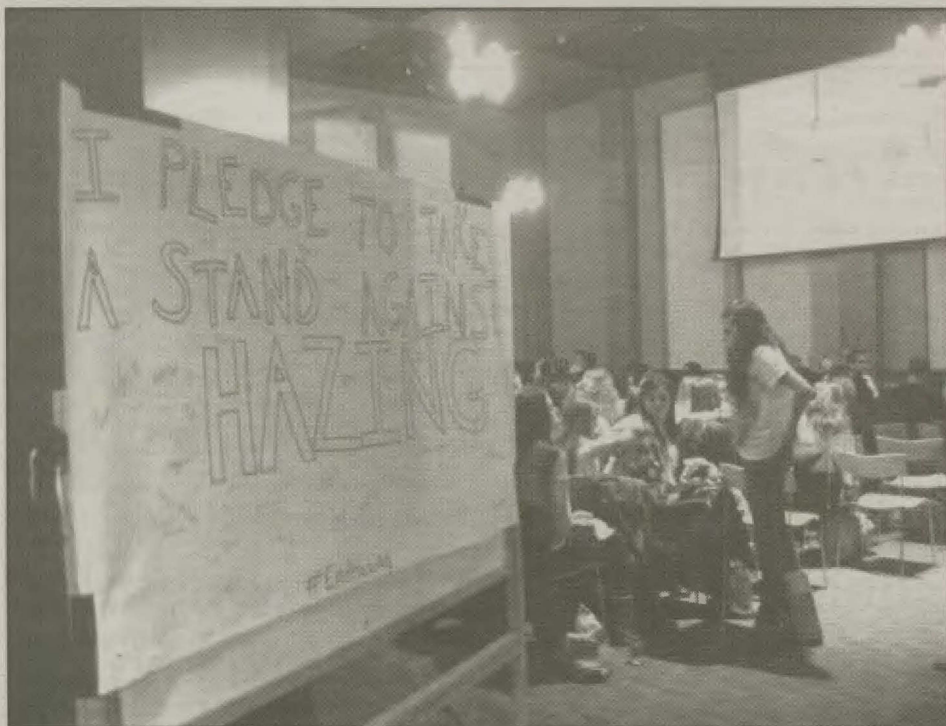
Students take stand against hazing

From Page One



JENNA GRANDE/THE CIRCLE

Speaker Travis T. Apgar spoke to an attentive audience in the cabaret on Sunday night on the dangers of hazing in college. Apgar spoke about his own negative experiences with hazing and the impact and consequences it has on students' lives.



JENNA GRANDE/THE CIRCLE

As students made their way into the cabaret, they were encouraged to sign the pledge against hazing practices. New York is one of 44 states to enact anti-hazing laws.

As a member of the fraternity Alpha Phi Delta and the President of the class of 2013, Paul DiBlasi does not think hazing is an issue at Marist.

"Hazing is not a problem on the Marist campus. This was more of a prevention program, rather than a problem-solving one."

Sophomore Marissa Proctor, an active member of Kappa Kappa Gamma for the past year, stated that she was never hazed as a part of her initiation into the sorority.

"KKG follows both a fraternity and campus wide policy that is very strict about the consequences of hazing. In no way, as a new member last spring or an active member for almost a year now, do I feel that KKG has ever violated that policy," Proctor said.

Sophomore member and Philanthropy Chair of the fraternity Alpha Phi Delta, John Campoli, said that the club takes anti-hazing policies very seriously and believes hazing practices reflect negatively upon the club.

"Well, we don't permit hazing at all," Campoli said. "We feel as if there are other, more effective ways in establishing a bond amongst our brothers. Although Greek organizations often fall under a stigma in which hazing does occur, we do our best to break away from it. Any form of hazing, either physically or mentally is wrong."

Though hazing is not a serious threat to most fraternities and sororities on campus, Student Body President Andrew Paulsen feels as if anti-hazing policies need to be stressed more so students in all academic, performance, social or athletic clubs and teams fully understand the seriousness of hazing.

"I think hazing is a serious issue," Paulsen said. "As a college campus, we need to be proactive about hazing and making sure that this never hap-

pens on our campus. We pride ourselves on the true community we are a part of. We are a part of a community where hazing has no right to be."

SGA is working to bring anti-hazing policy awareness to a part of the civility campaign that they have started. This campaign works to bring all students from all different clubs and organizations together to promote empathy for one another. One of the ways that this cause resonates with the civility campaign is that for \$10, students can buy shirts that bring awareness to ending hazing. This message of civility and respect is something many of the fraternities and sororities are standing behind.

"All active members actually signed the annual form at our last meeting agreeing to never take part in any activity that could even remotely resemble hazing of any kind," said Proctor. "We pride ourselves highly on treating everybody exactly how we as sisters would want to be treated."

If students have any questions or concerns about hazing, they are encouraged to look to outside sources. Reporting hazing is a major factor in reducing the number of hazing related injuries and deaths. Students can report hazing to the school by reaching the appropriate offices, like college activities or student government. Two additional resources for students to reach out to include going online and checking out <http://hazingprevention.org/> or calling the National Anti-Hazing Hotline at 1-888-668-4293. Students are also encouraged to learn state laws on hazing and what Good Samaritan laws are in place to protect students and save injured or dying students by contacting emergency services after having witnessed hazing practices.

Technical error causes Vassar admissions gaffe

By MONICA SPERANZA
News Editor

On Friday, Jan. 27, Vassar admissions made live its new website for early decision applicants. Within the first half hour, 122 high school seniors logged on and saw a congratulatory message about their acceptance. Seventy-six of these acceptances were an error, causing disappointment for applicants who had thought they were accepted.

According to Vassar Info News, it was a little over two hours before the mistake was corrected and the misled students were contacted via e-mail. The college sent out apology e-mails and the president, Catharine Hill, made a statement: "We are terribly sorry about the confusion and disappointment the erroneous information posted online caused the students. Our admissions process is a careful deliberation over several months, so it is so unfortunate to have this communication error happen at the end of that process for some of our early decision candidates. We understand

how very upsetting this is for those students who viewed the inaccurate decisions that we posted online, and we are very sorry to have added to the overall stress of the college admissions process for these students and their families."

"My staff noticed the error as we monitored the applicants logging in to the website to check their admission status," said Dean of Admission and Financial Aid David Borus. "We have personally contacted all of the affected applicants and offered to help with their college search process in any way we can."

Bret Ingerman, vice president for computing and information services at Vassar, told The Circle that the cause of the error was a technical glitch with the new website.

"A programming error caused the affected applicants to be shown the wrong website when they logged in," Ingerman said. "They were mistakenly pointed to a test website which was displaying an acceptance letter. Instead, they should've been pointed to the production version of the site

where they would see an individualized letter that reflected their admission status."

Ingerman added that Vassar began using the new system after "most of [Vassar's] peer schools began using similar systems." They had not had any problems since this incident.

Mistakenly accepted students have been given a consolation in the form of a refunded application fee of \$65, but loss of an application fee was not the only potential consequence. A father of one of the declined students said in an NBC article that the erroneous acceptance letter included a link by which accepted students could withdraw all other college applications, but his daughter did not click the link.

"If [sic] students had withdrawn other college applications and has any issues reinstating them, we offered to call those colleges," Borus said. "So far none of the affected applicants have told us they need help to get an application reinstated."

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Marist IT department debuts Aurasma technology, plans to demonstrate again



Attention Circle readers:

Members of Academic Technology will be at locations around campus this week to demonstrate the full capabilities of the *Marist Auras* app.

Socially awkward is so in this season

By MICHAEL BERNARDINI
Circle Contributor

The characteristics are far too common—the unsettling grin, the awkward and uncomfortable breathing, and the frenetic fleeing at the thought of any social interaction. Whether you have been forced to listen to them in class discussions

or even struggled to live with them, socially awkward people are an inescapable facet of our society. While they may carry the best intentions, conversations with them tow the fine line between painful and Chinese water torture. However, in a recent article published by The Huffington Post, these types of kids really flourish at Marist.

A list compiled by Inside College ranked Marist among 45 of the nation's best colleges for socially awkward students. It seems Marist students are surprised to read this distinction, especially with the minimal criteria included in the list. It doesn't imply that we are a campus composed entirely of clones of Sheldon from "The Big Bang Theory." Instead, it should be regarded as a compliment. We have built a welcoming community for all types of personalities—even those who can't seem to pick up on common of social cues.

Ever since Mean Girls, Lindsay Lohan's last piece of reasonably decent work, the term "clique" has received scathingly negative connotations in our lexicon. However, cliques are an undeniable fact of life, especially at Marist. What makes our campus different, though, is the acceptance of such cliques and their recognized territories. The budding fashion connoisseurs practically own Donnelly; athletes stay confined to McCann in their gym shorts; and the talented musicians seem unable to rise out of the Student Center dungeons.

Despite the fashionistas making

everyone look like a Kmart Blue Light Special shopper and the athletes sucking up valuable gym time, these cliques don't set out to decimate one another. Instead, they help foster a comfortable environment for the socially awkward. We don't expect to find them pumping iron or doing bar slides at Rennie's. We don't expect anything from them for that matter.

The Marist campus, regardless of its different cliques, is one big community. The socially awkward flourish here not because they're the most recognized people at Union Square on a Saturday night. They flourish because they can find their own group of people, feel comfortable with them, and develop great relationships without being judged. The heavy breathing and disjointed conversations might not always be the most pleasant, but as long as they feel welcome and happy here, you won't hear a complaint from me. For all we know everyone else is socially awkward, not us.

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/02/06/colleges-for-the-socially_n_1256435.html



DANIELLE MOLER/FLICKR

It has finally been confirmed: It's not just you, it's the whole Marist campus. Phew.

Is Posner a poser or cooler than you?

By STEPHANIE GOMEZ
Circle Contributor

Mike Posner was chosen by the Student Programming Council to come to the Marist campus on April 29 as the special performer for our Spring Concert. Although some are looking forward to the event, the general response from Marist students has been unfavorable.

Most students claim that they don't even know who Mike Posner is.

"I don't really know of him," freshman Jennifer Rescigno said. "I only know that one song that he has."

Francisco Cruz, student employee of College Activities, agreed.

"I don't really listen to his music, so I don't think I'm going," he said.

Transfer student Davis Charles thinks Marist could do better.

"He's alright," Charles said. "We should have somebody better, like Tyga, [but] not him because what has he made lately?"

Other students who don't know much about Posner showed a little more enthusiasm to the news.

"I'm not really a big fan," said Aindrui Farrington, a member of the swim team. "But I guess it's cool that he's coming here. I guess the

school is doing a good job trying to get famous people to come here."

"I do know he is and I've actually listened to some of his songs without knowing it," Brenda Cabrera added.

Each student offered his or her own list of preferred artists for our Spring Concert: Wiz Khalifa, Sam Adams, Beyoncé.

"If we could afford untalented artists like 3OH!3 and Mike Posner, I don't see why we can't join our money together and get someone good like Drake and Chris Brown," said Jonathan Avila.

On the other hand, there were two students whose enthusiasm and happiness about the Mike Posner concert were hard to miss. Amir Cardoza, the young man who suggested Posner, wasn't afraid to show his excitement.

"I think it's going to be fantastic!" he said. "I'm going to be in the front row, two hours early, singing his songs!" Essence Grant, member of the Marist Singers shares Cardoza's excitement.

"I'm excited, because I think he's a good artist," Grant said. "I actually saw his video on Youtube, and I think he's cool!"

Essence and Amir broke out singing one of Posner's songs



DANA BEVERIDGE/FLICKR

Posner's appearance is hardly highly anticipated but hopes are high he will surprise.

"Please Don't Go."

One student, Gabriela Hinojosa, stated the reason because most people aren't excited that they don't really know what is going on.

"They should [spread awareness] to get more people to go or something," Hinojosa said. "I find out about things the day of and the calendar doesn't have the right times

on there."

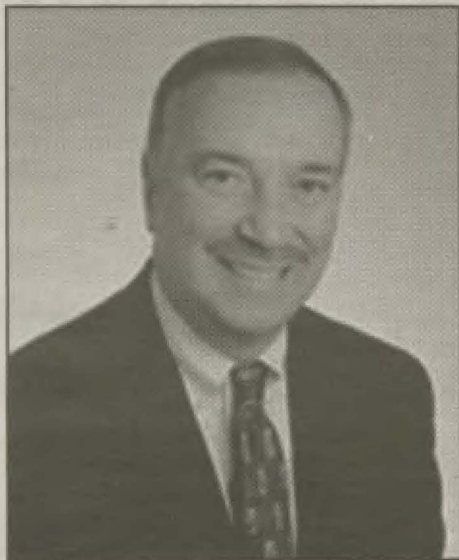
Students have made it clear that they want better known artists to perform. Hopefully, SPC and College Activities take note of students' reactions and contact an artist that would make at least the majority of the Marist student body excited and eager to attend.

Don't save your opinions for Facebook and Twitter

Share them with us!

Contact Opinion editor Casey Fisk at circleopinion@gmail.com to start the conversation

Massie shares his fondest Marist memories



THIS PHOTO IS POWERED BY AURASMA@MARIST
PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIST COLLEGE

Former Chief Public Affairs Officer, Timmian Massie worked here for 17 years.

By LISA GLOVER
Staff Writer

A few weeks ago, the Marist community learned that Timmian Massie, then Chief Public Affairs Officer, would be embarking upon a new journey as the Director of Corporate Giving at Watson Pharmaceuticals in Parsippany, N.J. Massie spent 17 years at Marist but now his future is headed in a new direc-

tion.

According to the company's mission statement, Watson Pharmaceuticals is "a leading integrated global pharmaceutical company engaged in the development, manufacturing, marketing, sale and distribution of generic, brand and biologic pharmaceutical products."

Massie is leading a global philanthropy program through which he aims to engage more community involvement, one event being the 2012 March of Dimes March for Babies in April and May. The challenge is new and exciting for the determined Massie.

Massie wore many hats during his time at Marist. Aside from being the Chief Public Affairs Officer, he taught courses as an adjunct lecturer and led groups of students overseas through the Marist International Program.

It was almost like a reflex for him to admit that what he misses most about Marist is the students.

"Whether it was teaching a class or helping with hundreds of resumes and cover letters, or just sitting in the office to chat about careers and life, Marist students were very generous with their time and confidence to discuss issues

that ranged from light-hearted to very serious," he said.

Moments that stick out in his memory include, "taking students abroad and watching them gaze at the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel when we were the only ones there, and having them tell me these trips changed their lives."

He is still in contact with several current students and several hundred alumni whom he considers to be friends and family.

For many, Massie was a Marist brand image.

The demands of his job increased over the years.

"My involvement extended well beyond media relations; being a one-person shop often led me to work 80-hour weeks, including weekends," he said.

No matter what time it was – day or night – the students could always count on Massie to be tweeting away the latest news, whether it was a victory for the women's basketball team, an internship opportunity, or an important event going on in the media.

He takes his job home with him, and that's one of the characteristics that make him such a one-of-a-kind professional.

Massie is an active member of the Hudson Valley. In April, he and his husband, Pete Clark, will receive the Family of the Year Award from Family Services of Dutchess County. They gracefully accept this award with honor, being the very first "non-traditional" family to receive this award. He remains on the board of several organizations, including the Dyson Foundation, St. Francis Hospital, Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation, New York State Newspapers Foundation and Marist Brothers Esopus.

Massie has maintained close relationships with the students he taught and mentored at Marist College.

For the graduating seniors, he offers a few closing words of advice:

"Do good for others. I believe in karma. If you do things for others out of the goodness of your heart, that goodness will come back to you a hundred fold. And think positively. Not everything will go your way, but when you believe in yourself and others, and think positively, that attitude will shine forth from you. That's the type of person people want to hire, to be around, to befriend. As my friend Helen Rothberg says, play well with others."

MTV'S MADE tryouts come to Marist campus

By BRITTANY OXLEY
Staff Writer

Do you dream of becoming a movie star, singer or to simply score an amazing internship in the city?

When MTV's MADE producers came to Marist College on Feb. 8, those were the exact types of dreams that they planned on making come true for one student.

In the show MADE, MTV finds one person who they "make" into anything that person wants to be. Past episodes have shown geeky boys becoming "ladies' men" or shy girls becoming confident cheerleaders.

Although most of the episodes that

have run in the past have been about teens becoming famous or more confident, rumor has it that MTV is going in a different direction for this next episode.

According to student Kerianne Caprara, "MTV is going in a different direction this year. They're looking for college students who have career related dreams such as finding internships."

The auditions that took place on Feb. 8 had about one hundred and twenty people audition in only two hours.

Unfortunately, not all students were able to audition.

However, according to Vice President of Student Affairs, Deborah Di-

Caprio, "MTV's casting producer Alison Labanoski says that there is a chance that MTV will come back to audition more people at Marist very soon."

During auditions, students had 15 to 20 minutes to pitch their idea to the MTV producers of what they wanted to be "made" into.

DiCaprio said that "if MTV believes that someone from Marist College was creative and intriguing enough, they will come back and audition that student again."

However, this second audition may be a bit more challenging, as it will require the student to audition in front of a camera.

This has not been the first time

that Marist College has received a visit from MTV.

Because of Marist College's close distance to the city, MTV has come here many times in the past to give students audition opportunities to achieve their dreams, DiCaprio said.

"They will definitely come back for other auditions, I'm sure. They usually do," she said. "This is just a great opportunity for the Marist students and I'm glad MTV decided to come here once again."

Only time will tell if one Marist College student will be closer to achieving his or her dreams with the help of an MTV callback.

Lucid dreaming offers nighttime adventures

By BRITTANY OXLEY
Staff Writer

A person can do absolutely anything in a dream. This includes flying, having walls made of ice cream, or having a relationship with the hottest celebrity in Hollywood. However, only certain people have mastered the art of lucid dreaming, where a person can fully control what happens in their dreams.

According to Marist College Psychology of Sleep Professor Otte, "We have 90-minute sleep cycles. This means that we dream several times a night because we dream every 90 minutes."

Otte also mentioned that during

dreams, the brain pulls images from memories or current situations that we have been in recently. Because the brain is more active when it is asleep, these images that the brain pulls from memories can also be completely random. This is why many dreams don't make sense and seem slightly odd. In order to make what happens in your dreams not so random but under your control, you can follow the following techniques from psychologist and leader in the study of lucid dreaming, Dr. Stephen LaBerge.

The first step that LaBerge recommends is to start a dream journal. This means that every time you wake up, you should immediately write down everything that you remember dreaming about.

The second step is to continually give yourself "reality checks." In order to do this, you should set your alarm on your watch or phone to ring every hour or so during the day. As soon as the alarm rings, you push two fingers into your wrist and prove to yourself that this is not a dream because you cannot push your fingers through your wrist.

"By continually checking your waking reality, you are priming yourself for greater self-awareness in dreams," LaBerge said.

The third step is to say in your mind multiple times before you go to sleep that you will have a lucid dream. Although your roommates may find you a little strange for doing so, LaBerge also recommends quietly chanting these statements

until you feel like you could fall asleep.

The last step is about visualization. You can only do this technique once you feel like you could fall asleep at any moment and are extremely relaxed. First, think of an image that you saw in a past dream. However, this time you should imagine a different ending to the dream. As you do this, think to yourself that you are dreaming. Eventually, you will fall asleep. This should help you attain control of your dreams.

These techniques for lucid dreaming do not always work immediately and should be practiced multiple nights in a row in order to gain control.

The intramural profile of freshman Jon Malloy



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KOLB FAMILY

A focused Malloy makes a one-handed catch, as other players watch in anticipation.

By **STEPHANIE GOMEZ**
Circle Contributor

I sat down on a green sofa located in the second floor of Marian Hall, awaiting Jonathan Malloy, a fresh-

man student majoring in business administration who is actively involved in the Marist intramural sports program. As I was reviewing my notes, I noticed a slim figure racing towards me — it was Jon.

He apologized for being late and then ran off towards his dorm and returned a few minutes later, flushed and out of breath.

He was accompanied by his friends and with his silly sense of humor, he shrieked into my tape recorder, "This is so cool! I am talking into a tape recorder."

Malloy, an active and outgoing student, is a member of four intramurals: Ultimate Frisbee, badminton, floor hockey and soccer. He said that Ultimate Frisbee and badminton are his favorites.

"I've played Frisbee for forever, [and] the people at badminton are really nice and they're really chill and it's a lot of fun."

Malloy didn't try out for varsity sports, "because I didn't think I was good enough," he jokingly said.

Maybe it has to do with the fact that he wants to maintain his 4.0 GPA and is already involved in so many clubs and organizations.

"Oh yeah. It's a lot of intramurals that take up a ton of time, but [it is] definitely worth it because it helps de-stress... you get to meet people

you wouldn't necessarily meet otherwise," he said.

Although the period to join intramurals has ended, John recommends those who are tentative about joining an intramural in the future to do so.

"My motto has always been 'what would you do if you weren't afraid?' If you're afraid of joining an intramural sport, don't be, and join because you'll meet new people and you may or may not lose 500 lbs."

His experience with the intramural sports program has been so rewarding that he has set goals to become the full-time commissioner of the Badminton League and to take over as captain of the Ultimate Frisbee team.

"If you aren't sure whether you are going to enjoy an intramural and you want to try it any way, you should definitely try it because you can always just never show up again," he said. "And you get priority points, which is awesome."

Malloy has earned 36 priority points.

Home Depot distributes smoke alarms and fire safety information

By **MICHAEL GAROFALO**
Features Editor

Home Depot held a fire safety event on Friday, Feb. 3, scheduled to run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to educate students about fire safety precautions.

They distributed free Code One smoke alarms to students, and the brand Kidde donated 100 dual carbon monoxide and fire alarm units to the fire department through Home Depot.

By 1:20 p.m., the first round of 100 Code One smoke alarms had been given out to students, parents and locals alike, according to district manager Bob Wickkiser.

The event continued past its scheduled ending time, and he predicted that a total of about 140 smoke alarms would be distributed.

The Code One smoke alarms are expected to last approximately five years and come with a battery in-

stalled.

Fire extinguishers and other smoke alarms were also available for sale.

Considering the task that some students face of moving to an off-campus residence while managing personal finances, store manager Roger Saunders said that this is "one less thing [those students] have to worry about."

The event was a joint effort between Saunders and Wickkiser.

It all began when Wickkiser spotted a customer buying two cases of 9-volt batteries, which is an unusually large quantity for a single customer. Each case contains 12 packs of six batteries.

He talked to the customer, who was an official from Marist, purchasing the batteries for a fundraiser.

Wickkiser gave the customer a 50 percent discount, but news of the Fairfield Avenue fire had not yet

reached Wickkiser, because it was still very recent up to this point.

After learning about the incident, Saunders and Wickkiser communicated with one another and came up with the idea that became the fire safety event.

Saunders described his thoughts: "What can we do to help so this unfortunate event doesn't happen again?"

The fire safety booth was prepared with fire safety handouts, which included prevention tips and a 'Home Safety Checklist.' The list included reminders about checking batteries, planning fire exits and properly equipping one's home for a fire.

Wickkiser said "let's give back to the community at this point."

He recognized that sometimes amidst so many other things, a fire precaution "doesn't come to mind."

Cashier Sue Upton said that sales of fire safety products have been on the rise after the fire evoked in-



THIS PHOTO IS POWERED BY AURASMA@MARIST
MICHAEL GAROFALO/THE CIRCLE

These Code One smoke alarms were distributed to attendees free of charge.

creased student awareness. She was clearly shaken up talking about the fire.

"I have grandchildren almost that old," she said, regarding the students who died on Jan. 21.

Lying proves no match for the penmanship test

By **BRITTANY OXLEY**
Staff Writer

"Everybody lies!" exclaimed Jim Carrey in the 1997 comedy *Liar Liar*. Unfortunate as that is, he was completely right. People in relationships lie to each other, kids lie to their parents, and as surprising as this might be, students even lie to their teachers.

However, all of the "good liars" may not be as invincible as they believe they are. This is because no matter how good of a liar someone is, their subconscious reveals when they are lying the second they write something down.

Handwriting not only reveals whether a person is lying or not, but also can reveal how a person is feel-

ing or what their personality is like.

According to researchers at Haifa University, "Physical properties of a person's handwriting can point to whether he or she is dishonest or not."

Analyzing a person's handwriting is called graphology. Graphology is about 90 percent accurate, and the few who study it have to study for years to detect every detail of the human subconscious in a person's handwriting.

However, there are a few basic tricks that can help you decide whether someone is lying or not when they write something down.

The first basic step to detect lying in someone's handwriting is to check the spaces between words in a person's script or print, and the

spaces between letters in a person's print. When a person has large spaces between their words or letters, it is one sign that they have been hiding something.

The second step is to analyze whether the last letter in a person's words touches other letters or curves upwards. When a person does this, it means that they are feeling defensive about something that they have been thinking about.

The third step is to see how a person's signature compares to their print. A person's signature portrays what the writer wants people to think about them. When a person prints, however, it shows who they truly are.

Lastly, be sure to check a person's handwriting when they write

straight down. An example of this would be how a person writes the lower case letter "l." If a person is feeling guilty or bitter about something, the end of that straight-line slope will curve upwards. The higher the curve, the guiltier the writer is feeling about something.

According to researcher Gil Luria, "Lying requires more cognitive resources than being truthful. You need to invent a story, make sure not to contradict yourself. Any task done simultaneously, therefore, becomes less automatic."

So next time you believe that someone you know is lying, be sure to take a little peek at what their handwriting looks like. People are not always as good at lying as they would like to think.

'The Vagina Monologues' celebrates V-Day at Marist

By MOLLY SLOAN
Circle Contributor

Editor's note: Molly Sloan, a Marist College senior, was kind enough to write this guest column for *The Circle*. Sloan, the show's producer, gives us an inside look into working on this well-known performance with a sensitive title.

I learned the hard way that talking about vaginas with your boss is not as easy as it may seem. Here's the setting. I'm at my internship in the city and my boss, a Marist alum who likes to keep up with campus ongoings, asks me what I have planned for this week.

"I'm producing 'The Vagina Monologues' this weekend," I tell him.

Cue the standard awkward response. He's surprised at my blunt delivery, and that was my intention. I know I've got him hooked at the mention of the v-word. He wants more information.

I struggled to compose one sentence that encompasses everything that the V-Day Organization and playwright Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" stand for. "It's actually kind of difficult to explain," I say.

He won't let it go.

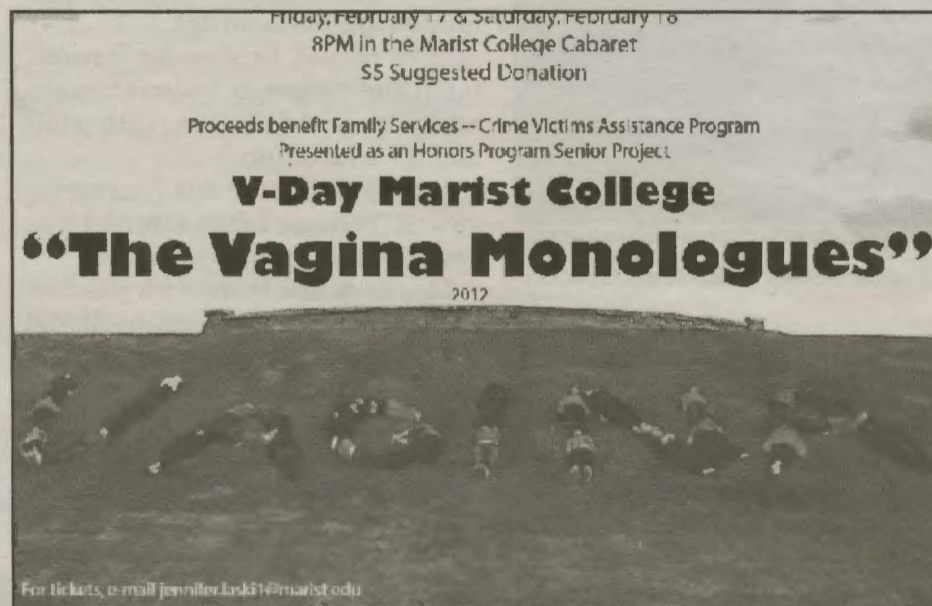
"No, Molly," he says. "You're the one who dropped the 'v-bomb,' you have no choice but to explain your-

self."

So I begin talking and then stop abruptly, trying to collect my thoughts. How do I say that it is something that makes a difference to women all over the world without making it sound like a completely corny, juvenile thing? Because "The

cacy, counseling and forensic nursing to victims of crime in Dutchess County.

But it's not just about raising money for a good cause. It's about raising awareness. It's about getting students to talk about these kinds of issues.



MOLLY SLOAN/THE CIRCLE

"The Vagina Monologues" is a collection of performances by Marist students, the proceeds of which will be donated to an anti-domestic violence organization.

Vagina Monologues" is anything but. The show is full of messages of female empowerment and self-love.

All the money we raise goes to an organization dedicated to ending violence against women. This year the beneficiary is Poughkeepsie's own Crime Victims Assistance Program, an organization that provides advo-

I've learned that at Marist, when you say the word "vagina," people either physically flinch, make a face or stare at you like you have said the most offensive word possible. And when you add "monologues" to the mix, you face even more confused reactions.

"What, so it's a bunch of girls talk-

ing about their periods for an hour?" a guy friend asked me recently.

Girls who haven't seen the show ask that same question. To clear up the confusion once and for all, "The Vagina Monologues" features (gasp) one mention of tampons in the 90-minute performance and that, my friends, is it.

To give an idea of the range of topics covered, some of my favorite monologue titles are "Hair," "The Flood," "The Little Coochi Snorcher That Could" and "My Angry Vagina."

It's not all fun and vagina games, though. There is a striking balance between the lighter-hearted monologues and the more serious ones. It is simultaneously entertaining and thought-provoking.

"The Vagina Monologues" pushes people, women and men, out of their comfort zones, challenging them to see vaginas differently. And after a bit more reflection than I anticipated, that's exactly what I ended up telling my boss. I stepped out of my own comfort zone. I felt great. I felt awkward. I felt empowered.

Come see "The Vagina Monologues" in the Cabaret Friday, Feb. 17 and Saturday, Feb. 18, at 8 p.m. Admission is a \$5 suggested donation. The event is sponsored by the Honors Program. There will also be a delicious bake sale at each performance.

Reznor and Ross score 'The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo'

By MATTEW CASTAGNA
Staff Writer

The tagline for David Fincher's adaption of the globally renowned thriller "The Girl With Dragon Tattoo" reads, "what is hidden in snow, comes forth in thaw." How appropriate then that Nine Inch Nails frontman Trent Reznor and English producer Atticus Ross return to score the anxiously awaited film after their previous, multi-award winning work on "The Social Network" propelled the duo back into the spotlight, mirroring this theme of sullen transformation. Like the ancient whispers and sunken secrets littering the novel/film, Reznor too holds a life of hidden scars and darkened memories. A notoriously destructive heroin addiction, crumpled romantic affairs and multiple suicide attempts blot Reznor's early musical career with blatant landmines of creative distress-- ultimately tarnishing a majority of truly artistic/musically addictive works. However, it seems that after many years of maturation, both Reznor and Ross have finally learned how to direct these agonizing recollections to near perfection. "The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo" soundtrack is a transformation album- a two decade late, coming of



FROM COLLIDER.COM
The album cover to Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross's new soundtrack.

age work that not only outdoes its predecessor, but also unearths the blistering sound and immersive draw that had been buried beneath carpets of ice deep within its creators subconscious.

From a bird's eye view, this new release will seem structurally familiar to "The Social Network" OST-- both employ heavily stereo-filtered pieces that add an unexplainable level of drama and anxiety to traditionally uneventful scenes. However, unlike the "Network's" strict melodic directions, "Tattoo" spreads its rhythms thin, opting for an atmospheric direction that shies away from any graspable movements. With over three hours

of spacious, imperceptible material, even the most avid ambience fan will find themselves overwhelmed and potentially frustrated with an album that is ultimately more of the same. However, the rewards of attentive listening outshine the more noticeable downfalls of passive focus.

Where "Tattoo" succeeds most is in its diligent attention to detail. Tracks like "Perihelion" and "With The Flies" slow burn through frozen terrain, forming numerous trails of vaporized circuitry while still retaining a distinct identity via Reznor and Ross's obsessive production. An unidentifiable blurb here, a grotesque synth piece there-- each time a track borders on repetition, a distinct mutation is added, making it so that even the 50th listen yields a rewarding discovery. With this new focus on subtlety comes a hands-off audio-visual response-- where as "Network" directed the listeners through musical progressions that mimicked the emotional weight of it's corresponding scene, "Tattoo" allows the listener to construct their own visual compliments from the provided building blocks of whispered misdirections.

Along with a noticeable step-up in terms of construction, "Tattoo" fur-

ther distinguishes itself in terms of emotionality. Sure, "The Social Network" had its bleak moments, but when compared to Stieg Larson's tale of rape, murder and abuse, these scenes shrink in embarrassment. Likewise, Reznor and Ross's score goes much darker, taking the form of a spanning organic spectrum slowly resonating between haunting tranquility and turbulent chaos. "An Itch" incorporates distant police sirens and soul screeching effects as a means of building instant intensity, while "Later Into The Night" masks barely audible inhalations behind a wall of ambience, resulting in an unshakable feeling of being watched. "The Seconds Drag" even borrows from the Hans Zimmer track "Rachael's Quest" from the 2002 horror classic, "The Ring," a nod that further portrays this release as a demonstration of active terror.

No, its not meant for everyone. There are certainly more inviting works out on the market that refrain from intimidating the listener with both volume and direction, but regardless, "Tattoo" still remains one of the most magnificent musical scores of all time, bringing further energy to a genre that is so often swept under the table.

Coachella lineup announced

By AMANDA IPPOLITO
Circle Contributor

The Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival located in Indio, Calif. recently announced a lineup many are regarding to be one of the greatest live sets of all time. With The Black Keys, Radiohead, Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg as headliners, it's no surprise tickets sold out within hours of going on sale.

Coachella has been gaining an increasing amount of popularity over the past few years. In 2010, tickets went on sale on a Friday and 11,000 stubs were sold by the following Monday. The following year, 55,000 tickets were sold within the same time frame. To help accommodate more people, this year's festival will take place over two weekends, April 13-15 and April 20-22. The weekends will feature identical lineups.

Coachella was founded in 1999 by Goldenvoice Productions and featured performances from Tool, Rage Against the Machine, Beck, The Chemical Brothers and Jurassic 5—a lineup that set the bar pretty high. Still, year after year, the festival has continued to book the best artists of alternative, hip-hop, indie rock and electronic music, such as Weezer, Beastie Boys, The Shins and LCD Soundsystem.

While Coachella is known for booking current artists on the rise, nostalgia is always guaranteed to attract attention. Hip-hop icons Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg, headlining Sunday, April 15 and 22, are an even more epic choice than last year's Sunday headliner, Kanye West. Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg teamed up in 1992 to record Dr. Dre's solo album, "The Chronic," which is often regarded as one of the most influential albums of the 90s.

The legendary rock band Radiohead, performing Saturday (April 14 and 21), also generates some feelings of nostalgia. Radiohead withheld performances and interviews for nearly eight months following their eighth studio album, "The King of Limbs," released in February 2011. Lead singer Thom Yorke revealed that part of their absence was due to the fact that they were trying to figure out how this more electronically-based album

would translate live. "Now that we've figured out how to play it live," he told Rolling Stone, "that creates an energy we want to pursue."

Coachella attendants will be among the few that get the privilege of seeing this "energy" -- tickets for the band's current tour are nearly impossible to get in the U.S. Although Yorke performed in 2010, playing his solo album, "The Eraser," in its entirety, people were slightly disappointed with the absence of Radiohead. Fans will be pleased that two years later he is returning with the rest of the band.

The Black Keys, a more current group on the rise, are performing on Friday (April 13 and 20). The well-established blues-rock/punk-blues duo played last year's festival as well as in 2009. Since last year, the group released their seventh studio album, "El Camino," which will add something new to this year's performance. Some were disappointed with the group's 2011 performance: the band was 15 minutes late and the large screens projecting their performance weren't turned on until four songs into the set. Surely they will make sure everything runs smoothly this year.

In addition to bringing back old acts, the festival is known for booking artists on the rise. Modest Mouse, The Roots, Jack Johnson, Black Eyed Peas, The White Stripes, Death Cab for Cutie, Arctic Monkeys, The Decemberists, Silver Sun Pickups, Lupe Fiasco, The Ting Tings, B.O.B. and Florence and the Machine are some names who made it big after performing at Coachella. Some artists booked for Coachella 2012 that have been attracting attention over the last year include M83, Explosions in the Sky, The Weeknd, Real Estate, A\$AP Rocky, AraabMuzik, AVICII and Azealia Banks.

With so many amazing artists performing different stages at the same time, Coachella attendants always have a problem deciding which show to attend and are often forced to miss out on some of their favorite artists. Maybe this year's additional weekend can help solve that problem.

Oscar picks for 2012 awards

By CASEY GALASSO
Staff Writer

The Oscar's would be nothing without its lineup of extraordinary nominees, running the gamut from comedy to action and adventure to drama. Below, I break down some of the more noteworthy categories.

Best Picture:

"The Artist"

"The Descendants"

"Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close"

"The Help"

"Hugo"

"Midnight in Paris"

"Moneyball"

"The Tree of Life"

"War Horse"

Having already won a Producer's Guild Award, "The Artist," a film about a silent movie star worried that the introduction of taking photographs will force him into oblivion, is the favorite to win Best Picture at this year's Oscars.

Best Actor:

Demian Bichir, "A Better Life"

George Clooney, "The Descendants"

Jean Dujardin, "The Artist"

Gary Oldman, "Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy"

Brad Pitt, "Moneyball"

Clooney one of the moving forces behind "The Descendants," a film about a wealthy father attempting to re-connect with his two daughters after his wife suffers a tragic boating accident, but he also directed and co-wrote this year's "The Ides of March," a political drama starring Ryan Gosling, Paul Giamatti and Clooney himself.

Best Actress:

Glenn Close, "Albert Nobbs"

Viola Davis, "The Help"

Rooney Mara, "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo"

Meryl Streep, "The Iron Lady"

Michelle Williams, "My Week With Marilyn"

While Meryl Streep and Viola Davis are the two frontrunners for this race, I'm rooting for Michelle Williams in this category. Having harbored an obsession with the life and legacy of Marilyn Monroe since the eighth grade, I would love nothing more than to see Williams take

home the Oscar for her role as one of the most misunderstood women in Hollywood.

Best Supporting Actor:

Kenneth Branagh, "My Week With Marilyn"

Jonah Hill, "Moneyball"

Nick Nolte, "Warrior"

Christopher Plummer, "Beginners"

Max von Sydow, "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close"

This award will most likely go to Plummer, who starred as a gay man who decided to come out later in life in the film "Beginners." This would be Plummer's first Oscar and would mark a lifetime's worth of achievements, including a role in "The Sound of Music."

Best Supporting Actress:

Berenice Bejo, "The Artist"

Jessica Chastain, "The Help"

Melissa McCarthy, "Bridesmaids"

Janet McTeer, "Albert Nobbs"

Octavia Spencer, "The Help"

Although it is more than likely Spencer will be taking the award home for her role in "The Help," due to her winning a Golden Globe this past January, I'm pulling for McCarthy here. To see a woman win a best supporting actress Oscar for her turn in raunchy comedy would be the ultimate sign of female empowerment and that girls are just as funny, if not more hilarious, than boys.

Best Animated Film:

"A Cat in Paris"

"Chico & Rita"

"Kung Fu Panda 2"

"Puss in Boots"

"Rango"

While "Rango" has been slated to win the award this year, I was and forever will be a fan of "Shrek."

Other categories being spotlighted at this year's show include Cinematography, Art Direction, Costume Design, Directing, Documentary, Editing, Foreign Language Film, Makeup, Music, Short Film, Sound, Visual Effects and Writing.

Make yourself a bowl of popcorn, gather around the TV and catch the 84th Annual Academy Awards on ABC Sunday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m.

The 'Material Girl' makes her star-studded comeback

By SHAWNA GILLEN
Circle Contributor

Superbowl XLVI-Giants, Patriots, and Madonna? When I first learned that Madonna had landed the famous gig of the Superbowl halftime show, I definitely had some reservations. She's been around through the decades, but could she still pull off a successful show? Needless to say I was eager to see what Madge had up her sleeve this time around. And thankfully, I was pleasantly surprised.

Not a stranger to reinvention, the 53-year-old found a way to keep herself relevant to the 111.3 Million viewers Sunday night, by fusing the hottest artist of the 1980's with the



FLICKR/CHRISTIAN MONTONE
Madonna performed at the halftime show of Super Bowl XLVI.

chart toppers of today. Celebrity cameos from the likes of LMFAO, Nicki Minaj, M.I.A and Cee Lo Green made the former pop icon come out on top, livening up her medley of ancient hits with the relevance of her younger counterparts. While the halftime show did accom-

plish its goal of peaking my interest, there were definitely some aspects of the performance where the material girl fell short. It was obvious that Madonna lip-synced most of the time. The whole Trojan War theme was also lost in translation, it is the 21st century after all. It was clear that the eye-popping performance was served to distract the audience from the big pink elephant in the room-- an aging pop-star, performing way past her prime.

Lastly I picked up on some bloopers. After taking a second look at the show I noticed that Madonna almost took a tumble, and M.I.A. successfully put in her two cents by flipping the bird to cameras. And who could forget Cee Lo Green's be-dazzled choir gown? I think that

outfit speaks for itself. Now that I've picked apart the 12-minute performance, I can successfully draw my conclusions. Say what you want about Madonna, but love her or hate her, she knows how to put on a show. She's iconic and has continued to be so successful because she knows how to reinvent herself, without losing that image of being the "Material Girl" the world fell in love with. Though I was not completely blown away by the performance, it still deserves a half-hearted thumbs up. Madonna definitely delivered, and we certainly got more than we bargained for.

Launch into Leap Day with leaptastic celebrations

By **ASHLEY LAMPMAN**
Staff Writer

It only occurs once every four years and adds an extra day to our year. So why not spend that extra day of the year celebrating?

Leap Day, Feb. 29, according to <http://timeanddate.com>, which was introduced more than 2000 years ago, makes our year 366 days instead of 365. The extra day keeps our calendar in alignment with the Earth's revolutions around the sun, which takes 365.242199 days. The extra day every four years allows us not to lose any hours throughout the years.

Since the introduction of Leap Day in 45 BCE, Leap Day traditions have been developed all over the world to celebrate this unusual day. One of the oldest traditions is from Ireland, the Leap Day Proposal. Every four years,

St. Patrick allowed women to propose to men. Ladies, why not honor the Irish tradition and take a leap by asking out that guy that you have had your eye on?

Leap Day can be celebrated by anyone, not just Leapeans (those born on Leap Day). Those who are leapless can find ways to celebrate Leap Day and to create new Leap Day traditions.

Try throwing a Leap Day party to celebrate the day. Have a party that is frog-themed with frog decorations, or frog themed foods, such as frog cupcakes or fun, amphibian activities. For those who can, serve the Leap Day cocktail, created by the Savoy Hotel in London to celebrate the Leap Day tradition of reverse proposals. According to "The Savoy Cocktail Book," it is "responsible for more proposals than

any other cocktail ever mixed."

Hosting a movie screening of the film, "Leap Year," is also a great way to celebrate the extra day and to watch one of the oldest traditions play out. The movie follows Anna (Amy Adams) as she travels to Ireland to propose to her boyfriend on Leap Day.

You can also celebrate this day by finding ways to commemorate the year. Creating a time capsule that could be opened up next Leap Day is an excellent way to see how life has changed in the past four years. Making a time capsule can become a great Leap Day tradition for all.

Take advantage of this extra day that happens only every four years. Make your day as leaptastic as you can, and make new Leap Day traditions worth celebrating every four years.



LADYDRAGONFLYCC/ FLICKR

Create your own way to celebrate leaping.

Giants' Super Bowl win sparks football spirit in Tri-State Area

By **DAN SCOFIELD**
Staff Writer

The football left Tom Brady's fingertips and gasps echoed throughout the domed-walls of Lucas Oil Stadium. A pass that seemed to float for eternity fell unsuccessfully to the blue paint of the end zone. The Giants had done the impossible, for a second time, beating the New England Patriots to become champions of Super Bowl XLVI.

"Incomplete!" announced NBC's Al Michaels after a last-second hail-mary attempt by the Patriots. "And the Giants, given last rites by many in December, are the Super Bowl champs in February."

Followed by a cascade of confetti and media attention, the Giants and their MVP quarterback, Eli Manning, took the stage to receive what every professional football team strives for all season long: the Vince Lombardi Trophy.

What followed the night-long celebration by most was a continuation of what has been referred to as Super Bowl "fever:" mobbing of city streets, college campuses chanting and living rooms filled with cheers and tears of victory.

By Monday morning, sporting goods stores such as Modell's and Dick's were selling Super Bowl apparel "faster than a New York minute," said Marist College sophomore Pat McGinn.

"First thing on Monday morning, we

headed over to Modell's to grab a Super Bowl champion shirt and pennant," said McGinn, a life-long Giants fan and supporter. "If we had gotten there an hour later, we would have been too late for this stuff. The entire state of New York is crazed over this win."

In Poughkeepsie, the game was more than just a game for the student body at Marist College. With Super Bowl gatherings going on throughout the city, the college itself planned an extravagant watch party in the Cabaret. Hundreds of students showed up, mostly in Giants' blue, to watch their team take the victory over the rival New Englanders.

"It still feels like a dream. You can't make this up, especially after the first Super Bowl win over the Patriots," said Demetri Louca, a sophomore who hosted a large group of students at his off-campus house. "Honestly, it was the greatest game of football I have ever seen. My appreciation for the game has grown thanks to Eli Manning and the Giants."

One of Louca's friends and a party attendee agreed wholeheartedly. "It was crazy, man. People were running through our campus just screaming Giant pride," said Nocera, a New Jersey native and devoted Giant fan. "I can't even imagine what a loss would have done here. Hearts would have been crushed."

At the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, the losing side didn't take the end result so well. While Giants fans were overjoyed with their hard-fought win, some Patriot fans took to the streets in forms of student mobs and riots. After two hours of firecrackers, smoke and pepper balls and fighting crowd resistance, police dispersed nearly 1,500 people Sunday night after the game. Fourteen arrests were made, 13 of which were UMass-Amherst students.

Whether a supporter of the winning or losing side, much of the Northeast became emotionally invested in Super Bowl XLVI. Although most of the country was watching for the million-dollar commercials and an intense football rivalry, fans associated with New York and New England found a new sense of attachment to their teams.

But in the Northeast region of the United States, football hasn't always been a top priority in the lives of many sport fans. College football, which has flourished in most other parts of the country, has failed to grab big-time attention recently in the Tri-State area. Compared to the football-rich southern states, where tailgate smells and fight song anthems linger throughout the year, the Northeast had little to offer football lovers before this historic Super Bowl win by the Giants.

The college football experience at big-time state universities such as Texas, Oklahoma, Ohio State and Florida creates a close-knit atmosphere of fandom and support. State universities like Rutgers and Syracuse, have attempted to recreate this in New Jersey and New York, but their inconsistency have held them back from reaching the next tier of college football exposure.

Besides the world-champion Giants team, professional organizations including the New York Jets and Buffalo Bills call New York State their home. But without much success on a national level, fan loyalty and support isn't something for which Tri-State football has become known. The Jets (8-8) and Bills (6-10), both competing in the AFC East division, failed to make the playoffs.

In comparison, the state of Texas has become known for just that. With professional teams in Dallas and Houston, in addition to numerous big-time college football programs within its state borders, Texas has become a football-lover's paradise.

Texas native and Dallas Cowboy fan David Welsh put that into perspective. "We are known for our football, stretching from high school to professional leagues," said Welsh, a 48-year old public relations director and die-hard football fan. "I'm happy for the Northeast and what they had during this Super Bowl. Maybe they will begin to catch up with the rest of this football-loving nation now."

After the Giants' 21-17 victory, it may be true that Super Bowl fever has reached its highest temperature yet.

Deriving from one of the biggest markets not only in the country but

internationally, the Giants' win was exactly that: a giant win. In result of the victory, according to New York's mayor Michael Bloomberg, Monday's parade drew an estimated one million people with one third of that number coming to the city outside of New York. In addition, the city profited close to \$38 million from the parade celebration.

Thanks to the underdog story of this year's team and a growing, dedicated fan base that will only see its numbers increase after the thrilling victory, you can be sure the Giant blue won't be fading away any time soon.

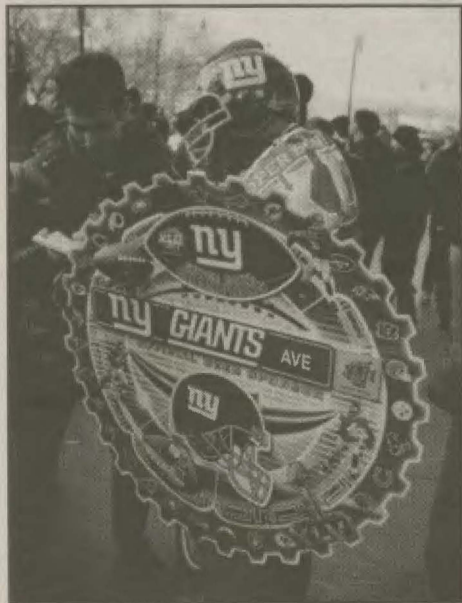
Addressing the densely crowded streets of Giants fans on Monday morning, defensive end Justin Tuck spoke out about how much the support meant to this team in getting the victory.

"We made it here by believing in each other. We believe in every guy on this team," Tuck said to the roaring crowd of blue. "Honestly, we wouldn't be here today without your support."

Considered one of the underdogs of the postseason from week one against the Falcons, the Giants reeled off wins against Atlanta, Green Bay and San Francisco before their magical fourth-quarter comeback against New England.

Now that the long journey to getting the championship ring is over, the Super Bowl fever will begin to fade within the next few weeks. However, thanks to the underdog story of this year's team and a growing, dedicated fan base that will only see its numbers increase after the thrilling victory, you can be sure the Giant blue won't be fading away any time soon.

"This was a great win for not only the team but for the New York area," Louca said emphatically while watching the fourth-quarter highlights. "This just put New York football back on the map."



APRECHE/ FLICKR

Fans celebrated the big win for the "big blue."

Discover Marist campus's secret sanctuaries

By STEPHANIE DUFFY
Circle Contributor

Marist students are well aware that we have one of the most picturesque campuses on the east coast, characterized by the scenic view of the Hudson River and stunning architectural structures like the library, the Rotunda and the Hancock Center.

Hidden spots include a secret window in the back of the library around the stairs, and a secret hallway in the student center.

However, escaping the cold and studying for exams often takes priority over stopping to explore Marist for its aspects that make the campus unique.

I enlisted the help of some very knowledgeable upperclassmen and asked them, "What is your favorite spot on campus and why is it unique or unusual?"

Students shared insight about their go-to spots. Many enthusiastic students were excited to divulge their secrets and are eager to get outside to visit their favorite spots once the warm weather hits.

Students love the peaceful tran-

quility of the Hudson River. When the weather gets warm, the docks are the place to go to get some time away from the chaos of classes and dorm living, or just to relax and get some sun.

Likewise, the sanctuary by the freshmen dorms, the courtyard behind the Hancock Center and the field behind the dining hall are quiet places students slip away to when the sun is shining and class is out for the day.

On the other hand, if you're looking for adventure, head down to the riverside.

"There's an old tunnel underneath the train tracks where I think some bats may live- I would love to explore it sometime," said junior Nick Homler.

For beautiful views of the river without getting too close, junior Stephen Azierski says that the hill in front of the Library (the "Marist beach") and the Midrise wall are perfect spots. Be on the lookout for sunbathers or Frisbee games here in the spring!

Although the campus offers spectacular scenery and outdoor retreats, many students focus on hidden gems within the walls of Marist College.

Senior Grace Andruskiewicz laughs about the location of the music department, adding "People can never find it—it's kind of like we're in a dungeon."

The almost hidden location of



DAN NOVEMBER/THE CIRCLE

Upperclassmen have plenty of ideas for students seeking relaxation refuges on campus.

the department makes it perfect for students to get away and lose themselves in creative expression.

Other hidden spots include a secret window in the back of the library around the stairs, and a secret hallway in the student center. A group of juniors eagerly revealed that if you turn right at the bottom of the stairs leading to the dining hall, you can follow the hallway to a stairwell that will take you to the second floor.

Probably one of the most charming but least recognized Marist structures is the Greystone Building, located between Marian Hall and the Library.

"I love Greystone!" junior Mick Kastner said. "I never get to go in there, but it's etched on my class ring because it's so beautiful."

Greystone was the College Library for 35 years before James A. Cannavino was built in the 1960s, reminding us how much our school has changed and grown since its start.

Although coursework and college life can be demanding and stressful, students should take care knowing that our campus has so much to discover and explore—indoors and out! Take time out of your day to investigate your campus and see what you can find.

Sexual Healing: Banish bashfulness with Bedsider confessions

By RACHAEL SHOCKEY
Lifestyles Editor

Bummed that you had a sexless Valentine's Day? Humiliated that you singed your partner with hot candle wax at the end of your Valentine's date? A new app on Facebook that features users' most entertaining sex mishaps might offer a perfect remedy to your bitterness. Bedsider Confessions was launched last week by <http://Bedsider.org>, an interactive, online resource for people searching for the right birth control method.

The Confessions app is meant to motivate Bedsider's audience to demand that their birth control, like their sexual encounters, improve with experience.

Such a resource may not seem too flashy or innovative to us at Marist, what with a Rite Aid full of rubbers within walking distance from campus. But male condoms are not for everyone, and everyone not only deserves access to birth control, but to birth control that makes them happy. Bedsider's highly accessible and aesthetically appealing website offers honest information on just about every method imaginable (including ones like the "pull-out method," which physicians often neglect to even mention to patients). The site also features videos of real-life users reviewing each contraceptive; helps users find local places



ORIZ ZEBEST/FICKR

If you can do damage like this, Bedsider wants to hear your embarrassing stories.

to purchase birth control or book a consultation; offers a reminder service to users who worry about forgetting to take care of their birth control or attend an appointment; compiles entertaining videos that dispel common sex myths; and features a weekly sex column called "Frisky Fridays".

The Facebook app is another endeavor on their part to make sexual health education fun and sexy.

"Bedsider and the Ad Council have partnered to create a groundbreaking, first-ever national multimedia campaign designed to reduce the rates of unplanned pregnancy among unmarried young women," said staff writers at <http://prnewswire.com>. "As an extension of their successful PSA campaign launched in November 2011, this app will remind women

that despite awkward moments, they would never give up on sex and they shouldn't give up on contraception either."

The Confessions app is meant to motivate Bedsider's audience to demand that their birth control, like their sexual encounters, improve with experience. It also serves as a reminder to all of us that nobody's sex life is silky and effortless like the intimacy we see on TV (especially this time of year). Your stories of third-degree rug burn, mystically disappearing condoms and accidental anal penetration are no cause for shame. The more we are willing to divulge our erotic mishaps and laugh about them—thus assuring ourselves and others that we are not personally defective—the better we feel about continuing to work

on a tricky sex move, a birth control method or an especially slippery, condom-unfriendly lubricant.

Story-sharing through Bedsider is quick and discreet. Once you "like" Bedsider's Facebook page, you are allowed access to the Confessions wall and a text box in which you can share your own sex confession. The confession must be 140 characters or less and must not contain profanity or identifying information about another person. Users are given the option to post anonymously or to post via their Facebook profile (the activity will not show up on your Facebook wall).

Like other Facebook wall posts, users may comment on other confessions, but in place of the standard "Like" button is a purple "LOVE!" button. Posts that receive the most "Loves" are featured on the "Fan Favorites" page. Right now, that page includes confessions like "Tried to join the Mile High Club... emergency landing was a mood killer," "She took all of her clothes off but left her socks on—and insisted that they stay on!" and "That awkward moment when both cats join you in bed..."

Everyone wins when we resolve to embrace the clumsy, dirty and often sticky side of sex. Laughing off bedroom blunders can enhance intimacy and trust between you and your partner, encourage your confidantes not to feel awkward about their own sex lives and offer something for the people who are shunning sex around Valentine's Day something to smirk at.

Tell-All Tips for the Informed Intern: Demonstrating your passion

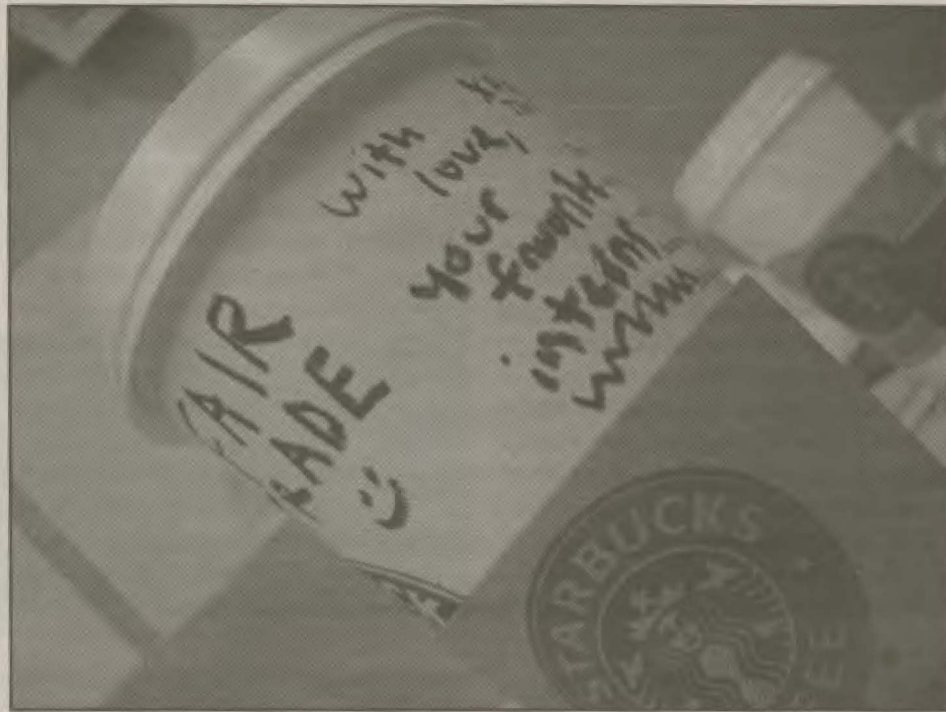
By EMILY BERGER
Managing Editor

General Tip: Everything happens for a reason, regarding opportunities to show what you are capable of doing. When you are faced with these opportunities, you must always find a way to stand out to get the most out of your internship.

Our early years in college are filled with partying and making friends. But senior year, students abruptly remember why they came to college. One of the ways that students get themselves ready for futures that will foster their interests is pursuing internships.

Proving that you will go above and beyond the other interns and do whatever the office needs from you in order for them to succeed is what will get you a job at the end of your internship.

For each internship you choose, there should be a genuine reason behind why you want to make an impact in a particular business. You should want the jobs your bosses have, or want to pick up the skills of the people around



DAVID BOYLE/FLICR

Be kind to your bosses as an intern, and you will be repaid when you move up in rank.

you have established from working there). My general advice this week is to make sure that at your internship, the people who matter know how much you want to be in that industry, and how great you'd be at the job you want. If after completing the internship you realize you don't want a career in that industry, the experience will still, most likely, be hugely helpful in determining your ideal career path. Changing the direction of your career goals is a process most college students need to go through in order to discover what they

truly want to do.

Once you know your direction, the passion you show for the subject and projects they assign you is what will separate you from the other interns. Right now, I am competing with more than 30 other interns where I am, but I have found a way to establish my niche there, and now I am getting personally requested for segments with a production team at the Rachael Ray Show. Proving that you will go above and beyond the other interns and do whatever the office needs from you in order for them

to succeed is what will get you a job at the end of your internship. Also, that passion will help you gain a good relationship with your bosses, which will help in any kind of networking you will need to get a job. The connections made now are what will give you an advantage over anyone else trying to get the same jobs you seek.

In the end, when you're done with your internship, make sure you feel positive that you made an influence on your prospective field, and know that you've made a connection with your bosses. Next time they are trying to fill an open position they will remember you and your hard work.

I must say that at any internship, every day won't be the most intriguing, and some assignments will be tedious. However, when you reach that one project that makes you prove yourself and you feel you did your very best, it will give you an amazing feeling about the overall experience. Knowing that in the end it will all be worth it will get you through the tasks that every intern must perform. Every intern can relate when it comes to doing things like getting coffee and other jobs you don't feel like doing. Think of it as your rite of passage, and your torch will be passed. Then you'll have your own intern to send out for Starbucks.

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The Fox Trot

Quick hits of the week in Marist athletics

Tennis

The Marist men's tennis team suffered their first loss of the spring season on Saturday, losing 7-0 to undefeated Columbia.

Marist's only victory of the day came in a doubles match, where Matt Himmelsbach and Joris Van Eck defeated Columbia's Bert Vancura and Winston Lin, 9-8.

Despite the loss, the Red Foxes were still picked to finish first in MAAC by the Preseason Coaches' Poll in Monday. They are the four-time defending conference champions and have won 10 MAAC Tournament Championships in past 14 seasons.

The women's team was also picked to repeat as MAAC champions, receiving 60 points in the polls. The Red Foxes return most of their top players from last year's team, and are in pursuit of their fourth NCCAA Tournament appearance in the last six seasons.

Track and Field

The Marist men and women's track and field teams competed in the Valentine Invitational over the weekend, at Boston University. Both teams saw several runners earn personal bests in their respective races.

On the men's side, Arquimedes Delacruz ran a personal best in the

3,000-meter race. Delacruz's time of 8:17.11 qualified him for next month's IC4A Championships, while also placing him in second place in the program's record books.

Jesse Aprile also earned a personal best, with a time of 7.23 in the 60-meter dash. Aprile also ran season-bests in the 200-meters (22.89) and the long jump (6.11).

Other notable performances included Ken Walshak, who finished the 5,000-meter race in 14:47.78, and captain Thomas Lipari, running the mile in 4:16.84.

The women's team saw Michelle Gaye continue her impressive freshman season, breaking the school record in the mile, with a time of

4:55.95.

Gaye's time broke the year-old record, set by Brittany Burns at the MAAC Championships. The time qualified Gaye for the ECAC Championships mile race. It is the second ECAC qualifier that Gaye has earned this season, as she had already qualified for the 3,000-meter race.

The 1,600-meter relay team of Christine Coughlin, Briana Crowe, Colleen Meenan and Jackie Gamboli finished with a time of 4:11.68, winning the sixth section of the race.

Both teams will compete in the MAAC Championships on Feb. 17, at the Amory in New York City.

Pack the Prom Photospread



Top Left: The Marist student section gets their hands together in celebrating another Marist basket. Top Right: Members of the Dance Team dance with students during the Halftime slow dance. Middle Left: Marist cheerleaders cheer their Red Foxes on to victory. Middle Right: Head Coach Brian Giorgis watches his team intensely from the bench. Bottom Left: Kelsey Beynon drives to the hole against a Fairfield defender. Bottom Right: Corielle Yarde celebrates the team's victory as she runs off the court with her teammates.

ALL PHOTOS BY RYAN RIVARD/THE CIRCLE

Baseball preview: Foxes go on road to find identity

By ERIC VANDER VOORT
Sports Editor

April showers and May flowers may still be weeks away, but the new-look Marist baseball team is ready for spring.

After starting practices Jan. 27 and taking advantage of the unseasonably warm weather so far in 2012, the Red Foxes are set to start their season this weekend. The Marist team that lost four players to last year's MLB draft will travel to Buies Creek, N.C. for a three-game set against Campbell to open their 2012 campaign. The teams will play one game on Friday at 3 p.m. and a doubleheader starting at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

The Red Foxes will start the season with 16 road games before starting the MAAC play at home on March 24. The month-long stretch of road games will be primarily played against southern schools, with two trips to Virginia and the Coastal Carolina Tournament in South Carolina.

The schedule could prove to be a challenge for Marist, playing sev-

eral highly-rated teams going into the season. On March 13 and 14, the Red Foxes will play two games against the Virginia Cavaliers, semifinalists in last year's College World Series. Other foes include Old Dominion, Ohio State, Coastal Carolina, Toledo, Radford, Albany and Fordham.

"It's a challenging schedule, but I think it's good," head coach Chris Tracz said. "We're a team that's going to have to find our identity, find our style and the way that we're going to play. Finding out who we are through adversity is going to be huge. There's going to be some bumps in the road, some highs and lows."

Tracz, in his third year as head coach, said that it is the time to "let jobs be won" and establish a lineup and pitching rotation.

For the players, playing the first month on the road can be difficult but it's also a good experience.

"The beginning of the season is always fun," senior Eric Helmrich said. "It can be a bit of grind, but we come back here all ready to go for the conference season."

MAAC play will start on March 24

against Manhattan at McCann Baseball Field. The conference looks to be filled with parity going into the 2012 season.

The Red Foxes were selected to finish fifth in the MAAC coaches' poll, but their 53 points is only eight points behind predicted first-place finisher Canisius. In Baseball America's MAAC preview, Marist was picked to finish first.

"Everybody lost a core part of their group," Tracz said, "so it brings everybody back to the pack. It's probably the deepest the league has been in the 10 years that I've seen it. Every weekend's going to count; every game is going to be important."

Last year the Red Foxes went 35-17 overall and 13-11 in conference, ending the season in fifth place, one spot removed from the MAAC tournament. The 35 wins is the second-highest total in program history.

This year's squad will have to fill in the gaps left by a draft class that tied a program record with four players being selected in the MLB draft. Mike Gallic, Jon Schwind, Ricky Pacione and Eric Alessio were all selected and played minor league baseball last summer.

Gallic, Pacione, Schwind and Bryce Nugent, who was a senior as well, accounted for four of the top five batting averages on the team last year.

"It's tough to lose that kind of production on the mound and positionally," Tracz said. "But at the same time guys have been working from last year to be in a position to take those opportunities."

Eric Helmrich will lead the Red Foxes' offense in 2012. Last season, the senior from Yonkers hit .364 in 48 games, hitting three home runs and driving in 32 to earn first-team all-conference. He was selected for the same award in the preseason voting this year.

Tracz said he plans to use Helmrich, who was mostly a designated hitter last year, more in left field this year.

Other core returners include first baseman Mike Orefice and short-stop Zach Shank. Ben Luderer, a senior who has gone through two shoulder surgeries, is healthy and will get the nod at catcher. Redshirt sophomore Mark Stuckey returns from a back injury and will see time at second base and center field.

Tracz said that freshman infielder Alec Petrone is "a guy that can produce at the top of our order and sound defensively." Petrone is one of 10 freshmen for the squad.

"I don't think we're going to be as explosive offensively but that doesn't mean we can't be more efficient. There will be kind of a different look to us, a different style, but I think in the end the production could be fairly similar."

The pitching staff will be spearheaded by team captain Chad Gallagher, Brett Houseal, Chris Bielak and Dan Zlotnick.

"Those guys are going to be our core four," Tracz said. "It's just a matter of figuring out what roles they're going to fill behind Chad."

Gallagher went 9-3 in 14 starts last season with a 2.87 ERA and a team-leading 56 strikeouts.

"He's a guy we're going to look to in game one of every series to be able to put us in a position to win," Tracz said.

Gallagher said the rest of the rotation is looking strong as well.

"Overall it's looking pretty good," the southpaw out of Southboro, Mass. said. "We have four or five guys who can potentially start over the weekend, and that's always a good problem to have. The bullpen is really shaping up too."

The weather has been kind to the Red Foxes, as warm temperatures and a lack of rain or snow have allowed for several intersquad scrimmages at McCann Baseball Field.

"I'm feeling really good, and the team is feeling really good," Gallagher said. "We've put ourselves in good position going into the season. Getting outside and getting in live work on the field has been huge."



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PHOTO COURTESY MARIST ATHLETICS

Jake Rifkin (32, above), Mike Orefice (right, above) and the Marist baseball team have been able to take advantage of good weather to prepare for the 2012 season.

Softball preview: Great expectations for Foxes

By GARRIN MARCHETTI
Staff Writer

In 2010, the Marist softball team ended its season with a 10-35 overall record. Last year, after being picked seventh in the conference preseason poll, the team made enormous improvements, finishing with a 33-22 record, the winningest season in program history.

Needless to say, expectations are high for the 2012 season. The Red Foxes return all of their starters from 2011 while adding several newcomers who are expected to make an instant impact. Head Coach Joe Ausanio said it is valuable to have so many returners.

"I think the big thing for us is that we didn't lose anyone last year," Ausanio said. "We have the whole team coming back and we added three freshmen who are going to be significant contributors to our team."

The returning veteran leadership, combined with the addition of new

talent, will certainly benefit Marist. The 2012 schedule features matchups against three of the Top 25 teams in the country, including California, who finished fifth in the College World Series last year.

"This year, we have a little bit tougher schedule than last year, so it's definitely going to be more of a challenge for us. But I think, in preparation for the MAAC tournament and the MAAC schedule, it's going to be a great thing for the kids," Ausanio said.

While the non-conference schedule will have tough tests for the Red Foxes, Ausanio knows that the team's conference opponents should not be taken lightly, even though the team has been picked second in the MAAC preseason poll.

"Everybody from one to nine can win a game in this conference," Ausanio said. "Even though some teams may have been picked near the bottom, they can beat any given team on any given day. It is definitely a conference that is getting better at softball, and that's great to

see."

Ausanio said he would like to see more consistency. There were times last season where the Red Foxes would look one way in one game, then look completely different in another.

"We could come out one day, beat a very good team, and then the next day we would get eight-run ruled," Ausanio said. "Making sure we have consistent at-bats, making sure our pitchers are consistent in the zone, those are the little things that you have to work on and try to get better at every day."

The Red Foxes have worked hard this offseason to make sure that those types of games do not happen again this season. For co-captain Megan Lamoureux, the way to fix that problem is simple.

"This offseason, we have really been working as a team to make sure we are consistent. When everyone is on the same page, we play better, and everyone is definitely focused on the same goal," Lamoureux said.

With the recent stretch of warm weather, this off-season has been particularly beneficial for Marist, which has been able to practice outside in the winter for the first time in a long time.

"The nice weather has really been great," co-captain Lindsay Durant said. "To be able to get a head start on playing outside has been really helpful for the team. It's preparing us early on for this season, and that is huge."

With the season ready to begin on Feb. 18 with a doubleheader against Norfolk State, the Red Foxes understand how important this season could be, not just for this team, but also for the program. Senior co-captain Nicole DeVirgilio, who was named to the All-MAAC First Team last season, knows what a perfect ending to her career would look like.

"I want a ring," DeVirgilio said. "And I know that is what this team wants too. We have all picked up right where we left off last season, and now we have more motivation to be even better."

Women's basketball sweeps weekend games

By ZACH DOOLEY
Staff Writer

The Marist women's basketball team reasserted its dominance with wins over Fairfield and Siena this weekend.

The Red Foxes took over sole possession of first place with a 60-54 win over Fairfield, which gives them not only a full game lead over the Stags, but also the tie breaker, as they have won both head-to-head matchups.

Balanced scoring was again the theme for the Red Foxes on offense, as Marist had seven players who scored at least seven points, led by Brandy Gang with 15 and Casey Dulin with 14. Marist also got a huge spark off the bench from Emma O'Connor who had seven first half points to go along with three steals.

"It was a huge lift, because both teams at the time were having trouble scoring, and all of a sudden it was that little run and Emma was a big part of that run," Marist head coach Brian Giorgis said. "She's the one kid on our team that's been in the gym late all this week working with the coaches and I couldn't be happier for her to come in and make that type of contribution."

Marist used a 16-6 run at the end of the first half and the beginning of the second half to open up a 38-27 lead after the game had been low-scoring and close for most of the first half. Fairfield kept things tight for the rest of the contest, but could never get within six, which was the final margin of victory.

"We were so pumped up for this game all week; we wanted to win and didn't want to lose and of course we want to keep winning all of our games and stay in first," Dulin said.

Turnovers were the key in this game, as Marist won the turnover battle 17-9, and the points off of turnovers battle by an astounding 22-4 margin, meaning the Red Foxes were capitalizing on Fairfield's mistakes.

"There was great shooting, great defense, nice passes; it was just a great game. I thought the biggest

difference in the game was the turnovers and the 22 points off turnovers versus their four, and our ability to defend the arc," Giorgis said.

Marist's defense was also solid. Defensively, the Red Foxes completely shut down Fairfield, especially on the perimeter. The effort as always was spearheaded by sophomore guard Leanne Ockenden and both Fairfield guards had bad shooting days, which came as a result of Marist's lock down defense.

The Red Foxes held Alexys Vazquez, who is the top three point shooter in the NCAA in terms of percentage, to 0-5 from three-point land. Fairfield's other guard, Desiree Pena, was held to just three of 10 from the field.

"We just have to keep our momentum going, stay confident and just play our game, and hopefully we do that on Sunday," Ockenden said.

Despite coming off of the emotional win over Fairfield on Friday, the Marist women's basketball team suffered no letdown as it defeated Siena, 75-51. The win moved the Red Foxes to 12-1, who are now two games clear of second place Fairfield, who was upset on Sunday.

Senior Brandy Gang led the Red Foxes with 20 points and senior Corielle Yarde added 15 of her own to pace a Marist team that had five of its six starters in double figures.

"People are starting to see that if you want to take away a person on our team, you have to take away five people; the five people that are on the floor," Giorgis said. "Our top six people have all had games of at least 16 plus, so we don't know who's going to do it, but somebody always seems to do it."

Against Fairfield, Marist got off to a slow start, but today they scored eight points in under three minutes, and never looked back from there. The Red Foxes then used a 16-5 run late in the first half to open up a double digit lead, which they would open up to a 20-plus point lead as the game progressed. Yarde had a big second half with 12 of her 15 coming in the final 20 minutes, after Gang had paced the offense in the

first.

"Coach stressed that we couldn't rest on the win against Fairfield, so we had to come out strong against Siena," Gang said. "We knew that they were going to be a good team and we just took it at them."

The biggest stat in this game, however, was once again turnovers. Marist turned 21 Siena turnovers into 26 points, compared to just five points off of turnovers for the Saints. Marist also had a total of 13 steals, including at least two from each of its starters.

"Right now we're playing good team defense," Giorgis said. "Yes, Leanne is our stopper, but we switch a lot and we know that she's been a steady constant, but I think

also the play of Brandy and Kelsey inside defensively has caused a number of turnovers. Even though people have scored, shooting percentages haven't been as great inside and we've taken away some of the inside game. I think this year individual performances are getting out-shined by the team, which I love."

Marist's next two games are in Buffalo this coming weekend, when they take on Niagara and Canisius. A win in both contests would clinch a share of the MAAC Regular Season Championship, which would give Marist the number one seed in the MAAC Tournament, seeing as they have the tie-breaker over second place Fairfield.



THIS PHOTO IS POWERED BY AURASMA@MARIST

RYAN RIVARD/THECIRCLE

The Marist women's basketball team earned two huge victories this past weekend, defeating Fairfield and Siena. The victories opened up a two game lead in the MAAC conference standings. Emma O'Connor (above) played a big role in the win over Fairfield off the bench, scoring seven points and adding three steals and two rebounds as well. Marist clinches the regular season title with two wins this weekend in Buffalo.

Water polo takes on ranked teams in California

By JOE FITZHENRY
Circle Contributor

The Marist women's water polo team headed to the West Coast this past weekend where it competed in the Triton Invitational, hosted by UC-San Diego. The Red Foxes finished the tournament with a record of 1-3, recording a win over Sonoma State while falling to UC-Irvine, UC-San Diego (twice, once non-invitational) and Long Beach State. The three losses were all against nationally ranked opponents who presented quite a challenge for a young Marist squad that was picked to finish third in the MAAC Preseason poll.

"I was really pleased with the team's performance, playing against a top 20, top 15 and top 10 team," coach Ashleigh Huckins said.

The Red Foxes defeated Sonoma State by a score of 9-7, giving them

their first win of the season.

Marist, now 1-7 for the season, battled back from a 2-0 deficit and the game remained close throughout. Alison Hamby, Desiree Desaulniers and Hannah Levien each chipped in with two goals for the Red Foxes while Jessica Hamby, Kelly Kline and Jaclyn Puccino added a goal apiece. Marist trailed 5-4 at halftime, but managed to regain the lead 8-6 entering the final frame where they held off a mad rush by Sonoma for their first win of the season.

In their first game of the weekend, the Red Foxes fell to UC-San Diego by a score of 9-4 on Friday night. Marist trailed by scores of 2-0 and 3-1 in the second quarter and managed to cut both of those deficits in half, but simply couldn't get over the hump. San Diego then opened up a 5-2 lead at halftime and cruised the rest of the way to the victory.

Rebecca Thomas made 14 saves over three quarters of action for

the Red Foxes.

Taking on #6 UC-Irvine, Marist did not have enough firepower to keep pace with Irvine as they controlled the game throughout, winning by the wide margin of 16-4. Puccino, Kline, Mackenzie Maynes and Shelby Rinker scored for the Red Foxes.

As for the match against #14 Long Beach State, the Red Foxes battled throughout, but fell short, losing by a score of 9-6. The game was tied at five with 2:35 remaining in the third quarter, but the Marist attack went missing and mustered just one goal over the final 10 1/2 minutes of the match. Puccino and Hamby each scored two goals for the Red Foxes, while Yury Chavez and Alison Hamby's sister, Jessica contributed a goal apiece. Thomas also made 10 saves in net for the Red Foxes.

The final match of the weekend was a rematch with the #18 UC-San Diego squad. This time around, the Red Foxes fell short

once again by a score of 8-4. Alison Hamby, Kline, Maynes and Chavez all scored a goal for Marist and Thomas recorded 10 saves.

Huckins remained upbeat about the team going forward despite their struggles in California.

"This team is one of the mentally toughest I have seen at this point in the season. They understand we are playing a tough non-conference schedule and have embraced it. We made some early season mistakes, but remain a mentally tough team overall."

Up next, the Red Foxes will travel to Lewisburg, P.A. to take part in the Bucknell Invitational this weekend. The team will play Princeton and Hartwick on Saturday with Brown and Gannon on the docket for Sunday.

Also of note for the Red Foxes were two MAAC award winners. Sophomore Rebecca Thomas was named defensive player of the week and freshman Alison Hamby was named freshman of the week.

Red Foxes to finish season in comfort of McCann

By ERIC VANDER VOORT
Sports Editor

After going over a calendar year without a road win, the Marist men's basketball team finally won a game on an opponent's home floor last Thursday against St. Peter's.

The Red Foxes dominated the Peacocks by a score of 66-47. Junior Devin Price scored 18 points in the first half and finished with 20 as Marist completed the season sweep of St. Peter's.

"It was a good road win," head coach Chuck Martin said. "It was good to sweep a team."

Sophomore center Adam Kemp said the win helped the team's confidence.

"It was huge," Kemp said. "We had some close games on the road, some games that we could have won, and we just hadn't broke through yet. It was just really big for our confidence to pick up a road win, prove that we can do it, and just kind of help get us out of the slump."

The Red Foxes took their newfound confidence to New Rochelle on Sunday to take on preseason favorites Iona. After falling down by 16 in the first half, Marist stormed back to take a five-point lead in the second half. The Gaels came back to



THE ABOVE PHOTO IS POWERED BY AURASMA@MARIST

JON O'SULLIVAN/THE CIRCLE

Manny Thomas (above) drives against Manhattan. The Marist men's basketball team took on MAAC foe Loyola (Maryland) in the McCann Arena last night. Because the game took place to late for this issue, go to maristcircle.com for the full game story.

win 83-74.

Price and freshman Chavaughn Lewis each scored 20 points in the effort.

"We played well in the Iona game," Martin said, "we just made too

many mistakes in critical moments and they're just too good to make those mistakes. Iona is arguably the best team in the league and we played them really, really well."

After struggling in the month of

January, the Red Foxes have shown improvement thus far in February.

"I think we're growing up a little bit more," Martin said. "Shot selection, understanding how to run an offense, understanding how to defend for 40 minutes, 35 seconds each possession. Freshmen are starting to turn the corner and are becoming sophomores, sophomores becoming juniors, that's kind of the biggest thing. Focus and concentration has been better in practice and certainly has been better in games."

Aside from this Saturday's BracketBusters matchup at Maine, all of the Red Foxes' remaining games will be played in the McCann Arena, where Marist is 7-3 this season.

"It's definitely nice to be able to finish out at home," Kemp said. "We played some of these teams real tough on the road. It'll be real nice to finally be at home for a while."

Martin is hoping fan support will make a difference in the team's games down the stretch.

"Having the support of the community and the student body really helps, if we can get everyone to come out and support these guys the next few home games, I think it could make a huge, huge difference in a win or a loss."



Life is calling...how far will you go?

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