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College Democrats
OF AMERICA

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Here's a list of Hudson Valley hotspots for those that haven't checked out the sites.

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THE CIRCLE

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Septic issues plague Gartland

By **CHRISTINE SAVOIA**
 Staff Writer

Gartland residents experienced an incident that has been one in a series of septic problems, an unclear issue with an underground pipe that left many living in G-block without running water or functioning toilets and showers for an entire day. Residents were told by RAs on Thursday, Feb. 5, that they couldn't use their water, but the hole dug in front of G-block to access the broken pipe remained unfilled until the middle of last week.

Though administration was able to resolve the problem quickly, what exactly happened remains unknown. Amy Weit-Lane, Assistant Director of Housing, confirmed that the problem had been fixed within a day, but did not know the full details of the situation.

"From my understanding of it, an underground pipe in front of G-block had been frozen," Weit-Lane said. "That caused a seam in the pipe to crack and become undone."

The Maintenance and Physical Plant departments were contacted, but representatives were either unavailable or unable to discuss the situation.

"I don't really have a whole lot of information about what's going on and I think that is one of the biggest problems and nuisances being felt by everyone who lives here," said Elyse Calcerano, president of Gartland's Resident Student Council.

Jen Plaveck and Caitlin Nolan, residents of the affected block, experienced a number of hassles as a result of the pipe problem, one of which included having to use the bathrooms in

two times. I would say that this is definitely a recent thing," Calcerano said. "We never had any issues last semester at all. I mean since we've gotten back, the toilet just keeps clogging



GREG DUBOIS / THE CIRCLE

Maintenance issues, although quickly fixed, have become more frequent in the Gartland Commons. A broken pipe was recently fixed earlier in Feb., but the cause remains unknown.

other buildings between classes.

"It was definitely frustrating not being able to use the water," said Plaveck. "I decided to shower late on one of the days that it was shut off unexpectedly so I had to go to class not exactly looking or feeling my best. We couldn't wash our dishes either."

Calcerano echoed this notion, saying, "We will sporadically be told by an RA that we can't use the water for some extended period of time but they never tell us why, what the overall problem is, or how long it's going to take to fix. It's frustrating."

"We have been told not to use the water by the RAs at least

for no reason."

Although some may argue that Gartland could do with a good renovation, Marist administration and maintenance have been responding quickly and responsibly to all of these arising problems.

Plaveck said she believed the school fixed the water as soon as they could, saying that they dug the huge hole in front of G6 in less than an hour and were able to fix the pipe that same day.

However, she also commented that, despite the water problem being resolved, the hole in the lawn took considerably longer to fix.

"The hole I feel took almost a week to be filled," she said.

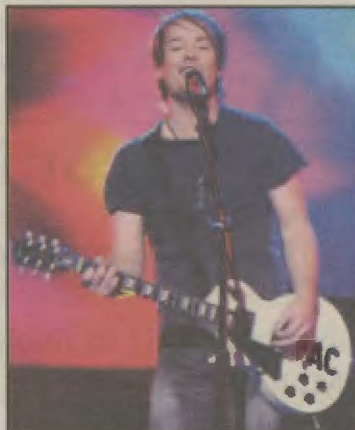
Idol winner to rock Bardavon Opera House

By **DAVID MIELACH**
 Staff Writer

Marist College will be getting a taste of Hollywood as the Student Programming Council announced an exclusive concert featuring last season's American Idol winner, David Cook, coming to Poughkeepsie. The concert is set to take place March 10 at The Bardavon 1869 Opera House in Poughkeepsie.

The concert was announced in an e-mail to the Marist Community from Vice President of Student Affairs, Deborah Dicaprio.

Cook, who won the seventh season of American Idol, has gained much success with his self-titled album. Cook's



From BUSINESSWEEK.COM

Last season's American Idol winner will perform at the Bardavon Opera House.

"Declaration Tour" is scheduled to make stops at other college campuses all over the country.

"We were able to book

David Cook through the National Association for College Activities Conference," said Laura Veltre, Campus Concerns Officer for the Student Programming Committee. "He was looking to do a tour of small college theaters, so we applied to have him come to Marist, and luckily were selected, based on the size of the theaters available, and the size of our campus."

This marks the first ever solo concert for Cook whose album has hit as high as number three on the Billboard Chart. This concert, according to Cook, attempts to follow in the tracks of the many bands which have played college tours in the past. These

Marist to offer support for well in Ghana, Africa

By **CAITLIN NOLAN**
 Web Editor

On Sunday, Feb. 22, Marist College will attempt to raise funds to construct a second fresh water well for villagers in Ghana. The fundraiser "Water for the World," sponsored by the School of Management Council of Business Leadership, is the third of its kind for the Marist Community.

Through a series of raffles, food and entertainment held from noon to 4 p.m. on the third floor of the Student Center, the benefit will seek to raise \$10,000. Thus far, \$4,000 has been acquired in donations. The group is optimistic in gaining more donations.

The 'Marist Well' in the village of Abesim was successfully constructed with funds raised by the Marist Community and now, the goal is to build a 'Hudson Valley Well' for the neighboring village of Chiraa.

All donations will be sent to the Wench Water Project Company, Ltd. in collaboration with the Catholic Diocese of Sunyani and Fr. Stephen Bosomafi, a Ghanaian priest who earned his MBA at Marist. The organization was specifically established to drill fresh wells in Ghana. Artwork and raffle prizes were donated by but not limited to establishments such as Dragons Den, Millbrook Vineyards and Winery, and numerous restaurants and stores.

The fundraiser will take place from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Center, rooms 348A-349.

colleges provide the intimate venue Cook attempts to bring to his tours.

"Being able to make a 16,000-seat arena feel intimate is one of the trickiest things to pull off," Cook says on his website. "If you can get the people in the nose-bleed seats to feel as though they're getting the same show as the people sitting front and center, then you're doing something amazing. That's always going to be my goal."

For Marist students the opportunity to experience this intimate concert begins on Feb. 20, 2009 when tickets go on sale starting at 7:00 p.m. at the College Activities Office.

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The Circle is the weekly student newspaper of Marist College. Letters to the editors, announcements, and story ideas are always welcome, but we cannot publish unsigned letters. Opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the editorial board.

The Circle staff can be reached at 575-3000 x2429 or letters to the editor can be sent to writethecircle@gmail.com. The Circle can also be viewed on its Web site, www.maristcircle.com.

Security Briefs

Student outsmarts security, still gets the boot

By TYLER THURSTON
...funnier than you.

Campus Announcement

It is with great sadness that the Marist community mourns the loss of entry officer Brian Mac Isaac. A former Fire Inspector for the city of Poughkeepsie Fire Department, Mac Isaac had been a guard for four years at Marist. Our condolences go out to his family and friends.

2/11 – Champagnat

Champagnat seemed to sweep the week, starting with one guest attempting (key word) to use a student's ID to gain entry, instead of you know, filling out that pesky form and all. The student was stopped in their tracks and escorted somewhere far, far away, presumably with their own ID. Taking the time to fill out a piece of paper, or turning around and driving back to the place you just came from? Yeah, that's a really tough call.

2/11 – Beck

An off-campus student reported damage to his vehicle while parked in the Beck parking lot, with the driver's side door being scratched. Alas, there was no note left on the windshield and no eye-witnesses to point out the – I'm sure – usually great driver. Damn, people really do not want to deal with paperwork this week. Some call it being lazy, some call it environmentally conscious. The rest is for you to decide.

2/12 – Champagnat

Champagnat continued to party hard, or at least moderately hard before security confiscated vodka from the 6th floor. Said vodka was then dumped down the drain, providing a crushing blow to what should've been a good night. In a way, security breaking up your party is the same as when your parents would come home during one in high school. It's awkward, it's always right as someone is funneling, and you find out who your real friends are by who runs for the window like inmates fleeing an asylum. Yeah, I'm talking to you people cowering in the closet. Way to put on a brave face.

2/12 – Beck

A vehicle in the Beck parking lot was booted due to its unregistered status and prior ticket violations, only to have the student remove the tire in question from the car and replace it with the spare. The guest of a student on campus then returned the booted tire and turned himself in, and is now banned from campus. Spare tire? Really? Brilliant plan, for all of a week in speeds under 50. Just keeps getting better, doesn't it?

2/12 – Campus

In another recent inspection on campus, 30 unlocked doors were found in the West Cedar and Fulton residences. Are we kidding now? Students are once again highly encouraged to lock their doors for you know, safety and whatnot.

Otherwise what message are you sending? Come on in, the party's in here? Actually, that's probably it, but beside the point. Lock it up.

2/13 – Champagnat

Champagnat continues to take the lead, at least in alcohol confiscation, with 22 Bud Light empties and 14 full being taken from a 4th floor residence. This brings up a question, do the other dorms just not drink as much, or do they just not get caught? So really, who's the real winner here?

2/14 – Hoop

Another parking lot broke onto the scene, literally, with two students reporting valuables missing from their cars, including an iPod, a navigation system, and a radar detector. Upon further inspection, security officers noticed the windows broken on their vehicles, and the town police were notified to take incident reports. There's nothing really else to say, except that this is pretty low. If someone broke into my car, the last thing I'd need is a navigation system considering I wouldn't need directions to find them. Seriously, get a life people. Actually, you'd probably steal that too.

2/14 – Student Center

Ah, Valentine's Day. Time for romance, chocolate, flowers, sappy love notes, and waiters suddenly wondering when love became so pushy. So, here's how I envision this night went down for this lucky

student, but again, I have no idea if this is right or not, I can only imagine. So don't friend me on Facebook because this isn't how it happened, I don't care and I don't want to hear you complain. But I digress. So you take a girl out for what you assume is a romantic evening, a nice dinner you probably paid for. You're walking home, whispering sweet nothings while single people pass you sneering. You drop her off at her dorm; go in for what will be the most amazing kiss of your life, and boom, you get the cheek. Distraught over your love lost, you drink yourself stupid and pass out in the Student Center. As in, pass out on the couch. Pass out so hard that security has to check on you to make sure you're alright, before sending you back to your room. Not how it happened? Actually, I don't really care, it's better this way.

2/15 – Fulton

One student reported footprints in the snow on the hood of their car, with one footprint making a noticeable dent. What? We're walking on cars now? Is that the new thing to do? Was the ground too firm and solid, we need to go airborne now? Are we on the run from the cops and need to jump over vehicles? Do we think we're Jason Bourne? Do we even realize he's a fictional character? Once again, what?

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

Upcoming Events

Trip to see the musical *Shrek* - Sunday, Feb. 22
~ \$25, tickets went on sale Feb. 11 at noon
~ Bus departs from Midrise Lot at 9 a.m.
~ Contact SPC x2828 for more info

Ski trips - Feb. 21 & 28

~ Hunter Mountain, \$25 (includes lift and bus tickets)
~ \$29 ski/snowboard rentals, \$20 lessons
~ Bus leaves Donnelly at 7 a.m.
~ Contact SPC x2828 for more info

Water for the World

~Feb. 22 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
~Located in SC 348a & 349
~Raffle drawings for local businesses
~Money raised will go towards drilling a well in an African village

Democrats absent from on-campus debate

By **HEATHER STAATS**
Staff Writer

With student groups here on campus such as the Political Science Club, the Marist College Republicans, and the Marist Students for Barack Obama, it is easy to get involved with others who share your political beliefs. Yet missing from these groups is a Marist College Democrats.

"I think the sole reason that it hasn't come about yet is because they are not organized to the point that the Marist College Republicans are organized," Cardella said.

Cardella is the former vice chair of the Marist College Republicans and assisted the club from its official beginnings.

"I saw the work that the club's founder, Ken Sincerbox put into it," Cardella said. "He met with Bob Lynch, the director of College Activities, and did everything that he had to do to comply with the SGA requirements. He also received a lot of help from the New York State College Republicans."

Cardella said that he did not believe that there was a lack of interest on the behalf of Marist students.



Democrats are without a formal club despite electoral successes.

"I remember being a freshman at the activities fair and seeing the Marist College Republicans booth and looking around for the College Democrats booth," sophomore Caitlin Mekita said.

While Mekita does not label herself as a Democrat, she thinks that the group would be a significant addition to Marist.

"I do think it's important to have organization within political ideologies," Mekita said. "It

was unusual for me to get here and not see a Marist College Democrats booth. If I had seen it, I probably would have at least signed up to see what it was all about. I was disappointed."

If a student wanted to form a group such as this, there is a bit of work involved. Andrew Paulsen, a resident senator from SGA talked about the steps involved.

"First, you would need at least ten members to show interest, along with a faculty advisor. Next, you would then need to come up with written by-laws. Then, you would need to run it by Laurel Eschbach, who is the vice president of club affairs," Paulsen said. "Then you would sell your idea to the Council of Clubs which has one representative from each club-type on campus. They will look over the club's by-laws and make sure that it is able to sustain itself for at least five years. If it's approved, it will go on for a vote with the student senate."

Illegal immigrants flee the U.S. economy

By **JOSEPH GENTILE**
Politics Editor

With the economy headed south, illegal immigrants from Mexico followed suit and fled the country last year in record numbers. Beginning in May 2008, an estimated 1.3 million undocumented migrants left the country "on their own," reported the Center for Immigration Studies, after it climaxed at 12.5 million in August 2007.

Interpreted to be a sign of progress, opponents of illegal immigration believe the tide has turned. Tougher enforcement by U.S. Border Patrol, coupled with more aggressive stings by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials, has reduced competition for jobs. But with fewer migrants around, market analysts wonder what made our economy so bad they left.

"Things are very dire, and I think it's impacting those at the very bottom even more so," said Prof. Abel Valenzuela of the University of California-Los Angeles to a CNN reporter. Valenzuela has studied the underground culture of day laborers for several years, and documented their triumphs and failures.

Nowadays, the robust economy of the 1990s which created the high demand for jobs in construction, landscaping and agriculture no longer exists, Valenzuela confirmed.

Steven A. Camarota, an author of the Center Immigration Studies report, explained the decline to *Dallas Morning News* staff as "a reduction in new arrivals and an increase in out-migration." Yet on a lighter note, Camarota maintained that "[i]f you could get 2 million of these people to leave, you could get 2 million jobs for less-educated Americans."

Several U.S. and Mexican agencies disagreed with the report's findings, and argued that border security has forced undocumented migrants to weather the ups and downs of seasonal employment.

"In a regime with stepped-up border enforcement, the idea of riding it out would seem more attractive because of the difficulty of getting back," Jeffrey Passel, a senior demographer at the Pew Hispanic Center, said to *The Dallas Morning News*.

Other intergovernmental agencies, such as Mexico's El Colegio de La Frontera Norte

and the Migration Policy Institute of Washington D.C., confirmed more illegal immigrants chose to stay here than go home.

Head of the office of migrant attention, Victor Torres of San Luis Potosí, Mexico told *Dallas Morning News* staff his residents "left seeking a better life and had to go through a series of difficult challenges and complex situations ... our people don't give up."

Only 30,000 immigrants, instead of the traditional 50,000, Torres said returned to celebrate the holidays with family last December. Many remained abroad because cut-throat competition made jobs scare, Torres maintained, so migrants were more reluctant to leave paying employers.

"People are getting jaded to the idea that America is still a land of opportunity," said Prof. Colin McCann, an intercultural communications educator. "Jobs immigrants used to do are being taken by Americans out of work - jobs they had previously considered beneath them."

"It's essentially a case of Wall Street to retail," McCann claimed.

On Marist's mind

By **ROBIN MINITER**
Photography Editor

How has the financial meltdown affected your overall spending habits?



"It's hard to balance your budget when everything is so expensive. Money doesn't buy as much as it used to. For me, everything has been toned down - going out, arbitrary spending, etc."

Chrissy Maranzano
Senior
Education

"I rarely have money, but when I do I tend to spend it on food. I try to be frugal I guess, but when I have money, which isn't too often, I spend it."

Matt O'Neill
Sophomore
Radio/TV/Film



"Last year I would go out to eat and shop all the time and not really pay too much attention to my spending. Now I only really go out to eat on special occasions and pay close attention to every expense."

Madison Weber
Sophomore
Fashion Merchandising

"When I go to the grocery store I look for deals. I used to buy a lot of name brand items, now I go for the generic. Off campus, I try to stick to Marist Money supporters."

Steve Farrice
Sophomore
Business Administration



Student support needed, regardless of Foxes' standing

By DAN PEARLES
Staff Writer

With all due respect to all other sports, the center of attention at most schools is either football or basketball. Without question, it is the basketball program here at Marist.

While the football team has failed to generate many wins or fan interest, both the men's and women's basketball teams have had success in recent years. The women have won the MAAC tournament four of the past five years, including a run to the Sweet 16 two years ago. The 2007 men's team, led by NBA draftee Jared Jordan, won the regular season MAAC title.

With this recent success and lack of a big-time football program, one question still remains: why is the attendance of Marist students so low at

basketball games?

Some view this year as a rebuilding year for the men's basketball team and attribute that to the team's struggles and position at the bottom of the MAAC. The team's record, however, should not matter. When Siena came to Poughkeepsie two years ago to play for the regular season MAAC title, Marist students packed McCann. When Fairfield and Rider rolled into town last week, though, the student section mainly comprised of the Marist band, the dance team and cheerleaders.

Are Marist students really fair weather fans? Do they really refuse to support the team unless it is winning consistently? Is school spirit really that low? Saturday night is senior night, the last game that seniors Kaylen Gregory and Ryan Schneider will play in the McCann center and the last home game that the team



ROBERT STONE/ THE CIRCLE

The lack of school spirit could be a leading factor in their lackluster season.

will play until November. Hopefully the Marist students will surprise some people and actually show up to support their team, and their school.

The lack of student attendance at women's games is even more pathetic. Two years ago, it defeated Ohio State and Middle Tennessee en route to the Sweet 16. Last year, it advanced to the second round of the tournament where it gave LSU all it could handle before LSU pulled away late in the game. This year's team features Rachele Fitz, Marist's all-time leader scorer, and Julianne Viani, a senior who is looking for her fourth MAAC title in as many years.

For all intents and purposes, there is no reason at all for why the student section should not be filled every time the team takes the court. The only time that I have seen the student

filled this season is when Marist "packed the house" a couple weeks ago in a game against Canisius.

The women's basketball team is without question one of Marist's most successful athletic teams, and it is a shame that Marist students' lack of school spirit is preventing McCann from being filled on a gamely basis.

There is one home game remaining for the men's team, and two for the women. The men will use their remaining games to try to improve their seed in the MAAC tournament, while the women are attempting to clinch the regular season title and prepare for another deep run in March. Fans who have been loyal to the teams all year will certainly be there. The question is, will more students start to care about their school and actually demonstrate some school spirit?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

The Circle welcomes letters from Marist students, faculty and staff as well as the public. Letters may be edited for length and style. Submissions *must* include the person's full name, status (student, faculty, etc.) and a telephone number or campus extension for verification purposes.

Letters without these requirements will not be published.

Letters can be submitted through the 'Letter Submission' link on *MaristCircle.com*

Letters are the opinions of their authors and do not reflect the official position of *The Circle*

THE CIRCLE

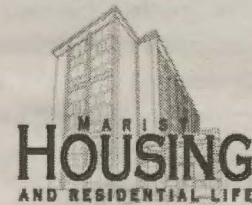
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To request advertising information or to reach the editorial board, e-mail writethecircle@gmail.com.

Opinions expressed in articles do not necessarily represent those of the editorial board.

Room Selection '09-'10



Important Information...

- **Priority Points** – February 6th – March 6th – Individual priority points will be e-mailed to your foxmail account. Check your e-mail to view your priority points.
- **Deposits** – February 16th – 27th - Make your room deposit [online](#) (only).
- **Podcast** – Download a podcast containing important room selection information.

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Welcome the Facebook for future entrepreneurs

By KAIT SMITH
Managing Editor

If the prospect of finding a job in this declining economy has got you shaking in your pre-graduation boots, it might be time for you to check out Under30CEO.com.

Created by two local entrepreneurs, Matt Wilson of East Fishkill, NY and Jared O'Toole of Hopewell Junction, NY, Under30CEO is an online social networking community designed to push young entrepreneurs forward and encourage young people to pursue their dreams.

"Our biggest goal is to inspire people to get passionate about something and do what they love," O'Toole said.

Under30CEO's mission is to motivate young entrepreneurs to go beyond working a standard nine to five day job. In creating a community of users who are going through the same process of starting a business or graduating from college, O'Toole said the network becomes not only a motivator, but a supporter, too.

"Seeing people do it helps [users] break out of their comfort zones," O'Toole said.

By registering with Under30CEO.com, users

have access to resources that help encourage them to go out and do what they are passionate about – even if they aren't aspiring entrepreneurs.

One key resource the site uses is Twitter.com. If you aren't familiar with Twitter, it's similar to the "status" feature on Facebook. However, for a Web site like Under30CEO, it can be used as a promotion tool, too.

"It's all about word of mouth over the internet," Wilson said. Twitter is one of the main sources of publicity used by Under30CEO.com. In fact, the site was recently featured on Fox 10 News in Alabama due to connections developed through use of Twitter.

The site also regularly features blogs with business advice and interviews with successful entrepreneurs. Wilson and O'Toole also host live events every Tuesday night at 10 p.m. This online "cocktail hour" is a live stream on a specific topic that allows viewers to network while gaining advice from the site's creators. Currently about 25 users attend live events each week and the number is continuing to grow, O'Toole said.

"Right now, it's a close knit community," Wilson said of the site, which currently has around 440 members. "But

we are going to tweak a few things and really work on expanding."

That expansion includes the launching of an online TV show. The show will feature experts from the entrepreneurial field giving advice to the site's users.

"It's going to be entertaining and informative," Wilson said. "It will continue our mission of inspiring people to go out and do what they love."

According to the Web site, virtual competitions, Under30CEO awards and online seminars are also in the future for the online community.

Though expansion is in the future, there are plenty of reasons to log on now and get networking – including internship opportunities.

Marist junior Josh Hurlock has been interning with Under30CEO since the beginning of the spring semester. Hurlock said he heard about the internship when Wilson came to speak at a Business Club meeting in

The screenshot shows the Under30CEO website interface. It includes sections for 'Getting Started on Under30CEO' with a list of steps, 'Latest Activity' with recent comments and friend additions, a 'Forum' section with a post about 'Steel this NICHE', and a 'Groups' sidebar listing various groups like 'COLLEGIATE ENTREPRENEURS ORGANIZATION' and 'Under30 Live Events'.

ISABEL CAJULIS/THE CIRCLE

Social networking can benefit your future by connecting to new colleagues.

November. As an intern, Hurlock's responsibilities include welcoming members to the site, reading blogs, and posting useful information to the site and on Twitter.

"It's all about entrepreneurs branding themselves, and getting their names out there," Hurlock said of the purpose of Under30CEO.

Jeff Seymour, former president of the Marist Business Club, is also a member of Under30CEO. Seymour, a business major, said he hopes to use the site to network with career professionals in preparation for his graduation in 2010.

When asked if they had

advice for students facing graduation this May, Wilson and O'Toole agreed that the best advice they could give was to join Under30CEO.com.

"There is so much negative publicity right now about why social networking is bad and why college students should stay away," Wilson said. "But on the other side of those computers are real people. Use our platform and we will teach you how to use other platforms and connect with entrepreneurs everywhere."

Senior Spotlight: Bringing together the past and the present

By CLARE LANGAN
Staff Writer

On a recent Friday night, I had the chance to catch up with some long lost friends from freshman year. Four years ago, the 8th floor of Champagnat was my home. We were a special floor, to say the least. With girls in one wing and guys on the other, we often met in the middle for a late night DDR session or programs put on by our beloved R.A. We had a talent show, a prom, and more late night conversations than I can remember.

Our doors were always open for each other – when we weren't locked out, that is. Reuniting with my 8th floor buddies was the ideal way to bring this thing we call "college" full circle.



CLARE LANGAN/THE CIRCLE

Freshman Flashback: A bittersweet moment for the Class of 2009.

While our social groups have shifted, that Friday night felt like we had never left the halls of Champagnat.

If you were to walk through the dining hall tonight, you would hear a familiar buzz. In four years,

it hasn't changed. The spring concert. Housing. Cupcake day versus chicken parm night. As seniors, we often-times lose the close-knit camaraderie that we develop living in a residence hall. We share less meals together, do

far fewer clubs and activities with one another and have given up on propping our doors open. Life across Route 9 is a far cry from our days sharing bathrooms with 25 other people.

I would like to say that things have changed since freshman year, but a lot of them haven't. Yes, we have had fancy internships, semesters abroad and maybe even gotten a few job offers, but inside we are as scared as an incoming freshman. Sometimes it seems we are more scared than we were when we started. While we no longer stress out about talking to scary professors or eating in the dining hall by ourselves, we have other things to worry us, grown-up things.

Whether you had an 8th

floor-worthy experience or not, make it a point to reconnect with someone or something from freshman year before graduation. It can be as simple as digging up your first semester's notebook or meeting your old roommate for coffee. While living in the past is no way to end your time here, it is a way to remind yourself of how far you have come since freshman year. You might still be anxious, or even scared for what is to come, but keep in mind another thing hasn't changed since our first year – we are still in the same boat, going through the next phase of our lives together. Now go prop your door open.

Some on-campus services you didn't know about

By JACQUELINE MONTI
Circle Contributor

Even though Marist College is a relatively small school, it is very easy to get lost in the crowd. There are a multitude of services offered to help students get the most out of their education.

The Center for Multicultural Affairs is a new program that came in effect July 1, 2008. The center is located in the Cannavino Library Room 337, which used to primarily house the Arthur O. Eve Higher Equal Opportunity Program (HEOP). The HEOP has provided academic support for New York State, typically bilingual, students for the past 39 years, so this additional program has opened its doors to Marist students of all backgrounds.

The main groups this center advocates for is first generation college students, and ethnically underrepresented students. Iris Ruiz-Grech, who was originally the head of the HEOP, has added Director of Multicultural Affairs to her title. "Our main mission is to empower students and give those who feel lost a place to start," Ruiz-Grech stated. They offer a multitude of services ranging from academic

advisement and support to financial guidance and career networking. For incoming freshmen entering Marist as undeclared, the Center for Multicultural Affairs usually provides their first academic advisors.

This center assists students in sifting through foundations that offer scholarships and acts as a vehicle to search for internships and set up connections. The HEOP has been at Marist for decades and have a great relationship with their alumni. If they can't help, they refer students to one of the many offices that can. This center holds workshops twice a semester that deal with nutrition, money management, safe sex, and more.

In the first week of February, they held a workshop called "Tax Time," in which students were informed of their civic duties as tax filers. In March, Mrs. Ruiz-Grech is trying to produce a workshop in which Dr. Frederick Opie, Associate Professor of History and the Director of African Diaspora Studies, will be discussing the relationships between ethnicities and cultural empowerment.

"The United States is changing and we need to understand cultural competence in order

to be part of a growing society," Ruiz-Grech said.

The Center of Multicultural Affairs works complimentary to Career Services which is located down the hall in Room 332. Stephen Cole, the Executive Director of Career Services, is the man responsible for the digital representation of our final days at Marist. The countdown clocks haunt us in almost every building but accomplish their goal of getting students into Career Services.

"Marist students are in a cocoon, but you can't hide from the world forever. That's what we're here for," Cole said.

This center assists students in understanding career goals and helps them form post-Marist plans. They help students develop career search strategies and aid in creating competitive resumes and compelling cover letters. Walk-ins for resume critiques are welcome on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., and Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 to 3:30. Programs, such as the most recent Networking Day and Dress for Success, are held in the fall and the spring. These events give students the opportunity to meet with alumni and pro-



JACQUELINE MONTI/THE CIRCLE

Take some time to pass by the Center of Multicultural Affairs.

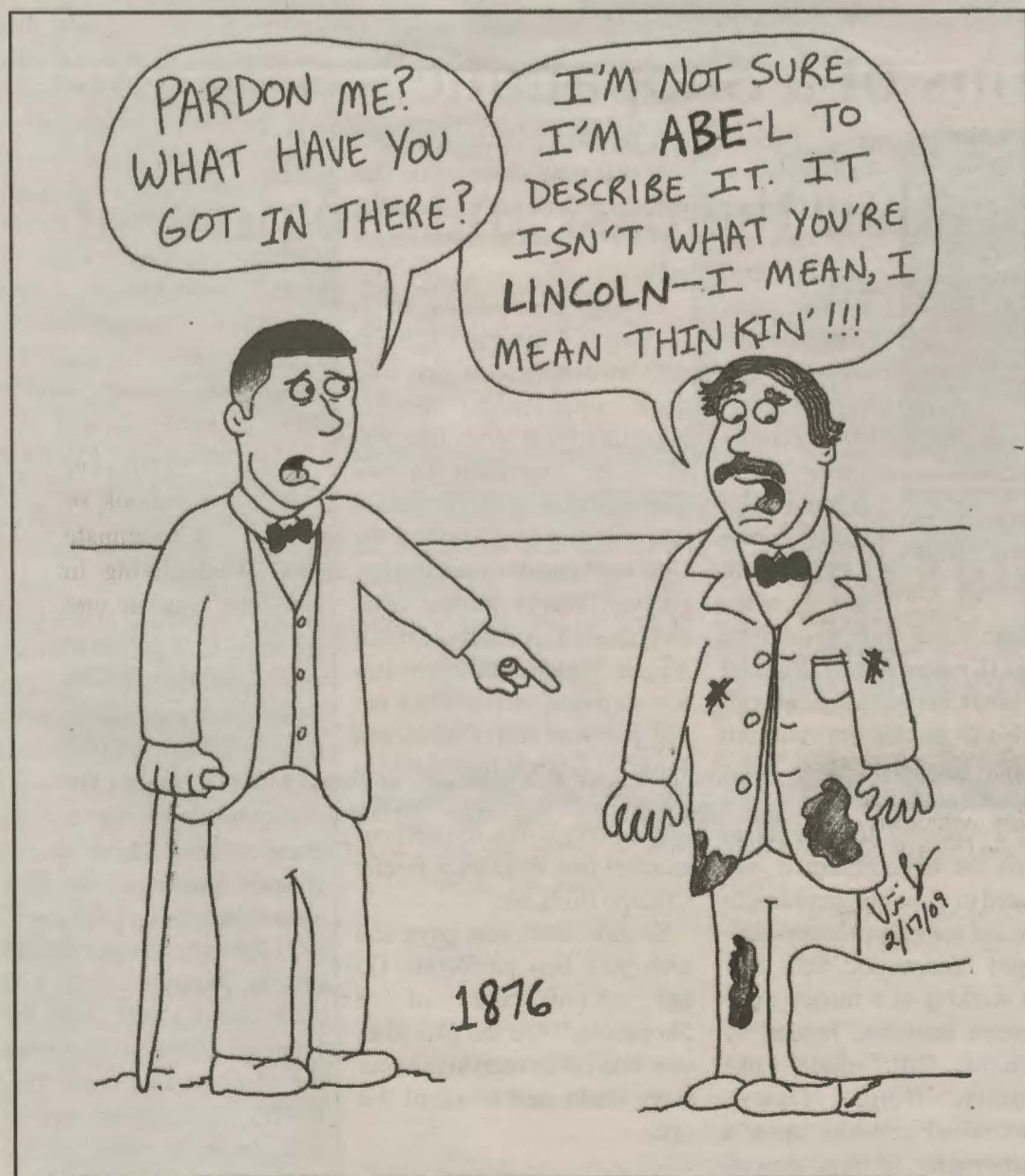
fessionals in their career fields, seek internships, and establish contacts.

The Center for Advising and Academic Services (CAAS) located in Donnelly 224 monitors the academic standards of the college. If you have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 the CAAS gets involved. Whether your academic difficulties stem from too much party time or financial, family, or medical problems, the CAAS is there to create a plan to fix it and shine light on other on-campus resources that may help.

The CAAS also produces the Dean's List and trains and assigns students to their advi-

sors. If you need to take a leave of absence or want permission to take 19 credits or more, this is the office to visit. They produce a monthly newsletter informing students of important deadlines and vital services. Kristine Cullen, the Director of CAAS, just returned from a conference about promoting more data online. "Students rarely check their mailboxes, so we're trying to get them information in places they check," Cullen said. CAAS has a Facebook page and a screenname (AdvisingatMarist) and has tentative plans of integrating Twitter into their virtual world of information.

cartoon corner By VINNIE PAGANO



...

Do you have something to share with the Marist community?

Feel like you have advice to give or want to highlight an interesting person on campus?

Have you discovered a new game or sport and want to tell someone about it?

**Send your ideas to:
circlefeatures@gmail.com**

...

Vinny Pagano is the man, the myth, the legend

By MELISSA GRECO
Staff Writer

After years of networking and time spent with his guitar, Marist junior Vinnie Pagano is preparing to perform his comedic songs at the "new Talen Showcase" at Comix in New York City on Feb. 21 at 4pm.

"I was given the phone number to the place by some guy that's a comedian and friends with my uncle," said Pagano. "Andy Engel, the owner, said that he had an opening and that was kind of it."

Bill Arciprete, Pagano's uncle and an avid supporter of his musical comedy, said family gatherings always included the kids joining efforts to put on a show. He said Pagano would shy away from being the "star," preferring to produce, write, or direct.

"I used to make up songs with the kids on the guitar and piano," said Arciprete. "The only rule was they had to be fun and maybe a little naughty."

In middle school, Pagano started to show an interest in comedic entertainment. When he first began, his act was strictly stand-up comedy. In Nov. of 2004, Pagano per-



From FACEBOOK.COM

Vinnie Pagano will be performing in NYC this weekend as part of Comix.

formed stand-up for the first time at the Brew Ha Ha in Hartford, CT.

Now, Pagano's comedy has moved to parody form, usually set to a popular tune that the audience is able to recognize as he accompanies himself on the acoustic guitar.

"It's not some grand story," said Pagano. "When I was a junior in high school I taught myself to play the guitar because I wanted to be able to write and perform comedic songs."

Pagano produced a few tracks with Gerald Goode, an up-and-coming modern rock musician from Connecticut with an album on iTunes titled "For Those Who Have."

"He was always a perfectionist, always wanting to make sure things sounded right," said Goode. "He's always looking to grow, and his execution is great. He's got this sweet and innocent, angelic voice, singing about very bad, depraved and completely vulgar things. The tone of his voice is begging to be taken seriously, but ultimately the listener is compelled to first raise a skeptical eyebrow, and eventually burst into uncontrollable laughter!"

Pagano said his music is largely influenced by two artists: Weird Al, a "childhood favorite," and Stephen Lynch, a musician and stand-up comedian who satirizes popular culture and everyday life.

"I basically saw Lynch's DVD and knew I wanted to do this," said Pagano. "The first song I played was one of his."

Pagano's first self-written parody was set to the tune of Hootie and the Blowfish's "I Only Wanna Be with You." Over the years, he has added to his repertoire with parodies of popular songs such as "Hey There Delilah" by The Plain White T's and Howie Day's "Collide." Currently, Pagano is working on parodies of

Jason Mraz's "I'm Yours" and One Republic's "Apologize."

"By far his best work to date, in my opinion, is his ode to Tammy," said Goode. "I couldn't keep from cracking up every five seconds."

Tammy, an aloof and vulgar drunk who hates her mother for no reason, is a character created by Pagano when he was in high school. Eventually the character evolved once at Marist, into "a messy lush," said Pagano.

"When I was 15, it wasn't even a song, just some ditsy girl character that I made up," he said. "When I got older, I figured she should get older, too. Now, she's not only ditsy, but she's drunk all the time and very vile. As a side note, my material is explicit- definitely not for kids."

Pagano is scheduled to perform in the Performing Arts Room on Thursday, May 7, 2009.

"One big goal would be to get on to Comedy Central Presents," said Pagano. "You know, on the half-hour special. But right now, I'll take whatever I can get."

currently singin'
A weekly review
of the latest songs



From ROLLINGSTONE.COM

Yeah Yeah Yeahs, the Brooklyn trio, are expected to release their follow-up album, "It's Blitz," to the critically acclaimed "Show Your Bones" this April.

By RYAN RIVARD
A&E Editor

Yeah Yeah Yeahs "Zero" – "Zero" is the new single from the album "It's Blitz," due in April. The mountains of synths that build up through the song explore a new pop frontier that has hints of Blondie.

U2 "No Line On the Horizon" – Two versions of this track were mixed, one appears on the album, the other appears on the B-side of the "Get On Your Boots" single. This version is the B-side one, and it has soulful singing and verses full of distortion, which the Edge says is responsible from a new distortion box used on the album. The chorus mellows out for a brief period with a refrain of the one line chorus.

White Antelope "It Ain't Me Babe" (Bob Dylan Cover) – Robin Pecknold of Fleet Foxes has a solo project under the moniker White Antelope. His cover of the Dylan tune sounds nothing short of great.

Dan Auerbach "My Last Mistake" – If you wanted more of an upbeat version of the Black Keys, then the first single from the lead singer/guitarist of the Black Keys' solo album "Keep It Hid" is probably what you're looking for. The track is more upbeat in terms of classic rock with country overtones, as opposed to the garage blues The Black Keys became known for on their album "Attack and Release."

Estelle "Supersition" (Stevie Wonder) – If you were disappointed with the Jonas Brother's version from the Grammys, then this British girl should renew your hope in doing Stevie justice.

Movie review: "Confessions of a Shopaholic"

By JENNY WIEGAND
Circle Contributor

Step one: Admit your problem. Admit that you really want to see "Confessions of a Shopaholic" because it looks great. Step two: Be willing to talk about your problem...

I like this movie because it is humorous, lighthearted and hopeful. It may not be the most intellectual film, but it is funny and highly entertaining.

The film's plot is clichéd and highly predictable: girl meets boy, girl gets into awkward situations with boy, girl ends up working for boy, girl screws up her life, girl finds way to fix her life, and girl finally ends up with boy. But the success of "Shopaholic" is not built upon its flimsy plot; instead the film's sparkle must be attributed to leading lady and rising star, Isla Fisher.

This bubbly red-head brings Lucille Ball-like looks and spunk to the film's protagonist, Rebecca Bloomwood. A 'serious' journalist working for a boring publication but dreaming



From ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

Isla Fisher (*The Wedding Crashers*) stars in the movie "Confessions of a Shopaholic," which debuted at number four at the box office.

of a career at fashion magazine "Alette," Bloomwood attempts to add color and excitement to her life in New York City by buying unfortunately expensive designer clothing at every high-end store she comes across.

Within the first few minutes of the film, viewers get the idea that this hobby is more than just the average indulgence every fashion-conscious woman occasionally succumbs to: it's a serious addiction. Almost immediately, this character flaw triggers the plot-driving conflict of the film when Bloomwood's boring publication goes under,

her various credit card companies no longer value her as 'Most Preferred Customer,' and debt-collector Derek Smeath (Robert Stanton) comes a knockin.'

Tequila saves the day during a comical scene when Bloomwood and roommate Suze (Krysten Ritter), inspired by José Cuervo, come up with a plan to get Bloomwood out of her financial mess. Their brilliant plan that was - let's face it - doomed from the get-go given the environment it was created in, goes not according to plan and somehow money-challenged Bloomwood finds herself working at a money management magazine headed by attractive Brit, editor Luke Brandon (Hugh Dancy). Bloomwood embarks upon a roller-coaster of ups, downs,

and hilariously awkward turns that will thrill those of us that get a kick even out of the kiddly roller-coasters at amusement parks.

In "Confessions of a Shopaholic," director P.J Hogan delivers exactly what girls who grew up reading Sophie Kinsella's book series that provided the inspiration for this film expected: amazing clothes (put together by "Sex and the City" costume designer, Patricia Fields), dreamy leading man, and most importantly, lots of giggles. Hogan even throws in a few surprises, such as other fun cast members Joan Cusack and John Goodman (as Bloomwood's quirky parents), and a Shopaholics Anonymous meeting that includes a former Chicago Bulls star.

So girls, ditch your guys, and grab your best girlfriends. Go see "Confessions of a Shopaholic." On the plus side, you won't even need to use your scary credit card to afford this one.

Walks of Life: Cultural spots in Hudson Valley

By **ROBIN MINITER**
Photography Editor

So after a whirlwind Marist Abroad Program world tour, you've found yourself crash-landed back in Poughkeepsie. With the brakes back on and passport mournfully collecting domestic dust bunnies, it's hard not to yearn for the exotic yesterdays of yore. Fear not fellow globetrotters: your fun doesn't have to stop here.

Though you've been abruptly snapped back to reality and the tundra may not hold the same stunning allure as the orange lined groves of Sevilla, there is hope for your aching heart yet. No need to be holed up over in Fulton pining away for la vita bella. I promise you, it wasn't, as the Italians say, solo uno sogno bello – only a beautiful dream.

If it's a dose of nostalgia you're craving, or you haven't yet had the chance to do much exploring of your own, the Hudson River Valley indeed has unique cultural treasures only a quick car ride away. So take a breath and gusto up that sense of adventure - to be able to truly appreciate the beauty elsewhere, you first must be able to recognize it close to home.

New Zealand

If your penchant from frosty adventure surpasses your daily

trot through the campuses wind tunnel, here's a little something to get that adrenaline pumping: The Alpine Endeavors mountaineering company offers half and full-day ice climbing treks in our beloved Catskill and Shawangunk Mountains. So disregard the fact that they don't take Marist Money, channel your inner Sir Edmund Hillary, and round up a crew of your craziest compadres. It beats bombing down the library hill on cafeteria trays any day.

Italy

Rossi's is that special breed of authentic deli. Though you can get a humongous, oozing panini that makes you think, "I can eat half of this delicious beast for lunch tomorrow!" you inevitably end the afternoon curled up on the couch in a delightful food induced stupor mumbling, "I can't believe I ate the whole thing." True gustatory glory at its finest, in a word: marvelous.

Brazil

Lots of fantastic things come in circles: donuts, peace pipes, and

well...this newspaper. To add to this list, so does the group of your closest friends practicing the ole tradition of passing yerba mate tea amongst one another.



ROBIN MINITER / THE CIRCLE
Experience the culture of places like Fiesole right in your own backyard. Explore the cultural hot spots of the Hudson Valley.

Drunk out of an ornamental gourd through a silver straw and passed in a clockwise fashion, this celebrated tradition is common in intimate Latin American social scenarios. Though it may have lost some of its décor and finery in transit, the yerba mate served at the 60 Main Cultural Collective café provides the same dose of love when shared among the ones you adore.

France

If your inner gourmand dies a little each time your Mac 'N Cheese smolders on the burner and discerning fine wine from that September-dated grape juice

in the depths of your fridge is not exactly your forté, then Millbrook Vineyards is the remedy you need. Costing a mere \$7, you can take a tour through

the vineyards and winery while sampling six local creations.

Instant culture and class in a glass? Check.

Argentina

It's about time you dust off those dancing shoes and bust a move – the Living Seed Yoga Center in New Paltz features a special stu-

dent price on Sunday night tango lessons. With classes starting out at the beginner level, even those with two left feet will find how easy it is to fall into the groove.

Nepal

Perhaps those pesky midterms have bogged down your energy flow or that Saturday night incident of cab-thievery has left your karmic vibes in a funk – whatever it is, shed your woes at the door of the Chuang Yen Monastery. As one of the most mammoth Buddhist temples in the Western hemisphere, it is accordingly presided over by the largest Buddha statue in the

United States. Visitors are welcome to stroll in the footsteps of the Dalai Lama or search for some spiritual enlightenment within the 70,000+ books available in Sanskrit, Chinese, Mongolian, Tibetan and Japanese.

Africa

Forgo Hatter's and try this on for size: running once a month in sync with the lunar cycle, Woodstock's Full Moon Gathering may prove to be the more enthralling alternative to getting your Po-town freak on. As hundreds of rowdy dancers ruckus the evening away to the beat of midnight drums, you may have the urge to burn any and all leggings in sight in favor of tribal paint and rain sticks.

Ireland

If the nationally-ranked girls rugby team hasn't knocked your socks off yet with their epic ferocity and stunning good looks (read: shameless plug), mosey on down to the Dubliner to throw back a pint and catch a match in high definitive glory. Then again, you could always meander over to North Field for some homegrown action – unlike those poor lads on the telly, we still have all of our teeth... for now.

WOL: Contact information

New Zealand

Alpine Endeavors
PO Box 58
Rosendale, NY 12472
info@alpineendeavors.com
(877) 486-5769

Italy

Rossi Rosticceria Deli
45 S Clover St
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
www.rossideli.com
(845) 471-0654

Brazil

60 Main
60 Main St
New Paltz, NY 12561
www.60main.org
(845) 255-1901

France

Millbrook Vineyards & Winery
26 Wing Road
Millbrook, NY 12545
www.millbrookwine.com
(800) 662-9463

Argentina

The Living Seed
521 Main St
New Paltz, NY 12561
Sundays 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
www.merchantcircle.com
845-255-8212

Nepal

Chuang Yen Monastery
RD 2, Route 301
Carmel, NY 10512
(914) 225-1819

Africa

Full Moon Gatherings
North of Woodstock, at
top of Rock City Road
http://fullmoon.com.tri-
pod.com/

Ireland

The Dubliner Irish Pub
796 Main Street
Poughkeepsie, NY
http://www.dublinerpub-
ny.com/
(845) 454-7322

National Eating
Disorders
Awareness Week:
February 22-28,
2009

MAAC build up

By MIKE WALSH
Staff Writer

It's a big week for the Marist men's track team, leading into an even bigger weekend as the team heads to Bronx, N.Y. for the MAAC Championships. This Saturday, the men will head to the New York City Armory Track for an all day event. At last year's championship, Marist finished fifth with 33 points thanks mainly to now graduated senior Shaun Kippins and current senior captain Girma Segni. They had a combined four top-five finishes.

This year, Segni looks to raise that bar again as he leads a very young, but talented Marist team. Coach Pete Colaizzo had nothing but

mores had big races in the 3,000-meter. Freshman Matt Flint finished in 8:30:49. Another three seconds and he would have also met IC4A qualifications.

It was a big day in the 5,000-meter run for sophomore Tim Keegan. Tim became just one of 11 Marist runners to break 15 minutes since Marist's 1991 elevation to Division 1.

Colaizzo said the men are taking it a little lighter than usual this week.

"It's a short week due to the hard meet out in Boston last weekend," he said.

While the women should have a good chance to finish at the top of the MAAC, Colaizzo is a bit less optimistic about his boys. They are going to throw everything

From page 12

Foxes take down Stags

Siena Saints went to the dance by virtue of beating No. 4 Niagara. In 2005-06, No. 5 Saint Peter's played in the championship game after going 9-9 in regular season play. Marist knows first-hand that any given team can claim the title. Marist won the 2006-07 regular season championship in the final game of the season against Siena, before Siena ousted Marist in the MAAC semifinals. That Marist team, led by Jared Jordan and Will Whittington, went on to play in the NIT and upset Oklahoma State in the first round.

While Marist has lost nine of its last 10 games, including a 72-62 decision to Saint Peter's on Monday night, there are a few bright spots. The Red Foxes have two players with considerable experience that they can lean on. David Devezin has manned the point guard position for two straight years and once played for Texas A&M. In addition, Schneider went to the NCAA

Tournament with Vermont in 2005 and upset Syracuse. Schneider ranks third in the MAAC with 16.4 ppg and second with 8.4 rpg. The senior also leads the conference in minutes played with 37.9 per game.

"You've got to have guys on your team who have been there before and Ryan has been there before," Marist head coach Chuck Martin said following his team's win over Fairfield. "He played at Vermont, he's played in the NCAA Tournament, he's been here and played for [four different coaches]. He's been there before is my point. You need that mental toughness...I lean on him, he knows it and the team knows it."

ESPNU BracketBusters: Hartford

On Saturday, Feb. 21, Marist will host Hartford for Senior Day as part of ESPNU's BracketBuster format intended to showcase teams that might get NCAA tournament bids.

The game marks the final time that senior captains Ryan Schneider and Kaylen Gregory will don a Marist uniform. Gregory spent the majority of his first three eligible seasons on the bench. The Virgin Islands native has emerged as an integral part of the Red Foxes' offense. Gregory scored a career-high 23 points against Loyola on Jan. 25.

Marist enters the game with an overall record of 8-20 while Hartford is 6-21. The Hawks play in the America East conference. This is the third opponent from the America East conference that Marist will face this year. Marist beat New Hampshire, 63-61, at home and lost to Binghamton, 73-71, on the road.

Hartford averages 62.7 ppg but four players score in double figures. The team's most dangerous player is 6-foot guard Joe Zeglinski. Zeglinski scores 15.3 ppg and hauls in 5.5 rpg.

Women's lax still underdogs

By MATT SPILLANE
Managing Editor

A year after capturing the first conference championship in program history, the Marist women's lacrosse team finds itself not with a bull's-eye on its back, but having to prove itself once again.

The Red Foxes are the defending Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) champions, but they will have to make some major adjustments in order to repeat. Marist lost eight starters from the 2008 team and is playing under a new coaching staff, with first-year head coach Laura Campbell taking over the reins.

Campbell, who was hired in August, succeeds Tanya Kotowicz, who left in the off-season and is now an assistant coach at Hofstra. In her first head coaching position at the college level after coaching high school for four years, Campbell is Marist's third head coach in the last three years. Kotowicz followed Noelle Cebren, who was dismissed for undisclosed reasons.

"Obviously we have to adjust to her different coaching style," said senior midfielder Stephanie Garland. "It's been a little tough, but we're just trying to pull through together. It's a little different...but we've been

working on it since the fall, so we're bringing everything together now and focusing on sharpening up everything."

When looking at the players' predicament of having played under three different coaches, Campbell points out the bright side of the situation.

"I think obviously when a new coach comes in it's always an adjustment," she said, "but I told the girls I think they're lucky because they've had three different coaches, three different coaching styles, so they have a wealth of knowledge."

In addition to adapting to a new coach, the Red Foxes must also make up for a number of key players who have departed. Marist's leading scorers from the last two years, Lindsey Diener and Liz Falco, respectively, are gone. Diener, the MAAC Co-Offensive Player of the Year in 2008, graduated, and Falco transferred to Hofstra.

"The good thing is now the attack's not around one person," said senior midfielder Carolyn Sumcizk. "I think anyone on attack this year can have a big game and step up."

Without Diener and Falco to rely on, Marist will have to perfect a balanced attack that keeps defenses guessing.

"What's going to make us really strong this year is having a bunch of different contributors," Campbell said.

"We're a very well rounded team; no superstars."

Those contributors will include an experienced group of upperclassmen on the offensive end, led by seniors Garland, Sumcizk, Kate Noftsker, and Cristin Begley, and junior Lindsay Rinefield.

Garland and Sumcizk were named to the Preseason All-MAAC Team, along with senior defender Ashely Dattellas. Garland is Marist's leading returning scorer after tallying 27 goals and 17 assists last season.

Marist will be breaking in a few new starters on defense as well. Two starting defenders graduated, along with 2008 First Team All-MAAC goaltender Liz Burkhard.

Leading the defense will be Dattellas, who earned Second Team All-MAAC honors a year ago. Freshmen Kelsey Thoms and Alyssa Littin will compete for the starting spot in goal, making it crucial to have an experienced supporting cast for them to lean on.

"[It's] obviously a little tough because they're two freshmen so they don't have an experienced goalie to kind of guide them through the way," Garland said.

The Red Foxes were picked second in the MAAC preseason coaches' poll behind Fairfield, which Marist defeated 10-9 in last year's conference title game.



GREG DUBOIS/ THE CIRCLE

Freshman Will Griffin qualified for the IC4A Championships in the mile run this weekend with a time of 4:13.97

praise for his freshmen class. "They've had a great season so far and they should play a big role this weekend," Colaizzo said.

At last weekend's Valentine Invitational, Marist had a handful of promising races. Freshman Will Griffin was able to qualify for the IC4A Championships in the mile with a time of 4:13.97. Colin Frederickson had a solid race in the 500-meter dash. His time of 05:91 is just a second away from IC4A qualifying. Underclassmen Tom Lipari, John Carabetta, and Kyle Havard all had personal bests in their respective races.

In the distance races a pair of freshmen and a pair of sopho-

they have into this meet, but the strength of the Red Fox distance runners is negated by the strength of nationally ranked Iona College. He is counting on his freshmen to come up big and use the experience gained from the Cross Country Championships to help them get through their first MAAC Track and Field Championships.

After time expires on this indoor season, Marist will remain in good shape for next year. All the underclassmen will be more experienced and the Red Foxes will also get back Girma Segni for his fifth year. Also, talented senior David Raucci, who is redshirting this current season, will be back for his fifth year.

Foxes untouched in road contests

By PHILIP TERRIGNO
Sports Editor

Marist vs. Fairfield

Matchups between Marist and its conference opponents are always highly anticipated. This is partially due to the fact that the teams see each other twice during the regular season and possibly again during the MAAC (Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference) Championships.

In the case of Marist and Fairfield, their most recent contest was surrounded by much hype. This was more than partially due to the shocking result of their previous contest, a game that ended in a Fairfield victory and the first home loss for the Red Foxes to a conference opponent in nearly four years.

However, this contest would end differently. Marist traveled to the Arena at Harbor Yard on Feb. 12 and defeated Fairfield with a convincing 64-52 victory. With their win against Fairfield, Marist now holds sole possession of first place in the MAAC conference.

"It was a battle for first place, so it was huge," head coach Brian Giorgis said about his team's victory. "The kids wanted to avenge their loss that they had here (at the McCann Center). They were as focused as I had seen them all year going into that game. They went in and just played outstanding basketball."

The Stags started the game on a 6-0 run through the first 1:26 of the contest. The Red Foxes tied the game at 14 on a Rachele Fitz basket nearly six minutes into the first half.

Marist held Fairfield without a basket for a stretch of nearly five minutes. During that Stag drought, Fitz, Corielle Yarde,

and Kristine Best all scored to give the Red Foxes a 19-15 lead with just under 10 minutes remaining in the first half.

The Red Fox offense soon exploded for a 15-1 run over 5:07. Over that span, senior Julianne Viani scored nine points. The scoring spurt gave Marist a 34-20 lead with 3:32 remaining in the first half.

A fundamental difference between the two games that Marist has played against Fairfield this season involved how close the score was at all times during the game. In the first

matchup, on Jan. 23, the score was generally close and each team was always within a few points of each other.

In this contest, Marist used powerful scoring runs, like the 15-1 run and a 10-3 run later in the game, to tire out their opponents.

"The runs were huge in the game," Giorgis said.

"Especially the first half run. It gave us a cushion at halftime."

Marist headed into the locker room at halftime with a comfortable 36-28 lead.

Marist's largest lead of the game, 64-47, came with 2:35

remaining in the game following a Fitz layup and two Viani free throws.

Marist vs. Hartford

Avenging past losses seemed to be the theme of the two-game road trip for Marist, who battled the Hartford Hawks in a game that was televised on ESPN2. The Hawks defeated the Red Foxes last season at the McCann Center, but this game took place at the Chase Arena.

The Red Foxes' 78-73 overtime victory over Hartford was a statement game for Marist, who after losing two

coach and they have outstanding players," Giorgis said of Hartford. "For the longest time, they were the only ones that had beaten Duke up until they were number two in the country. We knew they were good, and especially on their home court."

Marist was led by Fitz, who finished with 27 points and 12 rebounds. Fitz capped an 11-4 run by the Red Foxes with a jumper midway through the first half.

Just four minutes into the second half, Lisa Etienne tied the game at 39 with a three-pointer, and then gave Hartford the lead with a layup.

A pair of Fitz free throws tied the game at 48, and eventually Hartford took a 63-62 lead with 2:26 remaining.

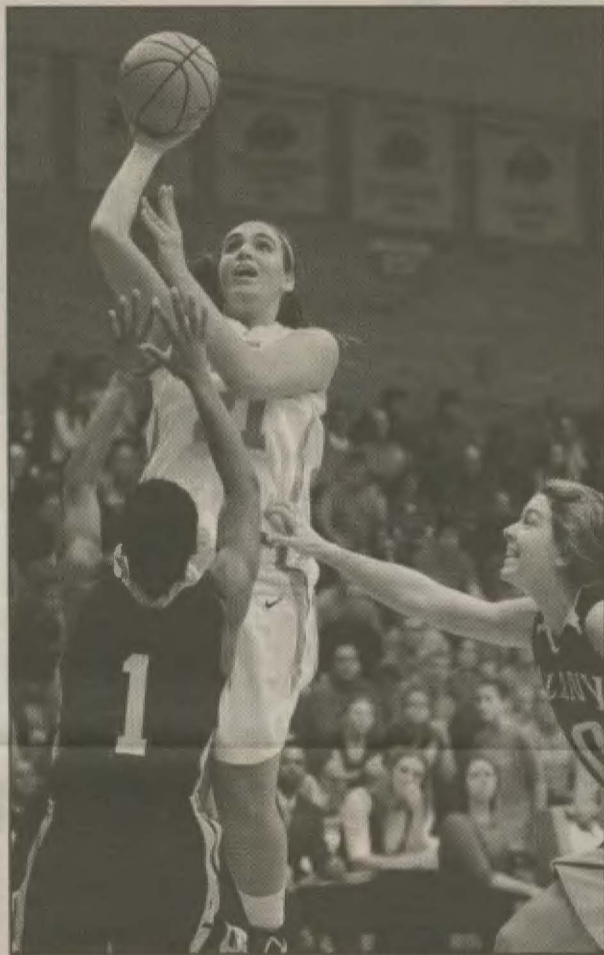
With just 0:39 remaining in regulation, Lynzee Johnson was fouled and sent to the free throw line with Marist trailing by two points, 66-64. She converted both of her opportunities and sent the game into overtime as Hartford was unable to take the lead before time expired.

In the extra period, Hartford took a quick 69-68 lead with 3:11 remaining. Following a Lynzee Johnson basket, Marist led 70-69, and would not relinquish the lead for the remainder of the overtime period, sealing the victory.

Final Stretch

Marist will play Manhattan, Siena and Rider to close out its season. Marist has defeated all three conference opponents already this season.

"[We need to] continue to build," Giorgis said. "You can't take anybody for granted, especially someone that you've beaten before. We have to come in and force teams to match our energy."



JAMES REILLY/ THE CIRCLE

6'3" sophomore Maria Laterza has been a major part of the Red Foxes' strong inside presence this season.

conference games and falling out of national ranking has rebounded to take sole possession of first place in the MAAC and defeat an established opponent.

"They have an outstanding

Swimming and diving falls short at MAACs

By MIKE QUINN
Circle Contributor

This past weekend the Red Fox men's and women's swimming and diving teams got the opportunity to escape the cold weather in Poughkeepsie and traveled down to Loyola College in Maryland to compete in this year's Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) swimming and diving championships. Since entering the conference in 1996, the Red Foxes have had great success in this competition. The men's team has only been defeated twice and the women's team only lost four times in twelve years. This year, however, the women from Rider University

and the men from Loyola College were named the MAAC champions.

Of the fifty-five swims that the women had, 46 of them were lifetime-best performances.

"Our girls exceeded my expectations," Marist coach Larry Van Wagner said of his team.

All of their efforts brought them within two and a half points of the Broncs. Then the championship came down to the final race of the weekend: the 4 x 100yd freestyle relay. Marist finished third in this race and Rider finished in first, making it so that Marist lost by a small margin of 11.5 points.

The women were led by jun-

ior Jenell Walsh-Thomas and their senior co-captain Sandra Bujalski. Bujalski won the 100yd butterfly with a time of 56.78 seconds. The largest contribution to the women's team was made by Walsh-Thomas. She won three individual competitions and set new MAAC records in all of her final heats.

For the men's team, the only individual champion was Alan Roberts. He won and set a new MAAC record for the 100yd breaststroke and qualified for the U.S. Swimming National Championship which will take place in Seattle in July. Van Wagner explained that Roberts started training with him just ten months ago, after transferring here from

NJIT and recovering from an injury.

"He still has the potential to go faster" Van Wagner said.

He is hoping to see Robert's full ability at the East College Athletic Conference (ECAC) tournament, which takes place at Harvard University from Feb. 27 to March 1.

Marist's swimming and diving teams accomplished another feat: 20 swimmers and divers from both the men and women teams were selected for the MAAC all-academic team. This was what Van Wagner was particularly proud of.

"Our success in the pool is always directly reflective of our success in the classroom."

Roarin' Red Foxes

Marist's top male and female performers of the week

Alan Roberts
Junior
Swimming



Roberts won his first MAAC title during the second day of competition at the conference swimming and diving championships.

- He won the title in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 55.92 seconds.

- The Junior has now qualified for the United States Swimming National Championship meet, which will be held in July.

- Marist finished third in the competition.

Rachele Fitz
Junior
Basketball

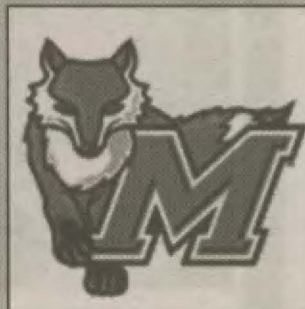


The junior earned her sixth MAAC player of the week award after averaging 22.5 points per game and 9.5 rebounds per game against Fairfield and Hartford.

-She received the award five times during the 2007-2008 season.

- The Red Foxes are now in sole possession of first place in the MAAC.

- Marist has three games left on its regular season schedule.



GOREDFOXES.COM

Marist looks to build momentum

By GREG HRINYA
Staff Writer

The one certainty in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) this season is that there is no sure thing.

According to Siena head coach Fran McCaffery, there is more parity in this league than ever before. Although Siena sits at 14-1, there is no lock on any given night.

"I said months ago that I thought this league was the toughest it's ever been since I've been in it," McCaffery said following his team's tilt against Marist on Jan. 15.

To illustrate the MAAC's competitive nature, the last few weeks provide solid evidence. Rider defeated then unbeaten Siena in dramatic fashion on Feb. 7, but then fell to No. 8 Saint Peter's six days later and recently lost to Manhattan. The second place

Niagara Purple Eagles lost consecutive games to Marist and Iona in mid January. They have only lost once since and currently ride a seven-game winning streak.

Although the Red Foxes currently rank ninth in the conference, Marist boasts impressive wins over No. 2 Niagara and No. 5 Fairfield.

Marist also took a then unbeaten Siena to overtime before falling, 91-85.

Marist has two conference

games remaining against Canisius and Niagara. In each MAAC team's final two contests, there will be a lot of

the current setup, the first six teams receive a bye while the final four teams compete in the opening round. Marist will

play in the opening round, but the Red Foxes have the same chance to get to the NCAA Tournament as every other team.

for the opportunity to make the NCAA Tournament." While winning the MAAC Tournament is a statistical longshot, Marist has a chance to enter March as a dark-horse. Marist is 4-12 in league play but has lost five conference games by six points or less, including two in overtime. The Red Foxes could conceivably end the season in a position to play for a rematch with the first place Siena Saints.

Although Siena is ranked No. 31 in the NCAA's RPI rankings, one spot ahead of UCLA, Marist has held second half leads in both matchups, including a 13-point lead with three minutes remaining in the second contest.

Historically, the first placed team has not always won the MAAC Tournament. In 2002, Rob Lanier's seventh placed



ROBERT STONE/ THE CIRCLE

David Devezin inbounded against Fairfield on Thursday, Feb. 12. The Foxes snapped their losing streak with a 75-66 victory. Marist will look to build on its win and gain some momentum heading into the MAAC Tournament.

jockeying for position for the MAAC Tournament slated for March 5-9 at the Times Union Center in Albany, N.Y. With

ference and the regular season," senior captain Ryan Schneider said. "You're still going to have a chance to play

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ABOUT THIS BOOK & LECTURE

IN 1959 A YOUNG MONK NAMED TSUNG TSAI (ANCESTOR WISDOM) ESCAPES THE RED ARMY TROOPS THAT DESTROY HIS MONASTERY, AND FLEES ALONE THREE THOUSAND MILES ACROSS A CHINA SWEEPED BY CHAOS AND FAMINE. KNOWING HIS FELLOW MONKS ARE DEAD, HIMSELF STARVING AND HUNTED, HE IS SUSTAINED BY HIS MISSION: TO CARRY ON THE TEACHINGS OF HIS BUDDHIST MEDITATION MASTER, WHO WAS TOO OLD TO LEAVE WITH HIS DISCIPLE.

NEARLY FORTY YEARS LATER TSUNG TSAI — NOW AN OLD MASTER HIMSELF — PERSUADES HIS AMERICAN NEIGHBOR, MAVERICK POET GEORGE CRANE, TO TRAVEL WITH HIM BACK TO HIS BIRTHPLACE AT THE EDGE OF THE GOBI DESERT.

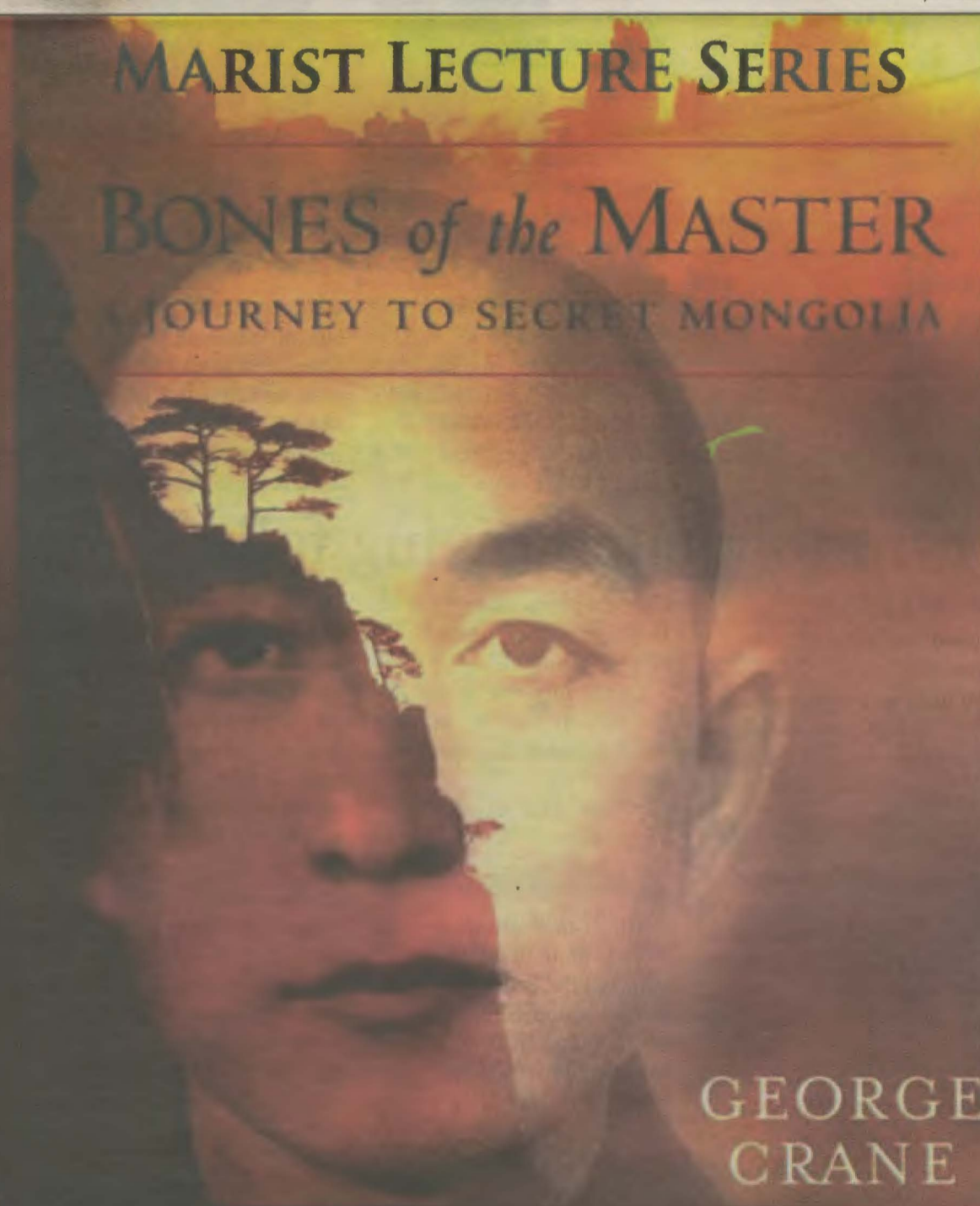
THEY ARE UNLIKELY COMPANIONS. CRANE SEEKS FREEDOM, ADVENTURE, SENSATION. TSUNG TSAI IS DETERMINED TO FIND HIS MASTER'S GRAVE AND PLANT THE SEEDS OF A SPIRITUAL RENEWAL IN CHINA. AS THEIR SEARCH CULMINATES IN A TORTUROUS CLIMB TO A REMOTE MOUNTAIN CAVE, IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT THIS SEEMINGLY QUIXOTIC QUEST MAY COST BOTH MEN'S LIVES.



GEORGE CRANE IS THE AUTHOR OF THE INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED *BONES OF THE MASTER*. HE IS AN OCCASIONAL POET AND TRANSLATOR OF CHINESE POEMS. WITH TSUNG TSAI, CRANE TRANSLATED *A THOUSAND PIECES OF SNOW*. HIS WRITINGS HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN ELEVEN LANGUAGES. HE LIVES MOSTLY ON THE ROAD.

MARIST LECTURE SERIES

BONES of the MASTER JOURNEY TO SECRET MONGOLIA



GEORGE CRANE