



# The



# Circle

The student newspaper of Marist College

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## Off-campus residences burglarized over break

By MONICA SPERANZA & PHILIP TERRIGNO  
*News Editor & Editor-in-Chief*

Marist College students living at two separate off-campus residences returned from Thanksgiving break to find that their homes had been burglarized.

Residents of the two locations, 97 Garden Street and 4 Clark Street, said that the burglary of the homes

that they rent occurred at some point during the Thanksgiving recess, which lasted from Nov. 23 – Nov. 27.

The Circle initially received a tip that several off-campus residences were robbed over Thanksgiving break when a staff member saw Facebook posts indicating this.

Upon further investigation, these initial reports of robbery proved to be false. Robbery is theft and also violence or threat of violence used to deprive someone of their property. In

the case of the 97 Garden Street and 4 Clark Street houses, the residences were burglarized since burglary (defined legally) is unlawful entry with the intent of committing a crime.

“We didn’t report it to the police because there is probably nothing the police can do about it,” said Will Grundmann, a resident of the Garden Street house. “[The burglars] stole an Xbox 360, a BB gun, knives and pocket change.”

Grundmann said that the perpe-

trators got in by breaking a window that had been previously damaged.

The six residents of 4 Clark Street, located next to the Palace Diner, found that their house had been burglarized when they returned on Sunday, Nov. 27.

Matt Dugan, one of the residents, said that he and his housemates contacted the City of Poughkeepsie Police that day to report the damage and stolen items.

SEE THE BURGLARS, PAGE 3



NGUYEN PHAM/THE CIRCLE

Over Thanksgiving break, 97 Garden Street was one of the several homes burglarized. The current residents plan on installing alarm systems to deter future incidents.



NGUYEN PHAM/THE CIRCLE

The house pictured above at 4 Clark Street, as well as a third house not pictured, also sustained thousands of dollars in damage from the burglaries.

## New swipe-access rules restrict use of LT Mac lab

By NGUYEN PHAM  
*Staff Writer*

This semester Marist students were able to enjoy Lowell Thomas’ newest computer lab on the main floor with Apple computers. However, halfway through fall semester, students were stopped at the door because they now had to swipe their student ID cards to have access to the computer lab.

The closed computer lab in Lowell Thomas 135 angered many students across campus because they were suddenly unable to have access to the lab in order to print schoolwork.

Professor Brett Phares of the communication department, who teaches a class in LT 135, understands why students are complaining.

“Even in [LT 209] we had this as a closed lab; nobody complained, because they weren’t in it,” he said. “They’re complaining because all the sudden they can use like a color printer and all the sudden the color

printer cartridges were disappearing drained within three days. I know that there were business majors printing these huge documents [in color].”

Joan Nies, the administration co-

ordinator for the communication department, agreed.

“Management students are going in there and printing their schoolwork. The computer lab is only for communication students,” she said.

Management students do have access to a computer lab in Dyson, but business student Catherine Durant said the resource is often unhelpful.

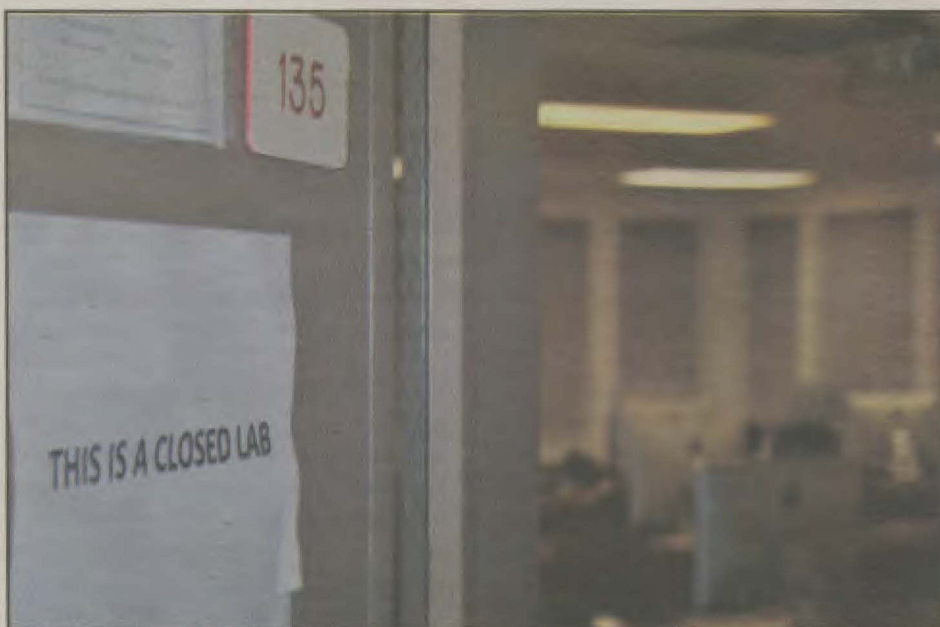
“I’d be more than willing to print in the Dyson lab if the printers there ever worked,” Durant said.

Nonetheless, Phares stressed the need to provide access for the communication students first. With six sections of Digital Toolbox, one of the new classes offered for freshmen to take, it is unfair for students to come in there doing unrelated schoolwork.

Missy Alexander, assistant dean to the school of communication, said that there are other closed computer labs across campus.

“Every major has different necessary equipment, LT 209 for AVID, fashion and art majors too,” she said. “LT 211 is also a closed lab.”

Under the impression that LT 135 was an open computer lab, senior Michael Kurtz, experienced



CLAIRE MOONEY/THE CIRCLE

This Mac lab will soon only be available to communication majors. This reflects a growing trend on campus to privatize computer lab access to students by major.

SEE A MORE, PAGE 3





## THIS WEEK

Friday, 12/9

Last day of Fall 2011 classes

Saturday, 12/10

**Women's Basketball @ BU**  
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

**Digital Toolbox Presentations**  
3 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
PAR 346

Monday, 12/12

Final Exams Begin

**Enter the Stress Free Zone: Messages**  
8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
SC 349

Friday, 12/16

Residence Halls close at 5pm

Wednesday, 12/28

**Men's Basketball vs. Columbia**  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
McCann Arena

Thursday, 12/29

**Women's Basketball vs. Kansas State**  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
McCann Arena



## Security Briefs

# Leo Hall wins Dysfunctional House Cup

By CHRIS RAIA  
Staff Writer

In my three and a half years at Marist College, I have locked myself out of my place of residence roughly eight hundred times. I forgot my swipe at least once a week when I lived in Leo, it took me around four days to lose my Gartland house key, and my housemates this year know me well enough to keep a rock in the door whenever they see me leaving the house. But last weekend, something new happened. Somehow my front door broke, and I was locked inside of my house. On the one Saturday night I decide to do the responsible thing and stay in to do homework, the door breaks and I am quite literally trapped inside of my house with my drunken giggle-box of a housemate. Fate can be mean sometimes. Anyway, special thanks goes out to the fantastic security guards who took our door apart and freed us from Upper West imprisonment.

### 12/3 Upper West

This is the last article of the semester. I just realized that. That's upsetting. We'll start in Upper West, where a student who was walking up West Cedar Street called security to report that a group of kids in a silver Jetta threw a bunch of cans at him. That just seems rude. And if you add completely made-up dialogue to the situation, it seems even ruder. "Hey look, a person. What should we do?" "Let's throw things at him! What do we have?" "Um... candy wrappers... hats... notebooks... Oh! Cans!" **10 points, I guess.**

### 12/3 Parking Lots Everywhere

A student's car got booted. I usually sympathize with recipients of boots, but this kid accumulated four warnings and eleven parking tick-

ets. Eleven! How is that even possible? I hope he's attending the student government parking ticket seminar this week. He could get 25 dollars taken off his parking violation tab. Then he'd only have to pay Marist, like, a thousand dollars.

### 12/4 Marian

A student entering Marian Hall just after midnight was noticeably drunk and stopped by the front desk guard. He claimed to have drunk four cups of beer at an off-campus party. That's awfully ambiguous. Were these typical Solo cups, in which case his four cups realistically would have given him a nice buzz? Or were these cups more along the lines of Harry Potter goblets, in which case he would have been goblet-drunk, which I imagine would be fun. Sidebar, can freshmen start drinking out of interesting containers? I would very much enjoy their interactions with security if this started happening. "How much did you drink tonight, young man?" "Um, three tankards of Sex on the Beach, a flagon of wine, and - oh right - we all shared a cauldron of Jungle Juice." **15 points**

### 12/4 Leo and Champagnat

At around one in the morning, somebody decided to play with the fire extinguisher in Leo Hall, which set off the fire alarm. Forty minutes later, somebody in Champagnat decided to play with the extinguisher, which set off the fire alarm. I'm not sure what penalties or potential criminal charges are linked to unnecessarily setting off a fire extinguisher, so I Google'd it. One of the answers was "It's a misdemeanor if there's no fire. So before you do it, just intentionally set something on fire (make sure it's a small fire) and you should be fine." Moral of the story: If you're going to commit a misdemeanor offense, make sure

you commit a felony first. Then you should be okay. Thanks, Google. **25 points each.**

And that's that. First semester is a mere week away from concluding, and that means I have some accolades to give out. For the first time in the two year history of the Dysfunctional House Cup, a building not named Champagnat is going home with the trophy. Congratulations to Leo Hall. They eked out a five point victory over the reigning Champions. Happy Holidays, Marist. Go home to eat, drink, and shower without flip-flops. Stay terrific, everybody. See you all in a month.

*Editors' note: The Circle staff wishes to clarify a portion of the Security Briefs printed in our 11/17 edition.*

*It was written that a Housing and Residential Life staff member compared a student drinking in the Donnelly Computer Lab to drinking and driving. Since staff writer Chris Raia did not personally hear this statement, the Circle wishes to retract its inclusion in our previous print edition.*

*As a note to our readers, our disclaimer (at bottom of page) does state that the "Security Briefs are intended as satire and fully protected free speech under the First Amendment of the Constitution."*

*They are intended to be a humorous take on campus occurrences and not as a primary account of the news.*

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From Page One

# Students report two burglaries, one unreported

"The [burglars] used a crowbar to open one of our doors," Dugan said, "and once in the house they kicked doors in half because we all had dead-bolted our doors."

The Circle was unable to obtain a copy of the police report that was filed when City of Poughkeepsie officers responded to the call from 4 Clark Street. Upon contacting the City of Poughkeepsie Police, The Circle was presented with the report number that was filed from this incident. On Monday, a Circle reporter filled out a request to obtain a copy of this report from the City of Poughkeepsie Police records department.

The Circle reporter was also presented with Detective Lt. Edward Freer's contact number. The report was told by an officer staffing the City of Poughkeepsie police headquarters that Freer would be able to provide a statement regarding the 4 Clark Street incident. When The Circle went to press, no report had been furnished by the police and Freer did not return a phone call asking for comment.

Dugan estimated that he and his housemates collectively lost between

\$5,000 and \$10,000 worth of possessions. The list of items that Dugan personally lost includes gold chains, an Armani watch, two TVs, a Playstation 3, Wii equipment and new clothes.

Another resident, Shane Jaeger, said that his LCD TV and two Nikon watches were stolen.

"All [the responding officer] did was take a few pictures, have us write down what got stolen, and he told us 'lesson learned, bring your valuables home with you,'" Jaeger said.

In a separate incident, The Circle learned that another off-campus house rented by Marist students had property stolen from it during the weekend before Halloween. The house was located at 87 Albany Street.

TJ McDermott, a resident of the Albany Street house, said that when he and his housemates reported the break-in the morning after it happened, the police arrived within 30 minutes and took down notes about the burglary.

"[The police officer] told us straight up that Poughkeepsie is a very bad area where you have to watch out for

your possessions because there are many people here who can steal your belongings and have them sold on the streets and in select bars around the area in no time at all," McDermott said. He also said that he and his housemates have not heard from the police since they reported the break-in.

McDermott lives with seven other people; only two others besides McDermott had possessions stolen. The residents lost three laptops, a Flip video camera and iPod touch and a debit card.

Dugan said that there have not been any other incidents at his house before or after, and he and his housemates have installed an alarm system.

The residents of the Garden Street house have taken similar measures and are planning to have a security system installed.

The Office of Safety and Security did not receive notifications or reports of the incidents. John Gildard, director of safety and security, said that even though on-campus incidents like these are low, it is "hit or miss" off-

campus.

Gildard said that he thinks students are safer on campus. For students living off-campus, he recommended leaving a light on at all times or putting lights on a timer so it looks like there is always someone home. He also said to lock all doors and windows, and report all damaged windows and locks to the landlord.

Gildard plans to reach out to the City of Poughkeepsie police regarding the reported burglary at the Clark Street house.

## John P. Stefanopoulos Foundation

The family of John P. Stefanopoulos, a Marist student who died Oct. 27, started a charitable foundation in his name. Over \$43,000 of donations have been collected to form a scholarship. For more information, please email: johnnyb315@aol.com.

From Page One

# Sudden closing of computer lab saddens students

a more inhospitable environment. Two women entered the LT 135 computer lab and asked if everyone in the room were communication majors.

"Most of us said 'yes' and they looked at us and in a tone I perceived as aggressive and demeaning said, 'You can't all be communication majors. Why do I feel like you're not all com-

munication majors? You're definitely not all communication majors.'" The women then said that from then on the lab would be swipe-access only. So even if a communication student without swipe clearance tries to get in they cannot.

However, for communication students that are not taking a class in LT

135, this issue is only temporary.

"We are planning to have security give swipe access to all communication students next semester," Alexander said. "For now, only students that have classes in LT 135 will have access to the lab. We are adding more media equipment in this room; I want it to be a playground for [communication] stu-

dents to play with these new things."

Professors and students recognize that the fact that LT 135 had a color printer made it a valuable resource. With LT 135, the communication department was paying for the color ink cartridges, not the institution, putting an additional damper for the communication department.

From Features

# Ten practical tips to ease final paper woes

By MICHAEL GAROFALO  
Features Editor

When the cursor blinks on Microsoft word and writers block sets in, use these tips to overcome your writing struggles.

1. **Think through your thesis** – The thesis statement is the most integral part of a position paper. There is nothing wrong with taking some time away from the computer screen to really think about where you stand on an issue. It is often far more efficient to ruminate on the thesis and start writing with a clear goal than to start and grind through pages of uncertainty. Moreover, a clear and decisive position will be easier for the reader to follow.

2. **Save extra information off to the side** – As you write your paper, you may find yourself adding information that doesn't quite fit with the rest of the paper, but still has some value. Cut and paste this extra information to the bottom of the page, or into a separate document. This way, you can return to your ideas later, or decide to eliminate them if they have no value. This technique will make it easier to rid your paper of clutter, without committing to eliminating your hard work until it is certainly not

needed.

3. **Use the highlighter tool** – Awkward phrases or word selections that need your attention sometimes distract you from the bigger picture of your paper. Highlight these in a bright color and return to them at a later time; either at the end of the paper, or next time you hit writer's block. You can always address these minor details later, and it's not worth it to lose your good pace. This same tactic can be used for typos, although some people find them so irritating that they feel compelled to fix them before proceeding. You make the call.

4. **Skip the intro** – Introductions can be hard to write. As long as you have a clear thesis, it is okay to skip to the body paragraphs and get the bulk of the work done while your ideas are fresh.

5. **Address the opposition** – Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein, the authors of "They Say I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing," argue that it is important to engage opponents of your position. It's natural for someone to find your thesis to have a false premise, or to be wrong all together. Rather than ignoring opponents' views, engage them and explain to the reader why your position is still better. It's okay to grant that

the opposition has some sensible ideas, if that's the case.

6. **Compartmentalize references** – The reference page is extremely important in avoiding plagiarism, but it can be distracting in the scheme of writing. Try to gather and neatly cite sources before starting. When it's time to make in-text references in your paper (such as with APA or Chicago), either have your citations prepared, or use a filler to call your attention for later on. If you decide to use filler phrases like (CIT), don't forget to return to these areas and give the original author credit. The highlighter tool can be useful here, too. Whatever you decide, don't let the impending citations cloud your thoughts.

**"As long as you have a clear thesis, it is okay to skip to the body paragraphs and get the bulk of the work done while your ideas are fresh."**

7. **Fix awkward phrasing** – Sometimes a sentence just does not sound right. Rather than go crazy with a thesaurus, wasting a lot of your time, consider rephrasing the idea entirely. Use the active voice rather than the

passive voice. If necessary, say your ideas aloud as if you are explaining them to a friend, so that you can hear what you're trying to write. It may come out more concisely.

8. **Use extraordinary language sparingly** – Powerful words are best spent on powerful ideas. If every adjective in your paper comes straight out of a Thesaurus, your descriptions will quickly lose their influence. Moreover, the reader won't be able to distinguish your most passionate points from the surrounding information.

9. **Create a folder for web links** – It is a waste of time to go searching for sources that you have already found. If you're working on a personal computer, create a Favorites folder online, where you can save all relevant links for easy access. If you're on a public computer, paste links into a Word document that you can send to yourself for later.

10. **Set time standards** – If you're having a hard time getting started, commit to a fixed time window of uninterrupted work--perhaps 15 or 30 minutes. After this time, you may find that you are on a roll, and do not want to stop working. If you're still stuck, allow yourself some time to relax, and set a realistic time to resume working.



## Staying grounded on campus

By KYLE YANTZ  
Circle Contributor

In the haze and smog of today's bleak postmodern society, where people remain wrapped up in their own private interests, it is difficult for one to really comprehend what it is truly all about. It would almost appear that there is no longer any compassion! There is no love! Everybody delights themselves in looking out solely for numero uno. At least this is how it has come to appear. I, however, feel quite the opposite, and I present one glowing and unabashed source of evidence: the humble whistlepig.

Whether you personally refer to them as groundhogs, woodchucks, land-beavers, or perhaps even the Latin genus and species, *Marmota mona*, they can be found nearly anywhere on our sprawling campus and are often fondly regarded by the Marist population with a general air of novelty and sincere affection. I do believe that I have never come across an individual who dislikes the noble rodents, or, God forbid, ever thought of doing anything cruel or intentionally harmful to them.

Whether they are scampering up a hill, enjoying the sustenance of some foliage, or standing erect on their little hind legs, it is undeniable that whistlepigs are lovable furry little critters. It is of no surprise that the majority of students cannot help but delight in the groundhogs' endearingly wacky antics whenever they happen upon one. I then present the question, is there anything more wholesome? It is out of this natural affinity for the woodland animals that many students, including myself, are often known to nab an extra rotten specimen, which passes for fresh fruit in the dining hall, and toss it over to the nearest whistlepig or his underground burrow entrance. At any



KYLE YANTZ / THE CIRCLE

Spotted on campus: the Notorious P.I.G.; that's Mr. Whistlepig to you.

rate, the seemingly inedible produce would surely be safer for their consumption than for any human's!

One of the rarest treats for any groundhog enthusiast is to catch a glimpse of a real old bugger! Why, just the other day I was sashaying up the bridge to Fulton when I was fortunate enough to spot a fat and grand old chap of a whistlepig, looking quite distinguished with his streaks of grey as he reveled in the warm Indian summer sun and continued his preparations for impending hibernation while standing brazenly close to the street and sidewalk. This was surely not his first rodeo. In his eyes I sensed the wisdom of having endured many a season in the picturesque mid-Hudson valley. If were forced to guess his age, I would estimate him at probably seven or eight years, given the common knowledge that an average life span for a whistlepig would be six years out in the wild, or up to fourteen years in captivity where the woodchucks can live peacefully

away from their host of natural enemies including wolves, foxes, bears and coyotes.

I must admit, however, that I am somewhat biased by my admiration for the dear animals. They are in fact renowned for their capabilities of seemingly unprovoked aggression and hostility.

In the words of the zoologist and groundhog expert Mr. Douglas Schwartz, "They're known for their aggression... His natural impulse is to kill 'em all and let God sort 'em out. You have to work to produce the sweet and cuddly" said in the New York Times article by Andy Newman.

In light of these facts, I would recommend that no amateur zoologist or drunken student try to get up close and personal with a whistlepig, but rather keep your admiration and love unrequited from a safe distance. Other than that, I wish you all further pleasant interactions with our cohabitants of the campus! Happy trails!

## Getting carded this holiday season

By MICHAEL GAROFALO  
Features Editor

As we approach holiday season, and some shoppers find themselves genuinely out of ideas, one common product may represent the image of a reasonable compromise.

The gift card has the unique ability to somehow find middle ground between the seemingly impersonal touch of plain cash and a personal gift that shows an intimate connection.

From a practical standpoint, a gift card is little more than plastic money with a restriction. It represents buying power but restricts the store at which the receiver can actually spend the money. In a sense it is slightly more intimate than cash because it says "I know you on such a close level that I even know your favorite stores."

The same effect could be attained using a card with a personal, handwritten note and plain cash. Plus, this gives much more spending freedom to the receiver.

From the business's standpoint, the gift card is profitable both directly and indirectly. Casting aside their nearly negligible production costs, gift cards benefit businesses in at least two ways.

Gift cards usually come in very specific denominations: \$10, \$20, \$50, etc. But very rarely does a customer's total ever come to such an exact figure. There is almost always change. If customers fall short of spending their entire card, they either have to return to shop again — thus returning to the first problem of having inexact change — or surrender their balance to the store, which yields a direct profit.

If the customer leaves credit on

their card but never returns, or simply loses their card, it is profitable for the store.

Watch out for gift cards that have an expiration date; such a caveat is unlikely to be well advertised. A gift card that collects dust in your drawer may soon hold no monetary value at all.

But the problem of leaving credit on a gift card is only one side of the equation.

If customers spend over their card's value, they owe money, and the store makes a sale. Frequently, customers will tack on a few extra items in order to reach the card's value, but unintentionally exceed its limits. This usually ends up helping the business.

In fact, there are only two situations in which the gift card is not a net gain for the store.

## Lady in Red: Breakin' up is hard to do, so don't

By CASEY GALASSO

Dear Lady in Red,

My boyfriend and I have been together since high school. We have been making our long-distance relationship work, but now it seems harder than ever. We're both juniors and between our course loads and commitments and friendships at our separate schools, we have kind of started to drift apart. Seeing each other over the breaks and holidays just doesn't seem to be enough anymore. I don't want to break up though, and I don't think he does either. What should I do?

-Not Ready to Break-Up

Dear Not Ready,

First off, congratulations on staying together this long! Long-distance relationships are never easy. I think what the two of you are really craving is stability, which is incredibly hard to find in a relationship where both of you are so busy and so many miles apart! Something that could be really beneficial is a weekly "Skype session." Go over your respective schedules and pick a time that works for both of you. Make it part of your routine to go onto Skype at this time each week to catch up. Having that stability (and something to look forward to!) will definitely help to strengthen your bond.

Sweet surprises also add fun to the relationship and are crucial in making it work. Maybe send your boyfriend a care package around finals with his favorite candy or an iTunes card so he can download some music for his late night study sessions. The simple act of letting him know you care truly means so much.

Don't be afraid to talk to your boyfriend about the tension you're experiencing. Maybe a little heart-to-heart is all the two of you need to clear air. I have faith in you!

-Lady in Red



MIIT / FLICKR



## Tell-all tips that make for ideal student interns

By **EMILY BERGER**  
Managing Editor

Starting in high school, students are told how to succeed and how to make a career for themselves. No one tells them how to get there, just what needs to get done and what needs to be accomplished to get the inevitable j-o-b after graduation. You must have a high GPA, be really involved on campus, do something that no one has ever done before you, and score the perfect internship. After working as an editorial intern for several publications and a non-profit, I want to service the future interns of Marist College by informing you all on what you haven't been told about this venture.

Currently, I am the editorial intern at the new HGTV Magazine at Hearst Tower in New York City. Each internship I've had has been vastly different from the next, but one constant is that there are always many tricks of the trade that are never explained and left for me to find out on my own in the journalism field. Many intern tasks would be much easier if these tricks were explained before arriving there. I am prepared to provide every student planning on taking an internship, no matter their major, with the many tips I wish I had before I traveled into Hearst Tower, where I believed that my hopes and dreams resided. I'll give communication students a few more pointers than the

rest, but most are just some inside tips that can be applied to all fields.

**Tip #1: When applying, send your resume to as many places as possible.**

There are no experiences not worth taking when it comes to internships. Even with an internship that you hate, you realize what kind of field you don't want to go into, or the kinds of positions you would never want to do. After interning at The Patch, a local online publication run nationwide, I realized how much I hated working on stories that were assigned to me over email, and then working completely by myself at my home instead of in an office. I wanted to work at a place with physical publications and be able to interact with other journalists and coworkers.

Also, never be afraid to apply to a place that may not be your top choice. Even though it isn't the most reputable television show, I still gave my resume to places like "The Jerry Springer Show" because you never know what may come from there. I mean, imagine the stories I'd have after that internship!

**Tip #2: Never say no.**

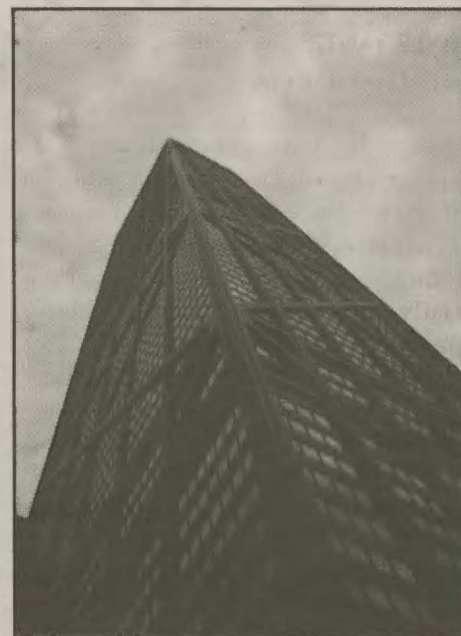
As an intern, there will be tasks that will become everyday assignments you never thought would be

asked of you. I've been asked to get a Diet Coke at the McDonald's across the street, because their soda tastes better there than in the Hearst cafeteria. I've been asked to carry three four-foot boards across town by myself. My favorite was to bubble wrap a \$1,000 coffee table across town because a messenger would be incapable of doing so.

All of these tasks serve as obnoxious reminders of your place as an intern, but every day you have to say, "Self, this will all be worth it someday." Every intern has to know that there is no task that is too outrageous to say yes to. You are there to please and make their lives easier, and one day you'll have an intern to do the same for you.

**Tip #3: Get to know your boss and do exactly as they do.**

At a magazine, and probably at any office, it is important to know who is in charge and know what kind of relationship you can have with each editor. Some editors will be great and will make you feel like they are quite appreciative of everything you do for the publication; others want you to know exactly where your place is. I worked with one editor who was willing to help interns with anything, while the other didn't even want interns to talk to her directly. You must find out which editors like to be talked to at their desk and



LIBOOKPERSON/FLICKR

Prepare for ominous bosses as a city intern.

know the ones who only want to discuss things via email. "The Devil Wears Prada" wasn't too far off with Meryl Streep's version of an editor-in-chief. I'm not even allowed to talk to mine unless I'm spoken to. Even the regular editors don't normally talk to her. All people at a magazine have a place, and recognizing that position will get you far.

I hope I've provided valuable tips that I have needed myself, so that future interns can consider them as they approach the world of interning. As we get into the upcoming spring semester, I'm looking forward to passing along new interning advice through "The Circle."

## Steps to clean out the throttle body under your car's hood

By **MICHAEL GAROFALO**  
Features Editor

The words throttle, accelerator and gas pedal are all common synonyms that refer to the same car part; but one term implies a false connotation about its function. "Gas pedal" is somewhat of a misnomer, according to <http://howstuffworks.com>. The site's claim that "air pedal" would be more accurate is correct. Here's why: When you push down on the throttle in a gas-operated car, you are actually rotating a circular plate, called the throttle plate, and increasing the flow of air into the engine.

It is the car's computer, or ECU, which determines the proper amount of fuel to accompany the air, based upon feedback from various sensors, including the mass air flow sensor.

When the driver holds a steady throttle position, air enters the engine at a uniform rate. On flat ground and with calm wind, the vehicle will travel at a constant speed. Push harder on the pedal, and the computer will meet the increased air with more fuel and you will accelerate. Approach wide open throttle, and the vehicle will run a rich mixture of fuel to meet the power demands.

Cleaning the throttle body is not something that has to be done very frequently, as opposed to common maintenance such as oil changes and tire rotations. But it can be useful, especially for drivers whose typical commute consists of city-like stop and go, or short errands around town. Carbon can gradually build up on the throttle plate over the course of many thousands of miles. Drivers who are closely in-tune with their vehicles may begin to notice sluggishness over time.

While a can of BG 44K or similar Techron fuel cleaner that goes into your gas tank may be helpful for certain components, and for general upkeep, the throttle body is best cleaned manually. However, certain vehicles' throttle bodies are not intended to be cleaned by the owner, and the producer specifies this. Check for this first. If necessary, ask your dealer or manufacturer.

If you opt to clean it on your own, it is best to remove the throttle body housing off the car completely; otherwise you will only have encumbered access to half of the plate. Minor cleaning can be done with the housing still mounted, but you run the risk of getting too much cleaner into the intake manifold – or worse, dropping something inside.

Accessing and removing the throttle body is fairly simple. First, unclamp the air intake hose from the throttle body housing. Then, remove the bolts that hold the housing to the intake manifold (there are usually four). There will also be a throttle cable and a wire for the throttle position sensor. Gently remove both of these. Once your throttle body

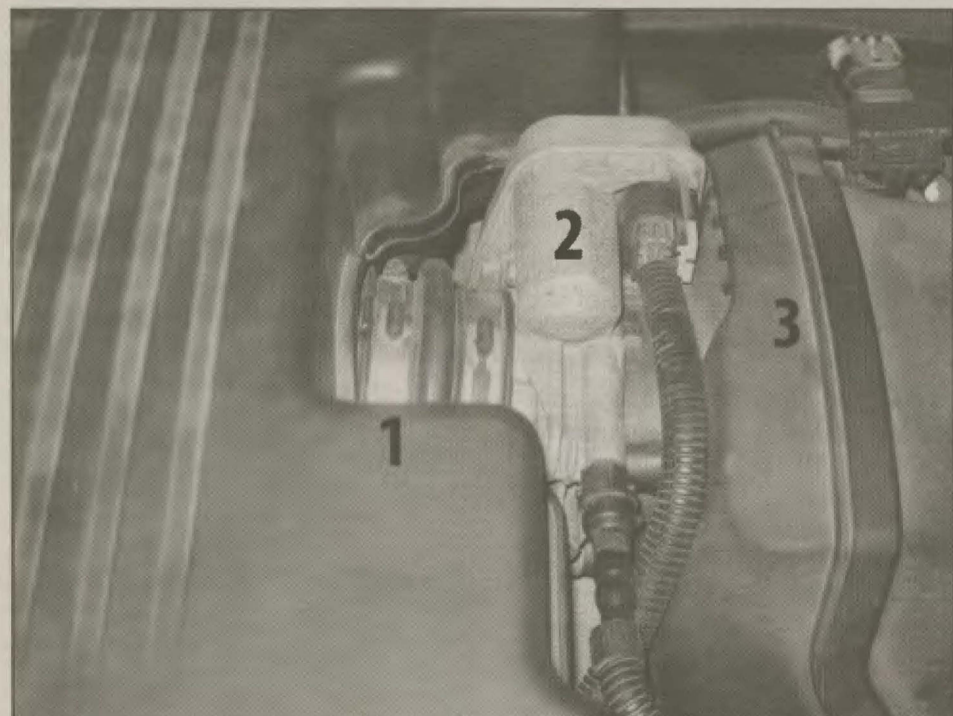
housing is free, set it down on a clean work area with a towel underneath. The towel will get dirty.

The throttle plate typically has a gold, bronze or silver appearance, but don't be surprised if you find substantial dark brown residue; it's only carbon build-up, and that's what the cleaning will remove.

A can of CRC Throttle Body and Air-Intake Cleaner only costs a few dollars and is worth the expenditure. Spray it liberally, but be sure to have good ventilation (consider wearing a mask), and wear latex gloves. It is harmful to inhale or get on your skin. If that happens, just wash it off and resume working.

A clean, lint-free cloth and a soft-bristled toothbrush will be useful for scrubbing the throttle plate. Even if the carbon is caked on, avoid scraping it with harsh wire bristles. Be gentle. For stubborn carbon, let the cleaner soak in for a few minutes. A good scrubbing will leave it shiny and clean. Dry it off, and make sure your cloth has not left behind any fabric.

Once you're satisfied with the cleaning, reattach the throttle body housing, and all associated cables and wires, and reattach the air intake hoses. Next time you start your engine, its speed may spike a bit higher than normal for a moment. That is perfectly normal. If smoke emanates from the exhaust, it really needed the cleaning. If the throttle plate was in dire need of a cleaning, you may feel more pep in the throttle once the job is finished.



MICHAEL GAROFALO/THE CIRCLE

The throttle body (1) is connected to the air intake hose (2) and intake manifold (3).



# Sexual Healing: Dealing with white stuff this winter

By RACHAEL SHOCKEY  
Lifestyles Editor

In the swiftly approaching frigid months, oral sex can double as an exhilarating way to warm up and as a wallet-friendly holiday gift. There exists a great deal of social pressure for givers of oral sex to swallow their partners' semen, but the reality is that it is a choice that should be left entirely to oneself. Thorough communication as well as familiarity with possible risks and benefits are the most important factors in making a responsible decision on which fellatio finisher is best for you.

Popularized incentives to swallow include (often misleading) theories about semen's nutritional value and mood-enhancing capabilities. Sperm typically comprise less than five percent of semen, which leads to great interest in the composition of the rest of it.

"Its other ingredients include fructose sugar, water, ascorbic acid (a.k.a., vitamin C), citric acid, enzymes, protein, phosphate and bicarbonate buffers (bases) [and] zinc," said writers of Columbia University's sexual health resource at <http://goaskalice.columbia.edu>. "Each teaspoon of ejaculate has about five to seven calories."

While the proportions of vitamins and minerals within semen are impressively high, you'd have to be engaging in intimate winter hibernation activities at a highly unreasonable rate for semen to have any consequential nutritional impact on you. Yes, the contents of semen are relatively healthy, but semen is often over-lauded for such qualities.

Similarly, talk of semen's potential to be nature's Prozac was plentiful this year, as much media attention was given to a SUNY Albany study linking the absorption of semen to positive mood enhancement. By administering an anonymous sex questionnaire and the Beck Depression Inventory to Albany undergraduates, the study found that female heterosexual subjects who do not use condoms during vaginal intercourse are

less likely to exhibit depressive behaviors than those who do use condoms. The findings were presented as possible evidence that semen acts as an anti-depressant.

"[Sperm contains] mostly water, plus about 50 compounds: sugar (to nourish sperm), immunosuppressants (to keep women's immune systems from destroying sperm), and oddly, two female sex hormones, and many mood-elevating compounds: endorphins, estrone, prolactin, oxytocin, thyrotropin-releasing hormone and serotonin. Vaginal tissue is very absorptive. It's richly endowed with blood and lymph vessels," said Michael Castleman at <http://psychologytoday.com>.

The mixture of happy hormones provided by semen, when combined with the vagina's absorbency, make a compelling case in favor of semen's ability to uplift female spirits. However, again, this possibility should be met with a fair amount of skepticism.

Many other social and psychological factors were undoubtedly influencing the subjects' susceptibility to depression, allowing for semen contact to not be as influential on mood as it appeared to be from the findings. The study only made note of subjects who came into contact with semen vaginally, so it is unclear whether the same potential for semen to affect mood exists for those who come into contact with semen anally or orally. In essence, semen is a fascinating substance, but the only benefit of swallowing it truly worth your consideration is the pleasure that it might add to oral sex for you and your partner.

Some of the greatest deterrents regarding semen-to-mouth contact—aside from the obvious STI risks (especially if you have any cuts in your mouth)—are the unknowns, which may include taste, amount of semen and time of ejaculation. While one can generally expect saltiness from semen, its taste varies from person to person. However, one may be able to exert some control over the zest of their semen through their diet.

"Kiwi, watermelon and celery are all said to lighten the taste of semen,



JAMIESRABBITS/FICKR

Many experts recommend cutting down on dairy to produce maximally savory semen.

whereas coffee and beer are believed to heighten its bitterness. Acidic fruits [such as] plums, blueberries and cranberries are all believed to make semen taste sweet or sugary," writes Donald Zimmer at <http://askmen.com>. Zimmer as well as the writers at <http://goaskalice.com> recommend experimenting by reducing your dairy product consumption if you or your partner notice a foul flavor to your semen.

Bringing up the subject with your partner may be awkward, but if you express that you want to try this as a fun experiment for both of your benefits, you will confirm to your partner that you care about their feelings and sexual enjoyment, and will facilitate a healthily honest dialogue between the two of you in your sexual explorations.

Verbal communication is also the best solution to the issue of anticipating ejaculate when giving a blow job. To prepare yourself (and to prevent the horrendous possibility of choking on semen), have your partner agree to alert you when he is going to ejaculate—be it through a no-nonsense verbal statement, a code word or a light tap on the shoulder if he's shy. It's estimated that the average amount of ejaculate equals a teaspoon, but this may vary depending on one's age and frequency of ejacu-

lation. If you're thinking of letting your partner ejaculate into your mouth, but are concerned about encountering a lot of semen at once, there is no harm or shame in discussing your worries with your partner. Consider asking him to let you watch him ejaculate (perhaps from manual stimulation) at some point, so you can get a better idea of what to anticipate during oral sex.

Before diving in, it is of paramount importance that you have a conversation with your partner about your boundaries regarding semen. Swallowing after fellatio tends to be a common expectation—among monogamous partners especially—but it is far from the only way to make ejaculation from an oral sex sexy and enjoyable. As an alternative, you might allow your partner to ejaculate somewhere on your external body, insist that they wear a condom during oral sex, lay out a towel and allow your partner to ejaculate wherever without making too much mess, or initiate your oral sex play in or near the shower.

If while you're trying to cozy up with your partner this winter, you find that you're being pressured to swallow their semen, resolve to bundle up, head outside and treat your tongue to some snowflake-catching instead—there's a white substance that inarguably serves as an anti-depressant.

From Page 4

## Passing along pennies to corporations through gift cards

The first is economic deflation, since the card's buying power increases even though its monetary value stays the same. This factor

is not relevant this year.

The second is when the customer had every intention of spending their money at that

store anyway. In this instance, the card merely substitutes the cash it represents.

The business loses only the pennies it spent to make the card and the paper it on which it printed the gift card's receipt. These minor expenses are far outweighed by one of the gift card's more subtle benefits: increased pedestrian traffic.

Indirectly, gift cards do a really good job of bringing shoppers, and possibly their friends and family, into the store. Once inside, customers' attention may be caught by interesting displays, special sales or fliers which advertise new items. Even if only a small fraction of customers are impulse buyers, getting them into the store is important.

On a smaller level, minor increases in inflation make the gift card progressively lose its value over time. The business collects the money first, and all shoppers

have is an 'IOU'—a promise that a product of equal value can be attained at a later date. Provided that the card does not expire, its purchasing power diminishes over time. Admittedly, cash does the same thing.

While gift cards are sleek and convenient, they come with certain drawbacks. They are easy to lose. One has to keep tally of their own receipts, or else trust a computer to accurately calculate their balance.

But they are not entirely bad. Maybe the receiver has a certain store that they shop at so frequently that the card is highly unlikely to go to waste. If a shopper is really out of ideas, gift cards still offer some level of choice, and they certainly trump a gift that would otherwise go unused. Most importantly, some people just like gift cards, and it makes complete sense to get them what they will use and enjoy most.



WONDERDAWG777/FICKR

Mountains of gift cards lend themselves to mounds of extra profit for retail CEOs.



## Phonathon collects donations for the Marist Fund

By MICHAEL GAROFALO  
Features Editor

Walk into the Phonathon office on the ground floor of Fontaine, and you will see neat rows of computer desks affixed with monitors and headsets, and a large progress chart pinned to the far wall. Its stated goal is \$450,000 by the end of the 2012 fiscal year in June, although their real goal is \$465,000, according to senior phonathon associate Anthony Marinaccio.

The chart measures the progress of the Marist Fund from July to June, although technically the phonathon does not start until September each year. Its marker was at \$183,000 as of Monday, Dec. 5.

"We are right on par," Anthony Izzo, associate director of annual giving, said.

The goal of the phonathon is to reach out to parents and alumni for donations.

According to Marinaccio, a junior by credit, only 70 percent of Marist expenditures are covered by tuition. The rest must be picked up in other ways, including the Marist Fund.

Marinaccio highlighted four main areas that are helped from the Marist Fund: scholarships, special student resources, technological upgrades and study abroad options.

However he noted that it is "an unrestricted fund," so the above list is certainly not a list of limitations, just common areas that receive funding.

"It's important because it finds a way to help out any student on campus," Marinaccio said.

Phonathon works on a Sunday through Thursday schedule. A single shift lasts 2.5 hours and typically includes 19 students out of approximately 36 to 40 on staff.

On a typical day, phonathon employees report to the call center in Fontaine, receive briefings about current Marist events, eat dinner and then begin making their calls.

Student phone operators use a computer program called Dial Vision, an all-in-one program which includes space for updating alumnus' information, as well as an area to keep scripts handy.

Most students, Izzo and Marinaccio agreed, quickly graduate from the scripts to a more natural and free flowing conversation.

Izzo said that students frequently find themselves talking to alumni about current campus events.

The calls "may be the only chance [for alumni] to get a one on one conversation with a Marist student," he said.

This is why every night starts with a briefing of new, relevant events around campus.

Students are assigned specific pools, or target audiences, such as young alumni, heritage alumni or freshman parents. They will be briefed about topics that are likely relevant to that pool, to aid in conversation.

Marinaccio said that callers rarely encounter rude or angry people.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANTHONY IZZO, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF ANNUAL GIVING

The call center was moved to a new location in Fontaine, starting this Fall semester.

"Usually they know what our goals are during the phone call," he said.

This is due in part to building rapport and discussing relevant topics, which Marinaccio said are very important aspects of the job.

He admitted that "some people get annoyed on little things," such as calling past a certain time.

In some instances, networking can result from a phone call. Marinaccio recalled a situation in which he forwarded Fashionology contact information to an alumnus who was seeking interns for their company.

Sometimes callers reach alumni who have employers who are willing to match their donations.

"We look for a matching gift company," Marinaccio said.

A matching gift company will do-

nate an amount equal, or sometimes greater than, what one of their employees donates. It's often a 1-to-1 ratio; but Marinaccio said that IBM donates at 2-to-1.

In terms of ranking, however, donation amount is irrelevant. Kiplinger's Personal Finance and Princeton Review rank schools based on the percentage of donors. Marist ranked 38 for the second year running, according to a Marist College Office of Public Affairs press release.

The number of calls made in a given session varies greatly, but on a good night over 100 gifts may be received. Aside from the phonathon, donations are also collected online and via mail. With over 33,000 alumni to call, there is no shortage of contacts to be made.

## From cupcakes to diplomas: Students aid women's education

By MICHAEL GAROFALO  
Features Editor

Junior Nicole Roderman was in somewhat of a "sophomore slump" last year. She wanted to be more active in her community, but wasn't sure where to begin.

It was around this time that she saw a local news segment, which proved to be the catalyst for her efforts. Combined with inspiration from Professor Peter-Raoul, her instructor for World Views and Values, Roderman had found her project.

She's the First is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to assisting women in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia get an education. The organization, which now has branches at multiple colleges, has a dual aim of raising money and awareness.

Roderman brought STF to Marist on her own accord, and began her efforts with a cupcake sale.

The sale took place on Nov. 4 in the Champagnat Breezeway, and raised a total of \$460, exceeding the initial goal by \$160. Cupcake batter was donated by Naturally Nora's, and a total of 200 cupcakes were sold. The list price was 75 cents per cupcake, but some students paid

extra and considered it a donation.

Roderman said the booth attracted attention and donations from passersby ranging from students, to professors and even parents that were on campus tours.

Jill Muller, treasurer of Teachers of Tomorrow, baked and sold cupcakes for the sale.

"The word got out there from our club members, signs and Facebook. We got a lot of friends and family members to support us, but the foot traffic was really what made it a success," Muller said in an email.

But direct participation has been limited to a small number of students so far.

"It's been hard to get people on board with it," Roderman said.

So far, she has branched out to Teachers of Tomorrow, and has garnered some support from students, but she still wants the on-campus effort to grow — ideally into a recognized club.

Roderman has shown "Waiting for Superman," a documentary about charter schools, and intends to hold other awareness-aimed events, again with the goal of increased participation.

She admitted that one aspect of the organization's policy has received some questioning. One professor questioned the gender

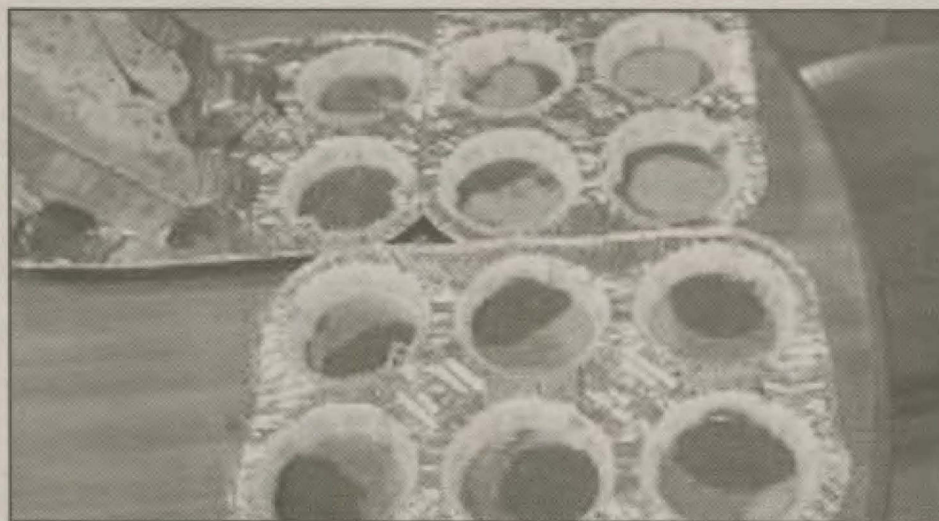


PHOTO COURTESY OF SHE'S THE FIRST\* (MARIST COLLEGE) ON FACEBOOK.COM

The cupcake sale was advertised online, but a good location led to much attention.

disparity, asking if there is such a thing as He's the First. Why prioritize only the education of one gender?

Roderman understood the professor's point of contention.

"Everyone needs an education," she said.

Her best explanation for the gender issue was the statistical support. Women represent 70 percent of the global population of uneducated individuals according to <http://shethfirst.org/>. Roderman also pointed to the benefits of educating women, such as better awareness of AIDS and sexually transmitted infections.

The organization's website addresses the same question by stating that STF is active in nations where "education for boys has been prioritized over that of girls."

But Roderman prefers to avoid the political implications of the issue. She described it as "more of an educational movement than a feminist movement." As a matter of fact, she encourages more men to get involved on campus, considering the female-dominated ratio of Teachers of Tomorrow.

"I feel really strongly about education. I feel it's taken for granted," she said.



# Alumnus shares his study abroad expertise

By LISA GLOVER  
Circle Contributor

Students interested in studying abroad usually seek to find the safest and most effective way to maximize their travel allowance. One Marist alumnus, who now works for a travel company shared his experience and expertise in a Q&A style interview.

Mike LaPorta graduated from Marist in 2009, and after having spent a semester abroad, his travel cravings grew. He wanted to give back to students what Bus2Alps gave to him: the most memorable semester of his life. ModernTravelTalk, a capping blog dedicated to assisting students who are traveling on a budget, had the opportunity for an exclusive interview with LaPorta. Here is part of that interview. Find the full interview at <http://moderntraveltalk.com/>.

**MTT: What first sparked your interest in the travel industry?**

**LAPORTA:** I first noticed it when all of my projects for my senior advertising classes were related to travel: an ad campaign for Interlaken, a self-promotion project consisting of postcard advertisements with all the places I visited while abroad. I think my interest was actually sparked by a conglomeration of my study abroad experiences, my travels with Bus2Alps and my college week trips to Tremblant and

Acapulco. Seeing other people slightly older than me making a career out of my hobby is what caused me to pursue a job in tourism.

**MTT: How did you begin your career with Bus2Alps?**

**LAPORTA:** I like to think it was the second I walked into the door and booked an Interlaken trip with them. I wanted to get everyone else on this trip with me. But, it really started on the Greece Long Weekend trip. I fell down a flight of stairs and knocked out one of my teeth. I know, an odd way to start a career. I met the owners of Bus2Alps on this trip and kept insisting, despite knocking out my tooth; I was going to work for them. One year later, I sent my resume, re-introducing myself as Chip (the nickname they gave me). I guess my enthusiasm despite having knocked out a tooth, got me the job. Three and a half years later I still haven't looked back.

**MTT: What is your personal favorite trip that Bus2Alps offers?**

**LAPORTA:** Any Fall or Spring Break because you really get to know everyone on your trip. I have done many 10 plus day trips during my personal travels, and it is these trips that are life-changing. I love the opportunity to be part of someone else's life changing experience.

**MTT: Bus2Alps has increased its trips and tremendously grown since 2003. What new and exciting adventures are in store for 2012?**

**LAPORTA:** 2012 is an exciting time for Bus2Alps. 2011 showed us just how much further we can go with expanding the Bus2Alps experience to everyone who studies abroad and even those who have not. For the upcoming spring semester we have added a slew of new Spring Break trips (Eastern Europe, Morocco, a London, Paris, Amsterdam trip), all of which can be joined from the United States and from anywhere in Europe. In addition, we have expanded our weekend trips, so that all of our trips can be joined from anywhere in Europe. These include fly-in trips to Dublin for St. Patrick's Day, Prague, Barcelona, Scotland, Portugal and more. Looking beyond spring, we are organizing Summer Break trips for those who don't have time over Spring Break, but need to get away to Europe.

**MTT: This past semester, Bus2Alps had its 10,000th booker of 2011. What promotions does Bus2Alps offer its loyal travelers?**

**LAPORTA:** We love giveaways. This past semester not only did we give away a year of free travel to our

10,000th booker of 2011, but we had raffles at local bars, an online Quiz Night, and two giant sales. For the last two sales we had free and heavily discounted trips throughout our website. These sales drew thousands of people to try to snatch up the deals. In addition, we have bigger discounts for our loyal customers, included 5 percent and 7 percent discounts for those who book more than one trip at once, 10 percent discounts for groups and free trips for bigger groups.

**MTT: What is one piece of advice you would want all study abroad students to know?**

**LAPORTA:** If you want to do something, go for it. You can always replace money but you can't replace time. When I studied abroad, I didn't go to Prague or Budapest because I missed the Bus2Alps trips there, and did not want to spend \$300 on flights to either. I spent my summer internship literally crushed I never went there and even more distraught when I realized that it would cost me \$1,000 just to fly back to Europe. Most of all don't plan your travels solely around your friends. The best trips can be the ones you go alone. If anything, you can join Bus2Alps and meet tons of new people you never would have had the chance otherwise.

# Jayson Blair: "Too good" to be true

By MICHELLE CARPENTER  
Circle Contributor

The New York Times is a publication built on its long-standing reputation, but it is not immune to becoming entangled in one reporter's (mess). The New York Times came to describe reporter Jayson Blair's plagiarism and fabrication of news as, at that time, "a low point in the 152-year history of the newspaper."

Blair started his career in journalism as an intern for the Boston Globe. He then interned at the New York Times, where he began his career of self-destruction.

Charles Strum, Blair's editor at the Times while he worked at the metro desk, commented on Blair, saying that "his personal/professional life seemed to be a mess: a voice-mail that was filled to the brim; i.e., no one could leave him fresh messages. He took on assignments from other departments without clearing them with me or metro and then never completed them. And yet, he was always in the office, always the first to show up at the bar and the last to leave. At the time, though, no one could have imagined the kind of trouble he'd get into."

In his four years at the Times, reporting from 1999 to 2003, Blair climbed the reporting ladder, finally landing himself in the national desk reporting on hot issues of that time.

In April, 2003, an article of Blair's

was called into question for bearing an uncanny similarity to an article published earlier by the The San Antonio Express-News by reporter Macarena Hernandez, a previous colleague of Blair's while interning at the Times. When questioned, Blair maintained that he had done the reporting for the story himself in Texas and no crime of plagiarism had been committed.

An investigation into Blair's reporting began and his crime was unearthed. Blair had not gone to Texas to report on that story, nor had he actually traveled to many of the sites from which he was said to report from. Blair stayed in Brooklyn, N.Y. and relied on his cell phone and laptop.

Sridhar Pappu, reporter for the New York Observer and one of the first reporters to conduct an extended interview with Blair after the scandal erupted, commented on this.

"It's one thing to not go to a site and try to make things up, but to take your former colleagues work and use it verbatim, that's an act of pure self-destruction," he said.

Blair resigned from the Times and a full-fledged investigation into his previous articles began. The Times reported in May 2003 that from the beginning of his time reporting for the national desk, at least 36 articles out of 73 were questionable.

On May 11, 2003 the New York Times printed an article titled "Correcting the record; Times Reporter

Who Resigned Leaves Long Trail of Deception," detailing Blair's work, deception at the Times and how the paper planned to move forward in the wake of his plagiarism and lies.

The article stated that over 600 other articles Blair wrote contained fabrications or questionable material and asked readers to email the Times to report anything suspicious or false that they noticed in any of Blair's articles.

Blair's fabrications involved many stories that pulled at the emotions of people across the nation. He depicted marines recovering in medical centers from the war in Iraq, families anxiously watching the television to confirm the safety of their children and relatives fighting abroad, church services and memorials and inside information regarding the arrest of suspects involved in the 2002 Washington sniper attacks.

"The stories were too good, the anecdotes were too good. Those were warning signs," Pappu stated.

The Times took responsibility in losing the public's trust but also maintained that Blair was intentionally deceiving the paper and that was not something easily caught.

In an article by Pappu, "So Jayson Blair Could Live, The Journalist Had to Die," Blair is cited as saying that he was a victim to drugs and alcohol, but it was the institution of the New York Times that deserved blame as well.

Pappu commented on Blair's stance on the scandal, saying that "I think as an institution, they [The Times] knew about his problems. Jayson is totally at fault for what he did, but he was also symptom of major institutional problems at the paper."

The editors that Blair conned were led to believe that they were working with a driven, trustworthy reporter who knew where to go to get his story.

When asked if he ever suspected Blair's writing, Barry said "No, but I can't say that I was making it my mission to fact-check or pay particular attention to his stories. I had no reason to doubt it any more than the average reader would have any reason to doubt it."

Adam Liptak, a Times journalist who worked on the Blair story, said "In the newspaper world, at least, the blame rests almost entirely on the reporter. Editors should try to be alert and, especially, to hire and promote carefully. But it's very hard to detect such abuses before publication."

The Times has regained its reputation as a credible source for the world's news, but the Jayson Blair scandal is not easily forgotten.

"It's a fundamentally different place," Pappu said. "I doubt whether a scandal like this will ever happen at a place like The Times again."



## Festive flicks: Christmas classics to get in the holiday spirit

By MELANIE LAMORTE  
A&E Editor

'Tis the season for cold movie nights and blockbuster hits. Although not every movie to be released during the holiday season is memorable years later, there are plenty of classics that are worth watching to get in the holiday spirit.

**A Christmas Story (1983):** An oldie but a goodie, this Christmas classic set in the 1940s follows the story of youngster Ralphie who desperately wishes for the beloved Red Ryder BB Gun. While enduring resistance from his parents, schoolmates and Santa himself, Ralphie's turbulent Christmas season is a hilarious and heartwarming portrayal of the good old days that still holds up today.

**National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989):** Another 80s throwback, "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" is the zany comedy following the dysfunctional Griswold family's troubled but laughable holiday event with the parents and in-laws. In classic National Lampoon fashion, everything that can go wrong with the Griswolds does. Though it's cheesy and dated, there's something comforting about knowing that there may be a family out there that's even crazier than your own.

**The Santa Clause (1994):** In Tim Allen's big screen debut, the actor



FLICKR/S\_HERMAN

The 1983 film "A Christmas Story" remains a cherished holiday classic even today.

plays Scott Calvin, a divorced dad trying to bring the Christmas spirit back to his young son. In an unpredictable accident, Calvin unintentionally kills Santa and is required to take over his job. Though it's not a cinematic masterpiece, "The Santa Clause" is a childhood favorite that remains entertaining (albeit a bit kooky) years later.

**Love Actually (2003):** Not a traditional Christmas movie, "Love Actually" is on its way to becoming a modern holiday classic. The film follows eight (vaguely interrelated) London couples in their ventures

in love and life a month before Christmas. The romance, charm and chemistry among the members of this star-studded cast make "Love Actually" memorable and sweet.

**Elf (2003):** Whether or not you're a fan of Will Ferrell, "Elf" is without a doubt one of the funniest and most clever Christmas movies in recent years. Ferrell plays Buddy the Elf, an emigrant from the North Pole dressed in an inappropriately tight bodysuit, searching for his biological father. Understandable for children yet entertaining for adults, Ferrell and an almost unrecogniz-

able Zoey Deschanel spread the joy by reminding families that, "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear."

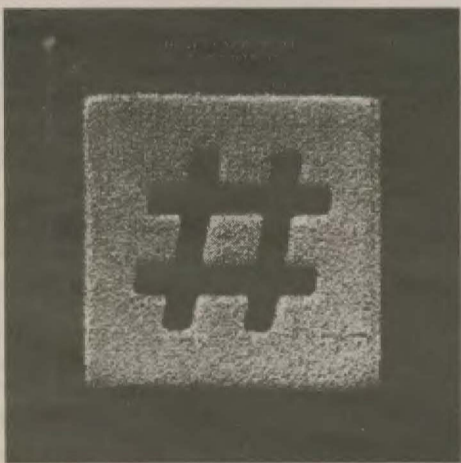
**Nightmare before Christmas (1993):** In this unique stop motion musical fantasy film from Tim Burton, Jack Skellington, the Pumpkin King of Halloween Town enters the unfamiliar Christmas Town. Though the residents of his town don't quite grasp the concept of Christmas Town, Skellington decides to take over the holiday regardless. This cultural phenomenon has been well-received by critics and audiences alike for its unique, imaginative and artistic charm.

**Miracle on 34th Street (1947):** A timeless classic, the original version of this film is dated but touching nonetheless. When a department store Santa is convinced that he's the real thing, he raises some eyebrows among coworkers and a psychologist. This endearing tale is sentimental and sweet.

**Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer (1964):** Many imitation films have been made in years since, but the original animated Rudolph can't be beat. Rudolph and his outcast friends try to find a place where they all belong. From the land of the misfit toys to the frightening abominable Snowman, this childhood classic is bizarre and campy in the best way possible.

## Second opinions: A revisitation of initially panned 'Codes and Keys'

By MATTHEW CASTAGNA  
Staff Writer



FLICKR/JOECASTRO68

Death Cab For Cutie released their seventh album to mixed reviews in May.

On May 31, formerly independent west coast rock group Death Cab For Cutie released their seventh studio album "Codes and Keys" to a stagnate collective of underwhelmed critical and commercial response. Both fans and professionals alike found themselves torn by the polarizing nature of the album - a magnificently produced selection of artistic pop music irritatingly disjointed by lackluster thematic delivery and misguided attempts at monopolizing past glory. However, the past few months have seen a significant turnaround in terms of

popular perception.

A recent Grammy nomination for Best Alternative Rock Album as well as a surprisingly clever remix EP, "Keys and Codes," seems to suggest that perhaps Death Cab's latest work is an album best reviewed over time. So, after nearly seven months of absorption, here's a second look at the notoriously dodgy "Codes and Keys."

Time serves the opening half of the album well, emphasizing the carefully balanced border set between fine-tunes fortes and well-respected experimental indulgences. Contrary to "Bixby Canyon Bridge," the raw noise tapered introduction to 2008's "Narrow Stairs," the opening track "Home Is A Fire" whispers its way from gentle ambience to tangible power. Lead singer Ben Gibbards howls over syndicated drum loops, forwarding an unmatched narrative on paranoia, while lead guitarist/producer Chris Walla spins colorful synth-specks into a whirlwind of reflective backing.

Picking up steam, the titular track feels livelier than ever. The simple, yet prominent piano chords are overlapped with sweeping orchestral backdrops and watery guitar progressions, resulting in a strong contender for some notable position on one of those "best of" year-end

lists. Walla's electronic chords bleed in and out of Gibbards confident proclamations of inevitable despair, taking his infamous ability to hide painful topics beneath traditionally cheery arrangements to the next level. The closing lines, "we are alone, we are alive," symbolically acts as a microcosm of the battle between the desire to be optimistic and the seemingly inescapable sense of isolation. The following tracks "Some Boys" and "Doors Unlocked and Opened" still feel a bit stale from overproduction, but offer a breath of fresh air none-of-the-less. And of course, we have "You Are a Tourist," the glittery lead single reflecting energetic reenactments of Christmas light pop.

However, all hopes of a complete revival run dry once we reach the second half of the album, which only seems to taunt the growing impression of its preceding tracks with frustratingly bizarre deliveries. The pop works of "Monday Morning," "Portable Television" and "Underneath The Sycamore" appear even more blatantly unfinished; each one rapidly attempting to hide its confusion with overworked studio manipulation and mind-numbingly repetitive hooks in place of gravely needed verses. Similarly, the more 'artsy' movements of "Unobstructed

View" and "St. Peters Cathedral" provide interesting frameworks a la Chris Walla, but are quickly dragged down by copy-paste lyrics and lazy instrumentation. Though the feel-good album closely offers interesting acoustic work on the overused 'enjoy life while you've got it' theme, after a mere two-and-a-half minutes, the cute appreciation leaves you wanting more, only to see the disc automatically eject from your stereo system.

The two now widely available demo tracks - stripped down versions of "Boys" and "Television," deliver their own interesting perspectives on the natural evolution of the album, but are mere distractions from the ultimate musical stalemate. Even after several months of contemplation, you're left with an album split directly down the middle between artistic refinement and poor songwriting.

"Codes and Keys" is a well-thought-out piece that is dragged down by the group's inability to forward the necessary skills required to build the pop-art collage they so adamantly desired. However, this retrospective glance has shown us that although the album itself may fall short, the select musical contributions carry an intricate assortment of emotional weight.



From Page 12

# With wins, Red Foxes becoming more confident

you're at and where you could be at. We played really well down in Loyola. Two or three possessions here or there and we could have won a game on the road against the third ranked team in the league."

Iona has looked to be the class of the MAAC so far. The Gaels are 6-1, including wins over Maryland and St. Joseph's. Their lone loss came by one point against Purdue. Fairfield, Loyola, and Manhattan are the other teams who went 2-0 in the conference's first weekend of play.

"The league is really competitive," Martin said. "Just in passing I hear people say the MAAC is down. The MAAC is not down. The power has shifted a little bit."

## Game plan: Get it to Adam

At the start of every half so far this season, the Red Foxes' strategy has been obvious – get the rock to Adam Kemp.

"Just the fact that the ball is going inside forces the defense to collapse, then we get wide-open threes," Martin said. "We've made a conscious effort all season long to start the

game with the first three possessions, get the ball inside. Adam, even when he misses, he's such a threat that people have to double-team, then you get wide-open looks."

Kemp, who missed a lot of time due to injury his freshman year, has enjoyed the increased role.

"I love it," Kemp said. "It gives me a chance to go out and play, you know, 30 minutes a game. I think it's a lot of fun to know that you're kind of the guy it's going to go in to a lot."

The sophomore is averaging 8.5 points and 5.9 rebounds per game.

## Freshmen breaking through

The Red Foxes are a young team, but it's still been surprising just how important this freshman class has been.

Morton, the Foxes' starting point guard, said the transition into the college game has been fast and furious.

"I have no choice but to adjust quick," Morton said. "Coach and R.J. Hall have definitely helped

mentor me, and I think that process is becoming easier as time goes by."

Chavaughn Lewis has consistently been loading up the stat sheet in his first year in Poughkeepsie. Lewis leads the team with 13.3 points per game, and he brings down 3.5 rebounds per game as well. On the flip side, Lewis also leads the Foxes with 3 turnovers per game. He's done this coming off the bench, and don't expect that to change any time soon.

Martin called starting "overrated."

"It's all about who finishes the game," he said. "Chavaughn subs in four minutes into the game every game. He's in the game at the 17 minute mark anyway, and he finishes just about every game for us. Right now we've got a good rhythm, we've got a good chemistry, we've got a good rotation. So really there's no need to change that. He's playing well, he feels comfortable, and it gives him the opportunity to see the game for a few minutes before he gets out there."

The other two freshmen, Manny Thomas and T.J. Curry, have made significant contributions as well. Thomas adds 5.8 points per game in 23 minutes, and Curry, despite limited minutes, is 6-10 from the field this season.

## Without Carter, three-point shooting still thrives

The Red Foxes have the fourth-best three point shooting team in the NCAA, going 60-134 (44.8 percent) from beyond the arc.

Devin Price, Jay Bowie, Manny Thomas and T.J. Curry are all shooting over .500 from downtown.

One of the Foxes' top sharpshooters, redshirt junior Dorvell Carter, has been out with a knee injury suffered against Vermont over two weeks ago.

Martin said that the initial test on Dorvell revealed a potentially torn ACL, which would force the forward to sit out another season. The medical staff is waiting on a second opinion to confirm the injury.



DAN TORRES/THE CIRCLE

Above: Freshman guard Isaiah Morton (above) had a career-high 15 points against Rider on Sunday in Marist's 95-75 victory. This year's freshman class has been instrumental so far in the 2011-2012 campaign, helping to turn the program around.

# Marist swimming and diving shines on road trip to Loyola

By JOE FITZHENRY  
Circle Contributor

The Marist men's and women's swimming and diving teams took to the pool in the H2ounds Invitational at Loyola University over the weekend, with both squads coming up with some of their best performances of the season. Head coach Larry VanWagner called the team performance "fantastic" for both sides, especially at this point in the season.

As a whole, the men recorded 57 season-best times out of 58 individual swims, while the women posted 62 season-best times out of 64 individual swims. Those are certainly some staggering statistics for a team that still has 2 months to get even faster before the MAAC Championships.

On the men's side, the Red Foxes defeated St. Peter's by a score of 259-104, defeated Iona 238-126 but

were edged slightly by the Greyhounds of Loyola, 193-175. Those results put the Red Foxes' record for the season at 4-4 overall and 2-3 in the MAAC.

The men also got wins from sophomore Nick Spinella in the 200-yard backstroke at 1:51.08 and freshman Jason Ruddy in the 200 butterfly at 1:52.76. The result from Ruddy puts him just .47 seconds off the school record, held by Mark Esolen.

The 2 wins were not the only banner performances from the Red Foxes in the meet as Dylan Cummings and Danny Collins placed 3rd and 4th behind Spinella in the 200-yard backstroke and the relay team of Evan Uy, Ruddy, Cummings and John Spitzer finished 2nd in the 200-yard medley relay.

Spitzer also swam to a 3rd place finish in the 100-yard freestyle while Uy, Brian Shannon and Patrick Shea placed 4th, 5th, and 7th respectively in the 200-yard

breaststroke and Ruddy, Spinella and Spitzer along with sophomore Alex Lombardi came up with a 2nd place performance in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Asked how he felt about the team's performance, Spinella said that "the team swam for each other, not just themselves."

On the Women's side of things, the Red Fox ladies continued their hot start to the season by sweeping St. Peter's, Loyola and Iona by scores of 298-54, 263-104 and 251-119. The sweep improves the Red Foxes to 7-1 overall and 5-0 in the MAAC, the best start in VanWagner's nine year tenure.

Overall, the Marist women recorded 14 victories in total over the course of the two-day meet. One of the biggest standouts for the Red Fox women was junior Erica Vitale, who recorded two of the individual wins. In one of those wins, the 200-yard butterfly, Marist swept the top

Marist's game against Army on Wednesday night took place too late for this edition. Please check [www.maristcircle.com](http://www.maristcircle.com) for coverage of the game.

## NCAA Three-point percentage leaders

1. Colorado St.	57-125	45.6%
2. Creighton	69-152	45.4%
3. Pittsburgh	69-154	44.8%
4. Marist	60-134	44.8%
5. North Carolina	48-108	44.4%
- California	44-99	44.4%

## Upcoming games:

At New Hampshire, Saturday 12/17  
Hartford, Wednesday 12/21  
At Penn, Friday 12/23  
Columbia, Wednesday 12/28  
St. Peter's, Monday 1/2  
At Rider, Friday 1/6  
Iona, Sunday 1/8

## Gaining confidence and getting better

Sunday's 20-point victory was a big confidence boost for the young squad.

"The guys are feeling really good, really confident," Martin said. "It's still early in the season, but it's still good to get a league win early and to get it the way we got it."

With already half of last year's win total, this year's team seems to have that "winning attitude" Martin hoped this class would bring.

"We're definitely starting to get on a roll," Morton said. "When me and the other three freshmen committed, this is what we were looking forward to – for us to come in and help change the program, and I think we're on the verge of doing that."

Still, there's work to be done.

"We have to become a better defensive team," Martin said. "We're a scrappy team, but there's two or three minutes in the second half where we've had an opportunity to close teams out and we give up a layup or give up an offensive rebound. I think defensively just being focused for an entire 40 minutes."

four places.

Senior captain Michelle Fountain was happy with the wins, but even more pleased with each girl posting at least one season-best time. She called the team dynamic "incredible" and said that "the support system for each other is unbelievable and factors into the fast times."

Last, but not least, the divers had quite a performance over the weekend as well. Kim Tobias, just back following a battle with mononucleosis, qualified for the platform event at the NCAA Zone Championships. Coach Melanie Bolstad, called it Lauren Weiner's "best performance ever" and was also pleased with the boys finishing less than a point apart from each other in their events.

The Red Foxes will be in action again on Saturday, Jan. 7, when they travel to Lehigh to take on the Mountain Hawks in a non-conference tilt.



From Page 12

## Three-game winning streak has Red Foxes rolling

is the scorer, and there is no disputing that. Both Gang and Ockenden bring secondary scoring to the lineup, but they do it in a different way. Gang has been the inside presence thus far, providing rebounds to go with her points. Ockenden has been the three point threat everyone expected her to be, but has also found ways to get points in other ways, and compliments Yarde well.

"It's going in, I'm more surprised when she misses when I see her get a good look and her feet are squared," Giorgis said when asked how he feels when Ockenden shoots. "She's worked hard on trying to get her shot off quicker, she's moving without the basketball a lot better, she makes twos this year and shots around the basket."

Kristine Best has brought a different direction to the offense than her predecessor Elise Caron, but the senior point guard has done a good job thus far of leading the offense, and is currently second on the team in assists. Junior Kelsey Beynon has rounded out the starting five, providing a shutdown defender down low, as well as key rebounds

and depth scoring.

Pretty much everything said above was what everyone expected from the starting five. Where this team has exceeded my expectations was from the bench, where we have seen more players contributing than in the past two years that have made up my life as a Marist student. Dulin and Kristina Danella are leading that charge, putting up 7.5 and 5.3 points respectively in under 20 minutes per game.

One player who Giorgis has singled out is Emily Stallings, who has brought needed minutes down low, and has done an outstanding job on the defensive end. Natalie Gomez and Emma O'Connor have both looked good in limited minutes. O'Connor plays a simple game which adds a stabilizing force, and Gomez provides some spark off the bench and might just be the best ball handler on the team as shown by some of the flashy dribbling she had against Hartford and Yale.

Overall, this team is right where it should be. It may be a team still trying to find its identity, but thus far they have looked like the team



JON O'SULLIVAN/THE CIRCLE

Junior forward Kristina Danella drives the rim against in the season opener. Despite the loss, Marist is off to a strong overall start sparked by a strong bench play.

that everyone expects will once again win a MAAC title. They are improving on a game by game basis, and at this point of the season, there is really nothing better to do.

"We just have to keep playing with assertiveness and not play scared, and build our confidence each game," Ockenden said.

## Indoor track opens season at Yale Invitational

By GARRIN MARCHETTI

Staff Writer

On Saturday, the Marist men and women's indoor track and field teams began their 2011-2012 seasons in New Haven, Conn., at Yale University. By the end of the meet, both teams received great efforts by several of its runners.

The men's team saw junior Arquimedes Delacruz place second overall in the 5,000 meter race. Delacruz finished with a time of 15:07.46.

Another notable runner for the Red Foxes was senior Thomas Lipari, who ran the mile race in 4:22.18, good enough for fourth-place overall. Lipari was also a part of the second-place 3,200 meter relay team, along with freshman

David Marthy, junior Billy Posch and sophomore Andrew James.

The preliminaries of the 60-meter dash had three Red Foxes set personal bests: senior Michael McCloskey (7.31), freshman Tyler Schwarz (7.33), and junior Darren Bushey (7.37). Head coach Pete Colaizzo said he was proud of the efforts.

"Those guys have been working hard all offseason with our assistant coaches and Coach Clancy in the weight room," Colaizzo said. "For them to set personal bests in the first meet of the season is really encouraging."

On the women's side, freshman Danielle Asaro finished eighth overall in the preliminaries of the 60-meter dash. Asaro's time of 8.27 tied the Marist school record for the

event, set by Marissa Artiano back in 2004. In the finals of the 60-meter dash, Asaro ran the race in 8.28.

"Nicole came out of the box full swing, and that was great to say," said Colaizzo. "The rest of the coaches and I were thrilled with her results in this meet."

Nicole Scicolone, a sophomore transfer, took third place in long jump at 5.28. Colaizzo was impressed with Scicolone's efforts.

"Nicole really hasn't been able to practice the long jump a lot, so she has been working hard on her own to prepare herself," Colaizzo said. "For her to do so well in her first meet is impressive."

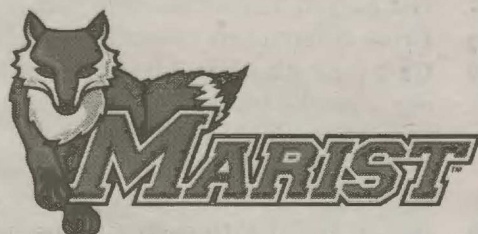
Two other strong runners for Marist were freshman Christine Coughlin and sophomore Rachael

Peterson. Both runners competed in the 800-meter race, with Coughlin (2:26.58) finishing third and Peterson (2:34.48) finishing eighth.

While Coach Colaizzo was pleased with both teams' performances, he is still expecting more from his runners moving forward.

"We only ran a handful of our athletes at this meet. Our cross country runners are still preparing to race this season, and I'm expecting big things from them," said Colaizzo. "We just have to keep working hard to perform well in our meets."

Both teams will return to action next Saturday, at the Brother Jasper Invitational. The race will be held in Riverdale, N. Y. Starting time for both races will be announced at a later time.



## The Fox Trot

### Quick hits of the week in Marist athletics

#### Men's Lacrosse Player Named All-American

Connor Rice, a junior attack on the Marist men's lacrosse team, was named a 2012 Face-Off Yearbook Preseason All-American Honorable Mention on Tuesday, in an announcement by Inside Lacrosse.

Rice, who is from Penfield, N.Y., is the only player out of the MAAC to be named an All-American. In his two years with the Red Foxes, he has started all 30 games, recording at least one point in all of those games. He has scored 60 goals and registered 102 points in his career.

In 2010, Rice was named the MAAC Rookie of the Year, as well as earning a spot on the All-MAAC Second Team. Last season, he made All-MAAC First Team and All-Tour-

namment Team.

#### Women's Basketball Lands Five Recruits

The Marist women's basketball team has announced the signings of letters of intent from five recruits to join the team. Madeline Blais, Sydney Coffey, Delaney Hollenbeck, Mariam Sylla and Eileen Van Horn will join the Red Foxes next fall for the 2012-2013 season.

Blais, a 6-1 forward/guard, is from New Hampton School in Exeter, N.H. She is the top rated player in the state, and last season averaged 18.9 points per game and 6.7 rebounds per game.

Sydney Coffey comes from Hopkins High School, in New Hope, Minn. The 6-0 guard is a two-year

captain and a two-time All-Conference selection.

At 6-5, Hollenbeck is the tallest recruit for the Red Foxes and is the 27th-ranked high school center in the country. She is from Alpharetta, Ga., and plays at Alpharetta High School.

Sylla is a 6-2 guard from Montmorency College, in Montreal, Canada. She was a member of the 18-and-under Canadian Junior National Team in 2010, and is one of the top recruits among Canadian prep schools.

Eileen Van Horn is a 5-8 guard from Waukesha South High School, in Waukesha, Wis. She is two-year captain at Waukesha, and a three-time All-Conference selection.

#### Yarde Earns MAAC Accolades

Corielle Yarde has been named MAAC Player of the Week, following her performance in Marist's 57-51 victory over Hartford.

The senior guard, who was named the MAAC Preseason Player of the Year, scored a game-high 19 points. It was the fourth time this season that Yarde has led the Red Foxes in scoring. Yarde also grabbed five rebounds in the win, along with three blocks and two steals.

This is the fourth time Yarde has won the conference's weekly award in her career. It is the first time this season that a Marist player has won the award.



## Men's basketball split conference openers

By ERIC VANDER VOORT  
Sports Editor

The last time the Marist men's basketball team won a game by 20 points, the majority of the current student population was still in high school.

R.J. Hall was the only current Red Fox who saw playing time when Marist defeated Hartford, 57-35, on Feb. 21, 2009. After two years of getting used to losing, fans of the Red Foxes finally have something to cheer about.

On Sunday, Marist opened their home conference slate against Rider, defeating the Broncs 95-75. It was the most points a Red Fox team had scored in regulation since beating La Salle 97-80 in November of 2002.

The win brought Marist to 1-1 in MAAC play, with a 76-63 loss to Loyola last Thursday. Its overall record stands at 3-5, with wins over Radford and Colgate. Losses also came at the hands of Kentucky, South Florida, Vermont and Bucknell.

On Thursday, the Red Foxes kept the back-and-forth game in Baltimore close until Loyola took a lead for good with 8:44 left. Freshman Chavaughn Lewis led the team with

16 points.

"It was a tough loss against Loyola," sophomore center Adam Kemp said. "We played them well in the first half and kind of let it get away in the end."

After losing their first conference game, the Red Foxes came into Sunday seeing the Rider matchup as a must-win.

Marist came out firing, hitting a perfect seven of seven three-point attempts in the first 8:46 of the game. An 11-0 run later in the half helped the Red Foxes build up a 45-36 lead at the half.

Kemp, who scored no points in the first half, registered a career-high 19 points in the second half. In the game, Marist shot 56.6 percent (30-53) from the field and 65 percent (13-20) from three-point range. Junior guard Devin Price led the way with a career-best 25 points, going 6-7 from behind the arc. Freshman point guard Isaiah Morton also set a career high of 15 points. Lewis added 17.

"I was focused on defense, but I got some open looks and I was able to knock them down," Price said.

With the Red Foxes holding a significant lead in the final minute, walk-ons Tourron Whitfield, Jesse Martin and Rob Delle Bovi were



DAN TORRES/THE CIRCLE

Freshman Chavaughn Lewis is leading the Red Foxes (3-5 overall, 1-1 MAAC) in scoring with 13.3 points per game. Marist went for its third straight home win against Army on Wednesday night. The game took place too late for this edition, so check <http://www.maristcircle.com> for coverage of the meeting of Hudson Valley rivals.

able to see the first action of their collegiate careers.

### Conference play in December?

The MAAC is one of the only conferences to start league play this early in the season. All 10 teams played two games over this past weekend.

Marist stands tied for fifth in the MAAC after a weekend of conference play. The next conference game for the team is a home tilt with St. Peter's on Monday, Jan. 2.

"I like it," head coach Chuck Martin said of the early conference games. "You get a gauge for where

SEE WITH, PAGE 10

## Commentary: Women's basketball off to fine start

By ZACH DOOLEY  
Staff Writer

After three games, the Marist women's basketball had something they had not had since 2006 – a losing record after multiple games. It was a situation that Marist was not accustomed to, but it did not last long, as the Red Foxes are currently riding a three game winning streak, and sit at 4-2 overall.

Since the two game home stand, which resulted in a split with Villanova and Yale, Marist took to the

road, which first resulted in a loss to a tough Princeton squad, which has received votes nationally all season. Marist played the Tigers tough the entire game, until the game got away from it down the stretch, which put Marist at 1-2.

The losing vibe was short-lived, however, as the Foxes headed Cancun to participate in the Cancun Challenge, where they defeated both Drake and South Dakota State, both in nail biters.

"It's a big confidence booster," senior guard Corielle Yarde said. "We

just have to keep playing hard every game, and get better. We did a decent job down in Cancun, and it seems like we're getting better."

Marist defeated Drake in their opener on Mexican soil by a score of 50-47 in a strong defensive effort from both teams. Sophomore Casey Dulin led Marist in this game with 13 points off the bench.

Marist finished their unblemished tournament run with a 57-49 win over SDSU, in which another strong defensive effort coupled with a breakout game from senior Brandy Gang propelled Marist to victory. The Red Foxes finished with a share of the tournament's best record at 2-0 and returned home with a more familiar winning record.

In a matchup hyped up by mid-major rankings, Marist defeated Hartford 57-51 in what Coach Giorgis would call afterwards "just another typical Hartford-Marist game." Yarde dropped 19 to lead all Marist scorers and Leanne Ockenden hit two clutch threes en route to 12 points for the victory.

"I thought we beat three very good teams, they're top 100 teams," Giorgis said. "Conference play is still a month down the road, so right now we're just trying to get better, and for us we have one game between now and the end of finals, and we told our kids that the main thing right now is really to get after it in the classroom these last two weeks, work hard and we will work on some things that we need to work on and take it from there."

After watching all three home

games and reading about the three away games, this team is playing just as it should be. It has been competitive in all six games thus far, which is not something that is expected to change. The two toughest games could have gone either way, but they went against the Foxes, which is something that, early in the season, happens to a team that returned just two starters.

On an individual note, Yarde has taken on the challenge of leading this team. The last two years she has played behind Rachele Fitz and Erica Allenspach respectively, and this year she has already proven she is on the level of both, averaging over 15 points a night.

The biggest problem I have noticed thus far with the team is that there is no established second scorer. So far, after Yarde, there has been a ton of scoring by committee, where someone new every game has been that second option, which is not necessarily a bad thing, but it requires someone to step up every night. Against Yale it was Dulin, against SDSU it was Gang, and against Hartford it was Ockenden.

With that being said, this might be the deepest team that Marist has seen in a while. As good as last year's team was, it was very top heavy in most categories. This year's team probably does not have the natural talent that last year's team did, but every player has a role, and each player executes that role extremely well.

As previously mentioned, Yarde is

SEE THREE, PAGE 11



JON O'SULLIVAN/THE CIRCLE

Marist women's basketball currently sits at 4-2 overall after winning three straight games. Shown above is Casey Dulin, who has provided significant minutes off the bench. The Red Foxes will next take to the court this Saturday, Dec. 10, when they travel to take on the Terriers of Boston University.