

Rugby club out, Rugby football club chartered in

By TODD BIVONA
Staff Writer

The Men's Rugby Club is no more.

The Men's Rugby Football Club is in.

"After two semesters of working with the SGA and administration," co-captain Dave Heinzinger said, "and going through a long series of meetings and hearings, and trying our best to keep team interest and morale high, we could not be more

excited to finally get back on the field and play some rugby."

Due to some issues with the past leadership of the then, Men's Rugby Club, they lost their club status in the fall of 2004.

"The Men's Rugby organization failed to perform both on and off the field," Matthew Hittenmark, the Vice President of Club Affairs in the Student Government Association said. "They neglected their duties as a club, failed to do any service for

the campus, and did not do any type of administrative duties that should have been done by the club's leaders."

In order to better their tarnished image, the new leaders and members of the organization made themselves visible at many campus events. At last spring's "Relay for Life" they were among the top organizations to raise money for the fight against cancer. These efforts did not go unnoticed by one member of the Athletic Affairs Committee in

S.G.A.

"Being apart of the AAC, I think it is excellent that the Rugby Football Club has been instated," junior Matthew Devita said. "They have been giving back to the Marist community through community service, and many other on-campus events."

The leaders of the organization received support from the student body as more than 1,000 signatures from Marist's student population were taken.

"I think it's great that this

unique and dedicated club has been able to revitalize itself and reclaim its legitimacy," junior James Sheehan said. "The members and the team leaders seem to be exceptional individuals and the Marist community should look forward to their reemergence."

"Team Co-Captain Mike Temblador should be commended for his tireless efforts and persistence in pulling together the pieces of the mess of a team that we inherited," Heinzinger added.

SGA officials are happy that the club has overcome its issues and have become a good example for other clubs to follow.

"I could not be any more proud of the new leadership," Hittenmark said, "the sophomores and freshmen really stepped up and took charge in order to pull it back into existence, and make it into the club it is really about; teaching new goals and leadership characteristics."

Charter members inducted to international educators honor society

By TODD BIVONA
Staff Writer

Kappa Delta Pi, a new international honor society for educators, inducted about 155 students in two separate ceremonies this past Saturday at 2 and 3:45 p.m. in the Cabaret.

The large response from families and friends of the inductees, required two time slots to be opened in order to accommodate the crowd.

The students that were welcomed into the newly found society were part of the Alpha Gamma Kappa chapter. This chapter now accompanies the 13 other academic honor societies, currently at Marist.

This society, KDP, was instituted back in 1911 and sought to recognize educators as well as scholars for their achievements in education. The KDP pledge that, "No other organization confirms [one's] status as a scholar and leader and keeps [one] connected to the best and brightest ideas and people in the field of education."

Many students, such as junior Meg Dahlman, were very excited upon receiving the news their induction and the ceremony.

"When I first got it I couldn't believe it," Dahlman said.

"When I told my parents, especially my mom, she was almost in tears and said it was better than any basketball award I had ever gotten."

Junior Diana Nelson had similar feelings, and was happy to be a charter member of the society.

"I was really honored to be apart of the induction ceremony," Nelson said, "especially to be among the first to be initiated into this chapter, I'm eager to take advantage of the opportunities it presents me with in the future."

A professor of education and a faculty supervisor, Sally Pittman-Smith, is largely responsible for bringing the voice of students into full fruition, in their desire to have a chapter at Marist.

Pittman-Smith felt that the society "has lifelong benefits for the students... and promotes working towards real professionalism."

Junior Corrie-Beth Hughes



TODD BIVONA / MCTV

On Saturday, February 11, 155 students were inducted as charter members to Kappa Delta Pi, a new international honor society for educators. Because of the large response from families and friends, two separate inductions were held to accommodate the crowd.

felt a sense of accomplishment following the ceremony.

"It was a very special induction ceremony," Hughes said, "in which, we were honored

for our hard work that will help us in our lives and our future careers as teachers."

Spring 2006 SGA Elections Calendar



Tuesday, Feb. 14 -
Informational Session, 9:30 p.m., SGA Office

Wednesday, Feb. 15 -
Informational Session, 9:30 p.m., SGA Office

Thursday, Feb. 16 -
Informational Session, 9:30 p.m., SGA Office

Friday, Feb. 17 - Declarations due by 5 p.m. in the SGA Office

Wednesday, Feb. 22 - Student Body President Orientation, 9:30 p.m., SGA Office

Friday, Feb. 24 - Petitions Due to the SGA Office by 5 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 26 - Campaigning begins in the Champagnat Breezeway

Monday, Feb. 27 - 'Speech Night,' 9:30, PAR
Tuesday, Feb. 28 - 'Presidential Debate Night,' 10 p.m., LT 210

Wednesday, Mar. 1 - 'Meet the Candidate Day,' 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., Cafeteria

Sunday, Mar. 5 - Campaigning ends at midnight

Monday, Mar. 6 - Online Voting begins

Wednesday, Mar. 8 - Online Voting ends, results announced live on MCTV, 8:45 p.m., LT 210

Thursday, Mar. 9 - Official results posted outside SGA Office

Iranian nuclear program controversy poised to create international incident

Jeff Zimmerman
Circle Contributor

Considering the dangers of a nuclear Iran, one should be dismayed at the lack of people who understand the country. Its language and geography have long isolated it. Recent news of its plans to continue enriching uranium has brought it to the forefront of international news rooms and diplomatic roundtables.

There is, right now, a general consensus among the major international players. Israel,

India, Russia, Japan, the EU3, and a reluctant China have all spoken out against allowing Iran to proceed. The IAEA's February 4th decision to refer Iran's case to the UN Security Council looks promising because diplomacy alone seems unlikely to deter Tehran. Iran's hard-line president Mahmud Ahmedinejad has a knack for not caving in under the pressure of the international community.

The UN has two kinds of options to stop Iran: sanctions, or military action. There are two types of sanctions: symbolic,

such as travel restrictions, and economic. The UN could impose trade/investment restrictions. Such restrictions could literally cripple Iran's economy (think Iraq after the first Gulf War). The Security Council could also use military force to deal with Iran. The Pentagon has already started outlining plans for a combination submarine cruise missiles/B2 bomber strike. Despite reports of an "overstretched military" this is still well within the capability of the US armed forces because it involves little if any ground

forces. The real question is whether or not Europe will put its money where its mouth is.

If diplomacy fails, coercive actions will become inevitable. Three problems instantly come to mind. First is how the Arab street will take this. The question isn't if they will riot over it, but how much they will riot over it. Secondly, some fear the 65 percent Shiite majority in Iraq will side with the 90 percent majority Shiite in Iran. Right now the US and the entire Middle East are relying on the Iraqi Shiites to keep Iraq moving

in the right direction. Some people, though, point to the Iran/Iraq war as a counter-example, where they seemed to have no problems shooting at each other for eight years. Third, and most important, is the fact that Iran is one of the largest energy producers in the world. They export 2.5 million barrels of oil and 3.4 billion cubic meters of natural gas per day. They have the potential to disrupt energy prices worldwide. Former president Mohamed Khatami threatened to cut output over any actions that infringed on their "right" to peaceful urani-

um enrichment. Iran would be hesitant to do this because it would further alienate them from the rest of the world, and it would cut into their oil revenues.

Iran has started bracing itself for what could lie ahead. They have insulated themselves from possible sanctions by diversifying their trading partners, as well as withdrawing all their assets from European banks. The stage is set, and it could get messy. But, the head of the IAEA, Mohamed ElBaradei, summed it all up when he said the situation is "critical but not a crisis."

HEALTH: NO LIMITATIONS IN SIGHT FOR OLYMPIC ATHLETES

Better training, technology, and interest help push athletes of every sport to greater feats of physical prowess in the Olympics and beyond

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A&E: CHICK FLICKS NOT TO PICK

Despite a desire to impress your girlfriend, listed here are a few movies that no guy should have to voluntarily watch.

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

News Analysis

Intelligence gathering practices reveal possible misconduct

By JOSEPH GENTILE
Staff Writer

Whether or not the Bush administration circumvented the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Security Act to wiretap Americans making international phone calls still is scrutinized, subsequent information regarding Pentagon surveillance and intelligence-gathering methods are surfacing. Presently, federal-endorsed operations targeting college students protesting the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" ban on homosexuals are among other social and political activists identified by a flurry recent media reports placing them under F.B.I. and military observation.

In a February 7 report issued by United Press International, the Department of Defense (DOD) testified in a letter to the Senate Armed Services Committee to accumulating "inappropriate" information about protestors as part of the department's 2003 TALON domestic surveillance program. Originally intended to gather information documenting potential threats by foreign terrorists against U.S. forces and military facilities, DOD officials acknowledged that certain information wasn't discarded after the 90-day disposal period for data deemed invalid. Counterterrorist agents identified the several gay and anti-war university groups, naming the "potentially violent" OUTlaw, the gay legal group at

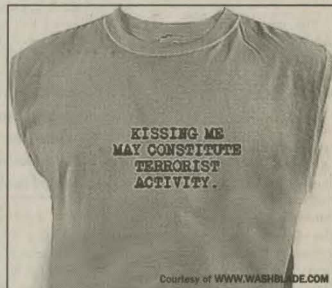
New York University Law School in Manhattan as well as student groups at the State University of New York at Albany, the University of California at Santa Cruz, and William Patterson University in Wayne, New Jersey, falling under the federal government's radar last year.

Surfacing weeks after a December 16, 2005 article published in the New York Times exposing the president's personal approval for wiretappings without a court order, these latest revelations are merely a thread in a web of federally-endorsed domestic spying which has also ensnared People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), Greenpeace, and the Catholic

Workers.

In a February 3rd speech delivered to the National Press Club, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld admitted that the Pentagon conducted "counter-surveillance" of civilians so as to safeguard U.S. military personnel and bases, but deflected criticisms that the Department of Defense has overreached in its monitoring of activist groups, condoning systemic patterns of domestic spying as a "perfectly understandable thing." Disregarding the growing complaints being raised by an internal Pentagon unit called the Counter-Intelligence Field Activity, Rumsfeld defended the vital role of government agencies in "connecting the dots" to

the parallels he drew to the intelligence-gathering failures leading up to the September 11 terrorist attacks. "So here they are trying to connect the dots, and somebody looks at it and says, 'Oh, my goodness gracious, isn't that ter-



The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) created this t-shirt in response to alleged intelligence practices discriminating against gays and lesbians.

rible you're collecting information. SEE DEFENSE, PAGE 5

News Briefs

World News

Hussein continues to delay murder trial proceedings with outbursts, contesting legitimacy of Iraqi government, courts

The Saddam Hussein trial resumed on Tuesday with a declaration by Hussein that he and his fellow defendants were protesting the trial by having a hunger strike. The former Iraqi president also made statements calling the Iraqi court illegitimate and illegal. He also directly insulted the chief judge and the Iraqi government, accusing them of being pawns of the United States. Despite similar outbursts throughout the trial, several witnesses were put on the stand to describe their torture, allegedly ordered by the Hussein regime in 1982.

National News

Patriot Act modified, extended to preserve national security interests, remedy unease about possible civil liberties violations

Congress agreed last week to make modifications to the USA PATRIOT ACT, intending to continue to give homeland security and law enforcement agents nationwide the power to defend the United States against terrorism while alleviating fears about violations of civil rights. The changes: Give those subpoenaed for information in terrorist investigations the right to contest the rule that they not tell anyone, get rid of a requirement that people tell the FBI about lawyers conferred with concerning secret requests for letters, and make clear that libraries are not subject to demands for such secrets requests about terrorists.

Senate committee continues investigation about federal response to Katrina, looks at FEMA, Homeland Security

Senate hearings continue to investigate the role of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and its director of the time, Michael Brown. Brown, testifying before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, said that he has become the scapegoat for the entire disaster. He proceeded to put blame on the Department of Homeland Security for the slow federal response to Katrina. Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff made statements Monday in Alexandria, Virginia, saying that the department has not sacrificed resources for natural disasters like Katrina in the interests of defending against terrorism. Chertoff also said that positive changes are being made to FEMA to better respond to future disasters.

Whittington in stable condition after wounds sustained in hunting accident with Vice President Dick Cheney

Harry Whittington, 78, appears to be in stable condition after suffering a minor heart attack when pellets imbedded in his body moved to his heart. He was shot in a hunting accident this past Saturday by Vice President Dick Cheney in southern Texas. Whittington was wounded on the right side of his face, neck, and chest, but did not lose consciousness. Cheney had fired at a quail, but accidentally wounded Whittington with birdshot from his 28 gauge shotgun, a typical piece used for hunting birds. Authorities have cleared the vice president of wrongdoing in the case, ruling it as an accident.

First freshman
'Winter Wars'

As the Winter Olympics ensue, what better time to have a campus winter competition than now?

The Winter Wars, made possible by RSC and SGA, are about to unfold. Students from Champagnat, Leo, Sheehan, and Marian are invited to participate in this freshmen residence hall competition.

The Winter Wars are designed to facilitate a positive social environment for students, giving them an opportunity to get to know each other better and have fun.

The residence hall teams will be awarded points based on their performance in each of several competitions. Each residence hall team will have a corresponding color: red for Champagnat, yellow for Leo, and blue for Sheehan and Marian.

The Winter Wars Cup will be presented to the winning residence hall team with an engraving of the winning residence hall.

Free food and hot chocolate will be provided.

The Winter Wars will take place on the Campus Green Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 6 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 1 a.m., and Thursday, February 23 at 6 p.m.

Flyers will be put up and voicemails will be sent to everyone in participating dorms. The schedule of events and sign-ups will be announced at floor meetings.

Contact Erik Zeyher, RSC Freshman President, for more information at Erik.Zeyher1@Marist.edu or at X4072.

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Massage Therapy — 2/15 at 8pm — Sheahan Lounge
Dance — 2/15 at 9:30pm — Dance Room
Kickboxing — 2/22 at 9:30pm — Dance Room
Yoga — RESCHEDULED TBD — Dance Room
Aerobics — RESCHEDULED TBD — Dance Room
Cooking Healthy and Lite — 2/20 at 9pm — Gregory
Let's Talk Protein — 2/13 at 9pm — Midrise 2nd Fl Lounge

Thanks and Good Luck!

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THE CIRCLE Opinion

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2006

www.maristcircle.com

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Former FEMA director shirks responsibility of Katrina disaster, blames others

By DAN BLACK
Staff Writer

The ongoing mudfight in Washington D.C. just acquired a new contender: Discontented ex-Bush employee Michael Brown, who last weekend radically shifted the focus of his blame for the slow and inadequate disaster response to Hurricane Katrina.

As former FEMA director, he originally said the lack of preparedness was the fault of two Democrats: The mayor of New Orleans, Ray Nagin; and the governor of Louisiana, Kathleen Blanco.

Brown has since stepped down from his position as FEMA director, is no longer on President Bush's payroll, and now attributes the gross missteps of "disaster relief" to, among other things, domestic constraints stemming from the war on terror.

Attempting to string together a fluid chain of logic that bureaucratically correlates the inability to respond to large-scale emer-

gencies to the demanding commitments of an extensive three year old military campaign can be complicated; let's take a look at how Mike attempted to do so: Post 9/11 thinking set in motion

Anything resulting in the losses of 1417 people warrants the asking of loaded questions and reflection on how else business may have been conducted that would have reduced the death toll.

government's departments and agencies. Among the overhauls was the department of homeland security becoming the "surrogate mother," so to speak, of FEMA.

A few years of negligence, mismanagement, and funds going from here to there to God-knows-where (and everyone else can accurately guess), left FEMA incapacitated. Priorities had literally been flipped upside down by Bush and his visionaries for a "safer America" and maintaining a high degree of readiness for non-terrorist related emergencies was placed on

the back burner. Enter Hurricane Katrina; the Meteorological catastrophe that discovered a nation asleep at the wheel.

Anything resulting in the losses of 1417 people warrants the asking

Anything resulting in the losses of 1417 people warrants the asking of loaded questions and reflection on how else business may have been conducted that would have reduced the death toll.

how else business may have been conducted that would have reduced the death toll. The Republicans see this excuse as as good as any to put their gloves on and start venomously attacking their own kind. Yesterday's cohorts become today's targets, targets you will hopefully fatally strike if doing so leads to your own escape from the spotlight or swelling of your bank account. The Democrats want answers and the Republicans endeavor to fabricate believable alibis, a predictable pattern in politics that has become so stale it barely

even holds my interest anymore. It's clear what's going on, what has been going on, and what will continue to go in; what makes this case special?

Imagine: Michael Brown chose the war in Iraq for his patsy, claiming that resources and funds which could have enabled a faster, more efficient and effective hurricane response were committed to Iraq, paralyzing his already derelict organization. This is a sensible argument, but fundamentally flawed in a way you cannot appreciate unless you ponder it.

What is going on across the world?

Atlantic that Michael complains about, though everybody over here on this side seems to constantly forget, is a war. A war involves a degree of sacrifice not only on the part of soldiers in theatre who fight, but also on

those living back at home supporting them.

We, the American people, have forgotten our responsibilities; we no longer grow potatoes instead of petunias in our backyard to increase food production, as we did in WWII. We no longer demand politician-accountability, holding rallies and demonstrations around the country around the clock, as we did toward the end of Vietnam. We have defaulted on our side so severely that we don't even take seriously the unspoken implications

We, the American people, have forgotten our responsibilities; we no longer grow potatoes instead of petunias in our backyard to increase food production, as we did in WWII.

resources are over there and out of our reach because, doctrinally speaking, our circumstances dictate that's where they belong. The victims of Hurricane Katrina are dead not because of mistakes or improper war fighting, they're

dead because their lives were calculated as a conceivable price, unforeseen but one we must be willing to pay, should the price be demanded. If this is not the case, this is not a war in war's purest sense.

I do not support the war and I do not accept the principles I have identified above, but if you are one of the few who still supports the war in Iraq, you forfeit the right to finger anybody in the government the way Michael Brown does. You must swallow hard and accept the fact that the freedom of Iraq's citizenry has cost not only the lives of the 2265 servicemen who died in Iraq, but also of 1417 civilians whose deaths we had to accept because our diplomatic engagements precluded our ability to save them.

Letter to the Editor

Students respond negatively to liberal viewpoint on Bush

Alleged miscalculation of statistics and facts

Dear Circle Editors:

I write to you today with great abhorrence and distress about a recently published article entitled, "Defenses redefined: president's efforts at literary distortion achieved." It sadly appears that staff writer Dan Black suffers from a terribly virulent strain of chronic absent-mindedness. Maybe I can be of some assistance.

On September 11, 2001 at 8:46 a.m. American Airlines Flight 11 smashes through the North Tower at the World Trade Center. Ninety-two lives are silenced in the blink of an eye. 8:48 a.m. FDNY Battalion 1 transmits a 10-60, or major emergency, for 1 World Trade Center and requests, "every available ambulance, send everything you got, now."

As additional units respond into the scene, citywide dis-

patch relays reports of multiple people trapped on upper floors, likewise on scene personnel report multiple jumpers down. At 9:03 a.m. United Airlines Flight 175 smashes through the South Tower at the World Trade Center, an additional 65 lives are torn from the earth. At the end of the day, roughly 2,819 civilians had been murdered in New York alone.

In case Mr. Black is still having difficulty maneuvering through the fog (I know, it's difficult to remember what happened five years ago), let's go over some more numbers. American Airlines Flight 77 smashes through the pentagon at 9:37 a.m., killing a total of 189 civilians and military personnel. At 10:03 a.m. United Airlines Flight 93 crashes into the ground in Shanksville and Stonycreek Township in Pennsylvania killing all 45

onboard.

Nearly 3,000 human beings were murdered and countless others maimed that day. Despite all of this, Mr. Black continues to question the need for increased defense spending and a proactive war on terror. Oh, but he doesn't stop there. He then takes it a step further and claims that, "I feel this is the appropriate time to point out the highly salient and undisputed fact that all of this 'homeland Security' spending has resulted in the capture of exactly zero terrorists and also thwarted that many attacks since 9/11." Well, today Marist College, I feel it is my obligation to point out to you that Mr. Black seems to have excluded a few, "salient and undisputed" facts.

Let's look at the facts, shall we? On 11/15/01 Mohammed Atef (one of bin Laden's top two

SEE STATISTICS, PAGE 5

Future Marine defends military action in Iraq

Dear Circle Editors:

Freedom of Speech is alive and well in the United States of America and God Bless that (am I allowed to say that anymore?)—unfortunately. Dan Black is afforded this same privilege.

As any good American, I disagree with the typical liberal rhetoric we see on the news, MTV, and even in today's sitcoms but Black's article "Defense Redefined..." took it to a level I would not have expected from anyone. Not even Michael Moore.

If Black's opinion is a reflection of liberal opinion across the nation, then the only "salient and undisputed fact" even worth mentioning is the fact that our country's left wing has been doing just one thing since the turn of the century—sleeping.

Wake up, Daniel. Our country was not attacked by Adolf Hitler before he began his rampage through Europe, yet we chose to help others fight a battle they could not win alone. So as long as we have the power to do so, the United States should always feel obligated to help those in need—especially when "those in need" is us. Being attacked on September 11th did not change that mindset in the least—nor should it have.

To say we have not captured a single terrorist since beginning combat operations in the Middle East only furthers my point that Black has been asleep—or at the very least, locked in his room writing poetry and listening to folk rock for the past four years. Heard of Saddam Hussein, Dan? (Pssssst, the definition of "terrorism" fits Hussein quite well—and we know you love dictationary.com so much)

As a future Marine, I take offense to those that undercut our nation's military and what they have accomplished in just a relatively short period of time. In four years we've put Al Qaeda on the run (sure we don't have Osama, but who actually thinks he is anything more than symbol to these people now anyway?), freed two nations, captured Saddam Hussein and wait—here's the real important part—captured terrorists on our own soil. Just yesterday it was shown how a shoe-bombing plot in Los Angeles was thwarted by our defense measures. It is apparent that Daniel Black has never even heard of the Lackawanna Six. To save time and space, I'll let him Google that himself. Of course, had he been aware of his world in the past, oh, three days he would

SEE MARINE, PAGE 5

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

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

Letters without these requirements will not be published. Letters can be dropped off at The Circle office or submitted through the "Letter Submission" link on MaristCircle.com

THE CIRCLE
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The Circle is published weekly on Thursdays during the school year. Press run is 2,000 copies distributed throughout the Marist campus.

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From Page Three

Federal intelligence gathering practices protested by activist groups

tion on people in the United States," said Rumsfeld, conveying a mocking contempt for his critics. "And of course, if you look at it, that's what it is. It's information about people who are in the United States, who are observing a base in some way." Otherwise, "In short, it's no big deal."

Even still, Prof. Aaron Belkin, the director of the Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military and educator at the University of California at Santa Barbara, chides the federal government for earmarking funds to further the improper role of surveillance, reflective of the much larger inefficiencies behind the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy straining the military's available resources. "When there aren't enough Arab linguists, not enough boots on the ground in Iraq, not enough money for the State Department diplomatic initiatives, and we are waging a global war on terror, to allocate

resources to spy on peaceful groups and on grandmothers really raises questions," said Belkin. "It's a very sad story, maybe more sad than scary."

In a follow-up to these reports first released by NBC News this past December, the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN), a Washington-based advocacy group for gay and lesbian soldiers, along with other gay rights groups, filed a Freedom of Information Act request earlier this January demanding that the administration release "any and all documents" detailing the "suspicious" meetings by these civilian groups with the "reports, video recordings, audio recordings, and photographs" documented by the Pentagon. However, Steven Ralls, an SLDN spokesman, expressed his reservations that the administration would respect their request, referring it to matters of national security. "We've seen under the

Bush administration especially that the government has pushed back hard on the issue of material being classified when we've made FOIA requests," said Ralls.

So, on January 23rd, after the National Security Agency, an agency of the Department of Defense, rebuffed SLDN's initial request by refusing to confirm or

lawsuit with the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia alleging that government agencies have "wrongfully withheld agency records" and that the government intentionally impeded the requested 20-day processing of their January inquiry, asking the court to "establish a date certain" to speed up the handling

"To suggest that a gay kiss-in is a 'credible threat' is absurd, homophobic, and irrational"

— C. Dixon Osburn
Executive director, SLDN

Department of Justice (DOJ), led by Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, obstructed all such attempts, claiming the FOIA request didn't "reasonably" describe "the records in question, adding that their office "would not maintain" the sought-after files. Now, as of February 6, the SLDN has filed a

of the original FOIA application.

"The federal government has attempted to stonewall the public's right to know, and SLDN is

aggressively challenging its decisions," said C. Dixon Osburn, SLDN executive director. "The Bush administration consistently tell the public that surveillance is conducted only on terrorists and Americans communicating with terrorists; yet information obtained by credible

media sources indicates that it is also spying on groups that support civil rights, animal rights, and the environment. To suggest those groups are terrorists is an act of modern day McCarthyism."

Yet, of the four student groups being monitored, only Students Against War at Santa Cruz were actually labeled "a credible threat" for terrorism after an April 2005 protest in which 300 demonstrators surrounded campus recruiting tables, launching into an anti-military teach-in which curtailed student access with Pentagon representatives. Soon afterwards, Students Against War engineered an alternative protesting strategy that featured same-sex partners locking lips in an October kiss-in. Now, they're on notice for domestic terrorism.

"To suggest that a gay kiss-in is a 'credible threat' is absurd, homophobic, and irrational," explained Osburn. "The

Pentagon is supposed to defend the Constitution, not turn it upside down."

Elsewhere, publicly disclosed documents by the Federal Bureau of Investigation are stirring controversies that government agencies are equating "civil disobedience" with "terrorism." Even though F.B.I. officials maintained that their investigators were dispatched to study advocacy groups motivated by criminal or violent activities, civil libertarians are skeptical of their rationale which yielded more than 2,300 pages of data examining about 150 protest and social groups. One of these files provides a detailed blueprint for agents in Indianapolis canvassing a "Vegan Community Project," while another analyzes the Catholic Worker's "semi-communistic ideology," and another attempts to pinpoint the exact location of PETA members protesting the manufacture of llama fur.

From Page Four

Alternative statistics used in response to liberal view

deputies) is killed, Ibn al-Shaykh al-Libi (head of al Qaeda training camps) captured 12/01, Omar al Farouq (al Qaeda Southeast Asia chief) captured 6/02, Ramzi Binalshibh (would-be hijacker and 9/11 "moneyman") captured 9/11/02, Qaed al-Harethi (head of Yemen al Qaeda cell) killed 11/3/02, Khalid Shakih Mohammed (9/11 mastermind and al Qaeda chief of operations) captured 3/03, Walid Attash

(organizer of the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole) captured 4/29/03. That's a lot of names (note: the above list isn't nearly complete) for "zero terrorists." This week the White House released information regarding ten large-scale terrorist attacks it, along with international partners, had foiled. It seems as though Mr. Black, once again, has made a severe and embarrassing miscalculation. The plots include a

mid-2002 effort to hijack planes and hit specific targets on the West and East Coasts of the country. However, even prior to this week's announcement, a plot to blow up the Brooklyn Bridge, involving al Qaeda operative Lyman Faris was publicly reported on June 19, 2003 by then Attorney General John Ashcroft. Not only has Mr. Black performed a horrific job at reporting the facts but he has lied to the

Marist Community, painting a fallaciously bleak picture of our government's ability to protect its citizens. As much as many would like to deny it, it is a matter of fact that the Bush Administration's down to business attitude on the terror war has been central to dismantling al Qaeda and preventing further attacks.

I'm quite tempted to continue, but for Mr. Black's sake I'll try

and wrap things up. It disturbs me to read articles, like Mr. Black's, that are not only laced with lies but vacant finger pointing. However, what truly revolts me is the continuous, conscious, and convenient disregard for the events of September 11, 2001. Nearly three thousand people were deliberately murdered that day yet Mr. Black and others have decided to let their memory dwindle into a mere blip on the

radar. Next time, Mr. Black, I politely suggest you do some research before you fire off a few more salvos at the Bush Administration. One last thing, never forget 9/11/01.

Respectfully Yours,

Jared A. Pennella

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No limitations in sight for Olympic athletes

By ADAM GUARINO
Staff Writer

Heart, passion, and achievement are three words at the core of the greatest sporting event the world has ever seen: the Olympics. Since the first competition in Greece, men have fought with every essence of their being to take home the grand prize. Today, despite monumental changes, such as a much wider range of events, the introduction of women, and the installment of the gold medal, the basics remain same.

The biggest draw of the Olympics is no doubt the highly trained and disciplined athletes. They have dedicated every facet of their lives to the pursuit of success and glory. These athletes, it seems, are the top physical peak of the human race. However, as we continue to evolve, training methods and technologically advanced gear propel them to new heights.

In the 1980 winter Olympics in Lake Placid, N.Y., one of the greatest achievements in sports history was thought to have occurred. Eric Heiden, a 21 year old Wisconsin native, won five gold medals in speed skating ranging from sprints to long distance. His greatest accomplishment came in the form of setting an unprecedented world record in the 10,000 meter race. Heiden completed it in a time of 14:28.13, over six seconds faster than anyone before him.

Fast forward to the 2002 winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. Heiden's record setting time would have placed him dead last amongst the other 18 competi-

tors. Furthermore, the current record for the 10,000 meter is 12:57.92, over two minutes faster than the previous record.

So how do these athletes continually push the barriers of performance and rewrite the record books? Answers aren't immediately attainable, but it seems to be a combination of things like better training methods, improved technology, and growing global interest in the sport.

Carl Foster, a professor in the department of exercise and sports science at the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse offers his view on the subject.

"Those who competed in the early Olympics were almost entirely the social elite. That's a very small slice of humanity," Foster said. "The fall of social and economic barriers means that a potential world-record holder no longer works in the fields or in a factory. He's on the world stage."

No less significant are radical improvements in training methods. Today, researchers understand the physiology, biomechanics and biology of sport in ways that would have seemed incomprehensible only a couple of decades ago. Not only is there a greater understanding of how the body burns fuel and how muscles work, it's possible to develop specific training regimens that push an athlete to the limit without risking injury and burnout.

Psychology also enters into the picture. "At the elite level, there are a lot of people with incredible physical skills. It's often the mental aspect that determines who wins races and sets records," says Judy Van Raalte, a professor of psychology at

Springfield College in Springfield, Mass. "Just as it's possible to train physically, it's possible to train mentally," Van Raalte says. "The end goal is to get an athlete in the 'zone' on the day of the event rather than on a random basis."

Yet another piece of the puzzle is technology. Over the years, vast improvements in clothing, equipment and facilities have radically changed many sports. "If we continue to improve technology there is no practical limit to what athletes can

do," Says Nadine Gelberg, president and founder of Get Charged, a Philadelphia organization that examines sports technology.

For now, coaches and athletes are working to use leading knowledge and techniques to maximize results. Foster says that the rate of progression for setting records has begun to slow - though it's anyone's guess when humans will reach their natural limit.

Science Briefs

By ALEXANDER TINGEY
Health Editor

ITALIAN STUDY FEEDS RATS ASPARTAME

For as long as we can remember people have touted the mythical dangers of cell phones, power lines and artificial sweetener. However, a report filed last week points to the carcinogenic nature of aspartame, America's favorite artificial sweetener. The study surveyed the condition of rats fed aspartame over the course of the clinical study. Dr. David Katz, Yale professor and author, commented on the study, which took place in Italy, stating that the research demonstrated a "statistically significant increase in lymphomas and leukemias over three years." The study simulated the equivalent of 5 sodas per day worth of aspartame and recorded the effects on the 1,900 rats involved in the study. Dr. Katz pointed out the widespread use of aspartame and the relatively low risks reported in its forty year shelf life as clues to its relative health risks. He is also careful to note the difference between animal testing and those involving human subjects recanting that, "this is

an animal study. There's nothing to indicate this is the same threat in humans."

WORLD'S FIRST FULL FACIAL TRANSPLANT

This isn't John Travolta or Nicholas Cage, but French woman Isabelle Dinoire, the victim of a brutal mauling by her pet dog; she became the first person in the world to receive a full face transplant. "The jury is now in. This was a profound success compared to all other standard methods of reconstruction that could have been offered to this patient," said Dr. Peter D. Constantino, director of the Center for Facial Reconstruction and Restoration at Roosevelt Hospital in New York. She received a new nose, chin and cheeks as part of an intensive effort to restore her facial features after her pet dog attacked and massacred her face. While this is certainly a step in the right direction, the procedure is far from perfect. Mrs. Dinoire's face remains paralyzed and the majority of the movement achieved here. This paralysis lends itself to impaired speech, drooling, and difficulties eating. Regardless of these setbacks she is extremely happy with the results as she now aesthetically appears more normal than before the series of surgeries.

Physicians aren't 'lovin' it'

McDonald's nutritional info out of date, new food allergens posted online

By JESSICA BAGAR
Foreign Correspondent

Let's face it. It's not easy to say "no" to McDonald's french fries, what with their greasy goodness and convenient palm-sized packaging. Any college student who has found him or herself staring up at the ninety-nine cent menu whilst juggling all the possibilities for a fatty snack can attest that french fries are usually one of the first orders placed.

A fair warning, however, to all you french fry fiends: french fries contain more fat and calories than previously thought and have ingredients that could aggravate some allergies, a Reuters report found.

Though McDonald's Corp has been printing nutritional information such as calories, fat grams, protein, carbohydrates and sodium on its packaging since last year, the company admitted last week that the printed nutritional information about its fries was incorrect. The correct data can be found on the McDonald's Web site.

Reuters reports that "A large serving of fries has 570 calories, 30 grams of fat and 8 grams of trans fat, not the 520 calories, 25 grams of fat and 6

grams of trans fat as previously disclosed."

Considered by health experts to be particularly dangerous, trans fats raise cholesterol levels and lead to an increased risk of heart disease. According to the latest U.S. nutrition guidelines, one should limit his or her intake of trans fats and McDonald's has said "it is working on reducing trans fats in its cooking oil."

"... To all you french fry fiends: french fries contain more fat and calories than previously thought and have ingredients that could aggravate some allergies. ..."

Cathy Kapica, McDonald's head of global nutrition, explained that the disclosure of wheat and milk allergens in the flavoring used to make its fries

was a result of the company's decision to comply with U.S. Food and Drug Administration labeling standards.

"Consumers should have an extremely high level of confidence in our numbers because of the fact that we continually update them...even if it's not to our advantage," she said. She further explained that "the company wanted its data to be familiar to those used to reading packaged food labels."

Though it's hard to overcome those severe salt cravings, the next time you get the munchies, steer clear of those Golden Arches and consider a healthier, lighter option.



Courtesy of GOOGLE.COM

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Black history month heroine: Coretta Scott King

By MICHAEL MAYFIELD
Features Editor

This week, we remember the wife of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Coretta Scott King. At her husband's side, she worked vigorously in the civil rights movement of the 1950's and 60's. Coretta began her activism work in 1955 with the Montgomery bus boycott. Then, in 1964, her vigilance helped to pass the Civil Rights Act granting equal votes for all, and making it illegal to discriminate based on race, gender or otherwise. In 1985, she and three of her children were arrested for protesting in Washington.

A proponent of peace and equality, she traveled to Europe, Africa and Asia advocating this message. Mrs. King also worked to form several coalitions including the Full Employment Action Council - an

alliance of more than 100 religious, labor, business, civil and women's organizations — and the Coalition of Conscience — a union of over 800 human rights organizations. She even took part in international politics heading the U.S. delegation of Women for a Meaningful Summit regarding the Regan/Gorbachev conferences, and worked to assemble the Soviet-American Women's Summit in D.C.

Following the assassination of her husband, she was not about to roll over and give up. She published her memoir, 'My Life with Martin Luther King Jr.' in 1969 — followed by other books in subsequent years — and founded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change located in Atlanta, Georgia. A 23 acre lot surrounding King Jr.'s birthplace was designated as the site for the center. The center was created to carry on Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of

peaceful integration and desegregation. King served as president of the center and was its chief executive officer since its creation. Coretta Scott King was also a powerful force behind making Martin Luther King Jr. Day a national holiday.

King was a visionary in her own right. She worked with her husband for social reform and equality in a time when segregation occurred not only on account of race, but gender as well. Unfortunately, King passed away on January 30 of this year. She is succeeded by her children, Dexter Scott, Martin Luther King Jr. III, Yolanda Denise, and Bernice Albertine. Her message of interracial solidarity and nonviolent change continues through her children and in the observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



Courtesy of WWW.GOOGLE.COM

The late Coretta Scott King against a backdrop of her husband, Dr. Martin Luther Jr.

Future Marine lobbies for support of troops ... continued from four

know about these people already.

At President Bush's State of the Union Address he made it very clear that backing down from extremists cannot be an option. The global community failed to recognize the threat that radical Muslims posed to us as we turned our heads in a different direction after a 747 was shot down over Scotland, The World

Trade Center was bombed in the early 90s, et cetera. Unfortunately, the "et cetera" is a pretty long list, Mr. Black. It is no wonder the Clinton Administration left us with such a huge surplus, for during his eight years in office he did absolutely nothing to bolster our defense.

Daniel Black is the reason why

people are convinced that running like a scared kitten is the best route to world peace. People like Dan Black aren't all bad, however. We know they mean well, right? They have an incredible amount of faith in mankind — the type of faith that will make you believe Americans are to blame for 9/11. The type of faith that will say

"But only 1% of Muslims are resorting to extremism and violence!" as if that is a solution to our defense issues. When you take 1% of the world's most widely followed and fastest-growing religion it is not such a silly thing to worry about. George Bush isn't redefining the word "defense", Daniel. As you put it, our "alleged enemies" are

to blame for that. The one's blowing up their children, flying planes into buildings, throwing rocks, burning cars, and crying over cartoons.

No one wants to see their child go to war, Mr. Black. No one is happy to hear about "three more Marines" being killed in the Middle East, either. But unfortunately we have a job to do not

just for ourselves but for the entire world. Someday people will begin to realize that fact, including you. When that day comes, you'll be the one thanking President Bush for spending billions of dollars on a cause you consider so futile.

— Stephen Butka, future Marine

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'Noises' goes off as planned

Complete absurdity, comedic redundancy of "Noises Off" makes it an unforgettable comedy

By JUSTIN CALDERON
Staff Writer

Comedy took its toll in the Nelly Goletti Theatre this past weekend, leaving only smiles on countless theatre-goers' faces. Michael Frayn's "Noises Off", directed by Matthew Andrews, depicts an absurd theatre cast trying their all

to pull their show together before curtain call. Despite best efforts, the cast and crew can't seem to get it right as the play slowly begins to fall into pieces.

The complete absurdity and comedic redundancy of "Noises Off" makes it an unforgettable comedy to say the least. The play is broken into three difference aspects of the performance by the cast and as time goes on their performance gets chaotic. The constant bickering between Garry Lejeune (Jay Thalacker) and Frederick Fellows (Eddie Storey) that eventually leads to physical abuse of Fellows rear is just one of many slapstick rou-

times that essentially drive the plot of "Noises Off" and makes you want more violence and chaos to occur.

Slapstick is by far the hardest form of comedy to act because there is so much movement and timing involved in the performance. There are a lot of quick exits and entrances in "Noises Off" and if

the acting was slow the entire show would fall apart much like the one being acted. Luckily the cast and crew have obviously put

a lot of work into their timing. Seldson Mowbray (Phil Divuolo) is a character that must be performed with perfect mistiming. In other words, the slow, dimwitted drunk that is Mowbray must miss his lines perfectly in order to make the following gags work. Although hard to perform, slapstick is def-

initely a driving element that makes "Noises Off" successful.

There is a strong sense of a building chaos in "Noises Off" that works extremely well. As the performance we watch goes on, the performance on stage gets worse and worse. The climax of chaos is only heightened by the oddly arranged cast that must try to overcome their doomed performance. During the opening night performance the entire set is moved around so the audience can see the backstage and the cast's turmoil face-to-face. Not only does the audience see the underbelly of the play, we also begin to see the true sides of the characters.

"Noises Off" adds yet another strikingly funny performance to the Nelly Goletti stage. The continuous elements of slapstick comedy that was maintained by the actors throughout the play made it an enjoyable experience for anyone in the mood to laugh.

'The complete absurdity and comedic redundancy of "Noises Off" makes it an unforgettable comedy to say the least.'

Chick flicks not to pick

By MICHAEL GELORMINO
Staff Writer

In honor of Valentine's Day many guys will do just about anything to get on good terms with their girlfriends in the hopes of possibly making them happy. They will buy flowers, dinner (or make it if they are real good), chocolates (have you sensed a theme yet), or just hang around and enjoy each other's company. But the guys who want to score the extra points this Valentine's Day will put aside their masculinity for just one night and do the ultimate gesture of love: cuddle and watch a movie...of her choice.

Admit it fellas, we have all done it. Whether because we loved the girl or we wanted to get lucky, we have all been forced to watch some of the worst girly movies ever created. In light of this statement, I have compiled my personal list of the top 4 worst chick flicks that all men should avoid.

4. Love Actually — This movie had all the makings of a good chick flick...until the end. Someone please tell me what eight year old would run through an airport to bid farewell to "the love of his life;" a nine year old girl who he has never spoken to before. Also, what father in his right mind would think that this is a good idea? This ending was incredibly stupid and ruined what would have been a good movie for me.

3. Sleepless in Seattle — Let's all thank Tom Hanks for making us all look bad. Ken Hoekstra puts it best in his review when he says, "This should be called 'The Impossible Standard.' Tom Hanks' character WILL make you look bad, by comparison.

Not only will she come away from this with a 'what have you done for me lately?' attitude, you'll probably end up hating yourself by the time this turkey is over."

2. Titanic — The boat sinks. We don't need to see a three hour dragged out love story to figure out the ending to this one. To the movies defense there are some very powerful scenes in this movie (i.e. the old couple in bed), but overall it just didn't do it for me. It was WAY too long and I just can't stand Leo.

1. Dirty Dancing — "Nobody

puts Baby in the corner," PLEASE. This is hands down the worst chick flick I have ever seen. It seems to me that this is every girl's favorite movie and to be honest, I just can't stand it. The story line has been done time and time again and the acting is sub par. If one more girl tries to force this movie on me I may just go postal.

If you are lucky you will find a way out of these horrible films before it is too late. I'd recommend some good old cuddling and spooning. Just remember folks; spooning always leads to forking.

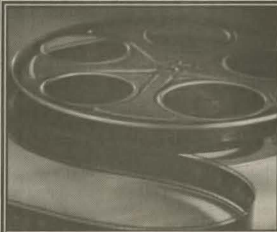
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Movie Trivia Madness

The film Zoolander has been banned in Malaysia because of the use of a fictional Malaysian Prime Minister as the subject of assassination.

Donnie Darko was shot in 28 days, exactly the time-span of the movie itself, on a budget of under US \$5 million.

A Metro North Commuter Railroad train from the New Haven line (red striped) doubled for the Long Island Railroad (which are blue striped) in Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind.

Despite being bleeped out in the film, the name of The Bride is revealed on her plane tickets to Okinawa and Tokyo in the film Kill Bill: Vol. 1.

In the short scene in Fight Club when Brad Pitt and Edward Norton are drunk and hitting golf balls, they really are drunk, and the golf balls are sailing directly into the side of the catering truck.

In the Singaporean version of The Incredibles, the company "Insuricare" is translated into "Black-hearted insurance company" if read literally in the Chinese character subtitles.

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SICILIAN	8.50	PIZZA SLICES	1.25
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16"	12.50	EACH TOPPING	0.75
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EACH TOPPING	1.25		

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BROCCOLI RICOTTA CHEESE

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Quinn gets IC4A Championship bid

Team sets school record, sends three runners to IC4A Championships

By ANTHONY CRISTIANI
Staff Writer

Three individuals from the Marist men's track team qualified for the IC4A Championships last Saturday at the St. Valentine's Invitational in Boston.

Junior Brian Quinn, and freshmen David Raucci and Girma Segni all earned qualifying

times, and a piece of Marist history, as the program sends three individuals to the IC4A Championships for the first time.

Quinn's 1,000 meter qualifying time of 2:28.56 was not only his personal best, but a school record as well.

Quinn trumped the old school record of 2:29.33 set back in 2003.

It didn't take Marist's freshmen

too long to prove themselves in their young careers. Both Raucci (8:26.78) and Segni (14:43.29) posted qualifying marks in their first collegiate attempts in their events, the 5,000 meter and 3,000 meter run, respectively.

Along with overall program success came several personal bests on the day for the Foxes. Junior Matt Szymaszek destroyed his previous time in

the 3,000 by nearly twenty seconds running an 8:52.75 in the event. The 3,000 meter run also produced personal best times for sophomore Mike Rolek (8:49.79), and senior captain Sean Prinz (8:56.96).

Coach Pete Colaizzo boasted the significance of sending three members of the team back to Boston for the IC4A Championships in March.

"We had a great overall day. There were a lot of personal bests set by the guys, and we did something that was never done before," he said. "It's important for the program to continue to reach new heights."

Marist will be in action again on Friday, as they compete in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championships at the Armory

Track and Field Center in New York.

"After our success at the St. Valentine's Invitational, we are really geared up for the MAAC Championships," Colaizzo said. "We look to carry our momentum into the Armory."

Rider not only team to challenge Red Foxes

Seniors eager for second straight title, want to leave as MAAC victors

By DAVID HOCHMAN
Staff Writer

Feb. 16 starts the defense of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championship for the Marist men's swimming and diving squad. The team heads down to Loyola, Md. to compete with the rest of the conference for that weekend.

Although ten teams are involved, the final standings will come down to Marist and one other team, Rider.

There is a tradition for this team at Marist; that tradition is winning. Two years was the only time the Red Foxes did not take home the MAAC title since joining the league. The team, who

outlasted Marist for the title those two years, was Rider.

Senior swimmer Joe Pilewski remembered that one loss and how difficult it was to take, but he also knows about all the positives this year.

"This a winning tradition," the MAAC Swimmer of the Week said. "The tradition has only been broken once. I know how painful that bus ride back is. So if we go in not for Rider, but for our own records, we can win. We have a lot of momentum going after the last few wins, so that is also good."

The Red Foxes' lone loss in dual meet competition this year was to the Broncos early in the season in a close 127.5-115.5 contest. That was actually the

first conference match up of the season for Marist, who consequently garnered eight victories to this point.

Coach Larry VanWagner said he knows that Rider won't be his team's biggest challenge though.

"The biggest challenge is going to be within our own team," he said. "The hardest thing is to try to get 19 athletes to perform at their peak for three days after 23 weeks of performing. The other teams can only provide a distraction."

There are four seniors on this team who would like to finish their careers strongly and on top. Kevin Bobenchik and Pilewski, along with their captained classmates Alec Troxell and Kevin Connors, finish their four-year

careers this weekend.

Connors said he couldn't think of a better way to go out.

"After knowing how hard we worked and how sweet it was last year," he said, "I wouldn't want to go out any other way."

Connors is looking forward the 100 butterfly most of all the races. He is seeded second behind Ramunas Radzevicius of Saint Peter's College.

"It's been my favorite race since I've been here and I like being the underdog. I'm not expected to win," he said.

Junior Pat Collins may have some pressure on him though; he has the fastest 50 free time in the conference this year (21.00).

Collins said he has come a long way in his past two years, start-

ing his career as an exhibition swimmer.

"It shows I can improve so much from hard work and dedication," he said. "Everyone's improving though. We've just got to get up there and swim our events to the fullest."

Collins looks to break David Dobbins' school record of 20.93 seconds in the 50 freestyle. Dobbins set that record in 2002.

Despite the swimming, the meet could actually come down to the diving portion. Assistant coach Melanie Bolstad said that the outnumbering of Rider's divers will be a huge advantage.

"They only have two," she said. "As a team with three, we will score more."

And so much for predicting a

winner based on prior performance.

"Whoever is ready to dive at MAACs will win," Bolstad said. "It could be anyone."

Sophomore Devon O'Nally is one of three sophomore divers who could possibly be that winner, but first, he needs to do some final preparations.

"I need to stay calm and not get too hyped up," the MAAC Diver of the Week from two weeks ago said. "Obviously I want to win. It is the championship, but I have to balance my emotions first. Preparing mentally is the most important thing to do. No matter what though, I'm still going to bring my game."

Women hungry for third consecutive MAAC title in Md.

By DREW BUDD
Staff Writer

The Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championships for women's swimming and diving starts this coming weekend at Loyola College in Baltimore. The women Marist Red Foxes are

once again the favorites to win the tourney.

Marist has won three championships in the last four years, seven in the past nine. They are coached by Larry VanWagner, who is a frequent visitor to the MAAC Championships and has been to them since 1989, which was the first time he won the title.

Between the men and women squads, VanWagner has been to the championships every year since 1995.

The one team the Red Foxes could be worried about in the upcoming tournament is Rider University. Rider, having won only five games in 11 matches while placing sixth in the Rutgers Invitational, doesn't nec-

essarily scare anyone on paper. Nevertheless, they match well against the women Red Foxes.

Back in the beginning of November, Marist defeated Rider 127.5-115.5. Rider won seven of the races during the meet, and VanWagner has said in the past that Rider was the best team they played from the MAAC.

"We cannot worry about other teams," he said. "However, Rider is a team we are worried individually about, because they are very competitive, and we just squeaked past them last time we went against each other."

Rider is coming off of a strong win against Iona while Marist has dropped their last two matches albeit against non-conference

teams. The Red Foxes also garnered some of the top individual performers in the conference with senior diver Meghan Duffy, who has now won MAAC Diver of the Week honors six weeks in a row.

Despite loss, men's tennis still finds success in doubles match play

By NATE FIELDS
Staff Writer

After claiming victories in their first two matches of the year, the Red Fox men's tennis team lost their second consecutive match by the score of 5-2 last Sunday at SUNY Binghamton.

Marist won two of six singles matches and one of three doubles matches, narrowly missing another doubles victory, which

would have resulted in an additional overall point.

Junior Pedro Genovese and senior Leo Rodriguez, comprising Marist's number-one doubles team, at one point led their opponents 7-4 while serving. They surrendered their lead, however, forcing a tiebreak match, which Binghamton eventually won 7-4.

Head coach Tim Smith said he enjoyed the teams competition, but first doubles lost hurt them.

"I was happy overall with the way the teams competed," he said. "But I was disappointed with our loss at first doubles, which I think could have given us an edge going into the singles."

The third doubles team of junior Ray Josephs and sophomore Greg Marks pulled out a victory before the senior duo of Mark Santucci and Brendon Van Wasbeck fell 8-3.

Santucci enjoyed success in singles action, however, dealing the Bearcats' Aurelio Martinez a loss.

Coach Smith praised the effort of his senior.

"Mark played the best singles match I have seen him play since his 6-4 6-4 loss to the University of Alabama in the first round of the NCAA's his freshman year," he said.

Also putting a point on the

board for the Foxes was Genovese, who knocked off his opponent in four sets, 6-3, 6-7, 7-6 (10-8).

The loss drops the team to 2-2 overall, but they remain 2-0 in Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play.

Marist has been facing some tough competition of late, and the schedule doesn't get any easier.

"This is the second team we

have played that is ranked in the top 12 in our region," Smith said of Binghamton.

Marist goes on the road to oppose Brown this Monday, Feb. 20 at 4 p.m.

According to Smith, Brown is a formidable foe.

"We look forward the next two weeks to playing nationally ranked Brown," he said.

Marist downs Jaspers for sixth consecutive MAAC win, leads Griffs by two games

By MATT ANGRISANI
Staff Writer

Senior forward Fifi Camera and red-shirt sophomore Meg Dahlman combined for forty points last Saturday as the Lady Red Foxes defeated Manhattan 58-42, winning their ninth straight home game.

Manhattan took an early lead as Caitlin Flood scored the first basket of the contest; however, that would turn out to be the Jaspers only lead of the night.

Dahlman was the leading scorer for Marist in the first half, making shots in the paint as well as outside the perimeter. The Red Foxes ended the half strong-

ly, going on a 16-4 run, with six of those points coming from Dahlman. Marist led 31-12 at halftime.

Manhattan turned it up in the second half, immediately going on a 5-0 run. Marist kept answering back but Manhattan would not give up, cutting the once 21-point lead down to as

little as 10.

During the second half, Camera took over, taking the majority of the Red Foxes' shots and going to the line seven times, making 9-of-14 free throws. As Camera made her shots, the Marist defense contained the Jaspers to one to win the game.

Camera finished the game with

22 points, including her 800th career point on her final shot, nine rebounds, and four assists. Dahlman had eighteen points, five boards, and two steals.

Forward Sarah Srdml saw 23 minutes of action, scoring ten points and getting seven rebounds.

The Red Foxes continue their

Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play on the road when they play Iona this Friday, Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m. and Loyola this Sunday, Feb. 19 at 1 p.m.

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Red Foxes sweep season series against Golden Griffins

By ERIC ZEDALIS
Layout Staff

Heading into Monday night's game against the Marist Red Foxes, the Canisius Golden Griffins focused their defense on the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) leading scorer, Fifi Camara, and the reigning two-time MAAC player of the week, Meg Dahlman.

Little of their attention, however, was for the birthday girl, Sarah Smrdel.

So the sophomore took advantage, tying her career-high with 16 points on her 20th birthday to help Marist sweep the season series against Canisius, 81-69.

Canisius head coach Terry Zeh said that going in, his staff and players knew Smrdel was a force, but Camara still commanded a lot of the attention.

"We knew [Smrdel] could shoot, it's just sometimes when you've got Fifi in there and you're sort of looking at her wondering if you've got to help in the post," he said. "She can get free for those shots."

Smrdel said she was happy to step in and help her team when she was needed off the bench.

"It's a good feeling knowing that I can help out the team when they focus on Dahlman and Fifi," she said.

Zeh pointed out the importance

of role players like Smrdel stepping in at crucial times at this point in the season.

"This time of year, I've always thought you need a game from people like that to keep going," he said. "Everybody knows that Fifi is going to get her points, and you're going to try and game-plan to stop her. So players are going to have to come up and make shots for you to keep going."

With this win, Marist needs to win just one of its remaining four games to clinch at least a share of first-place in the regular season.

But Canisius did not make things easy.

The Golden Griffins, after being blown out by the Red Foxes on their home court earlier this year, gave Marist everything they had.

"This was one of the best basketball games I've ever been involved in, because I think we beat Canisius at their best," Marist head coach Brian Giorgis said. "They're a tremendous shooting team, and they shot lights-out in the second half. They did everything that they needed to do to try to win it."

Marist led by as much as 13 early in the second half, but Canisius kept fighting its way back and cutting the margin down to four or five points.

But whenever it seemed that

the Red Foxes' lead was in question, Marist had an answer.

"[Marist] made big shots against us in crunch time," Zeh said. "Every time we tried to make a run to get back within four or five points, they made big ones."

Coming off the bench, Nikki Flores scored five consecutive points after Canisius had cut the lead to four, and both Courtney Kolesar and Meg Dahlman hit three-point field goals once the lead was down to five.

Each shot Marist made down the stretch looked as though it would be the knock-out punch, but Canisius hung in and kept playing hard.

The fact that the Red Foxes matched the Golden Griffins' intensity the whole game showed the mark of a truly special team, according to Giorgis.

"[Canisius] kept coming back with their best shot, and we kept answering," he said. "I was just so proud of the kids. They didn't panic; they didn't get down. We found a way to get the ball to our scorers and they did a great job."

While Canisius did manage to score its season per-game average, Canisius guard Becky Zak said that Marist's defense made the Golden Griffins work for every basket.

"The whole game it seemed like we had to work so much

harder for our baskets than they did," she said. "They got quick, easy shots, and we had to really battle for ours."

According to Zeh, turnovers were a decisive factor in a game the Golden Griffins out-shot Marist (43.5 percent to 37.1 percent) from the field, and out-rebounded them 40-31.

"We had 20 turnovers and [Marist] had three," he said. "That's a huge difference. That's 17 more opportunities that they're getting that we aren't. They take care of the basketball really well."

Taking care of the ball is something Alisa Kresge has done extremely well all year, particularly against Canisius.

"[In two games against Canisius], Alisa has 20 assists and no turnovers. That's pretty special," Giorgis said.

Kresge is second in the nation in assist to turnover ratio after distributing eight assists with no turnovers Monday night.

Camara finished the day with 20 points, seven boards, two assists, two blocks and two steals.

Dahlman added 16 points, six rebounds two blocks and three steals. Dahlman scored 14 of her points in the second half to fuel the Red Foxes down the stretch.



BILL O'CONNOR / The Circle

Sophomore Sarah Smrdel tied a career high 16 points on her 20th birthday while shooting 53 percent from the field. The Red Foxes defeated Canisius 81-69 Monday night at the James J. McCann Center.

Foxes head into BracketBuster after win

By JOE FERRARY
Staff Writer

The men's basketball team rebounded from a tough loss at Niagara on Saturday, by defeating Canisius 74-71 Monday night in Buffalo.

With the win the Red Foxes are guaranteed a first round bye for the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Tournament, which will be held in Albany.

Assistant men's basketball coach Rob O'Driscoll said this was a crucial win for the team.

"This was a very important win for our team," he said. "Coming off that tough loss we needed to get back on track and we did that with a big win last night."

The Red Foxes had four starters score in double figures, led by red shirt sophomore Ryan Stilphen's career high 22 points and 13 rebounds.

O'Driscoll said the game plan was to go into the big men early and often.

"Canisius really has no big men on their team," said O'Driscoll. "It was our game plan to throw the ball deep into the paint to Stilphen and [James] Smith. Smith got into some early foul trouble and Stilphen came up big."

During the first half both teams traded baskets with no team building a lead bigger than six points. Canisius led at the break 31-29 on a controversial tip-in by Joe Young as time expired in the first half.

The Red Foxes responded after shooting only 33.3 percent from the field in the first half, by going on a 9-2 to open up in the second half. The Golden Griffins fought back to tie the game at 45. However, the Red Foxes would go on 9-4 spurt to take control of the game.



Red shirt sophomore Ryan Stilphen notched a double double scoring 22 points, a career high, and pulling down a game high 13 boards. Stilphen shot four of five from the free throw line in a 74-71 win over Canisius Monday.

Courtesy of WWW.GOREDFOXES.COM

The Red foxes shot 47 percent from the field in the second half.

The Griffins would continue to fight back and found themselves down just three points as time expired when Kevin Downey, who led Canisius with 19 points, missed a three-point field goal which would have sent the game to overtime.

The key to the game was the turnover battle as Marist forced Canisius into 17 turnovers which led to 22 points for Marist.

Will Whittington scored 16 points for the Red Foxes, including four three pointers while Jared Jordan added 14 points and 7 assists. Jordan currently leads the nation in assists averaging 8.6 per game.

The Red Foxes return to action when they visit Old Dominion in an ESPN BracketBuster game Saturday at 4 p.m. The game will be televised on ESPN2.

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