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THE CIRCLE

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# 350 for climate change

Volunteers to gather on Mid-Hudson Bridge to promote awareness of carbon emissions

By AMANDA LAVERGNE  
Student Body & Events Correspondent

In effort to raise awareness on climate change, 350 volunteers from groups and colleges all around the Hudson Valley area will gather on the FDR-Mid-Hudson Bridge Nov. 16 at 3 p.m. as a part of "350 for 350 hands across the Hudson for action on climate change" — an event sponsored by 350.org.

The number 350 came from an article in the Los Angeles Times by Bill McKibben that stated that the carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere have been raised to 387 parts per million (ppm) and the goal is to get it back down to 350 ppm.

The organization, 350.org, was created as a global movement to solve the climate crisis, according to its homepage. It also states that the goal is to take global action for our global future and 41 countries have already begun to spread the word of 350.

A photo of the 350 volun-



From WWW.350.ORG

Demonstrators in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, Calif. celebrated Earth Day this year by participating in a "350"-sponsored event. 350 will be sponsoring a similar event on the Mid-Hudson bridge Nov. 16 at 3 p.m. 350 supports decreasing CO2 emissions. Demonstrators on the bridge will be taken and, when it is taken to the Poland UN climate meeting in December, it will be awarded as one of the "ten best action photos" at the summit.

Stephanie Lyon, a junior, is at the forefront at getting Marist students involved with this event.

"Joel Tyner, who is the Dutchess County Legislature Environmental Committee Chair, came to speak to us

about this event in my World Religions class," said Lyon. "I e-mailed him later that day because I believe global warming is a real problem today, but it doesn't have to be tomorrow."

In a phone interview, Tyner was passionate about the event.

"I hope that through this event it will simply help to educate many people on the issue of global warming,"

SEE 350, PAGE 3

# iLearn to replace eLearning next fall

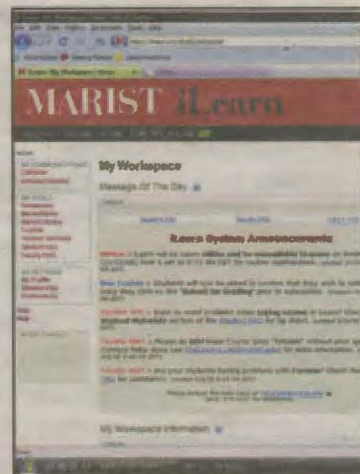
By JENNIFER HILL  
Circle Contributor

Starting at the beginning of the Fall 2009 semester, all-online courses will transition from Educator eLearning to iLearn. Although iLearn has already been introduced in some courses, Josh Baron, Director of Academic Technology and eLearning, said his department is making tremendous efforts to ease the transition for faculty and students.

An assessment of the technological needs of the college started three years ago, when it was decided that Marist was outgrowing the eLearning system. iLearn has a wide range of capabilities that eLearning was not be able to offer, one of the most significant being the electronic portfolio.

"It is a powerful way of giving students something else to leave Marist with besides a diploma and a transcript," said Baron.

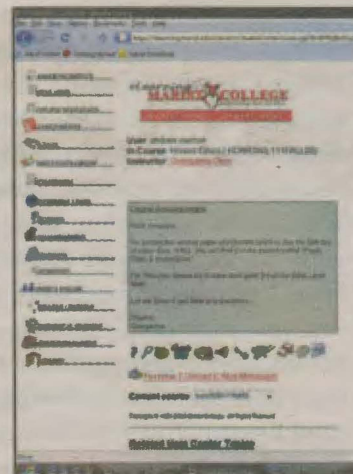
The portfolio can be made available to people outside of Marist to show accomplishments that students have com-



iLearn's features include wiki page creation and uploading, completed during their four years. The system also includes features such as podcasts, wikis and blogging.

iLearn is an open source project produced by the Sakai consortium. This group includes institutions like Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University and Oxford.

Because iLearn is not developed by a commercial company, the members have a great influence over what the system becomes in the future. Therefore, if users — including Marist students and staff —



eLearning be phased out at the end of the spring semester.

have complaints about the system, the faculty can work to make changes.

At the end of the semester a survey will be produced to collect feedback from students and faculty. Baron and the technology staff encourage students to express complaints about the system so they can work as quickly as possible to get them fixed.

However, even with all of the new features and benefits of iLearn, many have mixed reactions to the new system. Professor Shannon Roper uses

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 3

# Juicy Campus speaks with The Circle

By MATT SPILLANE  
Managing Editor

*Editor's Note: In response to the story about Juicy Campus in the Oct. 30 edition of The Circle, the Web site's Public Relations representatives contacted The Circle to inquire about interviewing Matt Ivester, the Founder, President, and CEO of Juicy Campus. Managing Editor Matt Spillane spoke with Ivester via telephone about his Internet creation.*

**The Circle:** When, where, why did you create Juicy Campus?

**Matt Ivester:** I wish I had a really great story. It's actually kind of boring. I was sitting around trying to think up ideas. I knew I wanted to start up an internet site, I knew I wanted to start up a college site. One day I kind of just realized: just two years out of school, I still loved hearing and talking about the crazy things that went on while I was in school. Things we did while were drunk, so many stories about college life. Every college has these same great stories. I wanted to create a place online where people could share those stories. Juicy campus was born.

**Q:** What were your expectations/vision for the site?

**A:** I always wanted juicy Campus to be a place where college students were talking about things that interested them most. I knew I would quickly lose control of what content was on the site. It's user generated, authentically college, and I love that. There are more attack posts than I would like. I certainly didn't anticipate that when I started this thing. The right answer is to combat it [negative comments] with good speeches. One thing that's inspired me is that there'll be a mean post and then there'll be kind posts to that. Censorship isn't the right answer; more speech is the

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

The Circle staff can be reached at 575-3000 x2429 or letters to the editor can be sent to [writethecircle@gmail.com](mailto:writethecircle@gmail.com). The Circle can also be viewed on its web site, [www.maristcircle.com](http://www.maristcircle.com).

## Security Briefs

# Larceny abounds; one thief misses point of exercise

By TYLER THURSTON  
...funnier than you.

### 11/5 – McCann Center

One student caught the short end of the stick after a grueling workout in McCann, only to return to the locker area and find money missing from his wallet. Some money remained, however, meaning the culprit was either feeling generous or just extremely lazy. There is really nothing to ease the pain of having money stolen, as really, everyone here is in college, so everyone is pretty much broke. Seriously, you can throw “free” in front of anything, and I’d be all over that. It could be free hypodermic needles and I’d be wiping my wrist with alcohol. But I think we’ve all also had the stunning realization that we suddenly have no money, although this time I doubt it was because you accidentally slipped the cab driver a 20 and then proceeded to decide double shots were exactly what you needed after a long night. Not that that has ever happened or anything.

### 11/6 – Donnelly Hall

The larceny trend continued on campus, with a housekeeper reporting a vacuum cleaner missing from Donnelly, followed by another housekeeper reporting a missing seat cushion from the Fashion Lab. Wow, seriously what is up with the stolen goods around here? Yeah, because stealing a seat cushion makes you such a badass. Next time you’ll take the whole chair, but you might need a team of 11 like George Clooney had. Oh, and a vacuum cleaner? That just sucks. Get it? Cause it’s a vacuum cleaner – sucks. Alright, nevermind.

### 11/7 – Champagnat

Security confiscated the first alcohol of the weekend, with vodka and Bacardi Limon being found in a Champagnat room, and therefore dumped down the drain. Eh, it happens to the best of us. At least now you can go out and black out any memory this ever happened. Oh wait; you need the alcohol for that. Well, sucks to suck.

### 11/7 – Champagnat

Champagnat kept it coming, with more alcohol being confiscated later in the day, with another handle of vodka and some Southern Comfort being taken. Well, at least you can now have the comfort of knowing that the alcohol you paid for has a prime spot in the security office. Oh, not the same kind of comfort? Ouch.

### 11/7 – Marian

Some students in Marian got Friday started off right, with security breaking up the party early, and finding four bottles of wine at 4:00 PM. Four bottles at 4? That’s happy hour started early if I’ve ever seen it. Hopefully, this wasn’t a “let’s have one bottle for every hour,” because seriously, by the time midnight came around, I don’t think you’d be coming around anytime soon. Although, there is no sleep quite like the wine sleep. Not sure you’re going to like the fact you’ve been written up when you wake up, but, other than that, great sleep.

### 11/8 – Water Plant

The friendly neighborhood Water Plant reported students throwing rocks at the water generator from down by the water, and security of course responded and escorted the students back to what I’m only assuming can be freshmen dorms. You know how last week, I started to talk about getting kids something better to do with their time? This is what I’m taking about. That’s not even fun. You’re not even watching to see something smash or see how big a splash it will make. You’re just throwing stuff. Next time you want to throw something, try yourself. Maybe into the water, maybe into traffic.

### 11/8 – Lower West Cedar

A resident of Lower West Cedar reported a breaking-and-entering through her bedroom window, with jewelry and cash being stolen from her dresser. Wow, coming in through the window was so much less creepy when Katie Holmes first tried it on “Dawson’s Creek.” Seriously,

though, there are no winners in this situation, unless you’re holding a contest to see who can be creepiest on campus. In that case, you’re number 1, big guy, right up there with the kid that covers his face in paste. Actually, that might’ve been in “Billy Madison,” but lets face it, I wouldn’t put it past anyone.

### 11/8 – Sand Bar

For the third time in a short while, another student reported something stolen while dancing the night away at the Sand Bar, with a cell phone being the prime target this time. With the larceny in high rates, students are reminded to be cautious and hold onto their belongings, even if you can’t hold onto your drink or your class in that outfit. That is all.

### 11/8 – Campus

As part of the “See something, Say something,” program on campus, security would like to point out an incident this past week, where one student reported a sketchy-looking person in a trench coat and black sweatshirt walking behind the Student Center. The student called security to report the occurrence, only to have it turn out just to be a student enjoying the autumn air. Regardless, students are urged that like the program says, if

they see something, say something. No, that doesn’t mean you can call to report crimes of fashion or girls on clear walk of shames. That’s just going to happen anyway.

### 11/9 – Lower West Cedar

Larceny continued to be the name of the game, with two students reporting their bikes missing, even though they were properly chained. If you go through the lengths of chaining something up, and it still goes missing, I feel like it’s just going to happen. Nothing you can do. You probably won’t get your bikes back, and I’ll probably never find that kid I was babysitting. It’s how the world works.

### 11/9 – Midrise

Things were shattered over the weekend, and it wasn’t just the lives or mindsets of students responsible. A glass panel in a doorway was broken, upping the cost of maintenance to repair it and also the hilarity of the situation. Yeah, because nothing’s funnier, or proves you more to be a big man on campus, than kicking in the panel of a door.

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

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## Marist students volunteer to spread Christmas joy

By ALYSSA LONGBUCCO  
Contributing Writer

The Christmas spirit has already begun to hit Marist College this year through Campus Ministry's philanthropic program, "The Giving Tree."

For 18 years, the program has provided Marist students with the opportunity to reach out to those in need during Christmastime. This season, co-chairs of The Giving Tree committee, Stephanie Ilenko and Maggie Higgins, began their work in September, contacting local agencies and gathering a group of families to sponsor this Christmas.

In total, 23 families throughout Dutchess County were enlisted for sponsorship, including 92 children. This will be one of Marist's largest donations to date. Although this is a seemingly daunting project to take on, student volunteers and participation rates have been high.

"The response from students has been overwhelming in the past few years," Ilenko said.

Jackie Scano, a sophomore at Marist and second year Campus Ministry member,



ALYSSA LONGBUCCO/THE CIRCLE

Students gather in the Cabaret to cut out ornaments for the "Giving Tree" program. For the 18th consecutive year, Campus Ministry has sponsored the program to give families in need various necessities during the holiday season. This year has brought one of the highest participation turnout rates to date.

explains her reasoning for helping out as a "desire to make sure those members of the community got to experience a little of the Christmas that I enjoyed as a child."

Student volunteers lent a helping hand in creating ornaments, assembling trees and keeping track of each family's accumulated gifts. The eight trees will go up on November 16, and

will have three different color ornaments on them to express various needs. Yellow ornaments represent household provisions; red decorations represent the children's necessities;

and green signifies the other wishes of the 92 children, like toys.

"Among the most requested items this year are clothing, winter coats, bikes, and Hannah Montana themed gear," Higgins discloses.

Students looking to donate items can choose an ornament off one of the trees, which will indicate what item to buy; after students purchase and wrap their gifts, and they will drop them off at the chapel. Items that are not purchased through volunteers will be bought through a combination of Campus Ministry funds and donations, ensuring that every family receives their Christmas wishes.

The needy families are not the only ones that benefit from this project.

"In a way, the Marist community also reaps the rewards. Participating in this task was such an overpowering feeling,"

The project commences in a Giving Tree Ceremony, held in the chapel on December 14. The ceremony is used to bless the gifts before they are picked up by the agencies and distributed to the families in time for Christmas.

From Page One

### Brains behind Juicy Campus answers the tough questions

right answer.

**Q:** Did you anticipate that it would get this big?

**A:** We really didn't. I had no idea that it would become so popular so quickly. In the first three months we had to update our servers three times. We've gotten 15,000 requests from students asking us to come to their campus. We certainly never expected that.

**Q:** Did you think it would be this controversial?

**A:** No, not when it first launched. It didn't take too long to realize that would be an issue. That's when I wrote the letter on the blog [Juicy Campus' blog], hate isn't juicy. I don't know whether there's any value to putting up a person's name [on Juicy Campus]. I spoke at Georgetown and I spread that message, to use the site responsibly. My hope is that people will use the site differently and we'll see fewer of the mean-spirited attacks.

**Q:** You waited until just last week to speak publicly about the site, correct?

**A:** I spoke to reporters, but it was the first time I'd given a speech about Juicy Campus. Georgetown was the first school to invite me. It wasn't like I was declining other invitations. It was just recently [that Georgetown invited me]. We [the site] just added them in September. I would love to speak publicly about it [Juicy Campus]; I really appreciated the opportunity to share Juicy Campus' side of the story. I would consider it very seriously [speaking at other colleges].

**Q:** What kind of marketing efforts did you have early on?

**A:** It's just an incredibly viral web site. Appropriately, it predominantly spread word-of-mouth. The first campus we had was Duke, and...it just got crazy very quickly.

**Q:** What are your future plans with Juicy Campus and Lime Blue, Inc.?

**A:** There are 2,400 four-year institutions in the U.S., and my hope is to be on all of them. We got 1,900 to go. Our goal is to be more than just a gossip Web site.

From Page One

### 350 hopes to lower CO2 emissions

Tyner said. "You can't turn on the radio, T.V. or open a newspaper without hearing something about global warming, so we need to make sure that people know the facts."

Tyner said that if residents of Hudson Valley don't do something to combat global warming that soon the region will begin to experience "Georgia weather."

Alison Pearson, a senior is also greatly involved with help-

ing to get Marist students involved.

"I think it is important that the public is informed on global warming, and since this is such a great cause, I couldn't turn down the offer to help," Pearson said.

Lyon, Pearson and junior Adrienne Taddeo have been spreading the word around Marist and have created a facebook group called "350 for 350." Lyon has also been in

touch with SGA.

Neighboring colleges and many political and environmental groups are involved, including, Bard College, Vassar College, and the Holy Light Pentecostal Church.

"I just hope that people are aware that this shouldn't be about politics, and that no matter what we need to cut back on pollution to preserve our present and future living environment," said Lyon.

From Page One

### Students weigh in on new iLearn system

both eLearning and iLearn.

"I see pros and cons for both systems," Roper said. "Once you are familiar with one format, it is difficult to get accustomed to another, but iLearn will help Marist continue to develop."

Some students say they disapprove of the new system..

"iLearn is really hard to navigate," said Lisa Odoardi, a sophomore at Marist. "Last year so many of my classes were on eLearning, which had a much simpler and straight-forward format. It's hard to make the transition."

Tim Wall, a senior at Marist, says that he prefers eLearning

to iLearn.

"eLearning has a very basic format and at times iLearn is overwhelming," Wall said. "It's difficult to transition after using eLearning for three years."

Baron and the rest of the technology staff are prepared for comments like this one.

"It would be shocking if people didn't come forward and say it's confusing," Baron said. "Frustration and other negative reactions are a natural response to changing technology."

He said he is also very hopeful for the future of iLearn and its development at Marist.

"People will adjust to the

changes and find it easier, more powerful and generally a more sophisticated system than eLearning," Baron said.

Some students said that they are discovering that Baron is right. Junior Trey Savage likes iLearn better than eLearning.

"The interface looks more modern and easier to use," Savage said. "Marist made the transition simple," Savage said.

Efforts are being made by Marist to try to make a smooth transition. There are support materials, a help guide, and many workshops available for faculty and a web tutorial and tip sheets for students.

# Senior McCain aides blaming Palin

By HEATHER STAATS  
Staff Writer

The woman once capable of bringing vitality to the White House is now a shop-a-holic who doesn't know that Africa is a continent. This is how some of Sen. John McCain's "top aides" are feeling about Gov. Sarah Palin these days.

After McCain's loss to President-elect Barack Obama last week, anonymous members of McCain's staff have been dishing out blows to Palin. They have even gone as far as to say that she is the reason why they lost the race.

It was also alleged that Palin was not prepared for her performance in the vice presidential debate against Sen. Joe Biden. These anonymous aides claim that they heard Palin call Africa a country, instead of a continent, and that she did not know which countries were involved in the North African Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

These same aides criticized Palin for overspending by drastic amounts on her wardrobe for the campaign. The governor denies all of these allegations, calling these people "jerks" and "cowards." Palin says that these people took her words out of context and, in some cases, made up stories all together.

"This is nothing but pure, yellow-bellied cowardice," said Joe DeLisle, president of the Marist College Republicans. "To assassinate her character and to do so under anonymity is anything but courageous."

DeLisle goes on to say that these people should own up to these claims and deal with the consequences.

"I think she's handled this extremely well," DeLisle said. "It's hard to have your integrity attacked by a nameless person."

As far as Palin being the source of McCain's loss, DeLisle said that it just isn't true. He points out that the only time that



From GOOGLE.COM

**Gov. Palin fires back at her anonymous detractors.**

McCain closed the gap with Obama in polling was when she came aboard. "She mobilized the base," he said.

"You have to be presentable and women aren't the only ones spending money to do it," said Dr. JoAnne Meyers, co-director of the women's stud-

ies program, about Palin's wardrobe choices. "The men have been just as guilty."

She went on to say that Palin's "hockey mom" image was definitely made-over. "She went from Macy's to designer, and those clothes belong to the Republican Party," said Meyers.

When it comes to Palin's contributions to the world of female politics, Meyers feels that not enough emphasis is placed on the past.

"She's not the first woman to run for national office," Meyers noted. "All women are not the same. This election showed completely different models of women with Clinton, Palin and the women of the Green Party."

Meyers believes that Palin was chosen to balance the Republican ticket, which she succeeded in doing. "She did something very interesting by getting support from anti-feminists who saw her balancing

her family and campaign."

Sympathizing with Palin is sophomore and Republican, Erika Rosborg. However, Rosborg admits that Palin was a factor in McCain's defeat.

"Many people viewed her as weak and being a woman was a factor," said Rosborg.

In spite of this, Rosborg still felt that Palin aided the Republican ticket.

"She's well spoken and has strong opinions. This may hurt her a little, but if she stands her ground people will see her as strong," Rosborg remarked.

However, it still remains to be seen whether or not McCain will issue a statement in Palin's behalf. Supporters like DeLisle and Rosborg are hoping though that it will happen soon.

"It's what she deserves for being a loyal running mate," Rosborg said.

# President-elect Obama's safety threatened by radicals

By JOSEPH GENTILE  
Politics Editor

Campaigning has ended for President-elect Barack Obama, but Secret Service officials are still getting their marching orders after threats made against Obama and his family surged in mid-October. On Thursday, November 6, two white supremacists plead "not guilty" before a federal magistrate in Memphis, Tennessee for conspiring to assassinate Obama and dozens of other blacks.

The day before, Daniel Cowart, 20, and Paul Schlesselman, 18, were indicted for making threats on a presidential candidate, possessing a sawed-off shotgun, bringing firearms across state lines to commit a crime, and planning to rob a licensed gun dealer after their arrests were reported last month. Combined, the charges facing both men carry a maximum sentence of 50 years imprisonment and fines of \$540,000. Court records indicated that Cowart and Schlesselman, both self-identified white supremacists, told investigators they were intent on going on a national rampage that included a string of armed robberies and the murders of 102 blacks, including 14

decapitations. Presently, both men are separated from other inmates at the request of federal authorities, according to Obion County Sheriff Jerry Vastbinder's interview with *The Associated Press*.

White supremacists recognize the number 88 as being code for "Heil Hitler," according to court records, because "H" is the eighth letter of the alphabet. Eventually, the

last October for shooting out a window at a church, primarily attended by blacks, 70 miles north of Memphis.

"[G]iven the especially delicate balance that the United States, Russia and countries of the Middle East are striking right now, an attack on the president would destabilize U.S. foreign policy and have a heightened impact on national security," said a statement released

Yet, as ABC News revealed, this is just but one of the more than 500 threats made against Obama after he publicly declared his bid for the White House two years ago. During the Democratic National Convention last July, three Colorado men were arrested after a traffic stop revealed illegal weapons, methamphetamine and a discussion the group had about harming Obama. However, because the U.S. attorney found there to be "no overt acts in furtherance of an attempt," according to Strategic Forecasting, he could not bring conspiracy charges against the group.

But, as referenced in the *Telegraph*, the attacks made by Gov. Sarah Palin, the GOP vice presidential candidate, about Obama's "palling around with terrorists" in the final days of the campaign may have contributed to the volatility. Comparing her rallies with a "lynch mob atmosphere," reporter Tim Shipman believes that her "demagogic tone may have unintentionally encouraged white supremacists to go even further."

The challenges facing Obama and his family, as reported by *Newsweek*, eventually influenced Michelle Obama, the future First Lady, to ask her friend and campaign

adviser Valerie Jarrett, "Why would they try to make people hate us?"

Dr. Daria Hanssen, the director of the Social Work Program at Marist College, though doesn't understand why people should be threatened by a man she described as presenting "a sense of being controlled, sound, and rational."

"If people were listening to him on Saturday, they would hear somebody bringing up the have-nots, talking about home foreclosures and worrying about the economy," said Hanssen.

However, she believed that many conservatives, particularly those that took to the McCain campaign, are afraid of Obama because they are concerned "he won't be able to handle himself in an international crisis." Yet, after listening to several commentators, Hanssen is optimistic that Obama's election should diminish the "distance" in national race relations.

"It should be very positive to have a person of color in the White House, because they could help mend foreign relationships with people of color," said Hanssen of the Bush administration, and its eventual successor.



From GOOGLE.COM

**Daniel Cowart, 20, and Paul Schlesselman, 18, are charged with conspiring to assassinate President-elect Barack Obama.**

killing spree that Cowart and Schlesselman alleged culminated in a suicide attack on Obama from a speeding car, with both defendants sporting top hats and white tuxedos. Local authorities in Tennessee notified federal investigators after both men were arrested

by Strategic Forecasting, an intelligence firm. "Domestically, the assassination of the country's first black president would run the risk of devastating race relations - and white supremacist movements see themselves as substantially benefiting from racial strife."

# California votes for Proposition 8; Marist reacts

By ANDREW OVERTON  
News Editor

Massive demonstrations across the state of California following the passage of a ban on gay marriage have rekindled the debate on the issue across the country—including Marist College.

On Nov. 5, about 52 percent of Californians voted in favor of an amendment called Proposition 8, which will change the California Constitution to eliminate the right of same-sex couples to marry and provide that marriage be legally defined between only a man and a woman.

Four students from California weighed in on their rejection of Proposition 8 and belief that gay marriage should be legal in their home state.

"I believe that homosexuals should have the right to do whatever they choose and it should be recognized by the state," said freshman Kevin Peterson, who voted against Proposition 8 via absentee ballot.

James Freeman, a junior, said that he voted against Proposition 8 because he believes that homosexuals and heterosexuals should have the same rights.

"I believe that no group of people should be denied their rights as humans to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," said Freeman. "I believe that by supporting Proposition 8 I

would be denying the homosexual community the right of equality, which is something that I refuse to do."

Freshman Nelson Benitez said he would have voted against Proposition 8, but was also unable to vote via absentee ballot.

Proposition 8 garnered wide support among minorities in California, including 70 percent of black voters and 53 percent of Latino voters.

Benitez, a first-generation American citizen, said that his parents who immigrated to America from El Salvador probably voted in favor of Proposition 8 because of their conservative values.

"They thought [gay marriage] was unnatural; it's not common in our culture," he said. "It's not something that is in our family. My parents are very religious and would have disagreed with the idea of a marriage with the same-sex."

Junior Edward Ybarra did not register to vote in time for the California election, but said he opposed Proposition 8 because had qualms with the central role that religion has played in the gay marriage debate.

"I think it's oppressive and puts the gay community on somewhat of a second class level," Ybarra said. "I also think it's an avenue by which we've let religion dictate policy as most of the opposition came from the religious right."

Ybarra said that gay marriage is a legal matter and religion should not impact California's



From LATIMES.COM

Thousands of demonstrators marched on West Hollywood on Nov. 5 protesting the passage of Proposition 8 in California.

stance on gay marriage.

For some Catholics, on the other hand, religious beliefs and church teachings are an important factor to consider.

"I've been taught all my life that marriage is between a man and a woman," freshman James Boylan said. "I mean two guys can live together, but marriage to me is the sacrament of a man and woman giving themselves to each other."

"The Church teaches marriage is between a man and a woman," said junior Douglas Hartley. "Regardless of the religion aspect, marriage has always been and should always be the union between a man and a woman."

Hartley added that "when you make it between same-sex couples, it loses that special term of being married."

Ultimately, gay marriage opponents are concerned that legalizing it would further damage the institution of mar-

riage.

"As young people in our culture, we should be concerned about how the values in our country are disintegrating," senior Matt Reiman said. "Marriage between a man and a woman is the best way to raise a child."

On May 15, the California Supreme Court, in a 4-3 vote, ruled that statutes in California that define marriage as a union between a man and woman violated the equal protection clause of the California Constitution, thus allowing individuals of the same gender to marry.

Reiman views the passage of Proposition 8 as a victory for the people of California over the California Supreme Court.

"I think that people should decide what constitutes what marriage in their state, not judges," Reiman said. "It was important for people to express what marriage meant...it was

the will of the people being spoken."

In states like Massachusetts and Connecticut where same-sex marriage is already legal, gay marriage supporters are concerned that this might create a conservative backlash in these states as well.

For students like junior Molly Costello, the passage of Proposition 8 is very troubling.

"I think that it's a disgrace that we live in a country that they're passing laws to take people's rights away. At the bare minimum, civil unions should be legal," she said.

Junior Michael Maglione said he believes that Proposition 8 is an important issue for Marist students to be aware of.

"I think Marist students should know how discriminatory the country can be and that if the time to vote on legalizing gay marriage in New York comes, I hope they know enough to go out get the facts and make an intelligent, informed decision," Maglione said.

While President Matt Palmeri of the Lesbian, Gay and Straight Alliance (LGSA) said he recognized they cannot discount the majority opinion in California, he is hopeful the group can influence minds on the issue of same-sex marriage.

"The way we go from here is to convince more people that our cause is the right cause and that they should vote on our side," Palmeri said.

**Bipartisan: It's not just "a phase."**

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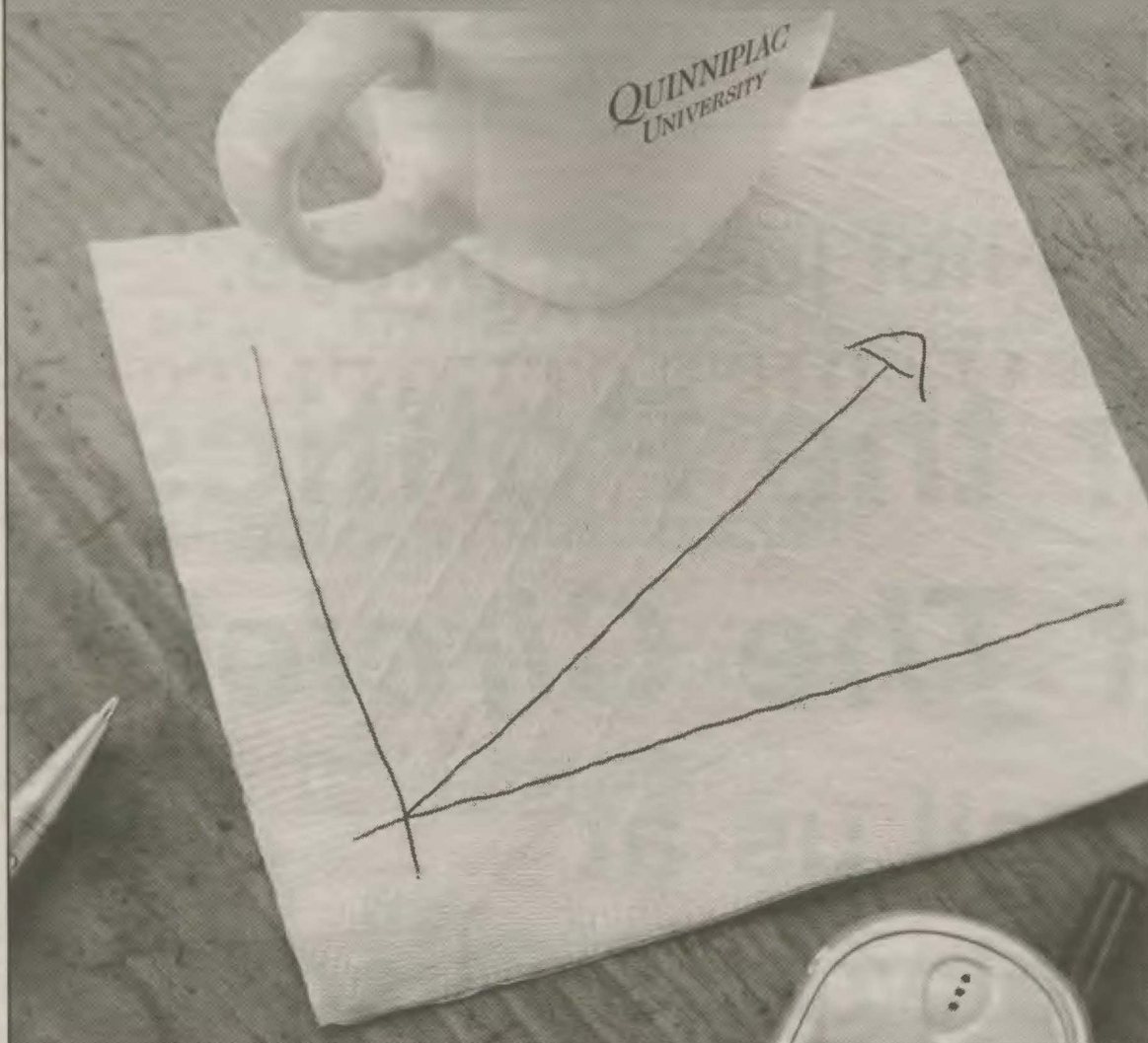
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# McCain's campaign to blame for his loss

By DANIEL PEARLES  
Staff Writer

Barack Obama's historic run for the White House culminated last Tuesday night with a landslide victory over his Republican opponent, John McCain. With a projected 365 electoral votes, president-elect Obama will be sworn into office in January, giving Democrats control of the legislative and executive branches of government for the first time since the Clinton administration.

Along with losing the White House, Republicans also lost seats in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Before it can regroup and prepare for 2012, the party should try to understand why it was voted out by the American people. It seemed that the Democrats were destined to win the 2008 election and the fact that McCain did not run a good campaign did little to improve his chances.

Truth be told, Barack Obama would not have been a difficult candidate for John McCain to defeat in an ordinary year. As Fox News consultant and former Bill Clinton advisor Dick

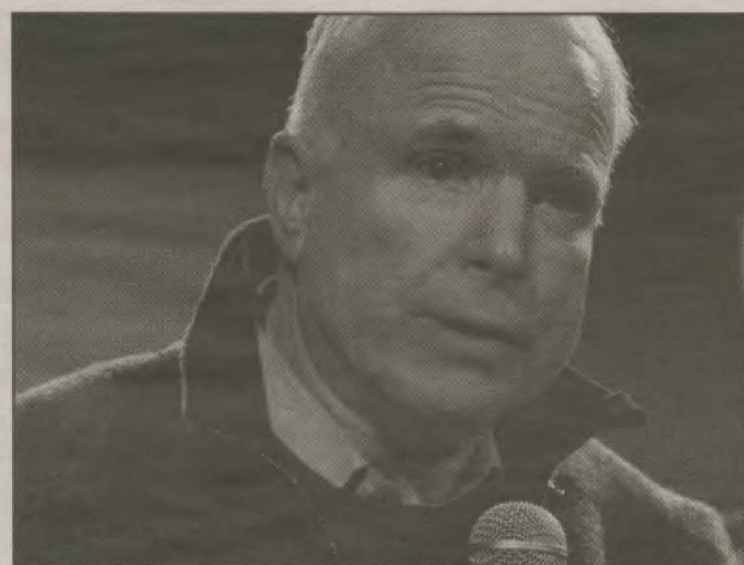
Morris put it, "You have an unelectable candidate in Obama running for a party that's guaranteed to win, and an unbeatable candidate in McCain running for a party that has no chance of winning." In other words, this election came down to the Bush administration's unpopularity against Obama's extreme liberalism and inexperience. As it turned out, the Obama campaign was able to do a good enough job in linking McCain to the Bush administration.

Although McCain was unable to shake his association with President Bush, he did have the opportunity to use actual issues such as taxes and national security to his advantage. The Republican Party has a reputation for pushing for lower taxes and being stronger on national security than its Democratic counterpart, but Obama was able to take control of both issues.

On national security, Obama constantly stressed the need to immediately withdraw from Iraq despite the military's current success in the region. Obama also claimed that he will lower taxes for 95 percent of all Americans while trying

to convince Americans that McCain would only help out "the rich." McCain did little to clarify this major misconception. Although Obama's mas-

sive spending plans and his goal of redistributing wealth contradict his claim that he will lower taxes, the only thing that mattered was that he was able to convince the American people of it.



From IMAGES.PUBLICRADIO.ORG

Former presidential hopeful John McCain's loss to Barack Obama can be attributed to his running a lackluster campaign.

Despite all of his problems, McCain still could have beaten Obama if he was able to win the support of independents while energizing the conserva-

conservatives, making it difficult for them to rally behind him. While the choice of Governor Sarah Palin as his running mate may have helped him out a little among conservatives, the fact that Obama was one of the most liberal candidates in presidential history is the main reason Republicans came out to vote for McCain.

"I don't know what more we could have done to try to win this election. I'll leave that to others to determine," McCain said. "Every candidate makes mistakes, and I'm sure I made my share of them. But I won't spend a moment of the future regretting what might have been." With these words, John McCain's bid for the presidency came to an end along with the Republican's control of the White House.

But now it's time for the Democratic Party to put up or shut up. Because they are now in control of the legislative and executive branches of government, the Democrats have a lot on their plate with the country in an economic downturn and involvement in two wars. Ironically, the Democrats themselves may be in the same position in four years that the Republicans were in this year, on the defensive and accepting responsibility for every negative event that takes place in the country. Perhaps they will find a better way to maintain their power. In the meantime, Republicans will cling to one sentiment: it took four years of Carter for eight years of Reagan.

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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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# Features

## Find the best mountain for this snowboarding season

By DANIELLE DELCORE  
Staff Writer

As an avid snowboarder, winters in the Hudson Valley present a challenge. The options are limited, but hopefully a brief description of the various mountains will encourage you to brave the drive. Belleayre, Hunter and Windham Mountains are about an hour and a half away. Yes, it is possible to make it there faster, but with out-of-state license plates and eager local police, inevitable speeding tickets are not worth the time.

Last season I spent only \$200 for a season pass to Belleayre without black out dates or midweek/weekday only limitations. I chose Belleayre for their price and reputation of not being a mad house on the weekends. The weekend "mad house" would be Hunter, about which I have yet to hear reviews that would create any desire to attempt a

Saturday there. While Belleayre is moderately busy, a more significant amount of people know Hunter Mountain than Belleayre and therefore it draws a much larger crowd of weekend leisure enthusiasts.

Hunter Mountain and Windham Mountain both have more to offer regarding mountain statistics than Belleayre Mountain, but this can be easily explained. Belleayre Mountain is owned and operated by the State of New York, where as Hunter and Windham are privately owned by investors with more on the line to lose if the season is not up to expectations.

Unfortunately, as a result of the economy, this season Belleayre has announced it will not be creating a terrain park and some chairlifts will not be in operation. At this point, the details are unclear, so keep your eyes open for clarification before making a decision.

It may feel like

Thanksgiving is right around the corner, but the weather has not been very kind to the mountains and Hunter and Windham both have web cams that show plenty of mud, but no snow-covered trails by any stretch. The opening is anticipated to be around November 29 for all of the mountains, but that is certainly wishful thinking.

Ah... and then comes the dreaded realization of how much a day in the snow is going to cost you. The good news is that the mountains offer college discounts, so take advantage of it before you graduate. Prices average \$249 for a college student season pass versus \$800 for an adult season pass.

Finding the package that works best for you is going to take some time (and application of some math skills). Individual lift tickets will hurt, because prices vary depending on whether it is midweek, weekend, or a holiday. Prices

range from \$54 to \$63 dollars for all the mountains — and days of the week.

Windham offers both a triple play card (three days for only \$100) as well as a

Windham and Hunter card (two days at each mountain for only \$129). Personally, I am putting serious consideration toward both of those cards. HINT: As far as I know, there is not a limit to how many cards each person can buy, so if you only plan on going six days this winter, buy two and you are still ahead of the season pass rate.

For those without a car on campus or not looking forward to a three hour lonely



DANIELLE DELCORE/THE CIRCLE

Take some time out of your busy schedule to visit one of the snowboarding mountains in the area.

road trip on a Saturday, Student Activities will be hosting four bus trips to Hunter Mountain for the first four Saturdays starting in January, weather permitting. Tickets are only \$25, including lift tickets and bus transportation. It is a Saturday at Hunter, but the price is just too good to not take advantage. Keep your fingers crossed for snow and I'll see you on the slopes.

## Peace in the release: Writing to de-stress

By THOMAS LOTITO  
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving break is less than two weeks away, and that dreadful time known as finals week looms upon the student population. Loom is the appropriate word because it is a time when students do nothing but complete last-minute work, make revisions and simply stress about the situation.

One way some people like to deal with their stress is to write about it. If they don't want simply to vent about what they are feeling, maybe they just like to put some thoughts onto paper. Writing is very therapeutic, but one doesn't need to privately transcribe secret thoughts into a hidden diary. Even blogging or keeping a "livejournal" is a viable way to de-stress oneself.

One of the most stressing things during finals week is the rampant amount of thoughts drifting in the mind.

"When I'm writing and I go off on tangents, my thought process becomes a lot clearer," sophomore Katlyn Conkey said. Conkey agrees

that writing down one's thoughts is a way to map out what's on your mind. She said that for an assignment she is currently working on, she writes down all of her thoughts to see what the exact focus of her paper should be.

Sophomore Paige Zangoglia says that she has written in several "livejournals" for the past five years.

"I would write when I was feeling incredibly happy - I like to just kind of capture that emotion," Zangoglia said. "There are times when you really have to vent but the livejournals don't have to be permanent," meaning that you can just get your feelings out and then forget about them.

Zangoglia said that a few weeks ago, however, she found one of her "livejournals" from when she was 14- or 15- years-old, and found it interesting to see what her thoughts were like when she was that age.

Both Conkey and Zangoglia said they believe there is something liberating about writing

SEE WRITING, PAGE 9

## cartoon corner By VINNIE PAGANO





# Freshman 101: Study abroad tips

By CLARE LANGAN  
Staff Writer

You have heard the stories and seen the pictures. It seems as if every upperclassman has done it. What am I talking about? Going abroad, of course! Studying abroad is an unforgettable experience, in which you learn just as much outside the classroom as you do inside.

While freshman year may seem a bit early to think about venturing overseas, it is smart to plan ahead. Some freshmen are already spending their first year at Marist's branch campus in Florence! With the exception of this program, you can go abroad once you reach sophomore status.

If you are just starting out in the planning stages of your abroad experience, the first thing to ask yourself is, "Where do I want to go?" Marist offers a wide variety of programs to places like London, Madrid, Sydney, Hong Kong and Dublin. The Marist Abroad Program Web site is the best place to start

if you want to see a full list of programs. Have a burning desire to go to Stockholm or Sao Paulo? Less traditional locales can be arranged through other programs and universities.

The next step is to consider how long you want to go abroad. Short term programs are offered during winter intersession, spring break and as a spring attachment. The trips differ each year and cater to a wide variety of international interests. There are 18 short term courses offered for 2008-2009, including a chance to study cinema in Brazil, Shakespeare in London and fashion in Southeast Asia.

Semester and year-long programs are also an option. Marist accepts many of the credits taken at these international universities, but it is a good idea to save a few core classes to take when you go abroad (English literature in England, anyone?) Remember to let your advisor know that you plan on going abroad. They can help you devise a plan of action for how to arrange your

schedule to allow a semester of study overseas.

When you first came to Marist, you went through a transition time. By now you are probably well-adjusted and have established a routine, made friends and memories. Going abroad, whether for three weeks or three months, is a similar type of transition. You were probably very anxious to go away to college, but those worries did not stop you. Going abroad is a once in a lifetime opportunity, and chances are you will be having so much fun you will not have time to be homesick!

With some planning and a sense of adventure, it is possible for anyone to go abroad. Stop by the Abroad Office in the library (room 334) for more information. Be sure to mark your calendar for Wednesday, Dec. 3 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Cabaret. There will be a "Food Around the World" event where you can talk to students who have been abroad and try some international cuisine. Bon voyage!

Do you have something to share with the Marist community?

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

Send your ideas to  
[circlefeatures@gmail.com](mailto:circlefeatures@gmail.com)

From Page 8

## Writing as a stress reliever

simply for them. Conkey said that when she's writing in her journal she enjoys it because "when you're writing your thoughts down, whatever you put on that piece of paper is completely you."

The true difficulty of writing out your stress is giving yourself the time to do it. Zangoglia said that during finals week "I probably need

to write more, but I end up writing less." She explained, "I really need a good chunk of time; I don't want to feel rushed doing it."

The idea of writing extra pages on top of the dozens we all have due for classes doesn't seem like an appealing idea, but if given the time to do it, you can gain a much clearer head during a time of stress.

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## 'Changeling' shocks audiences

By KELLY GALLUCCI  
Circle Contributor

"I want my son back!"

This line had been circling through my head since August when I first saw the trailer for "Changeling." Directed by Clint Eastwood and starring Angelina Jolie, I needed no further convincing to spend \$6.50 on the film. I walked into the theater with high expectations and am happy to say that I wasn't disappointed.

Jolie is stunning in the role of Christine Collins, a single working mother who returns home one night to find that her 9-year-old son, Walter (Gattlin Griffith), is missing. A grueling five-month search appears to end happily when Collins receives a call from Captain J.J. Jones (Jeffrey Donovan) confirming the discovery of her son.

The true conflict comes into play when Collins realizes that the boy who was found is not her child. The police refuse to admit their mistake and, not willing to lose face, throw

Collins into a mental institution. Carol Dexter (Amy Ryan) helps to keep Collins sane from within the walls while Reverend Gustav Briegleb (John Malkovich) campaigns for her from the outside.

At this point, the movie splits into several different directions that ultimately tie together in shocking ways. I won't give away any more plot information. My suggestion to anyone considering this film is to walk in knowing nothing more than what the trailers provide you with. This is the best way



From WWW.IMDB.COM

Angelina Jolie stars in "Changeling" as Christine Collins, a mother looking for her missing son.

to experience it, in order to be just as blown away as the actors appear to be.

The performances in the film

were spot-on. Jolie is perfect in the role of a mother who would do anything for her child's safe return and it's no doubt that the story struck a chord in her heart. Her part is reminiscent of her role in "A Mighty Heart."

Perhaps the most striking thing about the movie is that it's based in reality. Writer J. Michael Straczynski stumbled across the information while flipping through L.A. city files and decided to create a screenplay around it. From my own research, I can tell you that the Hollywood-created details are surprisingly accurate. This fact is impossible to ignore as the movie delves into deeper twists and turns with each passing moment.

The cinematography is, in a word, breathtaking in its recreation of L.A. in the late '20s and early '30s. The shots are deliberately washed out, giving the film an almost dream-like effect, yet there is always at least one shock of color on the screen, whether it's a

**SEE CHANGELING, PAGE 12**

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A weekly review  
of the latest songs



From WWW.NYMAG.COM

Jay-Z is one of the many artists who support Barack Obama.

By RYAN RIVARD  
Assistant A&E Editor

**Jay-Z "History"** – This release proves to be timely, with Barack Obama making history as the first black president of the United States. The partial homage to Obama presents some soulful sampling, (as expected from this Kanye-produced track) with uplifting, victorious overtones.

**Britney Spears "Kill the Lights"** – The second song from Spears' upcoming album "Circus" was produced by Danja (aka Nate Hills) the man behind the success for "Gimme More," the lead single off "Blackout." Danja proclaims Spears is "Queen of Pop" at the beginning of the track and the song provides substantial backing to his claim.

**Rihanna "Bitch, I'm Special"** – Rihanna has quirky beats combined with hard guitars, giving more backbone to her dance-pop sound. The title helps get across the rock 'n' roll attitude.

**Guns N' Roses "Chinese Democracy"** – After a decade of waiting, "Chinese Democracy" is finally being released on Nov. 23 (exclusively at Best Buy). The first single, the title track, opens with a heckling laugh before electronic-esque guitar power chords roar through the speakers. Axl comes in with his signature howl and the pure rock 'n' roll ensues.

**The Killers "Spaceman"** – Riding on a heavy synth wave, this "oh-oh-oh" tune has a spacey jam in the bridge with funky basslines and shooting star sound effects is the calm before the storm as the track lifts off in the final minute.

## Top virtual athletes rule TV screen

By CHRIS RAI  
Circle Contributor

Let's flash back to a time in our lives where 15-page research papers about Christopher Columbus did not exist, a time where our parents made us dinner, did our laundry, and woke us up for school; a time where beating our friends or siblings in a video game version of the Super Bowl was still seen as a great accomplishment.

Now that we're all in that childhood mindset, here are the top 10 video game athletes of all time.

**10. Marshall Faulk, "Madden 2003"**: This was Madden before Hit Stick and Truck Stick; in other words, it was a completely different game. Faulk, whose face graced the cover of the 2003 edition, was borderline unstoppable. He was faster than any other back in the game, but he could also break tackles, so running an HB-dive up the middle for a 99-yard touchdown was fully possible.

**9. Leandro Barbosa, "NBA 2k7"**: Leandro Barbosa? Am I talking about the Suns' backup point guard behind Steve Nash? Yes. He probably doesn't deserve to be on this list, but I had to do it so that I

ment of the "QB spy," and that minor run-in with the federal court system. However, none of that matters. Vick was fast enough to simply run around the QB spy, and the accuracy problem can be solved very

as offensive linemen, all while posing a legitimate threat to throw the ball 70 yards in the air to a wide open Michael Jenkins. Yikes.

**7. Super Mario**: Can Mario really be considered an athlete? I decided yes for the following reasons. He played and excelled in tennis, golf, and baseball, but his athleticism can be spotted early on in the original "Super Mario Bros" for Nintendo. His vertical jump was about five times his height, he had enough leg strength to literally break solid cubes of brick just by jumping and he held his breath for that entire underwater level. To make an Olympian parallel, think of him as a cute, tiny Italian that would only be created if Usain Bolt and Michael Phelps were to somehow reproduce.

**6. Ken Griffey Jr., "Ken Griffey Jr.'s Major League Baseball"**: New rule: If a player's name is in the title of the game itself, he is probably good. If baseball were not such a team sport, Griffey

**SEE ATHLETES, PAGE 12**



From WWW.MTV.COM

While Super Mario may not seem like an obvious video game athlete, he showcases his athletic abilities in games such as "Mario Golf."

could tell everyone that I once dropped 142 points with him in a single game.

**8. Michael Vick, "Madden 2004"**: Many might argue that he does not belong in the top 10 with his poor accuracy ratings, the defensive employ-

easily: Options – QB Vision – Off. Ultimately, Vick (along with QB Eagles from Tecmo Super Bowl) is the only quarterback who could realistically average 30 yards per carry and somehow manage to make defensive backs look as slow

## Fashion Watch

### Frost your face this winter

By ELORA STACK  
Staff Writer

Fashion embodies one's whole being, from head to toe. To be in the forefront of fashion, one thing to remember is that the main ingredient to any perfect fashion recipe is an updated, fresh face. To keep up on winter trends, you need to rejuvenate your make-up.

This winter, the makeup trends are frosty, bright shades of lilac, mint green and lavender. Winter is all about lights, brights and shimmering complexions. Keep your eyes painted pastel and stay away from dark colors, which absorb light and cause your complexion to be less than luminous. Purple is the "it" color in

fashion, so why not put it on your eyes? Not only is it the shade of the season, but purple will also help to give definition to the shape of your eyes. Add some shimmer to your purple lids and you'll be sparkling like freshly fallen snow.



From WWW.ALLURE.COM

Just because the cold winter weather is drab doesn't mean your face has to be, too.

Another fabulous must have in make-up is mint eyeliner. Dark browns and boring blacks are not the only color choice that will enhance your features.

Cool tones, like crisp green, will keep your face festive for the holidays!

We cannot neglect another very important feature on every girl's face, her lips. To make those lips blush this season, gloss on some lilac. This hue keeps your look cool yet romantic. This winter is all about Technicolor.

From Page 11

## Jolie gives gripping performance in 'Changeling'

cab racing by or Jolie's red lipstick.

The critics are almost entirely in agreement in saying that this is yet another Oscar-worthy film made by Eastwood. Rolling Stone says Eastwood is "at the peak of his artful power; [he] tightens the

screws of suspense without ever forgetting where the heart of his film lies." Throughout the film, Eastwood, as always, maintains his familiar style while still managing to make a movie that uniquely shines.

If you're going to see it, be prepared because the film is

over two hours in length and its subject matter is far from lighthearted. Despite this, I couldn't help but walk out of the theater feeling shell-shocked in a way that only an exceptional movie can manage.

From Page 11

## Relive your childhood with video game athletes

would be listed much higher than number six, because he never recorded an out. If he didn't hit at least one home run during a nine-inning game, your game was probably broken.

**5. Jeremy Roenick, "NHL '94":** "It's not even so much me as it's Roenick. He's good," Vince Vaughn said in "Swingers." I am not even going to try to add to that. Moving on.

**4. SF #4, "March Madden '06":** AKA: J.J. Redick. AKA: Mr. Make It Rain on Them — no...that's Lil' Wayne. It might as well be Redick, though. He never missed from behind the arc. Ever.

**3. Pablo Sanchez, "Backyard Sports":** Pablo might be the only video game

athlete who is considered a multi-sport threat. He played soccer, basketball, baseball, football and hockey, and he was so much better than everybody in each of those sports. Even when professional athletes started making appearances at Steele Stadium and Playground Commons, Pablo was still making his competition look silly. The only problem, though, is that he never did learn English. I always wanted to know what he was saying.

**2. Mike Tyson, "Mike Tyson's Punch-Out":** "Why do I even play this game...if I can't even win?" Michael Cera lamented in "Superbad." I felt this way about Mike Tyson; I never once knocked him out, so I just stopped try-

ing. This is also the reason why he is so far up this list, which is also another reason why I should never be allowed to write for a newspaper; I am so incredibly biased.

**1. Bo Jackson, "Tecmo Bowl":** There should not be any argument here. Tecmo Bo was so good that choosing the Raiders in a Human vs. Human game was on the same level as hooking up with your best friend's sister. Everyone has their own Tecmo Bo story, but the truth is, if you couldn't rush for at least 500 yards and 10 touchdowns with him, you just didn't know what you were doing. If you have not seen the YouTube video that shows his unbelievable greatness, please do so now.

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## Sex, love & relationships: The disappearing act

By **KARLIE JOSEPH**  
Asst. Health Editor

It is a fact that the freedom of college life presents a whole new venue of hookups and experimentation. With this arena comes the risk of encountering any degree of circumstance: from extreme pleasure to utter humiliation. And while the liberty of dorm life fuels this type of activity, anyone can relate to the initial awkwardness of the dorm entering and leaving process.

Celine's attempt to bring her one-night stand, Dion, into Champagnat was a little more than embarrassing. After a night's worth of a Hatter's make-out session, the two decided to take a cab back to her place. To avoid strict guest policies, Celine decided to use her previous tactic of sneaking non-Champ residents through the window of her buddy Sam's first floor dorm. Without warning Sam of her strategic plan, she led Dion to outside the ground floor resi-

dence and tapped on the slightly cracked window. When she heard the usual signal to enter, she lifted the window and pulled herself in. Apparently Sam had been expecting an illegally-entering guest of his own, because when Celine looked up, Sam was sprawled out, naked and ready to go. Needless to say, Celine found a new means of sneaking in her guests.

My friend Lynn's mortifying experience came when she slept through her alarm after the usual Thursday night Darby's experience. As if her 12 p.m. walk of shame wasn't embarrassing enough, her oblivious hurry to get to class brought her straight through a tour group: did I mention she was wearing guys' gym shorts and knee high black boots?

Jane's awkward experience was a result of a failed exit plan. After a drunken night she found herself sleeping over in her booty-calls off campus housing. When she woke to find her hookup wasn't exact-

ly the stud she had seen seven tequila shots deep, Jane decided to make a quick and quiet



From CLUBPLANET.COM

Escaping mortifying hookups.

escape. She hastily threw on her clothes, and left through the bathroom window - only to find herself back at the same house a few hours later, attempting an excuse for her disappearance and requesting the Sidekick she had left on the sink during her spontaneous flee. Karma blows.

Freshman year Mary Jane and her fling, Jordan, had a failed entering experience of their own. Jordan devised a plan where Mary Jane would attempt to use his Marist ID in hopes a lazy security guard was on duty. If the plan succeeded he would then enter himself, claiming to have lost his card. Unfortunately Mary Jane wasn't fast enough, because the guard immediately recognized the fraud ID, and the two were sentenced to an RD meeting to explain the impersonation attempt.

My personal experience was slightly different. One night I found myself sleeping in Foy with hookup buddy "Latin Heat." After passing out for several hours, I woke up desperately needing a bottle of water. When I returned from my brief absence from the room, I realized the door had swung shut and locked behind me with all my possessions inside. After a few minutes of unsuccessful pounding, in a drunken panic I burst into his

housemate's room, completely freaked him out, and took his phone to call my cell which was lying on Latin Heat's pillow. Once the blare of my ringtone finally woke his drunken slumber, I quickly gathered my stuff and left in embarrassment. The next day I received a nasty voicemail from the anonymous housemate. I didn't sleep there for the rest of the semester.

I started thinking about all of the obstacles and embarrassment that often come from college hookups. It seems that most people have risked, and are continually willing to face the awkward aftermath for temporary satisfaction. Sometimes I wonder if the pleasure of it all is really worth it, or if we are just so bored with our normal lives, that we have become addicted to the temporary high that comes from hooking up; and sometimes even reliant on an embarrassing situation for a little comic relief.

## Think before you ink: A guide to body art

By **ROBIN MINITER**  
Staff Writer

The day you turn 18 brings a few exciting prospects - the chance to gamble with lady luck in the lottery, buy some stogies, or even sashay on over to Giggles for some illicit purchases. However, nothing brings as much excitement as body art. There is no greater way to express yourself than with a permanent, personalized adornment, whether on display for the world to see or kept under wraps for your own enjoyment. We're talking tattoos folks, and the name of the game is to "think before you ink."

However, as with any decisions that literally will leave you scarred (but hopefully in a good way) for life, there are a few precautions that need to be taken into consideration before going under the needle.

**DO wait it out.** There is an old adage that states that, "Patience is a virtue." If there ever was a primo time to listen to the wisdom of the ages, this is it. If you definitely have your heart set on some ink but you aren't quite

sure of exactly what you want, start collecting pieces that you find inspiring and meaningful.

**DO shop around tattoo parlors in your area for a place you feel the most comfortable with and confident in.** Start abusing your Google-ing rights, harass your colorful friends for advice, or check out <http://www.411.bmezine.com> for a listing of reputable shops near you. As always, be sure to ask to see their licenses, certificates, sterile equipment, and all of that jazz. Though it is true that you're more likely to contract HIV or hepatitis from the dentist (there have been no reported cases linked to tattooing since

**When exposed to harmful irritants like tanning and swimming, your tattoo won't heal up as well as it could. Because tats are literary an open irritation, they should be babied until fully healed...**

1985 in the US) you can never be too careful.

**DO remember tattoo artists are just that - artists, trained and skilled in their craft.** Take advantage of them. Be prepared to sit and chat out the details of your design for a good chunk of time. Bring them anything that might inspire a stroke of genius on their part. Keep in mind that

artists will always have portfolios on hand for you to peruse to get a sense of what their fortés are. They are there to work for you and work with you, but it's a two way street. Take their feedback and be confident enough to give them yours. After all, you're the one who will be rockin' this design for the rest of eternity.

**DO work with the contours of your body to create an aesthetically flattering piece.** No need to get something just-stamped on after all, you're more than just a piece of meat. The body is a beautiful blank canvas with seemingly limitless options. A long, vertical piece may very well flatter the back of your neck, spine, or rib cage, while a curved design may fit snugly around your shoulder blade. Keep in mind that placement will affect the longevity of the piece; for example, the stomach area for women will cause a tattoo to morph during pregnancy.

**DO let the tattoo simmer for a while.** Tape the drawing to somewhere so that you'll see every day. I once heard from an artist that a year is a good amount of time to ponder over a design is a year. If you're not sick of it by then, go wild!

**DO get a tattoo in the winter.**

While the summer sunshine may leave you feeling a little foot loose and fancy free, it's not always the best time to get the job done. When exposed to harmful irritants like tanning and swimming, your tattoo won't heal up as well as it could. Because tats are literary an open irritation, they should be babied until fully healed (a matter of a few weeks usually). Listen to your artist's explicit directions. You wouldn't want that work to go to waste.

**DON'T get a tattoo in a heightened state of emotion.** Undeniably, the passing of Fluffy the cat was a very traumatic event. However, is a foot tall portrait of said cat on your back really going to be something you want in a few years?

**DON'T let yourself feel bullied by the artist.** If you are uncomfortable, leave. If they seem it cranky, condescending, or just downright impatient, hightail it out of there. They don't deserve your business. Remember, people skills are an art form too.

**DON'T just judge a parlor by flashy samples - the mass circulated designs - hanging on the walls.** These are not usually examples of the artists work



ROBIN MINITER/THE CIRCLE

**What to do and what not to do.** and are in no way indicative of their talent.

**DON'T (or try not to) fear the pain.** It's only temporary. And yes, it will hurt, but everyone's tolerance is bit different. Think along the lines of multiple bee stings, a bad sunburn, or a road rash.

The road to getting a tattoo may seem like a long one, but like any journey, you will come away with a story. And that is just what a tattoo should be a decorative representation of yourself that proudly declares to the world just who you are.

# Walk-on trades field for court

By ALLISON BURKE  
Circle Contributor

An all-around athlete, sophomore Nick Amicucci proved it is never too late to do what you love most when he walked onto the Marist College NCAA Division I basketball team Thursday, Oct. 16.

Amicucci was originally recruited by the baseball team at Marist, but after giving up baseball last April, he attended open tryouts run by Director of Men's Basketball Operations Will Lanier on Oct. 8.

Amicucci was named All-Section in football and baseball and All-League in basketball graduating from Class B, Section I Pleasantville High School in Westchester, N.Y.

"Basketball had always been my favorite sport, but I never thought I would be able to play at the level I was recruited for baseball and football," Amicucci said.

When the opportunity to play NCAA Division I baseball presented itself, Amicucci chose Marist because of the program's reputation, head coach Dennis Healy, and an academic scholarship.

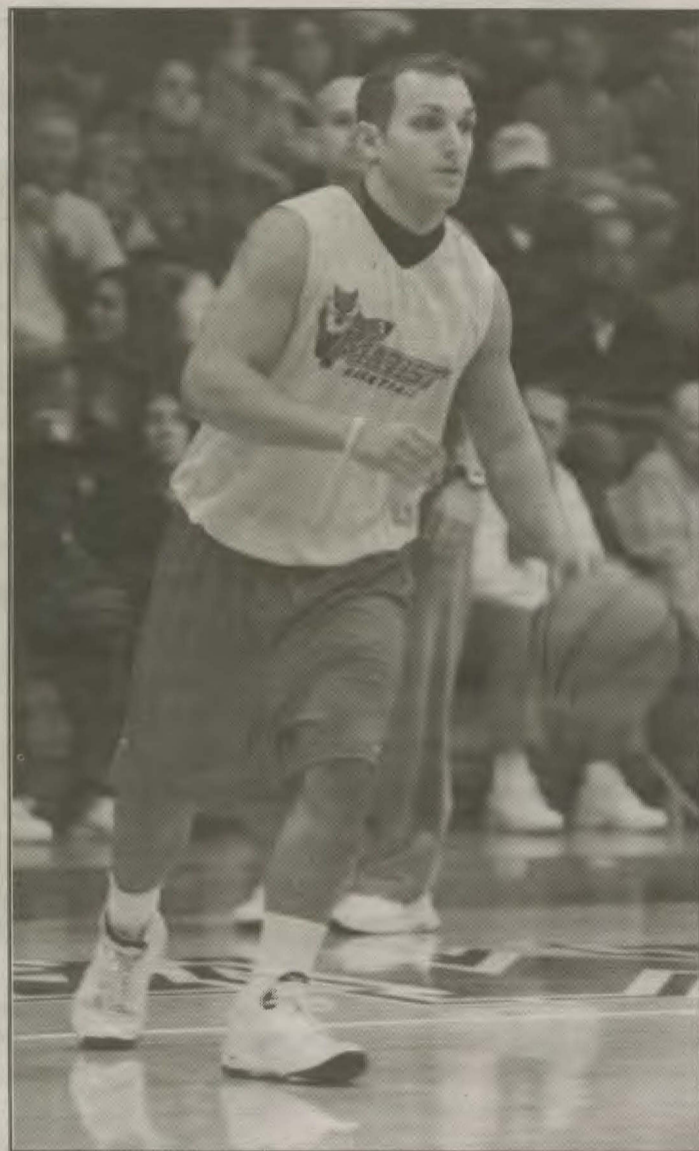
In high school, Amicucci received the Presidential Scholar Award and the Homer Pale Medal. Challenged with time managing course work during the last spring semester, Amicucci gave up baseball. He is studying accounting and applied mathematics and wants to go to law school.

Amicucci was able to go home for summer break while the baseball team continued playing. After he left the team, coach Healy wished him luck and offered future help.

Missing fraternity and brotherhood, he realized what it meant not to be part of a team, and received encouragement from his father to try out for the basketball team.

Knowing he would not be on

the baseball team, Amicucci prepared for basketball tryouts over the summer. In addition to daily exercise, Amicucci



JAMES REILLY/THE CIRCLE

Sophomore Nick Amicucci walked on to the Marist basketball team this year after a freshman season on the baseball team. Fans will get their first taste of this year's team and new head coach Chuck Martin in the home opener on Monday, Nov. 17.

estimates devoting five hours per week towards basketball training. He played in a summer league and worked with a private coach.

"I felt the training I put in over the summer helped me maintain my stamina throughout the tryout," he said.

Wanting to fill empty spots on the roster, the Marist basketball team held a one hour tryout open to the student body. Lanier used team practice drills to test six players. Amicucci said that the tryout was highly intense and physically taxing.

On Sept. 6, players completed paperwork to be eligible for tryouts. The NCAA requires freshmen to be cleared

role of a good teammate," Lanier said.

Standing 5 feet 11 inches tall, Amicucci demonstrated solid work ethic, hustle, and the ability to listen during tryouts according to Lanier.

"Most importantly, he expressed he wanted to be a part of the Marist basketball family," Lanier said. "We want to have guys that want to be a part of something special."

Joining the team Friday, Oct. 17, Amicucci's mid-semester break plans changed. The team started two-a-day practices. While he was excited to play, he said his mother was disappointed he did not get the chance to come home.

Amicucci has embraced his role as a walk-on. During practice, he plays hard and does his best to help make the team better. Appreciative of the opportunity, Amicucci is in good shape, has the chance to learn how practice is run, coaches' expectations, and is able to assess intensity and energy levels and how to positively influence the team, according to Lanier.

"I am happy to be a part of a team again and the brotherhood that comes along with it," Amicucci said.

Amicucci enjoys first year head coach Chuck Martin's high octane, intense and fun practices and understands the student-athlete sacrifice and commitment levels to teammates, coaches, and the family dynamic from his previous experience on the baseball team.

After it was announced that he had made the team, the first thing Amicucci did was call his father.

"My dad was probably more excited about it than I was," he said. "He might have called everybody in his phone book to tell them."

The men's basketball season tips off in Poughkeepsie on Monday, Nov. 17 against St. Bonaventure.

through the NCAA Clearinghouse, to be enrolled full-time, and to be academically eligible in order to try out.

Amicucci thought he played well, but was not completely confident in his performance. Along with Amicucci, sophomore Pat McDerby and freshman Michael Taylor made the team.

The walk-on positions of the Marist basketball team positively contribute on the court, in the locker room, and around campus.

"We want someone to fit the

pulled to within two points of Marist with a 24-yard field goal by Jose-Pablo Buerba.

Buerba would connect on his second field goal of the day with 1:22 remaining in the third quarter to close out the scoring, giving Georgetown a 13-12 victory.

This matchup ended in a very similar fashion to the last five meetings between Marist and Georgetown, as all of the games have been decided by seven points or less.

"They are just good football

## Roarin' Red Foxes

Marist's top male and female performers of the week

Brian Bolstad  
Sophomore  
Swimming & Diving



Bolstad was named MAAC men's diver of the week after setting a school record off the 3-meter board.

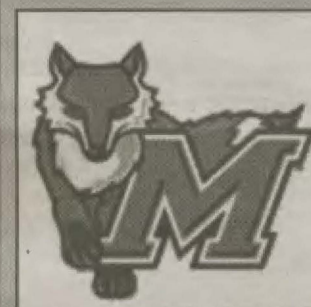
- Won the one-meter board in a dual meet competition with Fairfield on Nov. 8
- Took first place with a score of 282.00 in the one-meter competition
- Qualified for the NCAA Zone Qualifier Diving Championships

Allie Burke  
Sophomore  
Volleyball



Burke was named first team All-District Academic All-American as selected by CoSida and presented by ESPN The Magazine.

- The first player in Marist history to be named to the first team
- Started all 30 matches as a freshman and totaled 262 kills for the season
- Helped her team to a 3-1 win over Fairfield.



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From Page 16

# Football loses close one at Georgetown

gained thirty-four yards.

Bo Ehikioya scored his second touchdown of the game and the 46th of his career on a four-yard run that gave Marist a 12-7 lead. Georgetown stayed within five points of Marist after blocking the extra point attempt.

"Everything was good from the mechanics of the snap and the hold," Parady said. "Kevin (Pauly) has been so good for us all year and he just missed those extra points in this game. Everyone else was

doing their assignment."

Quarterback Keerome Lawrence fumbled on the Hoyas next offensive play, giving Marist the ball at the Hoyas 24-yard line. The Georgetown defense did not let Marist score, however. Linebacker Nick Parrish and defensive lineman Danny Thompson broke through the line and were able to stop Ehikioya on a fourth down to take the ball back.

With just 19 seconds left in the first half, Georgetown

pulling to within two points of Marist with a 24-yard field goal by Jose-Pablo Buerba.

Buerba would connect on his second field goal of the day with 1:22 remaining in the third quarter to close out the scoring, giving Georgetown a 13-12 victory.

This matchup ended in a very similar fashion to the last five meetings between Marist and Georgetown, as all of the games have been decided by seven points or less.

"They are just good football

# Volleyball set for final weekend after split

By RICH ARLEO  
Sports Editor

After a loss to Fairfield on Saturday, the Marist volleyball team was able to come back behind strong offensive performances from Alexandra Schultze and Joanna Foss with a 3-1 victory in what many considered a must-win match against Rider on Sunday.

Fairfield is first in the MAAC (Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference) so the team knew going into the game that it was going to be a challenge. After going down 2-0, Marist fought hard in the third set, and after the teams traded points and went back and forth, Marist was able to win the set, 27-25. The team lost the fourth set however, and lost the match 3-1.

"We didn't play with a great sense of urgency," coach Tom Hanna said. "That's certainly going to have to change for this weekend."

The next day, Marist traveled to Rider to face the Broncs. Led by Schultze and Foss, who had 14 kills each, the Foxes were able to take down Rider 3-1. Sophomore Allie Burke hit a match-high .533, and jun-

ior setter Dawn Jan compiled a double-double with 43 assists and 10 digs. Marist went down 1-0 after losing the first set 25-22. However, the Foxes went on to win the next three straight sets (26-24, 25-18, 25-22) to take down Rider and to end their short two-match losing streak.

"Coming off of the loss to Fairfield was rough because we knew that making the tournament would be tough," Foss said. "We just wanted to do everything we could and make sure we beat Rider, which we did. Then hearing that Iona lost was huge news because now we are tied and it all comes down to this weekend."

#### Final Weekend

Marist now has only two more regular season matches. With two other teams currently tied with Marist for the final spot in the MAAC Tournament, the Foxes will have to have a big weekend in order to earn that spot for themselves.

"We just need to compete real hard for the length of both matches," Hanna said. "We can't take any breaks in our intensity. We can't take our

foot off the gas pedal so to speak."

Marist will have its final home game against second-place Siena on Saturday, Nov. 15 at 2 p.m. The team will then have to travel to Iona, a school currently tied with Marist, for the final game of the season.

"It's a ton of pressure, but it is good to know that our position is based solely off of what we do this week-

end," Foss said. "We don't have to worry about who wins or loses, it is all on us. We are all very ready for this weekend and are just going to do everything we can in practice this week to make sure we are ready for it."

After last weekend's action, Marist, Iona, and Manhattan are all tied for fourth place with 9-7 records. Iona will face



JAMES REILLY / THE CIRCLE

Sophomore middle blocker Allie Burke helped Marist to a 3-1 win over Rider on Sunday. The team will head into their final two games in a three-way tie for fourth.

Rider this Saturday before its face-off with Marist on Sunday. Manhattan will play Saint Peters on Saturday, but will then have a challenging match with first-place Fairfield on Saturday. The Red Foxes will need to take matters into their own hands for their best chance at making the tourna-

ment.

"I think we need to win both," Hanna said. "We have no control over what Manhattan's going to do. I don't see any way that one win this weekend will be enough."

"We might as well be that team that's going to win both matches."

## Upcoming Events:

11/15

Volleyball vs. Siena - 2 p.m.

11/16

Women's Basketball vs.  
Albany - 4 p.m.

11/17

Men's Basketball vs.  
St. Bonaventure - 7:30 p.m.



## History repeats itself in loss

By PHILIP TERRIGNO  
Assistant Sports Editor

The last five meetings between the Marist Red Foxes and Georgetown Hoyas have been decided by seven points or less. In each of those games, the home team has emerged victorious. The

Georgetown Hoyas upheld their end of the bargain with a 13-12 victory at home against Marist in a close game decided by two seemingly minor special teams mistakes.

The Hoyas began the contest in a strong fashion, forcing Marist to punt after a third down sack by Travis Zorilla.

The ensuing punt was blocked, giving Georgetown possession on the Red Foxes' 32-yard line. The drive was capped off by a thirteen-yard pass from Keerome Lawrence to Collin Meador, giving Georgetown a 7-0 lead.

Marist responded quickly on its next possession with an 11-play,

68-yard drive that ended with a three-yard touchdown run by Bo Ehikioya. Ehikioya gained 39 yards in the first quarter and his touchdown made the score 7-6 following a missed extra point.

"It is the first quarter of the football game and what we say is that we are going to take the points instead of going for two," head coach Jim Parady said. "My general rule of thumb is that every time we score we're going to kick an extra point. There are so many scenarios with field goals and the other team scoring so you try to put the points on the board."

The Red Foxes' third drive of the game was very similar to their second, with Marist relying heavily on their run game to advance the ball deep into Georgetown territory. Quarterback Chris Debowski ran for first downs on three straight third down conversions. On a long third down, Marist ran a reverse to wide receiver Will Brown that

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 15



James Reilly / THE CIRCLE

Bo Ehikioya scored two touchdowns for Marist in its 13-12 loss to Georgetown. Marist will finish its 2008 season at Davidson. The team is currently 3-7 on the season with one game left.