



## Final bows taken as Marist Idol ends sophomore run

### Five dwindle to two before Ortiz pronounced 2005 Marist Idol at season finale



ERIC KIMMEL / THE CIRCLE

Above, Marist Idol judges, from left to right, guest judge CJ from KISS FM radio, Missy Alexander, Keith Strudler, and Rachel Wasser, had the grueling task of choosing a winner among the five final contestants.



ERIC KIMMEL / THE CIRCLE

Left, winner Louis Ortiz sings his victory song, "Wonderwall," by Oasis in front of a supportive crowd. Ortiz performed Disney's "A Whole New World" and Mario's "Let Me Love You" before being announced the 2005 Marist Idol.

By ALEX PANAGIOTOPOULOS  
Opinion Editor

By capturing first place in MCTV's sophomore Marist Idol production, Louis Ortiz completed the magic carpet journey that began when he belted out "A Whole New World" from the 1992 Disney movie Aladdin.

Ortiz came out on top in the Idol finale, which was taped live on March 13 in the Nelly Goletti Theater, in front of 200 people. The competition featured five finalists, including juniors Ortiz, Ralph Filardo, Stephanie Fields, and seniors Dan Roy

and Alexa Johnides. The crooners had survived two grueling elimination rounds taped in November and January by gaining the approval of MCTV's judging panel of communications professors Keith Strudler and Missy Alexander and senior student Rachel Wasser.

In the final round, the judges were faced with paring the field of five down to a final triumvirate, who had to perform another song before the winner could be determined. The panel selected Ortiz, Fields and Johnides. Ortiz performed "Let Me Love You," by Mario.

**'They made signs and cheered for whomever they were supporting. We had a good amount of people.'**

— Amir Nabil  
Marist Idol host

implored. "Make me your selection."

The judges complied, and Ortiz won a wide array of prizes, including tickets to Six Flags: Great Adventure, Marist's upcoming Reel Big Fish concert, a sweatshirt from the bookstore, and a guest appearance on the morning radio show "CJ in the Playhouse" on 96.1 FM.

"It was at 8 a.m., and it was pretty eventful," said Ortiz.

He also won a bouquet of flowers, which he gave to his mother. His family had traveled from New York City to see him perform.

Siohban Skerritt, the 2004 Marist Idol champion, also performed at the event. Amir Nabil, host of the event, said that the Nelly Goletti theater was packed to the gills with family and friends of the performers.

"They made signs and cheered for whomever they were supporting," Nabil said. "We had a good amount of people." Strudler and Alexander also judged on the original Marist Idol, along with Matt Andrews, who had to retire from his post due to a scheduling conflict.

Strudler, the beloved clown prince of the communications department, said that the original Idol influenced how the second generation of performers presented themselves.

"I think it was pretty similar," Strudler

said. "Everyone knew what they were supposed to do this time, so it became a little more polished."

Communications students who may have taken Strudler and Alexander's course could draw the conclusion that in a Noam Chomsky-esque twist, MCTV's agenda-setting in the area of competitive singing competitions changed the behavior of the competitors, who adopted strategies such as selecting vocally simpler songs and ignoring the plight of the East Timorese in their performances.

Sadly, Marist students have chosen to have more pride than some competitors in the

national American Idol talent searches, which consistently turns up performances that are entertaining in an America's Funniest Home Videos kind of way. (See William Hung, "Living La Vida Loca," 2003).

Strudler spoke of the things that Ortiz had going for him, which were nice.

"He paid me 50 bucks," Strudler joked. "Really, he had a little more attitude. When he dressed up in the full hip hop suit at the end, that won me over. He had me at hello."

After being declared the winner, Ortiz performed "Wonderwall," by Oasis.

"By now you should've somehow realized what you gotta do," Ortiz sang in celebration. "I don't believe that anybody feels the way I do about you now."

## Gaming marathon to benefit Make-A-Wish

Marist College will sponsor a twelve-hour computer gaming marathon to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation on Saturday, April 2, in the James J. McCann Recreation Center on the Marist campus.

"Gaming for Hope" is the largest console and computer gaming event in the Hudson River Valley. The idea for the marathon stemmed from an annual game competition conducted annually

by two Marist student organizations, the Anime Society and Computer Science Society.

Last year, the event was expanded, moved to the McCann Center and turned into a fund-raiser

for Make-A-Wish. It was called "Gaming for Hope" in honor of the late Hope Stout, a 12-year-old whose "wish" was to grant the wish of every child on the foundation's list. Hope's wish was granted, but not before she passed away from cancer in January 2004.

While admission to Gaming Day is free, donations to Make-A-Wish are

accepted. Approximately \$1,100 was raised last year.

This year, the general public is invited to participate in Gaming Day. Doors open at 2 p.m. and play will continue until 2 a.m. The event is open to all ages; those 15 and younger must be accompanied by a parent.

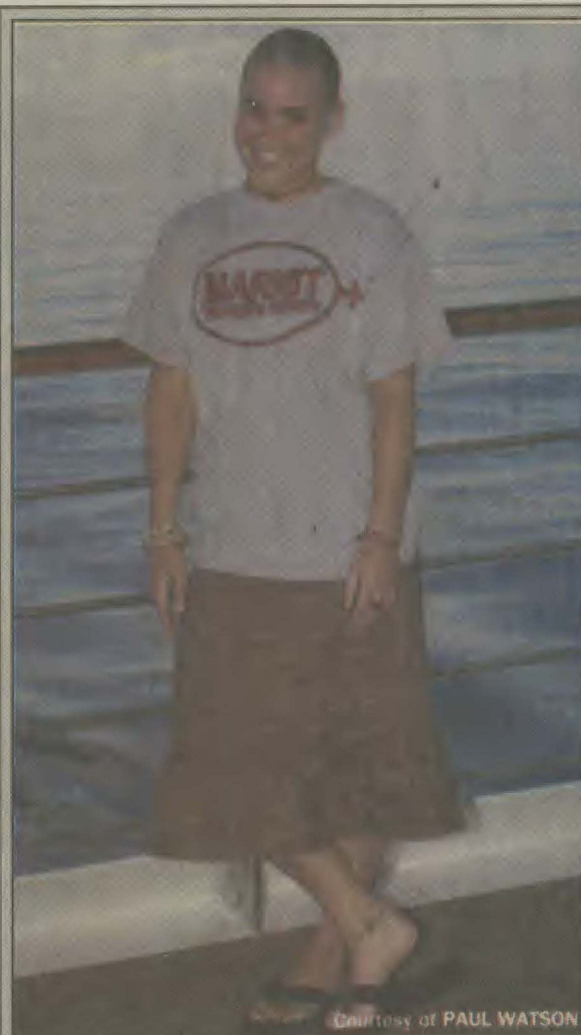
Participants bring their own computer equipment and are networked to other players through switches provided by Cisco Systems. Video game systems will be supplied.

Among the console games to be played are HALO 2, Madden Football, Mario Kart: Double Dash, Naruto 2, Super Smash Bros: Melee, Guilty Gear XX, Soul Calibur 2, Dance Dance Revolution, Dead or Alive 3, and Capcom vs. SNK 2. PC games to be played include Return to Wolfenstein, Starcraft, Savage, Warcraft III, CounterStrike, Unreal Tournament 2004, Quake III, Battlefield 1942/Vietnam, and Call of Duty.

SEE GAMING, PAGE 6

**'This is a chance for people of all ages, to have a fun time and help the heartfelt wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions come true.'**

— Justin Ligas  
President, Computer Science Society



COURTESY OF PAUL WATSON

Junior Michelle Ortiz has taken advantages of the opportunities given by the Semester at Sea program. Shown above, Ortiz poses on the boat deck.

Semester At Sea, administered by the Institute for Shipboard Education and academically sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh, is a program that takes up to 650 students, from colleges and universities across the United

## Semester at Sea shows students the world

States and abroad, around the world each fall and spring semester. A 65-day regional summer program is also offered. Since 1963, over 40,000 students have studied and traveled to 60 countries around the world on Semester at Sea.

Semester At Sea's new campus, the MV Explorer, is a 24,000-ton ship that has been equipped as a floating

university. It includes classrooms, library, computer lab, wireless Internet access, union and two dining rooms. It also includes a swimming pool and fitness facilities. Student cabins are available in double occupancy, with or without a porthole.

Students can choose from a wide selection of lower and upper division courses in a variety of disciplines. Courses offered are accredited by the University of Pittsburgh and are fully transferable to the student's home institution. Classes meet daily

while the ship is at sea. The faculty is made up of visiting professors from institutions across the U.S. and abroad. They are internationalists who typically have had resident experience abroad which enables them to integrate course content with countries on the itinerary. When in port students can choose from a wide range of structured travel opportunities that are developed by the

Institute and the faculty. Students may also choose to travel independently. Each

class has a field component requirement that the student must complete during the voyage. Activities in port can include home stays with families in the countries, visits to universities, travel to places of historic, cultural and religious significance, or simply free travel to experience life in the cities and rural areas. Stays in port are 4 to 5 days.

There are two around the world voyages each year, with spring voyages departing in January and returning in April. Fall voyages depart in August and return in December. The fall 2005 voyage will depart Nassau on August

SEE SEA, PAGE 6



# THE CIRCLE Campus

The "Security Briefs" and the "Alcohol Fantasy Beat" are intended to be a parody and not a representation of The Circle's editorial stance on drinking — illegal or otherwise — nor is it intended to be a statement regarding the official Marist College policy on alcohol consumption.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2005

www.maristcircle.com

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## Security Briefs:

### This week in 1999:

### Blast from the past; security briefs from April 1, 1999

Compiled by SCOTT NEVILLE  
Former Campus Editor

Two students kicking a bench were caught by a security officer while on patrol from the Donnelly Parking Lot to the Sheahan Parking Lot.

The two vandals were identified as Leo Hall residents, and admitted to the crime. They then changed their minds and denied any involvement. One of the residents said nothing can be done to them because they were not caught on film.

A Marist faculty member received harassing mail and phone calls. The faculty member reported them to Marist Security and the Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department.

A member of the housekeeping staff walked into one of Champagnat's 1st floor men's bathrooms at 6:00 a.m., on March 26th, to find water spraying from a sink where a faucet had been torn off, and a number of pipes were bent.

A motor vehicle accident between two off-campus Marist students occurred near the entrance to the West Cedar apartments at 7:55 a.m. March 26th.

Security officers overheard the call from the scanner that an ambulance was reporting to the scene and sent a patrol to help. Both students were heading West towards campus, one by bicycle and the other by car.

Joe Leary, director of safety and security, said the bicycling student ran into the car, injuring his left shoulder. He was transported to St. Francis Hospital by a Fairview ambulance, while his bike was taken to his apartment by Marist security officers.

Drug paraphernalia, including a bong, filter paper, and a pipe were confiscated from five students in a room on Champagnat's first floor at 7:25 p.m. March 26th.

Vandalism on Champagnat Hall's 8th floor was reported at 4:10 a.m. on March 27th

by the two residents upon their return to their room.

The unknown vandals kicked in the lower half of a room door, and punched three holes in the top half. The residents of the room had left at 10:00 p.m. with the door still intact. The residents said they did not know who would do such a thing.

Thirteen bottles of beer, one bong, and one packet of material resembling marijuana were confiscated from Benoit House on Saturday, March 27th at 8:45 p.m.

A single, one-pint bottle of Corona beer was confiscated from a Leo Hall room on Saturday, March 27th at 9:30 p.m.

Security officers are on the lookout for forged parking permits, after discovering three on cars parked in the West Cedar Parking Lot. The offenders will be restricted from parking permits for an unspecified amount of time.

A resident in the "new" townhouses reported several hundred dollars in small bills being stolen on Saturday, March 28th at 3:45 p.m. The money had been in a bag in the apartment and was last seen March 24th. Security officers are continuing their investigation into the larceny.

#### Alcohol-related incidents this week in 1999:

1. Leo — 1
2. Benoit — 1



#### Upcoming Campus Events

Thursday, Mar. 31, 2005  
SPC Coffeehouse Presents:  
Slam Poetry Night  
9 PM  
PAR

Friday, Apr. 1 to Saturday,  
Apr. 2, 2005  
Mall Trip  
Friday 6 PM - 12 AM  
Saturday 4 PM - 12 AM  
Bus leaves from Midrise

Friday, Apr. 1 to Saturday,  
Apr. 2, 2005  
SPC Film Presents:  
Meet the Fockers  
9:30 PM  
PAR

Sunday, Apr. 3, 2005  
SPC Broadway Trip:  
Mama Mia  
10 AM  
Bus leaves from Midrise

Friday, Apr. 8, 2005  
SPC Broadway Trip:  
The Phantom of the Opera  
4 PM  
Bus leaves from Midrise

Saturday, Apr. 9, 2005  
SPC Trip:  
Six Flags Great  
Adventure  
8 AM  
Bus leaves from Donnelly

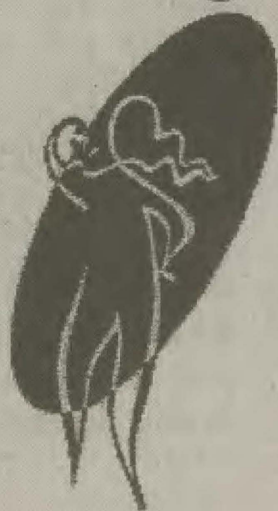
Saturday, Apr. 16, 2005  
Paradise Lost Reading  
9 AM - 9 PM  
Henry Hudson Room, FN

Saturday, Apr. 30, 2005  
SPC Spring Concert:  
Reel Big Fish

Visit [www.MaristCircle.com](http://www.MaristCircle.com) each week to take our opinion poll!

Spring 2005 Marist College Counseling Center Mental Health Initiative:  
Eating Disorder Awareness

Please Come Hear  
Jessica's Story:  
A Personal Memoir of Recovery  
From an Eating Disorder



Rescheduled to  
Monday, April 4, 2005  
7:00 - 8:00 PM  
in the PAR

Jessica will share with us about how it felt to struggle  
and to recover and she will explain the role food  
currently plays in her life.

Co-Sponsored by Marist College Counseling Center, the Student Programming  
Council, and the Office of Residence Life

#### Circle Photographer Needed!!

For remaining spring semester and fall semester.  
Must have own equipment.  
Contact [writethecircle@hotmail.com](mailto:writethecircle@hotmail.com) if interested.



#### Did You Know?

Marist Dining works with REHAB, a  
non-profit organization that provides  
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otherwise had.

## THE CIRCLE

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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@hotmail.com](mailto:writethecircle@hotmail.com)

THE CIRCLE

# Opinion

Let the voices of the Marist community be heard.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2005

www.maristcircle.com

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Letters to the Editor

## Circle article on terror suspects buying firearms draws fire

### Re: Gun legislation subject to much scrutiny in wake of terrorism

Dear Editors:

Fortunately for the rest of us, ours is a Constitutional Republic and not a democracy; and the Bill of Rights is still in existence (however much this administration and its torture proponents would like us to believe otherwise).

Please note:

1) One is still innocent until proven guilty. Thankfully, the founders of this Republic understood that simply calling someone a "terror suspect" or "a person of interest" does not automatically allow the government to negate one's God-given Rights.

**Simply calling someone a "terror suspect" or "a person of interest" does not automatically allow the government to negate one's God-given Rights.**

"terror suspect" or "a person of

interest" does not automatically allow the government to negate one's God-given Rights.

2] Regarding "the right to keep and bear arms shall not be

infringed", the definition of the word infringed is the same today as it was in the 18th century, when the 2nd Amendment was written. That being the case, exactly what part of "shall not be infringed" do the authors of this legislation fail to grasp?

3] Thankfully, amending the Constitution is a torturous process; and even if the GOA,

Sen Frank Lautenberg and the shills at Gun Control, Inc. and VPC believe the Constitution needs reforming, "Rights" are hard to invalidate.

Henry Allen said in the *Washington Post*, "Reporters are far removed from America's founding values and are alarmed and contemptuous of law-abiding American gun

owners as dangerous lower classes."

I find it comforting to know that 100 million law-abiding American gun owners did not shoot anyone today.

Respectfully,  
Lee McGee  
Jeanerette, Louisiana

## Reno created 90-day waiting period, not the Brady Bill

Dear Circle Editors:

"The Brady Act," passed in 1994, said that the Department of Justice could run background checks on firearm sales for up to 90 days to ensure that weapons were not falling into the wrong hands through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. Over its 10-year run, the Brady Act prevented nearly a million illegal gun purchases."

The Brady Law said no such

thing. The Brady Law, as passed by Congress, states that a successful NIC check includes the destruction of all records for such a check.

It was Janet Reno and company who invented the "Audit Log" and the illegal keeping of the records for nine-

ty days. H.R.1025=

(2) If receipt of a firearm would not violate section 922 (g) or (n) or State law, the system shall-

**The vast majority of your fellow Journalists support your activism. The nation will be a better place when only the police and military have guns.**

(A) assign a unique identification number to the transfer;

(B) provide the licensee with the number; and

(C) destroy all records of the system with respect to the call (other than the identifying number and the date assigned) and all records of the system relating to the person or the transfer."

[http://usinfo.org/usia/usinfo.state.gov/usa/infousa/laws/major-law/h1025\\_en.htm](http://usinfo.org/usia/usinfo.state.gov/usa/infousa/laws/major-law/h1025_en.htm)

Keep up the good work. You're following "The

Journalist's Guide to Gun Violence Coverage" very closely.

**Keep up the good work. You're following "The Journalist's Guide to Gun Coverage" very closely.**

"Fortunately, statements from anti-gun organizations come in short sound bites that are perfect for generating an emotional response in the reader or viewer. Gun lobby statements usually contain boring facts that are easy to ignore.

Feel secure in your advocacy

journalism. The vast majority of your fellow Journalists support your activism. The nation will be a better place when only the police and military have guns. Remember that you are doing it for the children so the end justifies the means."

Bill O'Connell

# Endless Sun

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THE CIRCLE

# Features

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2005

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## Networking plays crucial role in preparing for future career

By Audrey Roff  
Staff Writer

We've all heard about networking, and not just the computer kind. We know that networking can help us meet important people and eventually obtain fabulous jobs. But how exactly do you go about the networking process?

Career networking is about meeting people and building relationships to assist with your educational planning and career aspirations. Networking enables you to gain knowledge and introductions. It can provide you with assistance in any stage of your career; however, studies show that 60 to 90 percent of jobs are found through friends, relatives, and direct contacts.

One of the common misconceptions about networking is that simply meeting someone counts as a networking relationship. In terms of your future, you are looking to establish relationships, not merely contacts. Contacts are something that can be established immediately and kept for a short period of time, but relationships are built over time and can help you in the future. Follow-ups and contin-

ing contacts will foster this relationship and cause the person to remember you.

But how do you know who to include in your career network? Your network can include anyone who can help you with a job search or any aspect of your career. This can include past and present co-workers, bosses, and friends with similar interests, colleagues from business associations, members of the Marist Alumni Career Network ([www.marist.edu/alumni/career.html](http://www.marist.edu/alumni/career.html)), or people that you have met online through networking services. You can also utilize friends, family, and neighbors who may have helpful connections.

Although networking events are a great place to meet people, and establish future relationships, every situation where you interact with others is an opportunity for networking. Career networking should be part of your daily work, as well as career-related activities. When you meet people, the objective is not to sell yourself, but to communicate, "what I can do for you," as well as "what you can do for me." You need to ask questions and listen for answers.

Building the relationship requires integrity, credibility, and trust.

In order to truly benefit from networking, there are many tips that experts suggest. First, without "selling yourself," prepare a short speech that will tell someone all you want them to know about you in less than thirty seconds. It should tell who you are, what you do, and what you're looking for. Use your existing ties through friends, family, and colleagues in order to establish new contacts. Attend networking events that are specifically focused on the field that you are interested in. Show interest in the person that you are talking to, and don't directly ask for a job.

Remember to follow up with the person you met, and don't be selfish. Also, don't abuse the relationship by always calling the person asking for a favor. Always maintain your networks even if you are not looking for a job at the time. You never know when you may need someone within your network. And since the majority of jobs are unpublished, you could always hear of an exciting opportunity.



Fratelli Maristi  
Roma, Italia

March 10, 2005

Dear Members of the Marist College Community,

I write to tell you how grateful I am and to thank you so much for your generous response to our Tsunami Appeal in which we are involved worldwide.

You can imagine the enormous challenge that exists not only in attempting to rebuild structures such as Holy Cross School but also to rebuild lives and families. Our Marist Brothers have begun work with children left behind homeless as a result of the disaster. The aid of so many of the international groups has been appreciated and essential. Eventually, however, each of those groups must move on to meet other needs and we are trying to focus on what will remain once most of them have left the country.

Thank you once again for your generous donations, a sign of human solidarity. May each of you and all those who have helped be blessed beyond measure.

Sincerely,

Brother Seán D. Sammon, FMS  
Superior General

*Brother Seán Sammon, leader of the 6500 Marist Brothers worldwide, is a Marist College graduate and a native New Yorker. To date the Marist Tsunami Collection has reached \$30,000.00.*

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## Marist bands compete in very close 'Battle'

By KERRI MARKS  
Circle Contributor

Despite one snapped string and one disqualification, the Marist College "Battle of the Bands" brought a high level of competition to entertain the crowd as

area. The well-received Nine Pints Later started off the March 10 show with the energetic "Bad News Betty," establishing the high level of competition that would challenge each following band. Their set, which was

ultly, included two original songs and one cover song that eventually earned them a third place finish in the contest.

Battle participant Junior Carly Blackmon of Impulse said she thought there was a good match up between the talents of each band.

"It was definitely a close competition," said Blackmon. "We had a bunch of good bands that were very well matched. I think everyone put on a good performance."

Ingrid, who was the second of the seven bands to perform, experienced some minor complications that took a toll on their performance time. During their first song a band member snapped a string and used several of their performance minutes to find a new one and restring the guitar.

The focus of entertainment switched from the stage to the crowd after Middleway's slow protest song. It was then that several enthusiastic males stood up and took off their shirts to reveal messages written on their chests in support of the band.

Middleway lead singer, sophomore Rob Colletti, said that he

was pleased with his band's performance since it was the first time they had done a show of this nature.

"It was the first time we did a show where we were all plugged in and full blast like that," said Colletti. "So I think for us it was a pretty good show...It was about getting our first show under our belt and getting our name out there."

Blackmon's band, Impulse, was the runner up in the competition and also the only band to fit five songs into their allowed time. Impulse, the only band in the competition with a female lead singer, mimics of the sound of Evanescence. They started off their set with their newest original song "I'm down" which received great support from the crowd.

Blackmon stated that she was very happy with the performance that her own band put on as well as the state of her band right now.

"I was very pleased, we had a good performance," said Blackmon. "We're getting closer and closer to each other as a band and I think it's really starting to show our potential."

Four Days Later, the winner of

"There is a lot of talent and several good bands at this school...I wish there were more opportunities to showcase this talent."

— Rob Colletti  
Lead singer, Middleway



The Marist College Battle of the Bands showcased the talent of seven student musical groups in the Cabaret dining area on March 10. Students performed to a packed crowd, bringing fans together in the name of music.

fans packed themselves into the Marist College Cabaret dining area and judged by members of the student government and fac-



Middleway, fronted by sophomore Rob Colletti, above, played plugged-in for the first time.

the competition, was the second to last band to take the stage on Thursday and was the only band to add a keyboard to their repertoire of instruments. Four Days Later's set was more pop than the rest of the rock dominated show but still proved to have

SEE BATTLE, PAGE 6

### my two cents

"The Ring 2" leaves viewers screaming... and not in the good way

Hideo Nakata's "The Ring 2," the much anticipated sequel to the original Japanese thriller (originally called "Ringu"), sets up shortly after Rachel Keller (Naomi Watts) has relocated after her previous incident with the fatal tape of "The Ring." Unfortunately for her the tape has once again resurfaced, forcing her out of hiding to once again confront the horror.

"The Ring 2" is the perfect example of why not all movies should have sequels. This movie is completely different from the original it plot and mood; where scares and thrills used to be only crevasses of confused silence remain. "The Ring" was a very enjoyable thriller, filled with suspense and a mysteriously intriguing plot. This sequel has none of the above and is horribly piled in an array of confusion. Watts pulls her best shot, but even the strongest thirteen year old on steroids couldn't pull this sequel's weight. I have a theory on sequels and I believe all movies should abide by them; that way people can be safe from movies like "The Ring 2"; no sequel should be named with just a sequential number (although all the "Rocky"'s are exempt). If the director changes, such as the case in "The Ring 2," a stinker is guaranteed. This also applies to main supporting actors and actresses (think: Julianne Moore in Hannibal). Finally, if a movie is made from a novel (think: "The Silence of the Lambs") a major switch in writers can cause an on-screen disaster.

If you are unfortunate enough to see "The Ring 2" you'll fear more for your wallet than anything else. If you want my two cents, and I think you do, don't waste your time with brain numbing sequels such as these—they are usually just as entertaining as Amish television.

## The Mars Volta leaves much to be desired on 'Frances the Mute'

By JAMES Q. SHEEHAN  
Circle Contributor

In 2003, Cedric Bixler and Omar Rodriguez, formerly of At the Drive-in, broke onto the alternative music scene with "De-Loused in the Comatorium," the first release of the Mars Volta. This album received acclaim from both At the Drive-in fans as well as fans of the progressive genre. In March of 2005 the band released its sophomore effort, "Frances the Mute."

ter. The album's track listing is somewhat confusing, listing five songs with different movements in each one. Most lyrics on the first album were about science fiction and however impressive, the meaning is sometimes lost in the metaphor—if a metaphor was even intended. The lyrics as a whole on this new album, while still unclear in places, tend to be more personal.

**Most lyrics on the first album were about science fiction... the lyrics as a whole on this new album tend to be more personal.**

"Frances the Mute" opens with the phenomenal "Cygnus... Vismund Cygnus." There is so

much happening between all of the different instruments and their chops as musicians are certainly featured. Like other tracks on the album this song has both English and Spanish vocal lines, and while this may seem trite it



The Mars Volta recently released their sophomore album, "Frances the Mute" (cover art shown above.)

comes off fairly well and provides an interesting mix. This track also clocks in at a little over

13 minutes and never drags which is truly a feat.

The second track is "The

Widow," which has received substantial radio air play and could be considered the album's single, serving as a definite contrast to the "in your face" intensity of the first track. The sound is epic, incorporating a solo trumpet line and screeching vocals with Cedric emotionally proclaiming, "Freeze without an answer/ Free from all the shame/Then I'll hide/'Cause I'll never/ Never sleep alone."

"L'Via L'Viaquez" serves as a terrific third track building on the first two. Done almost completely in Spanish, this song makes a lyrical analysis rather difficult for me, but I'll be honest, it sounds really cool. The song goes between driving rock parts and slower samba parts and is over 12 minutes long, once again showing the more progressive and uninhibited direction this band seems to be moving in.

SEE VOLTA, PAGE 6

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From Page One

# Gaming Day marathon to help benefit Make-A-Wish Foundation

"In the Marist tradition of service, we decided to attach a cause to this event," said Justin Ligas, president of the Computer

Science Society. "We hope to fill the McCann Center with gamers to raise even more money for Make-A-Wish. This is a chance

for people of all ages, but especially teens and young adults, to have a fun time and help the heartfelt wishes of children with

life-threatening medical conditions come true."

In addition to Cisco Systems, sponsors and prize providers

include Alienware, ATI, Ballz, Hyperkore, NVidia, and Mushkin Memory.

To register or for more informa-

tion, visit the event's Web site at [www.gamingforhope.com](http://www.gamingforhope.com).

# Semester at Sea program provides students with world of opportunities

27, traveling to Venezuela, Brazil, South Africa, Kenya, India, Myanmar, Vietnam, China, Japan and Hawaii, returning to San Diego on December 8th. The spring 2006 voyage will depart Nassau, Bahamas on January 18th, following a similar

itinerary.

The cost of the semester program for students is \$14,975 for standard accommodations, and includes tuition, room, board and passage fare. Financial assistance is available. Students who qualify for aid on their home

campus can often use that aid, combined with additional grants from the program. Furthermore, assistance can be available to those students who have not qualified for the traditional forms of financial aid.

A summer 2005 program focus-

ing on Scandinavia and Europe is

also offered.

The 65-day regional studies program will sail from Halifax, Ireland and Spain, returning to

Nova Scotia on June 17th, for

Iceland, Norway, Russia, Poland, Belgium, England, Florida on August 21st. The cost of summer program is \$9275.

Additional information may be obtained by emailing

[info@semesteratsea.com](mailto:info@semesteratsea.com) or visiting [www.semesteratsea.com](http://www.semesteratsea.com).

From Page Five

# Battle of the Bands bring students together to support musical friends

impact on the judges by taking the highest prize in the competition.

The final band, Murder Flirt, was the only band to disobey the rule of a timed set, resulting in their disqualification. After their second song, "Newly Wed Honey-moon Chainsaw

Massacre," the band refused to leave the stage since their performance time had expired. They continued to play

a third song even after the singer's microphone had been turned off by the judges who left the room to tally

up the scores before Murder Flirt finally left the stage.

Blackmon stated that even though she was happy with the results, she would like for the judging criteria to be a little clearer in the future.

"I think they should be a little more clear as to what they are

judging the performances on so they are looking for and how to improve in the future," she said.

Colletti stated he would like if there were more opportunities on campus for the bands to express their talent.

"There is a lot of talent and sev-

eral good bands at this school," said Colletti, "I wish there were more opportunities to showcase this talent."

# Despite decent effort, The Mars Volta fails to follow through on new release

Once the fourth song "Miranda That Ghost Just Isn't Holy Anymore" begins, the album starts to decline in quality. The energy present in the first three tracks is disrupted by over four minutes of a buzzing sound. While this noise may have some artistic merit it simply is not pleasant to listen to and disrupts what was, up until this point, a

seemingly flawless album. The band decided to raise the pretentious level on both the fourth and fifth songs by splitting the two into movements, managing to squeeze 12 tracks out of a five song album. Cedric and Omar, please save the movements for the likes of Bach and Shostakovich for goodness sake! The fifth song is "Cassandra

Gemini" and has no remarkable points. It consists of much of the same noise as the fourth track. While I despise this noise, it can be good in certain songs at the beginning or the end as an intro or outro, adding to the atmosphere which the song creates and enveloping the listener. The problem on this album is the last two songs are not very good to

begin with and the noise is sometimes in the middle of the song!

I have not completely written this album off, because the first three songs are really

solid. They are, in fact, some of the best tracks I have heard lately.

As a whole, however, the album simply does not deliver and leaves the listener disap-

pointed.

This leaves me torn as a reviewer and listener because I was really excited when I first started spinning this disc. I will not buy another Mars Volta release until they start writing solid songs and stop trying to pass off poor song writing and pretentious wanking as art.

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# Foxes sweep the Colonials, earning their fifth win of season

By DREW BUDD  
Staff Writer

The Red Foxes (5 - 9) softball team swept their non-conference doubleheader against George Washington University (5 - 15) this past week at the GWU Mount Vernon Softball Field in Washington D.C.

It was their first sweep since May 3, 2003, when they defeated Niagara.

Marist got off to a quick 1 - 0 lead on George Washington when senior co-captain CF Allison Bartley drove in junior 3B Chrystine McHugh with a single to left field.

In the top of the fourth, Bartley delivered with another single and would eventually

come around to score on a two-run home run that was crushed over the right field wall by sophomore, right fielder Lyndsay Ward. It was Ward's first home run of the season and the second of her career.

With the Red Foxes in front 3 - 1 after four innings, they would seal the deal with a three runs in the fifth inning. McHugh led off with a double and freshman first baseman Annie Castellano drove her in with an RBI single. Castellano would later score on a single by junior C Jasmery Polanco's double.

Later that inning, Bartley would come around to score to give Marist a 6 - 1 lead after five innings.

The Red Foxes continued their offensive brilliance with six more runs. Polanco and junior shortstop Katie Eskin connected on two-run scoring doubles, where Polanco connected in the sixth and

Eskin connected in the seventh. McHugh and sophomore left fielder Christine Jakobsen also drove in runs in the seventh.

Freshman starting pitcher Megan Rigos threw another great game, allowing just two runs on two hits with five strikeouts for the complete game win. Though Marist did allow five

errors in game one, their 13 hit onslaught was just too much for the Colonials to handle and they won 12 - 2.

The Red Foxes got off to slow start in the second game, falling

**With George Washington threatening, Marist brought Rigos in to shut the door and went on to squeak past the Colonials 5 - 4, sweeping of the doubleheader.**

behind 1 - 0 after two innings. In the third inning, Marist took the lead when Castellano hit a sacrifice fly that scored McHugh. They scored earlier on a single by Jakobsen, who would eventually score on an error by George Washington's second baseman Lisa Cohen. Jakobsen ended the day the proud owner

of a six-game hitting streak.

The Colonials tied the game in the bottom of the third, but the Red Foxes would regain the lead in the fourth when George Washington's sophomore shortstop Elana Meyers made consecutive errors, which allowed Ward to reach base and eventually score.

Marist added insurance runs with another sac fly by Castellano in the fifth and an RBI single by freshmen starting pitcher Kristen Merlino.

The Colonials made a strong comeback in the sixth when freshmen center fielder Jackie Yaniga hit an RBI double, followed by a run-scoring single by freshmen third baseman Caroline Howe. This brought

the score to 5 - 4.

With George Washington threatening, Marist brought Rigos in to shut the door and the Red Foxes went on to squeak past the Colonials 5 - 4, preserving the sweep of the doubleheader.

Merlino threw five-plus innings, allowing three runs on six hits, earning her first career win.

Rigos picked up her first career save and the first save for Marist this season.

Marist returns home Mar. 30 against Fordham in a doubleheader. The first pitch will commence at 2 p.m.

# Despite cruel forecast, Marist punishes Hawks with a 6-5 victory in Philly

By DAVID HOCHMAN  
Staff Writer

The Marist men's lacrosse team won a well-fought battle with St. Joseph's on Mar. 19 in their conference opener.

The 6-5 victory in Philadelphia showcased the skills of many of the Red Foxes. The team has talent at each grade level and every-

one came out to play versus the Hawks.

Each goal was scored by a different Red Fox. Marist opened up very strongly in the first quarter, leaving it with a 2-0 lead off goals from junior midfielder Bill Duerr and sophomore midfielder Mike McGuire.

Duerr now leads the team in goals with seven on the season.

After giving up two goals in the second quarter, junior attack Andrew Walsh notched a goal before halftime to give the Red Foxes a 3-2 lead at the intermission.

Entering the third period with the lead and the last goal, the Red Foxes were carrying all of the momentum. Although this momentum did not show when

Marist gave up the first goal of the half, sophomore midfielder Matt Donovan came through with 5:22 left to break the tie and give the Red Foxes the lead for the rest of the contest.

Finishing off the scoring for Marist were freshman attack Pat Van Hall and junior midfielder Tim Iuculano. The junior class certainly came to play as

Iuculano, Duerr, and Walsh all had goals, while their classmate and goalie Stephen Gravino stopped nine shots.

A big key to this victory had to be the penalty killing of the Red Foxes as they stopped St. Joe's on four different man-down occurrences. The team also showed great ball control not turning over the ball once.

The Red Foxes home opener versus Canisius on Mar. 26 was postponed due to the poor weather conditions in Poughkeepsie.

Those conditions of heavy rain also forced the new home opener against Colgate on Mar. 29 to move from Leonidoff Field to Dietz Stadium in Kingston.

# Diener's five goals initiate Foxes' offensive outburst, but fail to earn second win of the season

By GABE'PERNA  
Staff Writer

Even with a five goal effort from freshman Lindsey Diener, the Marist women's lacrosse team failed to have a successful cross country trip to the West Coast against UC Davis, as they lost 12-8 to the Aggies.

UC Davis started strong out of the gate, scoring the game's first

six goals and looked well on their way to a Marist rout. However, the Red Foxes came back and even were within three goals with about ten minutes remaining in the game.

But alas, they could not complete the comeback and fell to 1-4 on the year.

At the break, the Red Foxes were down 8-2 and looking at an ugly finish. However, led by

Diener, they charged back 8-4 as her and senior Christine Connell scored their second goals very close together. As the game closed, Marist found themselves down 10-5.

Diener struck again along with senior Lauren Sherman as they put Marist down only by three.

Despite yet one more goal from Diener, UC Davis' Tiffany Lee notched two goals and put the

game out of reach for the Red Foxes.

Katie McMahon led the Aggies in scoring, where she scored five goals overall and tallied one assist.

McMahon paced UC Davis, scoring three of their first six goals, and two of the clinching goals.

Lee scored three goals along with an assist, while Katie

McGovern had two goals and two assists for the Aggies.

For the Red Foxes, the loss has some positive spots with the effort from Diener, who now has 21 goals on the season. The freshman already has one Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Rookie of the Week title under her belt, and another is sure to come.

Diener scored seven goals

against St. Mary's in the team's previous contest, which was also a loss.

In fact, the Red Foxes ended a West Coast trip at 0-3 losing to Oregon as well.

The Red Foxes will oppose MAAC rival Fairfield Apr. 2 in their home opener, hoping to gain their second win of the season.



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**Upcoming Schedule**

**Baseball:** Saturday, April 2 - vs. Rider, noon.

**Men's Lacrosse:** Saturday, April 2 - vs. Manhattan, 7 p.m.

**Kiriakedes powers  
 Foxes over Stags**

By **ANDY ALONGI**  
 Co-Sports Editor

Fairfield suffered its seventh loss this school year at the hands of Marist as the baseball team completed a three game sweep of the Stags in a pitchers dual, 3-2 on Tuesday.

The Red Foxes did all their scoring in the home half of the seventh inning. Marist trailed 1-0 when junior shortstop Andy Kiriakedes hit a single back through the box, driving in two runs as Marist took the lead 3-1.

Kiriakedes hit 1-for-2 with two walks on the afternoon for the Foxes.

Lead-off hitter, sophomore Travis Musolf went two-for-four off of Stags' pitching, improving his team-leading batting average to .362 (21-for-58) while hitting his third double of the season.

Junior starting left-handed pitcher Jon Smith pitched six innings, giving up five hits, one earned run and one walk while fanning five. Smith was a non-factor in the decision.

Sophomore right-handed relief pitcher Erik Supplee earned the win over an inning and two thirds, getting his first win of the season and improving his record

to 1-2.

Sophomore Bobby Ryan, a potential Major League Baseball prospect, earned his third save of the season as he pitched the top of the ninth inning for the Red Foxes. Many of the fastballs he threw eclipsed 85-87 miles per hour.

Stags sophomore starting pitcher Ed Kamintzky suffered his third loss of the season and is still winless in the 2005 campaign. Kamintzky gave up six hits, four walks and three earned runs over 6.1 innings.

Also having a strong game despite the defeat for the Stags was freshman outfielder Brian Rudolph who batted 3-for-4 while scoring a run for Fairfield.

Marist remains undefeated (3-0) in Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play. The Red Foxes continue their eight game home stand this weekend when they host the Rider Broncos (4-11, 2-1) for a three game series this weekend.

The Foxes and Broncos will square off in a doubleheader on Saturday, Apr. 2. The first pitch of the day is scheduled at noon. The series will close on Sunday, Apr. 3 with the game beginning at noon.



Courtesy of FIDELIS CARE

Fidelis Care, a non-profit health plan, awarded Marist College basketball player Kristen Keller with the Fidelis Care Humanitarian Award. The award honored Keller for her community involvement, leadership role on campus, and academic achievement.

**Keller proves to be star on and off court**

Fidelis Care, a non-profit health plan, recently honored a MAAC student-athlete during the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) basketball tournament held at the HSBC Arena in Buffalo.

During the tournament awards ceremony, Frank Azzarelli, regional director of marketing for Fidelis Care, presented Marist College student-athlete Kristen Keller with the Fidelis Care Humanitarian Award.

Keller was selected for the award based on her active participation in her community,

leadership role on campus, and strong academic achievement.

A four-year member and the captain of the Marist College women's basketball team, Keller has volunteered with the Kids Day Out program, Girl Scout Day, Special Olympics, and Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) basketball.

She has also donated her time to work with Parkinson patients, children homes, and reading programs in elementary schools.

Keller is an honors student and is expected to graduate with both a bachelor's and master's

degree. Her academic achievements earned her selection to the MAAC All-Academic Team, as well as being chosen as an ESPN Second Team Academic All-American.

A proud sponsor of the MAAC, Fidelis Care was founded on the belief that all New Yorkers deserve access to affordable, quality health insurance. The non-profit health plan serves more than 239,000 people in 34 counties across New York State.

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Medicaid programs, Fidelis Care members are covered for regular checkups, preventive care, hospital and emergency care, eye exams, dental care, and more.

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