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## Fastest animal on Earth spotted on Marist campus



A Peregrine finishes its meal on the soccer field. photo by Bre Davisson

“Somebody get a camera quick!” yelled biology teacher Pat Wagner as he burst into Toni Cooper’s 7th period yearbook class after spotting an obvious bird of prey outside his classroom on Tuesday.

Junior Bre Davison grabbed a camera and accompanied Wagner to the field, still unsure of what kind of bird it was. After school sophomore Zac Oldham was able to google search “Oregon birds of prey” and identified the falcon.

Much to the joy of speed-loving Wagner, it turned out to be a Peregrine falcon, which can reach up to 202 mph during its hunting dive and is widely considered the fastest animal on the planet.

# REFLECTING GOD'S LIGHT

*Eugene Catholic schools gather at Marist to celebrate faith, academics and service*

By Michael Busse

Scores of cars and buses bumper-to-bumper, adults in dress clothes directing crowds, lines of smiling children carrying car seats—where are you? The Marist parking lot before Thursday morning’s All Catholic Schools Mass.

Marist’s Holy Dome transformed from a gymnasium into a church on Thursday morning for the annual event, attended this year by nearly 1600 people from O’Hara Catholic School, St. Paul Parish School, and Marist.

Fr. David Jaspers, who graduated from Marist in ’95, presided over the Mass, accompanied by Marist’s Fr. David Cullings, and five other priests from parishes in the area.

Jaspers opened and closed his homily by inviting the congregation to sing the chorus of “This Little Light of Mine.” He went on to talk about the many types of lights that one could try to imitate—black lights, spotlights, heat lamps—in

order to maintain certain appearances. Instead of trying to shine our own light, Jaspers said, we ought to reflect the light of God.

Choirs from Marist and O’Hara joined Marist’s liturgical band, Proclaim, to provide music from the stage.

O’Hara seventh-grader, Margaret Walters, who has been attending the Mass since first grade, said that it is one of her favorite Masses. Walters played the cello with Proclaim! for three songs.

“There’s a lot more music. It’s loud on the stage, but it’s fun,” Walters said.

The All Catholic Schools Mass is the crowning event of Catholic Schools Week, which is celebrated around the nation to acknowledge the country’s over 7000 Catholic schools.

This year’s theme—Faith, Academics, Service—focuses on three of the emphases that make Catholic education stand out.

Father David Jaspers, a '95 Marist grad, celebrates Mass along with Marist Chaplain Father David Cullings and other local priests. photo by Toni Cooper



Junior Meghan Gescher escorts visiting O’Hara students to the Activity Center while other Marist Christian Leadership students wait behind to help more children on Thursday morning before Mass. photo by Emmitt Cummings

Children receive Eucharistic blessings from juniors Jenna Laver and Jamie Ferrari. photo by Toni Cooper

## CHINESE STUDENTS VISIT MARIST



Seniors Adri Cardani and Jessica Perry eat Chinese sweets provided by the visiting Chinese students. photo by Nikki Hallenbeck

By Nikki Hallenbeck and Jessica Perry

After school last Monday, Marist hosted a Cultural Exchange Day with Chinese students in the Christian Life Center. The students were from a Beijing grammar school and were touring Marist to experience American culture. Marist students joined them for an hour and a half of learning, games and food.

The students exchanged questions about what a typical school day is like and then proceeded to enjoy Chinese candies. Junior Cade Miller attended the event and said his favorite part was, “playing games with the Chinese kids, especially Jenga because whenever the blocks would fall over their eyes would widen in surprise.”

## SOPHOMORE BOYS EMBARK ON JOURNEY

Forty-three sophomore boys spent last weekend focusing on their own personal journeys

By Michael Lyford

Last weekend, the annual Sophomore Journey Retreat gave many sophomore boys the chance to focus on their own personal journeys to others and God.

With the theme of “Journey”, 43 sophomore boys embarked on their own journey with the help of retreat team leaders and adult moderators.

The weekend began Saturday morning at St. Peter’s Catholic church where the sophomores participated in multiple ice breakers, team building activities, and small groups led by junior and senior retreat team members.

By Saturday evening, the group of boys had arrived at Marist, where they enjoyed a delicious dinner cooked by Campus Minister Terrie Clemens. The night concluded with more community building activities and free time.

On Sunday morning, Fr. David Cullings celebrated Mass for the group and challenged the sophomores to continue the friendships they built on the retreat, and incorporate their newfound sense



The sophomore and retreat team leaders stand in front of the chapel last Sunday on the sophomore boys’ Journey Retreat. photo by Alex Seaver

of community into their daily routines at school.

Similar to any retreat offered by Marist, the food, cooked by Terrie Clemens, was exceptional to say the least. “Mrs. Clemens is an amazing cook and every meal she prepared was delicious,” said sophomore Brennan Lilley.

“It was a great experience. It helped me grow closer to my classmates, and God,” said sophomore Ben Schepergerdes.

## Students attend pro-life rally

Several members of the Marist for Life club were among the hundreds in attendance at Oregon Right to Life's annual rally at the Pioneer Courthouse Square in Portland on January 22.

Freshmen Aaleigha Tynan, Tate Rupp, and Emily Vitus traveled to the rally for free on a bus sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. History teacher Jon Nuxoll was also in attendance.

At the rally, which marked the 39th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, they heard a variety of speakers, from doctors to Archbishop John Vlazny.

"It was interesting, since we're freshmen and we don't know a lot about it," said Tynan.

## Graduate heads Rhode Island's Obama campaign

Marist 2004 graduate Devin Driscoll has recently been appointed to run presidential incumbent Barack Obama's campaign for reelection this upcoming fall in Rhode Island.

Driscoll worked for Obama's

campaign during the 2008 election, and helped Obama secure the state's electoral votes by a margin of nearly 30 percent.

## MVP collects cans for food pantry

The Marist Volunteer Program kicked off its annual Canned Food Drive this week to help meet the growing need for food in the local community.

All food collected will be donated to the St. Vincent De Paul food pantry, where it will be distributed to those in need.

The Marist Student Council offered an extra incentive for students to bring in food this past Tuesday by offering hot chocolate to those who brought in food.

The drive will continue until Tuesday of next week. Students and parents are highly encouraged to contribute by bringing in canned food.

## Marist senior awarded scholarship

Senior Dylan Karr was a finalist in the Eugene Chamber of Commerce "Future First Citizen" competition, an honor given each year to a high school

senior that demonstrates academic achievement as well as strong leadership abilities and community service.

Last Wednesday Karr attended a gala dinner at the Hilton to celebrate business in Eugene, where the Chamber presented the award. Karr did not win, but received a \$1000 scholarship for his nomination.

## Bringing religious art work to campus

Marist staff members have formed a committee to bring Catholic-themed artwork to campus in an effort to enhance the school's Catholic identity.

The committee is currently in the brainstorming process as they assess different possibilities for how to bring religious art to the campus. The process will be lengthy and will take place piece by piece.

## Marist environmental club

Marist's Environmental Club met with Sanipac representative Jill Bardwell Tuesday to prepare for big steps toward making Marist greener.

Six new recycling bins open to all co-mingled recycling will arrive today

and are soon to be placed throughout the hallways and cafeteria. Bardwell also suggested Sanipac's Food Compost Program to augment the composting that is already done by the Marist kitchen staff.

## Joyful Noise concert returns

Tonight at 7:30, the Marist student music groups will join featured performers Shelley and Cal James who will treat us to soulful renditions of music by U2, Bob Marley and other original compositions.

Tickets can be purchased at the door. Come out and support Marist gospel music!

## Project Starfish to begin

Along with the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22nd, the day also marks the beginning of MVP's annual Project Starfish.

Partnering with St. Vincent de Paul, MVP hopes to solve issues of poverty and homelessness, one family at a time, by collecting donations.

MVP raised \$9,618.89 during last year's Project Starfish campaign for local homeless families.

# MR. SPARTAN CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

The Mr. Spartan candidates begin their fundraising and take a trip to the NICU

By Katie Holdampf

"It means the world to me to be a part of it. I have wanted to do it since I was young and to actually be on the Mr. Spartan team is a dream come true," said Mr. Spartan candidate Josh Reay.

Over 18 high schools in the

area participate in a program similar to Mr. Spartan, such as Mr. Axeman at South Eugene and Mr. Irish at Sheldon. When students think about the program, most think of the fun activities that accompany it, like the pageant and the dance.

But they don't necessarily know who benefits from the program.

So what is it really about? It's much more than a pageant in which the senior boys do funny dances and skits.

Mr. Spartan is part of the Kids Helping Kids program that benefits the Children's Miracle Network. The funds raised benefit numerous Sacred Heart Hospital departments, especially the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) by helping provide vital medical equipment supplies for infants and children. The Mr. Spartan candidates compete to raise funds through many fundraisers on which the team decides.

Though the team picks different fundraisers every year, there are always a few that take place an-

nually. To kick off the Mr. Spartan season, the senior boys have been wandering around campus with jars to collect donations from students and staff. The school dance will also be happening, of which a date has yet to be set. It will be up to the team to decide whether they will host other events such as the "Ballin' for the Babies" basketball event.

Last Friday, January 27, the candidates took a trip to Sacred Heart Hospital to tour the pediatric department and the NICU, which treats 550 to 600 infants every year. The team was given the chance to meet the babies in the NICU for whom they are raising funds.

"The babies were so cute and I was so amazed and touched that the babies' feet were no bigger than



Premature twins sleep in the NICU at Sacred Heart Hospital. Photo by Julie Ferrari

two sections of my pinky finger," said candidate Andrew Stewart when asked about his experience in the NICU. "I definitely did not want the day to end."

As always, the senior versus staff basketball game will be held the Wednesday before the pageant. The pageant will wrap up the program on April 14 with the crowning of the 2012 Mr. Spartan.



Mr. Spartan contestants pose after a tour of Sacred Heart Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. photo by Julie Ferrari



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# A CHANGE OF HEART

"Metanoia is the perfect end to the Marist retreat experience"

By Jessica Perry

What's a Metanoia? Metanoia is the Greek word for "a transformative change of heart" or more specifically, a spiritual conversion. Last weekend St. Benedict's Lodge welcomed back 43 seniors, a handful of staff members, coaches and alumni to supervise the laid back spiritual time.

For many seniors this was their last chance to return to St. Benny's and experience the magic often felt there; a final opportunity to sit by the river or hike through the forest. This retreat provided time for seniors to reflect, strengthen friendships and relax after finals.

The atmosphere of the weekend was easy going, with a lot of free time to play games like ultimate ping-pong and charades. Seniors also



The 43 senior boys and girls who attended the Metanoia retreat pose for a picture on the patio at St. Benedict's. photo courtesy of McKenzie O'Leary

went on adventures through the forest, bonding in the breath-taking scenery.

"Small groups was one of the best parts of the weekend," said senior Kendra Greenwell. The seniors shared their plans for the future with classmates whom they normally do not have the chance to interact with.

On a more serious level, leaders shared personal experiences and provided valuable

advice for students with concerns about college. This included a Q&A session between the seniors and alumni, where all topics were free game.

After what many would consider an overwhelming first semester, the group that has locked in, journeyed and encountered together found the Metanoia to be a perfect conclusion to the Marist retreat experience.

# COMING BACK FROM CANCER

*Although she battles cancer, Merilee Shaw refuses to let it define her*

By Lexy Wheeler

The “official front office secretary,” Merilee Shaw, has been volunteering and working in the front office since her son, senior Mike Shaw, was a freshman. Surrounded by the Marist community, Shaw soon found out how much she would come to value its warm, caring, constant support.

In January of last year, she found an irregular lump in her breast and was officially diagnosed with breast cancer in April. “It was really scary [to find it] ‘cause there’s no cancer in my family,” she said. Without any insurance, Shaw was intent on keeping her discovery private. “I wasn’t going to get treated. I wasn’t going to tell people and was just going to suck it up, and if I died, I died.”

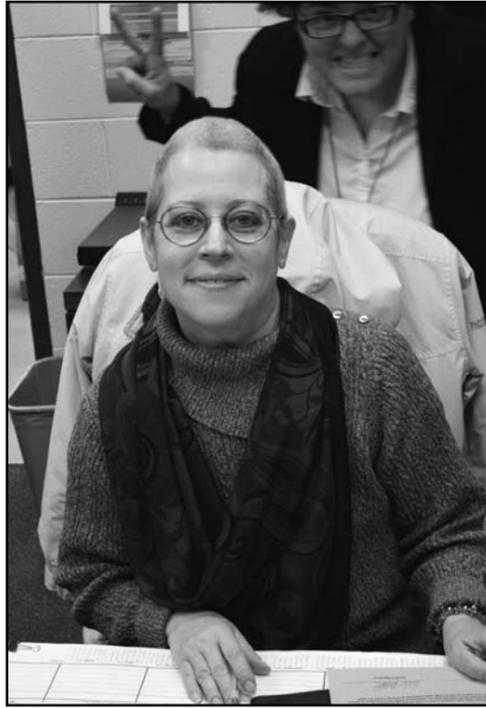
A 25-year study on breast cancer by the Center of Disease Control and the National Institute of Health was brought to her attention and she was eligible to be a participant. Accepted, the study made it possible for Shaw to not pay for any of her medical bills now or for the next five years. “It could only have been the Lord,” said Shaw.

After many examinations, Shaw began chemotherapy treatment. She was to endure six different treatments, three weeks apart, beginning in June and ending in early September.

After chemo, the doctor found that the therapy hadn’t been affecting the tumor; it hadn’t grown or shrunk. A double mastectomy was scheduled on Halloween.

Recovering in November, Shaw came back to school in the midst of radiation treatment—the final step.

Shaw is determined to not let the cancer become her identity or become more than just another aspect of life. “I don’t let it affect me daily. Some days I don’t remember it until I look in the



Front office secretary Merilee Shaw completes one of many tasks unaware of fellow cancer survivor and her friend, Julie Ferrari, being silly behind her. photo by Sami Kast

mirror and see no hair. I decided I’m not going to be a cancer patient or a cancer survivor.”

“The Lord has been so gracious because I haven’t had any complications,” said Shaw. “As much as you can sail through this, I am sailing through this. It’s mostly your attitude.” Shaw expressed her thankfulness to God for bringing a great support group and compassionate friends from school and church.

“I’m very anxious and worrisome. [Being peaceful] is not my basic personality,” she admitted. However, a God-given inner peace is very present in her. The cancer has provided a way for Shaw to tell others about her faith, as people were amazed by her serene response to her situation. “I found that I was comforting people more than they were comforting me.”

“I’ve never questioned or doubted God,” she said. “I’ve wondered why. I know that He’s in control. He knows what’s best. I just need to rest in Him and rely on Him and seek Him. That’s my part of the job.”

Today, Shaw is finishing up her radiation to ensure that the cancer won’t return. She is determined to increase awareness of breast cancer, to get mammograms regularly and try to catch anything suspicious in its early stages. She encourages cancer patients “to not isolate [themselves], and to find people that can help deal with it.”

## Why choose Marist?

*Stacy Baker helps draw families in, but they stay for the sense of community.*

By Macaela Crowley

Marist High School offers something special which draws in families from Creswell to Corvallis, from St. Mary to First Baptist. Marist offers community. A community dedicated to faith and education.

According to Admissions Director Stacy Baker, more people are coming every day. As students and parents learn more about Marist’s small class sizes and dedicated teachers, enrollment numbers have increased. This year alone they have jumped from 480 to 517.

Two weeks ago Marist held its annual Preview Day to introduce prospective parents and students to all of the great possibilities Marist offers. Baker and Tammy May, the Assistant Admissions Director, organized the event, which saw similar numbers as previous years, but a different audience. “The enthusiasm and excitement of the crowd was double this year. It was more tangible than ever,” said May.

“Preview Day is what really draws parents in to Marist who were unsure before” said Baker, “I’m not the one who convinces people to come. It’s the community.”

Though modest in her words, Baker is an excellent example of why Marist is special.

Along with being the admissions director, she is also the dean of students, the Junior Girls Encounter moderator, a former teacher and coach. She performs her job as dean of students with a firm hand but what she really enjoys is getting to know the students. Though she misses being in the classroom her role as moderator of the Junior Girl’s Encounter still allows her to spend time with students in a relaxed atmosphere.

The last four years, Baker has traveled to China as a representative of Marist. Her passion for travel and language helps her form relationships with schools, teachers and students which have led 25 exchange students to attend Marist.

While her background is in Latin, which she taught at Marist for six years, she enjoys the unique culture of China. “I feel that I get to see the real China instead of just the tour group version and this allows me an insight into their rich history and education system,” said Baker.

Although Baker prefers not to stand out, her work and her life have a greater impact on Marist than one would assume. She dodges cameras and shines the spotlight on others but all the while embodying the community of the school she loves.



A panel of students, parents, and staff answer questions at preview day. photo by Emmitt Cummings

# PAYING IT FORWARD

*How a simple vision can start a chain reaction of kindness*

By Monica Anderson

What if someone had a vision to change the world through kindness, one act at a time?

One could calculate that if she helped ten people a day, or 50 a week, then in ten weeks she would have directly affected every person in the school.

This would ensure that kindness is shared equally to encompass as many people as possible.

At the end of this ten week period, this person could relax, take a breath, and think, “Hey! I just helped every person in the school.” Now I can finally go back to my normal life. She could rest easy knowing her job is complete.

Ah, what a beautiful difference this person just made in the world. Surely such an endeavor will prove to be an excellent entry on a college application—Helped every single person in the school once.

Once.

The problem with this mindset is that once the acts of kindness have extended to every person, there is nothing left to do.

Those affected will slowly slink back into the life they lived before their personal dose of kindness.

The person behind everything will dis-

cuss how great she feels with her friends and family and how awesome it is to make a difference.

And the smiles these small acts once brought will fade as time continues.

Alas, there is another approach to random acts of kindness. And its brilliance lies in one word: random.

Imagine if this same person had a vision to make a difference through kind acts in her Spanish class, so she left the class smiling at every person she passed in the hallway instead of carefully crafting a kindness formula.

What if this extended to her holding the door open for a group of flustered freshmen or vandalizing bathroom mirrors with sticky notes insisting that “You’re beautiful!”?

And then, one day, when she feels especially inspired, she bakes cookies and offers them not just to her core group of friends, but to anyone she passes in the hallway.

Eventually, others will notice her actions and be slightly perplexed.

The memory of the cookie they were given will trickle into their train of thought when they are falling asleep that night, and they will think, “Hey! What if I did little things like that? It’s not that hard!”

Then the next day that person shyly smiles at their classmates in the hallway and slightly hurries their step so as to hold the door open for their chemistry teacher, whose hands are full of graded tests.

And they go to bed that night thinking, “Wow, I really can help people! Cool beans!”

And so the chain continues, and the result is an environment where everyone smiles at each other, seniors fist bump freshmen with a “Sup!” and there is an endless supply of baked goods to inject people with kindness.

Well, maybe not quite that extreme.

But a kinder environment is possible, and with people like senior Angelique Kirkham, that ideal is becoming a reality at Marist.

Remember that Christmas tree that appeared in the senior hallway? Or possibly the yellow roses floating around?

Those were the result of one girl with a simple vision: make people smile.

Kirkham teaches us that rewarding your first period class with candy when they bring in money for a charity drive is not merely an ideal seen in cheesy Disney movies.

Kindness is a movement, and with even a simple saying on a 3x3” piece of paper, one person can bring a smile to the world.

### WHAT'S THE NICEST THING SOMEONE HAS DONE FOR YOU?



Toni Cooper

“I mentioned I was craving chocolate to Jeanette Herro and she brought me a full Twix bar later that day.”



Jasmine White

“My dad put new windshield wipers on my car without me having to ask.”



Irene Guzman

“Once I opened up my locker and found two Reese’s peanut butter cups.”



Garret Stollar

“Jenna Laver gives me hugs and it makes my day!”



Ben Schedpergerdes

“On the last day of finals last year my dad brought me a full pizza.”



Caroline Morton

“I was at Starbucks and the guy in front of me paid for my coffee and told the [barista] to tell me ‘Merry Christmas!’”

# HAPPY HEARTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

*Junior students reach out to the houseless community*

By Monica Anderson

Five students. 10 food packages. 20 marshmallow-peanut butter sandwiches. An abundance of hand warmers. One mission: make a difference.

On a chilly Sunday afternoon, five Marist juniors met to see just how far their hearts could take them, to “save the world.” In this case, providing food for homeless people throughout Eugene was just the beginning.

After Sean Champoux, Jenna Laver, Jamie Ferrari, Julie Woodard, and I piled into one car, a fundamental question arose: “So...where are we going to find them?”

We considered approaching the people under a rather sketchy bridge, but decided against it at least for the time being, since there

was only one male in the group.

Eventually, we found ourselves on a slow drive around the twists and turns of downtown Eugene. Our resulting unpredictable speed was comparable to that of elderly people after eye appointments.

Initial success came at the location of Saturday Market’s usual venue. We spotted one man who looked, according to common perceptions, to be houseless. We decided to refer to them as “houseless” rather than “homeless” because it is our hope that no one is ever truly without a home. He was carrying bags, facial hair graced his humble face, and he looked to be settled in his position.

We swerved the car to park and jumped out collectively, supplies in hand, ready to change a life. As

we approached the man, we were at a loss for what to say. Assuming he really was houseless, would he think we felt superior? Or be too proud to accept our help?

“Hi, we have food for you!” we said before filling his arms with a food package, two sandwiches, and hand warmers. His unassuming eyes lit up with gratitude during our quick retreat back to the car.

High on life, our journey to seek out houseless people continued, but to our dismay, Sunday is not exactly a good day for begging. Likewise, the buses barely run on Sundays, so the normally bustling station was empty.

We ambushed another person we found near the Dining Room downtown, and after a chilly

four-mile walk at Alton Baker Park, we “got” two more people, one of which said, “You guys are awesome!”

The real magic happened upon our return to the parking lot at Alton Baker Park. Earlier, we had seen a trailer park set up a tent in a methodical, well-executed process. Now, we saw the sign labeling it as “Church on the Street.”

Our eyes grew wide with excitement, and two seconds of deliberation later, we unanimously decided to join them.

We placed our offerings of sandwiches and hand warmers on the front table of the heated, enclosed tent that had emerged from the side of the trailer, and took our place among the dozen or so people seated on folding chairs.

“You guys are just in time to join us for the Word,” their leader said with a smile. He handed us Bibles and we eagerly followed his sermon on the New Year bringing new opportunities to walk with Jesus.

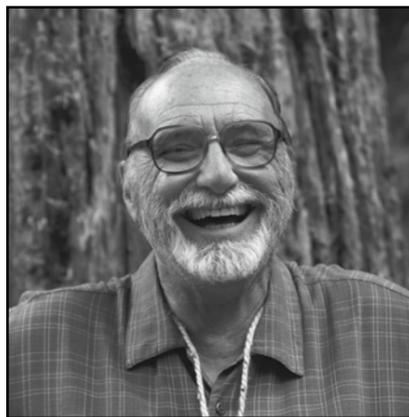
He compared the New Year to a new coat of paint on an old car, celebrating our ability to change our lives for the better at any time.

Enthralled by the sense of community present in such an unlikely place, and undaunted by the darkness that had emerged, the unique experience was as close to divinity as we could feel.

This like-minded group, soon to be called Heart to Heart Club, has just begun, and there are many missions ahead to save the world, one houseless person at a time.

## THE GAME BEING PLAYED

*Whether friendly or seemingly unfriendly, everything Fr. Dave does has meaning*



Father David Cullings gives his famous Fr. Dave smile. photo by Toni Cooper

By Zachary Silva

The day was May 29, 2010, the day of the State Championship Track meet. Emotions were running high and a large Marist crowd had turned out to watch the boys 4x100 team at Hayward Field. The team had made it to the finals and was considered a favorite to win the race. Sophomore Taylor Walcott was the first leg and had a smooth handoff to senior Mitchell Wilson.

When Wilson gave the baton to sophomore Andre Post, Marist had the lead. With one leg to go, Post looked to hand off the baton to senior Brant Holaday in hopes of winning the state title. Everything was going right, but after a bad exchange the baton was dropped. As the baton hit the ground, the state championship hopes fell.

It was a tough way to end a successful season. Everyone offered their condolences to the members of the relay team.

Well, almost everyone.

Fr. David Cullings, as he has done for years, took a much different approach. Instead of giving the team his compassion, he was relentless in his heckling. He smiled as he threw phrases around such as “butterfingers”.

To make things worse, at the next All-School Mass Fr. Dave had Holaday carry up the cross so he could offer some public humiliation, with his closing message poking fun at Holaday’s misfortune.

This unusual take on defeat is very unorthodox, and even more unexpected from a priest. “Like everything I do, it has a meaning,” said Fr. Dave on his behavior.

Fr. Dave does not do this just to be mean. He gleefully teases those who are

able to take the hit and he tries to teach them a lesson. Not a lesson in which they dwell on an error from a game or track meet, but instead that “the game you’re playing is not the game being played.”

At first that may sound confusing. Saying that it’s a game you’re not playing? But it is an attitude that offers optimism and encouragement. It is not about being stuck in the past but learning to accept our mistakes and move on.

Fast forward to this past football season. Marist suffered a tough and unexpected loss to Mountain View in the semifinals of the state tournament at Willamette University in Salem.

The Monday after the game was filled with the usual reassurances of “you guys will get ‘em next year” and “it was a good effort.”

Except from our very own, Fr. Dave.

When Fr. Dave first spotted junior quarterback Kam Smith, he grinned as he told Smith that a train had rolled through Willamette University the other night.

As a whole our society is very tuned into sports. Champions are celebrated while those that lose are pushed aside.

Fr. Dave does not promote this but instead is trying to make the point that winning is not everything. We are not defined by our athletic achievement. What Fr. Dave does acknowledge is that we can grow from these experiences.

So whether you give up a walk-off home run or miss the game-winning shot, just remember the words from Fr. Dave. And avoid him at all costs.



## SENIORITIS

We would fight for a cure, but we just **DON'T CARE!**

When do you work on homework?

- A) When I get home
- B) I wait until late at night when I’m watching the new Jersey Shore
- C) In the class period before it is due

When due dates for major projects are coming up, when do you begin?

- A) I manage my time and do a little bit at a time
- B) The night before
- C) I stay home “sick”, to finish projects

When do you feel the symptoms of Senioritis?

- A) After breaks but I get back to work after a week or two
- B) After major projects, I want a break after all that work
- C) Pretty much everyday

### Diagnosis

- Mostly A’s
- Healthy
- Mostly B’s
- Average Cold
- Mostly C’s
- Dangerous Flu

## DOGS vs CATS

—a survey by Jake Gram

Which animal makes a better pet: 🐶’s or 🐱’s?

It is the age old question that even the best of friends cannot agree on.

🐶 lovers claim that 🐶’s make better pets because they are more intelligent and more loyal.

🐱 lovers claim that 🐱’s make better pets because they require less maintenance and are able to take care of themselves.

So which animal makes for a better pet?

A sample of Marist students revealed that 56% of Marist students believed that 🐶’s make for better pets than 🐱’s, while 42% see 🐱’s as the better option, and 2% answered other.

Of the Marist students who were polled, it is clear that

🐶’s are the more popular pet: the amount of 🐶’s owned outweighed the amount of 🐱’s owned by 26%. However, it would be a logical fallacy to conclude that 🐶’s make better pets solely off of popular opinion.

Students who voted 🐶’s the better pet noted their unfaltering loyalty, intelligence, and more social playful nature.

Students who voted 🐱’s as their favorite cited the low maintenance required to own them, and that 🐱’s are more intelligent.

As for which animal is really more intelligent, even the experts cannot agree.

Perhaps asking which animal makes a better pet is not the question to be asking. Students feel strongly about the pets that they own, whether they are 🐶’s or 🐱’s. It appears to be really more of an issue of compatibility between owner and pet. When it comes down to it, there never will be a definite answer.

# MIRACLES OF THE UNEXPLAINED

*For some, the mysteries of creation reveal the Creator*

By Lexy Wheeler

Some things just seem too marvelous to be coincidences. As often as they occur, as simple as they may seem, as scientifically explained as they can be, some natural occurrences go beyond human comprehension.

Some things make you freeze and stand in awe – like the Grand Canyon or the Northern Lights. Other natural miracles occur every day in our lives. At times, we truly notice them, and we see them in a new light. It's as though new lenses have been placed on our eyes, as if we're seeing the beauty of natural miracles for the first time: orange trees in the fall, the sun's reflection off the

ocean, a baby's chubby cheeks.

At times like these, some worship the creation, but I worship the Creator.

I do not know everything. I admit that. I am a simple human being with a finite mind and many questions. But I have faith. I believe in an infinite God; powerful, majestic, beautiful. He was, is and will be. He created all. Every fingerprint, every strand of hair, every leaf, every crashing wave. The Bible says He created every living creature, every natural wonder of the world, every star, every protein in our bodies. The ultimate artist, His signature is everywhere.

The cell-adhesion protein molecule in

the human body is called laminin. Wikipedia says that "laminins are an important and biologically active part of the basal lamina, influencing cell differentiation, migration, adhesion as well as phenotype and survival."

The molecule tells cells where to go and holds the body together. First of all, it's pretty incredible that these miniscule proteins hold so much importance to our bodies. But laminin is special. Laminin is in the shape of a cross.

Thirty-one million light-years away from the Milky Way Galaxy in the constellation Canes Venatici is one of the most

famous galaxies in the sky, the Whirlpool Galaxy. Discovered in 1774 by Charles Messier, the galaxy has been a popular subject of study by astronomers to find out more about galaxy structure. In the core of the Whirlpool Galaxy is what is called the x-structure, a black hole with two dust rings. The dust rings cross each other, forming the shape of a cross. This phenomenon is contrary to expectations.

There are many explanations for our existence. Whether our existence is a product of divine creation, or a random collision in the universe, understand that we are here because of a miracle.

## STRESSED OUT?

*Follow these useful tactics for stress management*

By Katie Holdampf

Think about that uneasy feeling you get when all of your schoolwork and extracurricular activities happen to occur at the same time.

You have two projects due soon and you need to study for that upcoming math test, not to mention the countless assignments from your other classes. You don't want to give up your social life and you still have sports practice after school.

Stress is something we all experience, even if our schedules don't seem as busy as others. Most people don't know the most effective ways to combat stress.

If not managed, stress can lead to unhealthy circumstances such as anxiety, withdrawal, and physical illness. However, it doesn't need to get to this point. There are some simple ways to relieve your stress.

One of the more obvious relievers is spending time with friends. This takes you away from that stressful assignment you've

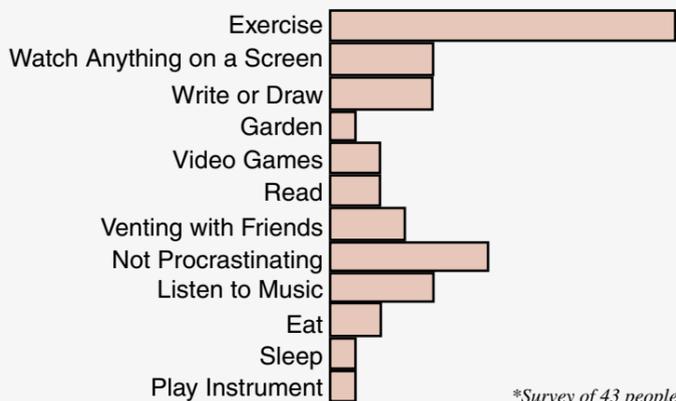
been working on for an hour and allows for you to focus on something else, something fun.

Sleep is a great escape from stress. Many of us don't get enough sleep which makes stressful situations even worse. Try going to bed a little earlier and see how this helps with stress.

A popular stress reliever is listening to music. You may be surprised what kind of music will help you; some find slow songs helpful, while others like listening to hard rock or something they usually don't listen to. Try listening to something upbeat that changes your mood from bad to good, such as a slow song to make you calm, or something loud to let your frustrations out.

Working out can also help relieve stress. Take a walk in between homework assignments; the fresh air will clear your mind to help you refocus on your homework.

### How Do Students Relieve Stress?



\*Survey of 43 people

## WHAT CAN'T BE SEEN

*Sometimes the normal struggles of day-to-day life are small compared to what lies beneath the surface*

By Macaela Crowley

*You give her a fleeting glance, looking but not really seeing. If you had seen past the styled hair and the mascara you would have seen her for who she truly is. But to you, she is just a face in the crowd. Her lips have not held a smile all day but you would not have noticed, would not have cared. She is just another girl sitting in the desk across the room from you.*

**What can't be seen?**

*The girl hides at lunch, scared to be around others. Her heart breaks and her chest becomes heavy every time she senses rejection. Every joke cuts her down. She loathes the image she sees in the mirror.*

*Her days run together but time can't go fast enough. Tonight when she goes home she will sit at her desk and stare at her homework. She will turn on the TV but not follow the story.*

*Her mom will call her to dinner and she will sit at the table, quiet. The food is tasteless. After forcing down a few bites she will say she had a big lunch although her lie is obvious to herself and her parents.*

*She goes to bed earlier but she cannot sleep despite the sleeping pills the doctor gave her. She will lay there, the heaviness of hopelessness weighing her down.*

*She misses the days when she could still cry. She did not know why she cried but at least it would relieve the heaviness for a few moments.*

*Her hope that the heaviness will ever leave her slips away. She considers ending it just to end the pain.*

**What can't be seen?**

*He stands in your circle, laughing at the jokes but not offering anything else. You remember last weekend and the great time you all had.*

*But you can't hear the forced tone in your friend's laugh. You don't notice the hunch in his shoulders. He won't let on that his once good grades are dropping. He rarely thinks of his future because he believes he doesn't have one.*

**What can't be seen?**

*He comes home and rushes to his room. His dad is lying on the couch, passed out again but the boy knows that he will wake up, he always wakes up.*

*He has tried so hard to win trophies, to get the best grades but it was never, will never be good enough. Now he is done trying. He loves basketball but he can't play if he isn't the best. He is worthless and pathetic.*

*Empty bottles are sitting on the counter. Every night the words are different but the yelling never*

*changes. There are no bruises on his body but the wounds lay where no one can see. His mother gave up trying to help long ago. His father does not let him forget he has no future.*

*The boy loves his father. He despises the alcohol. Although it has been a long time since he could tell the difference.*

**What can't be seen?**

We do not have to be weakened by pain. Instead, we can be strengthened by struggles. Often in Mass we sing "Lean on Me" but how many live that message every day? There are struggles we all know like a heavy workload or fights with friends. But there are other struggles we rarely see.

The boy in the hallway who is beaten down by an abusive dad. The girl in class who thinks of ending it all because she thinks no one cares.

We may not be able to solve the problems of the world but sometimes having a friend to lean on can make all the difference in one person's world.

If you have a friend in need of help or if you need help yourself there are options for you.

Remember that you are never alone. Find a trusting adult in your life: a coach, a parent or someone in campus ministry.

\*All characters in this story are fictitious

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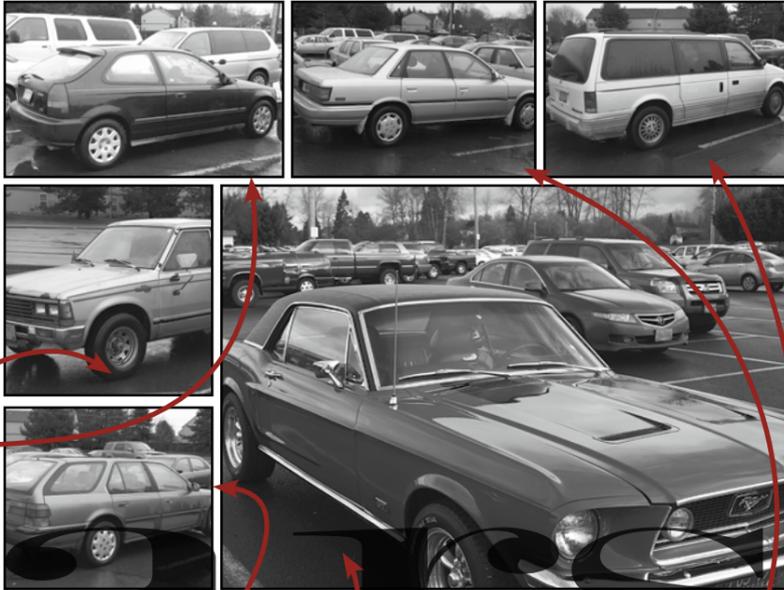


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**We Proudly Support Quality Youth Programs**

It is a common misconception that at Marist, each student drives a Benz that his or her father bought for them. However, our parking lot is just as diverse as the people that make up the school. Vehicles range from **pick-up trucks** to **hatchbacks**, with a few luxury cars sprinkled in.

CARS, CARS, AND MORE CARS



The most common make is the **HONDA**, although the most popular model is a **TOYOTA COROLLA**. The most unique car is a **'68 RED MUSTANG**. However, there are plenty of cars in the parking lot that contradict the Marist luxury stereotype.

## WOE TO FREE 7TH

When an early end to the school day goes horribly wrong

By Chris Boyce

Seventh period free. The only thought pulsing through my head when I got my schedule in late August was how awesome this would be.

I thought of all the benefits of having 7th period off—I would be able to get all my homework done, work out and also leave school early. I planned to do anything possible to set myself up for lovely evenings of watching MTV reruns.

But as it turned out, free 7th period would be nothing like I anticipated.

For me, a normal school day slowly crawls to 5th period, when I make the dreaded walk to AP Government. Meanwhile, everybody else goes off campus for a long lunch with the possibility to

catch a nap.

I guess I'll just enjoy my 35-minute lunch in the cafeteria with my brown bag...yay. Finally 6th period arrives. After this class I am done. What kinds of activities will I do during my free period?

Then 7th period arrives. I'll start out in the library—oh wait, we call that the Academic Resource Center now-a-days.

Inside I see a table of my friends. *Sweet*, I say to myself. *I'll go sit there. They all have their homework out and look productive.*

But I have been doing school-work all day! I don't want to do any more work now. I decide to leave it for later, fully knowing that there is no way I'll be motivated enough to do it then. I'll be watching my

beloved Vizio television.

I consider a workout. However, the time that I wasted talking to my friends in the ARC would leave me with only 15 minutes to lift, so I might as well stay put.

Then a final idea for my free period hits me: I'll just go home! I can start my evening with a nap in my own bed before dinner and everything will be great.

But then I remember that I have practice right after school. I live 30 minutes away, so going home was never really an option.

The bell rings. I look up. I have just sat in the Academic Resource Center for the entire period. No sleeping in. No long lunches. Just sitting, doing nothing. Woe to free 7th period.

## HOW TO... GET OUT OF DETENTION

By Ryan Whalen

You have a small green slip in your hand, so simple but so evil. You have places to be and people to see, but what are you going to do? You have a date with Mr. Dreiling and a pair of latex gloves. But have no fear! I will attempt to teach you how to talk your way out of a detention.

I am not to be held accountable for any failed attempts. There are too many variables that may get in the way, such as bad breath, lack of puppy eyes, and whether or not Dreiling has had a decent breakfast.

The first thing you need to do is acquaint yourself with the crime of which you have been accused. You must prepare yourself to deny everything, and in preparation for your confrontation you need to ask yourself how far are you willing to go to get out of this detention.

Some reconnaissance is required. You need to know when and where Dreiling will be. This may dictate the chances of success.

Next comes the execution of the plan. Personally, I have found that an unwavering sense of determination and humor is the key to escape the clutches of after-school detention, but on a rare occasion a complete breakdown is needed to get the job done. Be warned though, if you do choose to have a complete breakdown with the waterworks on full blast—puffy eyes, quivering lip, and puppy eyes—know that Mr. Dreiling seems to be immune to these tactics, and will not think twice about serving you justice on a green sheet.

Here are some of the more unique ways to get out of a detention.

1. Take your detention slip and strut into Mr. Dreiling's office while wearing a Mr. Conroy disguise and slam that bad boy on his desk and say "Imma Boss." Then turn around before he has a chance to reply, and walk out the doors to sweet freedom.

2. Mr. Dreiling has a bit of a sweet tooth, so if you just happen to walk into his office with a fresh batch of blueberry muffins or chocolate chip cookies, you can be sure that your chances of being roped into the torture that is detention will drastically decrease.

3. The final example I have to share with you is a bit bold and dangerous, but mostly humiliating. Nonetheless, I will tell you because I like you and I don't want you to be trapped in the clutches of dreary dungeon detention. So, when Mr. Dreiling comes into your class and tries to hand you a green slip, start the waterworks. Make sure the tears are streaming down your face as you let out a few soft sobs. Once the entire class recognizes what is going on, it's time to take it to the next level. Either fall onto the floor and curl up into a ball, or start making remarks about how hard you try to be a good student, but it is just so difficult when the cafeteria food is so bad. Then, without warning, stop sobbing and sit back down in your chair. There is nothing left to do but hope, pray, maybe eat if you are hungry, and with any luck, Mr. Dreiling will have some leniency and leave, green slip still in hand. Congratulations my friend! You have been humiliated, emasculated and shamed but you have, in fact, gotten out of detention.

## LUNCHES

Many seniors face a very interesting dilemma when trying to decide where to go for off campus lunch. **GOOD FOOD** at a relatively low price within a reasonable distance of Marist is something that isn't all that easy to find.

Luckily, I have compiled a list of locations close to Marist that offer great food for less than \$6.



\$5.99

**Mucho Gusto (Oakway)-  
Taco plate w/chips**



\$5.99

**Charlie's- 12-inch Philly  
cheesesteak (Tuesday)**



\$5.90

**Burrito Boy- Chicken  
Boy Burrito**

Other options...

\*Subway-\$5 foot long

\*Cafe Yumm- \$5.75 regular original "Yumm Bowl"

\*Panda Express-\$5.25 "Panda Bowl"

## ACROSS THE GLOBE IN 21 DAYS

Junior Eric Hammerschmith points to New Zealand on a globe after returning from an educational seminar camp. Photo by Toni Cooper



By Ryan Whalen

Imagine this—all the adults in your community have left with no promise to return. You are left to group up with the other kids and debate and make decisions on topics ranging from what kind of foods to buy to eradicating racism and poverty.

For the past month junior Eric Hammerschmith has been living this very scenario. He just returned from Auckland, New Zealand, where he attended a seminar camp put on by CISV International, an organization dedicated to world peace through cultural understanding.

Delegates from all around the world were selected to participate in this simulated community. No more than four delegates could be from the same country.

After a twelve-hour flight and a two hour drive, Hammerschmith found himself, along with 31 other

delegates, standing in front of their home for the next three weeks. The first three days were led by adult moderators, who conducted ice breakers and name games, allowing the delegates to get to know each other. But at the start of the fourth day they were on their own.

The first matter Hammerschmith and the other delegates tackled was creating "rules of operation," a system of laws each delegate was required to follow. Next, they set up a list of chores and divided up responsibilities and other glamorous duties. For larger issues, the delegates assembled and lobbied their personal opinions, like what kind of food should be bought with the allotted money they were given, and once the debates concluded a vote was conducted.

Hammerschmith said the group became so close and cohesive that they "rarely struggled over debates,

even when it came to larger issues like racism they did not fight." Adult onlookers tried to stir up debate by giving opposing input, but the group maintained their beliefs and avoided a heated argument. Days were focused around a delegate-ran activity which acted as a mental or physical challenge, pushing delegates to work together. After each activity, Hammerschmith said that "there was a great sense of accomplishment." All activities were run by a team of four to eight delegates depending on the intricacy of the challenge.

Hammerschmith said the experience was one that he would never forget, and he will miss "the awesome people and the independence, and the Italians were great cooks." However, he did say that he could have done without the thirteen hour plane ride back to the United States and the pile of homework.

Dear Diary,

Newspaper class is getting worse and worse each day! Our self-established editor-in-chief, Michael Busse, has been riding Christopher Boyce and me all year and we're sick of it. He walks around the room all high and mighty like he owns the place, and belittles Chris and me on a constant basis. It's almost like he expects us to write our own stories. Whenever I ask him a question, he runs away or gives sarcastic responses, which creates a hostile work environment. Worst of all, he doesn't watch TV, and he wants to cancel late starts!

The only thing that we were able to look forward to was juice, but Michael Lyford decided to put a stop to that! It was up to Ryan Whalen to come and save the day by bringing us hard workers a steady supply of vitamin C. He represents a lone ally on the wicked Gestapo newspaper editor council! Alyssa Grimaldi and McKenzie O'Leary are neutral in most affairs, except when they steal the lone heater in the room. Robin Lilley, on the other hand, is their secret weapon, their pawn in this battle of brawn and will. Whenever we are granted freedom from the Busse regime, she takes over and likes to yell at us, specifically targeting me with her hailstorm of negativity.

Ryan Whalen is a symbol of hope for all peasants of newspaper class. Together we will one day take down the oppressive regime of Comrade Busse and his simpletons, but for now I'll continue to write stories like this in my diary. Literary gold, hidden behind a cold steel lock, stories that no one will read, except for Ms. Cooper of course, so I can pass this ramshackle of a class.

xoxoxoxo Lockes of Love, Taylor

Dec. 21, 2012  
The END is near...

By Ryan Whalen

Well folks, the end is near.

We are on the brink of an apocalypse. December 21st will mark the end of the 13th cycle of the Mayan calendar, which is supposed to mean something. Whether it be by meteorite, solar flare, earthquake, or aliens, the world as we know it will definitely end on that exact date.

Several elite experts that specialize in Mayan culture have confirmed that Armageddon is approaching. These experts are well-qualified and stand among ghost hunters and Sasquatch specialists as some of the most influential consultants in the modern era.

Knowing the exact date of the world's end is a scary thing, just like knowing what really goes into fast food, or what goes on in the minds of women.

With the end in life firmly established, how will you spend your final moment? Will you be at a crazy dance party with Britney Spears, finishing your Ferrari paper, or maybe expressing your love for your secret crush?

Of course, if by some God-given miracle we are saved, and December 21st passes like any other normal day, you may be in a bit of a pickle. Britney Spears may wonder what you are doing in her front yard, Mr. Ferrari probably still won't accept your late work, and you may be publicly humiliated for months because your crush has been dating someone else for the last year.

But there is no need to worry! You can count on the apocalypse. It is bound to happen, just like Justin Stapleton promising a snow day, 100% chance.

The Good  
The Bad  
The Ugly... of OCCUPY

By Michael Lyford

You may have wondered exactly what was going on last November when a small community of tents sprang up in a matter of days at Washington-Jefferson Park in Eugene.

Maybe you were confused as to why the most prominent news stations on television showed hordes of people from across the country holding up signs with the words "We are the 99%" or "Occupy together". What is the Occupy Movement all about, and for what exactly are these protestors asking?

Occupiers, as they have been named, have simplified the dilemma into a very "black and white" dispute. On one side is, "The 1%", a name given to the small elite who account for a quarter of the nation's income and 40% of the country's total wealth. On the other side are the protestors, who call themselves "The 99%". They hold the remaining income (75%) and wealth (60%).

All this talk of lopsided wealth distribution begs the question, "Hasn't economic inequality

always been a part of American Society?"

The answer is yes. From tycoons such as Rockefeller, Carnegie, and J.P. Morgan in the early 20th century to today's business executives and financial professionals, America has always been a nation where a very small number of people hold the majority of the wealth, and the same remains true today.

The Occupy Movement has come about not because people are just now realizing that economic inequality exists. Instead, the protestors have become conscious of the steadily growing gap between the rich and everyone else. In fact, this gap has grown by 13.5 percent since 1980.

However, while the protestors are very certain of who the "bad guy" is, they have no unified set of ideas on how to effectively combat economic inequality.

History proves that many voices united together have the power to topple even the greatest empires. However, history also shows that if a movement does not

have a specified objective, it has a greater chance for failure.

The European Revolutions of 1848 and the revolutions that swept through the Arab World last spring provide good examples. In both cases, protestors were initially successful, but their lack of unity destined them for failure just a few months after overthrowing oppressive regimes.

In Eugene, protestors are keeping the fight alive by conducting marches, rallies and protests outside of several downtown banks, but the initial enthusiasm surrounding the local movement has died down, as the decision to disband the Eugene occupy camp was made on Dec. 20 after a man was found beaten and choked in the camp.

Will the national occupy movement bring about sustained change, or will it fall apart like the occupy camp did in Eugene? Only time will tell, but regardless of the outcome, there is no doubt that occupy protestors have placed new-found emphasis on a serious issue in American Society.



Junior Emmitt Cummings agonizes over homework. photo by Tyler Beyerlein

By Michael Busse

When it comes time for you to choose your classes for next year, you may want to consider taking an Advanced Placement class.

AP classes??

A cold shiver runs down your spine as visions of late nights and endless papers fill your mind. However, as you face the decision, think about the many benefits of enrolling in one or more AP courses.

"Best decision I ever made," said graduate Moira Cary '10, who now is in her second year at Gonzaga University in Spokane, where she majors in Psychology with minors in Sociology and Philosophy. Because of the credit she received from the AP and College Now courses, she was able to start college as an academic sophomore.

"You pay the same amount of tuition at Marist whether you take College Now/AP classes or not, so it's the best use of your money to kill two birds with one stone and essentially get a year of college paid for while going to high school!" Cary advises. "It's worth the extra work you have to put in, especially with teachers as helpful as the ones at Marist."

Across the country in New York at Syracuse University, Audrey Hart '11, is having a similar experience because of the credits that carried over from

Marist.

"They put me a whole semester ahead," said Hart. This advantage has allowed her to more easily take on the challenge of double-majoring in magazine journalism and history, as well as minoring in sports marketing.

The extra work associated with advanced classes may get in the way of social plans, Hart acknowledges. "Make sure you're ready for them," she warns. "I wouldn't say they are for everyone."

Don't just take an advanced course in order to help your college prospects. Not all universities accept the credit. You will benefit more from a class if you will enjoy the work.

"There should be an interest in the subject, in expanding your knowledge and critical thinking," says senior counselor Court Wirth. "Challenge yourself appropriately and if you do well, continue to push yourself."

Marist offers 13 Advanced Placement classes, and students can receive College Now credit from Lane Community College for several other courses.

Whether you want a more in-depth class in your favorite subject or are looking ahead to college, taking an AP class may be the right choice for you.

Is it worth it?  
HARNESSING THE  
AP ADVANTAGE  
A few compelling reasons why you  
should take AP classes



popular names

How many Marist students share your name?

- |                   |             |                    |              |             |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 7 Taylor's        | 6 Zachary's | 5 Anderson's       | 4 Sam's      | 5           |
| 1 Taylor          | 6 Tyler's   | 1 Andersen         | 4 Samantha's | 2 Austin's  |
|                   | 6 Jacob's   | 1 Alexandra (Lexy) | Samuel's     | 1           |
|                   | 6 Michael's | 1 Alexander        | Joseph's     | 5 Austen    |
| 9 Emily's         | 1 Emilee    | 1 Alexis           | Andrew's     | 5 Rivas     |
| 8 Ben's           | 3 Haley's   | 2 Alexa's          | 6 Thompson's | 4 Park's    |
| 9 Josh's (Joshua) | 2 Halie's   | 1 Alec             | 1 Alex       | 1 Will's    |
|                   | Hayley      | 1 Hailey           | Wille        | 4 William's |
|                   |             |                    |              | 3           |

# WINTER SPORTS ALBUM



## TAKING THEIR TALENT TO THE NEXT LEVEL

By Michael Lyford

While most seniors at Marist are trying to decide which college to attend based on factors such as location, academic programs, cost, or size, there are a few seniors who are making their decision with their favorite sport in mind.

Golfer Brent Pollock and basketball star Hanna Mack have already earned scholarships to Utah and Eastern Washington respectively, and there are still more seniors deciding.

The Midwestern League soccer co-MVP, and recipient of 5A All-State honors, senior Emma Cooney, has decided to sign with Portland State. Cooney thinks the combination of the downtown campus, the coaches, and a partial scholarship made Portland State the right choice for her. "I'm excited for all the free stuff," said Cooney.

Senior Colton Bowden is choosing to walk onto the Portland State University football team. Bowden led the football team in tackles last fall, and also received All-State honors for punting. With an average of 38.85 yards per punt, Bowden caught the eye of a few college recruits, but chose PSU because he felt it was the best fit.

Soccer star Tyler Patterson has made the decision to play for Oregon State University. With accolades such as Midwestern League Player of the Year and First Team All-State for playing goal keeper, Patterson chose OSU because of the atmosphere surrounding the soccer program and the availability of his desired major—mechanical engineering. "I'm excited to be a part of the soccer team and to be able to wake up later for class," said Patterson.

Emilee Chapman has decided to play volleyball for the College of Idaho and Taylor Walcott who signed with Montana this Wednesday has decided to play football for the Grizzlies.

Seniors who have decided to pursue their favorite sport but have not made a decision on which college to attend are: Amanda Robert, Josh Paientment, Paxton Miller, McKenzie Hughes, Chris Boyce, and Garret Holaday.

Above: Junior Emmitt Cummings flies towards the finish in the 200 medley relay. Cummings and teammates hope to make it to state in the relay. Photo by Emma Pindell



Junior Josh Harper makes a lay-up in a game against South Eugene at home. Varsity is 11-6 so far this season and are looking for a strong second half of the season. Photo by Jenna Laver

Below: Freshman Emily Boyd and strike poses at the winter sports assembly. Photo by Alex Seaver



Junior Tyler Dennis drives into the key against Thurston. JV is 10-7 this season and they are looking for their chance to prove themselves on the next level. Photo by Kaitlin Grafton

Below: Sophomore Kashi Hall pins an opponent during a wrestling competition. Varsity has come a long way this season and are trying to change the culture of the program. Photo by Josh Reay



Freshman Allie Thompson takes a breath in the 100 breaststroke. Thompson and her teammates hope to make a strong showing at state in the 200 relay. Photo by Alex Seaver



Sophomore Martha Gehrig works against a defender from South Eugene. Photo by Paul Duncan



Senior Hanna Mack leaps for the tip at the beginning of a girl's varsity game. Varsity is 10-8 so far and have had an up and down season. Photo by Taylor Kirkpatrick



The equestrian team, made up of juniors Kristin Schlitt, Susie Baird, and senior Macaela Cowley will be having their first competition this Friday through Sunday at the Oregon Horse Center in Eugene. Photo by Mike Crowley



Senior Courtney Volta enthusiastically dances during a performance by the Dance Team during halftime at a boys basketball game. Photo by Toni Cooper

### By the Numbers

90

Rebounds by senior varsity basketball player Garret Holaday through the first 13 games.

164

Points by girl's varsity basketball player Sami Pitts this season through the first 16 games

9

Individual wins by junior swimmer Alex Seaver

47

Swimsuits owned by the eight girls on the swim team

8

Pins by freshmen wrestler Connor Hoag

# BALLET POWER

*Dedication, perseverance and hard work allows junior Mandy Power to set her sights on the Big Apple*

*Junior Mandy Powers shows off her ballet skills at the Owen Rose Garden in downtown Eugene. photo by Samantha Bock*



By Jake Gram

While most students enjoy sleeping in late and doing as little as possible on their weekends, Marist junior Mandy Power wakes up early to go to ballet practice. These weekend ballet practices often last up to six hours, but Power does not mind.

Ballet is not just a weekend activity for Power, who practices for nearly 30 hours a week. The length of ballet practices may seem incredible to most people, but ballet is a type of performing art that requires a great deal of dedication and preparation.

Power is used to the long and frequent nature of ballet practices. She has been performing since the age of 12 when her mom signed her up to take ballet classes. However, ballet does not stop once practice is over. Power constantly stretches and exercises to stay in top shape for performing.

This dedication and hard work has paid off for Power. She has been a part of several major performances. Twice she performed as the lead role in the

Nutcracker, in addition to performing in The Sugar Plum Fairy and Swan Lake. She most recently danced the lead role in the performance of Sleeping Beauty.

Ballet is both a sport and an art. It requires those who participate in it to be in the best of physical shape. Yet, at the same time, it has an artistic element that cannot be found in other sports. The dualistic nature of Ballet is one of the reasons that Power enjoys performing so much.

Power plans to continue performing ballet. She has no upcoming performances in the near future, but has been preparing for several auditions. She recently auditioned for and was accepted into the highest level of programs at three prestigious ballet institutions located across the country.

While ballet is certainly an important part of Power's life, she still makes time for her school work and for hanging out with her friends.

SPORTS EDITORIAL

## Student Section Revival Necessary

By Zach Silva

2009-2010 was a big year for Marist athletics. Four state titles: football, girls cross country, girls swimming and boys golf. These performances were complimented by strong state finishes from boys basketball, boys cross country, track and field, and girls basketball.

It was an equally big year for the Marist fans in the crowd.

At nearly every event students of all grades flocked to the stands in an act of school unity. Each sport experienced new levels of respect. The football student section filled to the brim. The basketball student section overflowed with rambunctious students.

Besides the usual fans that attend the games, there was an effort to draw an even larger crowd. Then-seniors Sarah Jamieson, Allie Rogers and Danielle Gehrke led the charge. Appalled by past student sections, they were looking to change the environment at sporting events.

Their mission was to get big crowds of students to the games and scream their heads off. They were not focused on just the mainstream sports of football and basketball but wanted fans to be heard at swim meets and girls soccer games. Sports that have historically not received any attention on the Marist campus were now getting their day in the sun.

"If you're passionate about something, especially at Marist, it's contagious," Jamieson told me as she reflected on her student section experience at Marist. They embraced Marist's motto of "We Are One" and used it as a way to spread school spirit.

But the class of 2010, a class that had embodied school spirit, graduated. In the 2010-2011 school year there was no more Rally Crew. An empty student section had now become the norm. Students no longer cheered loudly. People were sitting at basketball games. The once-spirited fans became quiet spectators. Along with these factors, Marist was moving up to the 5A OSAA classification. Marist had changed from the days of complete dominance to a new challenge in the athletic arena.

This new challenge led Marist into the easily forgettable dark days of 2010-2011. This was the year without a state title. It was only the second time since 1995 that Marist did not win a championship.

What does that say about the type of fans we are as Marist students? Does Marist have to win championships to have a strong student section? Can we only be associated with a winning team or once a team starts to lose do they quickly lose fan support?

We would claim that we didn't know anyone on the team or that our friends aren't in the stands. Why does that matter? We are a school and we should cheer on our classmates. Period. And if it really is that big of a deal, make some new friends.

We claim that we have too much homework. We always have homework. What is one more night of procrastination?

We say that we don't have a ride. Marist students live all over the place. From the South Hills to Corvallis, I am sure there is someone who lives by you. Unless you are Drew Boyles.

Whatever the case, there has been a revival in all student sections this year. This past fall the volleyball student section came alive. They were loud, obnoxious, and eager to cheer; everything a good student section is.

There has also been a movement to revive the dormant student sections at basketball games.

Senior basketball player Josh Paiement has been campaigning for wider fan participation on Facebook. This approach brought instant results, and the stands have been regularly filling up. Many other students are joining in the efforts. Senior Andrew Stewart designed and sold "Welcome to the Holy Dome" shirts. They have become popular attire in the section, and sparked interest amongst students. Juniors Megan Braud and Jenna Laver are looking to add excitement to the student section and are trying to start Rally Crew II.

Marist's school spirit is on the rise. We support our classmates in all they do. From cheering on the field to going to watch a play, school spirit means supporting your classmates because they represent your school. School spirit is an important value that should be ingrained in all Spartans.

## THE VOICES OF MARIST

*Juniors commentate boys basketball games live via Ustream*

By Taylor Locke



Juniors Jackson Bedbury and Zach Silva announce a home basketball game. photo by Emma Pindell

Beneath all the fame and glamour that comes with announcing the basketball games, juniors Zach Silva and Jackson Bedbury are your typical Marist High School students.

However, when it's game time, they become the voices of the Spartans.

Silva and Bedbury got into announcing when they showed interest in helping out the team. Network Administrator Chris Fudge told them that they could announce the games and they happily accepted the task.

Announcing the basketball games is serious work. Silva normally has the responsibility of doing play by play while Jackson provides commentary but they have recently mixed up this strategy. In the most recent game, Bedbury took over play by play and Zach took over commentary. They're hoping to keep on switching it up each game.

They were both inspired by NFL announcer John Gruden. They like to think of themselves as the next

Mike and Mike, the announcers of the Portland Trail Blazers. When asked if they prefer Mike Parker, the announcer for the Oregon State Beavers, or Jerry Allen, the announcer for the Oregon Ducks, they both chose Allen. Silva said the Parker's voice is definitely unique, but Bedbury was quick to point out, "Zach's face is unique too, but that doesn't mean that it's not ugly."

There are many benefits that come with the job but also a couple downsides. The ability to broadcast the games over the internet and around the country so people like senior on the team Willy Malos's grandmother can hear the game, the new fame, and the women are all upsides. However they are no longer able to participate in the student section during games.

While they miss being in the crowd, they know that they have a responsibility and they will always be proud to be Voices of the Spartans.



Read the SPARTAN SPEAR ONLINE each Friday for updates on your favorite team along with photo!



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5:45

Time the dance team meets every morning before school for practice

3

Highest number of guys on the cheer team at one point this year

# #yourenotcoolif

...you haven't heard of these trendy things

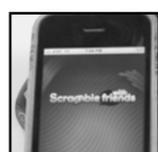
By Mckenzie O'Leary



**@Twitter**  
Though it's been around for a while, a tidal wave of Marist students have recently joined



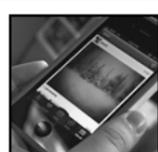
**@SmartPhones**  
They have everything including Twitter and games, and they can tell you the meaning of life



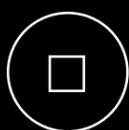
**@ScrambleWithFriends**  
Words with Friends with a new twist  
#addicting



**@Siri**  
People don't look at you funny when you have a conversation with your phone #needrealfriends



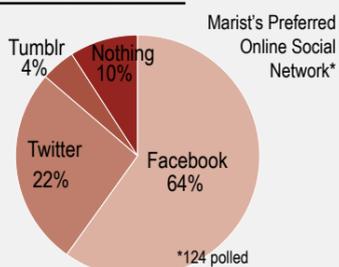
**@Instagram**  
This app will make you look like a professional photographer by making your ordinary pictures extraordinary #photoopp



## STUDENT STATS

**VENETA**  
Town with the most Marist students outside of Eugene-Springfield, with nine

**97404**  
The zip code for the River Road area, in which more Marist students live than any other, beating the '01 zip code by one student



**65%**  
The percentage of Walt Fox's American Government classes that would vote Republican if the election were held today, though Obama received more votes than any other candidate

### THE PHONES OF MARIST HIGH SCHOOL

iPhone	other smartphone	neither
46.7%	15.2%	38.1%

\*105 polled

# MY PET PEEVES >:(

By Taylor Locke

I'm one of those people who are usually pretty quiet when something bothers me, I may not seem like it but I am surprisingly patient. However, there are times when I lose it and go off on people, like right now. These are my pet peeves/people that annoy me.

- People who like bad music. I actually have a pretty wide range of music, but 90 percent of the music that is on stations like KDUK just rub me the wrong way. Music should have some meaning, not about "poppin bottles like a slizzard." Today's mainstream music is garbage, and I'm not trying to be a hipster because I also happen to hate hipsters. Unfortunately, they happen to have good music. My sister loves all that crap on KDUK and she thinks all my music is stupid and sucks because it's not popular. In my opinion, when music is not popular it's good.
- Hipsters. They think they're such rebels by

wearing scarfs in the summer, or glasses without lenses, or jeans that constrict their ability to reproduce. They also say how they knew about this movie before it was popular, or they knew about this song before it was on that one commercial or blah blah blah.

- People who walk like they're ripped when they're not. (Mr. Oldham)
- People who don't close doors when they leave a room when the door was closed to begin with. That door was closed for a reason, how about we keep it that way so that I don't have to go out of my way to fix it. I have enough to deal with.
- People who brush their teeth with the door closed. Don't worry I don't think I'll accidentally see anything. You know I have to use that bathroom too.
- People who don't change the toilet paper. If you used it all replace it!
- To be continued...

# THE FAMILY GUY DILEMMA

By Taylor Locke

Every once in a while, a show comes along that touches the hearts of millions. A show that comes into our homes and lifts us up after a rough day. A show that will make us laugh, cry, and fall in love with its characters. Family Guy...is not this show.

Family Guy stands alone as an all-encompassing comedy show. It combines random flashbacks with knee-slapping humor for a distinctive viewing experience. Millions of people love it, over 41 million on Facebook like it, and perhaps just as many hate it. In fact the "Parents TV Council" gave it a red light rating—which is bad.

It has attracted the young, the immature, the bored, and those who stay up too late watching all the really weird shows. It will often times push the boundaries of where a show on basic cable can go, poking fun at every race, religion, and political affiliation.

It has in some way offended everyone. Literally no one is safe.

Family Guy is popular among teenage boys, probably because of the immaturity factor. If you were to ask any student around Marist about the show, I'm positive that they will, at the very least, have heard of it.

To be honest, at this point in our society if you haven't sat down and watched at least part of an episode of Family Guy, you either hate life, are determined to not conform, are mature, or have heard of it and have a deep burning hatred for the show. In fact, there are many haters of the show. They complain of it being nothing special, just a collection of random flashbacks and fart jokes (which it is, and that's why it's freaking hilarious).

The show may not be for everybody, but for people who just want to sit down and have their brain melt away, it's perfect.

## Two Truths AND A LIE

[A] I have a guinea pig.  
[B] I have never been to Japan.  
[C] My best friend filled this part for me because I wouldn't.

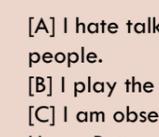


Heather Clark  
9



Peter Young  
10

[A] I shot footage for Oprah.  
[B] I have stayed three nights at NASA in Huston, Texas.  
[C] I have been to Hawaii.



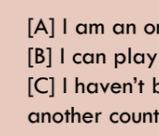
Vanessa Weber  
11

[A] I hate talking to people.  
[B] I play the piano.  
[C] I am obsessed with Harry Potter.



Braden Bollinger  
11

[A] I have been bitten by a rabid bat.  
[B] I am allergic to avocado.  
[C] I have gone swimming with manatees in Florida.



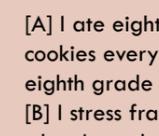
Rebekah Koon  
12

[A] I am an only child.  
[B] I can play the piano.  
[C] I haven't been to another country.



Andrew McIntyre  
12

[A] I fight ninjas in my spare time.  
[B] I lost my appendix.  
[C] I met the President.



Melinda Boettcher  
STAFF

[A] I ate eight oreo cookies every day of my eighth grade year  
[B] I stress fractured when I ran the Portland marathon.  
[C] I appeared in a documentary of mass shooting and a quadruple homicide.

Answers: Heather Clark: B  
Peter Young: B  
Vanessa Weber: C  
Braden Bollinger: A  
Andrew McIntyre: C  
Melinda Boettcher: B

# Love Advice

FROM THE EXPERTS SOME SENIORS

### FOR THE GIRLS

#### IF YOU WANT TO ASK THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE OUT:

**RYAN:** Send the man of your dreams a heart-warming text that will explicitly express your obsession and love for him. Make sure you end it with a wink face ;).

#### IF YOU ARE NOT AS BOLD AND JUST WANT TO GET SOMEONE'S ATTENTION:

**RYAN:** Drop your books on his shoes and he is sure to help you pick them up. Just make sure you don't scuff his shoes, because if that happens, you better start looking for another stud.

#### WHEN YOU FINALLY GET SOMEONE TO SAY YES BUT YOU ARE AT A LOSS FOR UNIQUE DATE IDEAS:

**RYAN:** Pray to Kirk Herbstreit or some other masculine figure you can think of (and no, Justin Bieber does not have the testosterone necessary to be considered a "masculine" figure).

#### WHAT TO GET YOUR HONEYBUNCHES OF OATS FOR THAT 7TH DAY ANNIVERSARY:

**RYAN:** Get your hot hunk something that can be easily replaceable, like a white cotton t-shirt or a pencil eraser. That way when he loses it he won't worry about his irresponsibility, and you can avoid an overreaction.

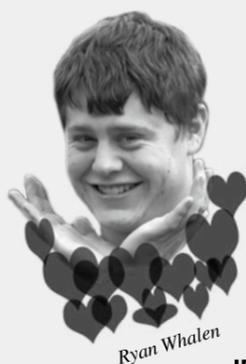
### FOR THE GUYS

**MCKENZIE:** Dress as Justin Bieber, purple hoodie and all, and serenade her.

**MCKENZIE:** Drive out of the parking lot at the same time and tail gate really closely. She will of course want to know who to yell at, and when she realizes it's you, you're in!

**MCKENZIE:** Watch MTV's "Disaster Date" for ideas. When your first date is really bad, you can tell her, "Well it can only be up hill from here!"

**MCKENZIE:** For anniversary gifts, get her dollar store items so she won't expect anything fancy from you ... ever.



Ryan Whalen



McKenzie O'Leary

# GOOD NEWS FOR GODSPELL



During *Godspell*'s opening night, senior Michael Busse, playing Jesus, sings "God Save the People" while he is baptized by senior Kendra Greenwell, playing John the Baptist. photo by Samantha Bock



Junior Braden Bollinger belts "All Good Gifts." Bollinger, dressed as Justin Bieber, is part of the group of apostles. photo by Trish Laver

Seniors Michael Busse and Kendra Greenwell conclude the song "All for the Best," while surrounded by the cast photo by Toni Cooper



## By Jackson Bedbury

I was sitting in the Marist theatre, in the front row of the section reserved for students with free ticket vouchers when one thing came to my mind: Michael Busse is never going to let us forget that he played Jesus in *Godspell*.

Marist's winter production of *Godspell*, spearheaded by theatre director Tony Rust, ran five shows over two weekends. Opening night, January 13th, was an immense success; the theatre was filled to capacity and the crew had to bring in more chairs to meet demand.

*Godspell* was entertaining and well-directed but also a bit different from the original production. It first arrived on Broadway as a smash-hit 40 years ago, written and

directed by John-Michael Tebelak and accompanied by an upbeat, peppy, and modern score by Stephen Schwartz.

Though most of the main elements of the show remained the same, one of the key differences was that everyone in the musical portrayed a pop-culture icon. The celebrities—including Bono, Amy Winehouse, Marilyn Monroe, Hannah Montana, Katy Perry and Justin Bieber—were portrayed with fantastic costumes and hairdos.

The finale was also different: Jesus was actually crucified on a cross whereas in the original he was executed on an electric fence. Marist put on *Godspell* six years ago and those involved in it this year thought it was necessary to put their own twist on the

play, which included big screen projections complementing the different scenes.

Busse was backed by a superb supporting cast and ensemble. Several students playing apostles, including Braden Bollinger, Adri Cardani, and Jessica Perry, had showcase songs.

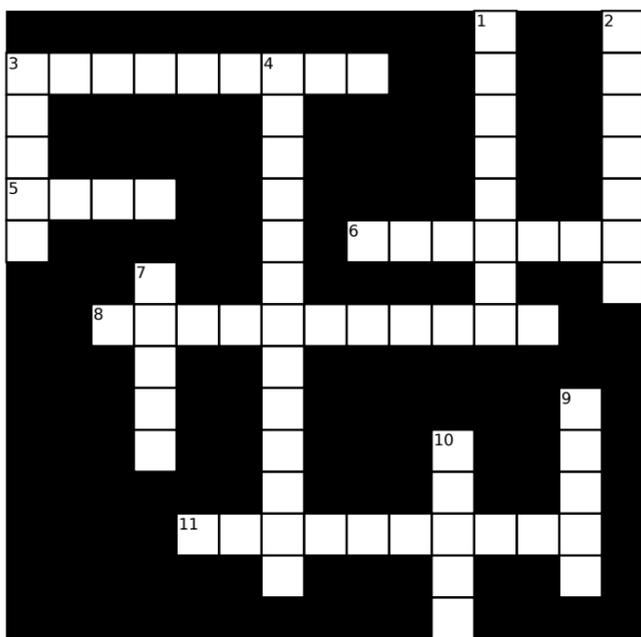
During a scene about loving one's enemies the whole cast was supposed to bicker with one another. I had the pleasure of sitting directly in front of junior cast members Jamie Ferrari and Brooke Gemmill, which was thoroughly entertaining. The banter between the two further engaged and enthralled me, and the others around me, especially when they began to involve us in the dialogue as well.

The show appealed to a variety of audiences including parents, staff, and children. The final performance, a Sunday matinee, was filled with children who enjoyed the performance and according to Perry, they laughed the whole time.

Marist's next production—a comedy called *Too Many Chickens*—will open in April. It was written by a friend of Rust and is expected to be zany and light-hearted.

If it is even half as good as *Godspell* it will surely be fantastic. I can almost certainly say I will be there and I would recommend everyone take the time to go support the students and see yet another wonderful play put on by the stellar theatre department.

# CROSSWORD



- Across
- 3. Nickname of Marist Gym used in student section t-shirts (2 words)
  - 5. Most popular pet amongst Marist students
  - 6. Cross-shaped molecule in the body that directs and holds together cells
  - 8. NFL commentator and inspiration of Marist broadcasters Zach Silva and Jackson Bedbury (2 Words)
  - 11. Disease that causes a decrease in motivation to succeed academically as a senior
- Down
- 1. Most common method of relieving stress amongst surveyed students
  - 2. Baked good that a student could give to Mr. Dreiling to get out of detention
  - 3. Most popular make of car in the Marist parking lot
  - 4. Movement against wealth inequality that took place in Eugene (2 Words)
  - 7. No homeless but \_\_\_\_-less
  - 9. Oppressive newspaper editor tyrant
  - 10. Most popular name at Marist

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