



THE SPARTAN SPEAR

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 15

MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

JANUARY 17, 2014

Seniors Prepare for Their Next Journey



A host of Spartan seniors pose at the Metanoia last weekend. Photo by Elizabeth Locke

By Maureen Pappin

This past weekend, a group of 27 seniors, four staff members, and seven Marist alumni ventured out to St. Benedict's Lodge on the McKenzie River for a weekend filled with laughter, hiking, delicious food, cool games, small group sessions and other spiritually-enriching activities.

The graduates worked together with Retreat Moderator Bill Ferrari to guide the students through the weekend of activities that centered on helping the seniors begin the transition process into life beyond high school. Grads led small group activities and provided the seniors with advice and suggestions for their futures in college.

"It was chill. It was a lot less intense than the Encounter, but definitely worth going on," said senior Sam Harwood.

There are two more Senior Metanoias scheduled for Jan. 24-26 and Feb. 14-16.

Marist Welcomes New Staff Member



New staff member Don Behrens. Photo by Zac Oldham

By Tayler Anderson

While walking around campus you may notice a new friendly face belonging to our new daytime Maintenance Supervisor Don Behrens.

Before coming to Marist Behrens had been working at senior citizen homes which he enjoyed. He applied for the Marist job almost two years ago and received a phone call in January from Rick Gardner asking him if he was still interested.

Behrens immediately said yes! "I love the energy and all the students' enthusiasm around the campus, after working with senior citizens so much, it's nice to be around young people, and it's really refreshing and makes me want to stay young," said Behrens.

Behrens served in the Navy for 22 years, much of it in Italy before retiring years ago.

GETTING THE PEP IN OUR STEP



Sophomore twins Emily and Sam Scherer work together to wipe the shaving cream off of their balloon with a safety razor as the Sophomore class cheers them on. Photo by Toni Cooper

Students gather to celebrate athletes and compete in class competitions

By Natalia Zreliak

This Wednesday the winter sports pep rally was held in the gym to pump students up for the upcoming sports season and recognize both the Spartans and athletes of the past winter months.

This was followed by a student versus staff game of dodge ball in which Sarah Reed and Pat Wagner dressed especially for the occasion with bright colors, bandanas, and tights. The other teachers donned war paint under their

eyes, but ultimately lost the exciting match to the students.

Volunteers were also taken, one from each grade, and brought into the center of the gym to compete in a new class competition. Students had a tissue box filled with ping pong balls tied to their waists and had to shake them out without using their hands. It proved to be much harder than expected so the competitors were forced to get creative. The game ended with senior Rowdy Huston

and junior Will Stewart shimmying their way to victory.



Attempting to empty their tissue boxes of ping-pong balls, Sophomore Tiffany McLean, freshman Brandon Meas, junior Jackson Ryan and senior Rowdy Huston shake it. Photo by Toni

Message of Life Spreads City Wide



An LTD bus sits parked adorned with the Marist For Life message. Photo courtesy of Marist For Life.

By Jordan Picklerl

Marist for Life, Marist's student pro-life club, entered its third year of spreading a pro-life message on Eugene city busses this December.

The club's "Respect Life, Respect Yourself" message will run on three Eugene city busses under a

three month contract and will continue thereafter until the Lane Transit District receives other advertisements to replace them.

This is the third year the club has received grant money for the project from the Storms Family Foundation, an Oregon based foundation which focuses its philanthropic efforts on "directly and positively affect[ing] human life."

"It just gets awareness out there," said Marist for Life Treasurer Tyler Fechtel "When you're driving behind a bus it gets the awareness and knowledge out that there are places to help."

The image featured on the ads is a symbol originally used by national Catholic fraternal organization, the Knights of Columbus in Texas to signify help for a pregnancy crisis when placed on the front door of a home. The text accompanying the ad was created by club moderator Heidi Susec and voted on by the club.

Prospective Families Explore Marist

By Danielle Reed

Last Saturday 150 families interested in attending Marist showed up for the annual Preview Day hosted by staff and students to spend the afternoon learning about the school's admissions process, academics, clubs, activities, and sports.

"Preview Day is exciting because it gives prospective students and families a great picture of a great school," said Principal Jay Conroy.

The visiting families listened to five academic presentations put on by the different departments which lasted 15 minutes each, then headed to an athletic and activities fair in the Activity Center.

Preview Day, which has been held for over 15 years, was organized by Dean of Admissions Stacy



A handful of Marist students lead a tour across the courtyard of the campus. Photo by Sam Inouye

Baker, who reported that normally about 90% of families who attend enroll for the following year.

SPARTAN SPORTS with HART AND MARTIN

BOYS BASKETBALL

1/10: Varsity lost to Corvallis 46-48. JV won 51-46. Freshman lost 40-49.

1/14: Varsity beat South Eugene 53-51. JV lost 50-45. Freshman lost.

1/17: Varsity has a home game against Thurston that starts at 7pm. JV plays at 5:30. Freshman play at 4pm.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

1/10: Varsity beat Churchill 58-51. JV won 59-44.

1/14: Varsity beat South Eugene 50-30. JV won 54-44. JV2 won 40-29.

1/16: Varsity beat Thurston 41-40. JV2 won 49-28.

SWIMMING

1/17: Varsity has a meet against Churchill at Echo Hollow Pool at 3:45.

CHESS

1/16: The team lost their match against Junction City.



Sophomore Haley Harrison battles a South Eugene player for the ball. Photo by Elizabeth Locke

Learning from the Best



Krista Chronister, Mike Donnelly and Pat Wagner share their experiences in the education field with students during a Brown Bag Lunch. Photo by Brennick Thompson

By Brennick Thompson

On Thursday at lunch, education professionals gathered in Room 200 to discuss education as a career with Marist students. The speakers were Mike Donnelly, a teacher and administrator for 39 years, Patrick Wagner, Marist's own Biology teacher, and Krista Chronister, a University of Oregon Psychology Professor.

They all talked about their history with education, their first teaching experience, and the most challenging part of teaching. The three also debated whether teaching was an art or a science and they concluded that if someone wants to get into teaching they must learn the science first, and develop the art of teaching as they gain experience in the field.

"I fell into education [and] it was the best decision of my life, besides marrying my wife, to go into teaching," said Mr. Wagner when asked about why he became a teacher.