



THE SPARTAN SPEAR

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MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Robotics Engineers a Second Place Finish



The Marist Robotics Team watches as their robot maneuvers in the arena. Photo by Elizabeth Locke

By Cory Park and Zac Oldham

Last Saturday, Marist's Robotics team took part in the Oregon FIRST Tech Challenge Qualifying Event at Oaklea Middle School in Junction City with the goal of becoming one of the three schools chosen to advance to the state competition. Pitted against teams representing 17 other schools across Oregon ranging from grades 7-12, Marist Robotics had to muster up their best engineering abilities in the fight for a spot in the quarter-finals. Unfortunately, the team did not qualify.

"We did really well; I was happy with what we got, but disappointed that we couldn't go any further," said team captain junior Josh McIntire.

Government Classes Write to Officials

By Tayler Anderson

This week the members of Mr. Fox's government class was asked to write letters to an elected government official about an issue that interests them or about an ongoing issue on the local or worldwide level.

Students addressed issues about the Eugene homeless camps, taxes, Oregon energy sources and many other issues facing our country today.

Fox told his classes that writing letters is a really good opportunity to voice their opinions and be heard. Students are hoping to receive responses addressing these issues in return.



Would you be willing to travel over 230 miles round trip to Portland on a school night for your sport? Well junior Bri and freshman Ashton Stowell do! Bri travels for cheer practice with the Oregon Dream Team and Ashton travels for club lacrosse. On Thursday nights Bri gets home around midnight. Their mother Deborah drives them so they have time to do homework in the car. Without a doubt the Stowell Sisters are very dedicated to their athletics.

CALLED TO SAINTHOOD



Youth Minister Steve Angrisano emphasizes a point to students during a Campus Ministry sponsored assembly. Photo by Zac Oldham

Speaker shares stories and songs to enlighten the journey to holiness

By Maureen Pappin

Welcomed with a roar of applause, world-renowned ministry leader and



Angrisano speaks to CLC students and Retreat Team members before the all school assembly. Photo by Zac Oldham

musician Steve Angrisano visited Marist on Tuesday at an all school assembly where he told the story of his spiritual life through song and many interactive activities. He also spent two block periods leading workshops with the Christian Leadership Class and a handful of Retreat Team members.

Angrisano started the assembly with several big group activities that gradually led into a storytelling session. He explained that his career started about thirteen years ago after his Littleton, Colorado community experienced the tragic Columbine High School

shooting. Though this experience was horrific, he understands that without having experienced the aftermath of the shooting, he would not be the same person he is today.

Another story Angrisano shared was about a group of nuns he once met who showed him through their kind deeds that it does not matter who we are or where we've come from, we all have the potential to be saints.

"It opened my eyes because it shed light on where God would be and where I can find him. It was very comforting," said junior Abby Pandina.

Successful Swim Districts Sends 12 to State

By Brennick Thompson

Swim districts for 5A ended last Saturday and after a season of hard work Marist girls won second place and the boys placed third out of the five teams that Marist swam against. After the two days of competition, 12 Marist swimmers will be heading to state to swim at the Mt. Hood Community College Aquatic Center on Feb. 21-22. Seven girls will be heading to state including freshman Rachel Larsen and junior Angela Sampson. Sophomores Marissa Gibson and Katie Seaver will also go to state after they swept the 500 freestyle placing first and second respectively. Both girls broke the Marist posted record for the event.

The Marist girls swim team received the first place award in academics for having the highest cumulative team GPA in the state. After their victory at



Sophomore Marissa Gibson catches a breath of air before going back under on her way to second place in the 100 meter butterfly race. Photo by Toni Cooper

districts, five boys will be swimming the 200 meter freestyle relay and junior Corey Solari will be swimming two other individual events.

Senior Retreat Season Comes to a Close with a Final "Change of Heart"



Senior Lexi Cross and art teacher Lex Schmidt smile together by the McKenzie River. Photo by Zac Oldham

By Garret Stollar

This past weekend concluded the season of senior retreats with the final Metanoia at St. Benedict's to help seniors meditate, look ahead, and enjoy bonding one final time.

Greek for "Change of Heart," this Metanoia was led by history department teacher and moderator Mark Chronister with the help of four other Marist staff and five Marist graduates.

The weekend consisted of small and large group activities, hikes through the pouring rain up river

streams, words of wisdom from the leaders and unforgettable moments.

The grad leaders encouraged the seniors to remember the importance of the Marist tradition and the legacies associated with this rich heritage. Art teacher and Marist alumna, Lex Schmidt, testified to the "wonderful appreciation" and "support of each other" that exists within the Class of 2014. Schmidt said this support is "contagious" and believes the current seniors to be one of the greatest classes to ever leave a legacy at Marist.

SPARTAN SPORTS with HART

BOYS BASKETBALL

2/15: Varsity lost to Churchill 53-75. JV lost and Freshman lost 55-74.

2/18: Varsity lost to Sheldon 48-80. JV lost and Freshman lost 36-69.

2/20: Varsity lost to Springfield 52-55. JV and Frosh both won.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

2/15: Varsity beat Churchill 61-43 and JV also won.

2/18: Varsity lost to Sheldon 52-57 and JV won.

2/21: There are two games today at Springfield High School. JV2 plays at 530 and Varsity starts at 7 P.M.

2/22: JV2 will be playing in a tournament at Sheldon High School. The tournament starts at 10 AM.

SWIMMING

2/21-22: Swimmers compete at the 5A state championships.

Senior Commits to Track Town USA



Fellow students gather to support senior Liam Henshaw after he signed with University of Oregon's track program on Feb. 5. Photo by Toni Cooper

Military Academy Visit

By Erica Landers

Whitney Couture, the district aide for Peter DeFazio, visited Marist last Wednesday for another Brown Bag Lunch. Each year, students who apply to military academies must be nominated by a congressman to attend the academy. Couture reviews applications and coordinates who is recommended by DeFazio for our congressional district.

During the lunch she discussed the process of applying, saying students should start the process junior year, take math and science classes, be active in leadership classes and team sports, and also to have a good knowledge of current events.

The deadline for senior applications to Couture is October 31, 2014.