



# THE SPARTAN SPEAR

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 1

MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 5, 2014

## Marist Students Put On A Magical Musical



The cast smiles for a photo. Photo courtesy of Susan Williams

By Jordan Pickrel

A group of Marist Theatre students brought their best sorcery and spells to Crescent Park in Eugene last Wednesday evening to perform a student-led production of *A Very Potter Musical* for a group of parents and students.

The production, directed by seniors Natalie Tichenor and Katelynn Williams, told a whimsical parody of the beloved series featuring a cast of nine Marist students along with six students from other high schools.

Willamette High School senior and former Marist student Maddy Wilke starred as the heroic Harry Potter, accompanied by Marist junior Avery May as the bashful Hermione and Willamette senior Ally Huyck as red-headed Ron.

Marist senior John Kerns flawlessly portrayed the bumbling and evil Voldemort, alongside fellow seniors Katherine Rivas, Katelynn Williams, Willie Johnson, Angelina Rivas and Natalie Tichenor.

Juniors Jacob and Andrew Welch and freshman Eric Tichenor completed the cast as residents of competing Hogwarts houses.

Williams said seeing the play performed in the past fueled her to propose a production of it with Tichenor "just for fun."

Despite production challenges they faced, both Williams and Tichenor agreed it was a good experience.

"I loved getting to see the other side of being in a play," said Tichenor. "I respect my directors a lot more."

## WELCOME TO MARIST



Freshman and transfer students are welcomed by student leaders at the Root Beer Social. Photo by Toni Cooper

## New Students Participate In Community Building

By Clara Lee

Incoming freshmen and new transfer students started their first day as members of the Marist community this Tuesday at the annual New Student Orientation. The students met over fun activities and games led by leaders from the Christian Leadership Class and Student Council.

Principal Jay Conroy told a story about attending the wedding of a Marist grad this summer whose four groomsmen were his friends from Marist. Senior leader Geraldine Perez thought this story taught a valuable lesson to new students that "if they re-

ally put themselves out there, they can make lifelong friends here at Marist."

During the remainder of the day, new students mingled with their classmates through games like "What celebrity am I?" And the Ship Game. Additionally, they learned more about Marist staff members, dress code, and mass etiquette through entertaining skits performed by leaders.

"I made new friends while playing games, and it was also a lot of fun," said freshman Kate Sherman. "And it was nice of them to give us a tour of the campus. No one got lost the first day, I think."



Julia Melendy plays rock, paper, scissors, chain in the gym with her fellow freshman. Photo by Victoria Richards

## Mary's Grotto Getting A Make-Over



The Marist grotto stands bare on the Marist campus, awaiting new landscaping. Photo by Sam Inouye

By Chris Keylock

Between the ARC and the B200 wing lies the once-overgrown, bronze-roofed grotto featuring a statue of Mother Mary and baby Jesus.

Junior Ryan Helbling took it upon himself to restore the landscape surrounding the statue as part of his Eagle Scout project.

Previously the grotto was surrounded by dense rhododendrons which blocked the view of the statue. Few students dared to ven-

ture through the cross-shaped path so Helbling hopes to make the area more student-friendly.

"The purpose was to restore the grotto to a more special place on campus like it was in the past. Recently it had become overgrown and many of the plants weren't able to be watered," said Helbling.

He hopes to finish early next week by adding an irrigation system to water the flowers and shrubs he will plant.

## SPARTAN SPORTS with HART

With school back in session, many students are focusing not only on academics, but on the Marist sports program as well.

Many Marist athletes are looking forward to good seasons, including the girls soccer team, now led by Chuck Koleno, and the volleyball team, both of which narrowly missed the playoffs last year.

Cross Country will attempt to repeat their successful season with strong finishes from both the boys and girls at state. Boys football and soccer both look to repeat their high league standings and playoff runs of last year.

## Staff Focuses On Leadership



A few Marist staff members enjoy a rafting trip down the McKenzie river. Photo courtesy of Lex Schmidt.

By Joe Laver

As summer came to a close, new and old Marist staff alike traveled to St. Benedict's Lodge along the McKenzie River where they attended their annual Staff Retreat led by the Campus Ministry department.

The staff used their time to study authentic leadership using Pope Francis and the Ignatian example as a model. "It was nice to have everyone get together and remember what we do all this work for," said school and athletics secretary Denise Smith.

Some concluded the two-day retreat with white-water rafting or a round of golf.

## New Staff



New math teacher Krista Hocker. Photo by Toni Cooper

By Joe Laver

Mathematics teacher Krista Hocker joined the Marist community this year; born and raised in Tigard, Oregon.

Hocker attended Linfield College earning a major in math and a minor in Spanish. After moving to Eugene, Hocker found Marist and immediately became a part of its close-knit community.

## Root Beer Social Highlights

Freshmen and returning student leaders form a human knot with their small group leaders as a bonding exercise at the Root Beer Social in mid August. Photo by Victoria Richards



Senior leaders sit with incoming students on the grass of the courtyard at the Root Beer Social. Photo by Toni Cooper

At the end of the social while waiting for their parents, incoming Marist students pose for a quick photo. Photo by Toni Cooper