

FINDING  
FRIENDS AT  
MARIST  
(Pg. 11)

VALENTINE'S  
DAY  
ADVICE FOR COUPLES  
AND SINGLES  
(Pg. 7)

DREAM  
SCHOOL  
STUDENTS REDESIGN  
MARIST  
(Pg. 6)



DEAR  
EDITORS  
Spartan Spear editors  
respond to student queries  
(Pg. 12)



# THE SPARTAN SPEAR

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MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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## PASSING ON THE WISDOM

*O'Hara, St. Paul and Marist communities gather to celebrate Catholic schools*

*Jonathan Pickard*  
STAFF WRITER

Last week, Marist joined with over 6,600 other Catholic schools across the United States in celebration of the 40th annual National Catholic Schools Week to honor the contributions Catholic education makes to the Church and the nation.

This year's week-long celebration centered on the theme of "Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service," which was reflected in the festivities conducted in the Marist community.

Much like the logo for this year's Catholic Schools Week, in which a large central cross anchors the design, Marist's festivities for the week were anchored with Thursday morning's annual All Catholic Schools Mass when students of all ages flooded the campus with their endearing energy. Keeping the Mass at the heart of the celebration underlined what the National Catholic Education Association calls Catholic schools' "first and foremost" reason for existence – faith formation of students.

The Mass, a popular annual event among students and com-



*A young student receives a blessing from Fr. David Jaspers during Communion. Photo by Toni Cooper*

munity members, brought together all three Catholic schools in Eugene - Marist, St. Paul, and O'Hara - to the Marist gym for a celebration of both faith and community. The Mass was celebrated by Fr. David Brown of St. Paul Parish with priests from across the Eugene and Springfield area, including Marist's previous chaplain Fr. David Cullings and Marist grad Fr. David Jaspers '95 from St. Alice parish.

For his homily, Fr. Brown asked his older parishioners at St. Paul what wisdom they would like to pass on to the youth of the community; things like reading the Bible, serving others, and having a relationship with God.

Marist Communications Director Sue Schramm called

the whole week an opportunity for students and staff to step back from some of their regular routines and appreciate all the achievements of Marist and Catholic Schools nationwide in the past and for the future.

Schramm, a Marist graduate herself, recognized Catholic Schools Week as a way of both honoring and recognizing the past, much like Fr. Brown's homily, the past is both honored and its legacy is passed on to the future through what is done in the present. "My appreciation for Catholic Schools Week is in appreciation of what we are doing here and now," Schramm said.

"It is important to communicate the values of Catholic education," Schramm said of the

celebration of which she is mindful of when sharing Marist with the wider public. The week's celebration included an hour-long radio interview featuring Marist Principal Jay Conroy, O'Hara Catholic School Principal Tammy Conway and St. Paul Parish School Principal Kelli Braud where they described the principles and significance of a Catholic Education to an audience reaching from Grants Pass to Portland.

The week was wrapped up with a canned food drive, sponsored by Student Council, which brought in donations for St. Vincent de Paul's food pantry throughout the week and reflected Marist's commitment to serving others.

## SISTER SCHOOL STATUS RENEWED



*Administrator Jin Peijing of The High School Affiliated to Beijing Institute of Education, Principal Jay Conroy and Assistant Principal Stacy Baker exchange gifts before the signing ceremony. Photo by Toni Cooper*

*Katie Tarrant*  
EDITOR

Marist Principal Jay Conroy and Assistant Principal Stacey Baker met in the Bob Devereaux theatre last Thursday with a delegation of students and staff from The High School Affiliated to the Beijing Institute of Education to officially renew the two schools' relationship as sister schools.

Before the signing ceremony, the Chinese visitors spent the day touring the school, visiting classrooms, and attending the All Catholic Schools Mass where they were recognized by Fr. Dave Brown and the congregation.

Just as he did four years ago while visiting the Chinese school in Beijing, Conroy sat down with Jin Peijing, a top administrator of the Chinese school to sign the official documents.

After the school day had ended, Marist band members presented the visiting delegation with a musical selection, and in return the Chinese students presented various talents of their own.

## ENCOUNTERING SELF, GOD AND OTHERS



*Junior Cliff Noonan reads his Bible by the McKenzie River at St. Benedict's. Photo by Zac Oldham*

*A group of junior and senior boys spend a weekend reflecting and relaxing at St. Benedict's*

*Benjamin J. Schlegel*  
EDITOR

This past weekend 26 juniors and a handful of seniors and staff embarked on the Winter Boy's Encounter at St. Benedict's Lodge. The boys braved the cold weather, and even a little bit of snow, to participate in small groups, listen to talks, and perform hilarious skits.

The Encounter also featured a mass and extended reconciliation service with

local priests Fr. Daniel Rolland and Fr. David Jaspers. The homily covered the importance of pausing to take time to reflect on our lives and our faith in order to not get too caught up in the business of life.

A lot of people made the Encounter possible. For three Marist staff members, all whom are Marist graduates and veteran Encounter cooks, this was their final retreat to cook on. Terrie Clemens, Tammy May and Lex Schmidt are hanging up their chefs hats together.

"Working with the kitchen crew was a great chance to see the loving, caring, human side of people I see ev-

ery day at Marist in an environment that is so full of Christ's love," said senior kitchen crew member Austin Bosworth.

Two weeks from now, the third and final senior Metanoia will take place at St. Benedict's, followed by the Winter Girl's Encounter the next weekend.



*Terrie Clemens, Lex Schmidt and Tammy May embrace in St. Benny's kitchen. Photo by Andy Oldham*

# NEWS BRIEFS

## SHADOWING STUDENTS

Prospective Marist students, mostly 8th graders, have been walking our halls to view the daily life of Marist students, following their hand picked host, through their day.

## HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

The Bob Devereaux Theatre has a new addition, the former reader board at the front of the school has been moved to the front of the Theatre to announce the play times.

## GOING TO DINNER AT DOWNTON ABBY

An authentic Downton Abbey dinner, sold at last year's auction, was held on the evening of Jan. 18. 15 Marist faculty and staff, coordinated by Mr. Ragan, served the Killgore family, who have been part of the Marist community for more than 20 years.

## ANNUAL AUCTION FALLS INTO PLACE

This past Monday the 43rd annual Marist Auction kicked off. This year's theme is Logs and Lagers celebrating the unique economy of the Northwest.

## EUROPE TRIP PLANS TAKE FLIGHT!

French teacher Ryan Baker and Literature teacher Becky Boyd are organizing a spring break 2015 educational trip to London and France. Leaving from Eugene the group will fly to London where they will spend two days with a one day side trip to Oxford and Stratford. They'll take the Eurostar Chunnel train to Paris where they'll spend 3 days, from there they'll head to the Loire Valley Castle region including a visit to Mont Saint Michel Abbey high atop the rock, followed by a visit to the D-day beaches of Normandy and the city of Bayeux, home to the famous tapestry depicting William the Conquerors invasion of England. For more information see Ryan Baker.

## MARIST ATHLETE HONORED WITH NOMINATION

Marist sophomore Madisyn Bryant has been selected as a finalist for the Prep Tennis Player of the Year Award. The winners will be announced at the 62nd Oregon Sports Awards show on Sunday, February 9 at the Tiger Woods Center at the Nike World Headquarters in Beaverton. The Oregon Sports Awards honor the state's top athletes, coaches and teams of the past year. A statewide media panel votes on the awards. See page 10 to vote for Madisyn



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# BEGINNING THEIR JOURNEY

*Sophomore girls gain insight from junior and senior leaders*



Sophomores Kennedy Sundberg and Paighton Brown work on their small group poster. Photo by Toni Cooper

*Marlin Andersen*  
EDITOR

Through a weekend of games, talks and small group activities focused on community and spiritual growth, 26 sophomore girls learned last weekend that the journey can be more important than the destination.

Sophomores and Retreat Team leaders started the retreat at St. Peter's Church for an afternoon of exciting and silly games, and then traveled to Marist for the remainder of the retreat. There, sophomores enjoyed a special dinner and after hearing a few talks in the Chapel, leaders and retreaters spent the rest of the evening watching movies and getting to know each other.

Sunday morning, the girls celebrated Mass with Fr. Daniel Rolland before hearing one final talk and making the journey home.

## THE TOP 10 EVENTS OF 2013

*Katie Tarrant*  
EDITOR

Throughout the year, the news stories that captured the world's attention - everything from government failures to civil wars to sports victories - reminded the youth of today that the world they are to inherit tomorrow is full of challenges and moments to celebrate in equal measure.

- 1** This fall, President Obama took a crack at one of the most persistent socioeconomic problems of our time: the broken and inefficient health care system. The Affordable Care Act website was launched on Oct. 1 but, like that hastily cobbled together PowerPoint that just won't download to your teacher's computer, the rollout suffered from "technical difficulties." Luckily for us, we can keep slacking and stay on our parents' plans until we're 26!
- 2** On Oct. 1, the United States Government came to a screeching halt, due to Congress' inability to approve a new budget or pass a bill to raise the national debt ceiling. For 16 days, a multitude of government services were unavailable and nearly 800,000 public servants were furloughed. Needless to say, Congress, who did not go off the payroll during the shutdown, is now enjoying some of the lowest approval ratings of all time.
- 3** It may have been impossible to make it through 2013 without hearing about the Syrian civil war. Throughout the year, the evolution of the conflict dominated headlines - the Syrian government's alleged use of sarin gas, Obama's "red line", and the surprisingly abrupt end of U.S. involvement in the conflict following Russian president Vladimir Putin's peace proposition. As of yet, the conflict has produced millions of refugees and well over 100,000 deaths, and yet the war has nearly slipped from the collective consciousness of the American people. Apathy is a dangerous force indeed.
- 4** This June, computer technician Edward Snowden leaked confidential documents and information to the "Washington Post" and "The Guardian," which then broke the news to the world that the National Security Administration was monitoring the electronic communication of United States citizens. Snowden, a former contractor for the NSA, stated that he felt morally obligated to leak the information so that the American people would know the truth. So don't forget kids, keep it clean! Uncle Sam is watching...
- 5** Last winter, for the first time in over 600 years, the Supreme Pontiff of the Catholic Church announced his retirement. On Feb. 11 Pope Benedict XVI resigned from his position, stating that he felt he was no longer capable of properly fulfilling his duties, and by Mar. 13 Cardinal Mario Jorge Bergoglio was elected to take his place. Since then, Pope Francis has promoted the values of humility and compassion through his simple lifestyle and his eloquent words, making the future of the Church seem a little brighter.
- 6** On Apr. 15, brothers Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev placed explosive devices near the finish line of the Boston Marathon. As a result, several people were killed and many more suffered severe injuries. Though it was originally assumed that the Tsarnaev brothers' crime was motivated by a "jihadist agenda," it is now believed that the attacks were inspired by their turbulent family life. After all, you know what they say about assumptions...
- 7** You might remember that we all had something of a scare last May, when the North Korean government defied sanctions and attempted to display its nuclear capabilities by launching four test missiles into the sea. Then again, you might not remember that event at all. Oh North Korea, what an enigma you are. It's difficult to tell if we ought to be terrified, amused, or both.
- 8** Back in 1996, the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was signed into law, barring federal recognition of same-sex marriages. The times, however, are a'changin'. On Jun. 26, 2013, the Supreme Court ruled DOMA unconstitutional by a margin of 5 to 4 on the basis that it denied same-sex couples the "equal liberties under the law" guaranteed by the 5th Amendment.
- 9** Nelson Mandela, ardent opponent of Apartheid and former president of South Africa, died at age 95 on Dec. 5. In the largest gathering of foreign dignitaries in the history of the continent, 91 world leaders assembled in South Africa for his memorial services. Though he may be gone, Mandela's message of inclusiveness and equality will stay with us for generations.
- 10** If you don't know who Diana Nyad is by now, you should. This year, the 64 year old endurance swimmer became the first person to ever swim from Cuba to Florida without a protective cage. Nyad has been setting records since the 1970's, but up until this past September she was unsuccessful in all of her attempts to traverse the Florida Straits. If her victorious 110 mile, 53 hour journey proves anything, it's that if at first you don't succeed, try and try again!

# RALLYING FOR LIFE 50 YEARS LATER

*Marist for Life attends rally and junior Tate Rupp speaks*



Jessica Swan  
STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 16, theology teacher Heidi Susec organized a field trip to the Pro-Life Rally at Pioneer Courthouse Square in Portland where junior Tate Rupp spoke on behalf of the Marist for Life Club.

As the current president of the student led group, Rupp, the first student



Marist juniors Michelle Campbell, Emily Boyd, and Sophia Schlesinger smile with Archbishop Sample and his mother.

speaker to represent the organization, talked about the mission of Marist for Life and the work they have done throughout the year, including holding prayer vigils in front of a local abortion clinic. He also talked about how Marist for Life was named the national Students for Life Club of the Month back in the fall. "We were so impressed with the student from Marist. He was so confident and showed excellent poise in speaking to the huge crowd. He spoke of what Marist students have been doing and that too was impressive. You should be very proud of him and your Marist community," wrote long-time pro-life advocate Jo Cooper, a rally attendee and mother of Marist journalism teacher Toni Cooper.

Along with Rupp, other pro-life speakers including Archbishop Alexander Sample offered messages to the crowd of 2,000. Juniors Emily Boyd, Michelle Campbell, Sophia Schlesinger also



Junior Tate Rupp delivers his speech at the Rally for Life.

volunteered at the rally, welcoming and handing out bags to rally participants, as well as discussing Marist for Life with other event participants.

Marist for Life began in 2008 and is currently moderated by Susec. For more information on how to become involved, visit [maristforlife.weebly.com](http://maristforlife.weebly.com) or talk to any current member.

# REACHING OUT TO GIVE BACK

*Marist Volunteer Program moves to include the entire Marist Community*



Jordan Pickard  
STAFF WRITER

"It's their MVP," sophomore Program director Jerry Ragan said of the "new MVP" which widened its program to include all students two years ago.

Some may not have noticed but, during the 2012 school year, Marist's service club, the Marist Volunteer Program (MVP) took on new life as a school wide outreach program, extending its reach beyond club members and to the entire Marist student body.

The renovated program represents a compilation of all of Marist's school-wide fund raising and service activities throughout the year.

Inspired to create "organization, predictability and maximize[d] returns" in the program, Ragan approached Marist Principle Jay Conroy with the proposal centralize MVP. Conroy supported the decision and MVP became a central student program aimed at making all students involved and accountable to serve.

"One of my passions is that we Catholic schools need to be doing outreach activities," Ragan said of his motivation

to promote service. "It's vital to our mission."

Ragan cited the Marist Mission Statement as an important backup for expanding service at the school.

"That's easy," he said as he took down the framed blue and gold mission statement from his bookcase during our interview. "You better mean every word you put in there."

However the Marist mission statement is only one part of Ragan's unmistakable passion for serving others.

"What motivates me is to see in my mind a person sleeping in a car or a kid going to school hungry because I didn't bring a can of food," Ragan said referencing the service projects that the Marist community participates in annually, such as Project Starfish fund raising for transitional housing and an annual canned food drive, both for St. Vincent de Paul. "Or a person in Nicaragua who will die young because of breathing smoke because I let them down."

Ragan's energy is the force that has enabled Marist's service program to reach new heights over the last seven years since he took over moderation of the Key

Club in 2005.

In that time Ragan replaced the Key Club with the MVP club and now with the current school-wide MVP program.

Additionally, Ragan has worked with the community to build sponsorships for each fund raiser held by academic departments and student clubs.

Ragan says sponsorship of such events helps to create predictability from year to year and maximize returns on fund raising and charity efforts.

These efforts paid off this November when Marist's English Department sponsored the "Five for the Feast" fund raiser which raised \$3380 for the Eugene Mission's annual Thanksgiving Dinner.

Additionally, the Theology Department-sponsored Angel Project brought in eight carloads of gifts, household items, and toiletries for needy families through Catholic Community Services this December.

The Student Council-sponsored Canned Food Drive for St. Vincent de Paul also found success as part of Catholic Schools Week last week.

# ONE LAST JOURNEY TO ST. BENNY'S

*Seniors enjoy a relaxing retreat after finals*

Enjoying their rec-time, seniors Macaela Crawley and Stephanie Coulombe laugh together. Photo by Austin Bosworth



Matthew Lippin  
STAFF WRITER

The smell of freshly baked quesadillas wafted through the air as a group of 34 seniors tossed their bags and worries into their rooms and hurried down

to the dining hall of St. Benedict's Lodge for a bite to eat on the Second Senior Metanoia on Friday Jan. 25.

Seniors were led by retreat moderator and theology teacher, Chad DePaoli, theology teacher David Haggard and his wife Katie, as well as four Marist graduates. The

weekend was centered on the idea of moving on past high school and into college. Graduates provided the seniors with tips and advice for their futures and encouraged them to enjoy and cherish their last Marist retreat. The seniors also enjoyed hikes, delicious food, spiritually-enriching ac-

tivities, small group sessions, prayer time, and a lot of free time to just hang out and relax with one another.

"The retreat was fantastic. The advice that the grads gave was very helpful for the future," said Erin Cramsey

The last Metanoia will be held Feb. 14-16.



# CLUB UPDATES



Danielle Reed  
STAFF WRITER

**CHESS CLUB:** Playing in LCC's Winter League, chess club meets every Wednesday at lunch in room 205 to improve their chess games and prepare for the State Tournament at the end of February.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB:** The 15+ person club meets Tuesdays after school in room 116 to plan fund raisers, sort cans and bottles and take care of the garden near the football field. So far the club has raised \$500 out of their \$1000 goal.

**INTERNATIONAL CLUB:** The club meets in room 106 at lunch on B schedule days in an effort to bring cultures together as well as fund raise for Stove Team International, and they are looking forward to their upcoming fund raiser in February.

**MARIST OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM:** The 25 member coed club meets once a month in room 200 to get outdoors by planning outdoor events every other month. They will be holding a crabbing trip to Newport on Feb. 15, open to anyone who signs up with moderator Jeff Dreiling.

**NHS:** NHS meets once a month to focus on tutoring, as well as sponsoring a St. Patrick's Day sing along, an awards ceremony in May, and raising money for Project Starfish. Students who need tutoring should speak to tutoring chair junior Shawn Melendy, or go to room 116 on Monday or Wednesday after school.

**PETANQUE:** The team begins practicing Tuesdays and Thursdays in February and competitions begin in April with games against South Eugene and Sheldon High Schools.

**PROCLAIM:** Tryouts will be held in the spring.

**ROBOTICS:** The club meets in the former Marist Brothers House during lunch or after school to develop problem-solving skills and work on their robot in preparation to compete in the First Tech Challenge Robotics Competition on February 15.

**SHOOTING TEAM:** The 20 person team meets every Tuesday at the Cottage Grove Gun Club to prepare for weekend competitions as well as the State Junior Olympics Competition in March and the State Championship in May. They competed and did well at a competition on Jan. 4 in Portland, and did equally as well on Feb. 1 in junior and sub junior class's.

**SPEECH AND DEBATE:** The 17 member club coached by Steve Barth meets every Monday through Thursday after school in the CLC room to prepare for competition season and help members get comfortable at public speaking and debate. The team did well at the McMinnville Invitational on Jan. 25, and will be going to the Robert Clark Invitational at the University of Oregon Feb. 21-22. Districts for Speech and Debate are in April.

**STUDENT COUNCIL:** Comprised of representatives from each grade, Student Council is preparing for the Pennies from Heaven campaign which assists local nuns in repairing their monastery, as well as planning for a potential February dance.

**ULTIMATE:** The 20+ person coed club moderated by math teacher Grant Gilchrist resumes Monday, Wednesday and Friday practices in February, though no games or events have been planned yet.

# DRIVEN BY OPTIMISM

Spanish teacher  
Debbie Cullen brings  
more than just a love  
of language to class



Marissa Lippin  
STAFF WRITER

From the first day of class, any student can tell that Spanish teacher, Debbie Cullen is energetic and enthusiastic about her job. Her bubbly smile and gleaming eyes welcome students and make them



Senora Debbie Cullen Photo by Carley Beck

feel comfortable in her class. The only thing more vibrant in her classroom than the lively colors and curious novelties is her beaming personality.

When asked why she is so positive and optimistic, she said, "I am a very happy person. My father was that way—he was positive all the time and I guess that's where I get it. Being raised with a happy guy has shaped me."

Her vivacious personality is further accentuated by her love of adventure. She has traveled across the world and enjoyed visiting some of the most beautiful and glorious places.

Her first adventure began when she was just 15 years old. Cullen spent the summer before her freshman year of high school in Finland, and spent the remainder of that year living in England and touring Europe. "Living in England when I was fifteen made me realize that travel was very, very possible. So I had it in my mind that travel was something I could do," said Cullen.

Her next traveling escapade came when she was a junior at the University of Oregon when she lived and traveled around Spain for a year. She became fluent in the Spanish language and absolutely fell in love with Spain. In fact, she loved it so much she almost did not come back home. But she made the decision to travel back to Oregon to finish her senior year of college in the states.

It was during her senior year that she began student teaching. She soon found a permanent job as a ninth grade English teacher at Springfield High School, where she also met her husband, Dan Cullen, with whom she has five children.

Along with her love of travel, Cullen also has a true passion for horseback

riding. "I was a little girl that had plastic horses. I dreamed that I would wake up and there was that horse in the front yard, but we lived in Portland, so I wasn't going to get a horse." Her husband grew up always having horses around, and that didn't change when they got married. They now live happily with two horses of their own.

Since becoming a horse owner, Cullen has really put herself out into the world of horses by joining a local drill team. She enjoys practicing and riding with the team, but she does not necessarily like performing. She said, "I don't like performing. I get too nervous. I would rather just practice."

While it was love at first sight with Cullen and her horse, it was not necessarily that easy for Cullen to learn how to ride. "I have loved horses all my life. I thought they were beautiful and it was hard for me at first to learn how to ride. As an athlete I was very mediocre. I was kind of in the middle—not bad, not great. Now I can ride pretty well. I love, love the drill team. It's challenging, it's fast, and it's creative. I mean riding the drill is tricky. You have so many maneuvers you have to do and I like it because I enjoy the people I am doing it with."

With all her happiness and optimism, Cullen has also enjoyed an extremely successful 38 year-long teaching career. Cullen appreciates the community here at Marist and said, "I really like the people at Marist. I like the students and I like the staff, a lot. I like the fact that it speaks to your spiritual life, your academic life, and your physical life. These all make a really good school. I have had a wonderful life and teaching is something that I truly love to do. To be able to work at something that you really enjoy is a great thing."

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# THE WORLD'S A STAGE FOR MARIST ALUM

Marist graduate of 2000 reflects on her acting journey and the gifts of Marist



Marist grad, McKenna Jones in one of her many acting roles. Photo courtesy of McKenna Jones



Danielle Reed  
STAFF WRITER

"Oh you're adorable; I'm free all weekend so no hurry!"

This is the response I received from McKenna Jones before our interview, which let me know that not only is this Marist grad a successful actress, she is also a genuinely kind, caring, and as I later learned, a faith filled person.

Jones is a professional stage, TV, and movie actress who graduated from Marist in 2000. She booked her first movie role—a Disney movie called Four Diamonds—when she was only 12 years old. And she began living in Los Angeles part-time the summer before her freshman year of high school.

When I first heard this, my

first thought was "How does she manage to do it all?" Jones told me she is able to do so much because of her amazing support system.

Jones got into acting when she was only four years old, when a neighbor recruited her to be in a commercial for Firemed—the ambulance service. After this, she just knew that acting was what she wanted to do with her life.

However, unlike many other child actors, Jones' parents never pressured her about acting. "They always told me that this was my choice, and they would support me in whatever I wanted to do. They just let me do what I wanted," Jones said.

When she first began living in LA to pursue her acting career, Jones said that Marist was a

huge help. "Marist has absolutely helped me to prepare for my future, they were very supportive of my career," Jones said when I ask about Marist's impact on her crazy-busy life during high school. "They also allowed me to be in school plays."

Marist teachers would send her packets of homework and she felt her English teacher Andy Oldham and retired theatre teacher Bob Devereaux always inspired her to do her best. According to Oldham "she always stayed on top of everything and seemed to know exactly what was going on."

Marist grads in the L.A. area would pick her up from the airport, give her rides to various auditions, and drive her to her manager's house at which she would stay while in L.A.

Besides being a successful actress, Jones also managed to take all AP classes in high school (though she says she died from AP Calculus) and was involved in retreat team, liturgical choir, cheer, soccer, and was on the girl's golf team when the team was State Champions three out of four years, on top of being in all the Marist plays.

Right now, Jones is working on writing a script for a movie that she hopes to one day sell to a production company. "I'm not a screenwriter, but it's fun," she says. Throughout our chat, Jones repeat-

edly emphasized how important she believes acting in plays is good for kids growing up. "It helps you be secure in your own skin," she tells me, "It's something everyone should do in high school."

Jones double majored in Journalism and Divinity, along with a minor in French, at the University of Southern California. She did not want to study acting in college, because she wanted to broaden her horizons.

In fact, Jones barely acted in college, except for during her junior year abroad in Scotland, when she participated in the Scottish Fringe Festival, a two week-long, world-renowned festival in which

playwrights can showcase their work.

Jones' passion has always been acting, however. Her favorite genre is "entertainment", such as "the cheesy Hallmark movies", romantic comedies or just "pieces families can watch together" in general, though her absolute favorite is acting in plays. However, she did enjoy being on an episode of CSI one time when her character was accused of killing her husband.

I ask Jones if she wants to continue acting for the rest of her life, and she replies "Of course, but it all depends on what God wants for me."

Marist student McKenna Jones performs a cheer routine at a pep rally during the 1999-00 school year. Photo from 2000 Marist yearbook

Senior McKenna Jones acts in the Marist Theatre production of "Hello Dolly" in 2000 with juniors Tim Crawley and Brian Statter. Photo from 2000 Marist yearbook





## ARE YOU READY FOR COLLEGE?

Seniors dive into what happens after “submit”



Danielle Reed  
STAFF WRITER

The past month had been leading up to this moment: writing essays, filling out personal information, and choosing my desired major from a big list of potential majors. I was sitting at my desk after hitting the submit button for my application to Washington State University, and didn't know what I should do next.

I decided to talk to senior counselor Court Wirth to get some help. I found out that after applying I still had lots to do. I had to make sure that my test scores were sent in, recommendation letters were requested and submitted, and that Naviance, an online resource for choosing colleges, is completely updated.

And even after these steps are taken and acceptance letters are received, there's still more to do. Students may need to go on last minute college visits, and have the dreaded “tough conversations” with parents about which school is best for that student.

For example, I originally thought

that Cornell University would be perfect for me. After visiting the school, however, I realized that upstate New York is not the place for me, but that eastern Washington is.

Some students, such as Senior Kassi McCabe, take a different approach and only apply to their number one school. This worked out well for McCabe because she got accepted the very night she applied.

Along with deciding what school is best, students will have to consider finances. There are multiple ways to pay for college, including student loans, grants, and scholarships. Scholarship application season normally starts in December and lasts until March.

I know this all too well, as I spent all of Christmas break on the computer filling out scholarship application forms. The best scholarship websites are on oregonstudentaid.gov and in the “Scholarship List” on Naviance.

Unfortunately, there's the sad reality that potential college students might need to deal with: getting rejected by a university. Wirth says that students shouldn't let the college admissions decision define who they

are. After finding out that Notre Dame did not consider her a match for their school, senior Madeleine Landry decided it was for the best.

There's also the situation in which students have to reject a school themselves. I was scared to notify Northern Arizona that I didn't want to go there, since they seemed like they really wanted me. After talking to Wirth, he told me that the proper etiquette is to notify the school as soon as possible to let them know your decision.

The final, most exciting and nerve racking step, is officially choosing a college. According to Wirth, there are five key things to consider when choosing: academics, location, size of the school, campus personality, and cost.

Maggie Over, a 2013 Marist grad, chose Washington State University because it felt like home. Taylor Kirkpatrick, also a 2013 grad, chose Concordia University in Wisconsin because they had her major and she loved the idea of being in a faith filled school.

There is a school out there for all of us; we just have to find it.

## SERVICE WITH A SMILE

School secretary Denise Smith brings warmth and dedication to guests and students alike



Natalia Zylliak  
STAFF WRITER

Walking into the office you'll find her poised behind her desk waiting to help anyone coming in. As the head secretary, Denise Smith has been a part of the Marist community for five years.

Denise Smith grew up on a small farm in Umpqua, Oregon. She never had any plans to move to Eugene because most of her previous visits to Eugene were plagued by foggy weather. However, her friend finally convinced her to move north and she began her first job in the city at Valley River Inn. She stayed there for eight years working in the dining room, at the front desk, and in the payroll office. She even met her husband at a company picnic.

A typical day for Smith entails making sure the students and staff are taken care of along with the constantly ringing phones. “The students always come first,” says Smith, and explained that the office hopes to help students with any issues they have so they can have a stress free day. Her work comes in waves, with the busiest times being in the morning and at lunch, but her days can be very unpredictable with students, teachers, and parents mixed in the equation.



Denise Smith in Marist Front Office. Photo by Hannah Beeler

Even with the stressful moments during busy hours in the office, Smith loves her job very much. Her favorite part of the job is the students and their “smiley faces, the excitement of school and even the downfalls, just basically the students.”

Along with being the head secretary for Marist, Smith is also the mother of two current Marist students and one alum. “It's nice to be able to see my kids during the day,” said Smith. Her oldest child, senior Dustyn Smith, comes to the office for lunch money,

and her youngest Larea stops by for a quick chat with her mother about her day during breaks or at lunch. “I enjoy being with the kids, that's my biggest joy.”

Her friendly tone and smile is always there to greet you in the office when you might be having a down day.

“I've always felt at home here. That's an important part because that's how we try to make the students feel, comfortable and at home, but also loved and cared for,” Smith said with a smile on her face.

## MORE THAN JUST A VOICE AT MASS

Music enriches a busy life



Sophomore Ryan Helbling sings at the All Saints Day Mass with Proclaim. Photo by Toni Cooper



Abigail Almond  
STAFF WRITER

With a bright smiling face and lungs full of air, Ryan Helbling has been singing his way through his sophomore year. Ryan's eyes light up as he explains how he learned music by ear, much like his father who is also a musician. His father George was in a Catholic band called “His Majesty's Musicians” with two friends including Marist campus Minister Rick Martin, in which they were nationally recognized.

Faith plays a large role in his music. Ryan can be seen at every Mass singing in the Marist liturgical choir, Proclaim. “I like it because it's not as much commitment as if you were in, say, choir or band. It's only two practices a week but then you get to see it pay off as well, because you get to sing at every Mass; I like it a lot. The people in it are fun and they're all very talented.”

Ryan volunteers at the O'Hara Catholic School 8th grade retreats. He is in charge of the music, and uses it to connect with kids and lead them in prayer. “It's a good opportunity to use my music for the good of others and for God. It's really fun,” he said.

Helbling has sung the National Anthem at football games which isn't his favorite because “it is such a tricky song, and it's one of those songs that everybody knows because it is so iconic, so if you mess it up you're toast.” He also finds joy while singing while he runs, which isn't an easy feat!

He doesn't just sing, Ryan plays six instruments, and is learning a seventh. “I started piano at O'Hara in second grade, and it all kind of went from there,” he said. He plays guitar, piano, saxophone, bass, drums, and flute and is learning the mandolin.

Helbling is juggling much more than just his music. He is involved with cross country, track and field, Marist for Life, student council, and is taking multiple honors classes, but despite the busy schedule he finds the time to do other things that make him happy. He is a dedicated brother of four younger sisters and seems to dote on one year old baby Juliet

In addition, Ryan is a devoted Boy Scout and is planning to do his Eagle Scout project here at Marist. He plans to revamp the Grotto in between the 200 and 300 wings. The renovations will include a new irrigation system and landscaping that will be beautiful all year-round

With all of the craziness of his high school life, Helbling holds onto the thing that keeps him grounded, his love of music. “It would be rough without music; I don't know what I'd do.”

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# MEET THE MR. SPARTANS



**Spencer David**

If you and the other contestants made a boy band, what would you call yourselves?

The Quick Shifters

What's your best pick-up line?

Country boys don't need pick up lines. They got pick-up trucks.

What was your favorite TV show or movie as a kid?

Bob the Builder



**Anthony Finn**

If you and the other contestants made a boy band, what would you call yourselves?

We are One Direction

What's your best pick-up line?

Do you have a band-aid? Because I just scraped my knee falling for you.

What was your favorite TV show or movie as a kid?

SpongeBob



**Tanner Lloyd**

If you and the other contestants made a boy band, what would you call yourselves?

T. Lloyd and the Money Bags

What's your best pick-up line?

I want to give you eleven roses so I can look at a dozen beautiful things.

What was your favorite TV show or movie as a kid?

A Bug's Life



**Gavin Doremus**

If you and the other contestants made a boy band, what would you call yourselves?

The Holy Studs

What's your best pick-up line?

Did you have lucky charms for breakfast? 'Cause you look magically delicious.

What was your favorite TV show or movie as a kid?

Batman!!!



**Sean Dorsey**

If you and the other contestants made a boy band, what would you call yourselves?

The Peak Performers

What's your best pick-up line?

Me and you make a better pair than chocolate and peanut butter. And that's delicious.

What was your favorite TV show or movie as a kid?

Sports Center

**Want to follow the Mr. Spartan action and help save some babies?**

**Remember these important dates and upcoming events:**

**Ballin' or Bowlin' for the Babies in March**

**Mr. Spartan Dance in March**

**Mr. Spartan Pageant, Saturday April 12, 7:30 p.m. Tickets go on sale April 2, get yours from any team member or at the front office**



**Cameron Jack**

If you and the other contestants made a boy band, what would you call yourselves?

"The Jam Cacks" or "Several Directions"

What's your best pick-up line?

I don't do pick-up lines.

What was your favorite TV show or movie as a kid?

Batman the animated series and my favorite movie was Chitty Chitty Bang Bang



**Kashi Hall**

If you and the other contestants made a boy band, what would you call yourselves?

Asian Persuasion or Ambitious Sunshine

What's your best pick-up line?

God gave us two eyes, two arms, two legs, but gave us only one heart. So He told me to find you and tell you that you are my second one.

What was your favorite TV show or movie as a kid?

Full House and Toy Story



**Darren Nelson**

If you and the other contestants made a boy band, what would you call yourselves?

"The Godfellas" or "Jesus Take the Wheel"

What's your best pick-up line?

Did you just fart? 'Cause you're blowing me away.

What was your favorite TV show or movie as a kid?

Finding Nemo



**Ben Schepengerdes**

If you and the other contestants made a boy band, what would you call yourselves?

Boys with Babes

What's your best pick-up line?

Do you have a map? Because I just keep getting lost in your eyes...

What was your favorite TV show or movie as a kid?

Pooh's Grand Adventures



**Garrett Stollar**

If you and the other contestants made a boy band, what would you call yourselves?

The Men of Sauce

What's your best pick-up line?

Call me Pooh, 'cause all I want is you, honey.

What was your favorite TV show or movie as a kid?

Zoboombafoo, obviously!

## FAVORITE THINGS

**IF YOU HAD TO GIVE ONE GIFT TO EVERYONE WHAT WOULD IT BE?**  
BY MADISON MARTIN



*"A hot air balloon so everyone could fly anywhere they wanted."*

- Billy Pollock, senior



*"A pair of bright footie pajamas, because it is like wearing a fun hug. And if you can get the ones with the flaps in the back it's just that much better."*

- Ellie Cross, freshman



*"It would probably be a bunch of money. Because if you give them a lot of money, they can use it for a bunch of things and get whatever they want!"*

- Ashley Meagher, sophomore



*"I would give everyone a free car because, not everybody knows, but I'm the Kiefer Kia Princess."*

- J.P. Kiefer, senior



*"I would find out what they wanted, then give them exactly the amount of money that the specific thing they wanted was. And they could figure it out from there and go buy it!"*

- Hannah Capri, sophomore



## BOTTOM LOCKER BLUES

A tale of the troubles faced by a bottom locker owner



Natalia Zuliak  
STAFF WRITER

Having a bottom locker is one of the worst fates that you can be given in high school. That might be a bit of an exaggeration but no one can deny that having a bottom locker is not fun.

There are many variables that can affect your experience such as your top locker counterpart.

In my freshman year I was not well acquainted with the student whose locker was above me which lead to a bit of misunderstanding. I would end up quietly waiting for him to collect his supplies for the next class and I never had the gall to speak up and ask him to move to the side so I could get to my locker. It went on like this and only got worse when he entered a relationship.

It was the basic type of a freshman relationship where they hold hands during passing periods and sit together at lunch; however, his "significant other" liked to lean all over the lockers and block my entry. But freshman year is the time to make mistakes and learn the ropes of high school so it's hard to hold a grudge against my former locker partner.

Even if you have a top locker partner who you work well with and with whom can move in sync there still are a few issues you may encounter.

Many times I have banged my head on the open locker door above me and more than once considered buying a helmet to wear just when opening my locker. I have also had my legs stepped on by passing students without so much as an "excuse me." However you can't really blame them because my limbs were completely below their field of view.

Bruises on your knees are inevitable along with an aching back from bending over at such an odd angle to get to the depths of your locker where your binders decide to hide themselves.

Unfortunately, there is no solution for a case of bottom locker blues, except for maybe switching to carry all of your books and binders in a pull along wagon but that would just be ridiculous. Or perhaps you could just move on and realize there are much worse fates than having a bottom locker, like being eaten by a pack of ravenous wolves.



Pictured seniors Erica Landers and Garrett Stollar.  
Photo by Toni Cooper

# TATTOOS

By Abbie Almond  
Illustrations by Kriscia Rivas

For people with tattoos, the ink is a beautiful piece of artwork filled with meaning. The stereotypes of violence and substance abuse may still exist, but tattoos are becoming more common. The tattoo does not make the person. Just as clothes are an expression of personality, so are tattoos -they're just more permanent.

## If you could, what tattoo would you get?...

**Dallin Cone, junior** - "A unicorn with the word uni-cone underneath it because of my last name."

**Eric Bullock, senior** - "A tiger on my shoulder that says, 'fight the power on its side'."

**Spencer Nelson, sophomore** - "Eyes on my eye lids so I could sleep during class."

**Emily Bly, sophomore** - "Let Go<3" on the inside of my foot because it's one of my favorite songs."

**Tesslyn Kennel, freshman** - "An infinity sign on my finger."

**Larea Smith, freshman** - "A turtle on the back of my ear."

**Chris Keylock, junior** - "Jeans tattooed on my lower legs so I could wear shorts to school, a jacket tattooed on my upper torso so my mom would stop complaining that I need to wear one, and I want "B.R.A.S.S." tattooed on my knuckles."

# VALENTINE ADVICE FOR SWEETHEARTS AND SINGLES

From Gertrude de L'amour

As Valentine's Day lurks just around the corner, it's time to offer a duo of specials – advice for the clueless guy or excessively exuberant girls, and a shout-out to singles who would rather not mingle with all the love birds.

**Guys:** Tread carefully, some girls may say they don't want anything special, but all the while they're actually thinking "He better know exactly how to execute what I've been planning in my mind for months without dropping him so much as a single hint!" On the other hand, they really may not want anything after all. Lesson here is, know if your significant other is a high maintenance lady or super chill.

If your girl falls into the first category, asking her close friends for ideas can be helpful because while you may not be able to read her mind, she has probably let them in on the secret.

Valograms can be a good way to begin your romantic endeavor, but a special card, gift or gesture tailored to her specific tastes earns more brownie points.

For most girls food is always a good way to go, especially chocolate! It doesn't have to be expensive but steer clear of drug store brands. The importance of this cannot be overstated.

And if you find yourself caught up in homework, sports practice or you just had a straight-up jackwagon moment and forgot to prepare for this oh so special day, you can always tell her you don't need just one day to express your feelings because you think she's wonderful every day! Works every time...

**Girls:** Cut your guy some slack if he doesn't fulfill your every daydream, any romantic gesture should be considered a win. Seriously though, take the money and run.

When it comes to gifts, they apparently don't actually care! Really, we checked with actual male humans!

Above all, don't flip out. Calm is good. Being a wild pink heart-drawing, chocolate-devouring, love crazed maniac – is never good. For anyone involved.

**Singles get S.A.D.:** Single's Awareness Day, or Valentine's Day as some know it, is a special day of the year carved out for those of us who haven't found prince charming quite yet. But make no mistake, February 14 isn't a day to be sad, it's a day to celebrate!

Unlike our involved counterparts, singles enjoy a unique freedom from expectations, obnoxiously pink hearts, and less than delicious chocolate from cheap dates; not to mention packed theatres and painfully slow restaurants.

Couples get to experience the pressures, and possible disappointments, of a night out while singles enjoy an evening in with their ever comfy couch, their cats, "The Notebook" and their two main guys - Ben & Jerry.

So never fear all my single ladies! And guys, if you're wondering how occupy yourself on the day of loooooove, here are some ideas:

Buy yourself expensive chocolate – after all, no one is there to judge you!

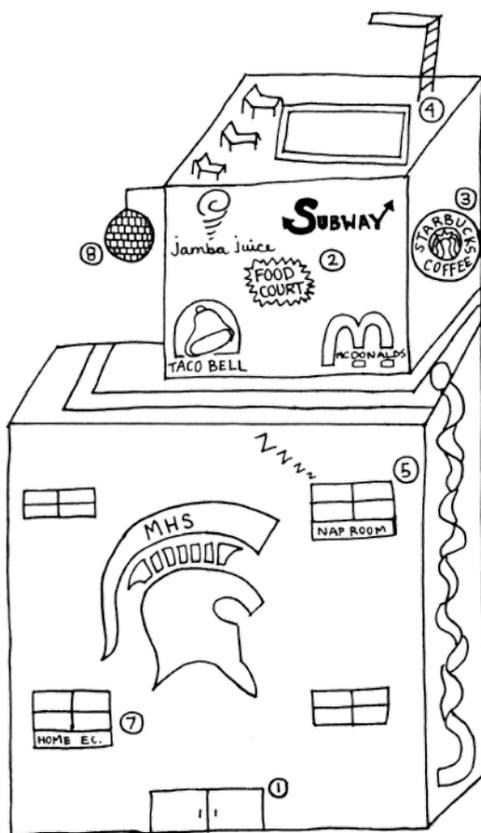
Plan to get together with your other single friends - just because you don't have a date doesn't mean you have to be alone.

# DREAM SCHOOL

by Natalia Zreliak

We all know of Marist's upcoming plans to update the campus, but if you were given the power to decide what additions would be added to our school what would you choose?

Here are some possible features thought of by current students that would complete our dream school.



1. Automatic Doors (Sophomore Alessa Giansante)
2. Food Court (Senior Dustyn Smith)
3. 24/7 Starbucks (Junior Gwen Over)
4. Swimming Pool (Freshman Brittan Silver)
5. Nap Room (Junior Ezra Alltucker)
6. No Stairs, Just Slides (Sophomore Chase Heitman)
7. Home Economics Class (Senior Jessica Buser)
8. Disco Balls in the Hallways (Freshman Alan Bran)

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(Where Quiznos used to be)

## MODERNIZING A MARIST EDUCATION

*Marist looking into 1 to 1 technology for students*



Elizabeth Thompson  
STAFF WRITER

With schools all over the nation upgrading to electronic textbooks, it is clear that the shift to electronics is the way of the future.

In the next few years, that new change may be coming to Marist. School administrators have been considering the idea of upgrading the school to electronic textbooks, on platforms such as tablets or laptops. Marist the Dean of Students and Instruction Andrew Oldham says that Marist is currently “starting a conversation” about changing to electronic textbooks.

This means that the school is in the very beginnings of a long planning and implementation process that could take years. Some Marist teachers and staff are very excited for the future possibility of the upgrade but the school still has a lot of work ahead of it before any new technology can be rolled out. The first step in starting this roll out is to determine how it would be carried out.

The system the administration has given the most thought to a system referred to as 1 to 1. This means that every student gets an electronic device, such as an iPad, a Chromebook, or a MacBook.

Oldham and science teacher Ryan Moser recently traveled to St. Mary’s Acad-

emy in Portland to observe how the school handled the first year of their 1 to 1 implementation. Oldham says that the students there have had an increase in teachers to students and student to student engagement and collaboration.

St. Mary’s uses iPads in their 1 to 1 implementation and, according to the Catholic Sentinel, they are the first high school in Oregon to do so. Also following the national trend; Jesuit High School

*The benefits of upgrading are potentially massive and include new levels of teacher and student involvement*

will be completing their roll out to teachers and other staff during the next school year.

The next steps in implementing 1 to 1 include upgrading the school’s existing hardware to accommodate the new technology and, more importantly, integrating the new technology with Marist’s behavior code and teaching techniques.

The issue of Marist upgrading has been brought up in staff meetings, and Oldham said that many of the teachers support the idea, but have also

brought up many concerns such as the use of devices for non-school related tasks. The school would have to navigate and balance the use of the new technology for learning and entertainment, because it has become much harder for the school to maintain complete control of the technology.

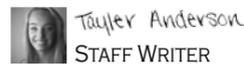
Another concern is the cost of the new technology and how it would be paid for. Marist staff would have to be sensitive to the fact that some families may need help affording the new technology and would also have to learn how to most effectively teach with so that students could get the best learning for the best cost.

The benefits of upgrading are potentially massive and include new levels of teacher and student involvement and a shift in classroom dynamics sometimes called “flipping the classroom”. Oldham says that classroom learning could shift from its classic style to one in which students do their work and collaborate in class. Home time would be used for applying the in class learning and could be used for accessing the limitless information on the internet.

“It’s clear to administrators and staff that 1 to 1 will be a major help to improve learning and may well save a substantial amount on textbook. Stay tuned,” said Marist Principal Jay Conroy.

## IMPROVING DANCES ONE STEP AT A TIME

*A student discusses ways to make dances more groovy*



Taylor Anderson  
STAFF WRITER

Marist dances are something many students look forward to during the year; but not everyone. Where some feel the dances are fun and one of the highlights of the year, others feel they could be improved.

After doing a survey of 50 students from of all ages I discovered that out of 50 kids 13% said they didn’t like dances at all; 28% said Marist dances are fine how they are, and 59% said dances need to be improved.

But this 59% has different opinions on how the dances could be better. For some it’s a venue problem, and for others it’s the size and the “date thing,” and for others it’s about dress code and behavior.

Marist has two big dances and a couple of smaller ones each year. Common dances held every year are Homecoming, Prom, the Mr. Spartan Dance and a Homegoing Dance. However, prom is only for juniors and seniors.

Many wish that the dances would be held in the gym instead of the cafeteria. “The cafeteria is really small and it gets hot when so many people are in there dancing,” said junior Claire Sick.

Some of the students wish there were more “big” dances similar to Homecoming and Prom. Smaller dances don’t have the excitement of dressing up and the drama of finding a date even though finding can be really stressful. It can also be really fun even if it becomes a disappointment. “I like the formal dances because I get to dress up and there’s the excitement of getting a dress and getting ready with friends along with the excitement of getting a date... and there’s the excitement of ice cream,

a Channing Tatum movie and the Kleenex box sitting in your room if you don’t have a date,” senior Sadie Bernard said.

Getting a date isn’t everything there are so many other things that are fun even without a date, like getting ready with friends, going out to dinner, and just goofing around and showing off your dresses. For guys it may not be showing off dresses but they can show off how dapper they look in their suits.

The freshmen, however, had a different opinion on dances. All of the freshmen said that dances were fun, and that there wasn’t really anything they would want to change. The only thing each freshman said was that it would be better if dress code for dances was less strict and if teachers were more lenient with rules and not always five feet away from you.

School dances are something that gives students a break and an opportunity to have fun with friends. However if these dances aren’t fun and not many kids show up the students lose the experience of attending high school dances like homecoming and prom. But if more students enjoy dances more kids will be encouraged to attend.

And just our luck, this Friday there will be a semi-formal Dance in the AC after the boys’ varsity basketball game. The theme is black and white, and I encourage all to go. It will be a lot of fun and completely worth your while, especially since the AC is bigger than the cafeteria, You can wear what’s in your closet you don’t need to bring a date! So students, don’t be a Debbie Downer or a Grumpy Guss and come have fun with your friends Friday night! And staff, please give the students at least 20 feet of dancing room.

## HIGH SCHOOL TIPS FROM REAL COLLEGE STUDENTS

*Former Spartan Spear writers pass on words of wisdom to current Marist students*

**Ryan Whalen**  
*Occidental College*

**Michael Busse**  
*Loyola Marymount University*

As students at Marist, the counseling department on what you can do to get ready for college. Log onto Naviance, keep track of your resume, apply for scholarships...so predictable. But if you want real advice on how to really prepare yourself, you should go to the source: actual college students.

That’s where we come in. With two years of experience under our belts, we are easily the most qualified individuals to help you get ready for the best college experience of your life.

### Tip No. 1: Take Newspaper.

MB: Being on the staff of the Spartan Spear taught me things I couldn’t learn in any other class—interviewing and organizing, as well as technical skills on the computer. It has boosted college job prospects too. Because I had editing experience, I got a job at my university’s newspaper, and was put on the executive board as a freshman. Yearbook won’t do that for you.

RW: Taking newspaper was one of the best decisions I made senior year. It gave me a creative outlet that I never experienced in the AP classes. Sadly, a stubborn and power-hungry editor curbed my brilliance in his pursuit to become the diva of Marist (FYI, the editor I am referring to is Michael Busse).



Alumni Michael Busse and Ryan Whalen return to room 318 while on their Winter Break to contribute to their ‘old’ paper. Photo by Zac Oldham

### Tip No. 2: Mentally prepare yourself to never let go of your high school experience.

MB: If you want to be cool once you get to college, you should talk about high school you as much as possible. Tell your new friends about all your awards, championships, teachers...people will eat it up. Just to make sure you don’t forget what high school is like, make sure to go back as often as possible. Nobody remembers your name? No problem.

RW: Even today, I introduce myself by saying, “I’m Ryan and I was ASB President in high school,” and they love me right away. If you have trouble remembering your high school experience simply raid the Marist photography servers for photos of you during the past four years to set up a Facebook shrine of your golden years. There will always be the opportunity to return to Marist and contribute an article to one of the quarterly

newspapers too.

### Tip No. 3: Join a sports team right now.

MB: The Freshman 15 is real—just ask Ryan. Playing a sport in high school will help you establish healthy exercise habits that might just carry over into college. Plus, you’ll have a lot of fun.

RW: I don’t know what Michael is talking about; the only weight I gained freshman year was rock hard muscle. Aside from forming a regular exercise routine, sports are a fun and easy way to integrate yourself into a new group of people, and this is true for high school and in college.

### Tip No. 4: Extracurricular are just as important as your class work.

MB: What you do when you aren’t doing homework—so all times other than the five minutes before class—will have a greater impact on your college admission and on who you are other than your GPA. Also, see Tip No. 3.

RW: Even if you are not a goody-too-shoe who spends Friday nights doing next week’s homework, you can still get into college even if your GPA sucks—just look at Michael.

### Tip No. 5: You only live once.

MB: Have fun, work hard, make good friends, and don’t get caught up worrying or trying to be perfect. Try lots of new things or everybody in college will think you’re boring. Also, don’t worry about what other people think. You only high school once; that’s the motto, baby. YOHSO.

RW: I could not have said it better myself... well actually I could, but we have surpassed our word limit, so it will have to do.

# Friendship: A Lasting Legacy

Senior Maureen Pappin reflects on the unique community at Marist



Maureen Pappin  
STAFF WRITER

Good friends are hard to find; not at Marist.

Students rush past me, caught up in tangled conversations crammed with petty drama about the latest gossip, the AP European History homework due next period, and the state football game coming up next weekend. My mind whirls and I try to focus on my moving feet beneath me. I reach out my hands to push open the blue, double doors in front of me, but before my hand even touches the handle,

*Marist offers such a unique and welcoming atmosphere that allows students to blossom into the best individuals that they have always hoped to be.*

the door flies open and a boy stands there waiting for me to walk through. A smile stretches across his face, and he offers me his name and in return, asks for mine. I hurriedly stutter my name and thank him for holding the door open. As I quickly power walk to my next class, my face flushes red and a blast of embarrassment races through my trembling body.

As I reach the 100-wing, the door swings open. This time it is a girl who looks to be around my age, who has a wide smile smeared across her friendly face. She offers to walk with me to my next class, and she chats away about her family and friends. When we come to a stop at my classroom, we bid adieu to each other and each go on our way.

I sit through my religion class, silent and lonesome, daydreaming about what it would be like to have a real group of



Close friends Shoshanna Hwang, Emily Hollander and Maureen Pappin form hearts before last year's prom. Photo courtesy of Maureen Pappin

true-blue friends. The bell calls me back to reality and I scramble to gather up my books. I throw my backpack over my shoulder and head out to face the icy touch of the winter wind.

As I approach the doors leading to the courtyard the right-hand door swings open and in blows a gust of chilly air. The person holding the door smiles at me and continues on with a conversation he is holding with someone across the way. I walk into the light, and hear my name being called across the courtyard. I glance up to see the same girl that walked with me to class excitedly waving her hand, and calling out my name at the top of her lungs.

"Maureen! Hi," her voice is suddenly joined by a group of students rushing along beside her. I give a shy wave and flash a timid smile. At that exact moment, I realize just how fast my life is already changing. My dreams of having those true-blue friends is quickly fading and turning into reality. I've already made more friends in a day here than I did in

two years at my previous school. I have always thought making new friends was the hardest, most difficult obstacle in my life, until I came to Marist.

Marist offers such a unique and welcoming atmosphere that allows students to blossom into the best individuals that they have always hoped to be. We are a Christ-centered school that puts a great emphasis on the importance of a strong faith. This emphasis is reflected in the way our students greet one another with warm smiles and open arms. Our motto, We Are One, unites the school and gives the inspiration needed to reach out to all who cross our paths. Marist makes it easier for students to make new friendships and relationships because they surround students with clear examples of what these types of friendships and relationships should look like.

In the past three years, I have made more friends than I ever thought possible, and I can proudly say that quite a few of them have become my best friends. Marist has become my second home and will forever hold a special place in my heart.

## A PAIR OF OPPOSITES

A new take on "The Odd Couple" brings two casts to the same play



Gordon Pickard  
STAFF WRITER

Marist Theatre gave audiences a hilarious show during its double-cast production of Neil Simons' "The Odd Couple" this past month.

Director Tony Rust cast the production twice with showings featuring each gender in order to involve more girls. The original play is a male cast with only two smaller female roles. Rust flipped the genders of the play but retained the original script, allowing each cast to put their own unique spin on the lines.

"It's just really fun to see the same role in slightly different performances," Rust said about the double cast.

Seniors Olivia Deschaine and Maddie Thompson, playing the female alter-egos of "The Odd Couple's" classic characters Oscar Madison and Felix Ulgar who made their first performance in the play and were immortalized by the 1968 film, closed the play's two week run with a flawless performance of the two contrary roommates.

The male cast of the production, starring seniors Jeff Carr and Zac Oldham,

took their last bow on Thursday, January 16 after two hilarious performances as the recently divorced and at odds roommate duo.

Oldham was hilarious as the disorganized and chaotic roommate Oscar Madison despite this being only his second production ever, and he cleverly played off of his contrary roommate Felix, performed

Sophomores Alayna Newman and Avery May, however, stole the show with their authentic British accents and uproarious interpretations of the flirtatious Pigeon sisters in contrast to Carr and Oldham's more serious demeanors.

In the female cast version, veteran stage manager, senior Olivia Deschaine made her on-stage debut alongside Marist Theater staple senior Maddie Thompson. Deschaine offered a naturally comedic performance which was extremely believable against Thompson's perfect interpretation of the uptight and compulsive-cleaning Felice.

The conflicting duo was supported by an all junior cast of theatre regulars: Abby Pandina who kept the audience engaged with her well timed and feisty come backs, Katelynn Williams who brought her comedic concern to the stage, along with Angelina Rivas and Natalie Tichenor.

The British Pigeon brothers, played by junior Wille Johnson and sophomore Carl Lemhouse capped off the female cast production with a riotous delivery of witty lines and believable British dialect that closed the production in laughter.



Junior Angelina Rivas calms down cast mate senior Maddie Thompson while juniors Abbie Pandina, Natalie Tichenor and Katelynn Williams look on. Photo by Toni Cooper



Attempting to console senior Jeff Carr, freshman Austin McIntire, sophomore Josh Haggas, junior John Kerns console their cast mate while senior Zac Oldham sighs in exasperation. Photo by Toni Cooper

by theatre veteran Carr in the male cast version.

Both sets of roommates were supported by an outstanding assembly of theatre staples and newcomers, including veteran juniors John Kerns and Wille Johnson, as well as sophomore Joshua Haggas and freshman Austin McIntire who were new to speaking roles.

## Honoring a Legend

Marist takes time to preserve Dr. King's memory with school wide prayer and reflection



Harlin Andersen  
EDITOR

Taking a turn from tradition due to repercussions from unexpected snow days, Marist students and staff celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day with a string of prayers and reflections.

MLK Day has traditionally been a no school day with an emphasis on honoring King's memory through service projects and prayer. After missing a week of school due to an unexpected snow storm in early December, Marist administration added a few days back into the schedule to allow teachers to cover all of their first semester material.

Throughout the day, parts of King Jr.'s speeches, brief descriptions of his life and prayers were shared over the PA system by Principal Jay Conroy and Assistant Principal Rick Gardner. The day began with an opening prayer reflecting on King Jr.'s life followed by biographical information and readings from a "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" during second and third period.

After reading excerpts from King's famous "I have a dream speech," Conroy spoke on the importance King placed on education. King writes "The function of education, therefore, is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically."

The day concluded with King's words encouraging nonviolence and then a prayer to celebrate the day. "We bow thee this day [with] remembrance and thanksgiving for the life and legacy of thy servant...the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," read the prayer.

Some students felt the day adequately honored King's memory and that for the average teenager, readings and reflections throughout the day accomplished more than students would have done individually.

Many students, however, missed having the extra day off which was expected, but some had an unexpected reaction to the day's events feeling that Marist would be accused of disrespecting King's memory as the day is a national holiday.

While these feelings may have been fed from rumors that other local high schools were debating why Marist was holding school on MLK Day, many were concerned that Marist would be accused of disrespecting a tradition and our cultural heritage

It can be debated if holding school was the best decision; I personally missed the day off as it would have served as another studying opportunity for finals.

While positions on the day were both positive and negative, the turn from tradition was intriguing.

# BY THE NUMBERS

74

Total height of all girls on the varsity basketball roster added together -in feet

3

Seniors who have joined the swim team for the first time

444

Miles driven each week for practice by cheerleader Bri Stowell

0.0

The time left on the clock after Cesare Bocci scored the game winning shot in a JV basketball game against Cottage Grove

9

Number of juniors on the boy's varsity basketball roster

4

Number of dancers at the start of the year, which has now grown to ten

14.5

Average margin of victory for the girl's varsity basketball team through 15 games

60

The number of inches of the shortest girl in the girl's basketball program, freshman Riley Stauffer

Sophomore **Madison Bryant** has been nominated for the Prep Tennis Player of the Year award by Oregon Sports Awards. Show your support by voting for Madison. Scan the QR code below. Voting ends Friday, Feb. 7

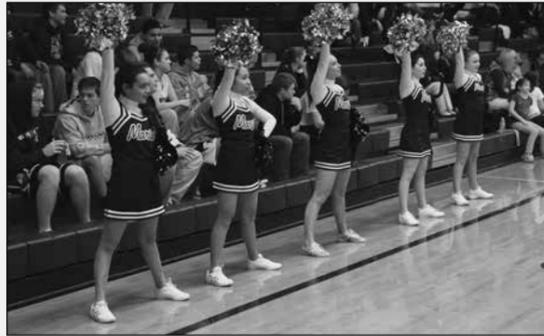


# Winter Sports Recap

Get the latest in Spartan sports

with HART AND SCHEPERGERDES

## Cheer



Cheering during a basketball game in January. Photo by Zac Oldham

The cheer team has been cheering at the boys and girls basketball games throughout the season, but will not be cheering at the state championship later this month due to small numbers.

## Dance



The dance team poses in their Great Gatsby costumes. Photo courtesy of Katelyn DiMercurio

The dance team has been to two competitions and performed two dances at each. They finished fourth in three of their performances and third in the other dance. During their daily six o'clock morning practices, the team is hard at work learning new routines. The next competitions are scheduled to begin mid-February, but the team can use some new members willing to brave the lack of sleep and get to school early. The dance team currently consists of nine members, but a full team is made up of ten or more members. "Bigger teams always win!" said Junior Nikki Mirhosseyni.

## Boy's Basketball



Sophomore Colin Kirk searches for a teammate as he goes up against a Churchill defender. Photo by Luba Kalstad



Junior Chandler Potter drives past a Sheldon defender as the Marist home crowd watches. Photo by Zac Oldham

**Record:** 5-9

**About:** Currently on a four game losing skid, the Spartans are also struggling in league at 0-2. The team, which features just four seniors, are still looking to contend in league.

**Best Case Scenario:** The young team gets hot and makes a run in league guiding them to an appearance at the State Tournament.

**League Odds:** With two Midwestern league teams in the top 10 in state, the Spartan's chance at the league title is small.

**State Odds:** Currently ranked 20, the Spartans have a chance to jump into the first round of playoffs if they pick up a few wins, but odds for a run at state are slim.

**State:** Top 16 Teams play for spots in the State Tournament, first round begins March 8

**Junior Varsity:** 4-4

**Freshman:** 7-6

## Girl's Basketball

**Record:** 13-3

**About:** The Spartans have only lost three games all season, including a loss to No. 1 ranked Willamette. They have achieved two six game win streaks this season. What the team lacks in experience, with only four seniors on the roster, they make up for in young talent.

**Best Case Scenario:** The team continues to play well into state and makes a run at the title.

**League Odds:** Even though they compete with Willamette for the league title, they have a good shot.

**State Odds:** Currently ranked 7th, a run deep into the playoffs looks promising with a talented young team.

**State:** Top 16 teams in state play for spots in the State Tournament, first round begins March 7

**Junior Varsity:** 8-1 on the season



Junior Anne Yates drives past a Churchill defender. Photo by Sam Inouye



A host of Spartans scramble for the ball during a JV game against Churchill. Photo by Sam Inouye

## Boys Swimming

**Record:** The team had three 1st place finishes, three 2nd place finishes, as well as one 3rd place and one 5th place finish.

**About:** The Spartans are doing well, winning their meets against Junction City and Churchill, as well as a third place finish at the North Eugene Relays.

**Best Case Scenario:** The guys finish out the season strong with a victory against North Eugene to gain momentum heading to the Midwestern League meet.

**League Odds:** The boys will be in the mix of things but will have a tough fight to win the league title over their rival Springfield.

**State Odds:** Marist can find hope in individuals like Juniors Corey Solari and Max Spinner.



Sophomore Marissa Gibson dives into the pool just as her teammate touches the wall in a relay race at a swim meet against Springfield. Photo by Tyler Fechtel

## Girls Swimming

**Record:** Three 1st place finishes, two 2nd place finishes, two 3rd place finishes.

**About:** The girls are doing well with victories against Junction City, Springfield, and Churchill. They also took third place at the North Eugene Relays and the Lebanon High School Invitational.

**Best Case Scenario:** The girls team capture a win against North Eugene and gain confidence before the Midwestern League meet.

**League Odds:** Things are looking good for the Spartan girls with victories over Springfield and Churchill, expect them to have a fighting chance at the district meet.

**State odds:** Look for Junior Angela Sampson and Sophomore Marissa Gibson to represent Marist and do well at state.

# THE ULTIMATE CLUB

*The latest club at Marist takes flight*



Moving to block a pass by junior William Stearns, coach Grant Gilchrist plays during a recreational game in early December. Photo by Tyler Fechel



*Galam Arab*  
STAFF WRITER

If you're walking near the soccer field at break, lunch, or after school, be prepared to duck as the Marist Ultimate team will be practicing, no matter the weather.

Led by math teacher Grant Gilchrist, the Ultimate club is a new addition to Marist this year and is one of the few school teams in the area.

Although Ultimate has recently taken off in popularity at many colleges nation-

wide, it has its origins on the East Coast. The sport was invented in 1968 by Joel Silver, a student at Columbia High School in Maplewood, New Jersey. Silver's idea of "frisbee football" has launched into mass popularity across the world, headed by the World Flying Disc Federation.

Many people who enjoy playing football also appreciate Ultimate as the two games are very similar. Although Ultimate is played on a narrower field than football, both sports have field designs that are alike with two end zones.

Some major differences between the games are that the disk must be thrown from person to person because, unlike football, no travelling is allowed while in possession of the disk. Also, Ultimate is a self-refereed sport, whereas the rules of a football game is determined by the many referees who monitor the field.

During the fall, the Ultimate team had two informal scrimmages, one against South Eugene and another against Sheldon. The official season starts in February, and matches will be played against Churchill, South Eugene, and Sheldon as well as possibly some Portland and Bend schools.

The Marist team is fortunate to have Gilchrist as the coach, as he has significant experience, "I played three years at Oregon and we finished fifth at nationals twice."

The decision to start an Ultimate team wasn't just a random choice made by Gilchrist. "I had always wanted to start a team, but it got [started] when I was asked by Mrs. Waldron and three of my students to start and coach a team," said Gilchrist.

So come late February, if you are near the soccer field at break or after school, you better watch out or else you might get the ultimate surprise!

# TAKING A SHOT AT THE NHL

*Freshman Jack Geisler hopes to have a future in professional hockey*



*Madison Martin*  
STAFF WRITER

Freshman, Jack Geisler has been playing hockey for six years. However, this year is the first year he is playing junior hockey, which is a series of 21 and younger leagues that feed into the semi-pro or NCAA teams.

Needless to say, he has a pretty dedicated and intense practice schedule. "I practice 3-4 days a week before school for an hour and a half, and lift after school for one hour. I then have practice for a half an hour to an hour, and on top of that I have 2 practices a week on ice, after school," Geisler said. "I hope to play D1 NCAA and although I'd like to play further than that I don't have too good of a chance," said Geisler with the knowledge that players from the United States only make up about 20% of the NHL.

"I love every part of the game from skating to shooting. It is by far the fastest

sport I've played which makes it so fun," said Geisler. Along with hockey, Geisler has played lacrosse and football, but he also likes watching the other sporting events, when he doesn't have hockey practice of course.

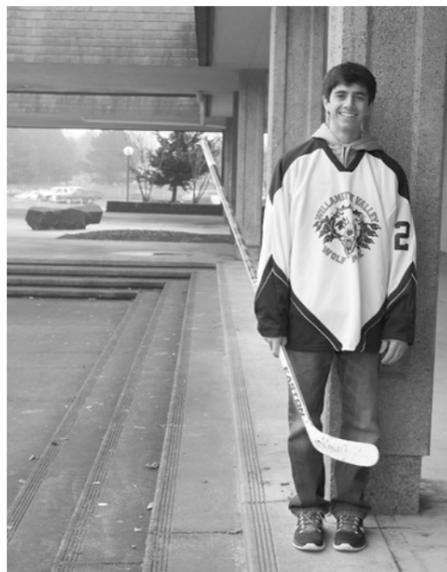
When asking Jack these different questions about his hockey career, every time he answers he seems to light up. He knows what he's talking about and he's as passionate as they come.

He tries to get on the ice as much as possible, but with only one rink in Eugene, it makes it difficult to do just that.

When asking if he likes to be aggressive and push people up against walls, the quiet well-mannered kid surprisingly answered yes. He said it's difficult though because he's so small.

He ended up trying out for a traveling team that is based in Colorado Springs, last year, and unfortunately they didn't put him on the team because he was too small. "I would love to play for them someday and

live there, but that's a long shot," said Geisler.



Freshman Jack Geisler in his hockey jersey. Photo by Luba Kalstad

# NEW COACH SPLASHES INTO MARIST SWIM

*An experienced, hardworking coach takes over the swim team*



*Brennick Thompson*  
STAFF WRITER

Marist has a new, young, and talented swim coach who has big plans for the team.

Emily Lightcap joined the Marist family this year as the new swim coach. She is a student at the University of Oregon as well as a lifelong swimmer with high expectations for her new team.

"I hope to win districts. I would love to send as many swimmers as possible to state, but specifically one boys and girls relay team would be wonderful as well as individual qualifiers," Lightcap said.

Lightcap has instituted changes this season including dry-land practices on the weekends that involve circuit training, a combination of weight exercises and running. She is also increasing the amount swam to a mile every night in the hour and a half long practices every night of the week in the outside pool at Echo Hollow.

"I really like working with [Marist] swimmers. It's a great break from studying and working," said Lightcap. "I really enjoy being a part of the Marist family. It's great to



New swim coach Emily Lightcap. Photo by Brennick Thompson

be back in the sport with caring, loving, and hard-working people," said Lightcap

Lightcap is a very talented swimmer and swam at the University of San Diego, which is a Division 1 school, her freshman year before transferring to the University of Oregon. Before swimming for the University of San Diego, she swam for the Multnomah Athletic Club in Portland for 12 years. With her vast experience in swimming, she says "staying positive amongst my teammates has worked the best" when motivating her swimmers.

She shows this same dedication and drive in her free time. Lightcap is an extremely hard worker between achieving two degrees at the University of Oregon, working as a swim instructor at the YMCA, and is training for the 2014 Boston Marathon.

After she earns her degrees, Lightcap hopes to work in public relations or marketing with her current double major in journalism, communication studies and political science with a minor in business administration. She is also considering graduate school for a master's degree in communications or business.

# Seniors in Sports

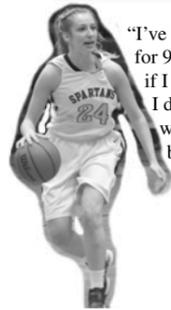
WITH MADISON MARTIN



"I've been playing basketball for 12 years. It has helped me build character, understand team work, and become a better leader."



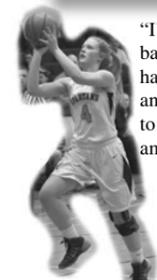
Jonah Saraceno



"I've been playing basketball for 9 years. It's taught me that if I give my all in everything I do, I'll be satisfied, whether I win or lose, I'll be happy knowing that I did my best."



Martha Gehrig



"I've been playing basketball for 11 years. I have been through a lot, and basketball has helped to shape the person that I am today."



Maegan Anderson



"I think basketball has had a huge influence on my life because I have learned to persevere and work hard to achieve goals. I have also gotten to learn from a team of amazing people."



Kriscia Rivas



"I've been playing basketball for 9 years. It has shaped who I am because it has been the one thing that has always been there for me. It's my life, even with all the sweat, blood and tears. I wouldn't have it any other way."



Kassi McCabe



"I started dance when I was 5... Dance has taught me leadership as team captain and dedication to getting up each morning and spending time with a bunch of awesome girls."



Kaitlyn DiMercurio



"I would say that the largest impact is the social aspect of a team. When you spend 1-2 hours a day, 5 days a week you grow stronger in friendship with your teammates."



Caleb Mulhern

# STUDENTS OF THE ISSUE



**Marielle Gumban**

**Riley Betts**

If you could eat one meal for the rest of your life what would you choose?

"Tacos."

If you could eat one meal for the rest of your life what would you choose?

"Spaghetti."

Say someone gives you the power to save just one animal on Earth, which would it be?

"Dolphins."

Say someone gives you the power to save just one animal on Earth, which would it be?

"Dogs."

If you had to give up one of your five senses, which one would you sacrifice?

"Scent because I can't smell (well) anyways."

If you had to give up one of your five senses, which one would you sacrifice?

"Smell, because I only realize when things smell bad."

Who is your celebrity crush?

"Dylan O'Brein"

Who is your celebrity crush?

"Lolo Jones."



**Leah Helfrich**

**Mason Brainard**

If someone wrote a biography about you what would it be titled?

"Raised on the River."

If someone wrote a biography about you what would it be titled?

"I am Ironman."

If you could eliminate one weakness or limitation in your life, what would it be?

"Gravity, because it would be pretty cool to be able to fly!"

If you could eliminate one weakness or limitation in your life, what would it be?

"Kryptonite."

If you could be any celebrity for a day who would you be?

"Miley Cyrus...Duh! No, but maybe Jennifer Lawrence."

If you could be any celebrity for a day who would you be?

"Benedict Cumberbatch."

What would the opening lyrics be to the theme song about your life?

"Rising up, straight up to the top."

What would the opening lyrics be to the theme song about your life?

"Will the real Slim Shady please stand up?"



**Jacob Hubbard**

**Kaitlyn Witschger**

What is the first thing you notice about a person?

"Jennifer Lawrence."

What is the first thing you notice about a person?

"Their shoes."

What is one word that you think people would use to best describe you?

"Frisky."

What is one word that you think people would use to best describe you?

"Short."

If you had three wishes, what would you wish for?

"1.) Jar of Pickles. 2.) Jennifer Lawrence 3.) Hairless Cats."

If you had three wishes, what would you wish for?

"1.) Money 2.) To have a great career. 3.) To have unlimited chocolate covered strawberries."

Which Disney Princess would you be?

"Snow White."

Which Disney Princess would you be?

"Ariel, because she can live on land and under the sea."



**Garrett Brous**

**Sarah Akers**

What is one guilty pleasure you enjoy too much to give up?

"My twin, Garrett Lee Stollar."

What is one guilty pleasure you enjoy too much to give up?

"Doctor Who Movie Marathons."

If you had to change your first name, what would you change it to?

"Gavin."

If you had to change your first name, what would you change it to?

"Elizabeth."

If you could go to any concert, which one would you go to and why?

"The Wiggles, because who doesn't love four Australian men?"

If you could go to any concert, which one would you go to and why?

"George Strait, because he is my favorite singer."

What's the longest you've got without showering?

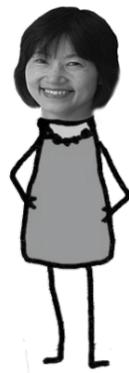
"What is this said 'shower?'"

What's the longest you've got without showering?

"3 days because my power was out."

# SPY

Hidden around the campus are pictures of three teachers. See if you can figure out and find where the pictures are based on these clues. If you find one, pick it up and return it to the newspaper room (rm. 318) for a special prize!



by Natalia Zreliaik

■ On your quest for Mrs. King Finding her should be a zing To look for her you won't be able to clown around If you want what is lost to be found

■ After a nice rewarding workout this teacher might visit a silver spout Hydration is the name And finding Geske is the game

■ When looking for our third teacher You might want to look in our school's wettest feature Our beloved science teacher Mrs. Cool Will be found near this small pool



Dear Karlin,  
As we are both hard core Bachelor fans, what are your opinions regarding Juan Pablo's situation? Also, where would you most want to travel to with the Bachelor man of your dreams?  
- A lonely bachelorette looking for her soulmate

Dear Lonely Bachelorette,  
Personally, I think Juan Pablo should run away with Renee immediately as we all know she would be the best mom to Juan Pablo's adorable daughter. And if I were to meet the Bachelor man of my dreams I would want to be whisked on a food filled tour of Europe.  
- Karlin

Dear Katie,  
How do you keep from looking like a brunette Ms. Frizzle?  
- Another Curly Girl

Dear Curly Girl,  
You mean I *don't* look like a brunette Ms. Frizzle? All my plans are ruined! How will I go on?!?  
- Katie

Dear Zac,  
Who's your favorite crew member?  
- Emily Bly

Dear Emily,  
My favorite crew member is Mr. Rust because he is a cool dude.  
- Zac

Dear Zac & Ben,  
Why are you guys so dang tall?  
- Not an Ewok

Dear Ewok,  
Excuse you! We're tall too! Well, Karlin is anyway...  
- Karlin & Katie

P.S. Stilts.  
- Ben

Dear Karlin,  
Has AP Lit completely ruined your taste for poetry?  
- Aged Bacon

Dear Aged Bacon,  
As I have never had a taste for poetry, AP Lit has only increased my distaste for the art. Also, fleas are not sexy.  
- Karlin

Dear Zac,  
What is your favorite colour and why? What's your favorite number?  
- Curious Bystander

Dear Bystander,  
My super fav colour is forest green.

My favourite number is i.  
-Zac

Dear Ben,  
I hear you are in AP Chem. Maybe you want to actually learn something? You should come to AP Physics. We have smarts. All of them.  
- Persuasive AP Physics Student

Dear star-struck AP Physics Student,  
It's alright to be in awe of the superiority of the AP Chemistry students. We recognize that our intelligence far exceeds your plebeian knowledge, but nice try.  
- Ben and Zac

Dear Editors,  
What Harry Potter characters would the other editors be?  
- Professor Trelawney

Dear Professor Trelawney,  
Katie would be Hermione Granger, Karlin would be the Centaur Bane, Zac would be Remus Lupin, and Ben would be Pooh Bear.  
- Us

P.S. In reality, Ben would be the sorting hat.  
- Bane