



# THE SPARTAN SPEAR

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 2

MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 9, 2017

## Marist Celebrates Catholic Schools Week



Junior Brian Pina escorts his younger siblings to meet their classmates before Mass. Photo by Drew Lara '17

Livia Kokkino

EDITOR

The Marist community celebrated National Catholic Schools Week last week.

To kick off the week, members of student council handed out cups of free hot chocolate to students as they walked to their first period classes on Monday morning.

On Thursday morning, students, staff, and faculty of Marist High School were joined by St. Paul Parish School and O'Hara Catholic School for the annual All Catholic Schools Mass, marking nineteen years since the first Mass to bring all the schools together began.

The Mass was celebrated by Fr. David Brown, along with Fr. Ron Nelson, Fr. Vincent Benoit O.P., Fr. Mark Bentz, Fr. Ken Olsen, Fr. David Cullings, and Deacon Darrel Meter.

In his homily, Fr. Brown told a story from his past that emphasized the importance of letting the light of Christ fill us to see one another as Jesus might see us -without judgement. He also spoke of not acting on our fears, but acting out of love.

Following the Mass, members of the Marist Parent Association honored Marist staff and faculty with the annual staff luncheon.

Marist also held a canned food drive, sponsored by members of the Marist Volunteer Program and the National Honor Society throughout during the week to replenish the food pantry at St. Vincent de Paul. This is the twelfth year that the food drive has been held.



The entire congregation of St. Paul, Marist, and O'Hara join hands to pray the Our Father. Photo by Toni Cooper

## Praying in the Form of Paint

Fr. Ken Olsen brings traditional icon painting to the ARC for students to enjoy



Fr. Ken Olsen works on one of his student's icons in the ARC. Photo by Gloria Wang '17

Livia Kokkino

EDITOR

He sits behind the smooth wooden desk, bathed in the light streaming from the windows of the Academic Resource Center. His light and magnifying glasses ready, his paintbrush in hand, he carefully unscrews the lid to the pigmented powder and slowly sprinkles some into the mixture of egg and water.

He carefully mixes it, eventually creating his paint. Stroke by stroke, he steadily follows the outline of Christ the Teacher on the wood that has been sanded and smoothed countless times.

He patiently waits for the thin layers of paint to dry, and repaints the icon when it's ready. Once the paint is dry, he takes clay

paint and adds it to the icon. He breathes on the clay to warm it up and carefully dusts the gold foil onto Jesus' halo, as if breathing life into the image.

This quiet, mellow-mannered man in the corner of the ARC is Marist's school priest, Fr. Ken Olsen, who can be found painting icons as a form of prayer in the ARC during lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

"It gives me something to do while I'm here so I'm not wandering around aimlessly or sitting cooped up in an office all day," Fr. Olsen said.

Fr. Olsen's story of how he got into iconography begins before he was ordained a priest. He was living and studying in British Columbia and had to take a class in iconography in order to be ordained. He was

drawn to painting or "praying" these icons and decided to continue with the classes.

When he moved to Eugene, he was eventually asked by his parish to teach a class on iconography. He was hesitant to accept at first because he knew that he wasn't a master and that he was still learning, but he realized that he would be learning just as much as the people that would be taking his classes. "We are students all of our lives," Olsen said. "We never stop learning."

Olsen has been teaching a class on iconography at his parish in Dexter for the past 25 years. As his time at his parish in Dexter draws to an end, he's happy to spend more time at Marist, sharing this age-old tradition of combining art and prayer.

## Blood Drive Coming March 3



Maya Dotson

EDITOR

Marist's annual blood drive will be held Friday Mar. 3 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Lane Blood Center will set up in the Activity Center and will be accepting all eligible donors who are at least 16 years old and over 110 pounds and healthy. Contact Maya Dotson at dotson4ts@marisths.net to sign up. More specific requirements can be found at lanebloodcenter.org. There is always a need for donations in the community. In fact every 33 minutes someone in Lane County needs a blood transfusion. It only takes one pint to save three lives so please donate!

## Dotson Named Future First Citizen

Senior Maya Dotson wins prestigious community award

Jack Benda

STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, Jan. 25, at the Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce's annual Celebration of Business, Marist senior Maya Dotson was recognized as Eugene's Future First Citizen in honor of her incredible work to support the community.

Dotson is a founding member of the 15th Night Initiative in Eugene, a group that works to prevent or help homeless youth in Eugene.

At Marist, Dotson is co-president of the school's chapter of the National Honor Society, co-captain of the Speech and Debate Team, and an editor on the Spartan Spear.

Dotson is also a member of the Girl Scouts and the Youth

Ending Slavery Club, and she is a founding member of a political science club at Marist. Additionally, she volunteers at Holly Residential, a home for mentally and/or physically disabled adults.

"The fact that she had so many things outside of school really gave her application a lot of strength," said Marist counselor Jerry Ragan. Dotson is Marist's first Future First Citizen recipient since Kyle Weza won the award 16 years ago.

"Getting this award was such an honor and it also served to remind me that what I was doing was having a positive impact," Dotson said.

At the Chamber of Commerce ceremony, the Future First Citizen nominees from



Maya Dotson accepts her Future First Citizen award at the Hilton, during the Chamber of Commerce Celebration of Business. Photo courtesy of Beth Tassan

each of the city's schools showed videos of their accomplishments and gave speeches. One adult from the community was also recognized as Eugene's First Citizen.

When asked about her future plans, Dotson said she hoped to major in political science and "really make a difference for people nationwide."

# NEWS briefs

## CHINESE STUDENTS JOINING US

Hosted by math teacher and Jeanette Herro, 14 Chinese middle school students and their adult chaperones will visit Marist tomorrow to visit some classes while on a two-week tour of the U.S.

## AUCTION GEARING UP

The annual Marist auction is coming up on May 6. The theme is A Night on Santorini, and will be chaired by Molly Elder and her daughter Ashley Elder '08. Any student interested in helping, see Rebecca Larsen.

## IRISH ECHO

### CONCERT COMING

The annual Irish Echo fundraiser for Project Starfish will happen on Friday, Mar. 17 in the Marist Activity Center from 5-10 p.m. The event features a performance of Irish songs by the band Irish Echo, which counselor Jerry Ragan has been a part of for 35 years. The cost is \$30. Call John Stacy (541)342-8073 for tickets or see Mr. Ragan.

## PREVIEW DAY SUCCESS

Marist Preview Day was a success! There was a 32% increase in attendance and a 37% increase in inquiries about Marist. Thank you to everyone who helped!

## SOPHOMORE BOYS RETREAT

Last weekend, sophomore boys attended the Sophomore Journey Retreat, rectored by senior Marcus Lydon. The retreat began at St. Peter's Catholic Church and ended at Marist and focused on journeys and building relationships with others.

## ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE MEETING

A group of student-athletes who were recommended by their coaches met with Principal Stacey Baker, President Suzanne Graf, and Athletic Director Rick Gardner last Wednesday to discuss what was going well in Marist athletic programs and what could be changed to help them improve. Parents, alumni and coaches will meet at later dates.

## SPARTANS FOR A DAY

Spartan for a Day has officially begun. Over the past two weeks, over forty 8th grade students and high school transfers have shadowed Student Ambassadors at Marist as they attend classes from 7:45-11:30 a.m.



### 2016-17 SPARTAN SPEAR STAFF

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# Oregon High School Graduation Rates on the Rise

*How do Marist graduation rates compare to the state's graduation rates?*

Livia Kokkino

EDITOR

In recent years Oregon has had one of the lowest high school graduation rates in the country at 74%. In the Eugene/Springfield area alone, the graduation rates have averaged out at 74% according to an article from Oregon Public Broadcasting written by Rob Manning. With the implementation of new measures and laws, the rates have started to climb, but are still incredibly low compared to other states.

According to the OPB article, Governor Kate Brown believes that these low graduation rates are due to a number of factors.

Brown believes that one of these factors is that parents in Oregon do not make education a priority.

Another factor is literacy; students who aren't reading by third grade are less likely to graduate high school.

While the low graduation rates are a multifaceted problem Brown believes that the forefront of these issues is that schools are underfunded.

When schools are underfunded, they are forced to cut programs and teachers. When these aspects of education are removed from a school environment, classrooms become more crowded and students

the best possible education that they can have.

New measures have been developed this year that aim to prevent the loss of beneficial programs and teachers in schools.

Of these new measures, measures 97 and 98, were created this year to try to increase funding for schools in Oregon. Oregon has the third most crowded classrooms and one of the shortest school years in the nation. Measure 97 was proposed to increase corporate minimum taxes to increase school funding in order to mitigate issues like these. This measure, however, did not pass.

Measure 98, on the other hand, did pass and now requires state funding for dropout prevention. The money will also go towards providing college-credit classes, restoring and expanding vocational/career technical education, and hiring more counselors, advisors and tutors in Oregon high schools. \$150 million per year is scheduled to be injected into this fund.

So, how does all of this relate to Marist? According to Assistant Principal Andrew Oldham, graduation rates at Marist have averaged out to approximately 99-99.5% every year. That's already 27 percentage points higher than the average for Lane County. But why is the average graduation rate so much higher for Marist than other local high schools?

"Well, there are many reasons," Oldham said. "We have a culture where failing a course isn't cool and we've built a community that cares about students."

Marist strives to aid students in achieving academic excellence. "If a student fails a course, we will do everything in our power to make

sure that they make up that course in time to graduate, whether that's retaking it during the summer or completing it on campus." Oldham said. There is also a sense of pressure from peers to do well academically as well.

Students at Marist are able to do well because their teachers care about them and want them to succeed and are given the tools to help students do so. This includes small class sizes which allow for a one-on-one teaching environment where students can forge relationships with their teachers and get the individualized help that they need.

Students are also encouraged to explore and strengthen their relationships with the teachers, staff and fellow students during the annual retreats together. At Marist, it's easier to connect with everyone, whether that's staff, faculty, teachers, or other students, in part because the community is smaller.

With all of these tools, it's difficult for students to go unnoticed. "For the students that struggle, it's hard for them to disappear," Oldham said. "When you're here, you're not a no one. Everyone knows your name; they're going to be in your business, and they certainly aren't going to let you fail."

Another component that makes a difference is that it's a choice to come to Marist. Just like at any school, a student who wants to be here, will thrive here.

Marist is prepared to help the students that want to succeed and will do as much as they can to help the students who aren't doing as well.

The graduation rates stay high because the students who want to be here and who want to succeed, are able to do so.



## Key Club is Back!

*Key Club seeks to aid the community through service*



Math teacher and moderator of the new Key Club, Krista Hocker, speaks to members during a meeting in January.  
Photo by Ben Thompson '17

Austin Robbins

STAFF WRITER

After an eleven year break, Key Club has returned to the Marist community. The student-led service organization, spearheaded by senior Emma Duvall and moderated by math teacher Krista Hocker, plans on helping the surrounding community through various service projects.

According to Hocker, many freshmen and sophomores are interested in Key Club. "This year was more of a 'startup' to create the club and get the base of underclassmen to keep it going, which has gone really well," Duvall said.

The Marist chapter has had four meetings thus far. Duvall would have liked to have more, but school closures due to inclement winter weather canceled a few planned meetings.

Key Club gets its name because

its members are "key" students on campus. According to Key Club International, each member is required to complete fifty service hours within the year.

"I remember when they had it at Sheldon and I thought it was really cool and Marist didn't have one, so I wanted to start it and thought that students would want to volunteer more and it would be more fun since it was student run and planned," Duvall said.

Key Club International is the oldest and largest service leadership organization for teens, with roots dating back to 1925 and boasting 267,000 members and 5,000 clubs. The organization has influence in 37 nations, allowing it to help communities around the world.

Key Club International does more than 12 million service hours a year.

## "Julius Caesar: A Radio Play"

*Marist Theatre performs first radio play*



Juniors Grace Gibson and John Cornwell, senior Austin McIntire, and sophomore Brandon Foster perform "Julius Caesar, a Radio Play" Photo by Grace Haga '19

Claire Hoffman

STAFF WRITER

The Marist Theatre presented their second of three plays this year with "Julius Caesar, a Radio Play." This adaptation from Shakespeare's original "Julius Caesar" tells the story of Julius Caesar, portrayed by sophomore Kit Zeller, and the events that ultimately lead to his assassination.

This was Marist's first time performing a piece in the format of a radio play, meaning there was no live acting on stage, instead, the actors stand still on stage, speaking into microphones.

Because of this, the actors must rely heavily on their voices to tell the whole story to the audience.

"Rather than having a set and actors acting in a space, they're acting with just their voices in a microphone as if it was going over the radio, so it allows the actors to really focus on their words," director and fine arts teacher Tony Rust said.

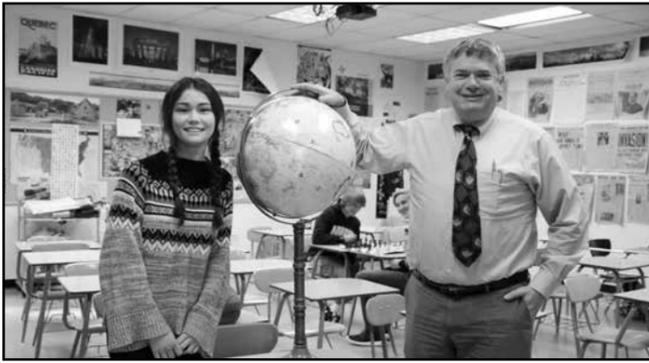
The months of preparation led to a successful performance by the talented group of actors.

"The cast pulled together well, and they really got into it. It was very understandable and interesting," Rust said.

## “Czech-ing” Out the Czech Republic

*Model United Nations returns to Marist*

*Sophomore MUN leader Tess Louie and history teacher Jon Nuxoll pose with a globe. Photo by Gloria Wang '17*



**Jack Benda**

STAFF WRITER

With the help of Marist history teacher Jon Nuxoll, sophomore Tess Louie reintroduced Model United Nations to Marist this fall to give students an opportunity to explore the complexities of international diplomacy.

Marist's former Model UN club ended years ago, and Nuxoll has been interested in restarting it ever since. Model UN allows students to “get a better sense of some of the issues out in the world as well as [understand] how diplomacy works,” Nuxoll said.

According to nmun.org, this worldwide organization for adults and teenagers alike, seeks to create an opportunity to develop “skills in diplomacy, negotiation, criti-

cal thinking, compromise, public speaking, writing, and research.” For almost 100 years, the Model United Nations organization has introduced students to discussion topics such as security, environmental policy, health, and a host of others.

The Marist club's student leader Tess Louie said, “I hope that Model UN will bring an opportunity for students to broaden their worldview. I think it's important to learn about global issues, especially ones that don't directly affect us.”

Nuxoll will lead the Marist group as they prepare to represent the Czech Republic at this year's statewide conference to be held at the Hult Center in April. In anticipation of the event, each student

will pick a topic of interest, including global security, human rights, and many more, and compose a position paper that outlines his or her stance on that issue.

Prior to the conference, club members will attend a credentialing meeting on Feb. 23 in McMinnville, Oregon with their position papers, where a committee will review and score each student's work.

At the April conference itself, club members will act as delegates for the Czech Republic in a number of committees based on their chosen paper topic.

“I'm really looking forward to the conference,” Louie said. “It's a great learning experience, but more than anything it's just tons of fun.”

## Dr. Martin Creates A Culture of Leadership

*Dr. Rick Martin works to form student leaders at Marist*



*Dr. Rick Martin teaches Christian Leadership Class. Photo by Madi Potter '17*

**Cole Vendetti**

STAFF WRITER

Known on campus as the man with the voice of God; Campus Ministry Director Rick Martin is a soft spoken man that soothes his students with his peaceful voice no matter the topic.

Students often see him working in the campus ministry office, walking around campus after school, playing with Proclaim or speaking during Mass. What they may not see is Martin's work behind the scenes for activities such as Freshman Conversations, Masses, retreats, or the work he has been doing to earn his doctorate in Catholic Educational Research.

Once he got through high school, Martin knew of the path that he was going to take. He wanted to pursue religious studies.

Martin attended the University of Oregon where he earned a B.A. in religious studies and the University of Portland where he earned a M.A. in theology. More recently Martin earned a Ed.D. After 7 years of researching and writing for his doctorate, he finally defended and published his case study in May of 2016 called “Catholic Secondary School Students' Religious Profiles and Perceptions of Religious Influence.” It was a study on how Marist students perceived the theology aspect of Marist and how it impacted their faith lives.

Before he joined the theology department at Marist in 1988, he spent seven years in a parish where he developed skills such as leading retreats -which he still draws from today. Just two years after arriving, in 1990, he became the Director of Campus Ministry.

However, those that take his Christian Leadership Class know him in a completely different way.

Christian Leadership Class, or CLC, was created by Martin to offer students the opportunity over two semesters to “learn basic skills in leadership and peer facilitation within a Christian context.” The different styles of leadership and communication skills draw their influences from the Catholic faith.

Students who wish to be in CLC apply to the class their sophomore year and are then interviewed. If accepted, they take the course the second semester of their junior year and the first semester of their senior year.

The class allows for students to grow in their faith and leadership abilities. Martin has seen each year the progression of a student's maturity, specifically through the student-led prayers that begin soon after the start of each new group begins.

Martin demonstrates for his students things that can be done for prayer using objects, quotes, or songs. “I still remember the prayer with the bowl of his,” senior Soren Andersen said. “That sweet, soothing voice is something that I will struggle to forget.”

Martin's passion for wanting to help foster student leaders comes from his appreciation of what a Catholic education can achieve. “For me, faith is what reality is,” Martin said. “So everything I do lives within that, as God has desired for me to follow my faith.”

From his want to lead a faith-driven life and also teach, Martin has found a community where he is able to continue to grow in his faith and knowledge.

## MEET THE SPARTANS

*Mr. Spartan season is in full swing*

**Livia Kokkino**

EDITOR

The Mr. Spartan baby-saving season is in full swing. The ten senior boys, 13 senior girls and two junior girls who were chosen to run this year's program with moderator Bill Ferrari are already busy raising money for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Riverbend Medical Center, which they took a tour of last Friday.

To raise the money, the Mr. Spartan's are passing around their decorated jars to gather loose change from students, staff and faculty. They will soon be sending out letters to friends and loved ones to help them meet their goal of raising as much money as possible for premature babies born at the Riverbend Medical Center NICU.

The three-month fundraiser concludes with the highly anticipated Mr. Spartan Pageant on Saturday, Apr. 8.



**Soren Andersen & Dale Helvoigt**

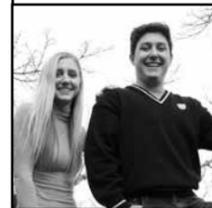
**Q: What is your best money-making technique?**

**A:** Tell him/her I can get Brennan to stop harassing them. -Soren Andersen

**Joska Fischer, Ellie Cross & Maya Dotson**

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

**A:** I would wake up early to watch The Wiggles. -Ellie Cross



**Brennan Franssen & Rachel Larsen**

**Q: How would you get a crying baby to laugh?**

**A:** Take him/her away from Nicholas. -Brennan Franssen

**Marcus Lydon & Noel Balderston**

**Q: What are you looking forward to the most?**

**A:** I'm looking forward to when it's all over, being able to know we made a difference in parents and little babies lives. -Marcus Lydon



**Jack McGaughey & Alexa Gennarelli**

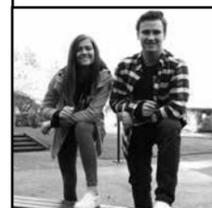
**Q: If you could travel back in time to visit your younger self, what would you say?**

**A:** “Yes, you CAN in fact become a professional musician for a career.” -Jack McGaughey

**Andrew Meyers & Brittan Silver**

**Q: If a five-year-old asked you where babies come from, what would you tell them?**

**A:** I think that's a question for your parents. -Andrew Meyers



**Devin Miller & Kamryn Large**

**Q: What is one parenting skill that you think you will be great at?**

**A:** Dad jokes. -Devin Miller

**Nicholas Olmos, Emma Duvall & Olivia Franssen**

**Q: What would the pageant theme be if it were up to you?**

**A:** I would make it pirate theme because it can appeal to little kids and teenagers such as Brennan Franssen. -Nicholas Olmos



**Ian Skaggs & Ashton Stowell**

**Q: What song would you sing to soothe a crying baby?**

**A:** “Isn't She Lovely” by Stevie Wonder. -Ian Skaggs

**Ben Thompson, Taylor Gibson & Lauren Martin**

**Q: What is one food that no child should ever have to eat?**

**A:** Bananas. -Ben Thompson



**Ashley Alldridge & Jasmine Doremus**

**Q: If you could decorate the NICU, what theme would you make it?**

**A:** Olympic theme because the babies are all champions! -Jasmine Doremus

# Musical Roots

*A path paved by musical education*

Jack Benda

STAFF WRITER

Since the age of three, I have played the violin under the teaching of my mother and other instructors at the University of Oregon School of Music. A photograph I own shows my first encounter with this instrument in which I am wearing pajamas covered in umbrella patterns and an expression of curiosity in the tiny wooden object held before me.

Soon, I was taking solo lessons at the U of O and participating in the Suzuki Institute's Saturday group lessons on campus. I would frequently perform my latest solo pieces such as "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" during these Saturday sessions, and I would perform at Beall Hall at the end of each term. During these years, group lessons were packed with children and their onlooking parents, and end-of-term performances were similarly well-attended.

By the time I joined the Community Music Institute to play chamber music, which involves small groups of four or five musicians playing different parts of a piece simultaneously, these crowds dwindled. Elsewhere, elementary and middle schools began to cut their music programs due to budget constraints, thus disallowing their students from enjoying the journey of music.

In my early years of instrumental work, I assumed that my mother introduced me to this art so that I could become a professional musician. She later told me that her goal was for me to "learn how to learn."

My mom hoped the emotions that I would express while learning how to practice would prepare me for exciting and challenging situations in academia and beyond. From facing frustration to enjoying my performances, this has held true throughout my youth.

Our community must similarly value this emotional journey of music from curiosity to imagination. Programs such as the Eugene-Springfield Youth Orchestras and the Community Music Institute offer children of all ages an opportunity to further explore the world of music.

EYSO's free annual educational concert, the "Symphonic Safari" for hundreds of third grade students features excerpts of famous pieces, demonstrations of individual instruments, crazy illustrations of composers, and even a tour through the orchestra itself.

As funding for the arts dwindles, it is up to our community's schools to follow these examples to allow children to have the same "first encounter" with music that I did. This is where the journey will truly begin.

# "Alternative Facts": What's the Truth?

*Examining the truth and inaccuracies in politics and media*

Maya Dotson

EDITOR

Media and the ability to digest media has grown tremendously over the last several decades and with it comes the rise of social media disguised as news.

Sites like Twitter are now being considered a legitimate news source by many people, businesses and even countries. This is a claim which seems to have more and more merit due to the growing amount of people who use sites like Twitter to convey announcements, disclosures, and other messages. This can be a dangerous assumption when claims are not verified by these sites themselves.

While half truths and misconceptions may be common in places such as Twitter, Wikipedia, and Snapchat, fabrications in mainstream media are much less expected, but 'alternative facts' are changing that.

If a hired journalist lies, knowingly or even unknowingly, on air or in an article then they will be fired. Right? Several of the larger media outlets such as The Washington Post and The New Yorker have fired writers for ethical violations such as lying or misrepresenting the truth; however, the distortion of the truth has become disturbingly routine with the

use of 'alternative facts.'

There is no actual definition afforded by any dictionary for the term alternative facts. The phrase was first used by Counselor to President Kellyanne Conway during a Meet the Press interview. Conway was defending White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer's claims that news organizations manipulated photos of President Trump's inauguration in a way that made the crowd seem smaller than it was.

Conway's use of the phrase "alternative facts" seems to be an excuse to describe what are easily fact-checked fabrications. Her new phrase was criticized across multiple news sources and journalists, such as Dan Rather and Chuck Todd.

Another instance of 'alternative facts' appears with an interview with Conway's where in she mentions the Bowling Green Massacre, a tragedy Conway says is unknown because of a "lack of coverage." As explained by CNN the truth about the Bowling Green Massacre is that it never actually happened. What Conway was referring to was two Iraqi men living in Bowling Green, Ky., who were convicted of helping an al-Qaeda attack on U.S. troops in Iraq.

Whether they consider them

'alternative facts' or not, many politicians have been known to alter the truth. Former presidential candidate and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has stated that there are now more jobs in solar work than there are in the oil industry. According to the fact-checking website and 2009 winner of the Pulitzer prize, PolitiFact, the numbers Clinton cited do not support the claim.

As 'alternative facts' and similar manipulation become normalized in the media through their continued use and little refutation, it becomes more difficult for people to discern what the truth is. Paul Glader of Forbes Magazine believes that people should support the local and more traditional news outlets like regional newspapers which adhere "to ethical journalism standards and cover local government entities." This advice seems to be increasingly valuable in this post-truth era, a term deemed the International word of the Year in 2016 by Oxford's Dictionary.

A post-truth era is defined by Oxford's Dictionary as an era "relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal

belief."

It is easy to be swayed by emotions alone. Lucas Graves, an Assistant Professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication studies mass media consumption. "In general, humans are really good at ignoring information that cuts against their ideological preferences," Graves said. "That's true on the left and the right. It's true for more-educated as well as less-educated people. That's always been the case."

It should seem easy to separate facts from opinion and outright lies, but in reality, when people are presented with an untrue claim, they may cling even more strongly to their already affirmed beliefs.

When repeated, a lie, a non truth, a half truth or an alternative fact begin to seem more plausible, realistic and a part of our individual and collective story. "Pure repetition, we know from psychology, makes information more powerful," MIT political science professor Adam Berinsky said.

The only way to conquer this oncoming wave of non truths, half truths, and alternative facts is to be an informed consumer which means checking sources and thinking critically.

# "A Cappella" of Champions

*Two Marist students excel in a cappella competition*

Emily Jewett

EDITOR

Marist seniors Bryn Garland and Jack McGaughey participated in the International Championship of High School A Cappella Semifinal Regional Tournament on Friday, Jan. 27 at Rolling Hills Community Church in Tualatin, Oregon. Garland is a member of the all-female, Oregon Children's Choir a cappella group, Synergy, which took 1st place and will advance to the finals in Manhattan, New York on Apr. 21.

Out of the 250 groups that entered the ICHSA competition, only eight advanced to the regional semifinals. "We were really bummed about not winning last year, so needless to say we were out for a win this year. It was extremely satisfying to know that all our hard work was rewarded," Garland said.

McGaughey is a member of the all-male Oregon Children's Choir a cappella group, Some Cool Guys, which took 3rd place. Some Cool Guys submitted a video of their set to be considered for a Wild Card spot at the finals. Even if not selected, the group will go to New York to support Synergy.



Senior Bryn Garland (center) performs with a cappella group Synergy at the ICHSA regional semifinals competition. Photo courtesy of Susan Schramm



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# Musical Adventures

Madi Potter

PHOTO EDITOR

**B**raws, laughter, and a multitude of different kinds of music are only some of the things you may find at a Musical Adventures club meeting. You will also find founding member and senior, Alex Steele tuning up his favorite jazz songs in English teacher Bill Ferrari's room during block lunch for this new and welcoming club.

The doors are open to anyone looking to share their ideas about music and discuss the roots of different music genres guided by Steele's perspective. Steele is a qualified contemporary jazz musician primarily, but is capable of playing anything. Piano is his forte but he also plays guitar, bass and a bit of saxophone.

Steele's club focuses on different types of music ranging from rap music to jazz, post-punk, hip-hop, vaporwave, and many more although jazz is his favorite.

Steele, who considers himself a "music enthusiast," knows that many people may not be familiar with the multitude of genres, and while he himself did not feel an immediate need to form this group, his friends thought differently.

"I wouldn't have done it on my own," Steele said. But after relentless pleading from his friends and

constant request for recommendations, Musical Adventures club began. "It's cool to see people care about my music... It's interesting that people care about what I think," Steele said.

Although his powerful love for jazz was not the initial reason for the birth of Musical Adventures, Steele is still very passionate about jazz and is thrilled to engage in "Jazz Day," a day where a collection of jazz music is played for the club to listen to and appreciate together.

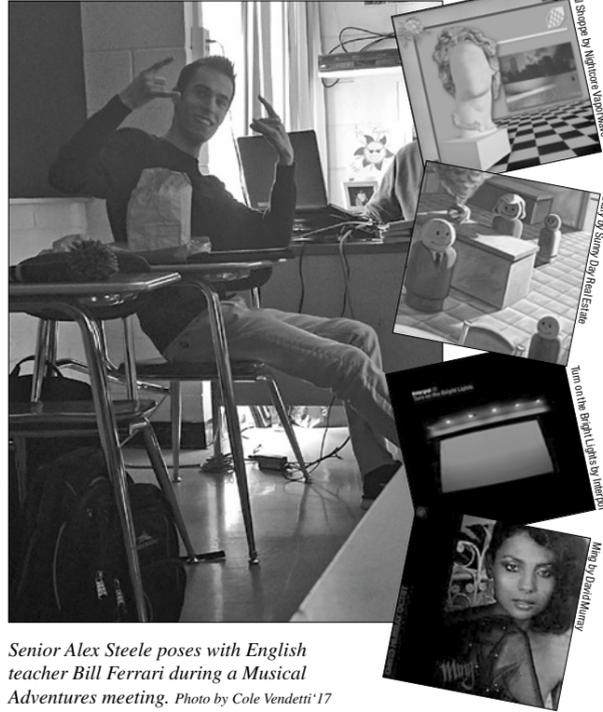
"I like jazz because it's a group of people who maintain authentic individuality with how they're performing, yet work as a cohesive unit, and that to me is a lot like how life is. We're all different and play differently but still find a way to connect and it's the most wonderful thing," Steele said.

His friends knew that his knowledge of music was enough to engage other members of the community. He possesses every ability to bring fellow classmates a stepping stone to furthering their understanding of music genres. "He's listened to music by every band you've never heard of," senior Jack McGaughey said.

Steele has taken a leadership position to choose the music for each meeting that will challenge

the group of music lovers to open their minds. "He knows more than I did," Marist Rock Band teacher Jim Reinking said. "I thought I knew everything in high school but he knows more. He's done a great deal educating himself and learning from it."

"He will do well if he chooses this as a journey," Reinking said. Even though Steele hopes to major in computer science, music is coded in his DNA.



Senior Alex Steele poses with English teacher Bill Ferrari during a Musical Adventures meeting. Photo by Cole Vendetti '17

## In Praise of Print

Emily Jewett

EDITOR

**I**Open the book, thumbing through the pages gently, almost with reverence. There's nothing quite like the smell, the feel, and the magic of a new book.

I am not the only person who feels this way. I do own a Kindle Fire, and yes, I read eBooks on it. eBooks still make me laugh and even cry, but there are several crucial aspects that are missing.

For me, there are many factors that make printed books superior to eBooks. The satisfaction of turning the page, the ability to annotate on the physical pages, and even seeing the beautiful cover art in person all make me fall in love with a printed book.

The smell of a printed book alone is superior to anything an eBook has to offer. The new paper smell of a book is wonderful, unlike the sterile scent of metal, plastic, and glass.

I miss the days staying up late in the first grade reading Junie B. Jones books in bed. No matter how late it was, or how tired my eyes were, they continued to jump from page to page, and my fingers continued to furiously turn the pages, wildly intrigued by what the eccentric Junie would do next. A lot of my interest came from the fact that it was a physical, tangible book. I relished in the illustrations and words, the softness of the paper pages, the satisfaction of finishing the last page and closing the book cover.

Unfortunately, some people believe print is dead. People have argued since the release of the Amazon Kindle and the Barnes and Noble Nook that eBooks will eventually kill printed books. This is simply untrue rubbish. I own a Kindle. I hate to admit it, but I do. However, I still own a myriad of printed books that I treasure with all my heart.

I still struggle with eBooks, especially reading on an iPad. I have found that I do not absorb the information as well as when I read paper books. My eyes also tire more quickly and I feel less drawn into the text when it is not printed on tangible pages.

This experience is not unique to me. According to a study published by online newspaper The Guardian, readers absorb and comprehend less of what they read on a Kindle as opposed to paper books. Paper books also last forever. Odds are that in ten years, your current Kindle will be obsolete and replaced by a newer model.

Printed books are also shareable. You can loan your favorite book to your friends or family, but you cannot really loan your eBook to your buddy. Reading the same books can offer new, deep conversations about characters, plot lines, or even just opinions about the book. You can still read the same book as your friend on an eBook, but it is more difficult to flip through the pages to find meaningful quotes or moments in the book.

Printed books are more fair to authors as well. According to the national Author's Guild, publishers pay authors less for eBooks than for printed books. Print books are also better for your health. Harvard Medical School released a study which concluded that the light emitted from some eReaders interrupts the ability to fall asleep, leading to increased fatigue.

Overall, eBooks are clearly inferior to print books. They aren't as sentimental, they aren't shareable, they are less fair to authors, they interrupt your sleep schedule, and they don't have that new book smell. Viva la print!

# Changing Hearts, Changing Minds

Seniors pose in front of the mountains near St. Benedict's Lodge during the Senior Metanoia. Photo by Marcus Lydon '17



Emily Jewett

EDITOR

**M**etanoia is the Greek word for "change of heart." I failed to grasp the full meaning of that word until my Senior Metanoia retreat. I myself had a change of heart, towards community within my class. I forged new relationships with people I had not previously been friends with and grew closer with the friends I already had.

Retreats are one of my fa-

vorite things about Marist. The Freshman Lock-In, Sophomore Journey Retreat, Junior Encounter, and the Senior Metanoia facilitated some of my fondest memories at Marist.

The Metanoia began with a bus ride to St. Benedict's Lodge, up the McKenzie River. The retreat was led by Marist graduates and English teacher Becky Boyd. The purpose of the Metanoia is to bring the senior class closer together before we graduate and go our

separate ways.

To avoid spoiling certain surprises on the Metanoia, I won't be giving specifics about the retreat. What I can say is that all the time spent in community at St. Benny's, in small and large group discussions, listening to the experiences of the Marist graduates, playing board games, going on hikes, or even just sitting and hanging out, brought me to a calm closeness with my peers that I did not anticipate.

For a whole weekend, I was not stressed about college, the future, or what will come in my last semester of high school. I was at peace, listening to the sounds of the rushing river, sitting in the united community of my class. We seemed to have a "change of heart," from being mildly divided, stuck in our own friend groups, to becoming a real, close community. To all juniors and underclassmen, attend your Metanoia retreat. You will not regret it.



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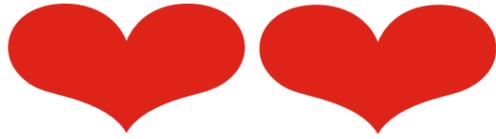
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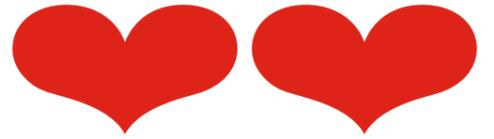
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## Need Love Advice?



*Maya Dotson, a chronically single realist, and Emily Jewett, a hopeless romantic in a long-distance relationship, answer your queries about love!*



**Q: What do you do if you know you're a perfect fit for someone and they don't know it yet?**

*Emily:* You have to show them! If you are perfect for them, you can drop some subliminal messages to show them how you feel about them. You could also show you genuinely care about them by asking about their day. If they are okay with physical human contact, a nice stroke of the arm can be equally sweet and flirty.

*Maya:* Honesty is the best policy. Be direct and tell that person how awesome you truly are. Tell them how incredibly perfect you two are for each other. If he/she rejects you, Netflix for a bit and then keep rockin it!

**Q: For Emily: What is your greatest advice on how to maintain a long distance relationship?**

*Emily:* Communication is absolutely key to maintaining long distance relationships. Texting, talking on the phone, and Skype are all great ways to stay in touch. I find that even little conversations can make you feel close to your significant other even if you are far away from each other. Talking about your day, things going on in your life or with your friends, or even just sharing something funny that happened in your day are good ways to communicate.

**Q: What do you think are signs of a healthy relationship? Signs of the opposite?**

*Emily:* I believe signs of a healthy relationship are good communication, willingness to work together to solve problems, willingness to grow together, and overall emotional maturity as a couple. I believe signs of an unhealthy relationship are poor communication, immaturity, and unwillingness to grow and evolve both as individuals and as a couple.

*Maya:* Comfort is huge part of a healthy relationship. A solid relationship shouldn't include petty insecurities or jealousy.

**Q: What is the best way to deal with exes?**

*Emily:* It really depends on the situation. If it was an amicable breakup, you can still be friendly with your ex (unless you are in a new relationship and it causes problems with your current significant other). If the breakup was a little ugly, try to drop them. Avoiding drama is always the best way to go.

*Maya:* Leave them in the dust! It's best to start fresh in every situation. Even if the breakup was amicable, give yourself some space to breath. Find yourself again!

**Q: There's this boy that I like but he lives kinda far away, so I don't get to see him that often. Should I pursue him?**

*Emily:* Is he worth the effort? Will he value you and treat you right? If the answers to all of these questions are yes, I would say he is worth pursuing. Who



Seniors  
Emily Jewett  
and Maya  
Dotson. Photo  
by Gloria Wang  
'17

knows, he may be the perfect fit for you! Just make sure he's worth the work.

*Maya:* Long-distance can be difficult so both you and your boo have to be prepared for those challenges and most importantly communication is crucial! If they're worth it, go for it!

**Q: "If you are a senior and your girlfriend or boyfriend is in college should you break up with them and let them have the 'college life' without dragging them down?"**

*Emily:* Not necessarily. There can be a balance to dating when one of you is in college and one of you is in high school. If you are overly clingy and distracting your partner from their college studies or enjoying college life, it may be best for you to let them go. However, if you avoid smothering them, it can work out. In the end, you have to follow your heart.

*Maya:* If your boyfriend/girlfriend is not going to the U of O, Lane or NCU, then there is going to be some kind of distance between the two of you. If you two are willing to do the work and the communicating, then go for it! However, there is also a freedom in having that "senior life."

**Q: Is high school too soon to ask for a hand in marriage even if you have a really big crush?**

*Emily:* Dear sweet heavens, child! Please do not propose to anyone right now! A crush is never enough when deciding to

propose to someone! You need to know that you love them, that you two can work and live together, that you are compatible enough to cohabitate for the rest of your human life. It is definitely too soon!

*Maya:* It's never too soon for a marriage proposal! I say go for it!

**Q: "Where the heck do baby's come from?"**

*Emily:* Your grammar makes my eyes bleed. As for an answer, ask your parents or Mr. Wells!

*Maya:* From my understanding you can purchase any baby you want from Amazon as long as you're a prime member. That's why it's so expensive.

**Question we thankfully and happily ignored:**

"I fell in love with a corpulent walrus on a recent Antarctic expedition. The purpose of the trip was to finally meet with a penguin that I had frequently corresponded with via snail mail. Unbeknownst to me, the walrus contracted a distressing pathological condition known as "cold urticaria" during my stay in the Antarctic-a concerning omen. My penguin pen pal obnoxiously dissuades me from pursuing my walrus acquaintance, but I can't will myself away from this delightful mammal. Is this relationship destined to fail because of a sickly omen, or is there hope for success?" - senior Alex Steele

## Zeller Makes Learning More Accessible

*Psychology and government teacher Karen Zeller loves the challenge of "repackaging" information*

Maya Dotson

EDITOR

Intense. Happy. Embracing. These are the words that Marist psychology and government teacher Karen Zeller has always used to describe herself; however, her excitement in the classroom and love of teaching are two qualities that have only recently been realized.

From the age of ten, Zeller attended public schools in Chicago until the beginning of her junior year when she transferred to an alternative public high school.

At her new school, all students were expected to create a six week program/project. At the end of the six week period each student would evaluate themselves and determined how the project went and what was garnered from the experience.

As most high schoolers do, Zeller took a sort of career test or what she knew as the vocational inventory test. The results of Zeller's first vocational inventory test informed her that she should become a teacher.

Uninterested in teaching at the time, Zeller tried again and was informed that she should instead become a minister. Zeller once again took the test, actively trying to receive "lawyer," the occupation that she

truly wanted.

After graduating high school, Zeller began her first year at Princeton University where she studied law for some time before determining that she "didn't like conflict." Zeller instead chose to study the classics and received her Bachelor of Arts in Classics and took two more years to receive her Master of Divinity.

Latin is by far her favorite subject to study and teach. Zeller has even created sample questions for the national AP Latin exam. She also helps set standards for the exam as well as grades many of the finished tests.

Accepting the fact that she actually did enjoy educating, she went to teach for two years at Vanguard College in California. "One of the things I am good at is dissecting information and repackaging it in forms that are easy for other people to acquire," Zeller said.

She then got married before moving to Cottage Grove, where she and her family have lived for the last 20 years.

Several years after the move, Zeller got the opportunity to work with and continue to develop Homesource, the alternative education boarding school in Eugene.

There was always a need for educators

qualified to teach upper division courses and Zeller answered the call.

Over the years Zeller has become qualified to teach over a dozen pre-k through AP level courses including every level math course. "She's probably the smartest woman in Eugene," senior Jacob Reger said.

With a history of teaching in alternative classrooms, many wonder how Zeller ended up in a Marist classroom. The answer is that Zeller tutored several Marist students who recommended that she try teaching in a traditional classroom setting.

It is a decision that Zeller does not regret. "I love the kids I get to work with here," Zeller said, "it's a wonderful way to start my day everyday."

In addition to teaching at three different schools, Zeller is currently working on her PhD in educational measurement assessment which examines what students need to know in the period of time between high school and college. She believes that she will be able to "build on [her] teaching for the purpose of writing or research."

Zeller's love of education and teaching shine through in and out of the classroom. It is easy to see why Zeller describes herself the way she does. She is intense when it comes to not only her education but that

of the people around her, she is happy when she is teaching in the classroom and always embraces her students. The Marist community is grateful and excited to have her.



Psychology and government teacher Karen Zeller.  
Photo by Toni Cooper

## The Power of “Dank” Memes

*Junior Benny Flores explores the world of memes and slang*

**D**at boi is highkey lit while saucing up some spicy memes. “What did I just read,” you might ask. If you were not up to date with all the slang and memes, you may have no idea what that the meaning of that sentence was. Many high school students could tell you that in layman’s terms it means, “That guy is having a good time finding memes.”

The definition of a meme is an image, caption, or goof that goes viral. Slang and memes are a significant part of youth culture, and have the power to sweep across social media throughout the world.

Most slang words that teens use today are born from a meme, for example Dat Boi comes from a gif of a green frog riding a unicycle with its arms straight out. “That’s pretty good” with elongated emphasis on the oo’s comes from the Youtube star iDubbzstv.

When there was no social media, slang was very regional residing in different towns and states, but with the power of the internet, there is a constantly morphing vocabulary of slang.

A survey sent out to all Marist students asked how often they use a variety of slang terms. A little over one third of the school answered the survey!

The stats show that people use “lit” and “cringy” the most, with 43% of kids using lit “as much as they breath” and 41% saying cringy is their favorite word. The two words people are not fans of are “cheese” and “Skrt Skrt.” Cheese had 39% of students saying “no, just no” and Skrt Skrt was not all that much better, with 33% of students also saying “no, just no.”

At the end of the survey the students were asked to provide their favorite slang word. My favorite had to

be “Ya like Jazz?” which refers to one of many “Bee Movie” memes, in which Jerry Seinfeld’s character, a talking bee, flirts with a young female woman asking, “Ya like Jazz?”

Several teachers were asked for their definitions of some of the slang words:

The first teacher was PE teacher and head football coach Frank Geske. The first word he was asked to define was “Dat Boi.” His best guess was it originated from Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney so instead of saying Dabo you say Dat boi. Wrong.

The second teacher that was quizzed about the current slang was math teacher Krista Hocker. The first word that was thrown at her was “meme,” the most used word of all the slang terms. Her definition sounded like she read straight out of urban dictionary: “An image or a picture that is turned into a joke and posted on the internet.” Right.

The third contestant on the slang quiz was English teacher and basketball coach Britton Reeser. He was challenged with the words “cheese” and “Skrt Skrt.” His definition for Skrt Skrt was “Beware, there are some ladies around” which is NOT the meaning! When he was asked what the word cheese meant, he could not give a definition. “I just like cheese a lot I can’t think of it in a negative connotation,” Reeser said.

Last but not least, art teacher Erica Gingerich was quizzed. Gingerich gave an array of answers and out of all four teachers she is the most hip and up to date with all the slang. We threw the most words at her, asking her the definitions of “triggered,” “pranked,” “dank,” “spicy,” and “meme.” The best definition she gave was for triggered. Her definition was “Sooooooooo disappointed and frustrated,” which is pretty close. The funniest definition she gave was for meme, and all she said was

“stupid.”

Stupid is a common word that pops up when people hear about the new memes and slang. This is focused towards the people who are haters of memes, and adults. Now not all adults dislike memes, but many do not understand it and consider our slang words illiterate and dumb. But when the table is turned around, they had slang. Slang is a part of any generation in which you grow up and will keep evolving and changing as the years go on.



*Salt bae, a new meme, sprinkles other memes including Harambe, Dat Boi, and Kazoo Kid. Photo illustration by Benny Flores '18*

## \$5 OR BUST: Connoisseurs on a Budget

*Marist seniors Ian Skaggs and Cole Vendetti investigate the best lunch spots around, with meals under \$5*



**S**eniors Cole Vendetti and Ian Skaggs search the local area for the best lunch deals for Marist students. As connoisseurs on a budget, the goal was to find great food while keeping the tab under \$5. Enjoy their take on quality, ambience, and service at low prices.

### Costco

*Cole says...*

What could have been amazing, is now a struggle. You now need a Costco card to get into the food court. Then there is dealing with the parking, which is a nightmare. Other than those factors, the food and prices keep me coming back!

*Ian says...*

I’m full! Chicken bake, swirl yogurt, and a churro; all under five dollars. Need I say more? Unfortunately the entrance to the cafeteria area has had a security upgrade; so have a Costco card handy, otherwise your stealth skill will be put to the test. If plans fall through, Taco Bell is a good nearby alternative.

### Noodles and Co.

*Cole says...*

Something for the more sophisticated of people. Jokes aside, this establishment doesn’t keep true to the objective of ours. The higher prices are best for those not on a budget, but will get you some good eats.

*Ian says...*

Eh! (shoulder shrug). Personally, I would not recommend Noodles and Co. for regular consumption. Food is pretty good, I’ll admit. The Thai noodle was tasty and satisfying, but for five dollars I could only buy a small, with no protein. It’s a nice spot for a special occasion, but make sure you’ve got some dough.

### Cafeteria

*Cole says...*

You couldn’t quite grab the lunch packed for you in the morning, or you were just feeling a bit extra lazy that morning so you hop on over to the cafeteria. There you feel one with the people around you. The quick and easy way to get food makes the whole experience great.

*Ian says...*

One word: efficient. In-and-out in a matter of minutes with a

sandwich, chips, and a beverage .

The food is great and the people in the cafeteria are kind, it doesn’t get much better. I could be biased, as it’s the best option for a quick meal before doing some last minute homework or studying.

### Burger House

*Cole says...*

What happened to the good old days? What used to be Wendy’s is now a wannabe burger joint. The mediocrity leaves me with an awkward look on my face and an awkward feeling after I had eaten there.

*Ian says...*

A run of the mill sitcom hangout. It’s all right for a quick meal with buds, and the food is relatively cheap. The milkshakes, however, are so expensive. I ended up with fries and a burger, but my palate knew there was something amiss. It’s a passable pseudo McDonald’s.

### Market of Choice

*Cole says...*

Whether you are in a rush to get some food on a 5,4,6,7 block day, or you are looking to burn some time, Market of Choice is a phenomenal option. Getting boxed, warm, or cold food isn’t a



*Seniors Cole Vendetti and Ian Skaggs emerge from Market of Choice with their lunches. Photo by Madi Potter '17*

problem, all at competitive prices. Then with any leftover time, you can just hop on over to Goodwill to seek out some sick finds.

*Ian says...*

A bomb lunch spot! A quick drive, nice service, great food, fair prices, mellow ambiance... I could go all day. The pizza of the day, paired with a maple bar and

cherry coke was a great meal for just about five bucks. The variety there is unparalleled, so the law of diminishing return does not apply.

### Winners

*Cole says...*

Market of Choice!

*Ian says...*

Cafeteria!

# BACK TO THE FUTURE

by Liesl Benda

Tradition is very meaningful to the Marist community. 81 current students have parents who attended Marist during their high school years. Here are just a few of those students and their alumni parent...



Brian Jones '86

"My dad's favorite memory was the senior year campout." -Abby reported her father said



Abby Jones '18



Melissa Bushman '91

"Her favorite class was Mrs. Yocum's English class because she was just an amazing teacher and person or dissecting frogs in Mrs. Wineland's Biology Class. Her favorite activity was softball and being rector on the retreats for the Girls Encounter. Her favorite memory was when they played powderpuff football and tore her ACL -but that wasn't her favorite part." -Maegan reported her mother said



Maegan Cary '19

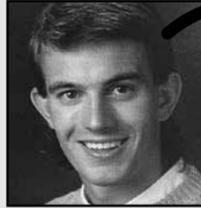


Tony Albertini '87

"My favorite class was junior year history with Mr. Newman because he was also my track coach and he was able to teach through conversation and he connected with all of the students really well. It made learning easier. The retreat program all four years was the best memory because it felt like the only time that there was no division between cliques and the retreats crossed social lines." -Tony told Lucas



Lucas Albertini '19



Jeff Kast '90

"We always had fun during my time at Marist. Joking around with each other, little harmless pranks, lots of laughs. Like today, it's a great place to be with friends." -Jeff told Harper



Harper Kast '20



Chris Conway '90

"My favorite class was geometry. I was terrible at math but, Brother Halsey was a great teacher and a fan of the Marist Basketball team. Occasionally he would excuse me from class to practice my shot. I had my name mentioned a lot over the intercom, just after morning announcements to go to Brother Dan's office - My favorite Brother still!!! We had a lot of fun! The Marist community was and still is like family. A car in the hallway? Drift boat in the fountain? Unlocked windows in the football announcers box? I know nothing about that..." -Chris told Ellen



Ellen Conway '18



Chris Holvey '78

"His favorite class was typing with Mr. Bruce. He mainly said it was because he didn't have to do any work and just talked about football with the teacher all class. His favorite school memory is on his second day of school at marist Brother Robert Ryan (the vice principal at the time and a former police officer) kicked him out of school for not shaving completely. He also said his favorite sport was baseball because he and all of his brothers were very good and all went to state." -Steven reported his father said



Steven Holvey '17

## While Reed was Away, Kehoe Saved the Day

*Judy Kehoe, a familiar face, brings some sass to the classroom*

Liesl Benda

STAFF WRITER

She's so sassy, and the kids love it! When freshman/sophomore English teacher, Sarah Reed's baby Penny was born prematurely, Marist turned to Judy Kehoe to substitute for her for the majority of the first semester.

Time has flown by this school year, and Kehoe's students are saying bittersweet farewells after a fun filled first semester. "She's awesome because she's always so laid back but manages to get everyone involved in her class," sophomore Saba Samy said.

Kehoe was born and raised in the suburbs of Boston, a well-known fact because of her distinctive accent. She has one brother, Jay, who is thirteen months younger than her. In her spare time when she was growing up, she played many sports, her favorite being golf. In high school, she even got a job working as a salesperson at Sears.

For her college education, Kehoe went to Westbrook College in Portland, Maine, where she earned a degree in fashion and merchandising. She then went to Oregon State University for a second degree in education.

Kehoe said that the most transformative experience of her life was when her father died when she was a mere 18 years old of a heart attack. "Until you go through something like that, you figure that that role model will be there the next day," Kehoe said.

Family is very important to Kehoe. She has been married to her husband, Michael, whom she met in grade school, for 40 years. Kehoe noted that her craziest experience in life is moving out west the day after she got married because her husband

was looking for a job in the forestry industry.

"We just headed west in a Toyota pickup with an eight week old black lab puppy, and all of our worldly possessions in the back," Kehoe said. After a long car trip, the two newlyweds ended up in Beaverton, Oregon. "That's what you do when you're young and stupid," Kehoe said.

After moving to Oregon, Kehoe was blessed with three children: Bri '98, Laura '01, and Krissy '02. Bri was the outgoing child, who was extremely driven and took all honors classes. "She did the whole nine yards," Kehoe said. Now, Bri is a high school principal. Laura was a spunky and stubborn kid who has matured into an interior designer and has contributed to the design of Sacred Heart Medical Center at Riverbend. Krissy was Kehoe's "golden child" who is now a book writer and educator.

Because of her children, Kehoe has been involved in the Marist community for a long time. Not only did she do the normal parenting tasks such as driving the kids to school and packing lunches, but she also did book buy backs, soccer coach hiring, worked as a basketball mom, and subbed for teachers.

Now, Kehoe enjoys spending her time baking, fishing, golfing, reading, canoeing, and playing cards. She also loves to be with her beloved grandchildren, two of whom live in Eugene and attend O'Hara Catholic School.



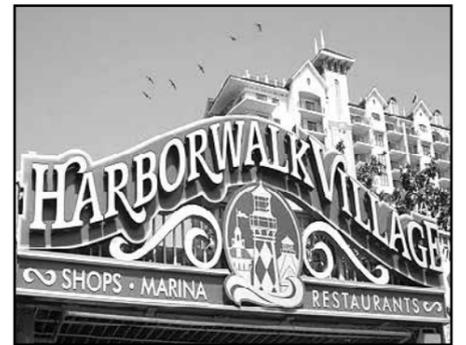
Substitute teacher Judy Kehoe poses at her desk in her iconic witch hat. Photo by Toni Cooper

In the future, she hopes to travel to lots of warm vacation spots, like the Palm Desert, Hawaii, and the Caribbean. She also wants to spend time baking lots of food for her husband. "Thank God I married someone with a very big sweet tooth," Kehoe said.

Marist freshmen and sophomores are definitely going to miss having Kehoe as their English teacher. She may be sassy, but underneath it's easy to see how much she cares about her students.

## It's a Party in the USA!

*International Student, senior Gloria Wang from China, reflects on the most amazing thing she has done in the United States*



Harborwalk Village. Photo courtesy of Southern Star Dolphin

Gloria Wang

PHOTO EDITOR

If you asked several American students about the most amazing thing that they have done in the USA, they could probably write you a list. But when it comes to international students that list is going to be shorter but it may be just as exciting.

America provides international students the opportunity to have experiences different from the ones that they may have had in their home countries.

As a Chinese student who has attended school in America since 2013, I have gone on many exciting adventures, all of which will stay in my memories forever.

One of the adventures that I have gone on was a zip line in Destin, Florida in 2013. The zip line was in the Harborwalk Village, and it was strung between two towers alongside the beach.

My host family and I were walking around the village when we saw the zip line. When my host parents asked me if I wanted to try the zip line, I said yes. The director gave us a short speech on the safety aspect in order for us to prepare for the zip line.

I was really scared and tried to turn around even though I was the one who said I wanted to try the zip line. My host dad saw that I was getting nervous, he put his hand on my shoulder and said to me, "Just do it, you will love it." That calmed me down.

There were two zip lines strung at different heights between the two towers, we chose the highest one, then climbed up the tower.

It was really pretty because we could see the entire village and the ocean. The staff put the safety belts on us and let us line up, I was too scared so I stood at the end of the line, and this made my host mom and host brother laugh at me.

When it was my turn, my legs began shaking and I couldn't stop it. The staff checked my safety belt once again and pushed me out really hard. I slid out extremely fast. Even though I was really scared, I have to say it was very pretty. The sky was already turning dark so the village lights turned on. But the lights still couldn't distract me from my fear.

Despite my terror, I felt completely free. It was like I was about to fall down at any moment. When I finally arrived at the other side of the tower, I couldn't even stand properly. My host dad walked down with me. He laughed so hard and said that he had never heard anyone scream that loud.

Even though my list of my adventures may be shorter, the adventures that I have gone on will always be exciting memories.

# The Truth Behind the Myth: Breslaw

Math teacher Noah Breslaw discusses life, sports, and math

Ian Skaggs

EDITOR

Q: So Brez, I'll start with a simple question. Do you still play Hungry Shark?

A: No.

Q: What was the final straw?

A: The final straw was that I just reached that final shark (An admirable feat indeed), and then I just didn't care... see, I'm a goal oriented gamer, once the goal is reached, I just lose interest.

Q: What was the first video game you played?

A: Either Duck Hunt or the original Super Mario that came on a two game Nintendo cartridge. My aunt got it for my brothers and I. I had to have been like 7 or 8 at the latest.

Q: What about the RPGs?(Role Playing Games: Basically video games predicated on repetitive missions and battles that give rewards; which are often addicting. World of Warcraft would be a prime example.)

A: The RPG's didn't come until later... well, no there were a couple. Like I played some of the turn-based ones. I don't know if you've ever seen them, but I played the Dragon Warrior series. In those you walk around in an open world map, but the fights are like on a different screen... where your options were either A/B: fight/run (and rinse and repeat).

Q: Can you tell me a little bit about your childhood, and growing up on a chicken farm?

A: So, my family raises chickens for Foster Farms. At the time it was Fircrest, but then they got bought out. I don't know... I worked a lot growing up. I never had a job off the farm, because I could always work there. In theory I could actually run a commercial chicken farm right now. I just...don't want to. My younger brother does that.

Q: Oh gotcha, any bitterness with that?

A: No. I had already started working by that time.

Q: Also, I googled you... ya know for backgrounding purposes and such. And, I stumbled upon an article where I saw that you were a first team all-state running back at Pleasant Hill your senior year. Tell me about your career in high school sports, I mean, it sounds like you were THE MAN.

A: I was okay. Let's go with I was okay.

When I was at Pleasant Hill, we had a lot of athletes, like a lot of good athletes. I mean, I played with the guy who was the offensive player of the year in football and 3A player of the year in basketball; this guy was an insane athlete. I played with some really high caliber guys, and so I did well, but there were guys who were better. And still... I was just a kid from Oregon. (Humble Ol' Brez).

Q: You were successful nonetheless. Anyway, what drew you to math?

A: Math was never really a draw until I was older. It was my sophomore year of college, and I decided I didn't want to be an engineer anymore. I had started coaching, so I got the idea that I wanted to be a teacher, and then I went with the subject I felt I was best at. I had already finished taking my calc. sequence, so math was the ideal change, so I just went into pure math.

Q: What would you say motivates you on a day-to-day basis, and really gets you up in the morning?

A: I enjoy what I do. And it's a weird question 'cause I don't have problems ever waking up, I'm a morning person in general.

Now, there are times where I'd rather not come to work, but I enjoy the interaction. I sit and I talk about math all day. In my mind it's awesome. With teaching, my days are quick, they're entertaining, and everyday is different. Come May it gets a little tedious, but it's that way for just about everybody I think.

Q: Can you shed some light on that picture frame on your cabinet?

(Context: Picture frame with the store bought stalk image of a couple still inserted.)

A: Someone thought I should start putting up pictures of my family, so they got me a picture frame.

Q: It's a nice touch. You said that coaching was a part of your draw toward teaching, what inspired that desire to coach?

A: My dad was a high school baseball coach; he coached at Creswell for like 10



Noah Breslaw and Ian Skaggs.  
Photo by Gloria Wang

years. Then, he was an assistant at Pleasant Hill when we transferred there. And so, during the summer he would make us help him. So, there were a couple summers where my brother and I were forced to coach a fifth and sixth grade team. That's where it kinda started, but I'd always help out with the high school team when I was home, and that was... the fifth and sixth graders were fun, but I enjoyed the high school level more, which is why I am a high school teacher, and not a middle school teacher. It was just a family thing, and I've always loved the game of baseball, and wanted to stay a part of it. Once you realize you're not going pro, you just gotta find a way to stay connected.

## MONDAY STORIES

At 10:45 am every Monday morning the newspaper staff opens up a Google document and patiently waits for a prompt that grabs our attention and inspires us to fill the page with whatever comes to mind. It might be a short narrative or a colorful memory or even a passionate argument. Here's a few of our favorites from this quarter...

**Prompt: Write about your pets.**

**My Dog Josie:**

My family made the decision to get a dog during my 8th grade summer. Since then our miniature goldendoodle, Josie, has changed how our family behaves.

Fear of being left alone, wanting to play with her orange ball, and eager to try and trying to get food handouts throughout the day makeup who Josie is.

Recently my mom has been taking the dog to her dental office due to Josie wanting to be around others. This has worked well considering Josie is hypoallergenic, meaning people who are allergic to dogs won't be allergic to her.

It only took a few weeks until Josie eventually had her own sign in the office, so people who are not familiar with her yet will get an idea as to how great she is. Now when I get home from school my mom would have a story relating to Josie about how a patient just came in to see Josie, brought a toy in for her, or brought in their child to play with Josie.

Training her took little time over the summer, and now she has caught on to commonly said phrases. I am able to ask her if she wants to go to the mailbox with me, go on a car drive, and much more. We would have never guessed that the dog would grow smarter than us.

-Cole Vendetti

**The Life of Barclay:**

The Benda family has always struggled with pets. We can never seem to keep them alive and happy for very long. However, there was one pet we had that thrived for over 11 years. His name was Barclay.

A fluffy West Highland White Terrier, he was always wagging his tail, bringing a smile to everyone's face. As the years went by, I grew more attached to Barclay. Getting up every morning was a drag, but seeing Barclay in the morning brightened my day. I always grabbed my bread out of the toaster and smeared on peanut butter. Afterwards, I'd reach out my hand and offer the peanut butter coated knife to Barclay,

and he'd lick it clean. I took him on walks, petted him, and played with him throughout his entire life. I used to take him through walks in the snow at Black Butte Ranch and his fur would become covered with snow as he hopped through the powder like a rabbit.

Sadly, all good things must come to an end. Last year, I woke up on a springy March morning and made my breakfast. When I handed the knife to Barclay, he didn't take it. Instead, he sat and seemed unhappy. For the next few days, my family was worried sick about him. He wouldn't eat at all. We got back results from the vet and heard that he had cancer. It felt like the end of the world to me. I didn't know what I would do if Barclay didn't survive. That Friday, we had to put him down, and I had to say goodbye to the pet I had loved since childhood.

Barclay was the best dog I could have asked for. I miss him so much, but I am hoping that he is in a better place now.

-Liesl Benda

## Two Truths and a Lie

Guess which one is NOT TRUE!

By Benny Flores

- [1] I do not have a single Apple product in my house.
- [2] I have been stabbed in the leg.
- [3] I can remotely log into any computer on campus.

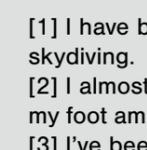


**Brent West**  
-IT Support Technician



**Andy Oldham**  
-Assistant Principal

- [1] I used to be in a heavy metal band.
- [2] I used to wear leather and makeup.
- [3] I once tapped danced in a opera.



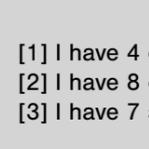
**Coby Meyer**  
-Junior

- [1] I have been skydiving.
- [2] I almost had my foot amputated.
- [3] I've been to Washington DC.



**Paras Markopoulos**  
-Junior

- [1] I'm the oldest of three kids.
- [2] I speak three languages.
- [3] I like Brussels sprouts.



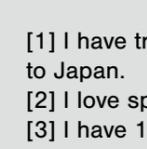
**Joey Peterson**  
-Sophomore

- [1] I have 4 dogs.
- [2] I have 8 cats.
- [3] I have 7 siblings.



**Julia Flores**  
-Freshman

- [1] I own three pairs of the same converse.
- [2] I hate cats.
- [3] My favorite color is green.



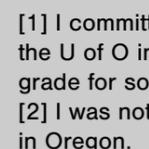
**Nathanael Koester**  
-Senior

- [1] I have travelled to Japan.
- [2] I love spicy food.
- [3] I have 15 animals.



**Bailey Eaton**  
-Senior

- [1] I'm late everyday.
- [2] I have 4 cats.
- [3] I like to steal people's cats.



**Ariel Carlson**  
-Sophomore

- [1] I committed to the U of O in 8th grade for softball.
- [2] I was not born in Oregon.
- [3] I love bacon.

# Yes, We're Talking About Practice

*Boys basketball team puts in the work at practice for success on the court*



Junior Reow Jackson goes in for a layup in a game against Crater in the Marist gym on Jan. 20. The Spartans won 58-49. Photo by Toni Cooper

Ian Skaggs

EDITOR

Head basketball coach Bart Pollard has utilized his roots formed in the gym to instill work habits and a constructive attitude in his team. As the son of a high school basketball coach and teacher, Pollard said he “hung out in gyms a lot as a kid.” Subsequently, in his own high school playing career he would be in the gym early before practice, getting some extra shots in.

“My father was successful,” Pollard said, and with that reflected the “wealth of opportunity” it was to have him as a model and a resource. Pollard has a great desire for himself, and his team, to succeed, and the fervor with which he coaches is evident in how intense he seems at games. It shows the emphasis he puts on being focused and staying in the moment, and ultimately do the right thing. His goal is to pass these points of emphasis on to his team through practice.

As a season progresses, practice for athletes can feel like a couple hours of going through the motions between competing in games. The Marist basketball team, however, is pushed at their practices, pushed to “dive on the floor, take charges, and play with full effort and attention to detail,” Pollard said. “I’d say I’m more intense in practice than in games... practicing the right way is really key for us.”

The team started 0-5 out of league, coming up just short in many of those games. Playing these tough opponents gave the relatively inexperienced team a much needed opportunity to get more repetitions and establish the

habits necessary to play as a team with success.

During the stretch the team made progress at practice, getting extra repetitions to “build habits in terms of positioning, and knowing when and what to do,” Pollard said. These habits are intentionally simple, as there is an importance placed on doing the right thing and “not gambling.”

By just making the simple and fundamental plays, players then “get the chance to show off their skills and athleticism.” Pollard said he was surprised by how junior Isaac Zachem has stepped up into a starting varsity role, and is impressed with his consistent positioning and communication, which are the habits Pollard likes to see instilled at practice.

There are high expectations put on players by the coaching staff to not only win on gameday, but more importantly to give full effort everyday at practice.

Pre-season games gave the team the necessary time to overcome some of its inexperience, and get ready to compete in the Midwestern league which they opened with a close win at Thurston 42-40 which was “a big win,” Pollard said.

The team capitalized on some home games and has won two out of its first three road games in league play. Marist basketball finished 8-4 in league last year, and Pollard hopes “[the team] can do it again this year.” These goals may be accomplished if the players can continue to push themselves, and make the “right plays” when the time comes.

It all starts in the gym ...at practice.

SPORTS OPINION

## The Ups and Downs of College Recruiting



Claire Hoffman

STAFF WRITER

Man am I glad it’s over. I truly believe that the college recruiting process is one of the most stressful and tiresome things that a person can go through. Well, maybe not as stressful as Mr. Nelson’s freshman World History Class, but almost.

The hundreds of hours spent in the gym working to improve my game have paid off; and I can see now that it all meant something. All of the phone calls, the visits, and the stress; done. I can finally relax. I know now that I can call myself committed (I verbally committed to the University of Washington volleyball team last June), and it really does feel like a breath of fresh air; well, sort of.

If we really want to get technical here, in order to call yourself a truly committed student athlete to a collegiate sports program, you must have signed a letter of intent that documents that you have agreed to participate in the National Collegiate Athletic Association and play for the specific school of your choice. In my opinion, there is a small flaw in this idea.

The NCAA has many rules and regulations that can seem pointless and often times stupid, but are there in most cases to protect the athletes and limit colleges from contacting these athletes too much. But there is one rule that can really seem to put a twist into things, which states that a letter of intent cannot be signed until your senior year of high school. The specific dates may vary from sport to sport, but they must be signed from a range of November through the following August of your senior year.

For some, this rule may be fine; but the world of recruiting is very similar to a freight train going 150 miles an hour from start to finish. Once it starts, it never stops. This process can start as late as your senior year, but colleges may have already begun to seek out potential student athletes at a younger age, which brought forth into existence “the verbal commitment”.

A verbal commitment takes place when a college offers an individual a position on a team before they can sign their letter of intent. Though this system has been working over the years, the major flaw that many people see in “verballing” is that a verbal commitment is nothing but what it states; it is only verbal, thus not making any of it legally-binding, creating a gamble for both the athlete and the college.

Because colleges and universities are starting to hand out offers to athletes at such a young age, if an athlete accepts that offer and verbally commits to a school, the NCAA cannot truly recognize that athlete officially being tied with them until they sign their letter of intent.

Though there is a chance of either the athlete or the college dropping out of the commitment, for me, verballing felt as if the train had stopped. All of my stresses and fears had vanished, and I cannot wait until the day I sign to the college of my dreams.

## Carving Out Their Place in History

*Brand new Marist ski team succeeds on the slopes*

Junior Caroline Gonyea, freshman Evan Villano, and senior Dale Helvoight race at Mt. Bachelor. Photos courtesy of Gillian Rathbun



Nick Nepute

STAFF WRITER

For the first time ever, Marist has a ski team. Eight Marist students compete in the slalom and giant slalom races held at Mt. Bachelor hosted by the Oregon School Ski Association.

Slalom skiing is the same thing you see at the Winter Olympics. Skiers ski downhill and around gates to the finish line and, like most races, the fastest time wins. Giant slalom is the same thing but with a bigger course.

The four Marist boys and the four

Marist girls practice with other skiers from the Eugene/Springfield area, but compete as separate teams on the weekends. Although Marist is not as close to the mountains as some teams, both boys and girls are holding their own against schools like Bend High School who have mountains nearby.

The skiers prepare for the season through dryland training, which began in mid-November at the LifeForce Fitness Gym under trainer Jay Martin. The skiers also train for their races at Willamette Pass with head ski coach is

Jacques De Saint Phalle.

The first race took place on Jan. 7 where the girls and boys finished 5th and 4th respectively. Since the season started, the girls and boys ski teams have often finished in either 4th or 5th place.

In the ski season, there are a total of six races; three slalom and three giant slalom and the season culminates in a championship that takes place Mar. 3-4.

“It’s unique to have such a small, tight-knit team and it’s such a blast,” junior Caroline Gonyea said.

by the  
NUMBERS

160

Number of laps the girls swim team does at each practice

2

Number of school records owned by boys on the swim team

1

Number of senior boys on the basketball team (Rick Jorgensen)

16

The number of races completed in each meet by the Marist Ski Team

3

The number of sister duos in the girls basketball program

## Learning to Play Through Adversity

Girls basketball team fights through loss of coach to find success on the court



Junior Claire Eagen pivots with the ball as twin sister Lauren Eagen watches from behind during Friday's home game against Thurston. Photo by Toni Cooper

**Claire Hoffman**

STAFF WRITER

The Marist Girls Basketball team has had nothing less than a triumphant start to their season, beginning their Midwestern League play at the top of the league, and are hoping to continue their successful play throughout the remaining league season and have high hopes to make it deep into the state tournament play.

"We are a much younger team than last year but we work hard and are coming together well," sophomore Kayley Elliott said.

This hardworking group of athletes consists of three freshmen, seven sophomores, and four juniors. They will be graduating just one senior from the program, Susmitha Helbling, leaving a large number of girls with varsity experience for the future.

Though not always seeing the court, Helbling led the program with her optimism by keeping the team's spirits high, regardless of the score. "Susmi is always positive and no matter what she does or where she plays, she's always happy," Elliott said.

But the team suffered a loss off the court when their beloved assistant coach, Billy Lein, passed last week. In honor of Lein, a moment of silence opened last Friday's game against the Thurston Colts who presented the Marist girls with flowers before tipoff. Lein had been a part of the basketball program for at least six years and had coached with head coach Terry Harrison for the past 12 years.

Lein's optimism and cheerful character are why he will be missed. The Marist girls honored Lein by writing "Billy" on either their arms, legs or shoes at Friday's game. His death was a shock but the girls knew had been battling health issues for years.

They had been cheering "Billy" in place of the traditional "Marist" before each game in support of him and now it will be to carry his legacy with them throughout the rest of the season and into the state tournament.



The basketball team honored assistant coach Billy Lein by writing "We Are One" and his name on their arms. Photo by Toni Cooper

Assistant Coach Billy Lein in 2014. Photo by Toni Cooper

## Swimming to Great Lengths

After a successful regular season, the Marist swim team looks ahead to Districts and State



The swim team cheers before a meet at North Eugene. Photo by Toni Cooper

**Liesl Benda**

STAFF WRITER

Marist's swim team is aiming high this season, hoping to win a trophy at state. According to Coach Ryan Elliott, both teams are strong and it looks like the girls have a good chance to place high at state. The boys should have strong individual performances at state, but could miss a chance of any team award because of small numbers.

The competition season began in early December and Marist athletes have been winning many of their individual events even if the team scores do not show it. Now, the team is looking forward in preparation for the most anticipated events of the season: districts and state. Their toughest competition in district comes from Ashland. At state, the tightest battle will likely be with Mountain View.

Among the swimmers, two seniors who have competed year round stand out: Rachel Larsen and Ben Thompson.

Thompson began swimming freshman year, while Larsen has been swimming since the meager age of seven. "I think I started swimming because I love the water and because my mom swam when she was a kid so she started me on that path as well and then I ended up loving it," Larsen said.

Not only do both athletes swim for Marist, they also swim for Team Eugene Aquatics, a local club team. Other swimmers on the team who compete for club teams include freshmen Aubrie Ellison and Lauren Barry, sophomore Chris Allender, juniors Amanda

Allender and Jaclyn McQuaid, and senior Tyler Wilson.

When asked about high school swimming in comparison to club swimming, Larsen said "I'm closer with my team, and I get the opportunity to get up and race almost every week which is something that doesn't happen with club."

Another strength of the swim team is the support they can share with one another. Since swimming is not as much of a competition for playing time as other team sports can be, the athletes are always rooting for each other's success.

Before each meet, the team gathers for a prayer and team cheer. Thompson yells, "Lady of victory, pray for us!" and in response the rest of the team shouts, "We are one!"

During the long events, several members of the team gather at the end of the swim lane, cheering their competing teammate on as they swim lap after lap. Adrenaline is at an all time high as swimmers scream and clap for their teammates to swim as fast and hard as they can.

Swimming has also helped freshmen and upperclassmen develop relationships. Larsen said that she drives freshman Katie Thompson to and from swim practice. They are neighbors so they spend time together both in and out of the pool.

"I am liking the hard work of the athletes this year, the willingness of individuals to try different events, and the camaraderie of this group," Elliott said.

## From Rink to Classroom, Geisler Puts in Work

**Ian Skaggs**

EDITOR

Many Marist athletes are easily recognizable as they walk through the halls dressed up on gameday or carrying gear to practice. Some athletes, however, make sacrifices to compete in sports outside the Marist athletic program. One of such athletes is senior Jack Geisler, who over the past few years has sacrificed time in class and sleep in order to play the sport he loves.

"It's addicting," Geisler said about his time playing hockey for the Eugene Generals who, by the way, are in prime position to win the Pacific Division in their section of the US Premiere Hockey League.

While playing hockey for the Generals, Jack has missed classes and school days for practices and games. With that he has learned that "nothing is given to you." He had to work to earn his spot on a team full of players between the ages of 16 and 20, and has also had to work to make up school material while being held to the same standards as his peers.

"They're good guys," Geisler said when talking about the team, his community away from Marist. He made his first scoring goal on the team during his sophomore year "ripping [the puck] high glove." "I didn't even know it went in at first," Geisler said.

Geisler hopes to continue playing hockey in college, the game he's been "hooked" on since the second grade.



Jack Geisler follows the puck down the ice rink during a Eugene Generals hockey game. Photo courtesy of Jack Geisler '17

## Ask an Athlete



**Braden Coleman**  
Varsity Boys Basketball

**Q.** What is your biggest fear?

**A.** Airballs.



**Connor Franssen**  
JV Boys Basketball

**Q.** If you could make one sport extreme, what sport would it be?

**A.** Frisbee.



**Jack Thornton**  
Freshman Boys Basketball

**Q.** What is something scientists should invent?

**A.** A time machine.



**Susmitha Helbling**  
Varsity Girls Basketball

**Q.** If you could have any superpower what would it be?

**A.** Flying.



**Jessica Roth**  
JV Girls Basketball

**Q.** Would you rather scuba dive or sky dive and why?

**A.** Skydive, because it is more exciting.



**Caden O'Connell**  
Boys Swimming

**Q.** What would your perfect fortune cookie say?

**A.** It would say "God will bless you with his guidance".



**Amanda Allender**  
Girls Swimming

**Q.** What famous athlete from your sport would you want to be your coach and why?

**A.** Maya Dirado, because she stays at life and raced the best 400 IM I've ever seen.



**Sally Moore**  
Ski Team

**Q.** If your house caught on fire what would be the three things that you grab?

**A.** My phone my wallet, and food.



**Lincy Helbling**  
Chher

**Q.** If you could have any pet, what would you get and what would you name it?

**A.** A giraffe named "Gerald."

# STUDENTS OF THE ISSUE

## FRESHMEN

### WILEY WATTS

What's one thing that makes you smile and why?

**"When I do something right after getting it wrong because it gives me confidence."**

What is your best feature and why?

**"My hair because it has flow when I run."**

What is your favorite movie quote?

**"Come with me if you want to live." - Terminator**

If you could invite four famous people to dinner, who would they be and why?

**"The four members of Queen, because I really like their music."**



### SOPHIA PARSONS

What's one thing that makes you smile and why?

**"When people have a kind heart, because it makes me happy when people are kind."**

What is your best feature and why?

**"Being kind to everyone."**

What is your favorite movie quote?

**"All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to us." - Lord of the Rings**

If you could invite four famous people to dinner, who would they be and why?

**"Audrey Hepburn, Barack Obama, Oprah Winfrey and Beyonce, because they are legends."**

## SOPHOMORES

### DANIELLA GIANANTE

How old were you when you had the worst haircut ever? Describe the hairstyle.

**"7, an ugly bob that I cried about every day."**

What is the most interesting thing you have in your purse/wallet?

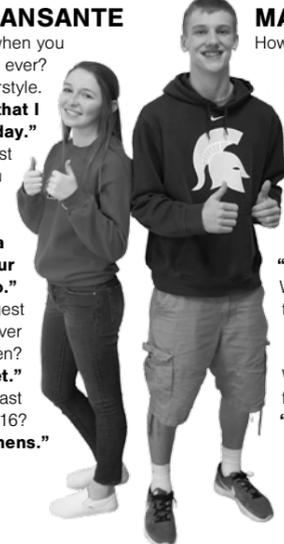
**"A ticket to a concert from like four years ago."**

What is the strangest thing you have ever eaten?

**"A cricket."**

What was your least favorite song of 2016?

**"Heathens."**



### MAX WHITTAKER

How old were you when you had the worst haircut ever? Describe the hairstyle.

**"15. They cut all of my hair."**

What is the most interesting thing you have in your purse/wallet?

**"Nothing."**

What is the strangest thing you have ever eaten?

**"A bee."**

What was your least favorite song of 2016?

**"Heathens."**

## JUNIORS

### TEAGAN AMACHER

Out of all your Marist literature classes, what's been your favorite and why?

**"Mrs. Boyd. She's a really good teacher."**

What is your favorite season and why?

**"Summer. I can do whatever I want."**

On a scale of 1 to 10 how cool are you and why?

**"0."**

If you could pick a new first name, what would it be?

**"Jazmyne from Bratz."**



### BRENDAN MCCARTHY

Out of all your Marist literature classes, what's been your favorite and why?

**"Mrs. Reed because she was cool and taught well."**

What is your favorite season and why?

**"Summer."**

On a scale of 1 to 10 how cool are you and why?

**"10 cause I'm bomb.com."**

If you could pick a new first name, what would it be?

**"Jacob because Spencer always calls me that."**

## SENIORS

### JAKE LINDLEY

Would you rather get Starbucks or Dutch Bros, and what is your favorite drink?

**"Dutch bros, cup of whipped cream."**

If you could go back and hang out with any teacher in their teenage years who would it be and why?

**"Oldham, he's a funny fella."**

What is the funniest thing you have heard a child say?

**"Who are you and why are you in my house?"**

What is something about your freshman year that you will never want to forget?

**"Nothing, I want to forget it all."**



### KATE PARK

Would you rather get Starbucks or Dutch Bros, and what is your favorite drink?

**"Starbucks, my favorite drink is milk."**

If you could go back and hang out with any teacher in their teenage years who would it be and why?

**"Mr. Moser. I want to see if he was sassy then too."**

What is the funniest thing you have heard a child say?

**"I don't remember."**

What is something about your freshman year that you will never want to forget?

**"Eating Five Guys burgers."**

# REVIEWS WHAT'S HOT AND WHAT'S NOT

## MOVIES



### ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY

I have been a Star Wars aficionado since I was in the third grade. Some of my most treasured memories are of watching the original Star Wars trilogy, light saber dueling, and dressing up as my favorite characters with my dad. Star Wars was our thing. So of course I was ecstatic to see "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story."

"Rogue One" did not disappoint. The plot follows Jyn Erso (Felicity Jones), daughter of weapons designer Galen (Mads Mikkelsen), and rebel alliance member Cassian Andor (Diego Luna) as they fight to take the Death Star plans. Canonically, the movie fits in between the prequel trilogy and the original trilogy.

The plot is interesting and easy to follow, the new characters were diverse and intriguing, and were played by stellar actors. I particularly enjoyed Chirrut Imwe and Baze Malbus's dynamic and adorable friendship. The movie was heartbreaking (don't worry, no spoilers here) but the new, sarcastic droid K-2SO provides enough comic relief so that you don't end up ugly sobbing.

I only have two critiques of this film: not enough Darth Vader and not enough sick light saber action. Other than that, it was a great film that deserves the praise it is being given. -Emily Jewett



### PASSENGERS

Over Christmas break, I saw the new film "Passengers." It was a pretty good movie, especially for one featuring Jennifer Lawrence as a lead (sorry, just not a fan of her acting.) The movie followed Jim Preston (Chris Pratt) and Aurora Lane (Jennifer Lawrence) as they wake up 90 years too early on a spaceship destined for a different planet.

I have several critiques of this movie. Pratt was great, but Lawrence felt flat and almost lacked a personality. The film also needed further development into Pratt and Lawrence's complex relationship. More action would have been ideal to make "Passengers" a real space adventure movie, because it seemed to seek adventure but almost focused too much on the romance and psychological quandaries. The one really good thing about this movie was the intriguing ethical questions this movie posed. Overall, it was a pretty good movie. -Emily Jewett

## SHOW



### THE BACHELOR

Corinne, Corinne, Corinne. If you're a fan of "The Bachelor" like me, then this name probably evokes strong feelings of anger and disdain. Corinne Olympios is the designated "villain" of Season 21 of "The Bachelor," and it is a well deserved title. She is rude to all the other contestants, selfish

with her time with Nick, and is just straight up trashy (like for real girl, you need to stop).

Nick Viall is the 21st Bachelor and a massive disappointment. He is boring, awkward, whiny, and cannot seem to look past Corinne's brattiness and general inability to socialize normally. She has a nanny who washes her clothes, makes her bed, cuts her cucumbers, and makes her "cheese pasta." She is 24 years old! Girl, figure out how to adult! And stop falling asleep random places as though you have narcolepsy!

Besides Corinne, there are some okay contestants still left. Kristina, the cute Russian with a tragic past, is sweet. Vanessa is adorable and down to earth, and may be one of the most real

contestants on this season. Raven and Rachel are also lovely, nice, and funny, and if not picked by Nick could be potential Bachelorettes.

And then there is Alexis, queen of my heart. I knew that I loved her the moment she showed up to the first cocktail party in a shark suit insisting that she was a dolphin. She was the comic relief in a world where the megabeast Corinne runs wild. Alexis shared her fear of aliens and Nicolas Cage, leading to plenty of memes on social media. She also had a funny moment at the end of each episode, which was nice after two hours of drama. But, like every good thing, she left my life. Eliminated at Monday's rose ceremony, Alexis left us alone in a horrible season where Corinne still gets excess screen time. Tragic.

On Monday's episode, Nick sent three women home on dates in addition to the three sent home at the rose ceremony (although I do concede, Jasmine's weird emotional breakdown on the group date did warrant her dismissal). Nick then cried and told the girls he doubts he will fall in love with any of them. That was unprecedented and put the other girls on edge, which is generally not something to do if you intend to marry one of them.

This season has been strange, and has me reminiscing about better seasons. For now, we must wait and see who Nick chooses, on this already crazy yet simultaneously boring season. -Emily Jewett

# LETTERS TO THE EDITORS



Dear Ian,  
What is a schnikeys-ton?  
Sincerely, Confused Carl

Dear Confused Carl,  
It's very simple, let me tell ya. Essentially "a \*/&\* ton" is one of my favorite hyperboles for a goofy assessment to a large quantity of something. So, in summary, a schnikeys-ton is my Marist appropriate substitute.  
Sincerely, Skaggy

Dear all of you,  
How many of you think One Direction is still getting back together?  
Sincerely, A Lonely Directioner

Dear Lonely Directioner,  
This is a very contentious subject among our editors. While Maya and Gloria do not think they will get back together, Madi has no opinion and Livia believes it will happen. Emily thinks Zayn is too far gone in his solo career to ever return to the doomed boy band. Ian thinks a revival tour will happen in several decades when they've all run out of money. Only time will tell.  
Sincerely, The Editors

Dear Gloria,  
How is life in the United States different than life in China?  
Sincerely, An Uncultured Senior

Dear Uncultured Senior,  
Food. Seriously, we don't have orange chicken! Panda Express is a disaster.  
Sincerely, Gloria

Dear Maya,  
What is your opinion on the "dab"?  
Sincerely, Dapper Dabber

Dear Dapper Dabber,  
The dab is an art form that takes intense practice, athleticism and determination to master. Once mastered, the dab is astonishing.  
Sincerely, Maya

Dear Emily,  
What is the most useless talent you have?  
Sincerely, Wondering Wanda

Dear Wondering Wanda,  
I have the inane talent of trivia. I have so much useless information trapped in my mind, so accordingly I kick some serious butt at Trivial Pursuit.  
Sincerely, Emily

Dear Livia,  
What are your Valentine's Day plans?  
Sincerely, Romantic Rodney

Dear Romantic Rodney,  
Currently, I'm planning on staying in my bed all night to watch Grey's Anatomy and cry my feelings out over the deaths of all of my favorite characters. If you want to do something though, just hit up any of the other editors.  
Sincerely, Livia

Dear Madi,  
What are your thoughts on your fellow editors? ;)  
Sincerely, Definitely Not Your Fellow Editors

Dear Definitely Not My Fellow Editors,  
I think my fellow editors are great contributors and hard workers! I have a great deal of respect for my peers and I love my Spartan Spear team. I couldn't be happier with the selection of editors we have and I'm lucky to work alongside every one of them.  
Sincerely, Madi