



# The SPARTAN SPEAR

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MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

APRIL 20, 2018

## Serving in the Dominican Republic



Senior Haley Dotson sits with her service group in Monte Plata, Dominican Republic. Photo courtesy of Haley Dotson.

Dylan Parsons

STAFF WRITER

Over Spring Break, senior Haley Dotson went on a service trip organized by "Here for Kids" to Monte Plata, one of the poorest parts of the Dominican Republic. Dotson was in a group with 11 others who helped run a sports camp for a foster home in Monte Plata.

Each of the 12 people packed 50 lbs worth of sports equipment and school supplies for the Dominican children. In order to gather the supplies, Dotson organized and held a donation drive before her departure. The donations went to about 150 children ranging in age from 3 to 18 years old.

Dotson was "excited to spend some time with [the kids] and leave behind a sense of joy and friendship." Dotson believes that her experience in the Dominican Republic "helped [her] expand [her] view on the poverty plaguing developing countries."

## Tribes Band Together For the Babies

Potwora crowned Mr. Spartan as the team raises a record-setting \$84,000



The 2018 Mr. Spartan team poses with pride at the conclusion of the opening dance at the pageant last Saturday. Photo by Toni Cooper

Jason DePaoli

STAFF WRITER

The scores have been calculated, and the winner of the 2018 Mr. Spartan Pageant is, drum roll please, Justin Potwora.

Once again, the Mr. Spartan Pageant was a record-breaking night filled with adorable kiddos, wonderful talents, laughs and cheers, and a check for over \$84,000 that will be sent to the Children Miracle's Network.

Throughout the night, co-hosts freshman history teacher Tripp Nelson and former Marist math teacher Krista Hocker introduced the various segments of the pageant and provided commentary.

At the beginning of the Survivor-themed pageant, the Mr. Spartan team performed a dance number, choreographed by Taylor Heitman and Annie McNeil.

The "Express Yourself" segment gave each Mr. Spartan candidate the opportunity to demonstrate their personality and youthful energy accompa-

nied by a child or children onto stage. Some crowd favorite acts included Ben Hakala zooming across the stage in his Mario Kart skit, and the eventual Mr. Spartan dressed as Cruella de Vil.

Each candidate lit up the stage in the talent segment, from the humorous "Grey's Anatomy" skit performed by Cameron Gray to the Spartan cheerleading skit featuring Peter Hart and Griffith Bell. Calder Smith with his staggeringly low voice was an obvious crowd favorite, with his rendition of "Your Man" by Josh Turner.

The first half of the show concluded with the hectic Dash for Cash, where the candidates raced around the gym and swerved through the audience to collect as many bills as possible. Alone, it raised \$3,600.

After the lights dimmed, the crowd took their seats again and the dressed up Mr. Spartan candidates took to the stage, accompanied by their mothers. A

recording of the Mr. Spartan candidates reading letters of appreciation to the women that raised them was played aloud while the candidates escorted them across the stage.

Each candidate was then given the opportunity to answer one question at random that related to their experience and journey in the program.

The Ms. Spartan ladies were then brought out one by one and thanked by their partner for the hours of hard work and dedication they had put in for the last three months.

To conclude the pageant, applause filled the gym as Potwora was crowned Mr. Spartan 2018.

The road to the pageant was filled with activities sponsored by the program to raise money and excite people for the main event.

Bunco for the Babies was the first of many fundraisers, raising over \$1500. Other fundraisers included the annual Mr. Spar-

tan Dance, Toga for the Tinies, where students danced the night away in togas to the tunes of DJ Oldham in the Marist cafeteria. Students also participated in the second annual Rolling for the Babies at Skate World.

This year's Mr. Spartan program was lead by Marist English teacher Bill Ferrari and Spanish teacher Senora Keech Kim with assistance from theology teacher Julie Ferrari.



Justin Potwora being crowned as Mr. Spartan by Ashley Alldridge and Jasmine Doremus. Photo by Toni Cooper

## She Got 'er Dunn

Katie Dunn new ASB President



As a candidate for ASB President, junior Katie Dunn delivers her speech to the freshmen, sophomores and juniors at the April 11 assembly. Photo by Toni Cooper

Liesl Benda

STAFF WRITER

On Apr. 11, candidates eagerly waited as the Marist student body and staff gathered in the gym, ready to present their speeches in hopes of being elected as a member of the 2018-19 Associated Student Body Council.

The ASB council serves the purpose of sharing students' ideas, interests and concerns with the teachers and administration of Marist. Every year the freshmen, sophomore and junior classes are

given the opportunity to vote for who they want to represent them on ASB council.

In the assembly held on a Wednesday afternoon, all candidates were allowed two-and-a-half minutes to give compelling speeches to the student body. Following their speeches, current ASB council members Hadley Peterson and William Loveall asked each of the candidates a question relevant to their prospective position which they were given 30 seconds to answer.

To represent Marist as the ASB president, juniors Katie Dunn and Keegan Pond ran, ending in a win for Dunn. For the vice president position, juniors Claire Coughran, Jason DePaoli and Everett Dowdy ran, which DePaoli won. Junior Katherine Thayer and sophomore Sam Bell ran for the public relations position, which Bell won. Junior Daniella Giansante ran uncontested for the secretary position.

"I'm super excited to plan some assemblies, but most of all I'm stoked to hopefully make some of the ideas I said in my speech happen," Dunn said.

The position of treasurer is still open and council advisor Beth Wirth is considering either filling the position or leaving it empty for the year.

The elections for next year's sophomore, junior and senior class councils are being held next Wednesday.

## Go 'Sea' the Play!

The Little Mermaid opens tonight



Seniors Erin Caracol and Stevie Davison, as Ariel and Flounder respectively, inspect a "dinglehopper". Photo by Lydia Nelson

Isabelle Briggs

STAFF WRITER

Tonight is the opening night of Marist's production of *The Little Mermaid* which will be held in the Bob Devereaux Theatre at 7:30 p.m. The play will also be performed on April 21, 27 and 28. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for others and can be purchased at the door.

After sneaking into a few

rehearsals, here's what I can tell you to expect:

You will witness the chemistry of Ariel and Prince Eric, played by senior Erin Caracol and junior Keegan Pond respectively, develop as Ariel struggles to grasp the kiss that she longs for. Caracol expresses all of Ariel's emotions for Prince Eric perfectly, despite Ariel losing her voice to the sea witch Ursula, played by sophomore Lizzie Wisely.

Wisely is terrifyingly impressive as Ursula. Her voice fills the theater and she enchants the entire audience with her rendition of "Poor Unfortunate Souls."

The live music is guaranteed to not disappoint. The band covers the songs as if they were straight out of the soundtrack, which only adds to the whimsical elements that make up *The Little Mermaid*.

# NEWS briefs

## Chess Team Returns

After years without a team, the Marist Chess Team is back and has been competing since December. In early March, they competed in a state tournament at Willamette High School. The team continues to compete in local tournaments.

## Speech and Debate at State

Seven members of Marist's Speech and Debate Team will be competing in the OSAA state championships at Western Oregon University this weekend.

## Have You Bought Your Yearbook?

If you're not sure you have purchased your 2018 yearbook, go to [maristyearbook.weebly.com](http://maristyearbook.weebly.com) for a current list of all purchases. The deadline for all orders is April 30. See Toni Cooper with any question.

## Mother and Son Dinner Dance Coming Up!

Marist's Mother and Son dance will take place on Sunday the 22nd in the Activity Center from 5-8 p.m. All male students are encouraged to attend with their mothers.

## Proclaim to Sing at the Grotto

This Sunday the 22nd, *Proclaim* will be performing at the Grotto in Portland as a part of the Grotto's 2018 Spring Alleluia concert series. Contact Ryan Moser with any questions.

## ACT Testing

All juniors will take the ACT at Marist next Tuesday, April 24 at 8 a.m., while freshmen and sophomores take either the PLAN or Pre-ACT. All students must bring photo identification in order to take the test.

## Senior Class Meetings

Seniors will have their Separation Preparation meeting on April 24 at 9 a.m. in the Bob Devereaux Theatre followed by the traditional senior class photo. This is a mandatory.



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# Oh, Canada (and Belarus)!

Marist Model UN delegates go to their second Oregon MUN Conference

Megan Mersino

EDITOR

Oregon Model United Nations is a simulation of the UN designed to give high school students a chance to step into the shoes of delegates, where they can debate and resolve real world issues in mock UN committees.

15 Marist students representing Canada and Belarus had the opportunity to join around 1,500 student delegates last weekend at the annual three-day Oregon MUN Conference in Eugene.

In the months leading up to the conference, the delegates spent their time diving into current world issues—such as global security, economics, human rights, health and the environment—and researching their country's stance on those issues in order to be well-informed during the conference.

"I felt really informed going into the conference, even though I'd never done it before. It made the whole process really worthwhile," senior Stevie Davisson said.

While representing Belarus and Canada, "our Spartans did their job as if they had just stepped off the trains from Minsk and Ottawa," Marist MUN Advisor Jon Nuxoll said.



Marist Model UN delegates pose with miniature Canadian flags in moderator, Jon Nuxoll's classroom the week before the conference. Photo by Ariel Carlson

The majority of the Marist delegates were for Canada, and Davisson and junior Chase Bond carried the heavy load of "all the aspirations of the Belarusian people."

At the conference, juniors Timothy Kong and Keegan Pond were voted by their respective committee peers as the best representatives of their country. Their nation, Canada, was "a much more active member of the United Nations than the Czech Republic, our nation last year. I made sure to work harder this year and I got so much more out of it!"

Pond said.

Tess Louie, the founding member of the Marist MUN team, represented the Canadian delegation in the General Assembly.

Several members had the opportunity to run for positions on next year's Executive Committee, the six-person student group which governs the conference.

In a special presentation to MUN organizers, led by juniors Everett Dowdy and Tess Louie, Marist won a bid to be on the UN Security Council in 2019, representing France.

# Adding Another Win

Marist mathletes beat Sheldon in a close contest by one point

Caroline Gonyea

EDITOR

The Marist Mathlete Team, comprised of ten students of various math levels, took on five other local schools in a series of math events to win the Math Fair competition at Lane Community College last Thursday, beating Sheldon by just one point.

Several team members placed first in the written test portion for their respective math levels. Freshman Maddie Morse took first for Algebra 1, sophomores

James Cross and Wiley Watts tied for first in Geometry and junior Mary Beth Rear placed first for Pre-Calculus.

Other math events included a speed round in which individuals from each team would bet on the amount of time that it would take them to complete a problem, and a math relay race where the mathletes sprinted back and forth to a table to finish math problems as quickly as possible.

"Going into the math fair, I



Marist Mathletes triumph after a successful day of competition. Photo by Amber Patterson

was really nervous and not that excited but it turned out to be a lot more fun than I expected! My favorite part was the relay because I'm so competitive that I

got really into it. I didn't prep for it at all but we won [the tournament] by one point so I would say the competition was fierce, especially the relay," Rear said.

# Introducing Marist Color Guard

Students represent their school, state and country

Sarah Cavinee

EDITOR

This will be the first year for Marist to have an official color guard team. Led by Anne Simmons, the team will be presenting the flag before sports games and other school events. The Color Guard is a traditional, military style group that will carry the National, State and Marist flag under guard. Anne Simmons and her junior daughter Emilie first started working with marines for Toys for Tots in 2015. Since then, they have been working with many local marines in a color guard team that presents the flag at local memorial and Veterans Day events.

According to Emilie Simmons, they want to focus on bringing in girls to the color guard because it not only looks good on a resume, but also builds respect for country and for self. "I like to bring in girls because it helps with confidence. You're put in a position where you see mostly males and it's really empowering when you see women in it," Emilie said.

The current Marist Color Guard team is made up of eight students from five local schools including Marist, South Eugene, Oakridge, North Eugene and Willamette Leadership Academy. In addition



Emilie Simmons as part of the Color Guard present the flags in Creswell's Fourth of July parade. Photo provided by Anne Simmons

to learning drill, the students are also learning Flag and Color Guard history. Staff Sgt. John Sharkey and Staff Sgt. Sitafine Opetai are both Marine Corps soldiers who are teaching the students the procedures for representing the color guard. The students are being taught the importance of maintaining decorum in various situations and how maintaining composure in the face of adversity can benefit them in the real world.

# Checking Out OSU

AP science students tour OSU's engineering facilities

Sarah Cavinee

EDITOR

This past Monday, the AP Physics and AP Chemistry classes, as well as interested students from AP Biology, went on a field trip to Corvallis for a tour of the Nuclear Reactor Facilities and the School of Engineering at Oregon State University.

The group split up into two, the AP Physics students started at the nuclear reactor while the AP Chemistry and AP Biology students toured the School of Engineering before swapping locations midday. While at the nuclear reactor, OSU Professor and Director of the Radiation Center Steve Reese Ph.D lead a lab about radioactive decay and half-lives of radioactive elements. The students took data from actual pieces of radioactive tin that they will write a lab report on. According to senior Loc Nguyen, Professor Reese explained the basic mechanism of the nuclear reactor as well as how Uranium-235 is used in nuclear power plants to generate electricity.

While at the School of Engineering, the students joined an OSU mechanical engineering graduate student on a tour where he explained each of the different types of engineering majors and what each major specifically does over the four year degree. "One of the most interesting parts of the tour was visiting labs for each major, such as the robotic lab where different types of engineers come together to work as a team to build robots. I think the tour gave me a better vision of what I will be studying in the future," said Nguyen.

## Lead. Learn. Proclaim.

*Ferrari travels to Ohio to accept national award*



English teacher Bill Ferrari with his Lead. Learn. Proclaim Award at the National Catholic Educational Association convention in Cincinnati. Photo Courtesy of the NCEA

Jason DePaoli

STAFF WRITER

On April 3, in Cincinnati, Ohio, junior and senior English teacher Bill Ferrari walked across the stage and received his Lead. Learn. Proclaim. Award at the annual National Catholic Educational Association convention.

Ferrari is a “life-long learner always looking for ways to best impact and meet the needs of all of his students,” Marist Principal Stacey Baker said. After almost two decades of working with him, Baker has witnessed Ferrari’s passion for his career and knows how he actively seeks ways to help “the least, the last and lost in our community.”

Principal Baker recommended Ferrari for this national award, which Ferrari won along with 25 other educators across the country. Baker said that Ferrari immediately came to mind when she read through the defining qualities.

“Dedication is the operative word when it comes to describing this year’s winners of the Lead. Learn. Proclaim. Award,” NCEA President and CEO Dr. Thomas Burnford said.

Ferrari commands his classroom with the philosophy, “try and not waste anyone’s time,” a philosophy appreciated and noticed by his students.

Ferrari has been a dedicated Marist teacher for the last 18 years and this Lead. Learn. Proclaim. Award is just one recognition he has deserved for his dedication to his students and his community.

## A Tour to Remember

*Students spend Spring Break visiting World War II and Holocaust sites in Eastern Europe*



Sophomore Emily Spellman looks out over the city of Berlin from the top of the Reichstag building while on a historical tour of the city. Photo by Amanda Jewett

Harper Kast

STAFF WRITER

Over Spring Break, a group of students, parents and Marist staff explored and studied the history of WWII and the Holocaust in the European countries of Germany, Czech Republic and Poland. English teachers Becky Boyd and Sarah Reed joined with WorldStrides, an educational travel organization, to coordinate the trip to teach about the history of WWII and to bring its lessons to life.

The trip started out with a tour of Berlin, Germany where they visited the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, a bomb-damaged cathedral located in the middle of modern Berlin. Citizens of Berlin decided to leave the damage in the middle of the city to remind everyone about the war and suffering that occurred there.

Later, the group saw the Brandenburg Gate, a site of numerous major historical events and a symbol of unity and peace. They took a tour of the Reichstag, the main government building located in the

heart of the capital. That was followed by a tour of the Holocaust Memorial, where they mourned the Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Many students took pictures in front of the remains of the famous Berlin Wall, most of which is covered in art and graffiti. They next visited the Nazi’s lakeside retreat camp, the Wannsee House. Lastly, they toured the Jewish Museum, a curation of Jewish history and art.

Traveling to their final destination, Dresden, Germany, which is almost completely destroyed because of a bombing which occurred in WWII. There, they explored the Frauenkirche and the Dresden Schloss Church.

After driving to the Czech Republic, the group explored Prague, which was decorated for the biggest holiday of the year, Easter. Prague stood out for the students because of the Prague castle, which is the largest castle in the world, Saint Vitus Cathedral, Wenceslas Square and Museum of Communism. Their tour

guide lead them to their next stop in Terezin, Czech Republic, which is home to a photo-op concentration camp. This was used for propaganda videos when The Red Cross demanded to see a camp. It housed musicians, children, artists throughout the Holocaust.

Crossing the border into Poland, they explored Krakow’s Main Market Square, Saint Mary’s Basilica, the National Art Museum, the Wawel Castle, the Wawel Cathedral. During their last day in Europe, they visited Auschwitz, where over a million people were imprisoned and killed during the Holocaust.

The WWII concentration camp, Auschwitz was the most surprising and important tour of the week. The students reactions changed from being in awe to being shocked. “It was cool to see places in person that we learn about in history, but appalling to stand comfortably in the same place that so many people have suffered,” sophomore Aidan Fitzpatrick said.



## A Decade of Dedication

*Gardner leaving the Spartan ranks to fly with the Falcons*

Dylan Parsons

STAFF WRITER

After ten years of service to the Marist community as an administrator, coach and friend to all, Marist Athletic Director Rick Gardner will be leaving Marist at the end of the school year.

Throughout his years here, Gardner has always been impressed by the opening and accepting community, “a rare quality to find in schools.”

From the very beginning of his time at Marist, Gardner recognized that Marist was a unique place. His favorite thing about Marist is the students. “I could walk down the hallway on a daily basis and have kids look me in the eye and greet me,” Gardner said.

Gardner’s career at Marist began in 2008, and within his first couple of years, he recognized those special qualities when he saw the class dances during Homecoming Week. 25 freshman who were struggling through their hokey pokey dance were joined by several juniors and seniors who got up from their bleacher seats and walked out to do the dance with them.

Gardner saw these qualities of trust and community help contribute to a state football title in 2009, when he was a member of the coaching staff and worked primarily with special teams. Gardner said he really enjoyed “being a part of the coaching staff and cel-

ebrating the awesome season.”

Gardner has spent the last three years as the Marist athletic director. Prior to his time as the Athletic Director, he spent seven years as Marist’s assistant principal under former principal Jay Conroy. Gardner was also a football coach, but stopped coaching after the 2014 season when he became athletic director. Gardner has also been the facility director throughout his entire tenure.

Next year, Gardner will be moving on to the neighboring and future Sky-Em League competitor Elmira High School. In mid-March, Gardner was notified that he was selected from a pool of applicants to be Elmira’s

next principal. “Everything points to it being a good fit for me,” Gardner said.

Gardner is looking forward to the chance to get back into the classroom and focus on the teaching aspect of school as opposed to solely athletics. As an athletic director he had a very limited opportunity to interact with students off the athletic field or court.

He is also basing his decision to step down as the Marist Athletic Director out of the need to spend more time with his family. The hours of being an Athletic Director don’t mesh well with three little girls. He looks forward to having a job with more reasonable hours where he

can finish his work in time to be home for dinner.

After 10 years of experience as a Marist administrator, he has advice to share.

“Make sure you take full advantage of all the opportunities here. Play a fall sport, the reason for that is it automatically gives you a group of people before you step foot on campus for the first time. If it’s not sports, go check out music or chess or drama, find something you want to be a part of and latch onto it, four years go really really fast, what you get out of it is directly proportional to what you put into it, get as involved as you possibly can,” Gardner said.

# Shining a Spotlight on Tony Rust

*A look into the offstage life of our theatre director*

Maddie Louie

EDITOR

Rarely do students have the opportunity to get to know Marist theatre director Tony Rust and his amazing life story of what he's done in the world of the arts, both before he came to Marist and during the 13 years he's been here. Unless, of course, you're interviewing him for the student newspaper or you've been behind the scenes at Marist theatre for four years.

"I have always done theatre," Rust says, despite his parents not being particularly theatre-oriented growing up. Rust was born in Pensacola, Florida, but he and his two younger sisters grew up in Douglas, Wyoming.

He was just a little kid when he took the stage as a lead in his first production at the local Catholic church. Ever since then, theatre has been a huge part of his life.

His passion for theatre continued through high school and into college at the University of Oregon. Rust began as a vocal jazz major, but he continued to act, including playing the lead role in "Jesse and the Bandit Queen" as a freshman.

He eventually changed his major to acting, at which point he transferred to Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. While there, he got his bachelor of fine arts in acting.

In 1982, after getting his BFA, Rust moved to New York City to become a professional actor and "floundered around for 25 year" trying to become a Shakespearean style actor, but was realistic enough to know he had to follow his other talents.

Rust acted for Riverside Shakespeare Company in New York for several years, but was ultimately limited in where he could perform because of the actors union he had joined while in Dallas.

"I think I cut myself out of a lot of learning jobs in those early years," Rust said, "But then I started my own theatre company and for about eight years we did mostly Shakespeare in a theatre about the size of [the Marist] one."

It was in this theatre company, called the Quinapalus Theatre Company, that Rust had the opportunity to both act and direct, but never got off the ground as a working actor, not an uncommon story for thousands of would-be actors. He credits it to lacking the salesman skills needed to become a successful actor, saying that "it's hard because you need to have enough confidence in yourself to go forth and put yourself out there and make the connections and talk to people (and I'm terrible at talking to people), so I never really got there."

Despite never fulfilling his acting dream, Rust continued to enjoy theatre, including getting his MFA in directing at Brooklyn College. Since acting never yielded much money, Rust adapted and became skilled at his various day jobs, from being a chef in restaurants to developing a skill he's an expert at, building sets, which he learned while working in New York for various theatre



*Rust as the Cat in the Hat in the Cottage Theatre's production of Seussical last December. Photo courtesy of Cottage Theatre*

companies and even once for a Broadway show.

Another important thing he did while in New York was get married. He married his wife Janet, a dancer, whom he had met several years ago through the Actors Cabaret of Eugene while he was attending the U of O. "We spent a lot of years doing one thing and another, and living our lives in New York -and we really love New York and miss it- but after we had a couple kids we decided that we needed to come back [to Oregon]," Rust said.

Rust and his family moved back after his wife was offered a position teaching English and theatre at Cottage Grove High School. It was then that Rust decided to go back to school to get his second master's at Western Oregon University, this time in teaching.

In the fall of 2005, Rust accepted the full time position at Marist as the theatre director and along with teaching, acting and theatre tech. Over the years, he has also taught digital film, digital arts and now has added speech and debate and an Intro to the Arts class.

Rust and his family of four live a life dominated by the arts. His wife still teaches at CGHS and directs, acts and choreographs at Cottage Theatre -also in Cottage Grove. Glen, his 20-year-old son, is an aspiring script writer who has already written adaptations of plays for CGHS and Marist. Darcy, his 14-year-old daughter, takes after her mother and is a dancer and actress both at her school and also at Cottage Theatre.

Along with his Marist productions, Rust is either directing, acting, producing or building sets at Cottage Theatre. Just recently, Rust acted with Darcy and Janet in Cottage Theatre's *Seussical*, where they acted as the Cat in the Hat, Jojo and Bird Girl respectively.

Rust's unique story of love for theatre combined with resourcefulness and fortitude has led him to create the wonderful community in the Marist theatre. "Here, it's not about the audience, it's about the kids in the program," Rust said. "They have a place that they can be at home and feel like they belong and get out of whatever corner they've painted themselves into in their life. They have a place where they can grow as a person without being forced to, and that's a cool thing."

# Prompting Political Passion

*Why caring about politics and being aware of the world around us is so important*

Cameron Gray

EDITOR

In our current political world, ignorance is irresponsible. Too many young people don't care or don't want to care about anything political. Unfortunately for them and for us, that's not acceptable.

The average age of a Congress member is 57 years old. What someone who's 60 and someone who's 18 experience are completely different. The 18 year old viewpoint needs to be heard just as much as the 60 year old one. They need help understanding the world that's growing and changing around them.

A lot of them don't use all the things we do on phones and computers. Effective legislation needs to be informed legislation.

However, if we want to be listened to, we need to vote. Unfortunately, young people are historically terrible at turning up to vote and politicians listen to the demographics that vote.

In 2012, 72% of people age 60 and up voted, while only 43% of 18 to 29-year-olds voted. If we want politicians to listen to us, we need to actually vote and know who and what we're voting for.

More importantly, we have to know why we're voting. It can't be because there's a D or an R next to someone's name on the ballot. Politician's stances need to be researched and they need to work for us, not the company that's paying them the most. Corruption can not be allowed to thrive behind the gaze of the blind eye anymore.

Change is not something people love, but frequently it is necessary. As the younger voting generation, we're often the ones who have to start the change. Too often, unjust things are kept in the law because it's the way things have always been done. It's our responsibility to recognize the unjust things and make the rest of our country realize why it's wrong.

Young people do this all the time. Four African-American teenagers inspired protest against Jim Crow laws across the country by staging a sit-in at a whites-only restaurant in 1960.

Malala Yousafzai, an 18 year old girl from Pakistan, works on improving women's education in America and all over the world by sharing her experience being shot for daring to go to school. More recently, students in Florida have been fighting hard to change gun laws after they lost 17 members of their community.

It's important for you to care. You're the one that inspires progress. If you don't pay attention what's happening around you, the world will not get better. In fact, it will get worse.

So care. Care with a passion and make the world a wholesome and benevolent place. Go vote, go discuss, go listen, go speak up, go speak out, go change the world.

**"Go vote, go discuss, go listen, go speak up, go speak out, go change the world."**



Claire Hoffman

EDITOR

Imagine stepping out of the door to your house, driving to school and then you realize...you forgot your phone. You contemplate driving home and risking being late, or

sucking it up and making it through the day without one of your most prized possessions. All the while, you can feel the panic and separation anxiety beginning to set in.

This, my friends, is unfortunately one of the many results of our media-based culture. The constant knowing that an entire virtual world is out there waiting for us to explore at the touch of our fingertips has caused an obsessive attachment to the 21st century cell phone.

This obsession is evident everywhere, including here at Marist. The next time you walk through the hallways during a mid-morning break, look around. Everyday when I walk out of class, I see kids turn their heads away from their friends and straight down at their screens so they can keep their 150 day "snap-streak." But the reality is that we don't need our phones as much as we think we do.

I'm not saying you should go throw your phone in the nearest trash can, phones have numerous positive factors too: listening to your favorite bops on Spotify, using Siri to track down the nearest Dutch Bros or Facetimeing your friends when AP Stats has you up studying all night. But the major issue on the table is that we as a society

have slowly begun relying too heavily on these pieces of technology. When bored or uncomfortable we revert to our phones, allowing them to become a security net.

However, by limiting and managing how much time we spend on our phones, those added up minutes of scrolling through Instagram can be eliminated and turned into time spent outside of the virtual world.

Ironically, there are plenty of apps to help you get off your phone.

Personally, I use "Moment." It tracks the amount of times I open my phone, as well as totaling the amount of time spent on it everyday. When I first began using the app, I really didn't think much of it. But over time, results showed. Pretty soon my phone usage was going down by a half an hour each day. Then it was down by an hour, even an hour and a half, all because having the app open made me think about why I was on my phone and if I really needed to be.

So I challenge you: download Moment, set goals to limit your daily screen time and please, next time during break, look up.

# MONDAY STORY COLLECTION

At 10:45 a.m. every Monday morning the staff of the Spartan Spear open up a Google Doc and wait patiently for a prompt that grabs their attention. Then each staff member fills up a page with whatever comes to their mind. The stories can be any anything from a short narrative to a passionate argument. Here's a few of our favorites...

## "Tell about a time when you got advice from a parent that didn't make sense till now"

By Ivonne Perez

When I was little my dad was full of the fatherly advice that everyone receives when they're a kid. "Try your best" or "You got this!" was probably repeated hundreds of times before the Kidsports soccer games, piano recitals and class presentations, but over the years, I distinctly remember one piece of advice my father gave me when I was young. "Do what you can't," said to me before a club soccer try-out. Of course, my underdeveloped mind couldn't wrap around the abstractness, so I took it as try something you have never done before. One hour later, I was on the bench icing my head, hurt after trying to attempt a bicycle kick and landing on my head. After that very bad headache, I put that piece of advice in the no good pile, trying to trash the memory of me making a fool of myself in front of bunch of strangers.

Fast forward a few years, and here I am, with a brain less underdeveloped, finally realizing the true meaning of what my dad said to me years before. There's so many things we humans are capable of doing. Whether or not we try to do them, and whether or not we are good at them, is solely dependant on us. I learned that if there's something I consider myself not good at, that emotion towards the thing can be short-term and changed if we try to do what we "can't." ❖

## "When do you appreciate the natural world?"

By Claire Hoffman

As I count down my days here at Marist, I have realized that I am stuck in a routine. I get up, usually a few too many minutes late, rush to school and proceed to sit through a day of learning what the metacarpals do and how to calculate standard error. Once the 2:40 bell rings, I make my way home, workout, have dinner, do homework and before I know it, the day has ended and I must continue the process all over again.

When looking at the predicament I am in, I have been able to see what's missing: the outdoors. Nature has always been an

important part of my life and I have begun to lose sight of that. Whether it's hiking Spencer's Butte or merely taking a drive to Fall Creek with the windows down and no care in the world, I miss it.

Let's take Spencer's Butte, for example. After hiking a mere half an hour up, it looks as if the entire city of Eugene is at your fingertips.

There's just something about nature that I have such a passion for: The sight of a redwood standing hundreds of feet tall, the sound of water rushing down the McKenzie, the smell of fresh pine. Nature is a part of me that I have started to lose touch with, and I have challenged myself to come back to it and continue to "expl(OR)e". ❖

## "Write about the weirdest funeral ever"

By Cameron Gray

"He was a good pet," Charlie starts, "He never barked, he loved people, he was so good at doing tricks. Why'd you have to die Dwayne, why?"

Charlie breaks down into tears at the podium. Everyone in the church bawls with him, except me and the person next to me.

"What's going on?" The man next to me, Ken, whispers.

"I'm not sure," I say back in a hushed tone, "Charlie told me a family member died, but now he's saying it was a pet. How'd he get so many people here for a pet? And why are they so upset?"

Music starts playing and a covered canvas is brought out by two men.

"He meant so much to this town. If it wasn't for Dwayne, we wouldn't have the clean air and rivers we do, and the state would have shut our zoo down. We owe so much to him," Charlie starts before dissolving into tears again.

"What is going on? Did Dwayne own a tiger or something? How did it keep a zoo open? And how does a tiger stop pollution?" I whisper to Ken. He just shrugs in response.

"Mayor West was kind enough to have a portrait of Dwayne made to honor him. It's going to hang in city hall. I'm honored to have owned Dwayne and I'm honored to reveal this painting to all of you as a way to remember him once he's buried,"

And with that Charlie yanked the sheet of the canvas to reveal a picture of a rock. That's it, a small, red-brown rock with two googly-eyes glued on it.

"What is goin..." Ken starts before being interrupted by the crowded church bursting into applause.

"God bless him," someone shouts.

"Heaven is a better place now that he's there," another yells.

"How are ever going to live without him?" someone else asks to nobody in particular.

"Ken, are we being pranked?" I ask him.

"I don't know man they seem way to emotional for it to be fake," he responds.

The cheering dies down slowly and four men walk up to grab the coffin, which is full-sized for some reason.

The horde of people follow behind them out the church doors and towards the graveyard. Ken, Charlie and I are the only ones left in the chapel.

"Hey Charlie," Ken says as they embrace.

"I'm sorry about your rock," I tell him, hoping it's the right thing to say.

But Charlie's eyes snap to mine the instant I say the word rock.

"Are you joking right now? Did you really just say that?" Charlie aggressively barks at me, shoving Ken off of him.

"What? I'm sorry, what did I say wrong?" I sputter.

"You're one dirty, deranged, dangle Cam," Charlie says.

Then he swings at me and knocks my lights out. ❖

## "What's your worst habit"

By Dylan Parsons

I have really bad senioritis. I never thought I would get it. I've always been pretty disciplined and focused on whatever my job is, but something is different this year. I think my jaunt of avoiding responsibility stems from my upcoming nine year (at least) challenge and commitment to the Army. My emotions are all over the place. On one hand, I am very excited for the opportunity to achieve my goal of becoming an Army officer, but I am also nervous. I'm nervous for the responsibility of being in a leadership position with lives on the line. I'm scared

of individual failure in challenges I will face. I've always liked to challenge and push myself, but I know I will be in a very competitive environment which will force me to push myself further and harder than I ever have before. I'm excited to work and refine myself into a better version of me, but I also anticipate the difficulty of that process. I'm also very sad to embark on this journey without the people I love most. New York is a long ways away and four years of school and five years minimum service is a long time. I know this is the best decision for me and that, once finished, I will not regret it, but in the coming months before the big storm it is hard to not focus my time on the people and things I love and will not get to be with soon. ❖

## "Write about experiencing something for the first time"

By Megan Mersino

It's my first time zip-lining. Nervous, excited, happy, scared - all the emotions you would expect to feel are pulsing throughout my body. The first line is short and not high from the ground. I can see the other side clearly and that comforts me. I'm the last to go and for the first few seconds my feet are off the ground. I feel like I'm flying. Each line gets longer and gives me more time to soak in the sun's rays. I'm letting my legs swing as I keep trying to take in every moment and sight there is to see. It's not long at all before we are at the last line. As I expected, I can hardly see the other side. This time I tell the leaders that I would like to go first. Everyone is excited for me and I'm practically ready to jump on the line myself. My harness is hooked on and I let my body leave the safety and comfort of the Earth below me. Against instinct, I immediately look down. I'm soaring above the tops of trees. I'm 5'2 and it's the first time in my life I've felt tall. It feels like I can see everything, the entire world. I never want it to end. I want to keep flying over treetops and soaking in the sun. But I am soon greeted with green grass below my feet. My adventure is on a slight break for now, but I will keep soaring. ❖

# TRUTH: What's It Worth Today?

*Human perception has its flaws*

Nick Nepute

STAFF WRITER

In 2016, the Oxford Dictionaries Word of the Year was post-truth—'relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief.' They choose a word that is reflective of the previous 12 months. The past 12 months have made it more obvious than ever that the truth is more of an opinion than its denotation.

There are a variety of important factors to be taken into account that can completely alter someone's opinion on a subject, or not. When people are presented with facts that directly contradict something that they believe, they'll often just ignore it. The inverse is also true. If something supports a belief that one may hold people will often accept it as fact, even if there is zero proof.

Since the 1990s, the validity of eyewitness accounts have been heavily scrutinized by psychologists and laymen alike. According to the Innocence Project, the first DNA

exoneration occurred in 1989. Since then, 70% of the cases that have been exonerated by DNA testing were built upon eyewitness testimony. Humans are unreliable when recalling and conveying information, and the majority of the things (history, current events, etc.) that we know are from a source that is not ourselves.

We would like to think of ourselves, our eyes, as the ultimate source that couldn't be anything but 100% accurate, because you know, we saw it. A rape victim in 1982 had "no doubt in her mind" that Robert Clark was the assailant. But Clark was released in 2008 after DNA evidence proved that it couldn't have been him.

Clark's horrible case is just one of many. These cases are as extreme as examples get, but they do show that even though people may know something happened in this way because they saw it for themselves, it doesn't necessarily mean that's how it actually went down.

Not only do we not have perfect recall, we also don't have a perfectly accurate medium to tell other people about our expe-

riences as we remember them. You'll never be able to fully understand what something was like because it's impossible to explain something in its entirety. You can get a good idea of what it's like to be chased by two absolutely massive dogs while walking home from school on the first day of 6th grade, but you'll never completely understand the pure terror because some things just can't be put into words.

Also, we can't perfectly convey things that we don't perfectly remember, so already there are going to be some things lost in translation, even if someone is doing their best to be honest and neutral. If someone isn't doing their best to be honest and neutral, then the waters can get muddied real quick.

In today's environment, with social media and 24/7 news, it is easy to get overwhelmed with information. It is hard to find a balance because everyone has a set-in-stone opinion on any topic that could be controversial. If people just tried to objectively listen to other's opinions then the world would probably be a better place.

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2018

# Addressing the Dress Code

*Benda opens the conversation with students and admin about the Marist dress code*

Liesl Benda

STAFF WRITER

I know that assumptions aren't always accurate, but I think it's safe to say that you've flipped the pages of the newspaper to read this story, hoping I would tear apart Marist's dress code. After all, I love wearing sweats just as much as the next person does and it would be pretty great to roll out of bed every morning, toss my hair up into a messy bun, grab my coffee and drive to school.

When I began working on this story, I knew that what I needed to do first was get my facts straight. The first source I went to was the trusty Student/Parent Handbook. It states that Marist's "personal appearance and dress code guidelines reflect the goals to show respect for self and others, to prepare students for life by encouraging responsibility and appropriateness in dress and appearance, to support our Catholic school culture and mission, and to maintain an academic environment conducive to teaching and learning."

This gave me some food for thought, but it didn't seem to provide me with a strong enough argument for our dress code.

I knew I needed to go beyond the handbook to learn about our dress code at Marist, so who's better to get answers from than Principal Stacey Baker herself? I spoke to Baker and she provided me with a perspective that I don't hear too often.

"The point of our dress code is to create a professional and educational environment for all," Baker explained. The dress code isn't just about making students

fit a certain mold or look, but it's more about learning to meet the expectations of professional work environments.

To get a better grasp of this idea, let's flash forward a couple of years. You're walking into your first big job interview. Perhaps you are applying to work at a law firm, perhaps it is for bank teller, or perhaps it is for a management position. Before entering your prospective boss' office, you take a look in the mirror. What are you wearing? Your comfiest sweats and the same ketchup-stained T-shirt you wore to bed last night? I don't think so. You're probably wearing a nicely ironed suit or a pencil skirt and blouse. You're dressed for success!

Luckily, Marist doesn't require that we all go to school wearing suits and skirts every day, but there are a couple of rules in place to maintain a "professional environment" in order to prepare us for the standards of the varied workplace attires we will meet in the future.

I'm sure you are familiar with some of our rules; no shoulders showing, no sweats, no revealing tops, no leggings, and no athletic shorts are just a few. It's not that there's anything wrong with wearing these clothing items, it's just that right now it is an agreed upon standard at Marist that we don't dress this way to school.

Though I learned a lot with Baker, a big piece of this conversation was still missing: the student body.

I gave a few teachers stacks of dress code surveys which had six questions for students to answer

anonymously. Once I collected over 250 completed surveys, I did some statistical analysis by randomly selecting 20 surveys from each of the four grades. (Special shout out to Amber Patterson for her statistical expertise and help with this.)

The results of these surveys were eye-opening. 80% of students were found to have a negative view of the dress code, while 20% said they either agreed with the dress code or were indifferent.

One of the largest complaints was about discomfort related to how the dress code is handled at Marist as 73.8% of students reported feeling uncomfortable with how the dress code is managed.

Several students responded saying they feel "sexualized" and "awkward" by the way the dress code is enforced. A number of girls felt that being dress coded based on a low-cut top or short skirt meant that teachers were looking at their bodies, which made them uncomfortable, but whether this was simply based on discomfort because they were dress coded or the discomfort caused by who hands out the slips was not distinguished.

Some students suggested, in their comments on the survey, that a woman should dress code the girls and a man should dress code the boys. The idea of having a male and female staff member split the task is a seemingly good proposition, but is not be practical if just one person holds the job of Dean of Students. Nor is it practical in a classroom setting, since all teachers, male or female, have co-ed classes.

Another point students had against the dress code had to do with the consistency of enforcement. Without even being specifically asked, 36.25% of the students reported inconsistency was a problem. One junior described the dress code as a "guessing game."

Certain students reported that one person can wear sweats almost every day of the week and never get caught, while another can get dress coded the one and only time they've ever worn sweats to school.

Enforcement is only one of the many discussions we can have about the dress code here at Marist. Fashion trends, distraction stemming from the dress code and self-expression are just a few of the hot topics.

But, the one thing I've learned is that if we want a change, it's going to have to come from the students, and it will have to be a thoughtful and collaborative process *with* our administration. Unfortunately, it takes a lot longer than just one newspaper article to analyze every element of our dress code here at Marist.

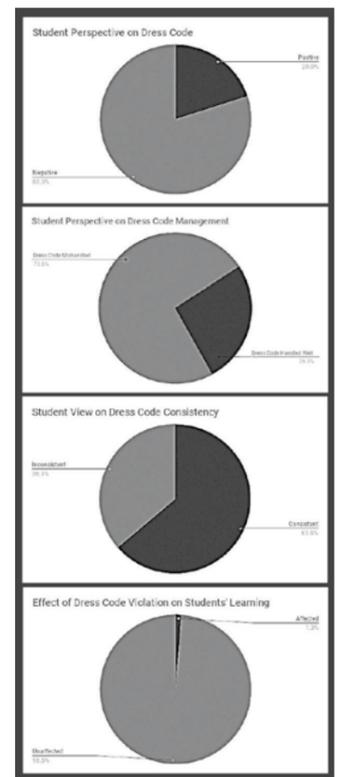
"To be really honest, how I personally feel is that whether or not there is going to be change, is a big part on our students.

"If there was something that students really wanted to change, say, the dress code, and they researched and reviewed and presented a proposal for why the dress code should be changed and what it should be changed to and why, the administration would hear their proposal, ask questions, and work to determine the next steps i.e. hearing the voices of all

constituents—parents, students, staff—and what change could and would be made," Baker said.

If you have interest in changing the dress code, I encourage you to take a look at the dress code and first, understand the reasons that it is in place at Marist. And if you truly believe the dress code needs to be altered, see if other students feel the same way. Furthermore, do some research and look at how other private schools structure their dress code.

It's up to you, Marist. The world around us is changing; will the dress code change too?



## Parking Lot Tips

by Harper Kast

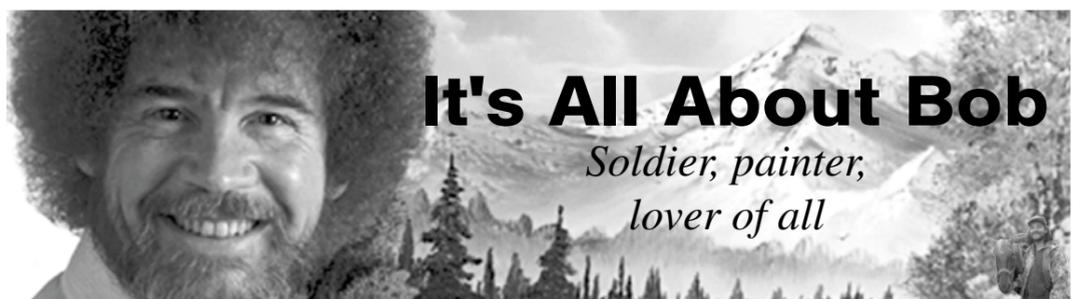
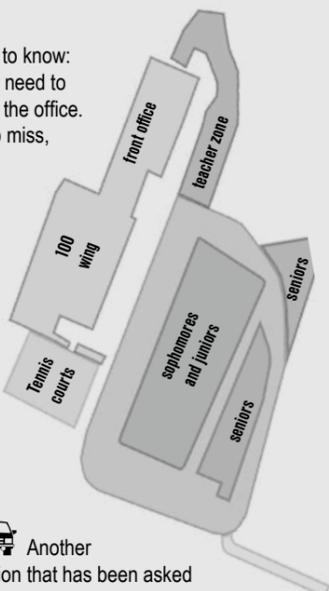
As the school year progresses, more and more students have been getting their licenses and arriving at school looking for a parking spot. Many new drivers have asked, "Where do I park? Is there really a senior parking lot? Where do teachers and staff park? How do I get a parking pass? What is a parking pass?" To answer these questions, I did a little research. I even drew a map for all of you new drivers, which this year, includes myself.

 Here's some basics you need to know: once you have a license and a car, you need to get a student car registration form from the office. The forms are bright yellow and hard to miss, typically located on the front counter.

 Sophomores and juniors, you can park anywhere in the assigned section of the map but beware, there are some people that can be very possessive of their spots. Also, don't park in the visitor parking, you will get in trouble. You are a student, not a visitor.

 So the senior lot, is it real? As a sophomore, it's difficult to answer this question, it depends on who you ask. Some will tell you it exists, but it can vary. A word of advice is to stay away from the back corner of the parking lot, as designated on the map.

 Another question that has been asked is, where do teachers and staff park? Most teachers and staff tend to park in the teacher zone of the map. Though some park scattered around because it's closest to their classroom.



## It's All About Bob

*Soldier, painter, lover of all*

Claire Hoffman

EDITOR

Next time you find yourself swiping through Netflix shows, search Bob Ross. You will not regret it. I repeat: you will not regret it.

Born in 1942, Robert Norman Ross grew up in Orlando, Florida. From an early age found he himself drawn to nature, which would later be evident in his paintings.

After dropping out of high school and working as a carpenter, he enlisted at 18 and joined the U.S. Air Force. Many years of service later, he was promoted to master sergeant at the Eielson Air Force Base in Alaska.

While spending time in Alaska he attended a local art class and quickly fell in love with painting, specifically relating to nature or as he would call it, "happy little trees."

From there, his art skyrocketed him to a PBS television show, *The Joy in Painting*. Premiering January of 1983, his show was a hit and made quite a run, lasting for 12 years. In 1994, he was diagnosed with lymphoma and passed away just a year later.

Though since his death, the legacy he created has continued to live on to this day. Whether it's the feelings of nostalgia kick-

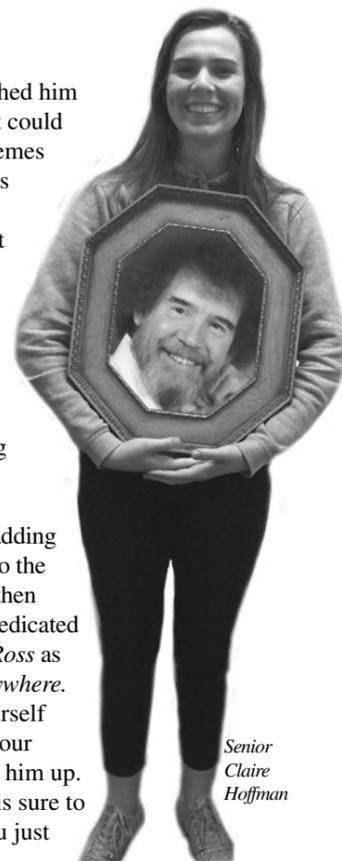
ing in from those who once watched him as a child, his soothing voice that could calm a storm, or the countless memes referencing his iconic afro, Bob is sweeping the nation.

In fact, many would argue that his fame has grown to be much larger than it ever was when his show was last aired in 1994.

"I see him on Instagram, I see him on YouTube, I see him on Twitter," senior Megan Mersino said, "He's just popping up everywhere."

In 2015, the official Bob Ross YouTube channel was launched, adding several full episodes of his show to the channel. Just a year later, Netflix then released not one, but two shows dedicated to the man, titled *Chill with Bob Ross* as well as *Bob Ross: Beauty is Everywhere*.

So, the next time you find yourself looking for an excuse not to do your homework, don't hesitate to look him up. Even a quick 20 minute episode is sure to brighten your day and inspire you just as he inspires me.



Senior  
Claire  
Hoffman

# FICTIONAL WORLDS: DREAMS OR NIGHTMARES?

There's something fascinating about the idea of having superhuman abilities, being magical and just going above and beyond the ordinary. Many of us would love to live in a fictional world, whether it's being a lost boy in Neverland or a demigod in the Percy Jackson universe, but are fictional worlds really that much better than reality?

Maddie Louie

EDITOR

I decided to turn to the student body and asked students which fictional world they want to live in and why. But with every answer I received, I could still think of issues within the world in question.

Senior Caden Friesen was one of many students who chose the Pokémon World because "there's a lot of fantasy worlds with high chances of death. Here I get to have cool pets and friends with almost no danger. I can follow my dreams."

Pokémon are cute and all, but every animal in that universe is capable of killing you. Ariados is a three foot tall spider that weighs 74 pounds. It spins toxic thread for crying out loud! Not to mention that Ariados is one of the less dangerous pokémons there are. There's gigantic bees (Beedrills), ghosts capable of controlling humans (Palossand) and violently tempered gigantic serpents (Gyrados). Personally, I wouldn't want to be in that world.



Seniors Sydney Evans and Zoe Notenboom went with something a little more magical, given certain conditions.

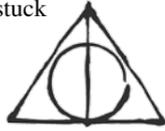
"I would choose Harry Potter, post Harry Potter era because I want to be a wizard, but I don't want to deal with Voldemort," Evans said.

"Same," Notenboom agreed. "Really my answer is dependent on time period."

I understand that mentality perfectly, I have always wanted to be a wizard. But even I have to admit that there's still a lot of problems in the Wizarding World, Voldemort aside. Being in the Wizarding World is only good if you're actually a witch or wizard, a very low percentage of the global population. If not, you're stuck being a muggle.

Even if you do have magic, there's not much protecting your human rights. There's no social services for orphaned kids, there's no therapy (just calming droughts). And as wonderful as the magical world is, that's all there is. Wizards aren't really given the opportunity to interact with muggles, their world is completely dominated by everything magic related. I don't know if I could survive without being able to access Netflix every now and then.

Junior Keegan Pond had a hard time deciding, but opted for the Four Nations from Avatar: the Last Airbender. "I'd love to be a firebender. The Four Nations are so colorful and vibrant and I know there would always be something

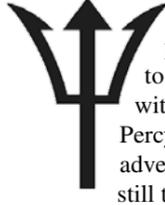


new to explore! It would be so interesting to experience the cultures of each area," Pond said.

There's already a war going on in the Four Nations between the Fire Nation and everyone else! The sense of superiority is ingrained in each nation and there will always be the question of which type of bender is strongest, even though being able to bend at all is super cool. And as cool as bending is, it's incredibly dangerous and can be used for evil so easily.

There's also the stigma between benders and non-benders, which probably stems from that potential for evil, as seen in the sequel Legend of Korra. Being able to explore the Four Nations and experience the power of bending would be amazing, but I wouldn't want to live there for the rest of my life.

I remember that as a kid, when I didn't want to be a wizard, I wanted to be a demigod. Mostly because the idea of having godly powers seemed pretty cool to me. I wanted to be friends with Annabeth Chase and Percy Jackson and go on crazy adventures with them, and I still think that being a demigod



for a day would be amazing.

But I wouldn't want to be a demigod for more than a day, because most demigods don't live past their early twenties. Those horrifying monsters from Greek (and Roman) mythology hunt kids by scent! There's constant danger and warfare and there is no perfectly safe place, even Camp Half-Blood has its dangers. Plus, if you ask me, the gods are actually insane. They're these all-powerful beings with next-to-no patience and emotions as wild and temperamental as a teenager. You could be smited in an instant! It's insanely dangerous and I don't know if I could survive for even a day there.



And really, that's how it would be in any fictional world. I've realized that no fictional world is without danger, whether it's dangerous animals, fiery warzones, insane politics or something else entirely. It's all a matter of what you're willing to put up with.

Yet, despite being aware of all the dangers and knowing that I would inevitably die, at the end of the day, I still want to be a wizard.

# The Adventures of Henry Harper

Former Marist student and teacher on a soul-searching journey

Megan Mersino

EDITOR

Many people dream about it, but not many people get the opportunity to travel the world and do things they love. However, our very own '10 Marist grad and former theology teacher Henry Harper got the opportunity to do exactly that.

His journey began at O'Hara, then to Marist, then to Gonzaga University, back to Marist again and now... the world.

For those who didn't get the chance to know him, Harper taught at Marist for the 2015-2016 school year and quickly was known for his man-bun, hatred of Triscuits and fun-loving approach to teaching. He taught Paschal Mysteries and Ecclesiology for sophomores, and Sacraments and Church History for juniors.

After teaching at Marist and earning the love of numerous students, Harper continued following his love for education and taught 7th-grade history at a middle school in Spokane for a year. "I love teaching because I get to hang out with and have a positive influence on young people," Harper said. "I had a lot of great teachers and mentors growing up, so I always wanted to do what they did for me."

Harper then left Spokane and traveled to Alaska for a few months. "My favorite part of Alaska is how remote it is. The place I worked is 120 miles into the wilderness and being that

far away allows me to clear my mind," Harper said. It gave him a chance to reflect and meditate on life, while he spent time looking for himself.

While there, he worked for a family that owns a hunting outfit, which takes clients from all over the world to their lodge to hunt moose, grizzly bear, caribou, Dall sheep and black bear. "It was dope, lots of stories and giggles," Harper said.

His dad, Jerry, was the one who first exposed him to hunting. In the late 90s when Harper was a teenager, his dad started taking him along to Alaska. Jerry had developed a connection with the owners, a family he really liked, so they started going there together. Henry went for the first time when he was 14 and took many more trips north until he was 18.

During college, graduate school and his first few years of work, Henry and his dad stopped going because of his busy schedule, but their family stayed close to the owners. They came down and visited the Harper's in Oregon every year.

When Henry decided to change his life around and pursue dreams other than teaching, he called them to see if they needed any help. They welcomed him with open arms.

A few days before leaving for Alaska, Henry and his mom were spending time together in Portland shopping in the Pearl District and decided to visit Filson, a luxury clothing and outdoor store.

"Filson started out selling clothes for miners and loggers in the northwest and Alaska a long time ago, but it's evolved into this fashion-type brand that's still pretty rugged," Henry said.

While shopping there, Henry told his mom about some of the roots of the company and the manager came up and introduced herself and said, "You should work here. I'm serious. Do you want a job?" He told her he was heading to Alaska for a few months and that he would be back in the winter and she said, "Perfect. A job will be waiting for you."

After returning and working there for a few months, he geared up to head back to Alaska for a week to watch the Iditarod Sled Dog Race, an annual long-distance sled dog race run from Anchorage to Nome.

Always ready for an adventure, Harper decided to switch gears. Recently, he headed off with his dad to Europe to walk the Camino de Santiago, a pilgrimage across Spain to the shrine of the Apostle Saint James the Great in the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela located in the northwestern Spanish city of Galicia for six weeks or so.

Harper is now hoping to go down to South Africa for two months to work with a safari company. For Harper, the safari company is actually just a way to get over to Africa. "I've wanted to go since I was in high school and this was the first real opportunity to make it happen," Harper said.

And after that, who knows!

## Can You Read This?

*A cool trick your brain does that make spelling insignificant*

by Josan DaPloei

Accordnig to mnay stuieds  
Acodnucted at Cmabirgde  
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bescaue fo teh sonw.
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adn seppid hto chlcooate.

All fo teshe secnentes yuo cuold  
untrsednad bsacue teh fsirt adn  
lsat lretets setayd teh smae.



\* Not only is Harper traveling all over the world, he's all over the paper as well! Can you find all 10 Harper's in this edition of The Spartan Spear?

# WHAT'S A KING TO A GOD?



*Why a humongous ape will never beat a pre-historic fire-breathing lizard*

	KING KONG	GODZILLA
<b>Weight &amp; Height:</b>	25,000 tons, 150 feet.	90,000 tons, 355 feet. Very tall boy
<b>Durability:</b>	Vulnerable, but always gets back up	Invulnerable to everything but giant monsters
<b>Power Move:</b>	Kong fury	Atomic Breath
<b>Fighting Abilities:</b>	Like Bruce Lee but a gigantic gorilla	Hits like the meteor that killed the dinosaurs

Cameron Gray

EDITOR

You can go anywhere in the world and say this name and people will know who you're talking about. That's right, Beyoncé. But a more important name however, is the King of Monsters, Godzilla.

If you don't know who Godzilla is, we cannot be friends until you go watch the most recent Godzilla movie, which came out in 2014. It's great. Giant monsters fighting each other, who could miss that?

In 2017, *Kong: Skull Island* came out and brought with it an end credit scene that revealed King Kong exists in the same world as Godzilla himself.

Obviously with this news comes the question, who will win in a fight?

And this is where I get angry. If you think King Kong stands any chance you are just wrong.

A movie is coming out in 2020 called

*Godzilla vs King Kong* and I think it's ridiculous. There is no competition here. Just look at the size difference. Godzilla has almost 70,000 tons on King Kong and 200 feet. It'd be like fighting your nephew, who's a toddler, at a family gathering. You can just punt him and it's over (not that you should, I do not endorse punting toddlers).

On top of this already huge advantage, Godzilla has some thick skin. He's survived multiple nuclear bombs and shrugged off missiles and bullets the military shot at him as he destroyed the Golden Gate Bridge (rip) like it was nothing. What is King Kong going to do to hurt this beast, punch him?

Some people think Kong is smarter and that will give him an advantage. Granted, in the movie *Kong: Skull Island King*, Kong used his environment to his advantage, making things like huge trees and an old ship's anchor as weapons, but what

is he going to use that will hurt Godzilla? Is he going to hit him with a city bus or a telephone pole? Godzilla has taken much worse than that.

And on the other hand, King Kong got messed up by a platoon of Vietnam era soldiers and some awkward lizards with only two legs. How is he going to withstand the terror that is Godzilla? He has two legs and two arms!

As if Godzilla didn't have enough of an advantage, he has something in his arsenal called atomic breath. Now that I write it, it seems very weak like he's just going to breathe angrily on King Kong, but in *Godzilla* (2014), he uses this breath of pure nuclear hatred to split one of the creatures fighting him in half. Truly incredible. If King Kong was hit with this he'd be dead.

Sorry Kong, don't mess with the king.

## Show and Tell

*Junior Isabelle Briggs and her sister team up to give us some viewing advices*



A quirky mockumentary that captures the hilarity and heartbreak of a modern office space. Observe the crude jokes and inappropriate humor of Regional Branch Manager Michael Scott and watch the interoffice relationships and love triangles develop. The dry humor of this show draws the viewer in just because of how ridiculous it is. The evolution of Jim's growing love for Pam while stuck in the friend zone keeps the viewer captivated as well as the intricate pranks Jim sets up for beet farmer Dwight.



Outlandish doesn't begin to describe the abnormal methods of Psychic Detective Shawn Spencer in the USA comedy *Psych*, which you can now stream on Amazon Prime. Shawn solves crimes using his keen senses of observation and fake psychic visions with the help of his childhood best friend, Burton "Gus" Guster. This is a show that keeps me on the edge of my seat because of the thrilling action packed episodes full of suspense, watching to see if anyone will realize he's not a real psychic.



After Ted's college best friend gets engaged, he devotes the next decade of his life to searching for the girl of his dreams. With the help of his friends as well as plenty of trial and error, Ted comes to find out that the love of his life is much closer than he could ever imagine. It's entertaining to watch the group explore new bars, steal blue french horns and laugh at Barney's dramatically free lifestyle. I love the flexibility of the streaming order and it's always a good show for me to have on the background when I am doing my chores.



This comedic crime show, currently found on Amazon Prime, reveals the heartwarming story of ex-police officer Adrian Monk's battle with OCD after being psychologically discharged quickly proceeding his wife's brutal murder. When Captain Stottlemeyer and the San Francisco police department have a puzzling homicide, the former detective is the first called to action. He uses his acute attention to detail and deep knowledge of various facts to solve even the most perplexing of cases with the help of his on-call personal assistant.

Six mid 20-year-olds are living in the city that never sleeps, with relationships stemming back years as they deal with parents, career issues and trying to find the love of their life. Watch Ross' journey to captivate Rachel, endure all of Chandler's sarcastic jokes and take in the absurdity of Phoebe's eccentric songs. This ageless sitcom makes the lives of these six friends very relatable for the binge-watching viewer. I find myself constantly re-watching specific episodes that never get old.

## A Break From Reality

Caroline Gonyea

EDITOR

Why is our world fascinated with the lives of strangers? Why keep up with the Kardashians? Why do people want to know who gets the final rose? Typically there are many other things I would much rather do than watch television; however, I do watch it on occasion.

I'm not proud to admit it, but I am a closet "Bachelor" viewer. The incredibly superficial nature of the show that comes with a single individual dating multiple people makes it a class one trash television show.

Quite honestly, I'm baffled by my slight obsession with the ridiculous reality show. Upon contemplating my reasons for why I watch it, I came to a simple conclusion: I find that the mindlessness of "The Bachelor" is a nice way to shut off my brain after a long day and preoccupy myself with the often superficial concerns of random individuals in front a camera.

I was curious what the "why" was for others in their reality show viewing habits so I decided to find out.

So what exactly is reality television anyway? Oxford Dictionary defines reality television as "television programs in which real people are continuously filmed, designed to be entertaining rather than informative."

The first shows that come to mind for many are, of course, shows like the Kardashians and the Bachelor; however, the reality television genre is much broader than this. Reality TV shows range anywhere from "Toddlers and Tiaras," "America's Next Top Model" and "Say Yes to the Dress" to "Survivor," "Fixer Upper," "American Ninja Warrior" and "The Voice."

Sophomore Ryleigh Anderson enjoys watching shows like "The Voice," "Cheapest Weddings," "Say Yes to the Dress" and "My Strange Addictions" and finds that watching them with her friends is actually somewhat of a bonding experience. "It's kind of cool to see our different opinions on the choices made in the shows. It's also just really fun to watch how crazy other people's lives can be and it kind of puts you at peace with the craziness of your own," Anderson said.

Sophomore Liv Carlin also finds the drama entertaining. "I watch a couple reality shows on occasion just because it's fun to see how differently they live, and the drama of their lives can be pretty fascinating," Carlin said.

So it seems that reality TV viewing can be a good break from daily life and, for some, serves as a good reminder that maybe the craziness of our own lives really isn't so bad after all.

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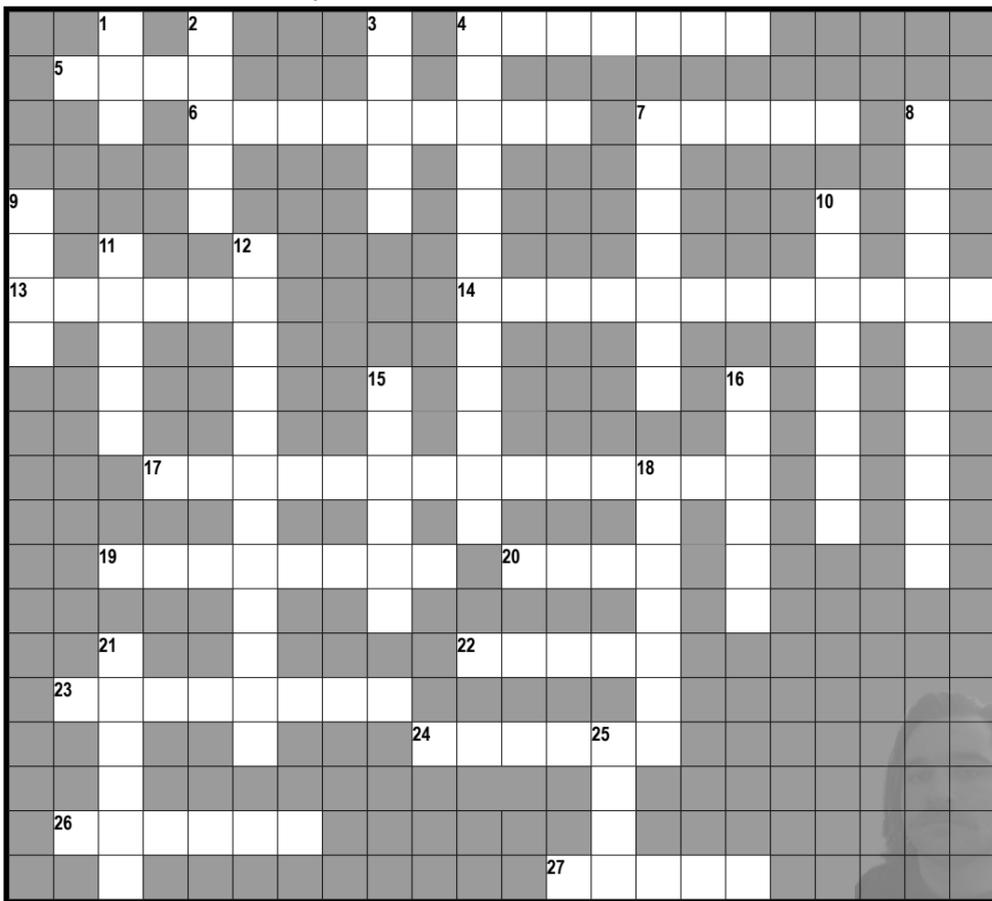
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# Test Your Random Trivia! Celebrities, Movies and More!



### ACROSS

- 4. Daughter of Queen Bey who placed a \$19k bid on a piece of art at the Wearable Art Gala
- 5. British runner who crisscrossed America nearly 5 times to recreate Forrest Gump
- 6. As a child, Johnny Depp was allergic to this sweet treat
- 7. Supermodel who unfollowed Zayn Malik after their breakup in March
- 13. First name of Kylie Jenner's baby
- 14. ABC show back on TV after a two-year break
- 17. Former California governor who had open heart surgery in March
- 19. Martin Luther King Jr. was a big fan of this film series
- 20. 22 Jump Street star who got a tattoo of his younger sister's name on his arm
- 22. Announced his separation from Jenna Dewan via Instagram
- 23. French fashion designer who died at age 91
- 24. 2018 winner of Academy Award for best actor
- 26. Elvis' natural hair color
- 27. Rihanna's makeup line and last name

### DOWN

- 1. \_\_\_'s Plan: top of Billboard Hot 100 the week of March 10th
- 2. Future bachelorette, once engaged to Arie
- 3. 'This is Us' actress who fulfilled her lifelong dream of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro
- 4. 2018 American superhero film based on the Marvel Comics Wakandan character of the same name
- 7. English theoretical physicist who lost his battle with ALS at age 76
- 8. Orlando Bloom has this unique phobia
- 9. Star being sued for his Yeezy season 5 Camo print
- 10. 2018 Olympic gold medalist in the women's giant slalom
- 11. English singer-songwriter whose left eye became permanently dilated when he got in a fight at age 15
- 12. American girl group that announced their split during March
- 15. Actress rumored to replaced Carrie Fisher in future Star Wars movies
- 16. Rapper pregnant with Offset's fifth child
- 18. Food Network star and pastry chef who got engaged to Joanna Colbry
- 21. Gossip Girl star who attended Martha Stewart's Easter party
- 25. The Bachelor season 10 heartthrob

# FORTNITE

*The latest video game epidemic sweeping Marist and the nation*

**Hunter Bloom and Jace Krier**  
STAFF WRITERS

A recent epidemic has hit the video gaming world, *Fortnite Battle Royale*.

Fortnite is a game where up to 100 people join an online server and drop onto an island to look for weapons and shields as they get ready to fight others, very similar to the Hunger Games.

In the 1/100 chance that they win, they will be greeted with a Victory Royal banner across their television screen and will forever get to say that they were a champion at *Fortnite*.

*Fortnite Battle Royale* is available on nearly everything, from PlayStation 4 to Xbox One to PC and Mac. Even better, it costs nothing.

It's no surprise that somewhere in the ballpark of 45 million people now own the game. Fortnite has become so widely popular that celebrities such as rappers Drake and Travis Scott have teamed up with NFL player Ju-Ju Smith-Schuster and *Fortnite* expert "Ninja" to play together and streamed it for millions of people to watch.

With normal video games costing about \$70, it is super rare for games to be free, because of this, *Fortnite* is more inclusive and draws more people to the game.

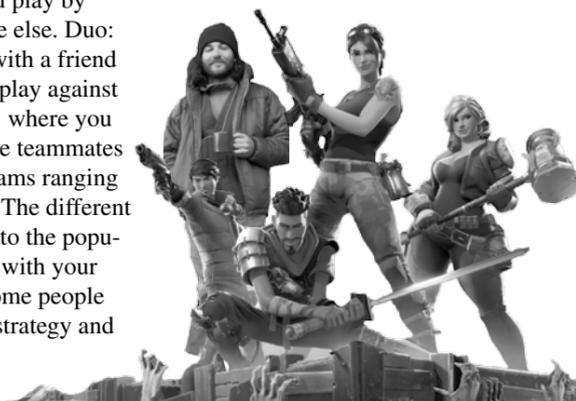
Marist's community has also fallen captive under the spell that is *Fortnite*. Many students partake in the game and even squad up and play together.

40 out of 55 people randomly surveyed at Marist, or 72%, reported that they have played the game or actively watched it before.

There are three main game modes. Solo: which is where you play by yourself against everyone else. Duo: where you can team up with a friend or someone random and play against other teams, and Squads: where you can have as many as three teammates and play against other teams ranging from one to four people. The different game modes contributes to the popularity. Playing on a team with your friends is appealing to some people and can make for better strategy and more fun.

*Fortnite* forces the

player to become creative, with endless possibilities of what you can accomplish within the game. You are able to build structures very quickly to defend yourself or to attack others. It takes creativity and quick strategizing to best the other ninety-nine people. The thrill of winning is almost indescribable but well worth the many hours spent losing. *Fortnite* has been around for about a year now but shows no signs of slowing down globally or in the Marist community.



## In the Mind of A Player...

By: Dylan Parsons

"They will never find me here," I think as I sit in a bush and wait to see where the next circle will go. I see a dust cloud and person running across the river from Tilted Towers. I debate pulling out my hand cannon, thinking of all of the magnificent loot the player probably had gotten while raiding Tilted. I fire, unfortunately missing over his left shoulder.

He turns around and begins to build but I stay put in my bush. At that moment another guy starts pushing my initial target, building stairs up his base. Tac' and pump shotgun shells ring off until I see one of the competitors has been slain. I knew that my other opponent had been greatly weakened so it was now my time to strike.

I make a run for the stairs and pull out my green tac. I jump into the stolen base and eliminate my adversary with two shells as he's med-kitting up. Before me lays a heap of purple and gold. Specifically, a gold scar and bolt action sniper and a purple rocket launcher and tactical shotgun. There are also three medkits and all the ammo and materials one could dream of.

There are 17 people left and I have a fair distance east to cover to get to the circle and 1:19 to get there. As I jump out of my base the impossible happened... my screen glitches black and next thing I know I'm at the Xbox home screen...a complete lag out. My game is over. Stolen from me.

I will never forgive or forget this moment and the failure of the *Fortnite* servers.



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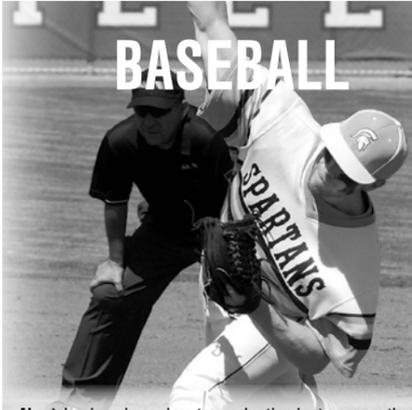
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# Spring Sports Updates



## BASEBALL

**About:** Losing six seniors to graduation last season, there were many spots to fill but with six seniors and handful of talented juniors and sophomores this year, they are maturing into their positions as the season progresses. Senior Sonny Hiday is leading the team in three categories: batting average, earned run average and runs batted in.

**League Odds:** Thurston and Crater are good, but if we are able to win the series against Churchill, we'll be in a good position.

**State Odds:** Production out of the younger players will be needed at the plate and on the mound.

**State:** Playoffs begin May 18



## SOFTBALL

**About:** Winning the 5A State Softball title last year, the pressure is on for the softball team to dominate once again. Standouts Ariel Carlson, Abbey Siroshon and Abby Doerr, all D1 softball commits, are the driving force for this season out on the field.

**League Odds:** Their odds look good considering they haven't lost a league game yet.

**State Odds:** It's hard to get to the top, but it's harder to stay there. They are ranked 3rd in state and if they stay strong, there could be another state title

**State:** Playoffs begin May 18



## BOYS GOLF

**About:** After placing 5th in state last season, this year's team is returning two experienced and successful seniors, Justin Potwora and John Pollock. This dynamic duo will look to lead them back to a top five finish. Senior Jackson Houston and sophomore Arnav Reddy will also be key parts to a successful season.

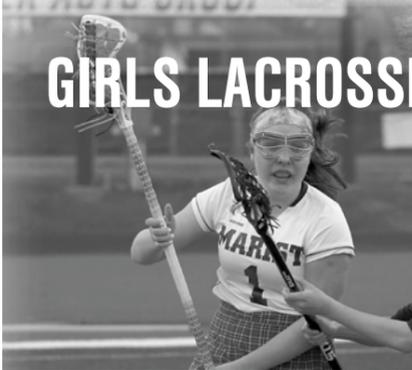
**State Odds:** If all of the boys play to their potential, then they have a really good chance at bringing home the title.

**State:** May 14-15



## GIRLS GOLF

**About:** Having not graduated any golfers, the girls team can continue the hard work with some new additions to the roster this season. First-time Marist golfer Kailey Garrett is a clear standout, winning the first match at Oakway Golf Course. This year, they have moved down to JV, giving them more opportunities to grow as a team and get more experience. Junior Adi Dryden, a seasoned veteran, has been an asset to the team, placing individually in all their matches so far.



## GIRLS LACROSSE

**About:** Led by six returning senior players, the Spartans have a mix of grades and experience to make the season exciting on the turf. Senior and college commit, Monique Gibson, is leading the team with 38 goals this season, followed by sophomore Sally Moore with 10.

**League Odds:** Churchill is their main opponent, but with a lot of hard work, the team could do well. They are 2-0 in league so far.

**State Odds:** Since the lacrosse league includes all Oregon high schools, it's hard to beat those big 6A schools with long-established teams, but they have a history of surprises.

**State:** Playoffs begin May 14



## BOYS LACROSSE

**About:** Graduating 13 seniors from last season means this team is young and without a lot of varsity experience. But returning varsity starters, junior attacker Lucas Albertini, sophomore defender Dempsey O'Leary and senior Griffith Bell, are leading the charge for success. New to varsity, sophomore Matthew Hopkins is leading the team in scoring and sophomore Michael Lee is doing well at faceoffs.

**League Odds:** With a young team, this is a rebuilding year.

**State Odds:** Not looking good - again it's hard to do well at state for lacrosse because there is only one division.

**State:** Playoffs begin May 18



## GIRLS TENNIS

**About:** Intimidating and skilled: two words that describes this year's tennis team. Having an undefeated season last year, the team is at its peak, winning matches left and right. The team is packed with talent, promising yet another winning season. The doubles teams of juniors Chloe Lee and Nithya Vaikuntam and seniors Claire and Lauren Eagan have a good chance at making it back to state again and sophomore Ellie Gonyea in singles and sophomore McKenna Priske and senior Ashley Alldridge in doubles are playing strong as well.

**League Odds:** Odds are looking good for the Lady Spartans, having won the Northwestern League Title six years in a row.

**State Odds:** If they advance their talent they should do great.

**State:** May 17-19



## BOYS TENNIS

**About:** Last season, the team finished second in League and took home sixth in state. Seniors Joey Weilbrenner and Ben Hakala finished in the state quarterfinals in doubles last year and hope to make it further this year. Sophomore Evan Villano and freshman Jackson Whittaker are competing and making an impact while playing singles.

**League/Districts Odds:** Returning everybody from last season, the boys' odds to win league are looking very strong.

**State Odds:** Summit and Ashland will be tough to beat but if the team plays to its potential, state could be really fun.

**State:** May 17-19



## GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

**About:** With the experience of senior Caitlin Kirk and junior Rainy Adkins in the sprints, sophomore Isabella Zachem in the distances and senior Megan Kimball in the jumps, leading the troupes, the young team of talented runners, jumpers and throwers is thriving yet again.

**League/Districts Odds:** The three-time 5A District Champions, the team is poised for another podium finish.

**State Odds:** Placing 5th at the state meet last year, they are looking good again. There is a strong chance for girls to qualify and score points in eight events.

**State:** May 18-19 at Hayward Field (U of O)



## BOYS TRACK & FIELD

**About:** Last year the boys were 6th in league and 15th at state. Senior Jerik Embleton returns in the 800m and 1500m and recently set a school record in the 3000m and senior Pierce LaCoste, a U of O signee in the decathlon, also returns with top marks in the state in seven events. Also making an impact are senior sprinter Andres Lopez, junior newcomer Mathias Collins and junior discus thrower Andrew Dryden.

**League/Districts Odds:** The boys have a good chance at winning based on the district top 10 list on Athletic.net. If we play the strategic game well against Ashland and Crater, it's possible.

**State Odds:** Both Embleton and LaCoste are in good position to make it back to the state meet along with both relay teams that currently hold top times in the state.

**State:** May 18-19 at Hayward Field (U of O)



## ULTIMATE

**About:** With five seniors returning from last season's state winning team, they have the experience and the skill to repeat the win this year, having a team record of 12 ultimate layout D's so far this season. Senior Captains Kai Fuji, Austin Hubbard, and Tye Edgar will look to guide this year's team to the state title. Along with the students at Marist, there are also some participants that come from other local high schools.

**State Odds:** If the team works as hard as they did last season, their chances are high.

**State:** Sometime in May



## SHOOTING TEAM

**About:** While senior Abby Jones is the only returner from last year, the current roster is full of multiple sport athletes. Along with Jones, sophomores Brandon Boresek, John Over and Jacob Pifer will be key parts to doing well this year.

**State Odds:** Coach Brent West says that they have a really good shot at the state title on top of the fact that the state tournament will be held at their home shooting range.

**State:** May 26-28

### by the Numbers

20

Number of Frisbees owned by the Ultimate team

9

Underclassmen on varsity boys tennis this year

14

Homeruns by the softball team this season so far

1:30

Average length of a pétanque match this season

16

Total number of track and field events

# Seniors Earn Their Wings *Scouts honored for their hardwork and dedication*

By Sarah Cavinee

Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in The Boy Scouts and approximately only four percent of Boy Scouts are granted this rank after a lengthy review process. To attain Eagle Scout it's required to have a leadership role in the troop for six months, collect 21 specific merit badges and 13 nonspecific and demonstrate Scout Spirit, including an extensive service project that the Scout plans, organizes, leads and manages.

## William Grieves

Senior William Grieves received his Eagle Scout designation on Aug. 17, 2017 as well as three Eagle Palm Awards for earning 15 more merit badges than the required 21. Grieves is the 103rd Eagle Scout from Troop 175 in Eugene, Oregon. One of the highlights of Grieves' ten-year scouting career is when he attended a world scout jamboree in Japan on July 30, 2015 where he earned his Messenger of Peace Award. For his Eagle Project, Grieves built a 100 foot gravel pathway at the Cascades Raptor Center.



"My scoutmaster described being an Eagle Scout as a 'life sentence.' A lifelong responsibility to live by the values of an Eagle Scout."  
-William Grieves

## Caden Friesen

Senior Caden Friesen was awarded his Eagle Scout rank in Oct. 2017 as the most recent Eagle Scout to graduate from Troop 282, a Christian based troop in Eugene. For his Eagle Project, Friesen worked with a crew to restore old, rotting retaining walls at Baker Bay Campground and Marina located near Dorena Lake. According to Friesen, his favorite experience of his scouting career was when he went on a high adventure backpacking trip to Philmont, New Mexico. On this trip, his group of eight scouts and four adults travelled approximately 76 miles and reached the summit of two of the largest mountains in the base, over a two week time period.



"In the end I think I really gained a lot of knowledge, but also just had a lot of experiences with hard work and dedication towards activities." -Caden Friesen

## Tommy Akers

Senior Tommy Akers is on track to be the next Marist student to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, with only four required merit badges left to complete before he can have his Eagle ceremony. Akers completed his Eagle Project where he built a meditation labyrinth in the garden of Wesley United Methodist Church measuring 40 feet in diameter. Akers has been scouting for 13 years and over the course of his career scouting, he has gone on several backpacking trips from Philmont, New Mexico to Zion National Park. In Philmont, Akers went with a crew of 24 people to a scout ranch where they hiked 100 miles in a week while doing activities such as rifle shooting, horseback riding and bird watching.



"My favorite canyons of Zion National Park were Englestead, Pinecreek, which was a narrow canyon where you swim for awhile and Keyhole which, as the name suggests, is a really small canyon with many small rappels and tight places to squeeze through." -Tommy Akers

## Ask an Athlete



**Sam Bell**  
Baseball

**Q. If you were stuck on an island with a celebrity, who would it be?**

**A.** Andy Samberg; We could make spoof songs and although we wouldn't survive very long we would have a goofy couple of days."



**Maddy Turner**  
Girls Lacrosse

**Q. What is the best song on your pre-game warm up playlist?**

**A.** "Bring Em Out" by T.I."



**Angel Montes-Michel**  
Boys Lacrosse

**Q. Which Biblical character would excel the most at your sport?**

**A.** "Peter because he would be the 'rock' of our defense."



**Maggie Stephenson**  
Softball

**Q. What's your favorite nickname of anyone on the team?**

**A.** "We call Kallie 'Kal.'"



**Jack Crowell**  
Track and Field

**Q. Who is your favorite staff member at Marist?**

**A.** "Chase Wells, he is my favorite coach."



**Connor Speers**  
Boys Tennis

**Q. If you had to perform any song in front of a crowd with passion, what would you sing?**

**A.** "The Climb" by Miley Cyrus."



**Chloe Lee**  
Girls Tennis

**Q. What is the funniest thing that has happened while playing tennis?**

**A.** "Me and my doubles partner made a secret language with hand motions so we could lighten the mood when it's intense or super quiet."



**Adi Dryden**  
Girls Golf

**Q. If you could have any celebrity athlete coach, who would it be?**

**A.** "Tiger Woods."



**Jordan Lee**  
Boys Golf

**Q. What person at Marist should have their own reality TV show?**

**A.** "John Pollock, the guy was made for Hollywood. He would do great on a show."



**Austin Hubbard**  
Ultimate Frisbee

**Q. If the U.S had to sell one state for budgeting reasons, which would you pick?**

**A.** "Texas, they want to be their own country anyway."

## For Your Information....

By Hunter Bloom and Becky Mikel

Marist is filled with a community that love sports and activities. However, not all students participate in them here at Marist, but enjoy their extracurriculars elsewhere. Here are just a few...

•Junior **Grace Haga** and freshman **Katie Rule** compete for the Sheldon and North Eugene Equestrian Teams, respectively -both a part of the Oregon High

School Equestrian Team. They have been practicing two to three times a week since the beginning of winter.

Haga has qualified for the state meet in May in both drill and birangle and is an alternate for barrels. If she does well she will advance to Regionals.

Rule enjoys learning new skills with OHSET. Her favorite event is poles, which is a timed event

where you run a weaving or serpentine path around six poles arranged in a line. "What made me fall in love was the first trail ride I took on the beach," Rule said.

•Freshmen **Britten Johnson** and **Tori Letourneau**, gymnasts at Gymnastics Northwest participated at the Oregon State Championships for Women's Gymnastics in Corvallis, OR in mid March. Johnson finished

second in her floor routine and Letourneau finished second on vault and third in her floor routine. "I felt like I was flying" Johnson said.

•This winter, senior **Donovan Humphrey** competed for the Sheldon High School bowling team. They participated in USBC Oregon State league, and finished their season as fourth in state.

# BEHIND THE WHEEL *Racing is a Bloom family tradition at Cottage Grove Speedway*

Hunter Bloom

STAFF WRITER

Family fun. When you hear this you might expect a trip to the zoo or to a family fun center, but you might not think of a whole Saturday spent at a race track with loud cars roaring and fans cheering as cars are speeding around the track.

My family has been a racing family for many years and have always found our "family fun" at a local dirt track: Cottage Grove Speedway. It's a place where we go every Saturday in between March and October. If we aren't there on a Saturday, we are at another race track racing or watching others race.

Bloom Family Racing is the name of our family racing team that started in 2016. We race as a hobby, not as a job. We started with only 15 family members and one race car and have grown substantially. My cousin, Austin Bloom, is the crew chief of a dirt modified back East and has been doing it for quite a few years. A lot of our knowledge on race car driving careers comes from him.

My dad, Tony Bloom, started BFR. He and I both love the family aspect of racing. "The best part of being involved with Bloom Family Racing is that it provides a format in which it brings generations of family together while allowing them to celebrate together,

suffer together and build together. Family is the foundation of BFR and not racing as most people would think. With six cars and over 40 family members regularly participating we are able to have family reunions weekly and not yearly," Bloom said.

Every Saturday when the skies are clear, I have the chance to race. Racing is a feeling that is hard to describe. It is a feeling of isolation. No one is breathing down your back about something you aren't doing right. It is just you and your car. This feeling is what keeps people in the sport and doing what they love.

I drive what's called a street stock. It is a 1983 Cutlass that has been transformed into a dirt track car with a Monte Carlo body on it. The suspension and motor make it nearly impossible to drive on the streets because it is set up to turn left, not to turn right.

The feeling of driving a "street stock" is comparable to driving 70 mph in mud while turning a sharp left and trying not to spin out and hit anybody. If you can manage to do this for an entire race with 24 other cars there, you might stand a chance surviving a Saturday night at Cottage Grove Speedway.

My uncle also races street stocks with me, we race against each other but compete as a team. We challenge and make each other

better knowing only one of us can win. My uncle's favorite thing to say is "family first" since he is a huge family guy. Not only is he a great uncle, but also a great teammate and race car driver.

BFR became a way of getting our 'ginormous' family together and spending more time together. We have never thought about turning this into a career, but we plan to continue this hobby for as long as possible.

Racing can be turned into a career but is extremely difficult and we would never be able to do it on the West Coast because there is not enough prize money so we continue it as a hobby.



Senior Hunter Bloom holds a first place trophy and check. Photo Courtesy by Hunter Bloom

84

Number of runs scored by the baseball team

6

Midwestern League Championship streak by the tennis team in years

40

Goals scored so far this season by boys lacrosse

10

Most goals scored by a girls Lacrosse player in one game

# STUDENTS OF THE ISSUE

## FRESHMEN

### MICHELLE JONES

**If you could be one Greek god or goddess who would you be and why?**

"Athena, because she is the goddess of wisdom."

**If you could go back in time, what would you have told yourself on your first day at Marist?**

"Relax and be yourself."

**What is your favorite line from any song and why?**

"It is well with my soul", because it's simple but meaningful."

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

"Spring, because it's when all the flowers bloom."



### JACK THORNTON

**If you could be one Greek god or goddess who would you be and why?**

"Poseidon, because he is a beast."

**If you could go back in time, what would you have told yourself on your first day at Marist?**

"Don't tell Mr. Nelson that your name is Jackie Chan."

**What is your favorite line from any song and why?**

"Let it go", from "Let It Go" because it helps me let stuff go."

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

"Getting a 'W' in Fortnite, because it makes me feel successful."

## SOPHOMORES

### JARED CHARBONNEAU

**What is your favorite meal of all time and why?**

"Pizza!"

**If your pet could talk, what do you think they would say to you?**

"Give me attention!"

**Finish the sentence: There is nothing like...**

"...playing golf."

**What was your favorite stuffed animal as a kid? Do you still have it?**

"A sock monkey, because it had an Oregon sweatshirt. Yes."



### GABBY ANGELASTRO

**What is your favorite meal of all time and why?**

"Pizza, pasta, sushi. I like all food."

**If your pet could talk, what do you think they would say to you?**

"You're my favorite."

**Finish the sentence: There is nothing like...**

"...a good nap."

**What was your favorite stuffed animal as a kid? Do you still have it?**

"A stuffed cat. My mom gave it away and I'm still mad about it."

## JUNIORS

### CELINE CAUTHORN

**What is your favorite memory from any of your classes this year?**

"I tripped over a stool in astronomy during the first week of school."

**What is the best lame joke you know?**

"Why are frogs always happy? Because they eat everything that BUGS them!"

**If you were to perform in the circus, what would you do and why?**

"I'd be a midget handing out balloons, because I'm short and like balloons."

**What is one thing you know, but you think most people don't?**

"Platypuses sweat out milk to feed their babies."



### LOCHLAN VAUGHAN

**What is your favorite memory from any of your classes this year?**

"When my English teacher didn't show up for 25 minutes."

**What is the best lame joke you know?**

"Your mom."

**If you were to perform in the circus, what would you do and why?**

"Trapeze, it's pretty sick."

**What is one thing you know, but you think most people don't?**

"The mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell."

## SENIORS

### ANDRES LOPEZ

**What is your dream college and why?**

"I would say UO because it has the best track program."

**Who is the most inspiring person at Marist and why?**

"Mr. Ragan because he is full of knowledge."

**If you had a personalized license plate what would it say and why?**

"IDK777". I had no clue how to answer this."

**If you had to lose one of your five senses, which would you give up and why?**

"I would get rid of my smell. While I'm writing this answer I'm smelling something nasty."



### SAVVY DIMERCURIO

**What is your dream college and why?**

"UCSD because I was born for the Californian life."

**Who is the most inspiring teacher at Marist and why?**

"Mrs. G because she somehow puts up with us in the most loving way."

**If you had a personalized license plate what would it say and why?**

"Personalized license plates are for Californian rich people."

**If you had to lose one of your five senses, which would you give up and why?**

"Smell, because everything else is absolutely necessary and I love food too much."

# REVIEWS

DINNER FOOD



Located in the 5th Street Market, Sushi Pure is a great dine out for any day of the week. Best known for

their yummy purple rice, this lunch and dinner restaurant offers many types of Japanese cuisine such as sushi rolls, sushi towers, bento boxes, sashimi, nigiri and many vegetarian options.

While Sushi Pure can always be the go-to for a casual night out, Prom is a great time to treat yourself and your friends!

Last year I went with my boyfriend and another couple before prom. We were all dressed up in our gowns and

tuxes, but we didn't feel out of place. Five minutes after we ordered, a man walked up to our table and gave us three words of advice. First, he told the guys to treat us girls well; next, make sure the girls have a good Prom night and lastly that one day, when we all are able to, do what he was about to do. Then he paid our bill and tip. Easy to say, that amazingly kind gesture definitely made our night!

-Sarah Cavinee

MOVIES



I read the book *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline during my freshman year and loved the fantastic virtual-reality based world, so I had high expectations when I went to see

the film last Friday night.

I was thoroughly blown away. The movie centers around Wade Watts (Tye Sheridan), known as Parcival in the OASIS. The OASIS, where humanity spends their days, is a virtual universe that combines all matter of pop culture. Watts competes against thousand of other "gunters" who aim to solve the three-part contest set by the deceased OASIS creator, James Halliday (Mark Rylance), to win Halliday's half a trillion fortune. The film is filled with Easter eggs—small and large—from King Kong cameos, to a scene set entirely in the hotel from *The Shining*, that make the film enjoyable from beginning to end.

From the book, I knew that about 75% of the story took place in virtual reality but I didn't know how director Steven Spielberg was going to pull that off. Spielberg surpassed all expectations I had. The world he created was mostly CGI-based but had just the right splash of reality. I was utterly enchanted with the diversity of the CGI "avatars" that took the place of traditional figures we see on screen. Not to mention the film was tied together by an 80s-centric soundtrack that the audience can rock out to as they follow the face-paced adventure of this alternate-reality cinematic ride.

-Maddie Louie



# Letters to the Editors

Dear Ivonne,  
Are you a fan of Michael Jordan?  
From, Michael Jordan

Dear Mr. Jordan,  
I'm not even sure you were really that good...  
Sincerely,  
Ivonne

Dear Maddie and Megan,  
How is your day going?  
From,  
Curious Bystander

Dear Curious Bystander,  
It's going great! Today is Katie Mersino's 16th Birthday and Sydney Evans' 18th Birthday. We just want to wish them a very Happy Birthday and tell them we love them!  
Sincerely,  
Maddie and Megan

Dear Sarah,  
Is the hat part of Jackson's head?  
From, all of his teachers

Dear all of his teachers,  
Yes, he suffers from severe separation anxiety when he doesn't have a hat on.  
Sincerely,  
Sarah

Dear Cameron,  
Is a macaroni salad actually a salad?  
From,  
Mack R. Oni

Dear Mack,  
Salad is a very loosely defined category, unlike a sandwich. I believe it is but what a salad is is up for debate.  
Sincerely,  
Cam

Dear Megan,  
Can electric eels be used to power third world countries?  
From, Deep Thinker

Dear Deep Thinker,  
It would be pretty shocking if they could.  
Sincerely,  
Megan

Dear Claire,  
Why Washington?  
From,  
The Rest of the Pac 12

Dear Rest of Pac 12,  
I think the final score to last season's UW vs. Oregon game can sum this question up: 38-3. Also, free college.  
Sincerely,  
Claire