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THE SPARTAN SPEAR

FEBRUARY 14, 2023

MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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KEEPERS OF THE CHARISM



Bro. Brian Poulin, Matt Fallon, Maureen Hagan, Bro. Hank Hammer and Bro. Owen Ormsby lead a retreat last Friday. Photo by Natalia Zreljak '15.

Sophie Mahalak
STAFF WRITER

While the students of Marist enjoyed a day off of school last Friday, the staff spent the day learning about the Marist charism of “making Jesus known and loved” in the way of Mary.

The five guests who led the staff through a day of presentations, reflections and discussions on what it means to be Marist were Provincial Council members, Bro. Owen Ormsby and Bro. Hank Hammer, the Director of Marist Youth Matt Fallon, the Director of Lay Marists Maureen Hagan and Bro. Brian Poulin.

The Brothers, who ran the school from 1968-1994, left Marist in 1994, so the visit to our campus helped many members of the staff feel more connected to our Marist roots. “It was wonderful, I’m really excited about our reconnection,” theology teacher and Campus Minister Julie Ferrari said. “They really embody the charism and spirit of the Marist order.”

The word Marist means “one who is like Mary.” Marcellin Champagnat the founder, modeled his mission of teaching youth after Mary because she was someone who lived with compassion and faith. “It’s about living a life of simplicity, being present to others and doing the work that needs to be done,” Ferrari said.

The retreat ended at 6 p.m. with a feast of paella, just in time to watch the Marist girls and boys varsity home basketball games.

TOGETHER AGAIN

Catholic schools across the nation celebrate Catholic Schools Week



Six priests from around the community walk down the aisle towards the altar to open the 2023 All Schools Mass. Photo by Greenley Robinson '23

Alex Chávez
EDITOR

It was good to be together again! Two weeks ago – after a two year Covid pause – Marist, St. Paul and O’Hara along with Catholic schools worldwide celebrated the 49th annual Catholic Schools Week.

The three local schools are part of a long tradition of Catholic schools that educate and form students with a dedication to faith, excellence and service as highlighted in this year’s global theme for Catholic Schools Week.

The last week of January every year is set aside to honor the 62.2 million students globally getting a Catholic education from preschool to secondary level, according to a 2020 global report. In the United States alone there are over 6,000 Catholic schools.

On the cold, sub-freezing Monday morning of Catholic Schools Week students were greeted with donuts, passed out by Student Council acknowledging the start of the celebratory week and thanking students and staff for being part of a Catholic education system.

Wednesday morning brought unexpected heavy traffic to Marist as cars from the two other Catholic schools lined up all the way to Beltline to enter the parking lot to drop their children off for Mass, making many Spartans late for class and delaying the start of Mass.

“I love having O’Hara, St. Paul and Marist come together to be one community on this one particular day. It’s a great way to celebrate together,” said Stacey Baker, Assistant Principal of Student Life & Culture.

O’Hara students piled into the AC while St. Paul students waited in the 100 wing hallway to anticipate the start of Mass.

As students from the two schools climbed up and sat on either side of the bleachers or on the floor in front of the altar for the start of Mass, Spartans sat on chairs on the floor of the gym. The stage was opened up to create space for a combined choir from all three schools, and six priests from around the community joined in this celebration as well.

Fr. David Cullings gave the homily making it fun and engaging for students of any age, bringing in Paw Patrol references to



Fr. Dave gives his Paw Patrol homily about “putting on the gloves” to serve our community. Photo by Abigail Schombert '24

explain our duty to service for others. With a Paw Patrol hat on his head, Father Dave emphasized the importance of working to create a better world, using gardening gloves as a prop to show how we need to get our hands dirty to create that positive change the world needs.

FIXER UPPERS ... ELLIOTT STYLE

Students use science to improve the Marist campus

Rachel McConaghie
EDITOR

There’s a new class on the block! Created by science teacher Ryan Elliott, the year-long course Applied Science and Design was created to find things around campus that can be fixed, upgraded or monitored involving scientific principles.

“We go around the school and look at certain things that might need to be fixed, so if you see kids walking around campus during 4th period, it’s not that we are doing nothing, we are walking around to find something for us to fix,” senior Alex Carmack said.

“This has been a brain child of

mine for a while. I’ve kind of wanted to do something like this and now we’re doing it for the first time,” Elliott said.

The class is currently working on a project to collect rainwater off the softball dugouts using wooden frames and barrels to gather water for the adjacent garden run by science teacher Ryan Moser.

The class has also conducted a data analysis of what meals students preferred and new options they would like to see on this year’s lunch menu provided by Campus Cuisine which took the place of the previous hot lunch program. It only provides

lunches on Tuesdays and Thursdays with food from local vendors. The class helped increase sales when their survey feedback was considered and Jersey Mike’s Subs was added to the list of vendors kids could order from.

Other projects students have completed so far are an energy audit of the campus buildings and an extensive erosion analysis of the senior parking lot to understand why the current system is not properly draining.

Looking to the future, Elliott hopes to have the class assess the areas directly surrounding the newly renovated track to determine how best to keep debris off of it.



Senior Alex Carmack, junior James Harvey and seniors Nick Biagi and Oliver Tracer, lift up the rainwater collection barrels on the frame. Photo by Toni Cooper

NEWS briefs

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Marist Foundation Scholarship Committee awards 75 annual scholarships to current freshmen through juniors! Awards range between \$500 and \$2,500 and require an application to be filled out by midnight Feb. 21. Several scholarships are selected by administration for graduating seniors which will be announced at graduation and do not require an application. See Schoology for more information.

CULTURAL SPOTLIGHT

Student Council will continue to plan the celebration of cultures that make up the Marist community. Mexico and Lunar New Year are among the cultures and traditions that have been honored. If you want to highlight a culture or honor a tradition, contact Mrs. Wirth at bwirth@marisths.org.

SPRING MUSICAL

Marist Theatre will be performing *Godspell* this spring! *Godspell* presents a unique and contemporary view of Jesus from the 70s set to music with a comedic twist. Senior Isaac King will be playing Jesus and a host of great voices will be playing the Apostles. The show runs for two weekends: Mar. 3 & 4 and on Mar. 10 & 11. Put it on your calendar!

RETREATS

The Sophomore Boys Journey Retreat is happening next week! To enjoy a relationship building weekend, contact Mrs. Ferrari through Schoology. The Winter Women's Encounter is happening in one week!

MR. AND MS. SPARTAN

The Mr. and Ms. Spartan team has been assembled and has begun planning fundraisers to raise money for Children's Miracle Network to support the babies in our local NICU. Look for information on the annual Spartan Dance which will most likely be held in the cafeteria on Mar. 17. The Spartan Pageant will take place on Apr. 15 at 7pm. It will be a night of fun and entertainment - mark your calendars!

2022-23 SPARTAN SPEAR STAFF



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UNITED BY THE MARIST NAME



Marist students from across the nation take a picture at the Marist Youth Leadership Camp in Crownpoint, Indiana last August. Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Tucker '24



Elizabeth Tucker

STAFF WRITER

Around the world, the Marist Brothers are working to develop young leaders through Marist Youth. Marist USA has hosted camps and conferences for Marist Youth participants within the Marist High School communities to gather, network, apply their leadership skills and learn more about their shared faith.

"Marist and Marcellin's charisms are not unique to the Marist school in particular that we attend – it is worldwide," said Stacey Baker, Marist's Assistant Principal of Student Life and Culture and retreat moderator.

"Marist Youth helps bring together the youth in Marist schools throughout the country – to have that feeling and to see that this is bigger than just ourselves. It's not just little Marist Eugene."

In the United States, Marist Youth holds two conferences each year that Marist Eugene has attended since 2021.

The first conference each year has been during the second semester of the school year and brings together student and faculty representatives from the various North American high schools at the Marist Brothers Center in Esopus, New York. This trip is offered to selected juniors over Memorial Day weekend. Director of Campus Ministry and Faith Formation at Marist Eugene, Dr. Rick Martin, calls the event, "A celebration with lots of conference and spirituality stuff and just ways to grow and meet people and have fun."

The second Marist Youth U.S. Conference meets over the first week in August and until this year has been held at the Connect Christian Camp outside Crown Point, Indiana. As Dr. Martin explains, the conference offers "a pretty good shot of leadership development and skills for the group of rising juniors that attended both for their sake for utilization back at school and specifically then they would design and run the Marist

'We are Youth Retreat' for freshmen."

In addition, some students and faculty members have attended conferences designed to foster the connection between the various Marist schools and discuss a wide range of topics concerning the Marist school community. For example, some Marist students from around the country have started a Marist Youth ecology group that focuses on how their school communities can have a positive impact on the environment. "What stands out to me the most is how vast the Marist community is worldwide and how there is a big desire to take action against current world issues," said junior Austin Murray. Murray is a member of the Marist USA ecology group that has met multiple times over Zoom.

Marist Youth is about more than just Marist Eugene. It's about something much bigger: our touch on the world, what we want to leave behind as Marist students and the lives we live as part of the community.

Looking for the Roots

The Rose Club discusses local issues



The Rose Club members gather after a recent meeting. Photo courtesy of Jet Sims '23



Kaylynn Guevara

STAFF WRITER

Rose Club, one of the many new clubs this year, was founded by seniors Evan Hackstadt and James Warner who are striving to make a place where meaningful discussions about civic issues in the Eugene area can happen. Government and theology teacher Alice Meyer is moderating the club.

The club, which used to be known as Students for a Democratic Society, works by informing its members on how to look for "radical" solutions on issues within our community. Warner said he likes the word "radical" because it comes from the word, root, like a tree root. He hopes the club can talk about the root of problems as opposed to just the symptoms.

If you want to join Rose Club, you'll have leaders who care about the mission of the club which is to address the community's socioeconomic issues through education, discussion and service. "The club is an opportunity to at least raise awareness and educate ourselves and our peers about injustices, sometimes from a new perspective," Hackstadt said.

"We're all kind of hoping that we can just create an impact on our community and a lasting one," senior member Jet Sims said. Rose Club is looking for more members who want to make a difference and who will help grow the strength and size of the club so it can flourish for many years to come.

ADDRESSING THE SITUATION

Speaking out on the insanity of gun violence in America



James Warner

STAFF WRITER

Marist has announced that it will no longer be using ALICE – Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate – training which Marist has done since 2015 and will be transitioning to Standard Response Procedure which is used by Eugene Police and other schools in our area.

For students, this change means very little. Drills will mostly be the same, but the training will now combine our natural disaster and active shooter responses into one set of common commands. This will put all of the local schools on the same page and make responses easier to learn, practice, and use effectively, instead of just preparing for active shooters.

But there's an underlying bizarreness about all this.

"I think it's a good thing to have [training] for our students. But the problem with it is that it's kind of scary at the same time, because it's like you're training kids for a school shooting like it's a normal situation," senior Dante Thanhardt said.

Our society has elected to treat mass shootings like natural disasters, as if they're unpreventable acts of chance – rather than directly address their causes.

To second amendment defenders, nearly everything in the U.S. contributes to gun violence. Many American politicians have proposed that mass shootings are caused by violent video games,

ADHD medication, lack of church attendance, social media bullying – anything but the close to 400 million guns in U.S. circulation reported by the Small Arms Survey in 2018.

The Gun Violence Archive – an online non-profit that collects police incident reports to rack mass shootings – reports that as of Feb. 1 there have already been 53 mass shootings where four or more people have been shot. Each one is terrible and tragic, yet hardly surprising anymore.

In 2021, the United Nations reported that the United States had a homicide rate of seven people killed per 100,000. Canada's rate, by contrast, was two per 100,000. Australia was one. We've all heard statistics like these, but they too begin to blend in like white noise in the background humming of America.

There is a creeping normalcy of mass shootings as America grows incapable of shock, inured by the suffering of families and communities. A recent poll, taken by YouGov, found that 20 percent of all Americans think that mass shootings are simply unpreventable. And if we don't rethink our response to shootings, they're right.

Currently, we are trapped in a cyclical conversation: the massacre, shock, grief, vigils, funerals, FBI investigations, broken communities, protests and familiar arguments – all a part of a hideous routine only to be repeated all over again after the next horrible tragedy.

People care. But what changes?

EDITORIAL

SCIENCE IS COOL

BY KAYLYNN GUEVARA

Teaching isn't enough to feed science teacher Renee Cool's addiction to learning, so she has gone back for seconds. Cool will be graduating in the spring of 2024 from University of Nebraska at Kearney with her second master's degree, her first being in science education and the current one in biology.

"During 2020 I was stuck at home, so I started looking at graduate programs. And when I took over AP Biology, I knew that I hadn't studied biology for a long time – I've obviously kept learning stuff – but it seemed like a good time to kind of go back because our understanding of genetics and molecular evolution and other stuff has really increased since I finished college. But also I love it! It's really fun," Cool said.

Currently she is taking two classes, teaching five and is the assistant swimming coach. She found it natural to help the swim team even with her packed schedule because of her love of the sport. Cool lives in Albany which is a fifty minute drive away. To fill the long drives Cool listens to audiobooks and podcasts, subjects ranging from science fiction to random podcasts about medicine and pop culture.

She finds that she functions better when her schedule is full even though it can be stressful at times. "I often find myself laughing at myself because all the things that I tell [students] not to do – like, don't worry too much about your grades – and I find myself not following my own advice very well," Cool said. "But I definitely think it gives me a nice perspective into what my students are going through a little bit more than I probably had before," she continued.

To deal with the stress that comes with her schedule, in the little free time she has lately, she likes to embroider and has recently started crocheting little stuffed animals with her son Ben. When asked if she has any current plans of getting a job closer to home she said no, that she likes living in a different community from where she teaches. She jokes that she's afraid to see her students at the grocery store.

Even with the long drives, and the irritation of slow drivers in the left lane, it is unlikely Cool will be moving any closer given her ties to the town of Albany. Her husband's family, the Knox's and the Haight's have lived there since the 1800s. The name Cool, however, comes from her husband's grandfather who moved here from Nebraska.

She was also asked if she thought getting a PhD was in her future and be Dr. Cool. "Mr. Elliot keeps telling me I should just so I can actually sound really cool," she replied.

THE GIRL BEHIND THE CAMERA

A new opportunity for Senior Rachel McConaghie at Fox Sports



BY RACHEL MCCONAGHIE

What started as a hobby has turned into a career for me.

I was approached in December by counselor Shari Pimental who was contacted by Marist 1996 grad Libby Mills who works for the NFL Grab-It Flag Football in regards to a student video challenge. Aware of my passion for storytelling through video making, Ms. P knew I would be a great fit.

They chose me from the 25 applicants because of my experience creating sports highlights and school event videos on campus. I used this to my advantage and was able to send them the Marist Newspaper YouTube link where we post the videos. When I got the call from Libby that I won I was ecstatic.

I was also able to secure an internship with KLSR-TV through my connection with Libby. After a few weeks, I have just completed a public service announcement for NFL Grab-It Flag Football that is airing on KLSR-TV. All footage was shot and edited myself and created the script with the help of my mentor at KLSR, Rob Reynolds.

If I've learned one thing, it's that reading off a teleprompter after many attempts gets very aggravating.

As I continue these PSA's they will inform the community about opportunities for kids to get involved in sports.

This opportunity is very exciting for me. I hope to continue my internship with KLSR-TV as I plan to attend the University of Oregon in the fall to study journalism.

THE MEANING OF OUR MOTTO

Just what does Marist's 'We Are One' motto mean 50 years after being coined?

 **Elizabeth Tucker**
STAFF WRITER

You may be wondering what does "We Are One" mean and where does it come from? Well, the answer is fairly simple: The Bible.

The phrase comes specifically from John 17:10-12: "All I have is Yours, and all You have is Mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, protect them by the power of Your name--the name You gave me--so that they may be one as We are one."

It is likely that most of the current students at Marist do not know that the "We Are One" motto, that is now so ubiquitous, traces its origins at Marist back 50 years to our first state championship football team. In 1973, Coach Rich Schwab adopted the phrase that one of his players had quoted as a way to inspire his team with the shared vision and purpose that he found in John's Gospel.

That 1973 football team enjoyed a special season, winning every game and bringing home a state championship trophy. Now that simple inspirational phrase repeated by that one team unites and inspires students, families and staff in all aspects of campus life from clubs to sports, to

the classroom and especially at Mass.

"We Are One" has transcended its simple beginnings. The motto today has been integrated into the core of Marist life. It is a remembrance of the people before us, and of the life that we as Marist students hopefully want to live.

After surveying a cross section of Marist students, parents, teachers and alumni on what "We Are One" means to them, it is clear many see "We Are One" manifested but in different ways throughout their daily life.

Some point to seeing and feeling the unity of Marist in the community as a whole – both in and out of school. "To me, when I think about 'We Are One', the image of a patchwork quilt comes to mind. Made out of many wonderful diverse elements, when put together, they become something beautiful and capable of providing comfort and warmth," new theology teacher Randy Derrick said.

Over half of those surveyed stated that "We Are One" is relevant to them as athletes. So even as the motto has been adopted by the greater school, it still holds true to its roots in athletics. "I think of 'We Are One' as how everyone helps each other. Like during football everyone is always helping each other and it turns into a brotherhood," junior Sam Keen said.

Although for many the motto connotes unity, others are

quick to point out that "We Are One" doesn't have just one meaning or definition.

Some said it means that we're all connected not just as friends but as a family, a community and a team. "It means that my children will find community at their school." Marist parent Tricia Schroffner said. Some just said that the motto meant happiness.

Many said that "We Are One" works at a larger level than just our current school community in order to make the world a better place. Junior Luke Jaspers feels it is "being part of a larger united community and having people outside of your family being close to you and relating to you."

"If you join the Marist community it lasts a lifetime," Marist graduate Ben Salm '77 said. Salm visited Marist last fall to have lunch with the students involved in Marist Youth.

Principal Bob Fraley aptly encapsulated many of the responses that see the meaning of "We Are One" as a school community united in creating a place where all are welcome.

"To me I think mostly it means we are one family and it really stresses the importance of us looking out for one another, taking care of one another, and respecting one another. I think that's really what it means. And the more we can do that as a community, the better our community, and the stronger our community is going to be," Fraley said.

HAPPIEST PLACES ON EARTH

By Alex Chávez

In a big city, there is a small breakfast restaurant that serves the world's best coffee and according to my sister, the world's best pancakes. Cafe Verde is located on Green St. in South Pasadena, LA and is lined with ficus trees shading the pavement with a greenish shadow that reflects well with the name of the street and the restaurant. Maybe it's the cinnamon in the coffee or the bright yellow walls where pictures of customers and photographs of old Los Angeles hang, but this is the happiest place on earth – at least according to me. It is a location I think of in times of confusion or stress.

We all have special places where we go to escape, feel at peace or just enjoy the people around us. These are our own happy places. For some, it's our rooms where we curl up in our beds and hide underneath layers of blankets. For others, it's a tree hidden deep in the woods where we go to escape the hustle of everyday life.

Sometimes our happy places aren't actually places. Sometimes they are people. Freshmen Alyssa Witt and Skyla Roberts feel most happy wherever their friends are – laughing, creating memories, and simply enjoying each other's company. History teacher Jon Nuxoll identified Priest Lake, Idaho as his happy place. In northern Idaho lies a lake so clear it looks like glass, surrounded with tall green trees, making the space a private haven. At night when the sun sets, the stars come out, dotting the sky with thousands of bright lights. This place brings Nuxoll tranquility as well as memory. A childhood vacation spot, Priest Lake has been a source of his joy for many years. The ski lift up Mount Bachelor looking across the snow covered mountain and white trees provides a sense of serenity for senior Henry Gonyea. Fueled by a long routine of weekend ski trips with family and friends, Gonyea identified this specific spot as his happy place.

In my time talking to various Spartans about their happy places, there was a common theme of memory that factored into what deems a space joyous. Every Christmas, sophomore Raith Huffman travels east to Sunriver to snowboard and spend time with his loved ones. These years of tradition have created a strong sense of bliss when he thinks of those memories.

For some, their happiest place on earth isn't actually on earth. Sometimes it's flying thousands of feet off the ground. Junior Haley Ross feels happiest on a plane riding above the clouds and looking at the world below her. It reminds her of how far we've developed in the world of science and technology. Our happy places can be different from person to person. And whether you feel happiest rising above the ground on a ski lift, or spending time with friends, these places in our lives provide us with the joy we seek from time to time.

WHAT'S THE EXCUSE THIS TIME?

The "best" excuses for being late brought to you by the front office sisters **Adriana Gardner & Fatima Mora Flores**

By Paige Doerr

"Alexa did not wake me up this morning. I don't know what happened."

"My guinea pig ate my homework."

"The dogs went loose and we tried to rein them in."

"A bird flew into our house. We don't know how it got in, and we were trying to get it out."

"Geese were sitting in the middle of the road to the school parking lot and we couldn't drive around them."

"I had to study for my pilot license."

"My cow was on my porch."



PETS WE LOVE

By Kaylynn Guevara



"I love Lila because she's very fluffy and sweet. Even though I love her I keep my distance, she's a little stinky."
- Greenley Robinson, senior



"I love my chicken Mocha the most because I got to pick her. I'm not saying she's better than my other chickens, but she is the cutest."
- Henry Brown, freshman



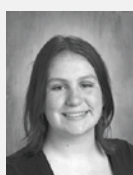
"I love my turkeys Neville and Ron, they aren't the cutest, but to me they are just a couple of big dumb adorable brothers. I watched them hatch and raised them by hand since then."
- Aidan Harpole, freshman



"Well I definitely can't choose which one I love the MOST but I've put a lot of time and effort into training my mustang Duke who used to be wild. He really trusts me now and the bond we share isn't like anything I've ever had."
- Kate Snodgrass, junior

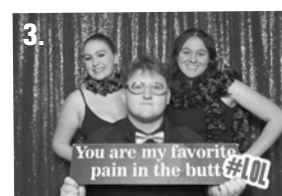


"I love how goofy and sweet Marcy is."
- Anastasia Horizon, junior



Where were YOU on February 4th?

On Feb. 4, Spartans danced, took pictures and embraced the Valentine's Day themed Winter Formal held in the main gym. Courtesy of the photobooth organized by Student Council, Marist students took some pretty fun photos, capturing the magic of the night.



1. Freshmen. 2. Freshmen Skyla Roberts, sophomore Raith Huffman and senior Rhysa Huffman. 3. Juniors Anastasia Horizon, Sam Keen and Kaylynn Guevara. 4. Sophomores Conor Thompson, Jackson Fort and Steen Swartley. 5. Freshmen. 6. Freshman Parker Doerr and seniors Jackson Gibeau and Paige Doerr. 7. Freshmen and sophomores. 8. Sophomores. 9. Freshmen Ava Snyder and Jake Peterson. 10. Seniors Luke Shah and Greenley Robinson. 11. Juniors. 12. Freshmen Alyssa Witt, Finley Schweigert and Skyla Roberts. 13. Juniors Christina Nguyen and Andrew Forsyth. 14. Senior Alex Chávez and freshman Dani Chávez.

LOVE ADVICE

BY JACKSON ANDERSON



Dear Cupid,
What's the best thing to get my s/o after I make them upset?
Love, don't wanna mess this up

Dear Cupid,
Should I get my girlfriend a promise ring for our first Valentine's Day?
Love, indecisive boyfriend

Dear Cupid,
Should I bring home flowers for my s/o often?
Love, avid gift giver

Dear Cupid,
If I've been dating my girlfriend for 4 years do I need to ask her to be my Valentine?
Love, Committed S/O

Dear don't wanna mess this up,
Personally, I buy mine clothes, but there have been a few times where I've bought her shoes for compensation for multiple times I did something wrong. Or I just bring her Starbucks.
Love, Cupid

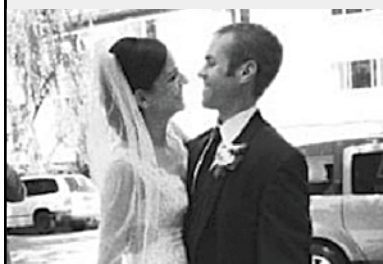
Dear indecisive boyfriend,
I feel like it kind of depends on how long you've been dating for. If it's been 822 months then maybe but if you're young and don't think it's gonna last don't waste your money here.
Love, Cupid

Dear avid gift giver,
No, you should get them alive flowers or plants a few times. Bouquets of flowers will just die eventually. Potted flowers will survive if you want them to.
Love, Cupid

Dear Committed S/O,
Valentine's day? Nah, ask them to celebrate Oregon's birthday with you!
Love, Cupid

HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER

BY ALEX CHÁVEZ



When Nicole met Mark:

In the summer of 2002, Profesora Mombell had recently graduated from University of Oregon. She lived with her best friend from Marist, Margaret, who had started graduate school for Architecture at UO. At a party they hosted for Margaret's new graduate school friends, Profesora met a guy with beautiful brown eyes and a cute Boston accent. Later that week they went swimming at Dorena Lake and talked for hours. Six years and many adventures later, they got married at the Newman Center in Eugene.

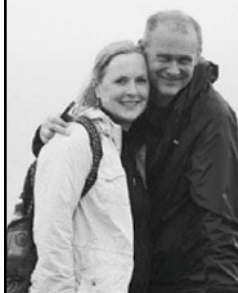
When McCall met Adrian:

They were both on the cross country team at Chico State but never talked, he was a senior -she was a freshman, until they met at their teammate's birthday party. That night he offered to walk her home and the following week they grabbed sushi and went to the batting cages. McCall remembers trying to hide the relationship from her family because he was so "old." When he proposed, Adrian invited their families and friends for a surprise engagement party, but her family arrived early, almost ruining the surprise. He popped the question on a walk with their dogs on Dorris Ranch and once they got home they were greeted by a crowd of happy well-wishers. They've now been together for over ten years and had their first child, Liam, a year ago.



When Andy met Toni:

Andy and Toni shared mutual friends during their first few years together at the University of Oregon, also naturally they became friends themselves. In the summer between their junior and senior year, they both stayed in Eugene, along with their friend Tom, to work and play while most of their friends went home. Andy said by that summer he had developed strong feelings for Toni, but didn't say anything to protect their friend group from any potential awkwardness. At the end of the summer, the three of them planned a camping trip but at the last minute Tom couldn't go. It was on that trip that Toni told Andy that she liked him and Andy admitted he felt the same. Once they got back, Toni's roommates and best friends told Andy he must be the real thing because she wouldn't stop smiling — "perma grin" they called it. That was almost 34 years ago!



When Becky met Bryon:

Becky and Bryon both worked at the then, brand new Safeway in Springfield. He was a checker and she was a bagger. Becky pronounced his name wrong for months mixing up the "r" and "y" saying By-ron whenever she addressed him. He never corrected her on the basis that he was just happy she was talking to him at all. They dated for a year before they got married. They just celebrated their 30th anniversary.



When Grant met Cara:

She was his then-girlfriend's roommate. At the time they were both in other relationships but spent a lot of time together in group settings. It was never the right time. She moved, he was seeing someone else, they were in separate schools. Finally, after three years of knowing each other, they started dating. 17 days later, as they sat on the couch watching a movie, Grant turned to her and told Cara they were getting married. She smiled and said "Good." Ten minutes later they had a date picked out. They've been married for 15 years.



FIRST DATE FOODIES

BY RACHEL MCCONAGHIE

Looking for a place to take your special friend? *Wink wink* We have some spots around town for you!

Senior editors Alex, Sophie and I visited three locally-owned restaurants – one for breakfast, lunch and dinner – to explore where you could bring that special friend.

♥BREAKFAST♥

We highly recommend The Vintage, a quaint restaurant and dessert bar for a sweet morning get together, located downtown at 8th and Lincoln in a charming old house. Toni Cooper, our journalism teacher, joined us for this excursion and highly enjoyed her Classy Creme crepe with added bananas. Sophie also enjoyed the Classy Creme which she described as decadent and tasty and filled with strawberries and vanilla custard, perfect for those with a sweet tooth. The others also enjoyed crepes that were delicious!

The service was excellent and it felt very homey. I could have spent my whole morning there just chatting with friends and if you are looking for a sweet or savory crepe, they've got you covered.

♥LUNCH♥

Wonder Wok, located on 11th and Chambers, is owned by the family of freshman Edison Yang. Prior to going, I reached out to him and learned that I most definitely needed to try the beef noodle soup. The recipe came from the city of Lanzhou, China where his family comes from. Lanzhou is famous for their hand-pulled noodles that are soft and found in a flavorful clear broth with tender beef.

Sophie enjoyed the sweet and sour chicken after shedding a tear from eating too much of the potsticker sauce which she said was too spicy but I found just right. To balance out the tangy chicken, we chowed down on chow mein and fried rice.

The restaurant is aesthetically pleasing and the service was great. It may be the best Chinese food in Eugene!

♥DINNER♥

We went to 1960 Cocina located on 18th and Willamette for dinner. "The environment is cozy and familiar and they use a lot of spice and flavor," Alex said.

We indulged in the Chorizo Queso Fundido that Alex recommended. This homemade starter is spicy sausage topped with a nice portion of melted cheese accompanied with fresh handmade tortillas. Our second starter was flautas similar to taquitos. "This dish reminds me of what my own family cooks and I think it's really well done," Alex said. For an entree I got Birria, a beef tri-tip slow cooked in adobo sauce. It was served with beans "de la olla" and Mexican rice. The beef is garnished with diced jalapeño and onion and of course with handmade tortillas on the side. I seriously could have eaten the homemade tortilla chips and guacamole forever.

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BOYS BASKETBALL



Overall record: 10-11

About: The varsity boys began their season playing multiple highly-ranked teams before they headed to their league games and are currently 10-11 but have won five of their last seven games. They are currently ranked No. 13 in OSAA 4A rankings. "I am proud because we started with challenging games to work and improve. It is cool to see the determination that leads to wins and successes in our league," coach Bart Pollard said. Their tough schedule this season has brought the team closer. "We have been resilient. There were several times throughout the season where we could have folded, but we didn't," senior Cooper Mullins said.

League Update: They are 4-2 in league and should take second in the Sky-Em League.

State: We will know if Marist qualifies for the state playoffs when the rankings freeze after tonight's game at home against Marshfield.

JV Update: The JV has an impressive winning record of 14-5 and is full of talented young athletes. Sophomores Nick Hudson, Dawson Reiling, Taylor Iverson and Christian Guerrero all swing up to compete with the varsity team to prepare them for next year. "I've enjoyed playing with my friends and the team dinners are great," Hudson said.

Freshman Update: The boys freshman team has a winning record of 13-4. "I am proud of my team for giving 100% effort to get better everyday," CJ Guistina said.

Top Left: Sophomore Nick Hudson shoots the ball. Photo by Kennedy Powell '25 Bottom Left: Freshman CJ Guistina protects the ball. Photo by Toni Cooper Right: Senior Cooper Mullins dribbles the ball. Photo by Jackson Anderson '23

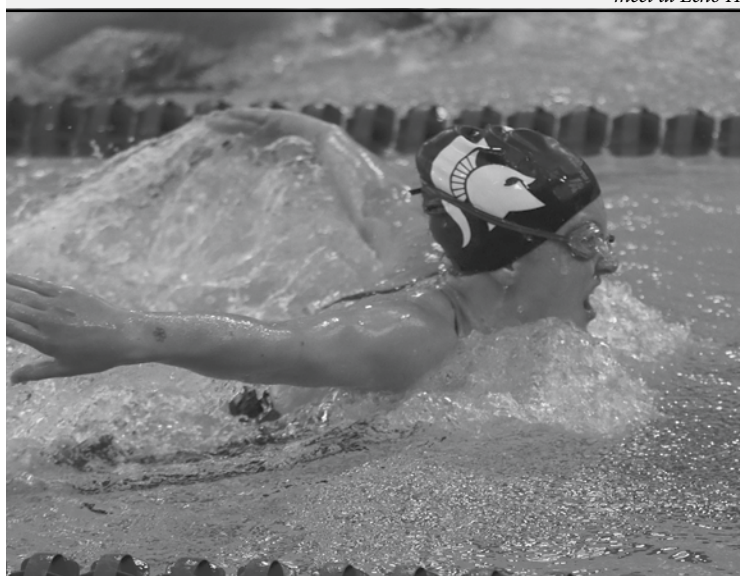


BOYS SWIM TEAM

About: The boys team is still having a very successful season. Districts last weekend proved that with lots of energy and a four year district champ title on the line, this team will not back down. Throughout the nine meets they participated in this season, it was apparent from the start there was tons of talent. A roaring crowd and no voices left for many of their teammates, the atmosphere during the 400 Free Relay at the district meet was insane. With a little over an 11 second gap between Marist in first from the rivals Sweet Home in second, the boys secured the 2023 Special District 4 Championship with only a ten point overall score separating the two teams. The state meet will be held at Tualatin Hills Aquatic Center in Beaverton this Friday and Saturday.

Senior team captain Kyler Lajoie led the team and will be attending state in all four of his events — two individual (backstroke and butterfly) and two relays. Lajoie's favorite is the 100 Backstroke where he set a school record last year. Senior Zac Hagengruber will be joining Lajoie at state in the 100 Backstroke. All three boys relays are going to state. Junior Micah Hugo also qualified in all his events and individually in the 500 free. Sophomores Michael Coffey, Luke Manning, Caleb Singleton and Jonathan McDonough will also be attending state for relays. McDonough will also be competing in the 50 free.

Senior Kyler Lajoie flies during the 200 IM at a home meet at Echo Hollow this season. Photo by Caleb Singleton '25



GIRLS SWIM TEAM

About: With only six girls on the team this season, and some minor injury setbacks, the girls team placed 4th at districts this past weekend. Sophomore Piper van Buskirk placed 2nd in the 200 IM and 1st in the 100 Butterfly and will be competing in the state meet. Freshman Hallie Walker will also be racing at state in the 100 Butterfly and 100 Backstroke after placing 3rd in both events. The Medley Relay placed 3rd but did not qualify for state. The state meet will be held at Tualatin Hills Aquatic Center in Beaverton this Friday and Saturday.

"I really enjoy the added camaraderie of the relay teams, like how we made our own handshakes and had the special rituals of the slapping and the straps. It was nice to see whatever you were swimming individually there as always at least one person cheering you on from the deck," senior Maddie Miller said. "This season has been super fun and I enjoyed practices more than ever as we played Connect 4 and dice games that our coach Alexis Krivchuk '04 would bring" senior team captain Rachel McConaghie said.

Sophomore Piper van Buskirk flies during the 100 IM at a home meet this season. Photo by Toni Cooper

BOYS & GIRLS



About: Marist competes with Sheldon, South Eugene, and Churchill on the Eugene ski team. They compete in giant slalom or slalom races, with most of the meets being held at Willamette Pass. The team is a part of the Oregon Interscholastic Ski Racing Society Association (OISRA) in the Emerald League. The Eugene Ski Team and the Sisters Ski Team will host state this year, which will be held at Hoodoo. Senior Colby Malpass is the only senior from Marist, and on January 28th of this year finished first place in the Emerald League giant slalom ski race at Willamette Pass. Last year he finished in the top 10 at State, and hopes to make it to regionals and even nationals this year.

Freshman Kate Papé skis in a slalom race. Photo by Dylan Mittleider '24



SKI BOYS & GIRLS

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Overall record: 15-5

About: Marist girls basketball has been adapting to a new coaching staff including three Marist grads. Meredith Laing '11 was hired as head coach and the assistant coaches include Dani (Krier) Laney '13, Sami Pitts '12 and Theresa Brown. "We are learning that everyone has a role and contributes. We've had different girls to step up all year and have truly come together as a team," Laing said. Leadership on all aspects have allowed this team to thrive on and off the court. The team is ranked No. 6 in OSAA 4A rankings. "It has been a big challenge adjusting to the change in coaching, but there has been great reward in overcoming that in our healthy team dynamic and relationship with each other," senior team captain Madison Holmes said.

League Update: 6-0. In order to win 4A Sky-Em League, the girls must defeat Marshfield today for the second time. If Marist loses they will play a third game against Marshfield and the winner will be named 4A Sky-Em League Champions.

JV Update: 13-3, Girls JV team has been working very hard this season and it shows. "I am proud of these girls because they have brought the intensity of each practice and game. It is fun to see their growth as individuals and as a team. The future is bright for this group of girls," Pitts said. The team is super young with six freshmen and only 5 sophomores. "I love how everybody is super supportive and encouraging," freshman Lila Bray said.

JV2 Update: While the team is 2-5 they are having fun and working together as a team to get better for years to come. "I'm really proud of my team for being able to come together and learn how to use our individual strengths to work as a team. I think that it's fun because I get to meet upperclassmen and become friends with people who we may not have been friends with before," freshman Finley Schweigert said.

*Top: Senior Madison Holmes holds the ball. Photo by Toni Cooper
Bottom left: Freshman Taylor Murphy protects the ball. Photo by Itahi Maciel Silva '24
Bottom right: Freshmen Lila Bray dribbles the ball. Photo by Kennedy Powell '25*



BLEACHER CREATURES

Paige Doerr
EDITOR

In December, seniors with a passion to show school spirit at sporting events started meeting with the new athletic director, John Dwyer, to form a new club: Bleacher Creatures.

Their mission will be to attend sporting events and take ownership of creating a positive environment in the student sections. They will also create themes, promote games on social media, and try to model good and appropriate sportsmanship. The first thing they did was decorate the gym for the basketball games before Christmas with wreaths, lights, garlands and trees with the help of counselor and volleyball coach Shari Pimental's mad decorating skills.

Senior member Jackson Gibeau said he would have hoped for even more spirit at his own football games this fall and has expressed his ideas to help improve the atmosphere.

"My goal is to bring a positive experience to underclassmen and create a tradition that they will carry on and also to make the



The Marist fans cheer on their teams in a festively decorated gym thanks to the Bleacher Creatures. Photo by Jackson Anderson '23

athletes feel supported in a sport that they love," Gibeau said.

It is going to take many more people to improve the atmosphere at Marist events and model the welcoming nature of our Marist mission. "We Are One" means that we want to make the athletes feel supported – even if that means we have to create incentives for kids to come to the games.

Many might say this means "we can't say anything for cheers." This is not the case. It is just going to take time and some collaborative creativity to come up with new cheers to make our own.

At the end of the year, the plan is to nominate underclassmen to continue the mission of modeling an atmosphere that is welcoming and fun for everyone.

FIRST TOURNAMENT FOR SPEECH & DEBATE UNDER THEIR BELT

James Warner
STAFF WRITER

Marist Speech and Debate, which is currently a team of four sophomores, competed in their first tournament late January in McMinnville against over 30 Portland area schools. No one made it to the final rounds, but the coach, Steve Barth, said he was proud of their progress.

The only returning member from last year, Jada Zeedyk, competed in Original Oratory giving a 10-minute speech she wrote. She also participated in Impromptu Speaking, where

competitors only have 30 seconds to prepare for a five-minute speech.

New members this year, Harley Hagan and Graham Hunt, both competed in Radio Commentary in which judges only listen to their voices, and Reed Sims competed in After Dinner Speaking, where he was expected to address a hot-button issue with humor to entertain the judges.

The team will compete next weekend, Feb. 18-19 at the University of Oregon. The team practices each Wednesday night from 7-8:30 p.m. in Room 317.

SPREAD YOUR WINGS

Senior Zac Hagengruber takes flight on his journey to become a pilot

Sophie Mahalak
STAFF WRITER

As the end of his senior year comes closer, Zac Hagengruber is ready for takeoff. Being a pilot has been his dream since middle school and now he's planning to go to the University of North Dakota to study aviation.

So how did it all start for him? Freshman year he met and became friends with 2022 Marist grad Logan Ruckwardt, who was also interested in becoming a pilot. They learned that they both grew up playing flight simulator games and connected over their interest in flying. Once Logan joined flight school, Zac became inspired to join as well.

His eyes lit up as he recounted his first flying experience. "The first time I flew a plane was April of 2021. The first flight is called the discovery flight. You go along with an instructor so you can get used to it. Once I had this experience I knew that was what I wanted to do," Zac said.

But getting a pilot's license is not easy. "It's quite a process, you have to get a medical certificate and other qualifications,

and you have to get many flying hours in different categories such as nighttime and cross country time which is more than 50 miles," Zac said. "Once you have all your requisite stuff done, it's a matter of studying for the final exam."

"The test was a total of probably six hours including an oral exam and a flight exam where I had to do a bunch of maneuvers and skills to show my proficiency," Zac said. "I made hundreds of note cards written front to back and annotated a big legal FAA book that talked about flight rules along with other methods of study." Zac passed his final exam and got his license on Oct. 25, 2022.

But getting a pilot's license was only the beginning. For Zac, and any other new pilot, being in the air as much as possible is very important. He described this past fall as difficult to manage his need to get hours flying with school, while also participating in cross country and swim team and going to the gym frequently.

As of now, Zac has flown to the border of Oregon and Washington near Scappoose and hopes to fly to Washington and maybe



Senior Zac Hagengruber leans against 1973 Cessna 172-M after receiving his private pilot lessons. Photo courtesy of Zac Hagengruber '23

Idaho this summer. Further down the runway, he hopes to be flying commercial international flights to places in Asia, such as Japan.

"As a private pilot, you can fly almost any single engine plane with certain horsepower limitations," said Zac who for now

flies mainly Cessna 117s or 152s.

Being in the air has become second nature for Zac. "It's almost like when you drive a car ... and you forget because it's just muscle memory. It's really cool when you can look out and see that you are actually flying," Zac said.

Students of the Issue

FRESHMEN

TAYLOR MURPHY

If you were an inventor, what would you invent?

"Flying cars."

How would you survive in a zombie apocalypse?

"Helicopter with extra fuel."

If you could replace all of the grass on the planet with something else, what would it be and why?

"Sand because it's fun to walk on."

Would you rather be forced to wear shoes every second of your life or never be able to wear shoes again?

"Forced to wear shoes."

STEPHEN RILEY

If you were an inventor, what would you invent?

"Time machine."

How would you survive in a zombie apocalypse?

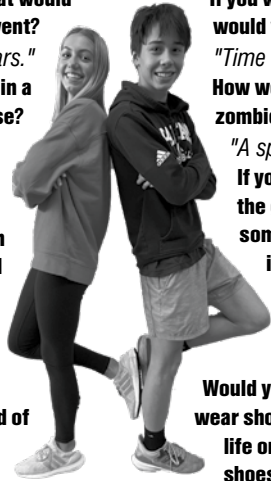
"A spiked bat."

If you could replace all of the grass on the planet with something else, what would it be and why?

"Turf because it looks like grass and it's easy to maintain."

Would you rather be forced to wear shoes every second of your life or never be able to wear shoes again?

"Forced to wear shoes."



SOPHOMORES

KATE FIRTH

Why is it that round pizzas come in square boxes?

"Because it's to blind you from all the grease."

If you could remove one color in the whole world, what would it be and why?

"Grey because there would be no grey sky (only blue skies)."

What's the worst tagline you can think of for marketing an iPhone?

"Eat an apple to get an apple iPhone."

What is your go-to movie when you need a mood boost?

"Mean Girls."

DANNY MOORE

Why is it that round pizzas come in square boxes?

"Cause it fits nice."

If you could remove one color in the whole world, what would it be and why?

"Yellow because it's too bright."

What's the worst tagline you can think of for marketing an iPhone?

"An iPhone a day keeps the android away."

What is your go-to movie when you need a mood boost?

"Lion King."



JUNIORS

HAILEY TRANK

If you could invent a holiday, what would it be?

"Speed bump day: No comment/context."

What is one of your interesting hobbies?

"I do medieval fencing, it causes lots of bruises and scrapes."

What color crayon would you choose to eat straight from the box?

"Lime green and purple — both seem toxic and I like toxic."

If life was a video game, what cheat code would you want to use most?

"Fly Code' in GTA it changes CJ's outfit to look 'fly.' The code is 'BEKKNQV.'"

JIMMY SMYTHE

If you could invent a holiday, what would it be?

"National airshow day to watch airplanes."

What is one of your interesting hobbies?

"I crochet stuffed animals for my younger siblings."

What color crayon would you choose to eat straight from the box?

"It would definitely be the gold and red crayons Burgerville would hand out with kids meals."

If life was a video game, what cheat code would you want to use most?

"65535, or the select button in the Gameboy tetris."



SENIORS

HONORA MATHISEN-LUND

Where do you see yourself in five years?

"Working as a paramedic."

If you were to be banned from your local library, what would be the reason?

"Forgetting to return books."

What's the most hilarious dad joke you've heard?

"I got a termite as a pet. I named him Clint. Clint eats wood."

What's one song that sums up your life?

"Too Much Information' by the Planet Smashers."

JACKSON COFFMAN

Where do you see yourself in five years?

"Taking a nap."

If you were to be banned from your local library, what would be the reason?

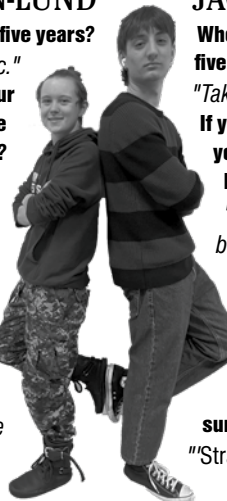
"Way too many overdue books."

What's the most hilarious dad joke you've heard?

"Dad, I'm hungry. Hi, hungry. I'm dad."

What's one song that sums up your life?

"Strawberry Fields' - Beatles."



JUST IN TIME FOR ♥'S DAY...

SOPHIE'S ROM-COM FAVS

BEST MOVIE TO WATCH WHEN YOU'RE SAD AND YOU WANT TO BE HAPPY: NOTTING HILL

Taking place in the picturesque neighborhood of London, England called Notting Hill, this film is the blueprint for any future rom-coms after its release in 1999. It follows a small bookshop owner named William Thacker (played by Hugh Grant) who's life is forever changed when famous movie star Anna Scott (played by Julia Roberts) wanders into his bookshop on Notting Hill.

Although Anna is a Hollywood actress seemingly living her dream, the audience will see that this is truly not the case. Notting Hill is this place where she can be herself with William, where their love is genuine unlike the fakeness of Hollywood.

Although the initial description of the movie makes it seem like any other cliché rom-com,

it fills in the usual cheesiness that makes some rom-coms unbearable with peaceful tranquility, treating the more difficult parts of the movie with sensitivity. The movie also has some funny parts, with interesting supporting characters that make the plot more heartfelt.

William is the one who falls for Anna first, despite her making the first move. As the film goes on we see Anna struggle with her feelings for him and despite the mistakes she makes which hurt him, viewers can't help but want them to end up together at the end of the movie. This shows us that despite the circumstances in their lives that seem to keep them apart, their love is worth fighting for and is strong enough to stand against their hardships.

BEST MOVIE TO WATCH WITH YOUR SIGNIFICANT OTHER: THE WEDDING SINGER

Set in 1985, this film follows a wedding singer named Robbie Hart (played by Adam Sandler) who is heartbroken when his fiancée leaves him at the altar. He meets Julia Sullivan (played by Drew Barrymore), an engaged waitress at one of the weddings he sang at, who enlists his help to plan her wedding. Unbeknownst to Julia, however, her fiancée is cheating on her, which he admits to Robbie.

Along the way Julia and Robbie's friendship begins to turn into something more, and although the plot is cheesy and predictable at times, the two characters are so lovable and will have you rooting for them to end up together the whole movie.

With Adam Sandler in this movie, there are so many funny moments that will make you laugh, as well as many sweet moments that will make you smile. This movie balances out the romantic and comedy elements perfectly, making it the perfect rom-com.

Due to miscommunication, Julia decides to marry her fiancée in a quick Vegas wedding, which Robbie is determined to stop. This movie culminates in one of the most grand gestures out of any rom-com I've seen, which you'll just have to watch to see for yourself! (Hint: it features Billy Idol)

BEST MOVIE TO WATCH AT A SLEEPOVER: SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Sweet Home Alabama finds Melanie Smooter (played by Reese Witherspoon) a fashion designer in New York City torn between her past and future as her current boyfriend, a politician named Andrew Hennings (played by Patrick Dempsey) proposes to her. Little does he know, Melanie is still married to her redneck high school boyfriend named Jake Perry (played by Josh Lucas).

Melanie travels back to her small hometown in Alabama to divorce him, and finally put her old life behind her, but has some unexpected experiences along the way. This causes her to question what she

really wants in her life, and who she wants in her life as well. This movie has endless southern charm and funny moments that make it entertaining as well as heartfelt.

It illustrates how the earliest times in our lives can have the biggest impact on our present selves and shows us how love is something we can't always control, no matter how hard we try to deny it. This movie has a sweet ending that is guaranteed to make you smile, and maybe imitate Reese Witherspoon's twang of a southern accent.

Letters to the Editors

Dear Paige,
Should juniors get off-campus privileges for 4th quarter?
Love, Tired of Sitting in the Cafeteria

Dear Tired of Sitting in the Cafeteria,
Junior year, I would have said yes. But now that I am senior, I say no.
Sincerely,
Paige

Dear Rachel,
What is one thing you can't live without?
Love, Vogue

Dear Vogue,
Gotta be my KKW contour.
Love,
Rachel

Dear Sophie,
Why are a lot of the seniors rejecting the senior parking lot this year?
From, Confused Rising Senior

Dear Confused Rising Senior,
I don't really feel like having to kayak to school, especially considering the one time I kayaked I fell into the water.
Sincerely,
Sophie

Dear Jackson,
What's your tip to avoid procrastination?
Love, Student Who Should Be Doing Homework

Hi Student Who Should Be Doing Homework, this is Toni, Jackson said his answer would be done by today yet here we are. So don't ask him.

Dear Paige,
If you were on "My Strange Addiction" what would you be on it for?
From, Hoarders.com

Dear Hoarders.com
My essential oils and its onion shaped diffuser.
Sincerely,
Paige

Dear Alex,
What's your go-to song to listen to in the car?
Love,
Musically Challenged Driver

Dear Musically Challenged Driver,
Between you and I, nothing hits more than "When Will My Life Begin" from the Tangled soundtrack.
Love,
Alex

