

The SPARTAN SPEAR *Online*

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 7

MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 30, 2018

Sports **UPDATES**

Girls Basketball
11/28 - Varsity vs. Corvallis W58-54
JV vs. Corvallis L31-32

Winter Sports Begin



Senior McKenna Williams dribbles down the court during Wednesday's game against Corvallis. Photo by Lydia Nelson '19

By Billy Christiansen

As the fall sports season has come to an end, winter sports are upon us.

Boys basketball has three team: varsity, JV, freshman. Seniors Chase Cutsforth, Max Whittaker, and Matthias Collins along with junior JJ Anderson are the returning members leading the varsity squad.

Varsity and JV girls basketball is back at it as well. Senior Madison Ficek, a Second Team All-League selection last year, and seniors McKenna Williams and Sydney Johnson, who were both Honorable Mentions last year, are leading the varsity girls into the new season. The team is hoping to repeat as State Champions but this year in our new 4A classification.

The cheer team will be back this season to support the basketball teams. Senior Haylee Kempf leading the team in her fourth season and also leads the new acro team.

Coach Ryan Elliott heads the boys and girls swim teams. Seniors Chris Allender, a state competitor last year, and Lydia Nelson are the team captains. Juniors Lauren Barry, Katie Thompson and Aubrie Ellison are the other returning state competitors.

Ski team returns to the slopes this season. They will be racing every Saturday from Jan. 5 to Mar. 2 at Mt. Bachelor and for one meet at Hoodoo.

THIS WEEK WITH...



KEEGAN

MAKING FRIENDS AT ST. BENNY'S



Lauren Englet flashes a wide smile as she's enthusiastically welcomed by retreat team leaders to St. Benedict's for her Junior Encounter. Photo by Daniella Giansante '19

First Women's Encounter of the year brings juniors together

By Jaden Spencer

The weekend prior to Thanksgiving, as the fall colors were emerging along the McKenzie River, 29 junior women went on their Encounter led by nine female senior leaders and seven staff members at St. Benedict's Lodge. The Encounters has a lasting tradition of secrecy, giving it a unique dynamic that changes many lives.

"The element of surprise really adds to the experience in that you're always on your toes. If I'm being completely honest, I was a little nervous to see what was coming next but I was always so relieved and happy with almost everything we did," junior Lauren Englet said.

The Encounter started Saturday morning and went until Monday afternoon, and many return with

a new outlook their lives. "I think I am a lot stronger in my faith after the Encounter, it really allowed me to come back with a more solid faith," junior Bella Zachem said. "I went into the Encounter hoping to make new friends outside of my usual friend group, and the girls in my group were amazing."

The Encounter is something that vastly contributes to the unique community of Marist. "It definitely helped me bond with my classmates and helped me to refocus on what's important," junior Ellie Gonyea said.

"It's one of the best things that's happened to me during my high school experience and has become such a positive memory for me now. There's nothing like learning to trust your classmates and laughing with your friends

about anything and everything, along with growing in your faith," Englet said. "I was someone who was extremely hesitant to go on the Encounter and had to literally be shoved onto the bus by my mom the day of."

"To juniors or underclassmen who have yet to experience their Encounter, all I have to say is GO," Englet added.

"Out of all the retreats I've lead this is the best group I've ever been apart of. All of the juniors gave 110% in all of the activities we lead them through," senior Rector Sara Weyant said. For sophomores and juniors interested in leading retreats and being apart of retreat team, applications will be available in the spring.

The second Women's Encounter will take place Feb. 23-25.

HELPING SOPHOMORES LOOK AHEAD



Senior Christian Leadership Class students sit in front of Heidi Sušec's sophomore theology class to answer questions about life as an upperclassman. Photo by Daniella Giansante

Seniors share their experiences to give perspective

By Mia Graves

On Tuesday this week, senior Christian Leadership Class students came into theology teacher Heidi Sušec's classes for a planned activity: Sophomore LIFE.

Sophomore LIFE is an organized conversation between seniors and sophomores for advice, recommendations and personal stories to help guide the underclassmen in their remaining years of high school.

CLC teacher and activity moderator Rick Martin chose a diverse selection of students for each sophomore class from those who volunteered to participate

in Sophomore LIFE. Six seniors were chosen for each of the five sophomore classes.

After starting off with a prayer, topics of conversation varied from getting a driver's license to social media and parent relationships. Seniors also shared experiences of their own, from taking AP courses to maintaining a healthy balance between school and home life.

"Sophomore LIFE really helped me have a sense of the future and prepare myself for the rest of the year. It was nice to learn from the senior's past experiences," sophomore Ellie Christian said.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Marist supersedes its goal, giving \$3,106 to the annual Five for the Feast fundraiser

By Kelly Schombert

Nov. 14 marked the kickoff of Marist's annual "Five for the Feast" outreach project, where every student and staff member is asked to donate \$5 to the Eugene Mission to help cover the cost of the Mission's Thanksgiving Day feast. Marist raised \$3,106 which helped serve a free meal to 800 people on the holiday. \$5 is the cost of one meal, hence the name "Five for the Feast."

The English department facilitates the outreach project by collecting money from the students in the classroom. Since every Marist student takes an English class, every student has a chance to participate. "Five for the Feast is our way of taking care of the less fortunate in our community," English teacher Becky Boyd said. "It really does go with the school's mission... to do the work that Jesus calls us to do, which is to take care of the marginalized."

"One of the things that I changed a little bit this year was trying to add a little bit more of an educational piece, so I asked all the English teachers to show a little video and to give a little bit more information so that the students and the families really understand what we're supporting," Five for the Feast Moderator Julie Ferrari said.

"One thing that's been touching for me... is the humble way that some people have really given generously and without trying to be noticed," Boyd said. The check from Marist was given to Jack Tripp, executive director at the Eugene Mission, the day before Thanksgiving.



Saba Samy and Delaney Pratt, whose families contributed greatly to Marist's donation, give check to Executive Director Jack Tripp at the Eugene Mission. Photo courtesy of Julie Ferrari