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MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Sports **UPDATES**

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Swimming:
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12/6 - at Lebanon: unscored



Sophomore Luke Eagen goes for the rebound in a JV game against Willamette last Friday. Photo by Jaden Spencer '19

WINTER WONDERLAND RETREAT



Sophomore girls spend weekend at Marist on first Journey Retreat of the school year

Junior retreat team leader Bella Zachem and sophomores Ava Eklund, Britten Johnson and Lindsey Sargent design their retreat poster. Photo by Toni Cooper

By Carsyn Oxenreider

Last weekend as the early December frost arrived, 21 sophomore girls embarked on the first of two Sophomore Girls Journey Retreat at Marist, alongside junior and senior retreat team leaders, to grow closer to both God and one another.

Marist states, “retreats are designed to help students, both individually and collectively to ‘retreat’ from their ‘normal’ everyday world, in order that they might better reflect back upon that world.” This was achieved through the retreat leaders giving talks, guiding small groups and directing activities throughout the weekend. “They talked about a lot of real stuff that happens in high school and it was very meaningful,” sophomore Sophia Bredbenner said.

Many made new friends that they will cherish throughout the years. “It was absolutely amazing. So much fun. I made tons of new friends. I can’t believe I even considered not going. There were games, food, jokes; and so much cool stuff. I loved it,” Bredbenner said.

The weekend rector was senior Katie Dunn with Julie Ferrari as the adult moderator. “I was extremely thankful for the opportunity to rector the sophomore retreat, especially for their trust in me as a first year team member. I had a great time growing in leadership with my fellow team members. While I wish I had a small group, it was very satisfying to be behind the scenes and watch all the planning and hard work unfold to form an amazing retreat,” Katie Dunn said.

For the retreat team members this was all their first year leading a retreat. “It was fun for me, it was really awesome to finally lead a small group because when I was a sophomore girl that was my goal afterwards. I really wanted to be there and be one of those people that talked to the kids about really anything the conversation lead into,” junior retreat team member Santanna James said. A handful of staff members helped set up for the event and the Christian Leadership class helped set up the dinner and music for Mass.

For many years now they have kept the decor theme for the retreat as ‘Christmas’. “I loved it - who doesn’t love Christmas?! It was so cozy and inviting. It just made school feel like a second home,” Bredbenner said.

THIS WEEK WITH...



SMASHING THE COMPETITION

Smash Bros. club prepares for their first Saturday tournament of the school year

By Keegan Pond

To compete to see who’s the best at the beloved party video game, Super Smash Brothers, Smash Bros. Club will host its third competitive



Freshman Hayden Shoemaker plays Super Smash Bros. with club members during a meeting on Wednesday. Photo by Sailor O’Hara ’20

tournament ever this Saturday, the first for this school year.

“It is a competitive game where players choose characters from a bunch of different video game series, and then they fight either one on one or in groups. It has a big following in competitive video games, which is a weird concept for a lot of people, but in competitive video games there are a lot of Smash Brothers tournaments,” said Senior Brandon Foster, the leader of Smash Bros. club this year.

Smash Brothers may be all fun and games, but setting up the tournament requires a lot of work. “It’s a lot more work than I thought it would be,” Foster said.

“We have to make sure that we have somewhere to hold it. And then we have to make sure that we have the consoles set up with the

games, and we have to get food, so we have to arrange how it’s gonna get there and how we’re gonna pay for it. Additionally, we need to make sure that we have tables, desks to sit at and that we respect the room. We need permission and we need to use the projectors,” Foster explained.

Compared to the tournaments, club meetings during school require a lot less setup. However, that’s not the only difference. “They’re very different. At the meetings, we play very casually. We’re not really competing with each other in any way, we’re all just playing the game together and having fun. The game supports up to eight players. For most of our meetings, we play in that format so everyone gets a chance to play. For the tournament it’s usually in a one versus one format,” Foster said.

Whether it’s a tournament or a meeting, the club members come to have fun. “I think it’s just a bunch of people who like Super Smash Bros. who are just nuts for it- me included. The thing is we can all relate and have a fun time,” sophomore club member Russell Farr said.

The tournament will be from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the theater and entry is \$5.

SPEECH AND DEBATE TACKLES TOUGH COMPETITION

By Jaden Spencer

The stakes were high last Saturday for the 13 Marist Speech and Debate competitors who participated in the Clackamas Edge Invitational against 40 other schools across the state. Since this is the largest tournament of the season before the OSAA State Championships in April, the Marist competitors got the chance to evaluate where they stood state-wide.

Senior veteran and co-captain Lindy McCool was the only Marist competitor to make finals, placing third overall in Original Oratory.

With the state championship just a little over four months away, the tournament helps the team re-evaluate their strategies moving forward. “I learned some really good lessons about what judges want to hear, not necessarily what I want to say,” senior co-captain Danielle Shojai said.

Participating in the tournament is what helps competitors develop their speech. “It gives me a chance to watch how the judges and audience receive my speech; do they laugh? Are they interested? Performing in a real round is critical to answering these questions,” McCool said. “I was very grateful that I finalled and am proud of my work, and finaling increased my confidence in my speech.”

For McCool this was a huge achievement. “It takes a TON of work to succeed at this level in speech, just like any sport; you don’t become one of the top competitors in the state on sheer talent alone. Lindy has worked really hard and I was incredibly proud to see her on that stage representing the program,” coach Steve Barth said.

“As a coach I was very proud. I don’t care if we get one in finals or ten, I just love watching them succeed,” Barth said.