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THE SPARTAN SPEAR

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MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 18, 2016

'CZECH' IT OUT!



Junior Ivonne Perez talks to a Czech student on Tuesday Nov. 8. Photo by Teresa Molina-Gomez '18

CZECH REPUBLIC
STUDENTS VISIT

Maya Dotson

EDITOR

"I'm always happy to meet people who are visiting our community," Eugene mayor Kitty Piercy said when she arrived at Marist on Tuesday Nov. 8. Piercy was about to meet with the 15 visiting students from the Czech Republic. The students are currently being hosted by Blanchet Catholic High School in Salem.

When word of their travels reached Marist, Principal Stacey Baker extended an invitation to the Czech students, which they accepted.

When the visitors arrived, Piercy, Baker, Admissions Manager Rodrigo Hernandez and President Suzanne Graf greeted them, took group photos, and led them into the Academic Resource Center where they had an opportunity to ask Piercy and Graf about the local government and Marist.

They then toured campus, before being paired with a Marist student for two class periods.

At the request of the Czech school administration, who are considering implementing Christian service, the students listened to a presentation on the required community service at Marist, which was given by senior CLC students Sunny Childers and Andrew Meyers.



The varsity volleyball team and assistant coach Ryan Moser huddle around head coach Shari Pimental before a game at the state tournament. Photo by Toni Cooper

VOLLEYBALL TEAM FIGHTS FOR THIRD IN STATE, IN HONOR OF COACH

Maya Dotson and Livia Kokkino

EDITORS

"Do it for Mama P" was the cheer from the huddle of the Marist varsity volleyball team before their state tournament games just two weeks ago at Liberty High School in Hillsboro.

Varsity volleyball coach Shari Pimental, or "Ms. P" as she is affectionately known by students and faculty on campus, where she is also a school counselor, was diagnosed with ovarian cancer last December, sending the Marist community into a state of shock, fear and most of all, concern for Pimental and her family.

Marist offered a safe place for students and staff to digest the information, be together, and of course, to pray.

Faith was a strong and constant component in Pimental's journey. "You don't get to decide my time," Pimental said to her doctors, "that's for God to decide." Accompanying her faith was the support of her friends and family, of whom her volleyball team was

very much included. "I'm their family, they feel like my daughters," Pimental said.

After the completion of her chemotherapy treatments in June, she announced that she was in remission, just in time to begin preparation for the upcoming volleyball season.

"My two goals were to get back to work and to get back to my girls," Pimental said.

The recently concluded volleyball season was Pimental's 23rd season as head coach and nothing was going to keep her away. Pimental never missed a single game or practice. To show their love and appreciation, Pimental's family and team surprised her with a cake, which said "Mrs. P - kicking volleyball and cancer! 450 and counting" -referring to her 450th win which occurred in mid October.

The girls, who often refer to Pimental as 'Mama P,' knew what it took for her to be present this year and were motivated by her strength. "I think everything that happened helped, I think the girls were very resolved in being a team together," Pimental said.

The team placed third in the 5A tournament, beating Corvallis 3-0 on Saturday morning after suffering a tough, five-set loss to Bend High School in the semi-final game on Friday evening which could just as well have been the state championship game complete with some of the best volleyball seen in years and a rowdy and enthusiastic crowd.

After a long season full of practice, teamwork and spirit, 'Mama P' couldn't be more proud of her girls.



The senior players accept their third place trophy at the state tournament earlier this month. Photo by Toni Cooper

FRESHMEN BREAK THE ICE

FRESHMEN BREAK DOWN BARRIERS

Livia Kokkino

EDITOR

The freshman class of 2020 gathered in the Activity Center on Wednesday morning for the annual Freshman ICE mini-retreat. The event is a continuation of the Lock-In experience, giving the new Spartans an opportunity to form relationships with the upperclassmen as well as each other. It also encourages them to make new friends within the first few months of the school year.

The freshmen joined in many get-to-know-you games and a round of High School Musical karaoke, which was led by senior Christian Leadership Class students. They even participated

in a friendly competition for the best impersonation of a penguin, followed by a talk given by senior Marcus Lydon likening the success of the freshmen class to how well they can imitate penguins and invite stragglers into their huddle to keep them safe and protected.

Lydon emphasized the love and care that penguins have for each other, describing how they

take turns in the middle of a huddle to stay warm and invite stragglers into the group.

Lydon challenged the freshmen to be more like penguins, encouraging them to breaking down barriers and invite new people into their friend groups because "you never know who might become your best friend in the next two or three years."



Freshman Ethan Schwartz competes for the best penguin at the Freshman ICE mini-retreat. Photo by Jenna Jablonski '19

MARIST ADVENTURES

MOAP TAKES
TRIP TO THE
McKENZIE

MOAP students walk alongside the McKenzie River.
Photo courtesy of Chris Fudge



Nick Nepute

STAFF WRITER

The Marist Outdoor Adventure Program (MOAP) had their first event last Thursday. 11 students showed up for the excursion; three planned on hiking, and the other eight brought their mountain bikes. After a brief safety talk, they set off to the McKenzie River. The bikers were dropped off first and the three remaining were dropped off a

couple of miles down the road. The groups met up at their destination, Belknap Springs, where they had lunch. Belknap Springs is a natural hot spring that feeds into a swimming hole. Some students swam while others went off looking for a garden that was modeled after an ancient Roman courtyard. After visiting Belknap Springs, according to freshman Andy Fudge "the fun had to end." But, the group enjoyed brownies on the bus back to Marist.

NEWS

briefs

BABY COMES HOME

English teacher Sarah Reed’s new baby daughter, Penny Reed, is now home. Penny was born premature, but is now doing well and is in her own "crib". Reed and Penny visited Marist last Tuesday.

FIVE FOR THE FEAST

The annual Five for the Feast fundraiser for the Eugene Mission began on Wednesday. Students are encouraged to donate \$5 in their literature classes. The proceeds will go to help the Eugene Mission put on their Thanksgiving dinner which will feed around 500 people. The fundraiser will run until the beginning of Thanksgiving break.

CANS AND BOTTLES COLLECTED

On Tuesday, cans and bottles were collected for Stove Team International. The organization makes safe stoves for families cooking with dangerous open fire pits. At the end of the year, all the money raised through can and bottle collection will be donated.

"TOOKE" N BY ATLANTA

The sophomore Doug Tooke retreat has been postponed. Doug Tooke, the leader of the retreat was stuck in Atlanta due to flight problems, and could not make it to Eugene in time for the retreat on Tuesday.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Last Wednesday and Thursday, parents had the opportunity to meet with Marist teachers to check in on their child's progress from the first quarter. The conferences took place in Marist's Activity Center. Due to the two days of conferences and Veteran's Day on Friday, students enjoyed a five day weekend.

SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

Marist parents met in the Academic Resource Center on Monday evening for a suicide awareness and prevention workshop led by theology teacher Julie Ferrari. The goal of the event was to raise awareness about teen suicide, to identify the warning signs of depression or suicidal behavior, and to prevent suicide. Ferrari was joined by Darlene Baker, who lost her daughter Jennifer to suicide and founded the Jennifer Baker Fund in 2003 to create support programs for depressed Oregonian youth.



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IMPROVEMENTS TO BENEFIT STUDENTS

MARIST WORKS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO STRUGGLING STUDENTS

Cole Vendetti

STAFF WRITER

A student with troubles at home, a learning disorder, or



Guest speaker Roy Petitfils speaks to Marist staff and faculty about student mental health and how to assist struggling students. Photo by Toni Cooper

grades that are dropping may find their way into the counseling department at Marist. No matter the struggles of the student, there are counselors that are ready to help.

Changes to the counseling department and an increase in teachers and staff education and time allotted for collaboration are just some of the ways that Marist is trying to help struggling students.

One of the multiple changes to the counseling department includes counselors being assigned students based upon their last names, instead of being passed around as each year progresses.

Guidance counselor Shari Pimental is now working with students with last names A-H and guidance counselor Jerry Ragan is now working with students I-Z. Court Wirth remains as the Director of Counseling and will continue to offer guidance for all seniors and NCAA advising.

The change of the counseling department occurred this year at Marist, with the hope “to see quicker intervention, and more focused support by senior year,” Assistant Principal of Academic Affairs Andrew Oldham said. “We want to help students reach their potential.”

Oldham said that “for the past four years there have been conversations amongst administration relating to the organization of the counseling system to foster academic and social success, and create a stronger foundation for college preparation.”

For struggling students, being able to form relationships over time with their counselor allows

counselors a more holistic view of their students. Questions such as, “Will I be able to graduate?” “What steps should I take next?” and “Will I be ready for what is after Marist?” will hopefully not go unheard.

A personalized counselor allows for a more in-depth coverage of a student's progression through high school. There should be no more surprises with what a student has done or has yet to do. Issues of needing more credits or taking a certain class shouldn't be discovered once senior year comes around and graduation is on the line.

“[It was] important to try and find the best fit for our school,” said Assistant Principal of Student Affairs Christi Nicholson. She has previously worked with struggling students before in school districts, and in other counseling departments.

The state wide in-service that took place in mid October and informed staff on how students struggle, from academic issues to mental health issues, in order to formally address the problems.

Teachers had known of ways to help the students before the in-service, but the in-service provided a more formalized structure to diagnose and help the struggling students that might need help with learning disabilities or ADHD, or with the rise of anxiety and depression seen in students today.

Students also struggle with parental expectations, social stressors, media, and worrying about the future. These concepts can tie in with trying to fit in with others or trying to be your own person, as discussed by a recent guest speaker Roy Petitfils brought in by the Campus Ministry Office. Petitfils used his past experiences of being a struggling teenager to explain to the student body the stressors that they might be struggling with, and possible ways to help deal with that stress.

Another component of helping students is the introduction of a Student Success Team, a committee of teachers and staff that will be helping identify students who might be falling through the cracks. Part of this process is creating time for teachers to have collaborative discussions in order to “share how these struggling students are doing in classes, and then troubleshooting those problems” Oldham said.

Teenage students can struggle with numerous issues, and there are no simple answers. The solutions could be as simple as calling home, moving struggling students to the front of the room, engaging in conversations, or as interactive as putting a student in academic strategies, an after-school class run by teachers, increased counselor interaction, or allowing individual accommodations during the school day.

INVITING EXPERT OPINION



Former diplomat and author Kael Weston speaks to Marist students in the ARC on Tuesday. Photo by Amanda Allender '18

FORMER DIPLOMAT AND ACCLAIMED AUTHOR KAEI WESTON SPEAKS TO MARIST STUDENTS

Maya Dotson

EDITOR

“We don't have the luxury of ignoring the world,” said Kael Weston, author of *The Mirror Test: America at War in Iraq and Afghanistan*. Weston held six informational sessions for multiple Marist history and English classes this Tuesday.

While the overall theme of each session was the past, present and future of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, he also emphasized the importance of being an informed citizen.

During his sessions with the students, Weston shared his experiences and knowledge from his 10 years in the State Department which includes time in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He talked about some of his most memorable experiences overseas which included interacting with Afghan college students. Surprisingly, some of the Afghan college students Weston worked with expressed concern about America leaving their country.

Weston is also concerned about the future of the two wars; with the current turmoil and dissent in America it is very difficult to predict what might happen.

Weston concluded his sessions with photos from his travels to both Iraq and Afghanistan and an encouragement to “consider service,” and to do “whatever you can for your nation.”

FR. KEN: HERE TO STAY

FR. KEN BECOMES MARIST CAMPUS PRIEST

Jack Benda

EDITOR

This fall, Fr. Ken Olsen officially joined Marist community as campus priest. Already this year, he has celebrated Mass at a number of retreats, including the Freshman Lock-In, a Junior Encounter and the class Masses. Fr. Ken hopes to bring lessons from his past travels to the Marist experience.

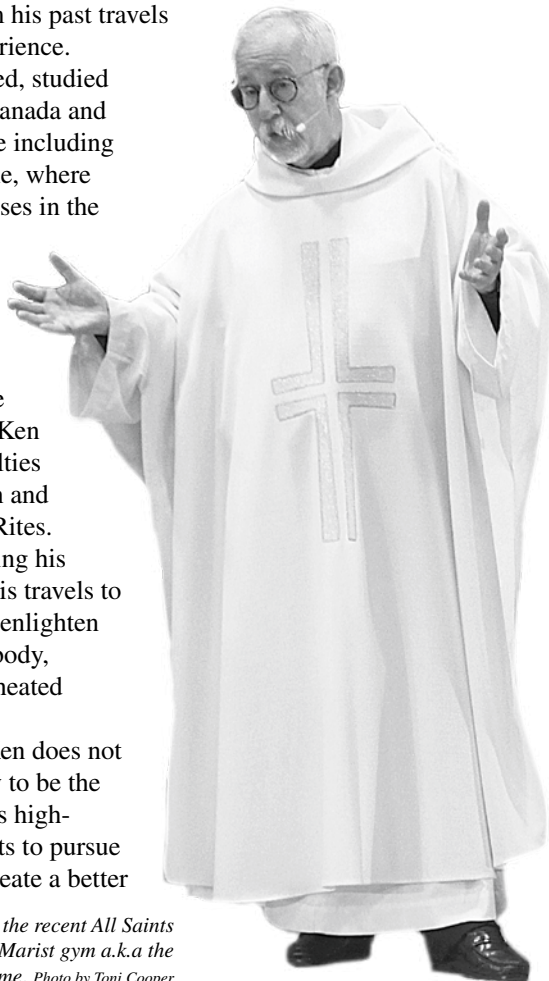
Fr. Ken has lived, studied and preached in Canada and throughout Europe including time in the Ukraine, where he celebrated Masses in the Ukrainian Greek Rite of the Catholic Church under the oppression of communism in the Soviet Union. Fr. Ken currently has faculties in both the Roman and Ukrainian Greek Rites.

He hopes to bring his experience from his travels to Marist in order to enlighten a diverse student body, especially after a heated political season.

However, Fr. Ken does not feel it is necessary to be the leader that inspires high-school-age students to pursue their mission to create a better

world, as this age group is already extraordinarily "motivated". Instead, Fr. Ken said, “I hope I can be part of the equation.”

Fr. Ken also looks forward to “feeling younger” as he watches students create and work toward their goals for an improved society.



Fr. Ken preaches at the recent All Saints Day Mass in the Marist gym a.k.a the Holy Dome. Photo by Toni Cooper

STUDENTS ON A MISSION FOR CHANGE

STUDENTS TRAVEL TO SERVE THOSE IN NEED

Maya Dotson

EDITOR

It was 3:30 AM when a group of seven Marist students and a teacher boarded Alaska Airlines in the Eugene airport, the first of two connector flights to Los Angeles.

Everyone was tired but excited to spend a week in East Los Angeles doing different kinds of volunteer work, despite science teacher and trip leader Ryan Moser being the only one who knew what kind of work was to come.

On Monday, we met Enrique Morones, founder of Border Angels, an organization that advocates for immigrants rights. Border Angels offers education, advocacy, outreach and consulting for migrants.

We traveled with Enrique first to a cemetery at the California-Mexico border. There we learned about the unarmed immigrants who have died trying to cross the border. Afterwards we made our way to the very edge of the border where we all carried out gallons of water to lay out for any immigrants that made it across the border. It made sense that they would be thirsty in the 120 degree desert.

We traveled to a more temperate location next, which was Homeboy Industries. Homeboy industries was born in 1988 when members of Dolores Mission Church, led by Father Gregory Boyle, partnered with



Marist students carry jugs of water to the California-Mexico border for immigrants crossing in the U.S. Photo by Terri Dibos

several local business owners to provide jobs to ex-gang members.

After several years, the organization had received enough donations to expand which meant their own bakery business along with other services such as career counseling, tattoo removal, G.E.D. classes and more.

When our group arrived, we were taken on a tour led by several past members of the program. They talked to us about their experiences growing up in a gang and how Father Gregory saved them by introducing them to Homeboy which helped them get jobs.

Homeboy also has a screen printing company which made our trip T-shirts. We visited the screen printing factory where we met a man named Omar. This was one of the most inspirational parts of the trip for me.

Omar told us about his life and particularly about his young son. He used to be in a gang but after he was shot, he realized that he didn't want the same lifestyle for his child. He



The service trip students play cards together in Los Angeles. Photo by Terri Dibos

broke apart from his gang and got a job with Homeboy. Omar told us that the work he does isn't easy but he does it every-day with a smile on his face.

Skid Row is an area of downtown Los Angeles with a homeless population of around 3000-6000, one of the largest populations of homeless in America. Because of its massive size, it is very difficult for police to enforce anti-camping laws.

We traveled to one place in particular in Skid Row: Union Rescue Mission. The mission was founded in 1891 and today is one of the largest rescue missions in America and is the oldest in Los Angeles.

Union Rescue Mission pro-

vides meals, safe shelter, recovery programs, and life-changing services to thousands of people experiencing homelessness each year. The mission itself has several different levels each assigned to help different kinds of people like those suffering from drug addiction or alcoholism.

As a group we learned so much about the different situations in which people live through our interactions with different people, places and organizations. It was a truly inspiring and galvanizing trip.

"I expected it to be somewhat boring but it turned out to be one of the best decisions I've ever made," senior Madi Potter said.

ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE...

I went on the Marist Service Trip my junior year. It was my first time away from home without family, my first time on a trip that involved school, and the first time I ever got onto a plane without my parents.

It was the first time I felt true fear. I was terrified and ashamed of that feeling because I was at an age where traveling without my parents should excite, but it only left me with jitters and crippling nervousness on the second flight that landed us in LAX. The fear slowly turned into excitement and butterflies in my chest as we made ourselves comfortable, the first time I would make Mr. Moser laugh, but certainly not the last.

That was the first time I felt confident. It was my first time owning a room, even if that room happened to be the backseat of our rental car we named, "The Babe Wagon".

I knew I was not alone in missing my family, but I couldn't help but feel alone in the ridiculousness of never having left the bubble of comfort I call home, causing me to profoundly miss my family. I had never wanted my family to know that this trip could scare me, but I knew that missing them had brought out a part of me with a powerful urge to tell them all that I loved them and appreciated the time I spent with them.

There is a first time for everything, and because of this trip I experienced having to call my father and tell him that I loved him. I experienced listening to my mom tell me how proud she is of me, and reading over text how my brother was looking forward to me coming home. There's nothing like the first time hearing your older brother admit to missing you.

Seeing what I saw on the Service Trip made me realize how important it is to value my family and to express how much love I truly have for them. My experiences on this trip have rebuilt a stronger, more confident, and more loving version of myself.

Nothing like the first time.

by Madi Potter

MARIST STUDENTS IMMERSE IN JAPANESE CULTURE

MARIST STUDENTS VISIT JAPAN TO LEARN, EXPLORE, AND ENGAGE IN JAPANESE LIFE

Liesl Benda

STAFF WRITER

During the summer of 2016, several Marist students joined a group of Beaverton students in a trip to explore the culture and language of Japan. The program is run by Dr. Ozawa, a retired professor from Beaverton who has been operating the trip for 27 years.

Going into the trip, students were both excited and worried. "The first time I went on the plane for the trip was terrifying. It was the first time I had boarded a plane in 15 years," sophomore Athena Bons said, who is currently taking Japanese 2 at Marist.

Not only were the plane rides intimidating, but communication also made students nervous. "I was very excited going into the trip and the scariest part was being unsure if I would be able to communicate well with my host families. When we got there it turned out that the host families could speak a lot of English, so communication was no problem," junior Japanese student Caden Friesen said.

Though the trip seemed frightening at first, students had a fantastic time. They visited several cities including, Ogaki, Tokyo, Kumamoto, Hiroshima, and prefectures of Tokyo such as Akihabara.

Students loved the food, language, and games that they experienced in Japan. "My favorite part of the trip would be meeting my host families because I get to be a part of their lives, culture, and eat their dinners," Bons said.

"I really enjoyed the three free days in Tokyo, especially playing some of the crazy rhythm games with my friend Ja-



Junior Zane Knowlton and sophomore Tyler Goss pose with Japanese host-family children during their trip to Japan. Photo courtesy of Zane Knowlton

cob," Friesen said.

Students also explored several Shinto temples while on the trip. Japanese 3 student William Grieve noted that he was fascinated by the Hattasan Soneiji Temple in Fukuroi because there was a festival of lights being held during their visit.

Not only did the expedition make for a fun summer getaway, it helped the students who take Japanese at Marist. "They are more motivated. Some students are not great in terms of completion of homework assignments, and I have seen two or three students that have improved a lot, so I am super excited," Japanese teacher Miyoko Nakajima King said.

Students described that now they know more basic Japanese words and phrases which have added to their in-class vocabulary this year. Grieve explained that it helped him better understand Japanese culture, contributing to his understanding of when and why different phrases were used in the language. Junior Zane Knowlton agreed that it made it easier for him to learn and understand this year in Japanese class.

The Marist students who participated in the trip definitely enjoyed the experience. They were exposed to Japanese culture, including food, language, and family life. Other students seeking the opportunity to go to Japan this upcoming summer are jumping at the chance.



JUST DO IT...EVENTUALLY

PROCRASTINATION: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

Ian Skaggs

EDITOR

I sat at the kitchen table staring at a stack, which struck fear into my heart. I felt its intent glare upon me. I winced at the presence of all the terms from the first semester of Tripp Nelson's world history class. I averted my sight from the wicked group of vocabulary which ranged from australopithecus to flying buttress. My eyes were met by the clock reading 10 p.m.

"I'm so screwed," I thought with my hands pressed upon my uncomfortably warm cheeks. I stood from the table and headed toward the garage. I opened the door and immediately my breathing eased, my heart slowed, and I smiled as I looked at my dog, Buddy. As I walked with my best friend by my side, words cycled through my mind while I listened to the quiet murmur of the night.

I returned to the table and my note cards, but the stack seemed smaller than I had remembered. I would repeatedly look at a term, define it, check the back, then nod with fulfillment. After a while, the stack sat at my side conquered, and I looked at the clock that read 11 p.m. "Success," I thought, until I peered to my right to see Mr. Haggard's terms also eagerly awaiting my attention.

Procrastination. It's a word that evokes memories of times in which one had put off a certain task, and probably reminds someone of a task that needs to be completed. The inherent negativity in procrastinating is valid, but it is something that all people do; and with it there are some underappreciated benefits.

The term in its simplest form is associated with waiting, but it is a complex and multidimensional human behavior. Just as all people have unique and defining quali-

ties; so too do all people procrastinate in varying ways, some of which can be constructive.

John Perry, a retired philosophy professor at Stanford, wrote a book titled *The Art of Procrastination* in 2012. The work argues that procrastination can make people more effective and productive. The central message is that the most daunting tasks on one's list get put on the back burner; but, in the time one spends not doing these tasks, he or she does many minor tasks that bring a sense of accomplishment and productivity.

For example, I may have a lab report that I know Mr. Moser is going to tear apart, but instead of getting right to work, I decide to clean my room and do some laundry. If I weren't faced with such an arduous task from school, what would become of my room? It would become the daunting task, and probably not be completed... anytime soon. So, in essence, the hard stuff we dread makes other tasks seem more manageable. And, at the end of the day, that lab report is going to be completed.

This brings to light another interesting aspect of procrastination. When one's internal clock begins to ring as the deadline approaches, what is the response? Tim Urban, an internet journalist and creator of the website "Wait but why," has a TED talk in which he explains that deadlines awake the "panic monster." This figment of the imagination acts as motivation for the rational sense in a person, which drives him or her to achieve. This occurrence, however, has differing outcomes based upon how calculated one's procrastination is.

Some find themselves blindsided by due dates, and a lack of preparation can

cause a flight reaction in which the task is not completed; or, the task is completed in a sporadic manner. One of the benefits of procrastination is taking time to thoroughly think about how to approach a task. In doing this, one mindfully considers the best way to write a paper, contemplates a creative idea for a project, or just mentally organizes a plan of action for getting work done. This planned procrastination allows for a more controlled execution during crunch time.

To connect back to Perry's writing, this mental preparation can go hand in hand with completing tasks that don't involve "the big one"; so, while a person mows the lawn, he or she can think about how to best connect the documents in a DBQ, or how to best convey the themes of a novel in an essay. Procrastination thus turns into a productive process, and becomes an art.

Now, to clarify, I do not seek to endorse procrastination as a model of success. But, it is important to have an understanding of the role it plays in your own life, so you can make changes in behavior or outlook that improve being an effective procrastinator. Ultimately, deadlines are going to creep up on us, and it's at these times that we have to hear the words of Shia LaBeouf, and "just do it!"

I stared at a blank ceiling. I recall the gut wrenching anxiety I felt when I laid down, after leaving my computer alone upon my desk with a blank Google doc gracing the screen. The ceiling and I conversed about ideas for the paper I had to write for English. Time had passed, and now was running out, the deadline had drawn closer; but I rose without haste.

As my fingers struck the keys of the computer, a flow began, and I felt tranquil as time became irrelevant.

I'LL SECOND THAT....

As Deadlines Approach...

Papers are strewn across the table, leaving no sign of the wooden desk below. Papers and projects approach their deadlines. Worksheets, worked on but not finished. Outlines that must be worked into essays.

Procrastination has made an impact on many students, and has flooded into almost all of my own work.

Has it made an impact on my quality of work? I simply don't know. I have struggled with trying to spread my work time out across assignments, and have just about come to expect to spend the last few days before something big is due to work on it. Does it seem to be getting better now that I have matured? Nope, and I still don't know what to expect from myself in the coming years.

There have been instances when I felt as if I haven't procrastinated on some schoolwork. When it comes to daily homework and busy work I never seem to struggle, and I tend to complete rather early. Conversely there are key deadlines in the future that I am working towards and doing a decent job of not letting myself get behind.

College applications are about a month away, at least for most school's regular deadlines. I have spent the time in order to get letters of recommendations, work on the common application, and take a peek at the writing prompts. Procrastinating is something of a habit, leaving me with no choice but to work with it.

Big events coming up in my life have greater importance in my checklist kept at the back of my head, even if it means to keep on procrastinating with other work.

-Cole Vendetti

My Worst Habit

Procrastination is by far my worst habit. When it comes to homework, my number one specialty is putting it all off until the very last second. In fact, just last night I was up for countless hours, writing an essay that could have been written much earlier, avoiding the stress, the tears, and the sleep-deprivation.

I really am truthful when I say I try and try to keep up and stay on top of things, but often times I will put those off until the very last moment possible.

Procrastination is most definitely my worst enemy, and I try very hard to stop it. Every day after school I have volleyball practice until six. From there, I drive home and relax in my room, sometimes listening to music, other times even sneaking in an episode of *The Office*. This is what kills me. From there I have dinner, and I begin: all of the dreaded homework that I have waited to complete until the last moment possible.

On some days, I manage to get it all done, but other days that's not the case. A common routine of mine that needs to stop is: homework, internet, homework. This cycle continues until I either complete my work or am too tired to stare at my iPad screen.

Most days I do not let it get the best of me, but procrastination is still something that I am dealing with and am trying at all costs to fix.

-Claire Hoffman

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Emily Jewett

EDITOR

The 2016 Presidential Election evoked fear, annoyance, and even anger in many people. It is indisputable that this election has been extremely hostile and tense, but the results are in: Donald Trump will be the 45th President of the United States.

So what's President Obama up to during his last days of office? Well, he's actually been fairly busy. He has formalized the Atrocities Prevention Board, which works to end atrocities such as genocide. Obama formed the board in 2012 and has been working with the board to determine what actions should be taken in the current Syria crisis.

Obama is also working to cultivate global entrepreneurship after passing an executive order in June. He hosted the 7th Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Palo Alto in June of this year. The Global Entrepreneurship Executive Order sets up multiple programs to cultivate creativity and innovation in the U.S. and abroad.

Since the beginning of his presidency, Obama has sought to close Guantanamo Bay, the American detention camp in Cuba. Congress has continually blocked the closing of Guantanamo; so instead, Obama is transferring out as many prisoners as he possibly can, either to other detention camps in the U.S. or to countries abroad.

Obama has also been pardoning and commuting the prison sentences of nonviolent drug offenders, some of whom have been incarcerated for years.

AND THE PRESIDENCY GOES TO...

DONALD TRUMP BECOMES THE 45TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



What do Obama and Vice President Joe Biden plan to do after their term finishes? Biden has stated that he will continue his work to raise awareness about cancer and to fight for a cure. Biden's son Joseph "Beau" died of brain cancer in 2015.

Biden has also been the subject of a meme revolution. Since the election, memes of Joe Biden have dominated social media. Most of the memes depict Biden mocking Trump and other notable politicians, such as Mike Pence.

After his term, Obama plans to continue living in Washington D.C., which is unusual of presidents after they leave office. While he has not explicitly stated his post-presidency plans, many speculate that he will engage in many public speaking events, but he is also expected to lead humanitarian efforts.

While Obama finishes up his last term, what comes next for the United States? Now that the 2016 election is over, Trump is our President-Elect.

So what did Marist students think of the election? According to a poll of sophomores, juniors, and seniors, of which 100 responded, 42% would have voted or voted for Donald Trump, 27% for Hillary Clinton, 14% would have or did write in a candidate, 12% would not have voted, 4% for Gary Johnson, and 1% for Jill Stein.

However, many who said they would have voted or did vote for Trump or Clinton did so begrudgingly. "I feel like this is a sad time in our democracy," senior Madeleine Shojai said, in a survey.

"I was disappointed that these were the two best candidates the parties could pick, but maybe this shows the fault in a party system in comparison to voting for an individual. I feel that each candidate has a large amount of cons and very small amount, if any, pros. I think America needs to elect someone that will unite the country in a common goal, to see the prosperity of U.S., instead of divide a country because of race, religion, social and economic statuses," junior Justin Potwora said, in a survey.

Many Americans are distraught that Trump was elected. Since the election, there have been nationwide protests against Trump, with many demonstrators chanting, "Not my president." Clinton supporters are especially upset that she lost the election, despite winning the popular vote by over one million votes.

Most of the protests against Trump have been peaceful, but some have descended into violent riots.

Regardless of what people think about him, Trump will become Commander in Chief on January 20, 2017.

Trump is a vehement advocate for absolute freedom under the Second Amendment, allowing Americans who pass a basic background check to purchase and own any number and any type of firearms.

Immigration has been a cornerstone of Trump's campaign so far. He wants to build his infamous wall between the southern border of the United States and Mexico to keep immigrants out, and has consistently insisted

that Mexico can and will pay for it.

Trump also seeks to triple the number of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, agents and to begin deporting up to 11 million illegal immigrants. Much of his immigration policy appealed to the blue collar white Americans who helped elect him. However, during his "60 Minutes" interview Trump did not reiterate this plan to deport 11 million people, but instead focused on the two to three million illegal immigrants with criminal backgrounds.

In the realm of taxes, Trump wants to lessen all taxes. He has promised to eliminate special interest tax loopholes and to make child care expenses tax deductible.

Trump has vowed numerous times to defeat ISIS and expand the United States military. His only specific foreign policy plan is to decimate ISIS, but he also holds seemingly contradictory ideals: isolationism and interventionism. Trump wants to end the American tradition of nation-building in foreign nations, but also wants to create global peace through American action.

After the election, Clinton gave a humble and moving concession speech, accepting the results and congratulating Trump, but also thanking her family, friends, political team, and all those who supported her during the campaign. "I believe we are stronger together and we will go forward together," Clinton said during her speech.

Trump will soon take office, but for now President Barack Obama will continue to do his job for the good of the country.

MONDAY STORIES

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

My Greatest Fear

PROMPT: Name some things that you are afraid of. Why are you afraid of those things?

For some reason looking at the sky terrifies me. I don't really know why and I have never heard of anyone else who was scared of clouds. I had a really vivid imagination as a child and I would always wonder what would happen if gravity just decided to take a break for a second. Ever since then, I always imagine myself floating up like a balloon, unable to stop.

The sky is also very big, by the way. Really big things mess with my brain for some reason. For example, oceans freak me out because they're so big, and I am terrified of water.

Recently I saw "Interstellar" and in it, there is one part where they go to this crazy planet

through a black hole.

When they land and start checking the planet, they realize that it's made completely of water. The water is really shallow though so they land and start walking around. All of a sudden, they realize that, in the distance, they can see this massive wave, like a larger-than-a-mountain wave that covers the entire horizon.

They ended up making it out, but of course some dummy got left behind because he couldn't open the door or whatever. Ever since then, about 4-5 months ago, I have thought about those really big waves. It freaks me out.

-Nick Nepute

Finding Solace in Volleyball

PROMPT: Tell us about an important first in your life and how you learned from that experience.

An important first in my

life was when I started playing volleyball last summer. During my freshman year, I started to experience anxiety pertaining to my parents' divorce and I was looking for something new to experience that would distract me from family issues. Since Mrs. Pimental was my freshman counselor and the volleyball head coach, I thought it would be fun to try volleyball as a new activity.

I walked into my first open gym towards the beginning of the summer; saying it was new to me is an understatement. I thought I had down the basics of volleyball, when I actually barely knew anything at all. I was so intimidated by the other players on the court, but I was determined to participate and become good at a sport. Over the summer, I continued to go to open gyms, working as hard as I could and sweating like a dog in the process.

In the beginning of August, the most dreaded volleyball event of the summer arrived, daily doubles. These would be the try-outs for the volleyball team, which determined if you would make varsity, junior varsity, junior varsity 2, or no team at all. The workouts got harder and the conditioning got tougher, and honestly I didn't know if I'd make the cut. At the end of the hot summer week, the teams were announced and I had made junior varsity 2! I was so happy that I would be participating in volleyball during my sophomore year and I was looking forward to a great season.

The following week, regular practices started. Our team grew closer as days of practices passed by, and we improved in our skill as well. My team's coach, Carrie, even made me one of the three team captains; I was so honored

and proud to lead my team. School began, and my stress level kicked up again, but I was happy because I knew that no matter how bad a school day had gone, I'd have volleyball practice at 3:30 and I could play my heart out on the court. I have a great team and I feel so much closer to my fellow players.

It may sound corny, but I think that volleyball has saved me. Sometimes I wonder what I would even do if I didn't have volleyball to look forward to at the end of the day. Volleyball has not only taught me how to hit, pass, set, block, and serve; It has taught me how to be a teammate and a better person. I strive to put in my best work, help teammates when they're down, grow in my skills, challenge myself, and never give up.

-Liesl Benda




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Check it out! Photos of the Week



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BORN TO RUN

CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS FIND SUCCESS

Claire Hoffman

STAFF WRITER

The Marist cross country team had nothing less than a successful year, finishing with a well-deserved fifth place trophy from the boys as well as a ninth place finish from the girls at the OSAA 5A State Championships on Nov. 4.

The boys and girls varsity squads both qualified for the state meet after a third place finish from the boys as well as a second place finish from the girls at the Midwestern district meet.

The boys returned this fall with



junior Jerik Embleton and sophomore Gabe Garboden as the only two returning varsity runner after nine seniors graduated from last year. But the new additions to the varsity team still allowed the boys to earn third place at the district meet behind Crater, the district champions and eventual state champion, and Marist was just three points away from second place Ashland.

At state, junior Jerik Embleton was fourth and led the boys to a fifth place state meet finish. With over two thirds of the boys varsity team consisting of underclassmen, they proved to others and themselves that they are ready to compete against anyone. Last year's squad of more experienced runners finished third. This is good news for coach Wells.

The girls placed ninth and were led by freshman Isabella Zachem who finished 28th after placing third at the Midwestern district meet. Senior Booy Rogers finished 31st and senior Hope Powell and junior Mina Buchanan finished 62nd and 64th respectively.

Junior Jerik Embleton crosses the finish line at the OSAA 5A State Cross Country meet, finishing fourth. Photo by Megan Kimball '18

FOCUS ON A SENIOR...

SWITCHING SPORTS A GOOD MOVE



Senior Booy Rogers is happy to finish her race in a new personal record at the Country Fair Classic in Elmira this October. Photo by Toni Cooper

The switch from soccer to cross country could have set her back, but senior Booy Rogers' transition proved that hard work and determination can, and will, pay off.

A born runner, Rogers shifted from the soccer field to the cross country course junior year and the results could not have been better. "I did track my sophomore year and I really liked the people as well as the coaches," Rogers said.

Her first season of cross country proved she would have a major impact on the team,

getting 3rd alongside senior Hope Powell who placed 5th to lead their team to a third place finish at the district meet and a 24th and 25th place finish at the state meet.

Rogers continued to set personal records during her final cross country season as a Spartan. Her improvement over the season resulted in a time of 19:50 at the Country Fair Classic, beating her season record by over twelve seconds. Rogers finished 31st at the state meet, improving her time from last year's state meet by seven seconds though her placement was lower.

"Booy was always uplifting and extremely inspirational to the rest of the team. She brought a happy and fun aspect to the season," said junior and teammate Madelyn Turner, proving she not only excelled on the course, she also led with her character.

BEATEN BUT NOT BROKEN

TOUGH SEASON DOESN'T PHASE MARIST

Senior Drew Lara tracks down his blocking assignment against Eagle Point. Photo by Gloria Wang '17

Claire Hoffman

STAFF WRITER

Integrity, toughness, and resilience are three words that come to the mind of coach Frank Geske when describing his varsity football team.

Despite the hardship that came with an 0-4 start, the Marist Spartans defied expectations in a tough Midwestern league, achieving a record of 4-5.

Injuries proved to be one of the major setbacks that the Spartans struggled with this year. From concussions to broken bones, many players were injured early, causing them to sit out for the entirety of the year. And, according to Geske, over half of the team sat out at some point over the course of the season.

"We've been telling them more than anything that they don't realize how good they could be, but to lose a player or two at a high caliber, it throws doubt into all the players," Coach Geske said.

The seemingly endless injuries set the boys back more than expected, but did not stop them from pushing to their limits and giving their all when they stepped out onto the field. They fought like the mighty 300 Spartans at the battle of Thermopylae; outnumbered and beaten, but not broken.

Throughout the season, the Spartans had many ups and downs, and their upset victory over Thurston at Marist's Homecoming game



revealed the team's passion and strength. The Colts, who were undefeated at the time, were taken down by the Spartans 17-14.

The Spartans maintained the lead as the clock wound down, and the students of Marist lit up with excitement in anticipation of defeating the well-oiled Thurston squad. The win against the Colts proved to others as well as themselves that they were ready for anyone that steps on their turf.

Their passion and love for the game is what continually inspired them throughout every play, every practice, and every point. "I've never had to tell them once to focus on the task at hand," Geske said.

Senior Drew Lara said that they wanted to bring pride to the team and finish the season strong. Though their hopes of qualifying for the state playoffs were cut short, the boys continued to fight through every game.

The boys finished off their season with a thrilling win against the Eagle Point Eagles, who were ranked no. 1 in the Midwestern League. As the seniors walked onto the Kevin Teller Field for their final game as a Spartan, they made sure to leave everything they had out there. They played their highest scoring game of the season, with a win of 35-21.

They played a season that will be remembered for years to come and hope to inspire future teams through their character and valued leadership, showing that hard work and dedication will bring success not always shown on the scoreboard.

ULTIMATE ATHLETES FLOCK TO ULTIMATE



Junior Kai Fuji looks to throw the disc upfield during an ultimate game. Photo by Madi Potter '17

Benny Flores

STAFF WRITER

Ultimate is a sport that has been around since 1968. It is not only played at the high school level but also on a professional level and everywhere in between. Many people call it ultimate Frisbee but Frisbee is a brand of disc, ultimate is the sport.

Ultimate is played seven on seven on a football like field. The offense works to pass the frisbee from player to player to get to the end zone. At the high school level you play to 15 points or an hour and half but at the college level it's the first to 15 and once a team scores eight points it signals half-time. At the professional level teams play four 10 minute quarters.

The game of ultimate is easy to pick up; anyone can play. All you need is a disc and a group of friends. According to usultimate.org there are over 400+ high schools nationwide that have teams.

Not only does ultimate require speed and agility but one pick up the skill of making throws such as the backhand, flick, scoop, etc. These skills come with practice, just like shooting a basketball.

Marist has had an ultimate team since the arrival of math teacher and ultimate coach Grant Gilchrist in 2012. Gilchrist played ultimate in high school and at the University of Oregon and is assisted by his friend Cody Bjorklund, who also played at the U of O and now plays for the professional team, the Portland Stags.

Marist ultimate is always open to new people, so talk to Gilchrist about practice times and come out and "sauce the disc."

Ask an Athlete



Haylee Kempf
Cheer

Q. What is your favorite cheer?
A. Easily the Spartan beat.



Gabe Garboden
Cross Country

Q. Where is your favorite race location?
A. The Pukadora invite because you had to run through a lake.



Riley Betts
Football

Q. What was your favorite game this season?
A. The Springfield game... everything just clicked.



Katherine Thayer
Pétanque

Q. What made you want to play pétanque?
A. So I [had] something to do after school on days I [didn't] have speech and debate.



Keaton Cunningham
Boys Soccer

Q. What professional soccer player do you look up to most?
A. Xavi, because he is one of the most talented midfielders in the game.



Gabrielle Ficek
Girls Soccer

Q. What do you do to get excited before a game?
A. Being with my team and playing music



Britney Duvall
Volleyball

Q. Which upperclassman on the volleyball team has been a mentor?
A. Taylor Gibson, she is encouraging and helps me learn new strategies and techniques.



Chris Allender
Water polo

Q. What is the worst injury you have ever gotten in a water polo match?
A. I chipped a tooth when an opponent punched me in the face.

by the Numbers

30

cheers known by the cheer squad

200

percent increase in attendance at the opening meeting for ultimate

9.33

average margin of victory for Marist football team its three game win streak

28

goals scored by the boys soccer team

192

minutes of treading water by water polo

35

goals scored by the girls soccer team



WE ARE FIRED UP

STUDENTS SHOW SUPPORT FOR MARIST ATHLETES

Jack Benda Editor

Marist has traditionally enjoyed widespread student support for a diverse field of sports, but this fall featured particularly large supporter sections at football games.

Led by the senior class of 2017, droves of students flocked to football games during a mercurial season. Many supporters dressed in theme, including blackout, formal, and neon. The senior class added tailgating before kickoff for many home and away games, and

used a bass drum to lead new chants alongside the cheerleaders and pep band.

“The student section felt like everyone was involved no matter what the chant,” said Marist Student Body President Brennan Franssen. “It felt really amazing to look back and see the happiness and excitement in those behind me.” Franssen said.

Franssen, who has become a leader both in the stands and in motivating the crowds to show up, even hoped to motivate the supporters in an effort to win OSAA Student Section of the Year.

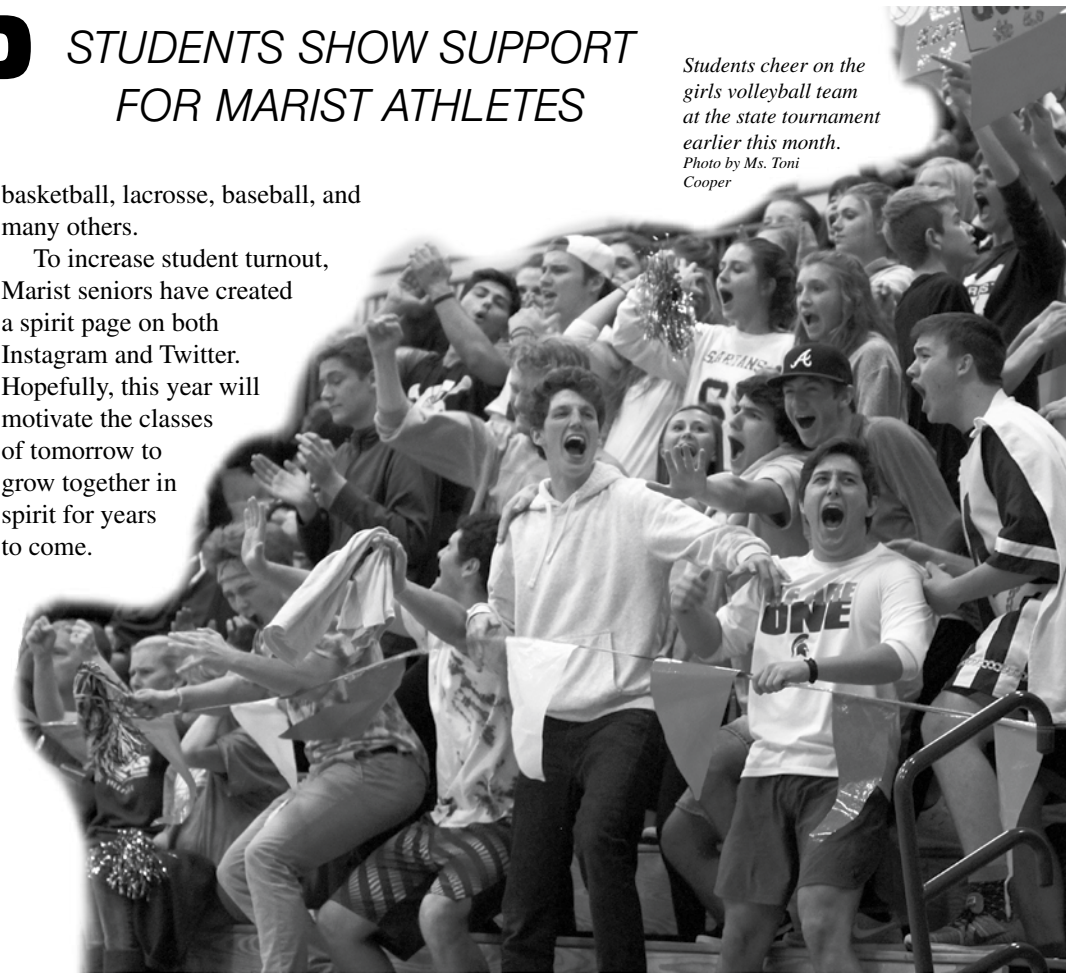
Some of this enthusiasm even showed up at the volleyball state tournament, dozens of passionate fans packed the rooter bus and followed the team to Liberty High School in Hillsboro.

Students will certainly be hoping to bring the same emotion to the rest of this year’s athletic events, including

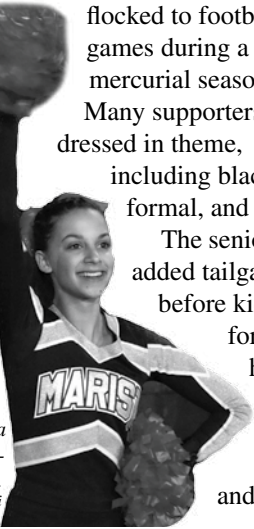
basketball, lacrosse, baseball, and many others.

To increase student turnout, Marist seniors have created a spirit page on both Instagram and Twitter. Hopefully, this year will motivate the classes of tomorrow to grow together in spirit for years to come.


Students cheer on the girls volleyball team at the state tournament earlier this month.
Photo by Ms. Toni Cooper



Freshman Regan LaCoste cheers at a home football game.
Photo by Toni Cooper



FALL SPORTS PHOTO ALBUM



Whoop! Junior Reaw Jackson flashes the fancy footwork against Crater.
Photo by Toni Cooper

FOOTBALL




WATERPOLO

Marist water polo holds hands in prayer before a game. They may not have won a game but “everyone kept working hard” said junior Austin Hubbard.
Photo by Jackie McQuaid ‘18



Sophomore Caleb Andreassen runs with seniors Alex Steele and Jack McGaughey at the Country Fair Classic in Emira.
Photo by Toni Cooper

BOYS XC



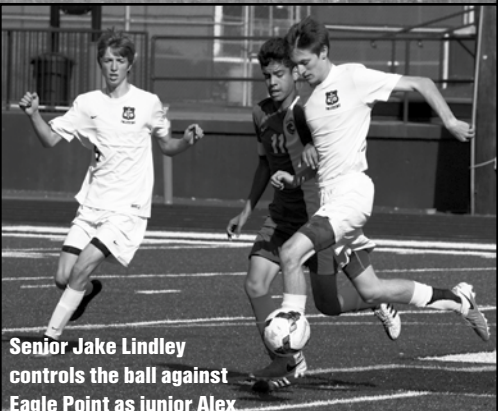
GIRLS SOCCER

Senior Abbie Anderson crosses over a stumbling defender. Girls soccer finished 7-3-5. Photo by Teresa Molina-Gomez ‘18




PÉTANQUE

Junior Jonathan Van Kinkle tosses the boule with determination.
Photo by Trent Sherman ‘19



Senior Jake Lindley controls the ball against Eagle Point as junior Alex Gerber helps from behind.
Photo by Toni Cooper

BOYS SOCCER



Freshman James Cross pivots looking for a “flick” to a teammate against South.
Photo by Madi Potter ‘17

ULTIMATE



Kill! Junior Claire Hoffman spikes the ball against Hood River en route to being named a unanimous First Team All-Tournament selection. She was also the Midwestern Player of the Year.
Photo by Toni Cooper

VOLLEYBALL



GIRLS XC

Freshman Bella Zachem runs to a 26th place finish at the 5A Cross Country State Meet at Lane Community College on Nov. 5.
Photo by Megan Kimball ‘18

0


sets lost in league by the varsity volleyball team

3.6 & 3.7

team GPAs of the boys and girls cross country teams respectively

16

years of pétanque at Marist



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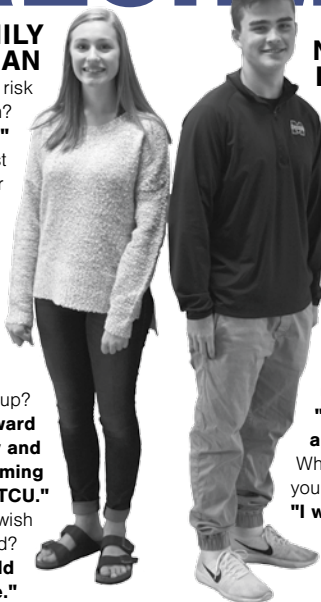
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Students of the Issue

FRESHMEN

EMILY SPELLMAN

What's the biggest risk you've ever taken?
"Trying a new sport."
What is the best present you've ever received?
"A scrapbook given to me by a friend with a DVD that had pictures of us on it."
What do you look forward to most with the holidays coming up?
"I am looking forward to seeing my family and my sister who is coming home from TCU."
What's a talent you wish you had?
"I wish I could dance."



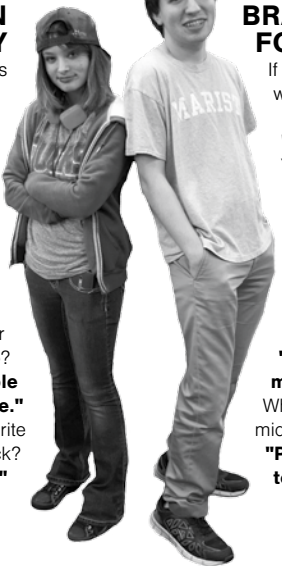
NICHOLAS LUND

What's the biggest risk you've ever taken?
"I jumped off a cliff wearing skis."
What is the best present you've ever received?
"1950s Stratocaster."
What do you look forward to most with the holidays coming up?
"Being able to sleep all the time, and sleep."
What's a talent you wish you had?
"I wish I was better at math."

SOPHOMORES

MEGAN McCLUSKEY

If you could switch places with anyone, who would it be and why?
"Link from The Legend of Zelda because I love that game, it's actually a problem."
Who is the most gullible person you know?
"Robyn May."
If you ruled the country for a day, what would you do?
"Make people watch anime."
What's your favorite midnight snack?
"Ice cream."



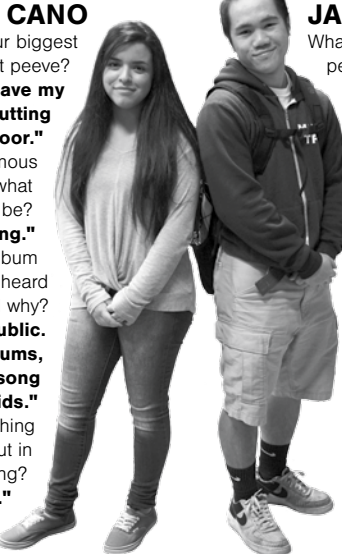
BRANDON FOSTER

If you could switch places with anyone, who would it be and why?
"Nate Adams from Yokai watch because I want to talk to Yokai."
Who is the most gullible person you know?
"Robyn May."
If you ruled the country for a day, what would you do?
"Make music programs mandatory at schools."
What's your favorite midnight snack?
"Popcorn, but I don't like to be up that late."

JUNIORS

DULCE CANO

What is your biggest pet peeve?
"When people leave my room without shutting the door."
If you could be famous for one thing what would it be?
"My singing."
What's the best album you've ever heard and why?
"Kids" by OneRepublic. I don't listen to albums, but my favorite song is "Kids."
What is the first thing you think about in the morning?
"Food."



JACKY GONG

What is your biggest pet peeve?
"Probably uneven things."
If you could be famous for one thing what would it be?
"Musician."
What's the best album you've ever heard and why?
"Life of Pablo."
What is the first thing you think about in the morning?
"Eating rice with chopsticks."

SENIORS

JACOB REGER

If Mr. Ferrari came to school with hair, what would be the first thing you would say?
"Where's Mr. Ragan?"
Finish the sentence:
There's nothing to fear but...
"Mr. Ferrari with hair."
What's something you've discovered about yourself while being in high school?
"I discovered that I have a biscuit rubric."
What's your dream college and why?
"OHSU because I love Oregon and I want to join the medical field."



GRACE BULLOCK

If Mr. Ferrari came to school with hair, what would be the first thing you would say?
"Wow-za!"
Finish the sentence:
There's nothing to fear but...
"...Crippling depression."
What's something you've discovered about yourself while being in high school?
"I'm a filthy memer."
What's your dream college and why?
"UW, perfect location and campus and great for my major."

REVIEWS

WHAT'S HOT AND WHAT'S NOT

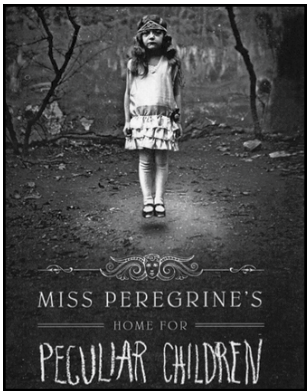
MOVIES

DOCTOR STRANGE



I walked into the movie theater, heart full of dread. Who was I? Who had I become? Had I sunk so low? Was I really going to see "Doctor Strange?" The reality was that I was a diehard Marvel fan, so I was going to see a movie that I believed I would loathe. I sat down in the theater, my Sour Patch Kids in hand, and let the magic of "Doctor Strange" wash over me. I was pleasantly surprised. I, cynical from the start, thoroughly enjoyed this movie. "Doctor Strange" follows the story of selfish and egotistical Stephen Strange (Benedict Cumberbatch), a neurosurgeon who loses full control of his hands after a car accident. He seeks a way to fix his hands so he can operate again, but Western medicine fails him. Destitute and broken hearted, Strange hears about the Ancient One, a mystical sorceress in the Himalayas of Nepal. Throughout the film, he develops

MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN



The novel "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children" is written by Ransom Riggs. The book will captivate its readers with the clever combination of antique photos and Riggs' writing, while leaving the reader's imagination reeling, even after the last page is turned. The novel is set around teenage misfit, Jake. Everything about his "normal" life is suddenly changed after his grandfather is mysteriously attacked. His grandfather's last request is for Jake to find the Welsh island of Cairnholm where his grandfather grew up. Feeling compelled to fulfill his grandfather's dying wish, Jake travels to the island hoping to uncover more about his grandfather's past, but only digs himself into a deeper hole when he discovers the mysterious peculiar children and is given the task of protecting them from an unknown and powerful force. -Livia Kokkino

BOOK



Letters to the Editors

Dear Emily,
Is it a good idea to pursue a dating relationship in high school?
From, Looking-For-Love

Dear Looking-For-Love,
I do not think there is an easy answer to that question. If you like someone, and they like you, and you are both mature enough to handle a real dating relationship, I think it can be a good idea. Just be sure the person you like is someone who will treat you with kindness and respect.
Sincerely, Emily

Dear Editors,
Are you jealous of the amazing yearbook editors and yearbook class?
From, Toni's Cooler Class a.k.a the Helbling Twins

Dear Toni's "Cooler" Class,
We here at newspaper are secure in our own amazingness and do not feel any sort of jealousy. (We see you trying to throw shade, Susmi and Lincy)
From, Toni's Favorite Class

Dear Jack,
Where do you get all of your preppy clothes from? I have no steeze and see you as my style icon.
From, A Not-So-Stylish Senior

Dear Not-So-Stylish Senior,
In the past I have found great shirts and pants at Vineyard Vines, and bow ties and neckties at Brooks Brothers. However, I made a seersucker bow tie myself.
From, Jack

Dear Livia,
What was the most embarrassing thing you did as an underclassman?
From, Shamed Sophomore

Dear Maya,
Do you feel that allowing male students not to shave would be sexist towards female students?
From, Sad-about-Shaving

Dear Shamed Sophomore,
A month into my freshman year, we had a block day. I walked all the way to Mr. Wells' room, thinking that I had health. I ended up standing outside in the rain for about five minutes, then I realized that I needed to be across campus in Mrs. Wirth's room. I ended up late to class. It wasn't my best moment.
From, Livia

Dear Gloria,
If you could go anywhere in the world right now, where would you go?
From, Aspiring World Traveler

Dear Aspiring World Traveler,
Definitely Italy, it's the most amazing place in the world. Can you imagine that? Have a cup of coffee and sit down by a canal in Venice and watch pigeons fly around. I can just sit there for a whole day.
From, Gloria

Dear Sad-about-Shaving
Since there is no rule stating that females are required to shave, I don't believe it is sexist. (#Bringbacknoshavenovember) However, I do think that male students are truly missing out on the freedoms that are skirts and dresses.
From, Maya