
M **the newsline**

[Marist Catholic High School](#) • 1900 Kingsley Road • Eugene, Oregon 97401 • 541-686-2234

December 2013

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Students in the News

Senior Commits to Loyola Marymount

Congratulations to senior golfer Billy Pollock, who committed to Loyola Marymount at a signing ceremony at Marist on Nov. 13. Pollock, who finished seventh last year at the Class 5A boys golf championships at Trysting Tree Golf Club in Corvallis, said he's "Happy and excited for the opportunity and what's to come."



Freshman Honored by Boy Scouts

Connor Weller was awarded the National Certificate of Merit by the Boy Scouts of America for his quick thinking in preventing the spread of a forest fire in Mt. Zion National Park this past summer. The national award is given for life saving action, unusual heroism, skill or bravery.

[Watch the KMTR News video about Connor here.](#)



Students Help Produce New CD

The talents of Junior Allie Thompson and Sophomore Ryan Helbling have recently been involved in the making of a new religious CD currently available on Amazon, iTunes and Google Play.

"The Coming of Christ" features a dramatic cast, sound effects, and original music by David Phillips, Director of Music at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Eugene. The recording is an inspiring presentation of the entire Christmas story, taken from the Gospels Matthew and Luke.



Ryan is the voice of Gabriel, and Allie is the voice of Mary. Allie also sings an original composition of The Magnificat. The release of this CD is timely, as the season of Advent is quickly approaching.

Click the links below to listen to samples or purchase individual songs or the entire CD:

[iTunes](#)

[Amazon](#)

[Google Play](#)

Volleyball Teams Help Breast Cancer Awareness

The Marist and Sheldon Volleyball teams played a match to help raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness. The original goal was to raise over \$5000. Both programs donated items for a silent auction as well as encouraged parents, family and students to attend the game. Players, coaches and parents met Sunday, Nov. 17 to present the final check

of \$7300 to the American Cancer Society.

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December Community Night

Our next community night is Tuesday, Dec. 10 at Papa's Pizza, 1577 Coburg Road. Support your favorite Marist team or club by participating in our monthly fundraising event. When Marist families and friends dine at the designated eatery, they can indicate on the flyer what sport or activity they want to support.

[Download the Dec. 10 Papa's Pizza flyer \(PDF\)](#)

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Free On-Campus Tutoring

Marist's National Honor Society members have begun their annual free one-on-one tutoring services in all subject areas every Monday and Thursday from 2:45-3:15 PM in rooms 116 and 117.

Parents, if you have a student who is struggling in a subject, please encourage him/her to take advantage of this awesome opportunity.

Contact Mrs. Becky Boyd, NHS Advisor, at 541-686-2234 or by email bboyd@marisths.org.

Visit the NHS website [HERE](#).



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The Counselors' Corner

Shari Pimental, Counselor for Freshmen; NCAA Clearinghouse Advisor

Jerry Ragan, Counselor for Sophomores & Juniors (1st semester)

Court Wirth, College/Counselor for Seniors; Juniors (2nd semester)

News for Freshmen

On Monday, Dec. 2 freshmen participated in two informational counseling sessions: Naviance Family Connection and How to Study for Final Exams. [Naviance is a comprehensive website](#) that students and parents can use to plan for college and a career. Family Connection is linked with Naviance, a service that we use in our office to track and analyze data about college and career plans, so it provides up-to-date information that is specific to our school. Family Connection allows you and your student to:

- Get involved in the planning and advising process: Build a résumé, complete online surveys, and manage timelines and deadlines for making decisions about colleges and careers.
- Research colleges: Compare GPA, standardized test scores, and other statistics to actual historical data from our school for students who have applied and been admitted in the past.
- Research careers: Research hundreds of careers and career clusters, and take career assessments.
- Create plans for the future: Create goals and to-dos, and complete tasks assigned to you by the school to better prepare yourself for your future college and career goals.

Family Connection also lets us share information with you and your student about upcoming meetings and events, local scholarship opportunities, and other resources for college and career information. Students can also use the site to stay in communication with the counseling office.

The counseling office requires all freshmen to complete the Learning Style Inventory which consists of 45 questions. The program provides students, parents, and counselors important insights about how students learn. The on-line tool assesses how each of the following dimensions affects your student's learning:

- Immediate environment
- Emotionality
- Sociological needs
- Physical needs

The inventory takes approximately 30 minutes to complete and provides instant feedback. Mrs. Shari Pimental, Freshman Counselor, asks all freshmen to have the Learning Style Inventory completed by the end of February 2014.

The session How to Study for Final Exams discussed preparation as well as strategies to help students be successful on their January finals. The handout given to students will also be available on [Mrs. Pimental's teacher web.](#)

We discussed the following strategies:

- Organize your materials. Gather all your notes, assignments, old tests and handouts. Use old tests - make a photocopy and white out the answers on the

copy. Now you have practice tests. Invent your own essay questions especially for those classes that focus on themes. Reread your notes again and mark anything that would serve well as an essay question.

- Learn the things you did not learn the first time. Read through your class notes twice to see what concepts sound familiar and what you need to spend more time on. Build up your class notes. Organize by date. Get together with a study partner and compare notes and fill in any missing information. For Math redo some of the exercises of your old assignments or use the chapter reviews in your books.
- Prioritize the information according to its importance.
- Learn and review the material in order of priority.

News for All Students

Summer Opportunities! For students of all grade levels interested in participating in a unique or enriching summer experience, there is a long list of opportunities in [Naviance](#). Travel abroad, pursue in-depth learning programs in a subject that interests you- Science, Math, Creative Writing, Theatre, and more- or volunteer somewhere. There are seemingly endless options! Now is the time to do some research if you may be interested. From your Naviance account, click on the "Colleges" tab, then click on the "Enrichment Programs" link.

News for Seniors

Most students applying to four-year universities should complete and submit their applications by mid-December. There are exceptions to this (for instance, if a student is doing significantly better academically this year than in past years, and they to make sure that is factored into the college's admission decision), which is one thing that is discussed in individual meetings, but for most students the sooner you finalize your college research and get applications submitted, the sooner you can turn more of your attention to scholarships and financial aid- not to mention enjoying everything that is unique about your senior year! It is especially important to get your applications in soon for any schools that have a deadline that falls during our Christmas break, so students can let us know of any transcripts, letters of recommendation, or any other forms from Marist's side that they need us to submit in time. Lane, or other community college, applications can be completed in the spring.

Remember, always, always, always update [Naviance](#) with your application status. Students should already have an accurate list of schools in there that you are planning to apply to, but it is essential that you let us know that you have submitted an application to a particular college, and request a transcript. This is how we know to submit the school forms they require (letters of rec, transcript, school profile, etc). We can't submit these forms if students do not update things properly, and until these forms are in, a student's application is incomplete.

Remember, too, that test scores, either SAT or ACT, need to be submitted from the testing agency directly to the college. Students make this request on the appropriate website (SAT= www.sat.collegeboard.org, and ACT= www.actstudent.org). Marist does not include this information on our transcript. See Court Wirth or Christine Deffenbacher, Registrar, with any questions.

Financial Aid Night Thursday, Dec. 5

As the end of "Application Season" quickly approaches, the next step in the process of going to college takes center stage - How do I pay for college once my child has been accepted? For help on that end, our annual College Financial Aid Night is coming up tomorrow night at 7 PM in the Bob Devereaux Theatre.

This year, we welcome Kara Hoisington, Assistant Director of Financial Aid at the University of Oregon. Ms Hoisington gave a similar presentation for our seniors a couple weeks ago ([posted on Mr. Wirth's website](#) for any students who couldn't attend). Now she'll return for her "parent" version, with helpful information no matter what type of school your student is planning to attend: public, private, a 4-year school or a community college. MsHoisington will cover filling out the FAFSA, work-study, student and parent loans, scholarship tips, and more. She will also be available to answer specific questions that may be unique to your family/ financial situation.

If you are hoping/ planning to receive any outside funding sources to help pay for college, I hope you can make it to this event! Please contact Mr Wirth if you have any questions.

Local scholarship opportunities are included in the "Scholarships List" in [Naviance](#) (found in the "Colleges" section). As Marist is notified of additional local scholarship opportunities for our students, they will be posted in that section.

January 1 First day for FAFSA forms to be filed. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov for the preliminary worksheet and then file online after midnight on Jan. 1. Also on that site, get a PIN (both parent and child) so that you have an account and can sign the FAFSA when you are ready to submit. This will be covered in more detail at Financial Aid Night.

Juniors: PSAT Results

Juniors and their parents will have an opportunity to review the results of the PSAT which was taken in October. The results will be given out in class when they arrive in the second or third week of December. An e-mail will follow these classroom presentations and it will contain general things to think about and talk about relative to the results and what to do next.

Here are a few things to consider ahead of time:

- The PSAT is a moment in time for a student and in no way an "absolute" predictor of future student success. However, research has shown that students who take the PSAT generally show higher SAT scores than those who do not.
- The PSAT results will include access to My College Quickstart, which will enable students to examine careers and majors. A strong recommendation is to compare interest and career information from My College Quickstart to that outlined in the PLAN results from sophomore year and the results of the [Naviance](#) survey "Do What You Are." The points where these three independent and objective data sets intersect may provide valuable information and direction as students look to future plans for colleges, majors, and ultimately, careers.
- It is never too early to register for the SAT exam. All juniors should have taken an

SAT before the end of the school year. We encourage registering for either the May 3 or June 7 exams. To register go to sat.org/register. Test-fee waivers are available for students who qualify, based on family income. See your counselor with questions.

- All juniors will take the ACT in school on Wednesday, April 23. Registration for this exam is handled by Marist because we have a special relationship with ACT that allows us to host the exam for our students. Note that this is the only instance when Marist signs up students - for any other SAT or ACT test, the only way students can register is by signing up (and paying) directly on either the ACT or College Board (SAT) websites.
- The long holiday break is a perfect time to be doing some work in the Naviance program!

News for Sophomores

Recently, all sophomores attended a mini-session which took a look at their future options and, in particular, the option of attending college. The path to college is a "process, not an event." Thus, it is important that sophomores do some self-reflection over the course of this school year, thinking about strengths and weaknesses, interests and talents, the rewards of academic rigor versus taking the easy route.

To facilitate this self-reflection, all sophomores are asked to complete several tasks on [Naviance](#) by Dec. 16. They each received a red card which lists the following tasks: Game Plan, Learning Style Inventory, Personality Inventory ("Do What You Are"), Résumé, and the Career Interest Profiler. Having completed these tasks will be a great help in future planning.

Next "Brown Bag Lunch"

Dec. 11: Careers in Education with Kevin Alltucker, Mike Donnelly, and Pat Wagner. Student sign-up is in the Counseling Center or by emailing Mr. Ragan at jragan@marisths.org.

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School Closings

As we enter the winter months, an important reminder to all of our parents and students that in case of bad weather and it becomes necessary to either cancel school or delay the start of school, you will be notified by a phone call in the morning via our [SchoolReachsystem](#).

Generally, Marist follows Eugene School District 4J decisions regarding school closure in

cases of bad weather. 4J decisions are normally announced in the morning by 6:30 P.M. You can learn more about how to get the 4J announcement by [visiting their website](#).

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Have You Bought Your Yearbook Yet?

The Yearbook class is hard at work making the 2014 issue of The Shield. [You can order your copy now online](#). All orders are due by April 30, 2014 - books will arrive in August 2014. Questions - contact Toni Cooper at tcooper@marisths.org.

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Five for the Feast Results

Congratulations and thank you for helping Marist exceed its goal for the Five for the Feast project. Mr. Jerry Ragan, Marist Volunteer Program moderator, delivered a check for \$3,380.00 to the Eugene Mission to assist with their annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Ours was the largest donation they received for that purpose and Executive Director, Jack Tripp, was deeply touched and very, very grateful for our support. Good work!

The first week of December will mark the beginning of the annual Angel Project, which will be sponsored by our Theology Department. This program will support Catholic Community Services by means of "adopting" twenty-six (26) of their client families. Each of our Theology classes will do its best to help brighten Christmas for its adopted family. More details will follow in your students' Theology classes.

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"The Odd Couple" Opens in January with Double Casts

Marist Theater Director Tony Rust announced on Dec. 3 that the play *The Odd Couple* will be performed by two entirely different casts on different evenings in the Bob Devereaux Theatre. An all-male cast featuring Seniors Jeff Carr and Zac Oldham (with two ladies as the English sisters) will appear on stage on Jan. 11 and 16, while an all-female cast featuring Seniors Maddie Thompson and Olivia Descheine (with two gentlemen as the English brothers) will perform on Jan. 9 and 18.

This is the second time a "reversed gender" double cast production has been done at Marist Theatre, having previously tried it out with *The Taming of the Shrew* in 2010.

[Tickets are available online.](#)



MALE CAST

SATURDAY JAN 11TH & THURSDAY JAN 16TH

Bob Devereaux Theatre

Thursday Jan 9th Female cast

Marist Catholic High School
1900 Kingsley Road Eugene OR

Saturday Jan 11th Male cast

Adults \$10
Students \$5

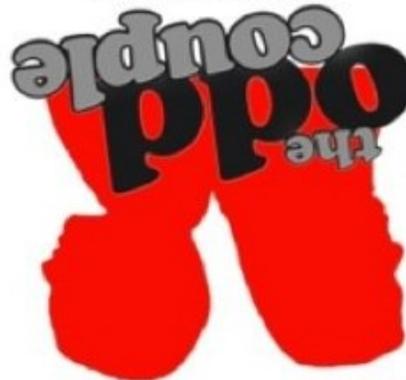
Thursday Jan 16th Male cast

Tickets available at
www.seatyourself.biz/marist

Saturday Jan 18th Female cast

SATURDAY JAN 18TH & THURSDAY JAN 9TH

FEMALE CAST



Poster by Emily Bly

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