INSIDE:

February 25, 1988

Marist College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Student leaders plagued by campus apathy

by Bill Johnson

A sign hung on the door of Fireside Lounge last week, inviting students to come in and "meet your student leaders.

Few students did.

Last week was Student Awareness Week, an effort to improve the image of student government, according to Bob Lynch, assistant director of college activities.

There is little understanding of student government, students and administrators agree. Voting statistics show that participation is slight, and that many college-sponsored events is low. Many factors, including pressure toward student government and its role in sponsoring activities and communicating with the college administration.

Peter Pecunel, who was student body president during the 1987-88 academic year, said: "They don't know enough about it to be apathetic. I wonder how many people know who their student leaders are.

If they do know who their leaders are, statistics show many students didn't vote for them. Last spring, 369 students -- fewer than 1 percent of the entire student body -- voted in the election for student government. The previous year, that figure was slightly lower. Campaigns for all CCL offices, except College Union Board president ran unopposed last year.

"I think students are very busy, and they're going about their own lives," said Deborah Bell, assistant dean of students. "The people who get interested in student government now are the ones who have in interest in that area. I think primarily a lot of people aren't interested.

Some students do call it apathy. "I think apathy is a very real thing," said Glenn Onos, a sophomore computer science major from Glen Head, N.Y. "Just look at how many students go home every weekend." Onos says the large number of people who are interested in student government contribute to a lack of involvement in senior class activities.

"Students have little faith in the ability of student government to handle their complaints." Onos said. "Because they feel the administration is not concerned enough with what the students want.

Onos also said no problems were serious enough to cause students to take action and voice their opinions. "I never voted because I never thought my vote would make much difference," said Leo Pasztorjian, a sophomore business administration major from Bedford Hills, N.Y.

Onos said student government should improve communication between the administration and the student body, so students are aware of administrative policies and student government's impact on them.

Jon Urban, vice president of the junior class, mentioned junior class meetings which were attended by only a few students, and he said the organization seems to be more concerned with getting students to the administration's office than with keeping them there.

Belt, the advisor for student government, and Lynch said the administration does look after student interests.

Continued on next page

Wiring mishap leads to campus blackout

by Annie Breslin

A mischievous squirrel is said to have caused the six-hour power failure which struck the south end of campus early Tuesday morning.

According to Anthony Tarantino, director of physical plant, the squirrel shorted out wiring for Leo Hall, Champagnat Hall and Cam­pus Center, when it found its way into an electrical service box, located on a telephone pole adja­cent to Sheahan Hall.

"It shorted out to the point where (the squirrel) caught fire and then climbed into an electrical service box, which is located on a telephone pole adja­cent to Sheahan Hall," Tarantino said. "All new wiring was need­ed.

Residents of the buildings were left without electricity, hot water or water pressure at approximately 9 a.m., when the fire occurred. Power was restored by 3 p.m.

It took six Central Hudson Gas and Electric employees and two bodymarist servicemen to replace the damaged wires, which stretch the length of the pole. The damaged wires were connected to an underground wiring system, which did not have to be serviced.

Signs posted in Leo and Champagnat warned students that the black out was expected to last into the night, causing many students to panic and run to fly. Tarantino said the damage could have taken up to ten hours to repair. "We were ready to pitch tents out there," he said.

During the emergency, students traveled to other campus buildings to shower and use electrical ap­pliances. Cadets were called to light bathrooms in Champagnat, until residents autonomous removed the potential fire hazards.

"Two minutes before the lights went on we were still thinking we had to sleep in McCann," a Champagnat resident said.

Continued on next page

IBM interns warm up to life at Big Blue

by Chris Landry

Cheri Newsheller was ready to take on the corporate world. She had gotten up extra early, dressed in her favorite blue skirt and bor­rowed her mother's car for her first day as a communications intern at the East Fishkill IBM plant.

But it was only thirteen degrees that morning and the weather was not warm.

She arrived an hour late — "totally frazzled," Newsheller thought she would be yelled at — maybe fired. But the first words spoken to her were: "Till down while I get you a cup of coffee.

"I expected the people to be rigid and strict," said the senior com­munications arts major. "But they were easygoing and laid-back.

"I was surprised that IBM is a strict businesslike corporate power can be intimidating, Marist interns at IBM find themselves working in a relaxed and personal atmosphere surrounded by helpful people.

There was currently 25 Marist students working in different IBM plants across Dutchess County. The Marist Field Experience requires a 2.5 cumulative grade point average and the completion of 60 credits before an internship is granted, said the advisor for student government.

IBM, which is usually ranked in the top five in Fortune magazine's list of best of corporate jobs, pays its interns a substantial amount more than other employers.

The image of IBM caused many students to feel intimidated and out of place because they were merely students involved in a large corporation.

"At first the job was terribly dis­orienting," Leo Roselli, a computer programmer at the East Fishkill plant, said. "But, at time went on, I found that the people were very helpful — everybody wasn't a back-stabber.

The seriousness of the IBM world is exaggerated, according to Mark Husted, a computer pro­grammer at the Poughkeepsie site. "They really don't have to wear a white shirt and a red tie," he said.

As a drawback to this relaxed at­mosphere students find themselves in situations where a great deal of pressure is put on them to do their job quickly and efficiently.

Newsheller, who writes and edits information communicated be­tween the IBM branches in the area, was faced with writing 22 pages for 22 bulletin in one-hour day.

"I got the job done but to say the least, that was a lot of pressure," said Newsheller.

Although working for IBM in­volves the pressure to produce, these added responsibilities gave students self-esteem and a sense of importance.

"It's exciting because you go to meetings where your opinion is heard," Roselli said. "That makes you feel important.

Husted said he cannot help feeling important when he can shine his shoes by using a mechanical buffing machine in the bathroom before he steps into his own office.

Students do not merely learn the different aspects and responsi­bilities of their jobs.

Newsheller began to think of her life in the future after talking with a fellow worker who is soon to be a mother.

"IBM is such a big company that you get to interact and learn from a wide variety of people," Newsheller said.

An internship helped Roselli realize that in order to succeed in

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Continued from page 3.

**Workshops**

Creative Writing

"Poetry 2100" accepted through March 10 for a short fiction writing workshop. Submit five poems (no manuscript more than 20 pages). No fee. Address: 11 W. 42nd St., New York 10036.

Drawings

Life drawing open to students of the College Union Board, Monday, Tuesday from 7 to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 8:30 to 11 p.m. For information, call 424-2660.

**Entertainment**

Two foreign films will be shown on campus this week. "Camila," a story revolving around an upper-class young girl, will be shown Saturday and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in Martin Hall. "A Night of Reggae" featuring the band Eek-a-Mouse will occur Saturday night at The Chance. For more information, call the Cafe at 677-9999.

**Attention All Seniors...**

Do you know that an award is presented to the Teacher of the Year at your commencement? Your chance to vote for the teacher of your choice is coming up soon.

Keep an eye out for further information about The Teacher of the Year Award!

sponsored by:

The Student Academic Committee

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**DRIVER NEEDED**

Wanted to transport Marist students between New York City and Palisades. Salary: $5 per hour. Vehicle provided.

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**Student-run 21 Club gives dough to charity**

The student-run 21 Club of Marist College is giving away all of its proceeds to a charity of its choosing. "Second Look" will be this year's recipient. The group plans to put the money to good use.

Robert Carvalho and others have been working on the project for several months. They hope to raise $500 by the end of the semester.

"We want it to be more like a club where kids can get together," said Carvalho.

According to Carvalho, it was also important to have a place for students to hang out and socialize. The group plans to hold events and meetings on a regular basis.

"We hope that everyone will join in and have fun," said Carvalho.

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**Bake-off results in**

The bake-off was held to celebrate Women's History Month. The winning entry was a cake made by Kim Rinaldi.

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**Back from NH, Miringoff sizes up the race**

By Tim LeVay

The New Hampshire primary has not been the same for voters as it was for the candidate, according to Gov. Mike Huckabee.

"I think it's been an unusual year for the voters," said Huckabee.

"The key for me has been to push changes through the front office. The key for me has been to push changes through the front office." The key for me has been to push changes through the front office.

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**Warm Welcome for new campus funny guy**

Freshman becomes campus funny guy

Tyler Phelps, 17, became the new campus funny guy last week.

"I want it to be more like a club where kids can get together," said Phelps.

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**Highly radical that will make sense to the public," said Phelps.**

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**Maoist leader, of both left and former Marist students, has gained support.**

"It's not our job to get them to think students need to learn more communication on campus also hurts," said Phelps.

"We need to have more open forums for discussion of these issues." The reason that no clear front has emerged, according to Phelps, "is that there is no one impressive person from the past who I know." The reason that no clear front has emerged, according to Phelps, "is that there is no one impressive person from the past who I know." The reason that no clear front has emerged, according to Phelps, "is that there is no one impressive person from the past who I know."
My meeting with the governor and Grandpa

Editor's Note: While working at WCBS radio where I have an internship — an opportunity I had used to achieve my goal of meeting famous people — I took the time to introduce myself to the governor when I had the chance.

I had not seen these people

and it was no big deal. I'm not one of those people.

I had taken sandwich

wiches for granted and I wasn't quite sure of the basics.

In fact I was almost shamed with the extent of meeting famous people.

This experience taught me to show "Granny's" in Commack Village is one of the most famous people who played Grandpa on the "Marx Brothers." I had the opportunity to meet with Gov. Mario Cuomo when I was quick to jump on.

He was at the station an hour early and a half-hour size selection was up to a conference table. This was the big chance to let him know that the Governor's office was at last trying to sell a sandwich for good and wasn't quite sure.

When I finally got to the interview room, the governor had already made his way to the studio. The show was starting and I seemed like I missed

a point. I then responded_Sophomore Mike Wolfe predicts that someday he will pull yourself together and go to a fire house to be a volunteer firefighter. He has been in the fire service for two years as a volunteer firefighter and says he plans to make it a full time profession.

"Marist? Doesn't Joe O'Brien work here?" Wolfe was asked.

"Sure," Smits would reply.

"I always wanted to be a fireman, but I was too small. I used to stand on a chair to make it easier."

"I already have a job, so I don't have the time."

"Isn't he really about average height?"

"Sure," Smits would reply.

"Would you like to tell the governor than a game show host?"

"No, it's more fun to play," Wolfe said.

"I probably would have been used to being a volunteer firefighter." Wolfe said.

Albright." It was great. The only thing detractive about the experience was a bit of annoyance from the press watching on.

The ad states this is not the case. The Fairview Fire Company is in the system. Volunteer fire department, in this photo, view Fire Station in this photo. (Photo by Alan Tener)

The Fairytew fire department is constantly on call as a volunteer fireman for the Fairview Fire District. Dormeyer urges students to get out of the building because it may not be a real fire and you have two, three, four, five, six, seven people coming into the flame, getting hit and you have two, three, four, five, six, seven people coming into the flame, getting hit. And you have to have a second person.

"They (Fairview Fire Company) volunteer at the Fairview Fire Station, according to Dormeyer. The number of outlets in the system indicates how much the system can handle. Expansion could easily overwhelm the system. Expansion could easily overwhelm the system. Dormeyer. The number of outlets in the system indicates how much the system can handle.

"I always wanted to be a fireman, but I was too small. I used to stand on a chair to make it easier."

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The people who play with KEM cards will refuse to play cards but people who play with KEM cards are bendable, tear-resistant and washable. These cards are printed by a letterpress and are made right here in America. They are made in America. They are made right here in America.

"The time it takes to make the cards is well worth it, and Albright." KEM Plastic Playing Cards, Inc. is the only company in the world that massproduces cards made of 144 projects of cellulose-acetate, a long-lasting, resistant and washable. Albright.

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Students responsible for campus facilities

Students are responsible for the condition of the facilities they use. If they are not careful, they will not only be using damaged buildings and facilities, but also are creating an unsafe environment for other students. This is not the way we should be thinking about our university. We should be thinking about our environment as a community that needs to be taken care of.

The housing areas are the only ones on campus that are under the control of the students. There are many examples of this, such as the dorms and the apartments. The students are responsible for the cleanliness and the condition of these areas. If they are not careful, they will not only be using damaged buildings and facilities, but also are creating an unsafe environment for other students. This is not the way we should be thinking about our university. We should be thinking about our environment as a community that needs to be taken care of.

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Students get ready for USSR trip

By Mary Strickland

It is spring break — one of those magical, magical times of the year when you get to do completely irresponsible things. You might go to Paris, or New York City, or even just to a nearby beach with your friends. But some students are planning something a little more... adventurous.

Kevin Bacon and Elizabeth Glaser are two students in the Marist College Program, a special foreign exchange program that allows students to travel to Russia and experience life in a foreign country. This year, the program is sending 90 students to the Soviet Union, and they are excited about the opportunity to witness firsthand how life is in the USSR.

"We're really looking forward to the trip," said Bacon. "It's going to be an incredible experience." Glaser agreed. "I'm really excited to see what the country is like." They both said that they are planning to take lots of pictures and make new friends.

The trip is set to begin next month, and the students will be traveling for two months. They will be staying in host families and attending Russian language classes.

Bacon and Glaser are not the only ones excited about the trip. Students around the country are eagerly awaiting their chance to travel to the USSR. The Marist College Program is one of the few that allow students to experience life in a foreign country in such an immersive way.

For Bacon and Glaser, the trip is not just about the sights and sounds of Russia. They hope to learn about the culture and the people, and to gain a new perspective on life.

"We're going to learn a lot about ourselves," said Bacon. "We're going to see things we never have before." Glaser added, "I think we're all going to grow as people."
Leap year is back again, but how did it get here?

By Herb Kelleher

If you've been busy counting the years since the last leap year - 1988 - you've noticed that this year, 1989, is a normal one. But if you go back one more leap year, you'll find that leap year is 1988. That's right, the leap year didn't happen in 1988.

The difference between a leap year and a normal year is that the former adds an extra day, Feb. 29, to the calendar. This is done to keep the calendar in sync with the Earth's orbit around the Sun. The extra day is added to correct for the fact that the Earth takes slightly more than 365 days to make a complete orbit around the Sun. A normal year has 365 days, but a leap year has 366.

The leap year was first introduced in 44 BC by Julius Caesar, who added an extra day to the calendar of the Roman Republic, making the last day of February the 29th. The extra day was added to keep the calendar in sync with the seasons.

The leap year was revised in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII, who decreed that the extra day should be added to the calendar only in years divisible by 4, but not in years divisible by 100, except those divisible by 400. This rule is still used today.

The leap year is an important concept in many cultures, and its history is a fascinating story in itself.
**Sports**

**O'Connor, Smits key in Red Fox victory**

by Chris Barry and Dan Pietrafesa

The Marist College men's basketball team bounced back from a disappointing weekend by beating Loyola, Md., Monday, 100-86, improving their record to 16-8 overall and 11-2 in the ECAC Metro Conference.

Tonight, the Red Foxes take on Monmouth College in a 7:30 p.m. game. Marist womrn Monmouth, 67-66, in overtime last month.

Joe O'Connor set new school records for 3-point field goals and 3-point field goal attempts as he went 8-for-11 from that range setting a new career-high point total with 29.

New team records were also set in those categories as the Red Foxes shot a combined 12-for-22 from 3-point range.

Smits led Marist in scoring with 29 points as Marist reached a new career-high point total with 24.

Backlund, head coach of the Marist College ski team.

Coach-of-year Backlund credits his team

by Pamela Showheek

After receiving the highest award in the conference and coaching the entire team to life-time bests, Doug Backlund, head coach of the women's ski team, said coming into a program with such a good team made his job easy.

He contributed his success first with showing his team he cares. He said it's easy to treat each swimmer equally, yet at the same time he tries to give them each a lot of attention. He said, "They know that I care, basically my life revolves around swimming. I don't care a whole lot about much else."

Before coming to Marist, Backlund was a graduate assistant at Mountain State College in Monclair, N.J., for two years.

"Coming into a team like this makes life easy, right from the start," said Backlund. "They did a great job of recruiting and it paid off." "The girls are the best and really easy for me to coach," he said.

Backlund said he believes there is more to motivation than just talking. He said if he knows each swimmer's goals it gives him an idea what they're working for and he can help them reach those goals.

"They have excellent swimmers on the perimeter," said Knight guard Rik Smits. Smits led Marist in scoring with 100 points in 1981 against Dickinson University, 78-75.

The Marist College men's basketball team dropped its third straight game last weekend, losing to Seton Hall, 73-65.

"They have excellent shooters on their team," said Knight guard Rik Smits. Smits led Marist in scoring with 100 points in 1981 against Dickinson University, 78-75.

Another key was the Knights' 56 percent shooting from the field, but constructive comments. He said people are more open to the criticism if they're not overcome with it.

Backlund said he feels he is a demanding coach. He said, "there is more to motivation than just talking. He said if he knows each swimmer's goals it gives him an idea what they're working for and he can help them reach those goals.

"They have excellent swimmers on the perimeter," said Knight guard Rik Smits. Smits led Marist in scoring with 100 points in 1981 against Dickinson University, 78-75.

One of Backlund's coaching techniques came from his father. He said his father used to tell him, "You can't win them all."

"They need to listen and learn from their mistakes," Babineau said. "Those two big games give the women a feeling of what it is like to win at this level of competition."

Lady cagers fall to FDU, losing streak reaches three

by David Blondin

The Marist College women's basketball team dropped to 3-7 after their third straight game last weekend, losing to Fairleigh Dickinson, 59-37.

Marist also lost to Colgate University, 73-57 and Manhattan College, 60-45.

Against FDU, the Lady Red Foxes scored 22 percent from the field as Marist fell to 7-17 overall and 4-9 in conference play.

FDU's Diane Campbell led all scorers with 21 points and Danielle Galarneau led Marist with 12 points and eight rebounds.

Marist made only four field goals in the game, while FDU shot 44 percent from the field and outrebounded the Red Foxes 30-36.

"The biggest thing that happened is that frustration set in," said Ken Babineau, Marist's head coach.

"They did nothing we didn't expect them to do," said Babineau.

"We prepared for it all week," said Marist. "Mark turned the ball over on four key possessions down the stretch enabling the Knights to run off 11 straight points.

The loss gave both teams 10-2 records in the conference, but if the season ends with both teams having to crown regular-season champs because they are the Red Foxes' only two losses.

The Knights entered the game with a different defensive strategy than most opponents have shown to Marist this year. They led the Red Foxes a perimeter game.

"We know that Smits is going to do his thing," Roberts added. "We had to stop their secondary scorers with 29 points as Marist reached a new career-high point total with 24.

Backlund received Coach-of-the-Season honors at Trenton State College when Marist ended up with a first-place finish in the Metropolitan Conference Swimming Championships.

After receiving the highest award in the conference and coaching the entire team to life-time bests, Doug Backlund, head coach of the women's ski team, said coming into a program with such a good team made his job easy.

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