Longview site revision nearly hits roadblock

BY ROB McGUINNESS  Managing Editor

POUGHKEEPSIE — Plans to move the access road at the Longview Park site survived a planning meeting Jan. 13, as board members voiced concerns about emergency access, funding and construction phases of the site plan.

The Longview Park site plan, which was initially approved by the planning board on June 7, 2001, involves development of six acres along the Hudson River. In addition to enhancement of the scenic waterfront, the finished park will include picnic areas and recreation space that will be open to the public.

Marist College, Vassar College and the City and Town of Poughkeepsie own various parcels of land that comprise the six-acre site.

The park itself has been under construction since 2002. The Army Corps of Engineers is scheduled to finish bulkhead improvements next month, and vehicular activity in the three-quarters of a mile stretch from south gate to the north gate of the Marist campus.

Managing Editor

The park site, Rhode said during his presentation, "[It creates] better separation between vehicular traffic and the waterway." Rhode said. "And it creates more open space along the waterfront." At 20 feet, the road will be wider than original plans, which was approved by the planning board on June 7, 2001.

The expanded roadway will reduce conflict between vehicular and pedestrian activities.

The Longview Park access road was slated to travel along the waterfront. The revised plan shows the access road coming through the tunnel, across the parking lot, over the gravity hill and back down behind the boathouses.

Continuation traffic would be directed to the overpass of all pedestrians observed over two weeks in September and October 2003, less than three percent were seen crossing illegally.

The results of the pedestrian questionnaire administered during the week of Sept. 25, 2003 were only a small part of the Route 9 Pedestrian Safety Study released Dec. 31.

Capt. Tory Gallante of the Fairview Fire Department expressed his department's concern by The Numbe...
DOT considers vehicular, pedestrian traffic near Marist

From Page One

**Longview road revision gets town approval**

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“Planners questioned Merolli as to why the aforementioned gazebo was not scheduled for immediate construction. Merolli said that gazebo funding is currently being sought.

“The college will continue our education efforts, work with student affairs and the town police on the enforcement component and seek the collaboration of DOT in securing engineering improvements to make the corridor safer,” Merolli and Gildard said in their statement.

“The DOT also recommended long and short-term solutions for the Marist corridor, including implementation of a 30 mph speed limit throughout the corridor at all times. This solution will likely be implemented soon.

Long-term solutions included providing a paved path from Marist’s south gate to Water Street, developing plans to strategically locate pedestrian paths to support grade-separated solutions.

Merolli and Gildard called the recommendations reasonable.

“The DOT recommendations are very reasonable,” Merolli and Gildard said in their joint statement. “And we are hopeful the town and coordinator will assist us in the implementation process.”

College officials hope that some of the short-term solutions will take effect in the near future.

“We would like to see the diagonal crosswalk lines painted at the Route 9 and Fulton Street intersection, the consistent 30 mph speed limit authorized, the crosswalk lines painted on Marist Drive and the traffic light pattern at [the North Gate] adjusted to mirror Route 9 as soon as possible,” Merolli and Gildard said in the statement. “We feel these are low cost yet effective solutions.”

College officials were ultimately satisfied with the study’s findings.

“We certainly are pleased that this study affirmed our efforts to safely move traffic according to the needs of the campus to the other while at the same time causing as little delay as possible in moving vehicles through this very busy section of Route 9,” Merolli and Gildard said in their statement.

Fulton Street housing complex to open by Fall 2005

**POUGHKEEPSIE** – The recent New York State Department of Transportation study on Route 9 vehicular and pedestrian activity in the Marist corridor will have little bearing on the college’s plans to build student housing at 54-58 Fulton St., though the report will serve as a guide for expansion.

Curiously, the Fulton Street project, a 250-bed development, is in the stage where map notes are added to the site plan, according to Marist Executive Vice President Roy Merolli. The town planning board approved the project site plan in October.

“It’s more of a mechanical procedure,” Merolli said. “We had to work out the language with the town attorney.”

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New parking appeal forms offer justice to deserving

By ROB MCGUINNESS
Managing Editor

During the fall semester, the Student Government Association received more than 400 parking ticket appeals.

Given the number, and especially in light of many unappealed appeals, SGA justices sought to revise the process so only legit-
imate appeals can be considered.

In October, SGA Chief Justice Kimberly Cuccia and Judicial Board member Neil Wynne collaborated in the revision process.

The sheer volume of appeals prompted the need for a change, according to Cuccia.

The SGA had received an eye-popping amount of appeals on a daily basis because with the old form, there really was no reason not to appeal," said Cuccia. "We were trying to frame the guidelines for parking ticket appeals to be heard.

Cuccia believes the new guidelines will reduce the number of appeals received and will allow justices to devote more time to appeals worthy of consideration. She said, "If the guidelines are not followed, we may not even consider the appeal," Cuccia said.

The forms also require applicants to complete all fields on the form and sign their names, thereby requiring responsibility for their appeal.

"We said the new forms would ultimately provide greater justice and efficiency in the appeals process. The primary objective of the parking appeals process is to ensure fairness for students in regards to parking violations," said Wynne.

"The new appeal forms will make the process more efficient and better able to protect those students with legitimate appeals."

Rewriting the form took a month, from the original revisions to the review from several college administra-
tors, including Robin Torres, director of judicial aff airs; Pat Corden, assistant dean of student aff airs; John Gildard, director of safety and security; and Bob Lynch, director of student aff airs.

Cuccia said the administrators were helpful and cooper-
ative throughout the revision process.

They were all very willing to help and thought the idea of a new form was a good idea and was very neces-
sary," Cuccia said. "The previous form was a very Mickey Mouse sample of what needed to be on the form.

Cuccia emphasized the importance of thoroughly completing the parking appeals forms prior to submit-
ting them to the SGA and that judicial decisions pertaining to appeals are final.

According to Cuccia, the forms have not received an overwhelming response from students, who preferred the old application.

"I believe that students were not as pleased with the new forms as they were with the old forms," Cuccia said. "We are just trying to make the system more fair for those deserving an appeal and hold those responsi-
ble who are not deserving."
By JENNIFER C. HAGGERTY
Editor in Chief

The lower level of the Cannavino Library holds more than just books. The largest college collection of fore-edge paintings, 35 volumes, were donated to Marist in 1996 by George and Alice Cahn.

These unfamiliar with the term “fore-edge” may wonder why this is so extraordinary.

John Ansley, college archivist and special collections director, explained that the image remains hidden until the book’s pages are fanned out and then held in place.

The paintings themselves are rare, and were popularly created during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in England. Having a collection of this size is unprecedented.

“A fore-edge painting can refer to any decoration on the fore-edge of the leaves of a book,” he said.

The smaller the volume, the better the effect.

Ansley explained that after the image was painted on the book, the pages were squared up and piled, thus hiding and protecting the painting while the book is closed.

Completing a fore-edge painting was difficult for the artists of that era. Since paint has a tendency to run, the text block used to keep the book in the fanned display (an order to paint the image) had to be clamped very tightly, fanned in the opposite direction you can as his audience.

“Probably two or three percent of existing volumes with fore-edge paintings are doubles.”

Ansley also says that he considers the fore-edge books as artifacts.

“There are more books produced today than ever before and yet there has been a steady shift away from the printed word and there is a renewed interest in producing high quality books once again.”

“Leaving the Quick Limit: set at None, and this time choose Subject Headings in the Find Results box. Then click search.

You will get back a list of subject headings, such as Foreign films, Argentina, and you can see Foreign films, France by clicking to the next page. Every entry will also display how many films Marist owns that were produced in each country. Click on the title number associated with your choice and the list of films will display.

All videocassettes and DVDs can be viewed in the audiovisual viewing room in the library. We hope that you enjoy the Marist film collection.

Finding cash for college is child’s play.

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Dave Matthews rocks during Madison Square concert ... from 7 track off “Someday.”

Often with their backs to the crowd, Matthews, Anastasio and Reynolds formed an inner circle jam, seemingly overtaken by their colorful creations. Throughout the Garden, fans hawked in the tremendous stage presence generated by the truly gifted trio of guitarists. Meanwhile, Blade, Hall and Paczkowski seized their ample opportunities to shine onstage, adding depth and texture into each well-crafted arrangement.

Stirred in among Matthews’ new material was an abundance of cover tunes, including takes on songs from Peter Gabriel ("Solsbury Hill"), The Band ("Up on Cripple Creek"), The Beatles ("Hey Bulldog"), Bob Dylan ("Oh Sister"), and Paul Simon ("Oh American Tune"). Under sparsely dressed laptops, “Dave Matthews and Friends” ended their long-winded set with a cyclone of energy that was “Sweet Up and Down.”

Then, much to the excitement of devout Phish fans, Dave Matthews and Trey Anastasio returned to the stage with acoustic guitars for the first phase of the encore. In clear appreciation for one another’s art, the duo hardly wasted our seals to Matthews’ “Everyday” and Anastasio’s “Bathtub Gin,” where they found themselves boogying across the stage as the zealous audience hummed its refrain.

Topping off a rare collaboration of musical masterminds, the rest of the band resurfaced and fittingly closed the night with Led Zeppelin’s “Fool in the Rain.” Some experimental solo acts are written off as cheesy or risky; however, Dave Matthews seems to have pulled it off seamlessly, all the while appearing to have much fun as his audience.
Editor in Chief

Does Longview Park plan put students at risk?

By JENNIFER C. HAGGERTY
Editor in Chief

Those concerned about the Route 9 main gate access have a new burden to consider come this July. What is already a hectic and at times unsafe intersection will have even more traffic flow. Longview Park has finished construction in 2004.

Never in my time as a student at Marist have I feared crossing roads on campus like I do off campus on Route 9. This past fall alone, there have observed multiple red-light runs (while the walk cycle was in session). The safety I feel on campus is mainly due to the fact that, for the large part, the drivers that pose a risk to students on Route 9 are kept off the campus.

When Marist agreed to create Longview Park, the plans allowed for public access for all Poughkeepsie residents. Perhaps the idea of Poughkeepsie residents accessing the park was ignored when the planning board approved the project to begin with, even though, let’s face it, Poughkeepsie is concerned with Poughkeepsie, not Marist College students.

But what about Marist College students? Does anyone ever pay attention to the pedestrian walk flow of students during the change of classes? Anytime anyone is blocking the passing of cars through the roadway that separates the library side of campus with the Lowell Thomas side of campus? Has anyone thought of what impatient Poughkeepsie drivers are like when on campus drivers do now?

My assumption is that the aggressive driving prevalent on Route 9 will also appear on the campus.

Poughkeepsie drivers can be obnoxious and impatient — so why are we inviting them willingly on the Marist campus?

It’s pretty obvious that Poughkeepsie drivers are risk-takers, due to the results found in the September 2003 DOT study of violations. Of the violations recorded, 87 were red-light, 35 of which were for running red lights. Meanwhile, only 13 violations were for pedestrians. In addition, the DOT recorded speeds as high as 61 mph. Let’s face it — Poughkeepsie drivers can be obnoxious and impatient — so why are we inviting them willingly on the Marist campus?

Perhaps I’m selfish to believe that a park that Marist creates should be a park for the Marist community alone. I’m not very open to well-coming Poughkeepsie residents on the campus to access roads that my tuition helps to maintain.

Now, I will admit a popular time to access the park will be during the summer months, when the student population on campus is practically nonexistent. However, has Marist forgotten the 80 degree summer-like days that can occur during April? What about the Indian summer days that can occur in September?

What concerns me the most, however, is the on-campus crosswalk separating the library side of campus from the Lowell Thomas side. Once Longview Park is completed, it could block 200 cars at peak, just imagine what getting to class will be like. Not only will students have to leave earlier to get to where they want to go, but Poughkeepsie residents will be more than welcome to drive erratically on our campus just as they have proven on Route 9. I despise the main intersection crosswalk now — I can’t imagine how Longview Park will influence that entrance, the student (on campus) crosswalk and even the future residents of the Poughkeepsie Street housing.

The Marist community must face the fact that we’re approaching a situation that may put students at risk.

Exploration (or exploitation?) on Mars

By KATE GIGLIO
Staff Writer

A reader poll on CNN.com showed that about three quarters of those surveyed favored exploration of Mars, despite risk to humans involved.

The question prompted me to wonder how many people have considered the risk to a pristine and fragile environment of a world virtually untouched by human hands, and if they would be slightly more hesitant about their vote if they did.

Let this serve as my disclaimer that I am first in line to sign the perennial petitions for scientific advancement. However, I am also aware that there is a delicate line between advancement and destruction, and my research has made me more alert than I initially thought in regards to manned missions to the moon and Mars.

I wouldn’t normally jump to such drastic conclusions concerning something for which only planning — much less actual execution — is barely underway. However, given the current administration’s somewhat callous stance on environmental issues, I felt compelled to shed some light on exactly what a manned mission to Mars would entail.

President George W. Bush expressed his Jan. 14 speech his aspirations for the United States space program. He noted that America has not developed any new vehicles for space exploration in nearly 35 years but now have any humans set foot on ground other than Earth’s in 30 years, and proclaimed that the time for such things had come once again.

Most ambitious among Bush’s goals is that of manned missions “to Mars and worlds beyond.”

“Human beings are headed into the cosmos,” he said.

When we look off to space, however, we must be aware of what we’re getting into — Joseph Boyce, Mars exploration program scientist at NASA from 1985 to 2005, writes in his “Smithsonian Book of Mars”: “[N]o matter how well planned or prepared, the first visit by humans will mark the point where the pristine biologic environment of Mars will be dramatically changed. It is conceivable that we might become the carriers of a ‘plague-like’ epidemic to Mars.”

Such an epidemic is what is on Earth merely the makeup of humans, it can be as extremely insignificant as the dust miles on our clothes, yet make a world of difference in a completely new environment. Therefore, we must proceed with unprecedented caution into unprecedented territory. Before altering the present state of another planet or moon, we have to consider the possible effects of our actions.

The following portion of Bush’s speech alarmed me:

“…and along this journey, we’ll make many technological breakthroughs. We don’t know yet what these breakthroughs will be. But we can be certain they’ll come and that our efforts will be repaid many times over… We may discover resources on the moon or Mars that will boggle the imagination, that will test our limits to dream… And the fascination and excitement generated by further exploration will inspire our young people to study math and science and engineering and create a new generation of innovators and inventors.”

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Oh, Mr. President. You never fail to be a pseudo-inspiration to those incapable of introspective thought. While I am certainly not opposed to “technological breakthroughs,” the disturbing obsession our country’s leader has with finding “resources” makes me very wary as to his intentions in space. Are we exploring or exploiting? Perhaps someone should inform Bush that the chances of oil on Mars are slim, and that his predilection for bleeding precious landscapes in the name of, aliens, “exploration” has reached its quota. And just because he hasn’t spawned any “new generations of innovation” doesn’t mean there aren’t plenty of them out there, to whom the term “resources” is synonymous with knowledge not profit.

The Fox Den

Opinion

The Student Newspaper of Marist College

Letter Policy

The Circle is published weekly on Thursdays during the school year. Press run is 2,200 copies distributed throughout the Marist campus. To request adver- tising information or to reach the editorial board, call (845) 575-3000 ext. 2498. Online advertising may be edited for length and style. Submissions must include full name and con- tact information. Letters may be cropped at the Circle office on a diskette or submitted through the “Letter Submission” link on MaristCircle.com. Letters to the Editor do not represent the viewpoints of The Circle.

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MaristCircle.com
J.J. Allen, former Red Fox football standout, dies at 28

‘He was the best we ever had’

Allen carried the ball 34 times for a school-record 316 yards and scored four touchdowns in a Red Foxes victory over St. Francis in the fall of 1998.

In three seasons of being part of the Marist College football team, J.J. Allen set the school record for touchdowns (41) and led Marist to 20 wins during his three years in Poughkeepsie.

The Marist community mourned the loss of an alumus earlier this month, one remembered for his prowess on the football field, his dedication to his team, and his willingness to perform community service.

J.J. Allen, arguably one of the best players in the history of the Marist football program, died Dec. 31 from cancer. He was 28.

In 30 games over three seasons at Marist, Allen set the school record for touchdowns (41) and led Marist to 20 wins during his three years in Poughkeepsie.

Little did he know, the best was yet to come.

In fact, Allen’s late-season play was so impressive that then-Circle Sports Editor Thomas Ryan lauded Allen’s ability for posting record-breaking statistics, game after game.

“I want people to say ‘You should have been at Marist and saw the way this kid played.’” — J.J. Allen

1998 Circle profile

In his own words

Profiled in the Oct. 29, 1998 edition of The Circle, Allen discussed career highlights, aspirations of trying out for the NFL, and his passion for biology classes with staff writer Alfred DeMatta. He also described how he’d like his Marist football career remembered.

“I want people to say ‘You should have been at Marist and saw the way this kid played.’” — Allen said.

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Use the form to the left and send it to “The Circle” using campus mail, or submit it online to our e-mail address: WriteTheCircle@hotmail.com

Send it to us by MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9 to be included in the Feb. 12 edition of The Circle.

Catch your recipients’ eye by using one of the featured graphics to the left.

Messages will appear alphabetically.
Gavin DeGraw will perform at Marist on Jan. 31.

BY EN HAGGERTY
Editor in Chief

It's not everyday Marist College can boast to be the host of the "next big thing." The big day, or rather, night is Jan. 31. And the place is the Nelly Goletti Theatre.

Twenty-six-year-old pianist Gavin DeGraw is backed by prominent drummer, Joey Waronker (R.E.M.), and star of "Dancing Nancies," violinist (Waltz, Wallflowers, John Hutt), and Alvin Moody on bass. However, it's the blank-stared voice that garners the most attention on his breakthrough album, "Chariot," released in late December pursuant to his label, Virgin. DeGraw's debut album, "Chariot," (J Records) is backed by prominent writer/pianist and guitarist Carlos Santana and Alicia Keys to star-dust DeGraw and make it a success. DeGraw has already gained recognition after becoming the theme song for the new WB program, "One Tree Hill." The newcomer is also slated to perform with the Barenaked Ladies tour in late winter.

"Chariot" is released in July 2003 and earned the singer/songwriter/guitarist more fame outside of his home state of New Jersey. Group-club bloggers who have followed him since 1998. Prior to pursuing his career, DeGraw attended Ithaca College (NY) and studied American music before flowing down the Columbia River to study under the corporate of George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic, Cowboy Mouth, Dixie Chicks, Everclear (Marist College debut performer), Pat McGree Band and Tony! Toni! Tone. Marist students will be able to sample the performer's works before "I Am," will be released, the album is due in March 2004.

Dave Matthews and friends give performance of their lives.

By AUDRIA TRACY
Staff Writer

New York (Dec. 17) — In the company of guitar gods Trey Anastasio and Tim Reynolds, Dave Matthews' Madison Square Garden performance proved song by song that the man of the hour could easily carry out a remark-able solo tour. The sunlit night featured a unique mix of cover jams, new material from Matthews' recently released solo album "Some Devil," and an acoustic version of classic Dave Matthews Band cuts. Opening act, Emmy Lou Harris and band, warmed up the already crowded with a soulful set. Getting the audience into the spirit of what it was to come with a closing cover of Matthews' "Memory of a Day," they greeted the audience to an evening of heartbreaking truth and a true sense of emotion.

"Dancing with the devil" had two skeletons in the closet: a stumbling two men, an acoustic arrangement and empty chairs. Amid shrieks of delight, Dave Matthews and Tim Reynolds joined center stage, greeting the audience to an acoustic arrangement that opened with an intoxicating shot from "Rutherford." The heavy tone was chased by a light and melodic collection of hits. "Li'L Old Lady," created the true for the lucky fans as two spotlighted hit the stage, floor, illumining two extricate empty chairs. Amid shrieks of delight, Dave Matthews and Tim Reynolds joined center stage, greeting the audience to an acoustic arrangement that opened with an intoxicating shot from "Rutherford." The heavy tone was chased by a light and melodic collection of hits. "Li'L Old Lady," created the true

The "All American Music Award" is an example of the music that has resurfaced the title of a former major label. "Blues Traveler" is a highly anticipated artist for 2004. But don't give up just yet. A prelimi-nary title like that could evolve into one that is a big hit. After all, it worked for a film initially titled "The Untitled Teenage Sex Comedy Which Can Be Made For Under $10 Which Studio Readers Will Most Likely Hate but I Think You Will Love" — known to moviemakers as "American Pie." While no single element of a film is entirely responsible for its success or failure, it can be argued that the catchy, memorable and perfectly descriptive title of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" was a main factor in its popularity with moviegoers. The same formula of a film with this title would be sure to ensure an audience in many people of Greek her-itage.

"As soon as I heard that there was a movie with aaron daly," as many others "would go see it," says katerina Moustakis of "Wedding." "I love any-thing that has to do with my Greek her-itage."

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Burton’s ‘Fish’ tale not bogged down by truth

BY KATIE LATANICH
The Chronicle
(Duke U.)

DURHAM, N.C. (U-WIRE) — Old storytellers, like old fishermen, never really die. At heart, Tim Burton’s “Big Fish” is no more pretentious than the occasional bumper sticker or needlepoint pillow, though — for the most part — more intelligent.

“Big Fish” is the story of reconciliation between a dying father, Edward Bloom (Albert Finney) and his son Will (Billy Crudup). Edward’s the family storyteller, who embellishes stock family tales with embarrassing enthusiasm. Father and son stop speaking after Dad steals the spotlight one too many times, but Will finally returns home to make peace with father and fiction. The film’s constructed as a series of flashbacks, featuring Ewan McGregor as the young Ed Bloom.

Burton is best known for visual imagery (think “Sleepy Hollow,” “Beetlejuice” and “The Nightmare Before Christmas”). What makes “Big Fish” a success is Burton’s ability to finally reconcile startling visuals and an equally unusual story, without having to oscillate between the two. Where Burton has been criticized in the past for placing style before substance, this is a movie about style turned substance — a happy coincidence of material and technique more than a real breakthrough in Burton’s style.

For a little truth-stretching and myth-making, “Big Fish” gets tagged with indulgent epithets like “whimsical,” “free-spirited” and so forth. But like any good blood-and-guts Grimm fairy tale, stylistic incongruities rescue the story from cloying sweetness. And, like the clumsy phrases of a foreign novel, these incongruities actually make Burton’s images more potent by virtue of their oddities and inconsistencies. There is such a thing as expecting the unexpected, and Burton perpetually hovers just beyond that boundary of the conceivable.

A jerky start-and-stop chronology actually works to Burton’s advantage, helping us recognize the temptation — and the ease — of exchanging one world for another. There’s a moral, of course, and the story winds down with head-scratching perfection; but “Big Fish” is at once a spectacular exercise in storytelling and a nod to the old-school admonition that half a story lies in the telling. There’s nothing here we didn’t already know, but perhaps that’s the point. That there are no new stories, only new tellings.