

**THOMAS WADE**  
**Marist College**  
**Poughkeepsie, NY**  
**For the Marist College Archives and Special Collections**  
**Index – Thomas Wade**

**Project Name:** Marist Heritage Project

**Transcript:** Yes

**Summary:** Yes

**Photograph(s):** Yes

**CD#:** 016

**Name of Interviewee:** Thomas Wade

**Main Topics:** Thomas reflects on his early childhood, his education and his parents and brothers and sisters. His experiences in the Physical Education field and coach, assistant Head of Admissions, Dean of Students and Head of Admission the many positions he held at Marist. His fondest recollections seem to be about the history of Marist and the Brothers that made the school so outstanding. Thomas feels that the uniqueness of the Marist Brothers accepting the lay person as equal and the tradition of the familial spirit make Marist College what it is today.

**Others present?:** No

**Interviewed by:** Richard Foy

**Interview Date:** 18 January 2002

**Location of Interview:** Archives Room, Cannavino Library, Marist College

**Recorder model and type:** Marantz PMD 690

**Length of interview:** 52 minutes and 54 seconds

**Number of disks:** 1

**Recording medium/format:** Microdrive

**Brand of disks:** IBM 1GB Microdrive

**Archival copy made:** Burned to a gold alloy CD (MAM) and is held in the Marist College Archives and Special Collections. Saved as a .wav file at the highest resolution possible. CD copy is available for researchers.

**Quality of original recording:** Good

**Restrictions on interview access or use:** None

**Transcribed or summarized by:** Nancy Decker

**Brief summary of interview context and recording contents:** The interview was held in the James Cannavino Library on the Marist College campus.

**TAPE INDEX:**

<u>Time (00:00.00 ~ in hrs./mins./seconds)</u>	<u>Summary</u>
00:00.02 – 00:06.06	Thomas Wade discusses his personal and family history including the jobs his parents worked at and the schools he attended. He even played semi-pro baseball while he was in college and he went to school with a few men who would become pro baseball players. When he graduated from Manhattan College he began teaching Physical Education and coaching at St. Mary's High School.
00:06.07 – 00:14.00	In 1962 Tom began working for Marist College. He believes that comparatively his job at Marist as the head basketball coach and the Assistant Director of admissions was much easier than his job at the high school. His job was to recruit students from Long Island and New York City, and his main selling point was the size and the quality of the college. He spends a little bit of time talking about his living arrangements when he lived on campus for the first year, and then about getting married and bringing his wife to visit the campus.
00:14.01 – 00:29.17	Tom talks about being the basketball coach for Marist, the colleges they played, how well the team did, and the people that he met and collaborated with along the way. After a few years he stopped coaching and teaching physical education to completely take over Admissions and spend some time talking about the people who replaced him. Although by that point he was no longer part of the process he also spends some time talking about Marist becoming a Division I school and the impact that had on the college.
00:29.18 – 00:32.29	Tom talks about his admiration for Marist students and how nice they are, which he thinks goes back to the Marist Brothers and the way they welcomed the lay students and faculty 100%.
00:32.30 – 00:40.43	Tom worked as the head of Admissions for four years and he very briefly discusses those years as well as reflecting for a moment on how Marist seems to hook students in as soon as they visit the campus. After working in Admissions he became the Dean of Students in 1966. He talks briefly about how much Marist relied on the students to get things done, such as

running the dorms, and how the students really appreciated that responsibility. He reflects on when the college became co-ed, how that came about, the reaction on campus, and that it was ultimately very successful and forward-thinking.

00:40.44 – 00:45.02 Tom then moved on to be the Vice President for Advancement and he spends some time talking about that and how the endowments have grown over the years for Marist.

00:45.03 – 00:52.56 Tom talks again about the camaraderie and the collaboration between the Marist Brothers and the lay faculty which he sees as a strength that has made Marist as successful as it is today. He believes even today the atmosphere of the college is different than other colleges. Many people don't look at Marist as a job; they look at it as their college that they're helping to develop. Tom ends the interview by stating how much of a privilege it has been to work for Marist and that he hopes that he'll be able to see Marist continue to grow far into the future.