Br. Pat accepts new position in France
Br. Hank appointed new president

Jessica Molina
Sentinel

Brother Patrick McNamara, who has served as president of Marist High School for the past six years, will leave at the end of this school year to accept a new position with the Marist Brothers. On Feb. 28, Br. Pat announced to the faculty that he will join the international community of Marist Brothers in Préveiss-Moëns, France.

In this new role, he will work as a liaison between the brothers and the United Nations, focusing on the rights of young people and children.

He will live in France, but work in an office in Geneva, Switzerland, the headquarters of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

Br. Pat was born and grew up in Sussexvahama, Pennsylvania with his two brothers, two sisters, his mother and father.

He attended Laurel Hill Academy and then Marist College, where he ultimately decided to join the Marist Brothers. He became a Marist Brother in 1975.

“I met the brothers, liked the feeling of community and found the call to become a teacher interesting,” Br. Pat said.

His first position was at Marist from 1973-1975 as an English and French teacher interesting,” Br. Pat said.

From 1995, he served as a pastoral minister in Mississippi and then as principal of Christopher Columbus High School in Miami before returning to Chicago to serve as president of Marist High School.

Under Br. Pat’s leadership, the campus grew to include the new Red and White Stadium and a new baseball complex. He is also proud of the establishment of campus-wide wireless Internet access and the move to iPads over textbooks.

Br. Pat also made the creation of sacred space on campus a priority by refurbishing the Brothers’ Chapel and establishing the Marist Way, prayer labyrinth and Our Lady of the Way prayer garden.

Director of Marketing and Communications Ms. Patti Arvesen calls Br. Pat the “embodiment of Marist-Chicago.”

“He strives for excellence and growth for himself and the school and cares deeply for all members of the Marist community,” Arvesen said. “His warm personality and thoughtfulness went a long way in making this school a real family.

In terms of unfinished business, Br. Pat wishes he had more time to continue working on the Marist Way and to build studios on campus for dance and broadcasting.

“I hope to be remembered here as fair, caring and fun,” Br. Pat said.

While he looks forward to starting this new chapter in his life, leaving Marist is not easy after six years.

“T’ll miss the students and the faculty,” Br. Pat said.

On March 11, Br. Pat announced that Academic Dean for Underclassmen Brother Hank Hammer will succeed him in his role as president.

Bro. Hank has also served as principal and as a classroom teacher at Marist, and holds a BA in English from Marist College and an MA in school administration from St. Mary’s College.

His term as president will begin on July 1.

“I want to thank Brother Pat for his six years of service as president and Brother Hank for his generous response to this need,” said Marist Provincial Brother Ben Consiglio.

Br. Hank Hammer will succeed Br. Patrick McNamara (L) as Marist president on July 1, 2014.
Br. Pat will work with the United Nations on behalf of children’s rights.

Do you know what you want to be when you grow up?
Career night scheduled for April 8
Shannon O’Keeffe
Sentinel

Each year, Marist holds a career night for current students to meet alumni who have succeeded in their chosen fields. This year, career night will be held on Tues., April 8 from 7:30 p.m. in the ARC and first-floor classrooms.

While some students may have an idea of what kind of a career they might want to pursue after college, they may not know what skills they will need to be successful. Career night is a way for students to determine whether or not they are cut out for a certain career.

“Career night is also a great way for students to expose themselves to careers they might not have previously considered,” said college counselor Mr. Patrick Ryan.

Freshmen and sophomores are encouraged to attend so that they can get an early start thinking about the college process and career development.

Attending career night can help underclassmen decide which classes to take during junior and senior years of high school.

By this time of the school year, most seniors know where they are going to college. Many also know what they want to major in. Career night can help seniors to begin networking and get a good idea of the daily routine of a professional in a career they are interested in.

The speakers at career night are all Marist alumni, giving current students an opportunity to ask how Marist helped them advance and what they might have done differently in high school.

“We are lucky that we have so many young alumni who want to come back, are passionate about what they do, and want to share that passion with current students,” Ryan said.

Alumni speaking this year include John Canning (dentist), Dan Hermannson (eye doctor), Martin Gavin (banking), Sean Carroll (police), Aldo Bucheri (architect), Patrick O’Brien (teaching), Brian Hollock (advertising), Owen Glennon, Jr. (construction management) and Dan Calandriello (law).

Other speakers include Jim Mazurski (options trading), Colin Reilly (firefighting), Mary Jo Ryan (occupational therapy), Emily Anselmo (speech therapy), Kellie Snoeks (medical doctor), Lauren Majka (special education), Kristen Buewerth (nursing), Brandon Christensen (social work), and Mike Mulhausen (computer engineering).

National Merit Finalists named

Seniors Jim Costin, Liam Gibbs and Rachel Folga have been named finalists for the 2014 National Merit Scholarship, placing them among the top 0.5% of students in the nation. All three finalists are members of the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society.

Students first become semifinalists by earning a qualifying score on the junior year PSAT/NMSQT test. Semifinalists then take the SAT, submit a detailed application, essays, and letters of recommendation. Only 15,000 students are chosen annually from across the nation as National Merit Finalists.
Looking back: Marist 1994

Katie Salmon
Sentinel

The decade of the 1990s was full of trials and triumphs, and today’s Marist students will always look back on the 90s as the decade in which they were born.

On February 26, 1993, a bomb was detonated in the parking garage beneath the World Trade Center in New York City. The attack was perpetrated by Yousuf A. Yousuf and co-conspirators who trained in Al-Qaeda camps. The bomb was intended to detonate and knock the north tower into the south. This would cause both towers to collapse, killing thousands of people.

Two years later, on April 19, 1995, Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols detonated a truck bomb at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The bombing killed 168 people and injured 680 more.

President Clinton was elected to office in 1992. The Clinton administration passed tax increases on the wealthy and implemented government spending cuts. Poverty levels fell during this time, and the government achieved the largest budget surplus and debt reduction in U.S. history.

On January 17, 1998, news of a political sex scandal swept the nation. President Clinton had an alleged extramarital affair with Monica Lewinsky, a 22 year old White House intern. Clinton denied these accusations numerous times before admitting, months later to a grand jury that he had an inappropriate sexual relationship with Lewinsky.

An investigation eventually led to the impeachment of Clinton. He was tried for perjury, obstruction of justice, witness tampering, and abuse of authority. The House of Representatives voted to impeach Clinton on charges of perjury and obstruction of justice. However, the Senate acquitted him of both charges.

Guided by head coach Phil Jackson, the Chicago Bulls won six NBA titles in eight years. Michael Jordan, along with Scottie Pippen, led the Bulls to three championships from the 1991-1993 seasons.

Months after his father’s murder, Jordan announced his retirement from basketball. During his absence, the Bulls continued with successful regular seasons. Pippen established himself as one of the league’s top players, and in 1994, he won All-Star MVP.


Pop music dominated the music market. Many girls swooned over boy bands like the Backstreet Boys and NSYNC. British pop sensation, The Spice Girls, also rose to popularity in the late 1990s.

Fashion trends consisted of scrunchies, frosted tips, white sneakers, and choker necklaces. Large jackets and tracksuits were considered “all the rage” as the 90s was characterized as a “casual” decade of dress.

The entire March 1994 edition of the Sentinel is available online at www.marist.net
Chess season ends

Allie Janich
Sentinel

The Marist chess team ended its season with a 3-4 record at the state tournament held in Peoria on Feb. 14-15, jumping 19 spots from the team’s opening rank.

The team went 4-5 for the regular season, with losses to St. Rita, St. Ignatius, De La Salle, Fenwick, and Mount Carmel. Wins came against Hales Franciscan, Leo, Brother Rice and the previously undefeated St. Patrick.

Seniors Robert Lewis and Jim Bendoraitis, sophomores Aiden Martinez and Megan Heinlein, and freshmen Cody Busch and Brendan Boyle made the trip to state, with senior Joe Fennessey medalling 5th overall at state, with a 6-0-1 record.

At the Chicago Chess Conference, Fennessey went 8-1, taking first place overall.

“Being a part of the chess team has been the highlight of my high school experience,” Fennessey said. “The team has grown so much from the winless squad of my freshman year to the strong team that finished the season with the epic win over St. Pat’s.”

Student missionaries help poor in New Orleans

Morgan Weidman
Sentinel

On Feb. 12, 24 juniors and four faculty members headed to New Orleans to assist the poor and those still rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina.

During the mission trip, students helped to build and repair homes and planted 200 trees around a marsh to help prevent future flooding.

“Our students went above and beyond and made connections with families in need,” said Mr. Adam Wouk, who coordinated the trip through Campus Ministry.

This was the first mission trip for many of the students.

“I did not know what to expect, but the experience was great,” junior Maggie Ringbauer said. “Everyone truly appreciated everything we did.”

Junior Carter Olsen appreciated the opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of those in need.

“It felt great helping out and seeing the smiles on the faces of those affected by the hurricane,” Olsen said.

The mission group also presented $1300 to the parents of newborn twins from collections taken up at school.

After days of hard work, the group planned to return to Chicago on Feb. 17, but their flight was cancelled due to bad weather. Already in high spirits, the group got to spend a day at the beach in Mississippi before returning on Feb. 18.

Campus Ministry sponsors two out-of-state mission trips each school year. This year’s second mission was to the Marist Brothers’ residence in Esopus, New York over spring break.

Students interested in taking a mission trip next year should see Mr. Wouk in Campus Ministry.
After six years, this school year will be the last at Marist for our president, Brother Patrick McNamara. Earlier this month, the Marist Brothers announced that Br. Pat will take on a new role as a member of the international community of Prévessin-Moëns in France, near the Swiss border. Although his new role officially begins on October 1, Br. Pat will leave Marist on July 1.

The students, faculty, staff and families of Marist High School greatly appreciate all that Br. Pat has done for them. During his six years as president, the school accomplished many great goals.

Br. Pat oversaw the construction of the Red and White stadium along with new baseball and softball fields. Under his leadership, our outdoor prayer and reflection space has grown to include the Marist Way, the prayer labyrinth and the statue of Our Lady of the Way.

He did a great deal to enhance Marist’s foreign exchange and travel programs, and our school now enjoys connections with France, Italy and Argentina. In his six years as president, Br. Pat also made financial aid a priority, ensuring that many families would receive help through the addition of new scholarships and financial aid programs.

Closings mark era for seven schools

Earlier this year, the Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Catholic Schools announced that up to seven schools will be closing at the end of this academic year, causing the displacement of hundreds of students and layoffs of dozens of faculty members.

The seven schools closing, due to low funding and decreasing enrollment, include St. Bernadette, Our Lady of Victory, Santa Maria del Popolo, St. Gregory the Great High School, St. Helena of the Cross, St. Paul, Our Lady of Vilna and Mount Assisi Academy. Of these schools, St. Bernadette is most familiar to Marist students, many of whom are alumni of the Evergreen Park school. This year, 98 students attend St. Bernadette.

St. Bernadette’s current principal, Ms. Arlene Bauman, expressed her gratitude in a newsletter to parents, saying that she feels truly blessed to have been a part of a beautiful school community.

Catholic schools superintendent, Sister Mary Paul McCaughhey, noted that the Archdiocese targeted schools with less than 225 students for closing. McCaughhey also informed families that the Archdiocese will offer a $1000 tuition discount if they enroll their students in another Catholic school.

Many parents worry that other Catholic schools will not be as welcoming and diverse as St. Bernadette’s.

Since the announcement, Marist has also hosted a number of shadows from Mount Assisi in Lemont, all of whom need to find a new high school. The school opened in 1951 and has remained a girls’ high school ever since, graduating over 6,000 students.

Enrollment has declined from 315 during the 2006-2007 school year to a current total of 143 students. Sister Therese Ann Quigley, provincial supervisor of Mount Assisi, expressed “extreme sadness” over the closing.

‘Wizard of Oz’ teaches, inspires after 75 years

The film was nominated for six Academy Awards. It won two awards, including best original song for “Somewhere Over the Rainbow.” The development of the film first started when the success of Walt Disney’s Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs showed that films adapted from popular children’s stories and fairytales could be successful.

The film and to their mother, Judy Garland, who played Dorothy. The film was released in 1939 along with other popular movies destined to become classics, including Gone with the Wind, Mr. Smith Goes to Washington, Of Mice and Men, Dark Victory, Wuthering Heights, and Goodbye, Mr. Chips.

With its elaborate character make-up and revolutionary special effects, The Wizard of Oz was MGM Studio’s most expensive production up to the time that film was made.

According to the National Catholic Education Association, 2,090 schools were either closed or consolidated between 2000 and 2013. The number of students has declined by 651,298.

Morgan Weidman 
Alexandra Janich 
Megan Karas 
Shannon O’Keeffe 
Kathryn Salmon 
Brooke Wyderski 

According to the National Catholic Education Association, 2,090 schools were either closed or consolidated between 2000 and 2013. The number of students has declined by 651,298.

Karen M. Ristau, president of the NCEA, believes that the closing of these schools represents a great loss for the country, at a time when holistic education is becoming a priority for a lot of parents.

“Research shows that Catholic school graduates are more faithful members of the church – our church leaders must seek to open and support more schools, not close them,” Ristau said.

A Catholic education creates a solid foundation for many students. When even one Catholic school closes, we should all be concerned. The loss of a Catholic school diminishes the Church’s standing in the world and its ability to reach people in meaningful and lasting ways.
Almost every writer has experienced spending countless hours staring at a blank page, unable to think of anything to write. Some choose to solve the problem by plagiarizing.

Many view plagiarism as a harmless offense. According to a study done by Rutgers University, 58% of students polled admitted to plagiarism while 95% admitted to some form of cheating. According to information at plagiarism.org, one out of three high school students have used the Internet to plagiarize. In truth, plagiarism is a form of stealing. While there are no laws against plagiarizing, the consequences can be extreme...at least for some people.

Stephen Glass was a 24-year-old journalistic prodigy who seemed to master every story he wrote. He attained this fame through the publication of numerous articles in the New Republic magazine. An editor from Forbes Magazine discovered that a Glass article was fabricated, leading the New Republic editors to investigate Glass' work further. Glass was eventually fired from the magazine in total disgrace.

Since then, Glass has published a novel titled The Fabulist, a fictionalized account of his ethical violations. He is also portrayed in the movie Shattered Glass. He moved to California and passed the bar exam, but this year the California Supreme Court ruled that he is unfit to practice law in the state because of his past.

Another person guilty of plagiarizing is the Vice President of the United States, Joe Biden. As a law school student, Biden plagiarized a law review article for a paper he wrote during his first year. He received a failing grade in the course but was allowed to retake it the following year and passed with a C.

The issue of his plagiarism in law school resurfaced in 1987 during his campaign for the United States presidency. As a senator at the time, Biden defended himself by saying that he had misunderstood the directions of citing his sources for the paper. Further investigation by the media uncovered suspicion that Biden had also plagiarized sections of different speeches he made while campaigning for or in public office. Nearly 30 years later, he is a heartbeat away from the presidency.

While the consequences may not be equal on a national level, at Marist, the consequences for plagiarism are clear and include both disciplinary and academic action.

Students who plagiarize at Marist will receive an F on the assignment and may be expelled or asked to withdraw. In most colleges and universities, the penalty for plagiarism is immediate expulsion.

As of January 1, Illinois issued a new law. Driving while using your phone is illegal, whether it is texting or talking on the phone. Every driver must be completely hands free while operating a vehicle.

Police everywhere are cracking down on the phone. Every driver must be illegal, whether it is texting or talking law. Driving while using your phone is illegal, whether it is texting or talking law. Driving while using your phone is illegal, whether it is texting or talking law. Driving while using your phone is illegal, whether it is texting or talking law. Driving while using your phone is illegal, whether it is texting or talking. All it takes is for you to pull over and make the call. It will save you from getting a ticket. It will also save your life. If there is an absolute emergency, all situations where there is an emergency, when you need to contact someone, even while you are driving. All it takes is for you to pull over and make the call. Even though the consequences of the ticket were not pleasant, I am much happier that I got at ticket rather than in an accident due to talking on a phone while driving.

The consequences that derive from plagiarism are not always fair. As we can see, a double standard is evident in the cases of Glass and Biden. After trying to rehabilitate his life, the effects of Glass’ plagiarizing still affect him today. However, the man who holds public office as Vice President of our country has left his past behind him.

The consequences of plagiarizing far outweigh the short-term benefits. While students may obtain a few extra hours by not doing their own work, the risk of expulsion is too great. Expulsion can ruin student’s future plans, by being stated on the students’ academic record. This detriment to their reputation can greatly decrease their chance in getting into their desired college. Students should spend the time and exhaust their efforts in their own work. Students who do their own work will reap the many benefits to come in future years.

As a law school student, Biden plagiarized a law review article for a paper he wrote during his first year. He received a failing grade in the course but was allowed to retake it the following year and passed with a C.

I will miss his friendship. He really made me feel as though we were partners. I am also going to miss his great compassion for people who are dealing with difficulties in their lives.

I will miss having my best friend of 44 years being just downstairs. It was like winning the lottery being able to come here, give a helping hand to brother with me at all times.

I’m going to miss his passion and enthusiasm for the Marist community. He’s a really inclusive leader and makes decisions in the best interests of the students. He set Marist down a great path for the future.

I’m going to miss his infectious personality, sense of humor, his great perspective, and having my favorite teacher from high school here.

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I will miss his warmth, his humor, his compassion, his friendship and, most of all, his calling as a true model of Saint Marcellin Champagnat in the lives of all of us at Marist High School.
Alumni make marks on local, national television

Marist alumni Pat McGann, '94, and Mike Cullen, '99 have enjoyed success on local and national television this year in the field of comedy.

McGann is a stand-up comedian and hosted “The Chicago Stand-Up Project,” an Emmy-nominated television show. In 2013, he performed his stand-up routine. He was also asked by the Chicago White Sox to write and direct a comedy show at the Chicago/Midwest Emmy Awards.

In 2013, he performed on the David Letterman show where he delivered a routine related to marriage and his relationship with his wife and children.

McGann is a stand-up comedian and was also asked by the Chicago White Sox to write and direct a comedy show at the Chicago/Midwest Emmy Awards.

On Jan. 24, he was featured on Sports Radio 670 WGC-FM (FOX), the WGN Morning News, WGN radio, and ESPN radio.

In 2013, he performed and presented stories related to marriage and his relationship with his wife and children.

At times, his humor is a little R-rated. "It was surreal to be on a show that I have watched for so many years," McGann said. "I am grateful for the opportunity and for being able to share it with my wife, family and friends-many of whom went to Marist."

McGann advises current Marist students to take in as many experiences as possible.

"It might not be possible to take advantage of all of the things available to you at Marist, but you can try. Go to plays, concerts, games...challenge yourself to attend things you normally wouldn’t go to," McGann said.

It’s also important to listen to your classmates and try to find out what their lives are like. School work is important, but what is more important is how you relate to other people. The more well-rounded you are, the more capable you will be of taking advantage of the infinite opportunities that are available."

Cullen worked as a production assistant on the Doritos commercial that aired during this year’s Super Bowl.

The commercial is about a little boy who tunes his brother to the family minivan for a bag of Doritos. The little boy wins by jumping on a horse and throwing a lasso around the bag.

The commercial was a runner-up in the Super Bowl best commercial contest and earned a prize of $50,000.

Before the Super Bowl, Cullen appeared on the Fox News Chicago morning show to promote the commercial and encourage people from Illinois to vote for it.

He used humor and assumed a "dumb" persona on the news program.

"It was fun to act dumb on a serious morning news program," Cullen said. "That’s the kind of stuff I like to do."

It was fun to act dumb on a serious morning news program.

McGann also has his own website at www.patmcganncomedy.com.

Marist Lenten program on YouTube

The Marist Young Adult Program offers an online Lenten retreat. Each Sunday during Lent, a short video with the retreat material will be posted on YouTube. The video will consist of a Gospel reading, a reflection prepared by a member of the Marist family, reflection questions and a suggested action. Anyone interested can view the video by visiting www.youtube.com/watch?v=eokshfE5L-A

Journalists recognized at local conference

The Marist Sentinel staff and members of the Journalism 1 class attended the 22nd annual McCormick Foundation High School Media Conference on March 11, hosted by Roosevelt University-Chicago.

At the conference, the Sentinel was given a superior achievement award for overall newspaper and an excellent achievement award for overall layout.

Junior Matt Hickey won an excellent achievement award for editorial writing, while junior Clare Gilligan was conference champion in sports writing.

Other schools competing at the conference included Mother McAuley, St. Ignatius, Morgan Park High School, Walter Payton College Prep and Whitney Young High School.

A delegation of 11 Marist journalists will attend the national high school journalism convention in San Diego from April 10-12. At the convention, students will attend sessions given by professional journalists. Students will also participate in a competition for sports, feature, editorial and news writing.

The IHSA journalism sectional competition will be held on Sat., April 26 at Moraine Valley Community College. Competing for the RedHawks will be Gilligan in sports writing, Hickey in editorial and review writing, junior Maggie Stima in copy editing, senior Morgan Weidman in photography, senior Katie Salmon in news writing, and senior Jessica Molina in feature writing.
Football players sign intent letters

Senior point guard Andre Turner is the second student in Marist history to advance to the state three-point contest, and put in the work so we can achieve that success just inspires us to work hard and put in the hard work. The girls’ team have shattered school records. But this isn’t baseball. The NFL Competition Committee, which is made up of general managers, front office executives, owners, and current head coaches are actually the ones who recommended removing the extra point in favor of a bronzer new system.

The NFL Competition Committee is also in talks about placing the ball at the 25-yard line for the point-after attempt. That would make the extra point a 43-yard attempt. Placing the ball at the 25-yard line would certainly increase the degree of difficulty for kickers. The conversion rate of field goals between 40 and 49 yards last season was 83.8 percent. Either change would be a welcomed one to the fans. Most would agree that the point after touchdown has become an afterthought. Bears kicker Robbie Gould has attempted 325 extra points in his 9 year career and has only missed 2. Even to players, the kick must seem automatic. Most kickers do, however, play an important role in clutch situations. Either change would be a welcomed one to the fans. Most would agree that the point after touchdown has become an afterthought. Bears kicker Robbie Gould has attempted 325 extra points in his 9 year career and has only missed 2. Even to players, the kick must seem automatic. Most kickers do, however, play an important role in clutch situations.

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Varsity wrestling team is 2nd in state

Morgan Weidman
Sentinel

The varsity wrestling team dominated at the IHSA regional meet held at Shepard High School on Feb. 8. The RedHawks finished with 10 wrestlers taking first place, including freshmen Jim McAuliff and Ameen Hamdan, juniors Nick Lukanch, Nick Gasbarro, Jakada Hull, Alex Benoit, Jake Ford, and seniors Peter Andreotti, Mike Mullaney and Mario Leveille.

From the sectionals, 8 wrestlers including McAuliff, Lukanch, Mullaney, Hamdan, Leveille, Gasbarro, Andreotti, and Benoi advanced to the individual state competition. At state, Leveille was named a state finalist and Andreotti and Benoit each placed third in their weight classes.

The team also qualified for the first time in 17 years for the IHSA dual team state finals on March 1.

The team faced and won against Lincoln Way Central (36-21), then defeated Marmion (27-25) before falling to Oak Park-River Forest (22-31), leading to a 2nd place finish overall.

“It was awesome wrestling down there,” Mullaney said. “It was a great feeling to be the first team to be down there in 17 years.”

Qualifying for the first time in 17 years, the varsity wrestling team took 2nd at the IHSA dual team state final competition on March 1.

Poms takes 2nd at state

Allie Janich
Sentinel

The JV and varsity poms teams competed at the IDTA state final competition in Springfield on Feb. 15, with the JV team taking 3rd and varsity taking 2nd overall.

At the state competition, junior Lauren Surin was honored with the Rising Star Award, given to dancers judged to be exceptional at the annual state competition.

“As a team we’ve improved so much,” said junior Taylor Lattimore, who is in her 2nd year of competitive varsity poms. “We worked hard and pushed each other all season. We would not have gotten anywhere without the support of our families and coaches.”

With first place finishes at Charleston on Jan. 4 and Villa Grove on Jan. 11, the JV team qualified for the state finals this year for the first time in 3 years.

Girls’ basketball season ends at sectional semifinals

Shannon O’Keeffe
Sentinel

After a 58-44 victory over Nazareth Academy on Feb. 1, the girls’ varsity basketball team ended its regular season with four tough losses to Providence, Morgan Park, Benet and Trinity.

In spite of a rough end to the regular season, the girls started strong in the playoffs, winning 55-45 in the first round against Thornton Fractional South on Feb. 19.

The RedHawks followed this up with a second victory (67-41) against Thornton Fractional North on Feb. 21, but lost the semi-sectional game against Oak Lawn High School (56-61) on Feb. 25, ending their 2013-2014 season.

“Considering our team is so young, we had to start from the bottom, but we made great progress over the past few months,” said senior captain Claire Finn.

Finn was one of only two seniors on the varsity team this year, along with Brooke Wyderski. Finn and Wyderski have played basketball together since they were in fourth grade at St. Pat’s grammar school and later on the Hoopla basketball club team.

The girls joined the RedHawks as freshmen, but played for the sophomore team. They were then moved up to varsity at different times during sophomore year.

“We have been playing together and going to school together for so long that it’s sad to think this was our last year playing together,” Wyderski said.

Wyderski finished her basketball career this year at Marist, but will play softball at Loyola University next year.

Finn will continue her basketball career at Lake Forest College.

“Next year is definitely going to be a big change because Brooke and I have been playing together for so long and know each other so well,” Finn said.