



Journey of 1,000 miles begins with first pedal

by Caroline Roeper
senior reporter

Veteran math teacher Mr. Owen Glennon completed a 1,000 mile bike ride over the summer, from New York to Chicago, raising over \$64,000 for Marist in the process.

Glennon, who is in his 40th year of teaching at Marist, started his journey in Esopus, New York on June 28, departing from the Marist Brothers retreat center.

Marist President Brother Hank Hammer and many other Marist brothers from Esopus gathered to send Glennon off on his journey with a special blessing for safe travel.

Glennon has taken many long-distance journeys on his bicycle over the years. His ride across the country was featured in the Sept. 23, 2013 issue of the *Sentinel*, when Glennon rode his bike from the state of Washington across the country to Maine. That journey took 50 days over nine weeks.

His 2015 journey was inspired by other friends who had begun biking to raise money through pledges for various charities. Glennon discussed the idea of riding for Marist with Br. Hank. They agreed that raising money for student financial aid would be a worthy and important cause.

In addition to sharing his passion for his school and students, Glennon also saw this journey as an opportunity to strengthen his faith.

"Being alone with your thoughts gives you the opportunity to really reflect on your faith and how the Catholic community shares such a deep bond," Glennon said.

Along the way, he stopped at 15 Catholic churches and shrines, including Our Lady of Wisdom Chapel at Marist College, The Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame and the Shrine of Christ's Passion in St. John, Indiana.

Glennon and many supporters from the Marist community attended a special Mass on Friday, July 10 in the Log Chapel at Notre Dame. The Mass was planned by Marist alum Chuck Lamphier, '99, lead advisor to the Vice President for Mission Engagement and Church Affairs at Notre Dame.

At the Mass, Lamphier presented Glennon and his wife, Carlin, with the prestigious Notre Dame Sorin Award for their service and dedication to Catholic education.

Science teacher Mr. Tom Gouterman joined Glennon for part of the journey in New York, riding with him for two days and 140 miles.

"I began riding with Mr. Glennon four years ago," Gouterman said. "I saw this as a great way to support and connect with a colleague to do something great for Marist."

Glennon and Gouterman were faced with a 4,500 climb along the Delaware River on one of the days they rode together. While intimidating, the views of the New York and Pennsylvania borders made the climb worthwhile.

"The journey is always easier with a friend or two," Glennon said. "The downhills are more fun, but they don't make you stronger. You don't earn the downhills unless you struggle through the uphill."

During his journey, Glennon wrote a blog to chronicle his adventures.



photo by Carlin Glennon

Math teacher Mr. Owen Glennon is greeted by students on July 12 after riding 1,004 miles from Esopus, New York. Glennon, currently in his 40th year of teaching at Marist, previously cycled across the country in 2013.

Whether he was making a lunch stop or a trip to Walmart for supplies, people he met along the way were fascinated by his story and gave him a great deal of encouragement.

"It's moving and humbling that one person after another, many of whom I have never met before, acted as if we've been friends for life."

Soon after he got a flat tire while riding in New York, a woman stopped her car and helped to make sure that Glennon got back on the road safely.

"When your tire goes flat, even if you know what you're doing, God will send others to help you," Glennon said.

At first, the weather did not cooperate, with temperatures staying below sixty degrees and a persistent cold mist. Glennon did not let the weather prevent him from enjoying the ride.

"When the many miles ahead seem daunting, focus on the moment," Glennon said.

Glennon's blog can be found at www.maristcyclingadventure2015.com.



Journalism students attend U of I conference

Students in the Marist journalism program attended the Illinois Journalism Education Association high school media conference at the University of Illinois-Urbana on Sept. 18.

At the conference, senior Solomon Davis took first place in the feature writing contest, marking the second year in a row a RedHawk journalist won the IJEA contest.

Davis and other contestants wrote their feature articles based on the keynote address, which was given by three members of DNAInfo.com, a Chicago-based online media outlet. The subject of their presentation was 'The Newsroom of the Future is Here.'

In July, *Sentinel* staff members Davis, Kara Keating and Miranda Insley attended the week-long high school journalism institute at Indiana University-Bloomington, with Insley winning the institute's excellent achievement award for opinion writing.

Veteran teacher announces retirement

by Kevin Corrigan
senior reporter

After 40 years of teaching at Marist, veteran teacher Mr. Bogdan (Don) Barwacz announced his intention to retire at the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

Barwacz, who came to Marist in 1975, has taught many subjects, including typing, accounting, general business, drafting and computer aided design.

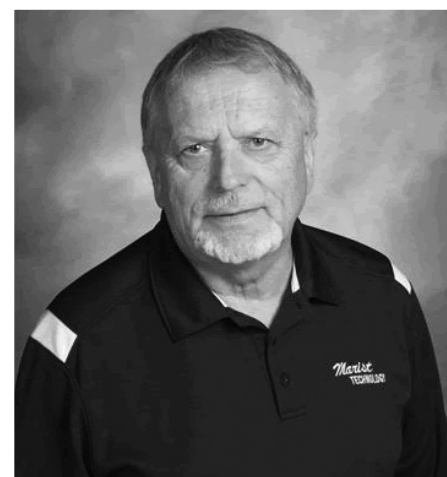
He also served as head soccer coach for 25 of his 40 years, and counts his team's 1981 regional soccer championship among his favorite memories.

Among his former students are a number of current teachers and administrators, including Mr. Inzinga, Mr. Pirkle, Mr. Higgins, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Keane, Mr. Butler and Mr. Creagh.

"He has always had a laid-back style that is very agreeable to students," said Marist principal Mr. Larry Tucker, also a former student.

After four decades of watching Marist grow and develop, Barwacz decided that it is time for him to start the next chapter in his life.

"One of the things I will miss most is coming to school with these kids every day," Barwacz said. "Marist students are smart, respectful and have a real desire to learn."



Mr. Don Barwacz

Although Barwacz is retiring at the end of the school year, he will by no means be idle. His plans include lots of travelling, especially to Boulder, Colorado to visit with his grandson, Luke.

Additionally, he plans to take classes in photography and art, and will be spending a lot more time on his Harley Davidson.

"You can only play golf so many times," Barwacz said.

He also looks forward to being able to spend more time with his wife of 46 years, Josephine, who has been retired herself for the past five years.

"I have many great memories of Mr. Barwacz's class and he has been a loyal member of the Marist faculty," Tucker said. "He will be truly missed."

Hundreds wait hours for a glimpse of Lord Stanley

by Kara Keating
senior reporter

Hundreds of hockey fans turned out to see the Stanley Cup on display in the Red and White Gym on August 13, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Michael Gapski.

Gapski is the father of three Marist alumni and current sophomore Ryan.

He also just happens to be the head athletic trainer for the Chicago Blackhawks and has worked with the team for the past 28 years.

“My kids received a great education from Marist and have developed a great group of friends,” Gapski said. “We are proud of their experience at Marist and wanted to share the cup with the school community.”

Fans started lining up outside the school building at 7 a.m. By the time the doors opened at 10 a.m., the line wrapped around the entire campus.

Senior Marty McKenna said, “I went to see the cup because I have never seen it before and it was such a cool experience to see it so close to home.”

Ticket sales for the event raised over \$7000. All of the proceeds were donated to the Marist hockey program.

“Hockey is a club sport funded mostly by parents, so we decided to use the funds raised by the cup to help offset some of the costs,” Gapski said.

Marist President Brother Hank Hammer and Principal Larry Tucker were among a number of administrators, teachers and staff who attended the Stanley Cup event and shared in the excitement.

“The Gapski family was very generous in making this happen and we are very grateful that they thought of us,” Tucker said.

The 2015 championship win was the 6th in the history of the franchise, as the Blackhawks defeated the Tampa Bay Lightning on June 15, ending the series at game six at home at the United Center.

Gapski hopes that the Blackhawks will win a 7th Stanley Cup before 2018.

“My other children were at Marist when the Blackhawks won the cup, so I hope they will win again before Ryan graduates.”



photo by Patty Arvesen

(L to R) Steven, Michael Jr., Michael Sr., Lynne, Gillian and Ryan Gapski pose with the Stanley Cup in the Red and White gym on August 13. Mr. Gapski, holding the cup, is the head athletic trainer for the Chicago Blackhawks.



photo by Aisha Khan

(L to R) Victoria Thomas, Elena Reyes, Sydney Rocha, Diana Soto, Sara Eisha, Kaitlyn Bowe and Solomon Davis take a break in the Plaza de las Pescaderia in Seville, Spain on June 22. The group spent two weeks in Spain studying Spanish language and culture at the Centro Mundolengua.

World language students make history

by Taylor Allison
senior reporter

For the first time in school history, all four of the students in the world language department who were nominated for summer scholarships won. The nominees were junior Jack Golden, senior Ashley Garla and class of ‘15 alums Grace Enright and Michael Serwetnyk.

Golden spent a two-week, all-expenses paid vacation to the Concordia Language Villages Spanish immersion camp in Northern Minnesota. Golden had to speak exclusively in Spanish for the duration of the trip. He was one of 19 students nationwide to win this scholarship.

“For me the camp was not only a collaboration between two different cultures, it was a warm embrace of what it really means to be connected with our brothers and sisters across the world,” Golden said.

Garla was one of 24 students chosen nationwide for a 10 day trip in July to

Puerto Rico on the Bertie Green Travel Scholarship.

“This trip gave me the opportunity to use Spanish in a real world setting and to fall in love with a culture as diverse and exciting as Puerto Rico’s,” Garla said.

Juniors Kaitlyn Bowe, Sydney Rocha, Elena Reyes and Sara Eisha and seniors Solomon Davis, Diana Soto and Victoria Thomas spent two weeks in Seville, Spain in June, living with Spanish families and attending classes.

“I really enjoyed experiencing the new environment,” Bowe said. “It was really a culture shock because the people there are a lot more laid back than we are here.”

The world language department will be hosting three girls and 16 boys from Argentina for two weeks beginning on Oct. 10. Students from France will also visit later this year.

World language chair Ms. Erica Nathan-Gamauf said, “We work very hard to provide travel opportunities for our students as a way for them to connect with the languages they study and with their Marist brothers and sisters living abroad.”

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Marist Theatre Guild presents classic murder mystery

by Faith Laughran
junior reporter

The Marist Theatre Guild will present *Murder on the Nile* as its fall production this year. Performances will be held in the RedHawk Theatre on Nov. 5, 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$8 general admission and will be on sale during lunch mods, after school and at the door.

The play is an adaptation of Agatha Christie’s mystery novel *Death on the Nile*. The thriller takes place in Egypt, primarily on a paddle steamer going down the Nile River.

Simon Mostyn and his wife, Kay, are enjoying their honeymoon cruise when someone shoots Mostyn and wounds him. His wife is later found shot in her bunk.

Cannon Pennefather, another passenger, takes on the role of detective in order to find the culprit before the paddle steamer reaches its final destination and the culprit gets away.

The show features senior Ben Barry as Pennefather, junior Jack Golden as Mostyn and senior Kelly Collins as Kay.

Supporting cast members include seniors Nathan Garreau, Nick Kapa, Josie Gilligan, Becca Valek and Maddie Tucker, junior Elizabeth Travnik, and sophomores Maddie Curtin, Quinn Donnelly, Erica Manella, Philip Duda and Cate Hynes.

Mrs. Erin Vail and Mrs. Erin Kelly are co-directors of the fall play.

“Last year, *The Man Who Came to Dinner* enjoyed a lot of success, so we wanted to choose another play of that era with strong characters and dialogue,” Vail said.

Rehearsals for the show began in early September, with the cast working four days a week after school.

“People should come see the show because the cast is incredibly talented and will put on an exciting show,” Barry said. “Audience members will be engaged in trying to solve the murder before any of the characters do, which will make for a very enjoyable experience.”



photo by Marie Weber

Cast members of “Murder on the Nile” rehearse in the RedHawk Theatre on Sept. 24. Seniors Ben Barry and Kelly Collins star in the classic murder mystery by Agatha Christie, which runs Nov. 5-7.



photo by Marie Weber

(L to R) Seniors Kelly Collins and Ben Barry, sophomores Cate Hynes and Ashley Kikos and juniors Alyssa Sorrentino and Jack Golden practice after school for their first speech and acting team Catholic League qualifier meet, scheduled for Oct. 31 at Stagg High School.

Speech team ready to compete

by Miranda Insley
senior reporter

The RedHawk speech and acting team opens its season on Halloween at the first Catholic league qualifier at Stagg High School.

Last year at nationals, senior Kelly Collins finished in the top 48 in original oratory. As a sophomore, Collins took second place at nationals in the same category.

Junior Jack Golden also competed at nationals, finishing among the top 24 in oratorical declamation.

In addition to competing in the Catholic league, the team also competes at IHSA-sponsored tournaments during the year. Team members compete in 13 different events, including declamation, oration, impromptu speaking, extempoaneous speaking, radio speaking, verse and prose reading, dramatic and humorous interpretation, original comedy, dramatic duet acting and humorous duet acting.

Collins, who serves with senior Ben Barry as co-captain of the team, encourages students to come out for the team this year.

“I am on the team because I’ve always enjoyed acting and speaking and I am a very competitive person.”

Team members note that being on the speech team also gives students a great opportunity to bond with one another and to travel. In previous years, the team has competed in Philadelphia, Fort Lauderdale and Baltimore.

Being on speech also requires that team members are willing to put in a lot of time.

“Talent is not enough to carry you in competition,” Golden said. “Everyone competing has talent, but what sets the winners apart is practice.”

Anyone interested in joining the team should see Ms. Paoletti in room 128 after school.

The team also maintains a website at maristspeech.weebly.com and a Twitter account, @maristspeech.

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As an open forum, the *Sentinel* welcomes and encourages letters to the editor and guest editorials. Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less and must be signed by the author. Guest editorials are limited to 500 words and must also be signed by the author.

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Glennon’s ride should inspire, motivate students

Cycling 1,000 miles from Esopus, New York to Marist over the summer, math teacher Mr. Owen Glennon raised over \$64,000 which will be used toward financial aid for students.

Entering his fortieth year of teaching, Glennon used the ride not only to help raise funds to benefit students, but to reconnect with his former students and prompt alumni to reconnect with Marist.

No stranger to cycling cross-country, Glennon rode 3,200 miles from Anacortes, Washington to Brunswick Maine in 2013.

The mission of our high school is to make Jesus known and loved. To instill a deeper sense of community, service and faith all in the name of Marcellin Champagnat.

Speaking at the all-school Mass on Monday, September 14, Principal Larry Tucker, as in other Masses before, shared a life story and delivered a message to the student body. Tucker’s words and overall message echoed a now revered quote by President John F. Kennedy:

“Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.”

Tucker urged students to get involved, pointing out that whether a student is a freshman, sophomore, junior or senior, each one of us is called to actively participate in the RedHawk community.

How, then, can we participate more fully in the Marist community?

Mr. Glennon serves as a perfect example of giving back to Marist. Just like him, students also have the ability and the power to get involved and make

“We are here to put a dent in the universe. Otherwise, why else even be here?”

--Steve Jobs

a difference. To continue the tradition of Marist and the magic that happens inside and outside this campus, students need to exhibit school pride and participate.

Participation is a concept that is applicable to many things in life. Marist students are given many opportunities to be active and engaged. Our 2:20 p.m. dismissal time is not just a selling point, but translates into time for students to join clubs, sports and other after school activities.

We should not just retreat to our homes each day at 2:20 p.m. Those who do are missing the point.

High school is a time to learn about oneself and develop character. High school is supposed to be the time of our lives, but we sometimes allow peer pressure and expectations to dictate our own experience. We often try to fit into a category or a bubble that does not really define who and what we are.

Steve Jobs put it best: “We are here to put a dent in the universe. Otherwise, why else even be here?”

All of us can make a dent by getting involved in something after school.

We need to also focus on providing greater leadership. A leader not only leads in the classroom, but in everything he or she does after the bell has rung. Humans enjoy gratification for their work and their efforts. Leaders are needed on and off the field, whether it is to cheer on our teams as they compete or to actually get in the game or competition to represent Marist.

The demonstration of school pride needs to go beyond the staples of football, volleyball, basketball and soccer. It needs to be extended to cover all sports and clubs, particularly those that typically receive little fanfare. Think tennis, hockey, ultimate frisbee, bowling, chorus, band, the speech and acting team and school plays.

Last year in his annual press conference with journalism 1 students, Mr. Tucker pointed out that members of the band and actors in the theatre guild go out and support teams at games. Athletes should reciprocate by attending plays, concerts and recitals.

Leaders not only show school pride but their leadership transcends the walls of the school. Leaders lead in every part of their lives, on and off campus. As faith-filled disciples we are called to be agents of change and service. We are called to carry on the mission of the Marist Brothers and Marcellin Champagnat.

Kathy Heasley, CEO of Heasley & Partners, sums leadership up best:

“Leadership is being bold enough to have vision and humble enough to recognize achieving it will take the efforts of many people.”

So how can we students
make Marist an even better place?

For openers, students should start by resolving to be present in every moment here. These four years at Marist go by in the blink of an eye, and we do not want to regret not going somewhere or not spending more time with the people here.

Students should start to attend more school events, and not just the more popular sports. The more people who attend, the better the morale of the players or participants. High attendance also shows a strong unity among the student body.

Since the introduction of the iPads, students have not been as social at lunch or even in classes. A look around the cafeteria will reveal that students are on their iPads or their phones and not really interacting with the rest of the people at the table.

Life does not and should not revolve around opening or receiving a new Snapchat or checking out someone’s most recent Tweet. Take the time to have a real conversation with people around you and be courageous enough to reach out to more people in real time and real space.

Another thing that students can do to help Marist is take greater ownership of their own work. Take pride in the assignments you hand in and in the grades that you receive. Do homework at home and do not “help” a friend by letting him or her copy your work.

Sharing homework is much easier with the iPads than it was before. But we are here to use our own minds to do our own work. When we come to class prepared, we are better able to focus on the material being covered. Our grades will improve.

When we realize we are truly confused about something, we can contact the teacher for help ahead of time. This reduces our own stress levels, helps our own morale and will also improve the morale of the teachers.

Loitering in the hallways is another issue. Students spend too much time in between classes congregating around their lockers or stopping in the middle of the hallway to talk. Everyone has someplace he or she needs to be. As the year continues, let us all try to be more mindful of others in the hallway during passing periods and save the socializing for the lunchroom.

That said, as people are walking past in the hallway, give a smile or a hello. No one can tell what other people are going through, and little things like that can make or break someone’s day.

Another thing we need to focus on is picking up after ourselves. Nothing is more disgusting than walking into the lunchroom and seeing left over plastic bags, leftover food and empty water bottles on the tables. Make it easier for the kids who do lunch study and throw things away.

The trash cans in the hallways are there for a reason, too. Walking through the crowded hallways is challenging enough without having to dodge or kick around water bottles or paper.

Students need to step up and truly be servants of leadership and service. This certainly applies to the senior class. Seniors need to set an example and realize that they serve as role models for the rest of the student body, especially the underclassmen.

Underclassmen follow the lead of the upperclassmen. The freshmen especially are still trying to fit in and they are looking to us as examples of how to act and how to be at Marist. If we are more aware of the influence we have on others, we can begin to focus more on leadership and become more positive role models.


We need to realize that we represent Marist when we are off-campus. Each one of us is an ambassador for our school. Our actions outside of school will contribute to our school’s reputation. We need to remember to practice Christian values and truly walk with God when we are with our friends after school, on weekends and during breaks.

None of these things are as difficult as riding a bike for 1,000 miles or raising \$64,000. These are things each of us can do right here and right now.

photo opinion


by Taylor Allison and Faith Laughran

What are you looking forward to most this school year?




Victoria Collins
freshman

I would like to join the soccer team, get good grades and meet new people this year.




David Daniels
sophomore

I'm looking forward to the football games because I believe the Rowdies are going to be better than ever this year. I also hope to play on varsity basketball and look forward to serving as a student ambassador.




Clare Murphy
junior

I hope to have a good year overall in sports and in academics, make more friends and have a good time because high school is a time to make great memories.



Bill Luzzo
senior

I look forward to graduating at the end of the year and moving on to the next step. I also look forward to learning new things in all my classes and I hope to make the most of my senior year.



Ms. Theresa Coy
science teacher

I look forward to creating more learning opportunities with the iPad to help students, and collaborating with my colleagues because they have great ideas. I also look forward to going to state as a team in cross-country.

Things I wish I knew at the beginning of freshman year



Brigid McKeough
guest columnist

There are many things I wish I had known as a freshman, but here are the three that I think are the most important.

Be yourself.

This is quite possibly the most important thing I've learned throughout my years at Marist. Brett Hull once said, "Don't worry what people say or what people think. Be yourself." That is the most important thing, to stay true to who you are.

I tried changing who I was to fit in my freshman year, and I'll tell you right now it doesn't work. So now I'm the person I've always been, and my true friends love me for it.

There are people who will judge you, people who will want you to act a certain way, want you to say certain things. If they want you to change, don't. They aren't worth it in the end because, as the saying goes, "Those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind."

Don't walk around the halls and say, "Oh, I wish I could be more like Jane Doe." Because you know what? You won't be as happy as Jane Doe. The only way to be truly happy and to make the most out of your experience at Marist is to be yourself, and to find your place based on who you are.

There is something for everyone at Marist, so you really don't need to change who you are to feel like you belong.

Get involved.

Everyone says this to you, and they are right.



Jake Stypa
guest columnist

Growing up in the Marist community has changed my life in many ways. From the support of teachers, to the knowledge of sportsmanship both on and off the field, I thank everyone for their generosity.

The three things that I know now that I wish I had known freshman year are to be yourself, be active in the community, and show respect.

I came out of grade school feeling afraid and alone, but I overcame that fear with the help of my parents and friends. I thank God for them and everyone else that stood by my side throughout these four years because without them, I would not be the person that I am today.

The first day I arrived at Marist I lost my way in the enormous hallways that enclosed me. After a few days, I understood the basic layout of the whole school, but I was still shy and lonely. Then, during sophomore and junior year, I met a few people that really connected with me. I understood them, they understood me, and we became friends.

Still, I was influenced by a greater power, the power of God. An inner voice called me toward a greater understanding of why God put me on this earth. I knew in my heart and in my soul that I must live, not only to serve, but to become my own person. This feeling has been in my mind for a great deal of time.

Now, why should you be active in the community?

From my experience, the more you participate in extracurricular activities, the more fun you will have in life. My life changed the moment that I first signed up for Ultimate Frisbee. I was nervous, but, after a few practices, I understood the game, its rules, my teammates' behaviors, and I made great friends along the way. Those experiences shaped me to become a more independent and caring person.

Even though I walk in the halls of Marist as a senior, I will never forget where I came from. I wake up every day remembering my family, my community, my grade school and everyone who supported me up to this moment. I add Marist to that list because this is a true community

A community is based upon leadership. We, as members of the RedHawk nation, must unite and lead by following Jesus' example of love. Every day, I see and hear the tragedies that occur in our world on the news. Neither I, nor anyone I know wants that to happen to them, but it happens. We all have the capacity to love another, but we do not always show it. We must start by becoming willing to open ourselves to others. Our responsibility, as students and as children of God, is to become examples of love in our community.

The faculty and staff represent leadership in our community. They take the initiative each day through their teaching. They will continue to take the initiative with you if you only give them a chance. They should not have to tolerate people who screw around in class all day, who ask the same question all period, who ask to go to the bathroom every ten minutes of class, and so on.

Our teachers work very hard to give us a great education. Please respect them and they will respect you.

Be yourself.

Get involved.

Make the most of every moment.

Make the most of every moment.

It sounds like a cliché, but the four years go by fast. It may seem as though the weeks drag by, and that time is going backwards, but it's the opposite.

Ferris Bueller said, "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

High school is the same way. Go to as many dances as you can. Go to as many mixers as you can. Go to the football games and sit in the rowdy section and cheer.

Make mistakes, learn from them, and then pass your knowledge onto someone else.

Take chances.

Laugh with friends.

As Ms. Coy always says, "Be safe, be sober and be celibate."

Make memories that will last you a lifetime, because at the end of the day, that is what your high school experience should be.

And these four years are the only chance you will get.

Brigid and Jake, both seniors in the Marist peer leadership program this year, were invited to submit these columns for the Sentinel. Anyone interested in submitting a column for publication should see a Sentinel staff member.

State champion RedHawks honored at pep rally

by Solomon Davis
senior reporter

The girls' varsity softball team closed out the 2014-2015 school year with a state championship victory. On June 13, the RedHawks defeated Lincoln-Way East 1-0 to take the IHSA Division 4A State Championship.

The victory marks the second championship title for the team in the past four years.

"It honestly was the best feeling of my entire life," senior shortstop Madison Naujokas said. "Nothing else can compare to having a state ring."

Naujokas started playing softball at age three and made the RedHawk varsity team as a freshman. She credits head coach Ms. Colleen Biebel for helping the team take the title.

"Coach Biebel is the type of coach who strives for us to get better at something different each and every practice hoping for improvements," Naujokas said. "She is very understanding and can relate to us players and help us succeed to the next level."

The state championship capped a season of transition for the team, giving Biebel a victory in her first year as head coach of the team.

"The girls had high expectations all season and they did not deviate from their expectations," Biebel said. "They were a great group of girls and they set a goal to win a state championship and they pulled through."

Coach Biebel and her team agree that chemistry was a big part of the victory.

"Our girls got along really well, they supported each other and continued to work together throughout the whole season," Biebel said. "Getting along is a huge part of it I think, and our chemistry was great."

Senior pitcher Lizzie Annerino compares the chemistry of the team to that of being a family.

"It's nice to know that even if you are struggling, you have your teammates there to pick you up," Annerino said. "Not only did we have the talent but we all meshed together. We are truly a family."

In addition to team chemistry, senior catcher Emily Luzzo believes dedication, devotion, and sacrifice were key.

"This was the most dedicated and devoted team I have ever been a part of," Luzzo said. "We honestly worked so hard at every practice and every game and no one can take that from us."

At the beginning of the season, Coach Biebel had players write down team and individual goals, to help the team stay motivated.

"Every game we always reminded each other that one play or one team wasn't going to take the goal of winning state from us," Luzzo said.

Senior catcher Jillian Kenny took after her sister Kaitlin Kenny in playing softball. Kaitlin, a member of the class of 2012, was catcher for the varsity softball state championship team her senior year.

"It was just a very exciting experience, and it's nice to be able to share the state experience with someone so close to me," Kenny said.

"It was nice to be able to watch Kaitlyn's state game, but that feeling was nothing compared to the feeling of actually playing in the game. I guess you can say that once I started softball at Marist that there was a little bit of a family rivalry."

Brooke Wilson, who graduated in 2015, was a member of both RedHawk state championship teams, having played centerfield as a freshman. She noted a difference between the 2012 and 2015 teams.

"The major difference between our teams was our standing in conference," Wilson said. "In 2012, we didn't finish that high but we jelled at the right time."

The 2012 RedHawks beat Joliet Catholic in a 7-1 victory on May 14, the beginning of a winning streak which ultimately led to their championship victory.

"Being on two state championship teams is surreal," Wilson said. "It's definitely a feeling I hope more Marist athletes get to experience in the years to come."

Biebel, who served as an assistant coach for the 2012 state championship team, agrees with Wilson's comparison.

"The difference was that in 2015 we had a really great season and we didn't take



photo by Patti Arvesen

The 2015 state champion RedHawk softball team poses with the state trophy in the Red and White gym after being honored at the pep rally on August 28. The state title was the team's second in three years and the first for head coach Colleen Biebel. Graduates Brooke Wilson, Zariya Gonzalez and Hayley Franks reunited with their teammates at the rally. This year Wilson is playing softball at Loyola University and Franks is playing at Lindenwood University.

many steps back from our goal," Biebel said. "In 2012 we had a few bumps in the road, ending up with a pretty bad record but we finished very strong."

Of the 17 players on the 2015 state championship team, 14 are eligible to return to play in the 2015-2016 season. These players include seniors Vanessa Villasenor, Amanda McIlhany, Emily Luzzo, Emily Reilly, Jill Kenny, Paige Egan, Madison Naujokas and Lizzie Annerino, juniors Alexis Rogers and Madison Franks, and sophomores Kara Apato, Maggie Kehoe, Ally Corcoran and Emily Yerkes.

The 2016 team begins conditioning in November in preparation for the season opener on Monday, March 21 against Lincoln-Way Central.

The RedHawks are committed to another year of practicing and playing hard in the hopes of making it to state again next June.

"We will work just as hard, if not harder," Annerino said. "We practice from 3 p.m. until sundown every day and will attend the Kissimmee Classic tournament in Florida over spring break to face some of the best teams in the nation."

"We may have only lost three players to graduation, but they were key players. Wilson's bat, Zaria Gonzalez's pitching and Hayley Franks' defense will be hard to replace," Annerino said. "But we have a great group of hard-working athletes who should be able to fill in the gaps."

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photo by Patrick Quinn

The varsity girls’ cross country team begins the race at Lyons Township on Saturday, Sept. 5. The team took first place at the ESCC meet on Sept. 22 and at the Tinley Park invitational on Sept. 26. The girls run tomorrow at the St. Charles Invitational while the boys run at the Wheaton Classic.

Girls’ tennis team ranks high in conference

by Faith Laughran
junior reporter

The varsity girls’ tennis team started the season strong, opening with a win on Aug. 24 against Richards and taking first place at the Bolingbrook Invitational on Sept. 5. The team has also defeated rivals Marian Catholic, Chicago Christian, Oak Lawn, Lincoln-Way Central, Marian Central and St. Viator. Continuing the season with hard work and persistence, the team is currently ranked third in conference, but hopes to move up and advance to the state finals. “We are working really hard and it is showing,” said junior Ginnai Wheeler. “We will continue to put in 110% and finish the season as strong as possible.” At the ESCC quad meet on Sept. 19, the RedHawks defeated Marian Central and St. Viator, but fell to Benet. The team also lost at home against Carmel on Sept. 22 and away against Sandburg on Sept. 23. On Tuesday, the team fell to Nazareth, 0-5.

Results of last night’s meet at Eisenhower were unavailable at press time. “We need to work on controlling our nerves and taking each game one step at a time,” said senior Grace Burke. The team plays this afternoon and tomorrow in the Lockport Invitational and will host Mother McAuley for the final home meet of the regular season on Tues., October 6 at 4:30 p.m. The ESCC championship meet will take place Oct. 9-10 at Carmel High School. As the girls continue to work and practice, they have also build strong friendships and enjoy what they do. “Being a part of a team is fun because you meet people and get close to them,” said junior Sarah Ringbauer. Senior team captain Megan Ward has especially enjoyed leading the team. “I have found it to be a team of awesome girls who work hard, support each other and have a lot of fun and laughs together. We need to work really hard in these next weeks to get ready for conference and sectionals.”

Runners head for finish line

by Caroline Roeper
senior reporter

The boys’ and girls’ varsity cross country teams have two meets left before hosting the ESCC championship meet at Midlothian Meadows on Oct. 17. This season, the girls’ cross country team hopes to be the first in school history to make it to state. Senior runner Alexa Ferenzi emphasized the importance of teamwork. “We encourage each other to achieve new personal bests at every practice and meet,” Ferenzi said. The team finished in first place at the Tinley Park Invitational on Sept. 26, with senior Bridget McDermott coming in second in the open race. The team also won the ESCC conference meet on Sept. 22 and hopes to do well at the championship meet tomorrow. “We want to finish in the top 10 and show that we are worthy of state,” junior Hope Orsi said.

The boys’ team is also focusing on teamwork this season, although they have not fared as well as the girls. The team believes that running as a pack, rather than focusing on individual performance, will help the team come out strong in the end. “During practices, we concentrate on running together so we can improve together,” senior Kyle O’Farrell said. “Training like this makes the runners at the end of the group improve just as well as those running up front.” Highlights of the season include a second place finish at the ESCC meet on Sept. 22. Senior Jack Kelly won the open race at the Tinley Park Invitational on Sept. 27, with junior Matt Wagner coming in 8th and O’Farrell finishing 12th. As they prepare for the final meets of the season, senior Kevin Kelly said that his teammates will continue to concentrate on improving their personal records. “I think we are all pushing hard and will be able to accomplish the goals that we set for ourselves,” Kelly said.



photo by Amaris Shaffer

Junior RedHawk tennis player Ginnai Wheeler takes a swing at the Benet Academy tennis court on Saturday, Sept. 19. The RedHawks lost 0-5 to Benet, but went on to defeat Marian Central (4-1) and St. Viator (3-2).

Varsity golf teams wind up season

by Taylor Allison
senior reporter

The boys’ varsity golf team competed against six teams at the Ridge Country Club on Sunday, Sept. 27, winning the invitational and bringing their record to 6-5 for the season. Juniors Perry Chong, David O’Neil and Jeff Reidy and senior Patrick Keffer were the top four Marist scorers at the match. “Chong and O’Neil have been the most consistent golfers this season,” head coach Joel Vickers said. Chong tied for second place but ended up losing in the playoffs, finishing third with a score of 39. He has medaled in three tournaments and six matches this season. “It felt great each time I medaled,” Chong said. “I had a lot of fun with my teammates this year.” O’Neil finished at Ridge in third place with a score of 40. “Our goal is to make it to state as a team,” O’Neil said. “We are taking it one tournament at a time.”

The results of Tuesday and Thursday’s matches were unavailable at press time. The girls’ varsity team had an overall record of 4-11 going into this week. On Monday, September 28, the team placed sixth at the ESCC championship. “Our goals for the season have been to try to give the girls as many opportunities to play and develop their game while having fun,” said assistant coach Joe O’Brien. “As we wrap up this season, we are ending in a good place and looking forward to a solid team next year.” Head coach Andrew Hodorowicz cites performances by key players throughout the season. “Juniors Maggie Mahoney, Isabel Gainer and Kiera Hilliard have shown strong performances, and senior Hannah McMahon is our most experienced player,” Hodorowicz said. McMahon is captain of the team. “The season started rough, but we are practicing and improving each day, trying to play the best we can and have fun this year,” McMahon said.



photo by Patrick Keffer

Junior golfer David O’Neil warms up before the match against Nazareth Academy on Sept. 22 at the Meadows Golf Course. The team will play in the IHSA regionals on Tuesday, October 6 at Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park. Regionals for the girls’ team is on Wednesday, October 7 Lincoln-Oaks Country Club in Crete.

RedHawks take on St. Patrick tonight for homecoming

by Solomon Davis
senior reporter

The RedHawk varsity football team opened the season against Mount Carmel at the highly anticipated Kickoff Classic at Soldier Field on Aug. 28.

In spite of a hard-fought effort, the RedHawks fell to the Caravan, 14-21.

“Playing at Soldier Field was an amazing experience and one we will never forget,” said senior quarterback Brendan Skalitzky.

“Our goal was to leave with a win, but we learned from our mistakes and have dedicated ourselves to working harder every day to get the job done on Friday nights.”

The highlight of the game was senior running back Darshon McCullough’s 99-yard touchdown in the third quarter.

McCullough credits the kick off return team and senior cornerback Taylor Weaver, who made a down field block right before McCullough ran into the end zone.

“I have to give credit to my teammates,” McCullough said. “Without their selfless blocks on the return, there wouldn’t have been a touchdown.”

The team has gone on to win against DuSable, St. Viator and Notre Dame, but fell last Friday to Benet (25-29), setting the record at 3-2.

“Last Friday, we came out flat and not ready to play,” senior wide receiver Peter Bangs said. “In these last weeks, we have played more complete games and, if we continue to play like we have, we will make a run in the state playoffs.”

Head coach Pat Dunne agrees. “We’re far from perfect, but we’ve got a lot of good things going on,” Dunne said. “When you look from week to week, if you can eliminate a couple mistakes, then you’re getting better and I think it will show in the results.”

Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m. tonight and the team is looking to fans for support.

“Fans are the 12th man on the field, so they play an important role,” senior wide receiver Liam Keffer said.



photo by Bonnie Littleton

Wide receiver Liam Keffer (#3) blocks for running back Darshon McCullough (#25) in the game against Mount Carmel at Soldier Field on August 28. With a 3-2 record going into tonight’s homecoming game, the RedHawks have four games left before playoffs.



photo by Mary Beth Doubek

Midfielder David Snooks (#8) takes possession of the ball in the game against Brother Rice on Sept. 3. Neither team scored in the game, but the RedHawks lost to the Crusaders in the shootout, 2-4. The team hosts Benet tomorrow at 10 a.m.

Fans help motivate varsity soccer team

by Miranda Insley
senior reporter

With Monday’s 0-1 loss to St. Viator in the final 3 seconds of the game, the varsity soccer team record stood at 6-7-2 and 3-1 in conference.

For the first time in 30 years, the RedHawks played Brother Rice in an away game to honor first responders on Sept. 3.

The RedHawks and Crusaders remained scoreless after 80 minutes, but the Crusaders won the shoot out, 4-2. Senior defender Brendan Cooke and junior midfielder David Regan scored goals for the RedHawks.

“Losing in penalty kicks was rough, but the fan support that day was more than any of us could imagine,” senior captain and forward Steve Carroll said. “The Rowdies boosted our morale and I truly believe that has helped our conference record this season.”

Senior co-captain and midfielder Nick Messineo shares Carroll’s frustration.

“We fought hard but we just couldn’t seem to find the back of the net,” Messineo said. “But, control of the ball is something we excel in and something we should be proud of.”

Wins this season include 3 shut out victories against Catholic rivals Providence (4-0), Marian Catholic (1-0) and Joliet Catholic Academy (1-0) and a 4-2 win against Notre Dame.

Senior co-captain and midfielder David Snooks is optimistic about the rest of the season as the team prepares for regionals on Oct. 21.

“We had performance earlier in the season, but not results,” Snooks said. “But the rest of the season is something to look forward to.”

The RedHawks host St. Patrick tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. and Benet Academy on Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 6:30 p.m. The final home game of the season is on Monday, Oct. 12 against Marian at 2 p.m.

Volleyball 2-0 in conference, 12-4 overall

by Kara Keating
senior reporter

The RedHawk girls’ varsity volleyball team continues to build momentum as they prepare for their final games and the playoffs.

Tonight the teams faces Stagg and St. Thomas (Florida) in the ASICS Challenge starting at 6 p.m at Palos Courts, 12212 S. Ridgeland.

Last weekend, the RedHawks competed in the Rich East Lady Rocket Tournament, winning in two against both Lockport (25-9, 25-18) and Andrew (25-13, 25-8).

Senior co-captain Anne Marie Stifter, who was named player of the week in the *Daily Southtown* on Sept. 18, is encouraged by her team’s performance so far.

“I think our season is going well,” Stifter said. “Our focus is getting better every day and I think we are improving in all areas. By the end of the season, we will be playing our best consistently.”

The RedHawks opened the season with wins in two games against Hinsdale and Stagg. On Sept. 15, the team won the second set against McAuley, but fell in the first and third.

“Each day is a day for improvement,” senior setter Kate Sokolowski said. “We are working really hard in the gym to push past our goals and set higher ones.”

The team went 4-1 at the Wheaton Classic on Sept. 16 and 19, defeating Metea, Hinsdale Central, Wheaton North and Waubonsie Valley.

“The team is working really hard this season,” said head coach Julie Popp-Hopkins. “They show it in practices and I can tell that it is going to be a great season.”

Results from Tuesday’s game against Carmel and last night’s game against Notre Dame were unavailable at press time.

The RedHawks will host Providence on Monday, Oct. 5 at 6:15 p.m. in the Red and White Gym.



photo by Kara Keating

Senior outside hitter Cameron Enright (#5) blocks an attack from her Lockport opponent in the Red and White Gym on Sept. 25. The RedHawks won in two, 25-9 and 25-18. The team hosts Providence Monday at 6:15 p.m.