



Goodbye, textbooks. Hello, iPads.

Lauren Surin
Jackie Cronin
Sentinel

Further advancements in technology at Marist will take place next semester as iPads begin to replace textbooks in selected classrooms.

Ten teachers and four freshmen classes will participate in a pilot program known at Marist as the “iPad Initiative.” For this program, the school will provide the iPads and give students the option to purchase them at the end of the year.

If all goes well, every freshman and sophomore will begin using iPads starting next school year.

Principal Larry Tucker and other administrators and faculty members have visited several high schools that have already made the switch, including Loyola Academy, New Trier, Lake Forest Academy, St. Ignatius, and Christopher Columbus in Miami, FL.

Tucker and his team observed teachers and students using the iPads in classrooms and spoke with them about the pros and cons.

In a press conference with the Journalism 1 class in November, Tucker said that he and his team made a decision to go with iPads over other tablets.

“Apple seems to have cornered the market and is leaps and bounds above the competition,” Tucker said. “The apps are very powerful and specific to subject matter and have great potential.”

Tucker cited “Nearpod” as an example of an app which allows students to see what the teacher is seeing on his or her own iPad at the same time.

Teachers will also be able to give tests electronically, provide more immediate feedback to students, and determine what needs to be reviewed or retaught.

To prepare for next semester’s pilot program, Tucker formed an “iTeam” at Marist, comprised of 10 teachers including English teacher Ms. Meg Scanlon, science teacher Ms. Carrie Spano, math teachers Mr. Mike Strubin and Mr. Vic Trevino, world language teachers Ms. Cristina Tallarico and Ms. LaToya Hayes, social studies teachers Mr. Carl Harper and Ms. Sarah Niedospial, and religion teacher Ms. Sarah Rakauskas.

In addition, English teacher Mr. Brendan Heffernan has accepted the role of coordinator for the iTeam at Marist.

“I think that by implementing iPads into classrooms, we will be allowing students to take greater control of their own education and create a more student-centered environment,” Tallarico said.

Another benefit that the administration hopes for is a reduction in the cost of books. iPads offer the ability to use interactive electronic textbooks, which means students will no longer have to purchase expensive and heavy regular textbooks for every subject.

Tucker said that the cost of an iPad, currently around \$500, and the electronic books to go with it, should prove much cheaper than the usual textbook bill.



photo by Matt Hickey

Principal Larry Tucker discussed the iPad initiative during a press conference with students in the Journalism 1 class. After a trial period next semester, freshmen and sophomores will begin using iPads in place of textbooks in the 2014-2015 school year.

Additionally, students will want to purchase a quality case to protect their iPads against damage.

Insurance is also available and the iPads feature a tracking device, although Tucker noted that loss, theft and damage of iPads has not been a major issue at the schools he visited.

Tucker also addressed the concern that iPads could distract students during class.

“We need to teach students to be good digital citizens,” Tucker said. “We need students to make a conscious decision not to play games during class and to stay off inappropriate websites.”

Senior named Miss Illinois Teen

Morgan Weidman
Brooke Wyderski
Sentinel

Senior Miranda Fenzau beat 100 contestants from around the state to win this year’s Miss Illinois Teen Pageant, held at McCormick Place Nov. 22-24.

She will compete in the Bahamas in July for the Miss Teen USA title.

Fenzau’s mother began entering her in pageants for fun when she was 6 months old, and Fenzau won her very first competition.

As she got older she strayed away from the pageant scene and began to concentrate on sports, including volleyball and soccer, during her freshman year at Marist.



Miranda Fenzau

Later during her freshman year, Fenzau started participating in pageants again. Preparing for pageants is not easy. In most pageants contestants are judged on their formal wear, swimsuit wear, and an interview.

For inspiration, Fenzau looks up to Nana Meriwether, winner of the 2012 Miss USA pageant.

“I met her several times on the pageant circuit,” Fenzau said. “We have even had dinners together and our experiences are very similar.”

Fenzau hopes to compete in the Miss USA pageant after high school.

It takes about a year to prepare for pageants, and those who take the pageants seriously will focus their efforts on getting the perfect wardrobe and practicing their speaking skills to do well answering interview questions during competition.

“My favorite thing is the on stage interview because the questions are so unpredictable,” Fenzau said.

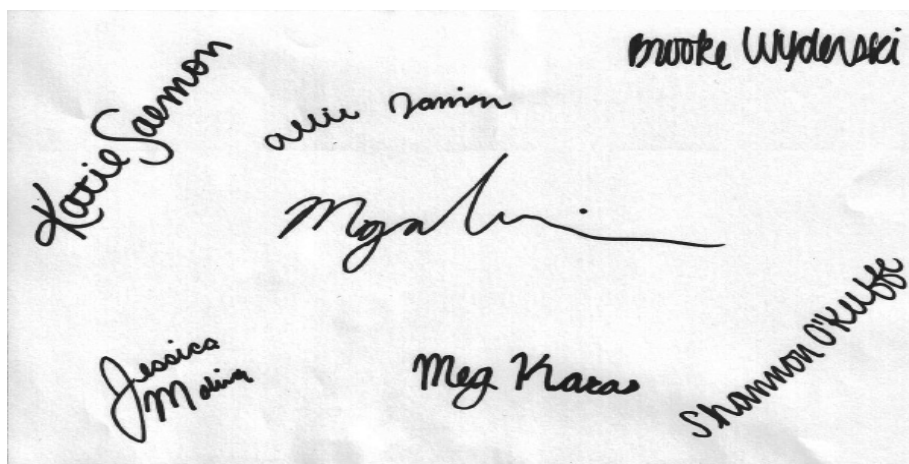
Not only does Fenzau have Marist and the state of Illinois rooting for her, she also enjoys great support from her friends and family.

“My friends and my family are always there for my biggest moments and I will cherish that forever.”



photo by John Goncezy

Merry Christmas from your *Sentinel* staff



THE
SENTINEL



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iPad initiative will benefit everyone

Marist’s transformation from textbooks to iPads will help students learn more effectively and increase Marist’s overall status as an academic powerhouse in Chicago.

Marist’s iPad initiative begins next semester with 100 freshmen and 10 teachers. Next year, all freshmen and sophomores will be required to have an iPad.

The administration wants to start the process slowly to ensure that our infrastructure can handle having all students on the network at the same time. Teachers will also need time to receive proper training.

iPads are a great resource. Almost everyone has Googled something for a homework assignment, or looked up a YouTube video on how to do a math problem they were unsure about.

Having the iPad readily available means that students will be able to have instant access to the search engines. Electronic textbooks for certain classes

usually include video tutorials that will help students through their homework. Some may argue that iPads are expensive, but they should actually save families money in the long run.

A set of seven completely new textbooks can cost up to \$1000. The iPad, averaging around \$500, essentially pays for itself over time.

Though applications (apps) and electronic books (e-books) cost money, purchasing these should prove much cheaper than buying regular textbooks and a backpack to carry them around in.

A big complaint around Marist, or any school for that matter, centers around the size and weight of the backpacks that students use to carry their books and materials.

Some teachers also require students to keep a 1 ½ to 2 inch binder for their class, and adding these to the weight of the large books equals a heavy burden.

Using an iPad will eliminate the weight of all of these books, making for

happier students. It will also be easier for teachers and students to navigate classrooms free from bookbag clutter.

Students concerned that their iPad could get lost, stolen or broken will need to practice responsibility and be sure to purchase a good case, an insurance policy, and the tracker application.

Virtually every student carries a cell phone and there is no epidemic of lost, stolen or broken cell phones at Marist.

Going to iPads is a great step toward the future of teaching and learning at Marist High School.

During this 50th anniversary year, one can only wonder what new technology is coming. We’ve come a long way since 1963, and we can only guess what 2063 will look like.

In the meantime, it is in the best interests of the Marist community that this initiative gets underway, to improve teaching and learning, and to raise our academic status to an ever higher standard.

photo opinion

What do you want for Christmas and what are your hopes for 2014?



Jose Rojas
freshman

For Christmas, I want some new Nike hyperdunks. My hope for 2014 is that there won't be a lot of crime in the world and hopefully there will be peace.



Krista Ico
sophomore

I just want to have a good time with my friends and family. For 2014, I hope I can get good grades and focus more on school.



Aaron Street
junior

I want to see my friends and my family happy. It's the one thing that makes me happy. My hope for 2014 is to have a huge impact on my peers.



Cassie Coleman
senior

For Christmas I would like tickets to see a Broadway show. In 2014 I hope to decide where I am going to college and to pick a career path I want to pursue.



Brother Pat
ageless

I look forward to spending some time with my parents and my family. In 2014, I hope and pray for peace in our world and in our city.

Field trips prove effective learning tool

In November, two of Mrs. Kelly Giacobbe’s senior anatomy classes visited Christ Advocate Medical Center and got a firsthand look at the human heart and all its wonders by observing an open-heart surgery.

“Live from the Heart,” a program sponsored by the Museum of Science and Industry, allows high school students to access information through an experience that would not be possible in the classroom.

Field trips like these enrich students with the knowledge that surpass the information provided in the classroom.

Students should have at least one opportunity every year to enhance their learning experience outside of school.

Over the years, educational field trips have declined. The Field Museum recently recorded that the number of school tours is below 200,000 compared to a time where Chicago welcomed more than 300,000 students.

The factors that led to the reduction of enriching field trips range from financial issues to using time in the classroom to improve students instead of going somewhere else.

Field trips can deepen and enhance classroom study. Prior to the surgery, students studied the anatomy and physiology of the heart as well as risk factors associated with cardiac disease.

The opportunity to view a live surgery is a unique teaching tool. Most students offered positive feedback. Negative feedback came in the form of gasps as the surgeon cut through fat and sawed through bones.

The opportunity to link classroom content to real-life experience should be expanded to other academic studies. Teachers should plan field trips around the lesson or lessons most difficult for students to grasp. These experiences will reinforce what is taught in class by making the learning more memorable.

Business students may benefit from visiting financial markets. History students can have class content brought to life by visiting museums and historic sites.

Giacobbe admits that planning a trip is a lot of work, but that educational lessons brought to life have much more meaning and impact on students.

Most students in Giacobbe’s anatomy and physiology class plan to pursue careers in the health field. Based on the “Live from the Heart” experience, these students gained valuable knowledge.

All participants learned many tips about staying “off the (operating) table” by taking care of their health.

It is never too soon to start taking better care of one’s health, and even teenagers should think about what they eat and drink.

After all, today’s french fries could very well lead to tomorrow’s open heart surgery.

The *Sentinel* is the official student publication of Marist High School, Chicago, published monthly August through May by the students of Marist High School. The opinions expressed in the *Sentinel* are those of the author and not necessarily those of the *Sentinel* staff or Marist High School, unless otherwise noted.

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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In the event the *Sentinel* makes an error, a correction or retraction will be published in the following issue.

The *Sentinel* is published by Regional Publishing, 12247 S. Harlem Ave., Palos Heights, IL. 60463.

Speech team opens season

Allison Connelly
Sentinel

The RedHawk speech team opened its season on Nov. 2 at the first Catholic League qualifier meet hosted by Antioch High School.

Sophomore Kelly Collins placed first in oratorical declamation, an event in which contestants deliver an 8 minute speech they have memorized beforehand.

Seniors Brenna Donegan and Liz Ruf placed 7th in humorous duet acting with their performance of “Hansel and Gretel.”

Senior Emem Obot placed 5th in the poetry reading category.

On Nov. 23, the team competed at the Reavis High School “Ram Yam” Thanksgiving tournament.

Donegan and Ruf improved their standing, taking 4th in humorous duet acting, while Obot placed 2nd in poetry reading and 5th in prose reading.



Freshmen Elizabeth Trainik and Rosie McMahon, newcomers to the team, placed 5th at Reavis in the dramatic duet acting category.

Collins and junior Ben Barry took 7th in the same category.

“Speech is a lot of hard work, but it pays off and being on the team helped me get over my fear of public speaking,” Donegan said.

Anyone interested in joining the team should see head coach Mrs. Holly Cox in the guidance department.


The team’s first meet after Christmas will be at Reavis on Jan. 11.



photo by Kelly Collins

Seniors Brenna Donegan (L) and Liz Ruf (R) rehearse their humorous duet “Hansel and Gretel.” The duo took 4th place at Reavis High School on Nov. 23.

Here I am Lord... send ME!!



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The RedHawk Theater
Tonight at 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets available at the door-\$15 adults, \$10 students

Chess team looking for win

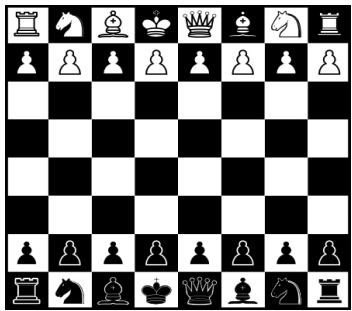
Katie Maloney
Sentinel

The RedHawk chess season opened on Nov. 19 with a forfeit win against Hales Franciscan.

Losses followed through December to St. Rita, St. Ignatius, De La Salle, and Fenwick but the team is working hard to come back stronger and more focused.

This year’s team includes seniors Joe Fennessey (captain), Ryan Springer (assistant captain), Adam Hughes, Robert Lewis, Jordan Odeh, and Jim Bendoraitis, juniors Maura Kealy and Josh Katz, sophomores John Bryja, Megan Heinlein, Henry Moxley, and freshmen Brendan Boyle and Cody Busch.

“Everyone has been doing really well, but the biggest thing we need to work on is staying focused,” Fennessey said. “The easiest way to lose is by losing focus.”



The team’s travels to St. Patrick on Jan. 7 and Leo on Jan. 9.

The next home meet is against Mount Carmel on Jan. 14.

The RedHawks will also host neighborhood rival Br. Rice on Jan. 21.

Head coach Mr. Bob Morowczynski said, “We’re building as a team, and we’ve gotten a few unlucky breaks, but I feel like our best chess is still in us.”

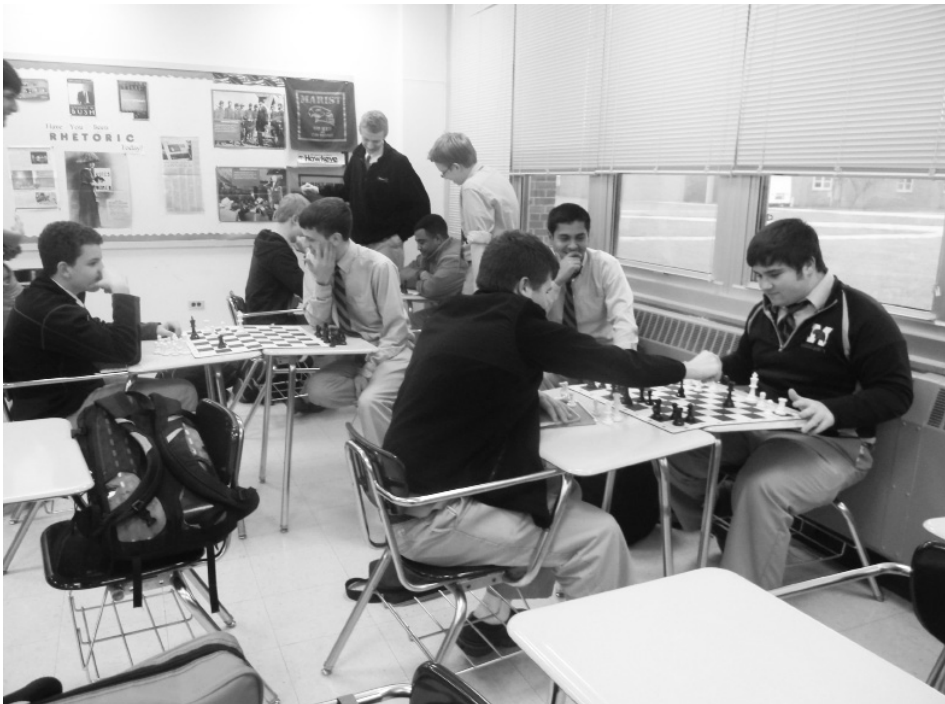


photo by Katie Maloney

Members of the RedHawk chess team practice before their home meet against Fenwick on Dec. 5. The team lost the meet, 32-36. The team will travel to St. Patrick and Leo in January before hosting Mount Carmel on Jan. 14 and Br. Rice on Jan. 21.

RedHawks end great season; Weishar makes history

Brooke Wyderski
Sentinel

The RedHawk varsity football season came to an end with a 27-21 loss to Naperville Central on Sat., Nov. 23 in the IHSA state playoffs. The RedHawks finished in the top 4 teams in the Class 8A bracket and finished the year with a 9-4 record.

The RedHawks advanced on Nov. 23 after defeating Plainfield South on Nov. 1 (21-7), number one seeded Bolingbrook on Nov. 8 (21-7) and Oswego on Nov. 16 (21-7).

“I’m proud of every guy on this team,” said head coach Pat Dunne. “They faced adversity and went right through it. They practiced at a great level and battled every day.”

The RedHawks had not advanced this far in the IHSA playoff series since 2009.

“We have a lot in common with the 2009 team because we played for each other and for our coaches,” said senior left guard Mitch Schleyer. “We all bought in 100% and believed, and that is why we had the success we did.”

As the season ended for the team, history was made by Notre Dame recruit, senior wide receiver Nic Weishar. Weishar is one of 90 players from across the country to be chosen to play in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl, which will take place on Jan. 4 in San Antonio, Texas at the Alamodome. He is the first All-American to be chosen from Marist.

“It is an unbelievable feeling and very humbling to be a part of such a prestigious game,” Weishar said.

Aside from this accomplishment, Weishar also broke the Illinois state record for career receptions.

Other RedHawk standouts on the team this season included senior quarterback Jack Donegan, who led the area with 3,242 passing yards and 36 touchdowns.

Junior wide receiver Flynn Nagel finished with 103 catches, 1,504 yards and 20 touchdowns.

Players named to the East Suburban Catholic Conference (ESCC) All-Conference team included Donegan, Schleyer, Nagel, Weishar, Peter Andreotti, Ryan Mishka, Ryan Tucker and Marcus Pitts.



photo by Morgan Weidman

Coach Pat Dunne and wide receiver Nic Weishar sit together as Weishar is honored in an assembly on Nov. 25 for being the first RedHawk to be named to the U.S. Army All-American team. Weishar was also named player of the year by the *Southtown* newspaper last week.

Hockey faces tough season

Jessica Molina
Sentinel

This varsity hockey team continues to struggle this season, with losses against Notre Dame College Prep (2-4) and Zionsville (2-4) on Nov. 7 and 8.

The RedHawks managed to tie the next two games on Nov. 9 and 11 against Hamilton (5-5) and Mount Carmel (1-1), before suffering another losing streak against St. Viator (1-6) on Nov. 11 and Benet Academy (0-5) on Nov. 14.

On Nov 17 and 18 the hockey team managed a two win streak against Deerfield high school (5-2) and Lake Forest Academy (3-1).

The team picked up a pair of wins against Deerfield (5-2) and Lake Forest Academy (3-1) on Nov. 17 and 18.

The RedHawks lost to neighborhood rivals on Dec. 6 at the Oak Lawn Ice Arena, 1-3.

“We were simply outplayed and ran into a great goalie,” said senior captain Jake Soukup.

This is a building year for the varsity hockey team, which consists mostly of underclassmen.

“They have been playing strong and most of them have stepped up,” said senior cocaptain Conor Evans.

The team lost to Benet (0-5) on Dec. 8 and tied against York (4-4) on Dec. 9.

“We’ve picked it up lately but we need to get some more wins if we want to go anywhere this year,” Evans said.

Results against Thursday’s game with Fenwick were unavailable at press time.

The team plays St. Rita at 7 p.m. on Sunday at the Arctic Ice Arena in Orland Park, returning to the Arctic on Dec. 22 to face Waubonsie Valley.



photo by Megan Karas

Brother Rice hockey players chase senior Conor Evans and junior Ryan Loizzo for possession of the puck on Dec. 6. The RedHawks lost 3-1.

RedHawk wrestlers open season with compassion

Morgan Weidman
Sentinel

Each year, the RedHawk wrestling team travels to Washington, IL for a tournament. On Nov. 17, the Washington community was devastated by a tornado that killed one person and destroyed many homes and businesses.

The RedHawks responded by holding a week-long collection that raised over \$4500 to help those affected by the tornado.

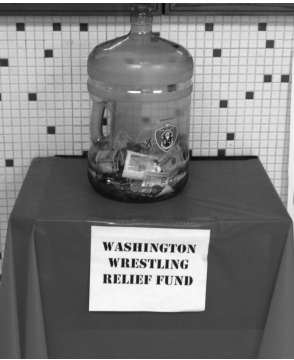


photo by Matt Matushek

“Helping out Washington was a really good thing to do because it helped bring up their spirits after such a terrible tragedy,” senior wrestler Mike Mullaney said.

The RedHawks opened their season at home on Dec. 6 with wins against Cary Grove (46-21) and Oak Forest (42-14).

Standouts included senior Peter Andreotti (18-2 against Oak Forest), senior Mark Duda (14-5 against Cary Grove), senior Mario Leveille (16-3 against Oak Forest, and senior Mike Mullaney (4-3 against Oak Forest).

On Dec. 7, the RedHawks travelled to Washington where they defeated Minooka (51-21) and Catholic rival St. Rita (53-15), before losing to Oak Park-River Forest (24-43).

Standouts at the Washington tournament included Duda (18-3 over St. Rita) and freshman Ameen Hamden (7-3 against St. Rita).

The team hosts Lowell High School from Michigan tonight and will host a quad on Dec. 21 in the Red and White Gymnasium.



photo courtesy of Marist wrestling

Senior Mark Duda, shown wrestling his opponent at regionals last year, is one of six seniors on the varsity wrestling team who helped contribute to the team’s 3-1 standing so far this season. The team hosts Lowell this evening at 6 p.m. in the Benefactors’ Gym.