

January 2010

The Academy Beacon



Marmion 54, Aurora Central 47 CADETS STUN ACC WITH LATE RALLY

Whenever Marmion and Aurora Central go toe to toe, the stakes are always high, and this year was no different. Bragging rights were on the line, as fans from both sides came out in droves to witness the latest chapter of this great intra-city rivalry. This year, the big game was played at the Sears Centre in Hoffman Estates, perhaps adding even more excitement to what was already a much-anticipated showdown.

Cadet shooting guard Greg Askwith agreed, saying, "It was a great environment to play in. The whole team was pumped about it because it's always a good game against ACC. But we knew that if we outworked them and played good 'D,' we would hopefully come out on top."

On the season's biggest stage, the Cadets did indeed come out on top by completing one of the biggest late-game comebacks in recent memory on their way to a dramatic 54-47 victory. The stunning win evened the all-time series between the two teams at 34 wins apiece.

The 2010 edition of the Marmion-ACC rivalry started off promising for the Cadets as Askwith drilled two 3-pointers from beyond the arc to give Marmion an early lead. But slowly, the tide turned in favor of the Chargers. The Cadets could not seem to get anything going offensively, and they struggled to keep up with ACC's steady offensive attack. The Chargers knifed through the Cadets' defense, cutting to the basket and getting to the rim with ease throughout most of the game. ACC guards Joey Guth and Ryan Harreld made matters worse for the Cadets by swishing several 3-pointers to extend the Charger lead.



Senior Mark Peters Denying the Chargers at the Sears Centre

Soldiering for Christ

When many of us think of service, we get the image of helping at a soup kitchen or aiding Mr. Johnson with one of his many projects. These are wonderful ways to live out our faith and be Christ to those around us, and the majority of us do a superb job with serving others. But service should not be limited to just our local neighborhoods and the parishes nearby. One recent example of going beyond the call of duty was the decision of our own Father Paul to travel to Iraq during the Christmas holidays to bring Jesus to our soldiers stationed there.

We all know Father Paul as a very reverent spiritual leader and an inspiration of faith. He is our school chaplain, teaches senior Theology, and he serves as an active member of the Army National Guard. But Father Paul, despite his many contributions to society, felt that he had more to offer our Lord and was not satisfied with what he had already accomplished. For the second time, Father Paul volunteered himself to be deployed overseas to bring Christ to our soldiers fighting for freedom in Iraq.

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Marmion ACC con't.

Meanwhile, Marmion's stagnant offense had trouble solving ACC's zone defense, as none of the Cadets seemed to have the hot hand. Marmion forward Mark Peters did his best to keep his team in the game, and Grant Wilson and Mark Berdelle came off the bench to provide a spark for the Cadets. But despite their efforts, the Cadets found themselves down by 13 when ACC held a 43-30 lead with just under 6 minutes left in the 4th quarter.

After ACC point guard Steven Hollon fouled out with about 4 minutes to go in the game, the Cadets began to cut into the Chargers' seemingly insurmountable lead. Peters led the way, scoring five consecutive points as the momentum began to turn. The 3-point shooting of shooting guard Eddy Grahovec ignited the Cadets as they amazingly climbed their way back into the game. Marmion's stifling full-court pressure forced the Chargers to make several mistakes, and ACC failed to cash in at the free throw line. Marmion finally took the lead when shooting guard Tyler Hlavac calmly put in a pair of free throws to give the Cadets a 48-47 advantage with less than 2 minutes remaining in the game. ACC continued to struggle with the Marmion press, and Hlavac's clutch free throw shooting down the stretch sealed the deal for the Cadets. When the final buzzer sounded, the scoreboard showed that Marmion had done the improbable and pulled out a win. The Cadets ended the game on an incredible 24-4 run.

The triumph was the Cadets' second straight victory, and it improved their overall record to 11-7. The Cadets put on an awesome display of resiliency by playing their hearts out and seemingly willing themselves to victory. More importantly, their effort showed all the Marmion supporters in attendance what Cadet Pride is all about. "WE ARE MA!!"

By: Ryan Lifka

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Soldiering con't.

Working in Al Anbar Providence, west of Baghdad, Iraq, Father Paul carried out a number of duties benefitting the spiritual well-being of our soldiers during his stay. He spent close to three weeks in Iraq, visiting six different bases and performing the sacraments for the troops, among other duties. His selflessness and willingness to serve inspired many of the soldiers and helped make Christmas the holy holiday it is supposed to be. "Going to Iraq to celebrate the sacraments was a joy for me and part of my responsibility as a spiritual Father." Father said. "No father wants to see his children hungry. I'm honored to serve the Soldiers who serve our Nation so well."

Fr. Paul's example is one that we all should strive to follow. He gave up a comfortable holiday season at home with his loved ones to go overseas and serve our nation's defenders in an act of selflessness patriotism, thinking not of himself, but of those he could serve by his actions. Everyone can take this example and try to emulate it on a more regular basis. We all live very comfortable lives, and we can all afford to try to give a little more of ourselves and make a sacrifice for the Lord. Whatever you take this sacrifice to be, make sure you go out and do it. Like Father Paul, we can all do our part to be soldiers for Christ and make a difference, no matter how small, in our world.

By: Zack Young



Football Island

Five thousand miles from the coast of California lies an island filled with future NFL superstars. American Samoa is closer to Australia than America, yet it produces some of the best football talent America has ever seen. Its population is about 65,000; while it is about the size of the Chicago suburb of Bolingbrook, it is 56 times more likely to produce an NFL player than the average American city. Every team in the PAC-10 has a Samoan on their roster this season, and schools all across the country from Tennessee to Nebraska enlist the likes of those of Samoan descent. There are more than 30 players of Samoan heritage playing in the NFL and over 200 currently playing Division I college football.

So why are Samoans so much better at football than red-blooded Americans? That's easy, cynics say: because they are so much bigger. On an island 19 miles wide, Samoa's six schools have produced 10 NFL linemen in the last 5 years alone. Being 6'5" and 270 lbs. does not make you stand apart in American Samoa; it merely makes you fit in. Surely, raw size alone does not make you a great football player. While Togiola Tulafono, the governor of American Samoa, admits bigger is better, he also points to the fact that the average Samoan has a certain level of determination that is unparalleled in the average American teenager. Samoans may be big, but their culture makes them tough. In a place where kids use machetes to do



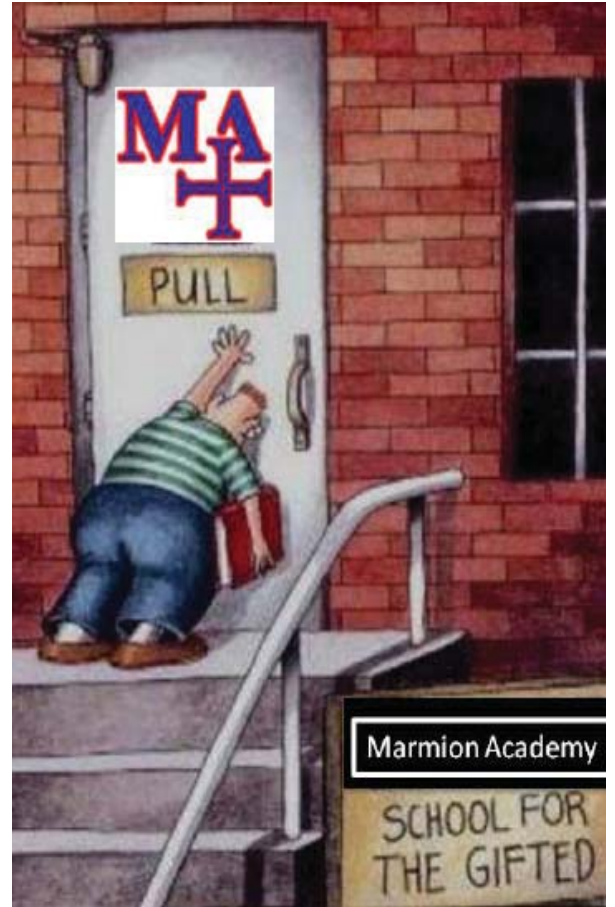
their chores (and actually do have chores), kids our age often have to cook, clean, and farm before they even leave for school. Ultimately, Samoans are more likely to make it to the NFL than Americans because they have a raw desire that is hard to match. In a land where football can be a meal ticket and a way to get an education, few Americans have the will to compete with someone fighting for their survival.

By: Ryan Lovelace



You Know You're at Marmion When . . .

- An artillery piece is sitting just outside your football field
- *The fan section bleachers have too much space on normal home basketball games, but not nearly enough come the rivalry game
- You spent several minutes grooming yourself in the proper fashion so you'd be able to pass haircut inspection
- when someone gets made fun of for cutting their own hair
- You can get into the best shape of your life by going to detention
- You can sense the instant the estrogen level on the campus rises above zero
- Everyone wears a nametag, even though there's only about 100 kids in your class
- War paint is not a suggestion during the rivalry game, it is a necessity
- * Your school has a campus ministry director, and what's more, he's worked with Ozzy and Metallica
- A priest teaching at your school was once in a biker gang
- Stack Magazine and Channel 1 are your media throughout the day.
- No one from ACC transfers into your school when they get kicked out, but you can always go to ACC if you get the boot
- Your school has multiple tunnels which you don't learn the full extent of for at least a year or two
- You have a secluded hallway of lockers designated "the dungeon"
- *You hear a number of ref whistles go off during a school dance
- *That little section of the handbook about provocative dancing is casually ignored by everyone (which explains the number of whistles)
- *You hate Aurora Central because they exist
- Your school has its own honor guard
- You yell at the honor guard to slow down so you can get inside before the flag comes down
- The universal violation you are charged with is "Failure to follow school policy"
- *You've been told, "Put on your sweater before I strangle you with it."
- *Seniors were once told, "if we wanted you to have sweaters without sleeves we would have given them to you."
- **Someone dresses up as Osama Bin Laden for Halloween.
- *You have two fire drills in one day.
- There is no such thing as a field trip.
- The punishment for cell phone use is more severe than the punishment for smoking.
- *Mr. Mark Jayne has never given you a handshake.
- *The ex-dean of students was simply referred to as "T"
- * "T" could bench press more than most varsity football player
- your school has a cigarette disposal outside the athletic entrance
- when you can smell the clutches burned from people trying to drive stick shift
- * = upper classmen only
- **= seniors only





A 3D Pandora Extravaganza

Avatar is a true masterpiece. Selling at current count over 1.3 billion dollars in worldwide sales, you can't argue with that. The outstanding visuals truly bring the jaw dropping view of the world of Pandora to life. With some of the best use of 3D technology ever used in a movie, topped with the big name director James Cameron, this film was destined to be a blockbuster from the start. After a long break from Hollywood, Cameron has returned to bring us Avatar, which was 12 years in the making. Cameron said he originally thought of the idea from a very vivid dream he had, and so he waited for the visual technology to advance further before making a film, which was inspired by this dream. He's brought back some of the stars from his other movies, such as Sigourney Weaver, the star of his classic film "Aliens", who plays Dr. Augustine, the head biologist. He's also added some brand new talent for this film, including Sam Worthington, the star who plays Jake Sully, an ex-marine sent to Pandora to help negotiate with the native race to Pandora, called the Na'vi. Another standout newbie is actress Zoe Saldana, who is cast as the role of Neytiri, a female Na'vi who shows Jake how to live on Pandora.



While the story of Avatar is somewhat mediocre, the movie far makes up for this through its breathtaking visuals. From the first moment you see the colorful landscape of the jungles of Pandora, you immediately are hooked in. The world is full of wonders, including floating mountains, which sets up not only a view from the skies above looking down on the rich jungle treetops, but also for the epic battle to come near the end. The world can be seen from a different perspective at nighttime, where the dark forests glow with nocturnal life. Keep in mind that the visuals are significantly worse if you don't see this movie in 3D. The special FX makes this more an experience than a movie, and if you haven't seen it yet, you need to ASAP.

On the downside, the plot entails a predictable ending. A private corporation has landed on Pandora looking for a rare resource, which is found at the base of a massive tree located in the deeper parts of the surrounding forest of Pandora. That is the original motivation for Jake Sully, who is a crippled ex marine from Earth invited to replace his scientist brother, meant to take on an experiment before his untimely death. Since they are twins, Jake has the right DNA to inhabit his brother's avatar, a clone of the native race of Na'vi. Once he gets acquainted with using his Avatar, Jake is sent to explore Pandora and get inside of the tribe of Na'vi who inhabit the tree containing the resources the company is after. If he and the other avatars fail to reach a peaceful agreement with them, then the company is prepared to wage a full out war. Without spoiling the plot, Jake soon finds himself intrigued by Pandora, and also falling in love with Neytiri, the princess of the Na'vi tribe who acts as his mentor in the world. While the plot begins to look a lot the typical bad white/Earth people destroy peaceful tribe of nature loving beings and is easy to foresee the end, the story is good enough to serve as a motive to be awe inspired by the incredible special FX the movie has to offer. In addition, the epic battle at the end is pretty entertaining.

Avatar tops the list of the Top 5 highest grossing films of all time, sitting at number one. Rumors of a sequel have begun to spring up, and let's hope this is true. If you're like me, the you can't get enough of Pandora or the awesome sci-fi epic that is Avatar.

By: Ryan Whittington and Chris Perillo



One Two-Punch Weekend

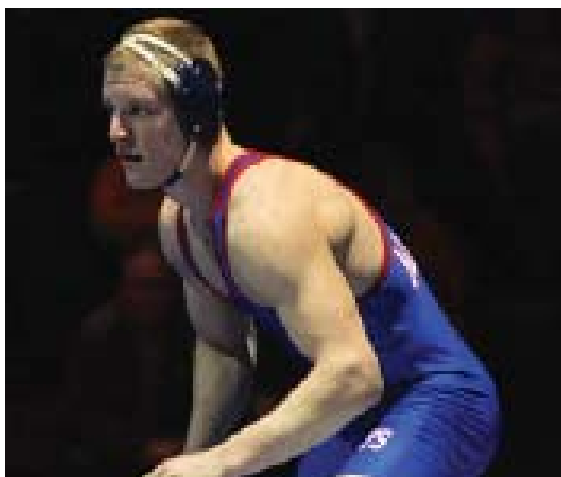
The Marmion Academy wrestling team continued its winning ways this weekend taking down Minooka, the number one ranked team in 3A on Friday. On Saturday the team placed second at the Oak Park-River Forest Tournament. The Cadets fought through a duel against Minooka and came out on top by a score of 27-24. David Neils put on a very impressive performance and came away with a victory. Michael York suffered from a rare loss.

“The kid shot right off of the whistle, definitely wasn’t expecting that one,” commented York.

York talked about how earlier on in the season Marmion scheduled to wrestle against Minooka originally just to see how well they were doing and how they would fare against other teams in the state. The tables turned Friday night when the Cadets rode their season long hot streak all the way to an upset. Marmion dethroned Minooka and showed other schools how much of a state power they really are.

The story was different on Saturday morning. Coming off an exciting and exhausting Friday night, they were unable to keep consistent, and only placed second,

“One of the dads said it well, he claimed that we were running on so much adrenaline from Friday night, by the time Saturday rolled around we were all just so tired and couldn’t keep it going,” stated York.



According to Freshman Jake Field, the Cadets “beat themselves.”

The Cadets showed whom they really were and what they’re made of on Friday night against Minooka and finished an honorable second against Minooka the following day at a difficult tournament with heavy competition. The wrestling team has supplied the school with good news all season long, and as long as they have anything to say about it, they’re going to keep up the good work.

By: Zach Giangregio

Be sure to check out Cadet Sports at viewmyschedule.com to see game highlights, profiles and more.



Swimming To the Top!

The swimming team has been swimming under the radar of most of the Marmion community. They are frequently forgotten, but they are doing Marmion proud at both levels, despite their recent loss. The swimmers predict a great season, but they need our support if they want to make their goals a reality.

The Marmion Academy Swim Team celebrated its seniors with its fans on Tuesday. The Flannigan Rifles Drill Team brought an honor guard of four senior who made an arch of sabers for each of the senior swimmers to pass under escorted by a swimmer from Rosary. Unfortunately for the Matt Pircon his escorts were Chris Tydd and Alex Karas, two less than beautiful young men. First year seniors Alex Strong, John Riordan and Matt Derrico looked resplendent in their blonde hair. The rest of the JV swimmers looked good as well. Friday is the Cadets JV conference meet. Come out and support them!



The road to conference has been long and rewarding. Cadets were very disappointed at their loss to Loyola on January 14, but they are optimistic about the rest of the season. The Varsity swimming coach Bill Schalz, when interviewed, had this to say about the varsity Cadets:

“We are getting better. We graduated a really strong class [last year]. We won conference the last two years and go fourth in the state. This year, we’re getting beat up a little bit by Loyola and Fenwick, our two big rivals. But, there’s still one and a half months till state. The regular season is not so important. Our record is 5-3 at the varsity level. And, the three losses were to potential top-tens in the state.”

When asked about superstar Matt Pircon, Coach Schalz said that he was doing well. “Matt has high expectations and goals for himself, but he is in good shape for state.”

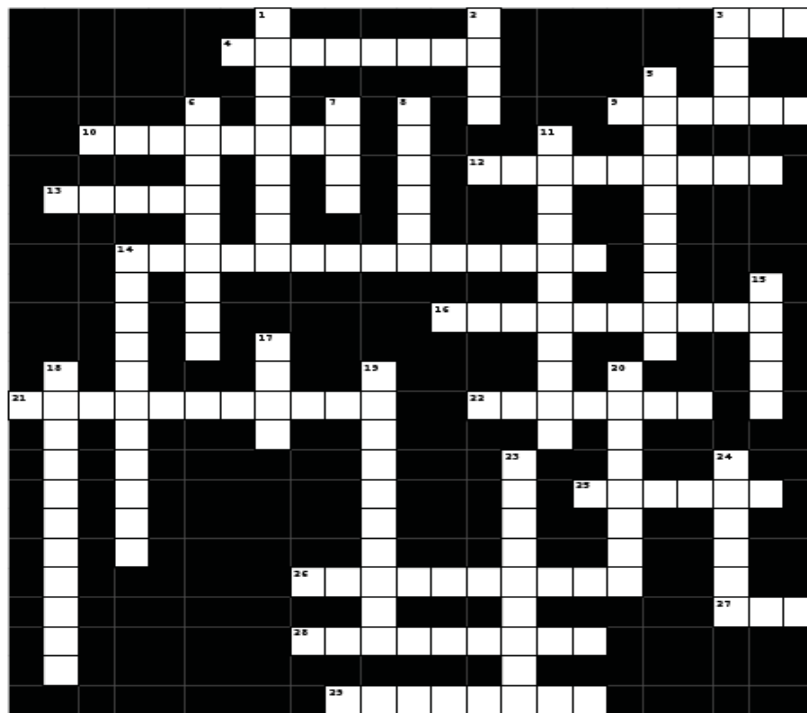
Kyle Capen, the JV coach, said, “We swam against Loyola and it was our best meet overall as a team.” The Cadets tied with Loyola, but Loyola automatically had a 15-point advantage because Marmion doesn’t have a diving team. The JV team has two more dual meets and then their season will culminate at the JV conference meet. In preparation for the upcoming meets, the JV swimmers will be scaling back for the next two weeks. Capen has been very happy about the team and especially the senior leadership demonstrated by four-year seniors Konen, Hope, Searles, and Huebner. Capen has also counted on two of the newcomers, Thielen and Cepynsky.

Now, more than ever, is the time to watch the Marmion swim team. The season looks very promising and we can all expect great things from the Cadets.

By: Will Parkhurst and Joe Burroughs



Marmion Trivia



Across

- 3 "A Geographical Representation of the Earth's surface..."
 4 Life Challenge Teacher and Kairos Director (2 words)
 9 Thriving beef jerky business
 10 PreCalc Teacher (2 words)
 12 Broke his ankle a week into the season... and was still better than his whole team... (2 words)
 13 Battalion Commander
 14 And Shepherds we shall be, for the my lord, for the... (2 words)
 16 Most missed Bio teacher, "I am not YELLING!"
 21 LEAD Student Director
 22 Rising Star fishing coach and Mathlete (2 words)
 25 Brilliant Junior known as Ed
 26 darkest hallway in school, referred to as a medieval prison (2 words)
 27 Freshman Military instructor
 28 "When does the class period end, not soon enough!" "Millard Fillmore" (2 words)
 29 Play director, English Instructor (2 words)

Down

- 1 Broke her hip and would great you with "vale" (2 words)
 2 Jv Swim Coach
 3 Place where the American flag never comes down..
 5 real power in school uniform code (2 words)
 6 "Lifka if you took your girlfriend, little Suzie Creamcheese, to the movies..." (2 words)
 7 started the "You know you are a Marmion Cadet when..."
 8 Seniors retreat
 11 Turned One-Hundred Last Year (2 words)
 14 Broke his hip and is a staunch Republican (2 words)
 15 S.A.I.
 17 Swim teach Coach
 18 what happens two minutes after a girl gets into school
 19 Newest Art teacher (2 words)
 20 Suppy officer affectionately called "Pakistan" by superiors
 23 Whoaaaaaaa! (2 words)
 24 There are three of them, two on drill team, all want to be class president



RIP: Mr. Billish's CMY



January 17th, 2010. Martin Luther King Day; a day that will forever live in infamy. It was the day that Marmion's own Mr. Billish's CMY finally tapped out and called it quits.

The 1995 tan Toyota Camry that Mr. Billish purchased during his junior year of high school had a solid run of 15 long and virtuous years before it finally broke down one last time. It was dubbed the "CMY" when the "a" and the "r" rubbed off due to Mr. Billish's bike rack scratching away at it on a long trip back from California. After the car broke down, in an attempt to buy a new car, Mr. Billish traded in the CMY to collect some extra dough. The compensation he got? 250 dollars. "I could have made more money if I sold it on Craig's List," Commented Mr. Billish.

Even though the car was burdensome at times, Mr. Billish recalled some fond memories he had endured with the vehicle.

He recollected the time his front axel cracked in half while he was driving. He spun out and was left stuck facing incoming traffic in the middle of an intersection. Another good time was when the electricity went out over the summer and all four windows simultaneously slammed down. The most recent event was when the CMY broke down on the way to school earlier this year.

The acquisition of a new car has Mr. Billish's loved ones happy as well. Now when he tells his girlfriend that he will drive, he actually means his own car and not hers. Mr. Billish is now able to see his parents again for the first time in years because he can finally drive to visit them. He was unable to with the CMY because he couldn't take it on the expressway due to the fact that it did not accelerate over 40 mph.

Mr. Billish recently bought a brand new 2010 white Toyota Corolla in an attempt to ease the pain from the loss of his beloved CMY. Just as his luck would have it, Toyota just published a recall for all 2010 Corollas.

By: Zach Giangregio

Most Likely To's

Joe Wulff- Be on Jersey Shore

Casey White- Forget his own birthday

Nick Weis- Win a wet T-shirt contest

Terry Vant- Become a nun

Nick Searles- Find Bigfoot

Lawrence Romero- Become an evil fascist dictator

Paul Reyna- Moon the Pope

J.C. Nelson- Take hostages

Ross Morales- Be seen on a milk carton

Jeff McLean- Tackle kids during flag football

John Mason- Kidnap lawn ornaments

Roy Logan- Parachute with a bungee cord

Nick Knudtson- Get his head tattooed

Tyler Hlavac- Get lost in his own backyard

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The Human Torch: Bobby Winkel

Boom... Boom... The doors shudder. Glass threatens to break. Is there some sort of animal thundering through the hallways? No, it is just Bobby Winkel, traipsing through the corridors. The 6'2", 225 pound, red-haired behemoth is a difficult target to miss, and it isn't just his physical appearance that makes him easy to spot. Bob has been blessed, though some would argue cursed, with the largest mouth in the school, alerting all to his dominating presence.

Bobby is not just a loud person. His entire essence threatens to break the sound barrier at any moment simply by his existence. Few can reach the decibel level this young man is capable of, and those who can generally are using a microphone of some sort. The man must have vocal cords similar in size to steel support cables in order to physically be capable of speaking at the noise level he does. However, as impressive as his volume may be, if impressive is even the right word, the sheer quantity of times Bob chooses to speak is mind numbing. Literally.

No one in history has been able to talk as much as Bob Winkel. From the moment he awakes from an overnight hibernation, his mouth is in constant motion, spewing forth an onslaught of utterances, some only decipherable by Robert himself. His expressions border on the annoying, though some do bring about a laugh or two. Bobby will say anything that pops into his head at any given moment, be it an insult or a kind word about a friend. He's just an open guy.

As an athlete, Bobby has accomplished a great deal in his storied Marmion career. Playing varsity football since his sophomore year and experiencing a great deal of success on the gridiron is what he is best known for, earning All-State honors this past season and helping the Cadets to a conference title. But our redheaded comrade also has a few skeletons in his athletic closet... Take for example his Marmion basketball career. Named "Assistant Captain of the Bench" in his sophomore season, Bobby accomplished the illustrious feat of having more fouls than minutes played for an entire season. In one of those rare instances that he was on the floor, Winkel made what is still talked about as one of the most interesting plays in basketball lore. Entering the game before halftime (for the first time ever in Cadet blue) with his team down 5, Bobby somehow managed to get the ball and dribble down the court on a breakaway. All alone, everyone in the gym expected a soft lay-in for two points from the streaking Winkel. But rather than simply scoring, which would have doubled his point production on the season, Bobby felt that the Cadets needed a momentum booster.

Taking two exaggerated steps from the free-throw line, Winkel flew through the air in Jordan-esque fashion in an attempted dunk. As he approached the iron, Bob threw the ball down with the force of a small earthquake. But rather than going into the bucket, the ball clanked off the rim and flew away. The crowd, players, and even referees all stared in a type of awestruck trance at what they had just witnessed. "Have you lost your mind?" was the only audible whisper, coming from our hero's father in the stands. With a face as red as his hair, Bob slowly looked down and began his funeral march back on defense, but didn't quite make it to his teammates on the floor. Needless to say, the Marmion coach had Bob removed from the game immediately and buried him on the bench, never to see playing time again.

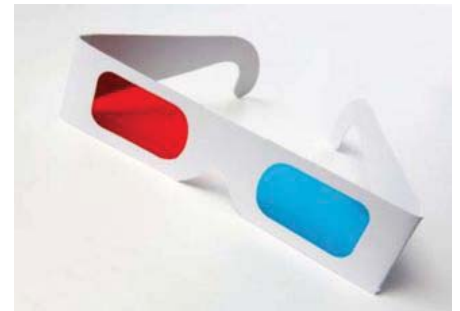
Bobby also is a member of the baseball squad, a catcher and designated hitter. His powerful bat is a huge asset to the Marmion lineup, and the gale force winds caused by a swing and miss bring many fans comfort on a hot day. Winkel's rocket arm forces every runner to think twice about taking extra bases, though it also endangers the lives of anyone in range when he misses his target. On the whole, Bob adds a lot to any athletic team as a leader, player, and teammate. His off-season work ethic, including lifting and speed training almost daily, is the standard for any aspiring athlete and should be emulated by anyone with a goal of excelling in sports. Winkel has earned a spot on Division-I Northern Illinois University's football squad; following in the footsteps of Marmion standout and NFL star Larry English. Clearly, Bobby's hard work and dedication to his sport, as well as will to work when no one was watching, has helped him to accomplish his dream. Bobby also involves himself greatly in our Marmion community. He participates in a number of service projects every year, and is very generous with his time. Winkel is a leading member of the fan section at basketball games, taking upon himself the responsibility of carrying on the tradition of the rollercoaster cheer. His enthusiasm about Marmion is contagious, and anyone lucky enough to be around him instantly feels better about himself.

Though this article does not cover everything there is to know about Bobby Winkel, space is limited in our under budgeted paper, so I must wrap things up. Remember, if you ever feel down or incredibly bored, look down the hall and start moving toward that red mass you see floating above everyone else's heads. Chances are, it's Bob Winkel, ready to do something crazy. So here's to our favorite football-playing, sound barrier-breaking, Marmion-loving Cadet, Mr. Bob Winkel. A most deserved honor bestowed upon a most deserving individual.



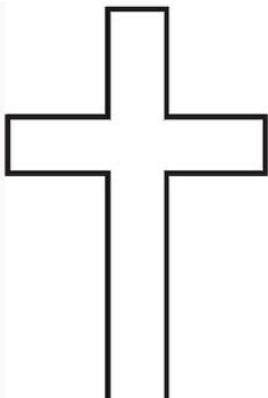
3D TV's in the home

2009 was a breakout year for 3D technology, with many movies premiering with the use of 3D glasses to enhance visuals. Since movies like *Coraline* and *Avatar* both sold very well at the box office, many companies in the digital entertainment industry have taken notice of how 3D can be used not only in theatres, but other areas as well. Sony has recently announced at the CES (Consumer Electronics Show) 2010 conference that they are making their new HDTV's to be 3D compatible, and will release by 2011 for sure. As one of the bigger names in the home technology market, they are sure to receive some competition from other companies like Microsoft and Comcast. I predict by the end of this year, nearly all companies in the entertainment and technology industries will have announced plans that they are bringing 3D to your home living room. In addition to making their TVs to support 3D, Sony also announced that they would be making the PS3 compatible with this technology. Microsoft responded by saying that though they've only recently begun work on this, the Xbox 360 is also 3D capable, but is unsure of the market for this at home currently. How do you think games like *Halo* or *God of War* would look if implemented with 3D? Cable companies have also announced they would make 3D more available by use on your TV, with companies like Comcast already having a 3D option for all movies available with it. They have stated that you can pick up free pairs of free 3D glasses to use with you On Demand purchases any time at local mall kiosks. Do you think 3D is viable in the future for home entertainment? Send your comments to theacademybeacon@gmail.com.tbvv



By: Ryan Whittington

Why Pray?



Whenever students, faculty, families or any other person is asked what 'Marmion Academy' is, the normal response is, "A Catholic College Preparatory High School in Aurora". Although we place the word 'Catholic' in front of everything else in the description, Catholicism is difficult to find within the walls of Marmion. One of the main ways we are able to exercise our Catholicism during school is through prayer before each class. A lot of the time it can be very difficult to connect with God, based upon how prayer is conducted.

A typical prayer in the classroom begins with the teacher either assigning them self or a student to say a prayer. Normally, the prayer leader will ask for special intentions and then a quick *Glory Be*, *Hail Mary*, or *Our Father* will be mumbled by the careless members of the class. Sometimes, if prayer isn't forgotten all together, intentions aren't asked for. How are we as members of Marmion supposed to connect with God through muttering words? Some faculty members have found an answer to this question and find a way to go deeper in prayer. A couple of teachers here and there will just let God take the prayer into His hands. They will just start talking and whatever their thoughts are will just come out. It is much

easier to relate or think about prayer that isn't in a book or memorized. Other faculty members will read quotes or certain prayers for the day. Again it is much easier to relate to these because you force yourself to listen to what the teacher has to say and it is not monotonous.

As a Catholic, college preparatory high school, we, as members of the Marmion community, should take matters into our hands, and strive to put the 'Catholic' back into Catholic college preparatory; not only put it back, but put it back in front of all else as it should be.

By: Andrew Schroeder



Marmion “Leadership”



Marmion Academy has a long history of being a leadership-orientated school. Practically since its conception in 1933 it has been teaching young men to be leaders. The very crest of Marmion states a call to leadership and excellence, “To believe in God, and to strive for Him.” This is an attitude still shared by the Academy today. So why is it that the student body is filled with followers, not leaders?

Most Cadets would be appalled to take the initiative in class and ask a question. Most Cadets would never dream of telling another cadet that his shirt was untucked, that he needed a shave, that his button needed to be buttoned. Yet these are the simple, everyday practices that help make Marmion work. And they are needed now.

Marmion lost last year Mr. Tinerella. T was a bunch of crazy clichés, but one of his best futures was that he knew that the real way to change what goes on at this school is to give the Cadets, the Marmion boys and men, a reason to help. The men at this school who walk the halls, get worse at keeping up

appearances as they get older. This should be the complete opposite. As the years progress, it should be a goal to be the best Senior class ever, to wow teachers and administrators alike with the Seniors involvement and commitment in making Marmion work.

Some of you are here because you were forced to be. Some of you are here because you wanted to be. All of you share the same common trait: you’re here! The best thing to do now is help make this the best place to be. If you were forced to live in a mud and stick hut, wouldn’t you always be looking for ways to make improvements? The same principle applies to all the aspects of life at Marmion. You can make this place more fun, more distinct, more of a brotherhood and you really don’t have to do that much work.

All that really needs to be done is for the student body here at school to step up their game. Start acting your ages, start fulfilling your obligations, start moving this school into the twenty-first century and into an era of student lead voluntarism and class and school unity and pride. Support your classmates by going to their games, by helping them to look the part of a Cadet, by telling them to watch their language by the pool entrance, by presenting a view that Marmion Cadets are unlike anyone else. We are Marmion and we are better. The Marmion advantage/difference has been laughed at for a longtime, well boys, you are the Marmion Difference, you are the Advantage! How do you want to be remembered?

By: Will Parkhurst

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