

President Abene Issues His State Of The College Address

by Keyla Jones

What is the state of Marian College today? A crowd of one hundred faculty, staff and students gathered in the auditorium of the Library during the lunch hour on October 12, to get the answers from Dr. Robert Abene in his State of the College address.

In his initial observation of the college, Abene noted that Marian offers a few strong academic programs, as well as a solid reputation in the Indianapolis area for community service, but despite these noble claims, Marian has a series of shortcomings that include image, conservatism, and no clear indication of Catholic heritage. But most the notable of

Marian's shortcomings was its \$1.3 million deficit.

Marian has a hard time attracting and retaining students. Official numbers indicate that the number of fulltime returning students is decreasing.

With enrollment figures down, the college was unable to meet its projected 1999-2000 budget. And because of this, the administration is looking at a 3% reduction in the college's operational budget. For the second year in a row, faculty and staff will not receive raises. To offset the loss, the president proposed that the college institute a hiring freeze, and refrain from

investing in additional faculty development programs. By doing this, Marian should be able to counterbalance its loss.

Though the picture looks grim and dismal, Abene remarked that he sees this as an opportunity. His objective is to create growth for Marian College by regaining financial strength and increasing enrollment numbers. To do this,

Abene issued a call to action for the Marian community. This involves the development of a comprehensive strategic plan and taking a look at academic offerings to adult students. Part of Abene's proposal involves the development of an evening and weekend

college. A considerable number of adult students don't return to Marian because the school's scheduling doesn't allow degree completion in the evening. In an effort to attract a diminishing population, Abene is teaming up his efforts to pull them and their money in.

The charge to the faculty and staff of Marian is to consider this time of financial hardship as an opportunity to move towards progress. It is Abeneís hope that each person will participate in the process of creating a better Marian.

Students Get Jiggy With Jesus During Annual Shalom Retreat

Due to broken down scanners in the Mac lab and lack of access to Fisher Hall scanners during its posted open hours, there will be no pictures in this edition.

by Wendy Nine

On Oct ober 22 approximatly sixty students from paid twenty dollars to venture to Oldenburg to find peace with God, themselves, neighbor, creation and today.

The retreat lasts from Friday evening until Sunday lunch during which students are broken into smaller groups to listen to people give speeches, and allows the par-

ticipants to speak more openly. They also take walks, talked with other students and took personal time for reflection and solitude.

Christian Mehall who went for the second time, was one of the students that gave a speech over peace with God. He said that people go on a strictly volunteer basis. People usually go because they had a good time last time or have heard positive things about the retreat. "There was an even representative from each class, it's an opportunity to get to know one another," said

Mehall.

The retreat isn't just for students who are Catholic, it's open to everyone. You don't have to be really religious to get something out of it either. "It's up to the individual to walk away with a new sense of spirituality, a renewed sense of who you are and where you are at in your life, you usually walk away with a lot." Said Mehall.

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Living Out The Franciscan Values

by Della Pacheco Director of Communications

To the Editor

After reading Wendy Nine's "Earning Life Experience" article (and wiping a few tears from my eyes), I had to write to say how proud I am of her and the many Marian students who are living our Franciscan values.

Wendy speaks for many of us who understand that while some choose careers for prestige or money, many others understand that the call to help others can be as equally strong and rewarding.

I am not a graduate of Marian (that large urban university downtown is my alma mater), but I feel blessed every day to work at this very special college.

Virgin's Art Exhibit Is a Success

by Jessica Corbin

Stepping into the gallery is like stepping into a book of short stories written by artist Josie Virgin. In one story, the viewer is able to take a trip to the rural south. Each picture is a stop allowing the viewer to enjoy the local, country color and get some insight into who they are and what makes up their lives. For example, in "Where Oswengo and Ontario Meet" the artists captures a meal at what seems to be a local picnic with the older folk sitting around telling sto-

ries of years past. In another story the viewer get at a mother doing her nightly routine.

I found Miss Virgin's work to be very entertaining. The pictures of humans in their surrounding are done in a similar mentality as Dorthea Lange's photos. Lange's works evoke an emotion which drives people to action; while Virgin's work evokes emotions which persuade people to reminisce about simpler times and to question progression and what it means to be human. Both

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Editor Angela Hatem

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though capture people's daily lives. In the works, using her mother as the model, the artist question what it means to be a woman, a mother, and connects it to the question of "What does it mean to be human." The pieces are all well composed using repeated lines, shapes, and values to tell her stories. Virgin used the works of Imogene Cunningham as models for lighting her photos. While Virgin's series application came from the artist Robert Frank who took a series of pictures as an outsider looking in.

The artist is not yet set in her ways though. On one wall, she shows her experimentation with formalism, manipulating some ambiguous, and some recognizable shapes of different values to form compositions. These works are totally different from her other pieces and add a little unsuspected spice to the show. The compositions work great, but it would have been nice if

she was able to designate a difference between these photos and the rest of her work through either a change in framing technique or with a written description of where this experiment is going or even if it was an experiment.

The exhibition was laid out with extreme care, and it showed. The use of the unfinished wood frames worked great with all the pictures except for the formalist pieces. They help convey a sense of simplicity and create a finished uniformed feeling for the show. On the night of the opening, the only non photographic piece was a human form sculpture, which was easily missed because it was stuck out in the hall with other artists, that were away from Virgin's work.

Miss Virgin's exhibition is a visual success, and opened to probably the largest crowd that the marian college gallery has ever seen. Students should take the opportunity to stop and take time to see the stories

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Hobnobbing With Fame: A Tourist's Tale

by Denise Stockdale

Imagine meeting someone famous while grocery shopping or seeing your favorite TV star in line at McDonald's. Would you be brave and daring and go up and talk to them or would you sit idly by and let the opportunity pass you by? I chose to be brave and daring.

On fall break, I travelled to Stratford Canada for the Shakespeare Festival. This was my third year going, and by far the most exciting. Michael Terault is an actor. He is the one I look for every time I go to Canada. My infatuation with him is somewhat out of control and I talk about how wonderful he is the whole time we are there. I thought my friend was playing a joke on me at a bar one night. We were sitting there and he said to me, "Hey Denise, what would you do if Michael were here?" "Go talk to him." He wasn't joking. I look up and we are in the midst of about 50 actors, one being Michael!

I definitely wasn't going to let this opportunity pass ne by. I got up, casually walked into a group of people that I had just seen on stage and can only dream about being like someday, walked right up to Michael and said hello. I told him that I had seen him in shows for the past three years and how much I loved him and pretty much scared the poor guy right out of his mind. I was able to convince him to come over to our table and say When he did, I got even bolder and asked him to introduce me to his friends. To my surprise he didn't hesitate to say okay, and before I knew it i was mingling with great actors, directors, and choreographers. I couldn't believe this was happening! I was actually talking to these people. For me, this is as exciting as hanging out with Tom Cruise or Dave Matthews. I met Graham Abbey and talked to him for what seemed like years. We talked about acting, sports, Thanksgiving, all kinds of stuff. They were all just as impressed with me as I was with them. It was a feeling out of this world to be told by professional actors that you can be doing the same thing they are doing. That is my dream. Two hours had passes before I realized how late it was getting and how long I had actually been standing there. I was on cloud nine. My smile stretched form ear to ear and my eyes were shining. I absolutely could not believe my luck.

Not only had I just made friends with some of the most awesome people in the world, Graham offered to take me on a tour of the theatre the next morning. I got to stand on the stage! I saw some of them on the street the next day and they remembered me and said hi. Graham told me to come backstage if I came back next year and say hi. I have already written him a letter. He said he would write me back; we'll see. This was by far the best fall break of my life!

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by Angela Hatem

Crash Test **Dummy**

The date: October 1, 1999. The time: approximately 9:30. The location: Kessler Blvd. The innocent victim: a Marian Senior. The events you are about to read are real. No actors were involved, nothing is fiction. Due to the serious nature of the story names have been changed to protect the innocent. The following is a statement from "Pangela Tatem."

It all happened when a an evil man in a Cadillac tank made the mistake of slamming into my car while travelling at ludicrous speed.

I was en route to the grocery store to pick up my friend. I was no more than 30 feet from the entrance to my apartment complex. While I can't go into the exact details due to impending litigation, I can say that when I wreck something I don't just do it half way.

I was hit. I did four of five 360's and clipped a car amidst one of my many spins. Once I landed, I decided that getting out of the car might be key. I hadn't realized the car was demolished, but my windshield was cracked, and that the little hula girl on my dash board was wiggling so awkwardly that I thought she might need a hip replacement.

I got out of the car and screamed. Not a, "Oh my God a brown recluse!" scream, but a "Halloween 26" scream..

The car that smacked me had spun on to the ramp leading to 38th street. I hobbled to his car to make sure everyone was okay. He didn't care how I was doing; I think once he saw I lived, he wanted to try and finish the job. He came at me, so I limped away as fast as I could trying to avoid his hugging.

I was frightened. Half my car was lying in the middle of Kessler, my knees were bleeding, this guy wanted to snap my neck in two. I tried to convince witnesses at the scene that I lived no more than 50 feet away and that letting me go to my apartment would be best for everyone. One kind soul let me call my roommate Sugar Cane on her cell phone. Then came the ambulances, the fire truck, the police cars, the lawyers.

I kept asking everyone if I my face had been ruined. I knew my career as model for Nair was over.

Sugarcalled my brother Jerry Curl Tatem who was so dismayed that he pounded a beer immediately. Meanwhile some paramedic put a neck brace on me. I felt like one of those dogs that have that satellite dish thing around their necks so that they can't like themselves. The paramedic kept telling me that I needed to stay still. I was placed on a board and taped down like the gerbil in the joke.

At the hospital, I was told I was going to live. Dammit. I got home about 4:30, about the time I usually get home. My brother never made it to the hospital, due to the grief and distress my accident caused him, he went to a party.

The car is destroyed, I am more mentally scarred, but some good has come from all this ugliness. This meeting of metal was not my fault and the kindly insurance sprites are going to cover the costs. To think that no more than three weeks ago I was close to food stamps, and now I'm going to be so nastily rich that I can install a hot tub in the Carbon office and stock it with Chip and Dales.

Marian Fall Sports Nearing The Finish Line

by Kevin Branigan

The Marian College fall sports programs are concluding their regular season and will start Conference tournament play soon in hopes of going to nationals in their respective sports.

The volley ball team lost to Huntington on October 26. The Lady Knights' record now stands at 14-12. Tuesday, November 2 is Senior Night for the lone senior on the team Jackie Sides. The match starts at 7:30 and admissions free to all Marian College students with an I.D. The team then finishes the regular season at home November 4 at 6:30 and on the road at Huntington November 6.

The men's soccer team concluded the regular season with a record of 9-9 and fin-

ished fifth in the MCC Conference. The Knights lost to a very good Bethel team 4-1, with Mike Dean scoring the only goal for the Knights and a loss to Wittenberg 3-2. Matt East and Nick Mulvey scored goals for Marian.

The women's soccer team finished up the regular season with a record of 6-9 and a sixth place finish in the MCC Conference. The Lady Knights beat Goshen 5-3 and lost to Alma 3-2 to conclude the regular season

Music Club Coffee House November 4 @ 8:00 P.M. In the Ruth Lilly Center. Students, staff, and faculty are welcome to sing, do skits, or read poetry.

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Believe It Or Else! The Rantings and Ravings of Christian Ragan

- •Pickles glow in the dark if an electrical current is passed through them.
- •John Tesh's concert in Detroit, Michigan, had protestors who thought he was a space alien.
- •The inventor of dynamite was awarded a nobel peace price, because it was that dynamite would end wars.
- •The average man spends 140 days shaving in his lifetime.
- •The Asian magician Chung Ling Soo, who never spoke

- on stage, and would only speak off stage through an interpreter, was found to be Williamson Robinson from Brooklyn, USA after he died.
- An artist in California uses diatoms to create patterns that can only be viewed through a microscope.

Answer to last issue's question:
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