

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

<b>Politics Week / Cleaning our beaches / Ring Ceremony</b>	<b>2-3</b>
<b>Twilight Mayhem/ Poems</b>	<b>4-5</b>
<b>Senior page</b>	<b>6-7</b>
<b>What does it feel to be a Senior?! Jokes</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>What is going on with the cafeteria?</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Games/ Yankee Stadium</b>	<b>10-11</b>
<b>Marista Tournament/ Beijing</b>	<b>12</b>

## Condega By: Ashley Ramos

“I will sponsor you, so that you can receive a complete scholarship”; I told Angel the day before returning to Puerto Rico. Angel is a 12 year old boy from Condega, Nicaragua. Condega is a small town where it is normal to find families with eight children living in a house of two rooms. When I say house, I literally mean houses made of mud. In this town not everyone can have the privilege of having an education; however they still live happily. As a result of what I experienced in Condega, I became conscience of the reality that I live and the reality that these people face day to day .

Our school sponsors children in Condega so they will be able to receive an education. With just \$100 per year we give a child: education, books and transportation. Last summer I had the opportunity to visit them. The first day, we went to a community name Ducuales where I met Angel and my life changed.

Angel walks every day two hours in order to go to school. When he comes back from school, he has to change his clothes, and hang them since he only has one uniform. However, Angel uses his uniform with honor and pride. For him, life has given him an opportunity, the opportunity of being educated.

In addition, I suffered a lot as I saw Angel’s reality, the reality that he lives day by day. When I left Condega, I felt that I was leaving my soul there. I felt miserable; I did not know if the poor people were them or us. The truth is that we have a lot to learn from them. While we spend our time complaining because it is hot and the air conditioner is not working, they live pleased. They thank God for having the opportunity of being educated; moreover of having someone in Puerto Rico that helps them and gives them that great chance.

At length, I thank each student and parent who cooperates with this cause. Remember with just \$100 you can give them a chance in life; a chance to become successful men and women in the future. Presently, we are organizing a raffle. Therefore, I encourage everyone to sell all their raffle tickets so that together we can make this mission come true.



Contributors:

- Maria González
- Effie Acevedo
- Natalie Saldaña
- Jesús Arroyo
- Javier Cáceres
- Manolo del Valle
- Juan Rosado
- Cristina Monroig
- Ahsley Ramos
- Maria Cantero
- Liana Vizcarrondo
- Nidia Munoz (Moderator)

# Politics Week at Marista

## By: Effie Acevedo

During this year's Political Week, representatives from all of Puerto Rico's political parties came to Marista to talk about their ideals and proposals for the country. The three candidates postulated for governor were present: Edwin Irizarry Mora (Independence Party), Rogelio Figueroa (Puertorricans for Puerto Rico), and Luis Fortuño (New Progressive Party). Alejandro García Padilla, the former Secretary of DACO (Department of Consumer Issues) who is now running for the senate represented the Popular Democratic Party.

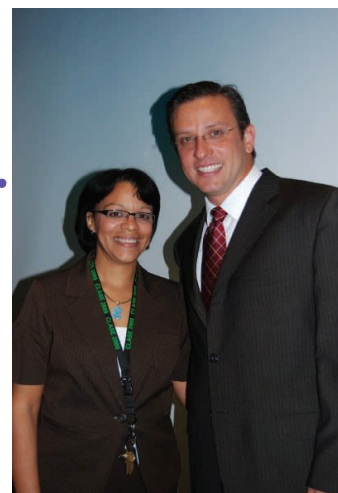
On Monday, economist Edwin Irizarry Mora talked about his proposals for the country. He favors universal health care, modernization of our agricultural system, free education, and a collective transportation system, among other things. He gave many examples of other countries with economic prosperity and said that for us to be able to succeed like them, we must have more political power, therefore, sovereignty.

On Tuesday, newcomer Rogelio Figueroa showed us his innovative and modernizing ideas for Puerto Rico. He wants to restructure our transportation system, change the way houses are built, employ new sources of energy, provide access to the internet for everyone, among other things. He was dynamic and made the students participate by asking them questions. Students were impressed until he was asked a question referring to a quote that appeared in his political platform and he wasn't aware the quote was even in there.

On Wednesday, Alejandro García Padilla came to speak for the Popular Democratic Party. Even though he was an hour late, he stayed for a while after speaking in the theater. He said that his party proposes to exempt people who earn \$30,000 or less of taxes, to end the Marriage Penalty, to give incentives to companies that hire inexperienced young adults fresh out of school, among other things. García Padilla expressed that one of his proposals if he is elected for Senate is to change the educational plan of K12 to K16 (from Kinder to 4<sup>th</sup> year of College). He also encouraged students to read and evaluate everybody's proposals and said that having a personal judgment is important. He believes that today's politicians' lack of sensibility is hurting our country and is something that needs to be changed. It is also important to recall that he was the most photographed candidate among the four who came.

Finally, on Thursday, the very anticipated, Luis Fortuño arrived; but he didn't come alone. With him, came three news cameras, two photographers, and a few journalists. He arrived on time and stayed for about an hour, time that some students thought was not enough. Fortuño said that the government needed fiscal discipline, that he would reduce taxes on hybrid cars, he would focus on students getting good education in English, Spanish, Science, and Math, he would protect the environment and recycle raw materials, and he would reduce the legislation and its sessions, among other things.

After listening to all the candidates, students casted their votes on Friday and Luis Fortuño and Pedro Pierluisi won with the majority of votes. In second place came Edwin Irizarry Mora and Alfredo Salazar. In third place came Aníbal Acevedo Vilá and Jessica Martinez and in fourth place came Rogelio Figueroa and Carlos Velázquez.



# Cleaning Our Beaches

By: **María González**



Saturday, September 20, 2008

Vacía Talega, Loíza

With the theme of the day being: “limpieza a toda costa”, students from all around the country took the day to help clean the beaches of Puerto Rico. Students from Colegio Marista, of all ages, were present to help clean; members of Islita Verde, Tierra Verde and Conciencia Verde cooperated with this great cause. Even parents and students who were not members of these clubs also attended. It started around 8:00am and ended around 11:00am, but everyone stayed at the beach a little bit longer enjoying the beautiful sun and the warm water. It was a great experience for the students and also a great lesson for everyone to take care of the environment and protect our world so we can enjoy it at its fullest. It can also be said that with a little collaboration from everyone, we can go a long way.



## Ring Ceremony

Last September 12, 2008 we seniors had our Ring Ceremony. First there was the Mass, where we received our rings and the blessing. Later we shared with our friends and family in a beautiful gathering organized by the juniors. This is when we took many pictures to remember this special day. After that we all left to celebrate this very important step we took together. Our ring ceremony was the start of our last year together as a class; it was a night I'm sure we will never forget.



# Twilight Mavhem!

**By: Natalie Saldaña**

Word goes around that Twilight is the best book ever and that Edward Cullen, its main character, is the new Prince Charming. He is described as the “perfect man”: polite, determined, charming, beautiful, protective and romantic (not only by Bella, his mate in the much esteemed book, but by most of the teenage females that have read Twilight). However, has this been a good influence in the male population? Boys are now seen as inferior to this fictional character and as beings that now cannot live up to girls’ expectations. After the commotion this novel has caused, it is clear how Edward is every girl’s dream and every boy’s dread. Females express their desires for a man to be out there similar to the character. However, boys convey how much they loathe the book and how it’s just a fictional character, a mere symbol of perfection, something that can not be brought to reality. Maybe boys should take in consideration why girls love Edward so much. Is it maybe because the amount of romance, respect and love has decreased throughout the years? Or is the obsession with the unreal and the too perfect sufficiently big to ignore the little details in life? In the end, is the obsession with this “perfect man” too much or is it just another celebrity in the minds of the fe-

male population that will be there for a few months and later vanish? Maybe it’s just the written way of expressing every girl’s dream. Whichever it is, Twilight has been the book of the summer and a sensation that has caused many to enjoy reading, imagining and discussing.



**...If Only You Knew**

11:11

laying in my bed,  
trying to sleep,  
just thinking of you,  
wandering:

why is it that you are no longer with me?

why is it that I can't have you?

why didn't things work out?

...if only you knew

that it's still you who I want to be with

and it's still you

who I wish would hold me tight,

making me feel protected.

11:11

sitting at my desk,

trying to concentrate on my work,

with my head spinning,

thinking of you,

of how you always make me laugh,

even when all I want is to cry,

hoping that one day you'd consider me

more than "just a friend".

If only you'd see

what I have to give,

all my love and my heart,

...if only you knew

that it's you who I,

every night, dream of.

11:11

lying on my rooftop,

staring at the stars,

trying to figure out

what to wish for?

As I realize,

I have everything I could ever ask

and even more

...if only you knew

how much I love that I have found you

and I can call you my own.

If only you knew,

you are the one I think of,

the only one I want to be with,

the only one I trust.

**Unexpected Love**

A million times she saw you  
pass by,

Without noticing the amount  
of love you gave away,

On your shoulder she used to  
cry,

Considering you as only a  
friend.

Time passed by,

Secrets were told,

Feelings you kept,

Letting her know nothing you  
felt.

All that time you kept pre-  
tending,

Making her think your love  
was ending,

Half the time you cursed the  
day,

Her beautiful soul swept you  
away.

Now, she's realized you're  
her perfect man,

The one she's always wished  
for,

The Prince Charming every  
little girl desires,

The one dream life has made  
true.

Every time you are around,

Her heart pounds a thousand  
times,

Your tender kisses she cannot  
deny,

Eventhough they give her

Those nasty little butterflies.  
Your voice gives her a sense  
of security,

Holding her hand makes her  
dreams a reality.

Your warm breath beside her  
neck,

Your tender lips approaching  
hers,

An explosion of chemicals  
always there.

Every time she hears a love  
song,

She realizes you have been  
the one she's wanted all  
along.

A picture of you emerges in  
her mind,

Showing her, your love so  
kind.

Everyday, a new adven-  
ture,

A beautiful treasure,

A wonderful moment,

Not just a fairy tale

or a movie theme ro-  
mance.

Everyone may say it's just  
puppy love,

And it's just another pic-  
ture, another kiss.

But, no one sees their love  
so strong,

Making this picture, this kiss  
worth lifelong.

# Seniors



**Senior Directorate**



**Pep-Rally**



**Big Bro/Sis**



**Ring**

# 2009



“Huellas marcamos, sonrisas dejamos y todos nuestros sueños juntos logramos”



## Ceremony



# How does it feel to be a Senior?

**By: Manolo del Valle y Juan Rosado**

It is a great feeling to be a senior because it's our last year in high school. This brings mixed feelings to us because we can be happy that we are going to college, but at the same time we are sad because we are leaving, what we like to call, our second home. This year would be a year of great experiences as the class of 2009 because of the activities that we are all going to have. We also have privileges that we haven't had before in the school. Like getting out early, having less periods of class per day, and some other. This year when we leave early, we go to eat together as a class and that makes us more united. Also, in the weekends we hang out together as a class, and we are always there for each other. To be a senior is an honor and we are happy to have it. This year is our last and we have to make it the best year of all; and this is how it feels to be a senior. This will be a year to remember...

**By: Cristina Monroig**

It is amazing how just yesterday we were sitting at the theater hearing the seniors with the "verde pizarra" shirts telling us, "enjoy your years in high school because in a blink of an eye you will already be graduating". At the time this all sounded like a lie, four years seemed like an eternity. As time went by, we realized that we were definitely wrong. Eight months is all that we have left until we graduate. These last months should be filled with memorable moments. We should make them so unforgettable that when we grow older, we can remember those times and retell the stories like if they had happened a week ago. Even though we might not want to, we will all end up going our separate ways; but it is all these memories that will keep us together forever.

## Jokes:





# What is going on with the cafeteria?

**By: Effie Acevedo**

Remember when lunch used to cost only \$2.50? Who would've thought then that students would ever have to pay more than five dollars for a plate of food? Everybody was outraged this August when they found out how much cafeteria prices had risen over the summer. Lunch costs now five dollars with nine cents. Water costs a dollar and twenty five cents. Candy, snacks and other drinks are more expensive too. Students started making calculations: at least \$25 dollars a week, \$100 dollars a month; it is just too much. "There is no way I'm paying that for lunch" one student said. "And what about the water? A buck twenty-five! It's a dollar everywhere else" another student noticed. The complaints were endless and the fact that the cafeteria had a new arrangement didn't help much. The first days of school, the lines were really long, service was slower, and people didn't have time to eat. After seeing all of this, students started to bring their own food.

With less people buying food, the lines are now much shorter. The ones who do eat from the cafeteria get a larger amount of food. The once forgotten lunchbox is now seen everywhere; even teachers bring them. Only a few months ago, students would carry trays of food to the tables, now they take out their food from lunchboxes or plastic bags.

Students have seen cafeteria prices increase over the years, but never enough to force them to bring their own food; until now of course. Still, it is important to remember that food prices, as well as the cost of gasoline and electricity, among other things, have increased worldwide. Higher prices in the cafeteria were inevitable; nevertheless many students question whether this year's prices are reasonable.



# Games!

## Word Search

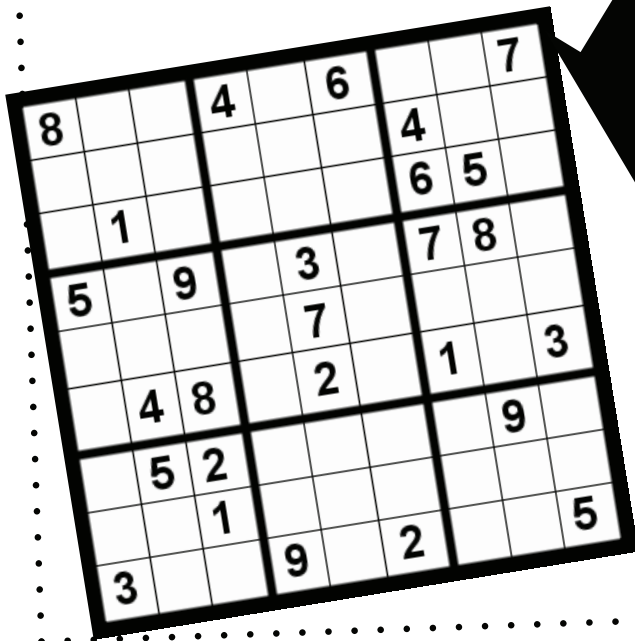
How many of these high school classes, sports, and activities can you spot?

E H C H O S I N N E T E S N G L I W X  
 G N I D A E L R E E H C P E E A L L L  
 N I S R A A U S W I A P A W S P A L L  
 I N G A T R S L S O M P N L C L A P A  
 M M G M T V G A P S D Q I U C B B P B  
 M I L A T I L B A C U S S C T U Z Z T  
 I G A C A S C U P W M R H O E O L J F  
 W S U L B U D A E Z L W O C R R A U O  
 S O C U E A W X R Z U F B H E C C O S  
 Z C K B U L C R E T U P M O C A N G F  
 Z K Y C L A H I C M S S M M C N O L G  
 J I E W A R E C D E W E I N O G E W A  
 A N A R Y T M E A H A B H A S Z H R X  
 Z Y R O T S I H D L R O W C J Z S W F  
 Z G B O C U S O I U G B B U R L I C L  
 B O O S L W T C N O C E L Z L O L B O  
 A O O Y X Z R K G C R C B Y A O G A G  
 N Z K C A Z Y E N S M U B R O T N L G  
 D Z J K J B A Y B U L C E T A B E D B

- |               |            |               |
|---------------|------------|---------------|
| Algebra       | English    | Softball      |
| Calculus      | Football   | Soccer        |
| Cheerleading  | French     | Spanish       |
| Chemistry     | Golf       | Swimming      |
| Chorus        | Ice Hockey | Tennis        |
| Computer Club | Jazz Band  | Visual Arts   |
| Debate Club   | Newspaper  | World History |
| Drama Club    | Orchestra  | Yearbook      |



## Sudoku



# Goodbye Yankee Stadium

By: Javier Cáceres

The Yankee Stadium had its last game on Sunday September 21, 2008. The house Babe Ruth built, where Babe Ruth himself, Gehrig, DiMaggio, and Mantel played. After 85 years and a half of inauguration, the Stadium closed its gates. A large amount of history has been made in this stadium and, of 601 World Series games, 100 have been played at the Yankee Stadium. People say they will always remember the stadium and its history. The new park cost was \$1,300 million dollars. I'm sure it will please all the fans and that it will be beautiful, but it will never replace the history made in the old Yankee Stadium. On September 21, the players that fill now the roster of the New York Yankees headed out to the park to play for the last time. A lot of emotion was involved in that impressive moment and the stadium was completely full of fans trying



# Marista Tournament

## By: Jesús Arroyo

# Beijing

## By: Jesús Arroyo



The end of August symbolizes that its time for the volleyball and soccer tournament. It was Thursday and everybody was excited for the Pep Rally. This year's theme was "The Simpsons", and some outrageous costumes were seen in it. Many schools from all parts of the island attended this tournament, making it a very prosperous one. Also, on this same day, was the debut of all Marista's teams, from volleyball junior varsity to soccer varsity, all making great performances. On Friday, all of the school's teams won as well as some of the island's best teams, newcomers in our tournament, who won with incredible games. Finally, on Saturday, all the volleyball teams that qualified were in the semi-finals, as well as the soccer teams that were playing their final games. The junior varsity male soccer team lost at the final game ranking #2, in contrast with the varsity team, which ranked #1. The varsity soccer final was an adrenaline pumper game because Marista defeated San Jose, making penalty shots. That game was the first championship of the tournament, so there were four other games to win. On the other hand, the four volleyball teams (from Marista) got the opportunity to play at the final games which, they all ended up in second place, except for the male varsity team which won the final game ranking #1. Unfortunately, the Seahawks lost three out of four final games to Carmen Sol in some really tight games; everybody was upset, but they were hoping the male varsity team would bring the second victory home. The crowd was so hopeful and enthusiastic, that before the game even started, the JUMA was prepared to support its team and cheer them on. At first, Marista's team started making points. Unfortunately, Steven Vincent, one of the team's greatest players, broke his ankle. This could've been seen as something bad for the team, but some of the players used this opportunity to stand up to the challenge. The team was so energetic and full of adrenaline, that they made the game go into a third decisive set. This definitely was a game for the ages. In the last and most tense set, Marista was winning all the way, making all its fans proud of their team. Finally, the team was crowned victorious and made Adrián Fernández the MVP; we can call this the "dream team" of the season.



At the end of this summer, it was time for a very expected event, the Summer Olympics Games that were held in Beijing, China for the first time. The expectations were high because of all the technological advances that the Chinese have. However, these expectations were met by the amazing structures that were built, such as: the Bird's Nest, the Cube, the Egg and others. These structures symbolize different athletic games: swimming, diving, and bicycle riding respectively. The expected day arrived on 8.8.08; some people just couldn't wait until 8 pm to see the opening ceremony. For those who were there in person, they had the experience of a lifetime, a show that lasted 4 hours, with some extreme performances of lights and fireworks. This was an opening ceremony that will remain in the minds of many for centuries to come. After the Olympic Flame was burning, the games had begun. From there, two weeks of world records and impressive performances were to arrive. The impressive records of Michael Phelps, in the swimming category, with 8 gold medals made him the person with the greatest amount of gold medals in Olympic history with just 23 years of age. Also, the "dream team" of USA male basketball won a gold medal; the Jamaican runner, Usain Bolt, made an impressive performance, making two world records. The amount of excellent performances can just go on without ending, but these are a few of the most recognized. The United States won 110 medals, but the home team (Chinese) won 100 medals, 51 of them being gold. After all the sweat, strive, and hard work, it was time for the closing ceremony where everybody was celebrating the end of this great journey. Now, the only thing we have to do for this great excitement again is to wait for the next Olympic Games to be celebrated in London on 2012.

