



## Well...That's Embarrassing

### Students Share Their Awkward Encounters

Every student at Marian has had her fair share of embarrassing moments. Whether or not these moments immediately come to mind is not as important as the discomfort they have caused. Sometimes these uncomfortable situations or events can be funny soon after they occur. Sometimes it takes a while for the humor to overcome the lasting humiliation.

The only thing better than an embarrassing moment is an embarrassing saga. Sophomore Dani Morrell's experience lasted three days before it finally ended. A student in Ms. Rochelle Rohlfs's Honors Geometry class, like many Marian girls, carries a water bottle for lunch. It only took one moment of forgetting the bottle under her seat for disaster to strike. Little did Morrell know that her water bottle had been taken prisoner. Ms. Rohlfs noticed the small bottle on the ground and hid it behind the stuffed pink pig in her room. "I went back to get it and couldn't find it anymore," said Morrell. "But I wasn't going to do it. I had a feeling that it was someone who had been in the math block after me." Two days later, Morrell made a startling discovery in her locker. A ransom note was taped inside that told her to bring a Starbucks coffee if she wanted her bottle back. "At first, I thought it was weird and wondered who would do that," said Morrell. "I wasn't even paying attention so I wouldn't have noticed!" said Morrell. As requested, Morrell brought in a Starbucks gift card. "Dani has a good sense of humor, and that was when she forgot it," said Rohlfs. Why the specific request for Starbucks? "I wanted to come up with a ransom note, but I didn't know what else to ask for," said Rohlfs.

### Which teacher inspires YOU?



Carlie Anzalone, senior

"Ms. Cavel. She's a genius English teacher, and she pushes us because she knows what our full potential is."



Katie Frock, junior

"Ms. Tocco. She's really understanding and open-minded about other peoples' beliefs."



Emma Tuttle, freshman

"Mrs. Juza. She's always so energetic and has a positive outlook on everything."

Graphic and Photos by ErinReed

As every girl knows, "that time of the month" can be the epitome of awkwardness. Sophomore Savannah Farrrens called her dad from the office to have him bring her medicine for cramps. While waiting, she found herself joined by religion teacher Ms. Kathy Tocco, science teacher Mrs. Kacie Lindeman, secretary Mrs. Shari Reynolds, and business office assistant Mrs. Karen Brown and when Farrrens's dad arrived at the school, Ms. Tocco saw the exchange of medicine pass between father and daughter. She began to make jokes that Farrrens's dad was a drug dealer. "Yeah, it was really awkward," said Farrrens, "but my dad just went along with it." As it turns out, Farrrens and her dad had the last laugh. "Ms. Tocco said, 'You're probably a police officer, aren't you?' My dad laughed and replied, 'No, I'm a nurse, so I'll probably be saving your life one of these days.'" Graphic by KyraLindholm MollyRakoczy

# A New Perspective: Teachers Juggling More Than Marian

### Annie McClure

Her curious eyes pore over the tattered pages of a diary dating back to 1824. Its yellow-tinted pages are home to unanswered mysteries. Its smudged words are keys to the past, revealing secrets of life and death. For 15 years, she has been gathering clues to piece together this historic puzzle, and one diary is only the beginning.

Every summer, social studies teacher Mrs. Suzan Juza travels around the country, acquiring traces of Fort Atkinson, a fort that operated in Wisconsin from 1819 to 1827. Since 1996, Juza has traveled to historical societies around in search of any records of the Fort. She has made it out to the National Archives in Washington, D.C., about six times over the past 15 years.

"What I have mainly found out there is what happened to the people who lived at the Fort. We didn't have a lot of knowledge of how they died and how they lived. I have found diaries for some of the soldiers. We know they had slaves there, and that is something we had no knowledge of before. We also know there are probably about 250 to 300 people buried somewhere, and we are still trying to locate the cemetery," Juza said.

Juza knew about Fort Atkinson due to the visit she took there with her kids. Then, a couple years later, she got the idea to apply for a job there. "I was working on my Masters and just wanted a part time job. As I was driving through Fort Calhoun, I saw the sign saying 'Fort Atkinson State Historical Park', and thought, 'Oh, I'll go apply there,' so I did," Juza said.

Since working both jobs, Juza notices how her summer job at Fort Atkinson enhances her knowledge of the subjects she teaches. "When I teach World War I or World War II, it helps me identify with what our soldiers are going through because I know what they went through in 1820," Juza said. "I get my fix on that during the summer. Then I come back here, and I teach."

As Juza spends time planning her next research endeavors for this coming summer, English teacher and speech coach Mrs. Jen Christen has been preoccupied with commitments of her own.

Twice a week, Christen channels her personable and energetic disposition into something aside from teaching at Marian: jazzercise. Christen notes the similarities between instructing jazzercise and teaching at Marian. "I think just personality-wise you can't be dead onstage, and you can't be dead in the classroom," she said.

Like Juza and Christen, history teacher Mrs. Kim Rimmick found herself juggling a lot of commitments up until December. But, her outside job did not involve reading old diaries or instructing jazzercise.

She was seeing the classroom from a whole new perspective as a student at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. After four years of classes, she received her Masters degree in history this past December.

For Rimmick, time was always her greatest detriment. She had to balance the role of a teacher and a student, as well as mothering two kids. "I felt like I couldn't be a great student, a great mom and a great teacher. I had to be good at one thing and okay at the other two. I just had to kind of trade off what I was going to focus on, and when. But I couldn't focus on all three at once," Rimmick said.

Rimmick can relate to the hectic lifestyle many high school students lead. "Oh, I get it. I get that they have commitments and time issues, and I totally understand that," she said.

After school, many Marian girls scurry to their jobs, extracurricular activities or straight home to start mountains of homework. But, at the same time, it is very likely that Mr. Mark Koesters is on his way to the Omaha Steak's headquarters to be a telemarketer, Mrs. Lori Spanbauer is driving to Metropolitan Community College to teach sociology, Mr. Andy Bauer is sitting in class at Creighton or Mrs. Rachel Misiolek is on her way to Mount Olive to fulfill her role as organist and church choir accompanist.

The reality is most teachers do understand. Students are not the only people suffering from tight schedules; teachers are performing balancing acts of their own.



Graphic and Photos by AllisonDethlefs LexiWalz

