

It's in the Cards: Poker Attracts a Full House

Maggie Berigan
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Did you hear about the latest new craze? Scattergories? Salsa dancing?

No, it's poker. Texas hold'em, five card stud, you name it, almost everybody plays it.

As the snow days pile up and the wintery weather sets in, it might be ideal to sit in a warm house, playing poker.

So spending time with your friends sitting around a green felt table (or your parent's kitchen table) can bring new meaning to financial planning.

Maybe the 10 bucks won will buy a tank of gas or the 50 bucks lost could deplete an already miniscule bank account.

Although poker may seem like an innocent card game, with the blink of an eye it can turn into a heated competition between close

friends.

Competition is the key factor in poker.

"Playing for fun would not be fun at all, the fun part of poker is the competition," Creighton Prep senior Robbie Irvine said.

Creighton Prep senior Pat Laird agrees. "Guys play partially for money, and it's fun to play. If you have an ego and

The game takes on emotional persona, as players find themselves learning to control their emotions in order to win the game.

On Sat. Dec. 10, Operation Others hosted the first annual Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament. With a turnout of 212 poker players, the tournament lasted for hours,

finally resulting in a grand champion, Creighton Prep senior Tony Digilio.

The tournament was good clean fun: playing with friends, winning prizes such as CDs and gift certificates and playing with no monetary motives.

The Bravo channel has a reality poker series called *Celebrity Poker Showdown* featuring celebrities

going head to head to come out as reigning champion.

A tournament, featuring celebrities such as Heather Graham and Ray Romano, aired on Jan. 25 at 7:00 p.m..

Also, many have seen pictures of famous celebrities, such as Ben Affleck, partaking in poker tournaments. In the Hollywood hit *Ocean's 11*, one scene displays many young actors learning to play the high stakes with other older actors, like Brad Pitt and George Clooney.

Poker isn't just a game for guys. Many girls enjoy the tense competition as well. ESPN aired the World Series of Poker where Annie Duke was the first woman in history to win the tournament this year. Not all girls are as psyched about poker as Ms.

Duke might be.

Junior Lena Finocchiaro has some animosity towards her friends playing poker. "Guys would rather sit at home and play poker, and they don't care about hanging out with their girlfriends. It's frustrating at times, but sooner or later, they will realize they want to hang out with us too," said Finocchiaro.

Some girls tend to be indifferent about the subject.

Sophomore Carolyn Corn thinks it gives guys something to do. "It doesn't matter to me if they stay home on the weekends and play," said Corn.

Whether you love it, hate it, or could care less about poker, it seems to be sweeping the nation. Poker takes the form of competing with friends, playing online, and even watching celebrity poker on TV. So next time you can't find anything to do, pull out the big guns for a rousing game of Texas Hold'em.



A FULL HOUSE



Marian seniors Heather Wolf, MaryClaire Murnan, Liz Miller along with Westside senior Bill Whitman, Prep senior Joe Moore and Millard West senior Brendan Zubrod play a game of Texas Hold 'em on Jan. 2. The players played only with poker chips and not with real money. Photo By Jenna Cheese

beat some people while bluffing, it feels good," said Laird.

Thespians Resume Playtime

Jill Weber

Marian's spring theatrical production, *I Remember Mama*, will be the fourth for director Al DiMauro.

This "dramady" details the life of a family of Norwegian immigrants struggling to make their lives in San Francisco in the early 1900s. The cast includes over two dozen Marian students, and opens the weekend of Feb. 24, at \$5 per ticket.

Creighton Prep's spring play, *Cursing Mummies*, is written and directed by Michael McCandless and will be performed for the first time on stage by the spring 2005 cast. A dozen Marian girls comprised from each class are represented, as well as students from Creighton Prep and Central.

Cursing Mummies will be Creighton Prep's most intricate murder-mystery yet. A spectrum of international characters fuse to form an ensemble of devious party-goers.

Production week coincides with Marian's, Feb. 24-27, and is also \$5 for students. Show times for both plays are 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday.

TOP 5 MOST DANGEROUS TRAFFIC ZONES



5. 90TH & DODGE
4. 114TH & DODGE
3. 90TH & MAPLE
2. 132ND & CENTER
1. 120TH & CENTER

Information compiled by Kayla Walsh

SOURCE: STATEFARM.COM

Slick Prices For Ice-Skating Fun

Megan Koory

Ice-skating has always been a great pastime for the winter season, even more so when the high for the day is around 10 degrees.

Both the yearbook and newspaper staff went to the Moylan Ice Plex on Jan. 17 for a little winter fun.

We got out on the ice right away, after paying of course.

Admission plus skate rental is usually \$8 (\$5 for general admission and \$3 for skate rental), however, we received the group rate because we called ahead and told them that at least 25 people were coming. We paid \$7.50 instead of the \$8.

Once on the ice, the entertainment began. Not only

were some of us a little rusty on our skating skills, but let's just



Yearbook staffers Mallory Jurgensen and Erin Budd join Network staffer Katie Powers for some ice-skating fun. Photo By Kara Stockdale

say throw in a few crazy kids and it's a challenge to skate on your own two feet.

The open skating lasted from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Although some of our feet still hurt from the rental skates, the staff would suggest ice-skating as a great way to have fun with your friends.

Heads Up And the question is...

Marian's Ministry Council is hosting a Spirit Rally today after second lunch. During this block two student teams and one faculty team will compete in a Marian-themed Jeopardy game.

English teacher Ms. Susie Sisson has been chosen to play the role of "Alex."

Faculty is represented by athletic director Mr. Jim Miller and history teacher Mrs. Kim Remmick and student teams were chosen by class officers.

Winning this event could earn the students or teachers a free-dress day and another surprise.

Megan Mahoney

Winter Weather Offers Frosty Fun

14 Ways to Beat the Winter Blues

Kristen Brockman
Andrea Myhra

Imagine waking up on a cold winter morning only to be greeted by a blanket of white outside.

The first snow of winter has finally arrived after weeks of warm fall-like weather. Now what?

The snow of winter gives us many opportunities to have fun both indoors and outdoors. What is there to do for fun? Well, lots!

Besides the obvious activities of making snowmen, snowball fights, and sledding, there are other fun activities that people don't think of right away. Why not hit the slopes and go skiing? What about snowboarding, or try out a pair of snowshoes and go exploring at the park.

Even the simple task of

shoveling the driveway can provide a winter activity. Go visit your neighbors and offer to shovel for them. In



Sophomores Tasha Parker and Amanda Frazier make tracks as they sled near the Servants of Mary Convent. Photo By Mandy Tessmer

order to pass the time, invite your friends over and have a shoveling party.

Junior Caitlin LaVelle and her friends like to test their

strength in the cold for fun. "We have an Ultimate Snow Competition. We stand outside in swim suits, and whoever lasts the longest wins."

For those who prefer something less extreme, grab a group of friends and head to the ice rink for a bit of indoor fun. Don't know when skate times are? Just call the ice rink and ask for a skating schedule. "I like to do it [skating] with friends," said freshman Rachel Hartman.

Fellow freshman Laura Cardwell agrees. "It feels like you're flying."

An afternoon at the sports auditorium can provide a warmer alternative to the cold outdoors. Spending an evening at a hockey or basketball game can satisfy one's sports side. Who doesn't like cheering on your favorite players or yelling at the top of your lungs? Being in your car can offer

fun winter activities. Junior Brigie Parr enjoys being able to turn the heat all the way up in her car. "I can't do it in the summer," said Parr.

If you are one who prefers to spend their snow days indoors, the possibilities are endless.

Curl up on the sofa with a warm blanket, some cookies, and hot chocolate and watch a favorite movie. Light a fire and indulge in a good book. The oven is always ready to do some baking.

If being "cooped up" inside the house is considered too boring but being inside is still the preferred place to be, take some time to volunteer. Whether it's babysitting younger siblings or visiting the elderly at a nursing home, this offers time to brighten other people's days.

Just because school is canceled and the temperature is cold doesn't mean that you can't have fun. There is an activity for every type of person, whether you prefer the warmth of being inside or "roughing" it in the cold outside.

Ice Rinks For Your Skating Pleasure

Benson Ice Arena
6920 Malabar Ave.
(402)444-5971

Motto McLean Ice Rinks
5015 S 45th St.
(402)444-4955

Tim Moeglan-Tranquility Complex
12550 W Maple Rd.
(402)492-2447

