

the collegian

1984 Homecoming Brought out the Best in SMC Students

by Mary Hutcheson

"Extremely interesting." "One of the best." "Extra-added fun." "Enthusiastic group." These are just some of the ways Homecoming at St. Mary's College was described this year.

Homecoming is traditionally a time for the alumni to gather together at their old stomping grounds. The former students visit the campus to reminisce and view the changes that have occurred. In past years, students and alumni did not integrate their activities and this separation seemed to take away from the celebrations.

However, 1984 seemed to be the year to bring the two groups together. "For the first time, students and alumni interacted with spirit at the telephone booth stuff-

ing. It was an enthusiastic crowd," said Sue Rickenbacher, Director of St. Mary's Alumni Association.

Rickenbacher felt that when St. Mary's was an all-men's college, there was much more spirit during Homecoming. "This year, the women of St. Mary's gained their own tradition by stuffing the phone booth and in twenty-five years, we will probably see lots of women alumni at Homecoming with the same enthusiasm that the men displayed this year," said Rickenbacher. "I was also proud of the student's behavior. It was a good representation for the alumni and the community."

John Leykum, Director of Public Relations at SMC, was also pleased with the results of the phone booth stuffing. "The event injected excite-

ment into Homecoming," said Leykum. "And it raises student morale to see themselves or classmates on the front page of the San Francisco Chronicle or on local television news."

Another big attraction at Homecoming this year was an Alumni Art Show. It began on October 5th and continues until October 14th. All of the artists who contributed to the event are amateurs, yet Leykum was "amazed at the high quality of these works of art." He felt that the art show was the major activity of Homecoming for the alumni and he urges all students to view this first ever Alumni Art Show.

As far as students are concerned, the dance was the biggest success at Homecoming this year. It was estimated that 200 bids at the most

would be sold; therefore, only 400 students would attend and the social committee reserved the Colonial Ballroom at the St. Francis Hotel. In actuality, 400 bids were sold and the dance had to be moved into the grand Ballroom.

"The dance went really well. We (the social committee) were amazed to get 800 students to attend an off-campus dance," said Shawn Pynes, one of the social chairmen. "At last year's Senior Ball, everyone was very enthusiastic to get 400 students there. It (the Homecoming Dance) shows that the students are more interested this year."

Pynes stressed the fact that these dances are a service to the students. With bids going for \$20, the social committee had at first planned on losing money. With the surprisingly

high attendance, however, it actually made a profit and the committee will use the money to offset the cost of the Winter Ball. "The committee worked very hard to make the Homecoming Dance a success. It was a group effort," said Pynes.

"It was an original Homecoming and the phone booth stuffing was extra-added fun," said Debbie Fisher, Senior class senator. "It was too bad that the half-time presentation wasn't more organized. In that way, Homecoming was better and worse at the same time this year."

Overall, it seems that everyone was pleased with the 1984 Homecoming at St. Mary's College. It is a special benefit that the alumni and students shared the enthusiasm and spirit. That's the way it should be.

Crown Tarnished by Florist Foul-Up

Nicki Hinton — Homecoming Queen

by June Ahearn

In keeping with the fullness of tradition at St. Mary's, the 1984 Homecoming Queen was crowned Saturday by Mary Parodi, the bearer of 1983's royal distinction.

This year, St. Mary's chose Nicki Hinton as the loveliest of its young women. Nicki's bright eyes and warm smile make it easy for one to see why she was selected for this honor. But she didn't see it quite so easily. "I didn't expect to be nominated. It was an even bigger surprise when I won."

When asked how she felt about being chosen, Nicki said she was, "really grateful to St. Mary's. It's an honor. . . it made me feel good."

Unfortunately, a serious mistake on behalf of the florist, left another of the candidates in a position that felt anything but good.

Each of the candidates was handed a closed box of roses, by which the winner would be identified. The roses had been ordered so that the winner would receive red roses and all the others, yellow roses.

However, *the instructions were reversed.*

No one caught the error and the winner was announced as the one with red roses.

Rosanne Parodi was the first to open her box. Upon seeing red roses, nearly everyone assumed her to be the winner. Immediate congratu-

lations were bestowed upon Rosanne by her sister Mary, who was ready to crown the winner. But this celebration could hardly begin before it was ended.

The mistake was announced and the rightful winner crowned. Unfortunately, a little of the shimmer was gone from the crown. One's happiness for the winner could not stand alone without sympathy for the one who had this dream slip through her fingers.

Nicki shared this feeling. "I was excited but sad the way it happened. I would rather have had them just crown Rosanne than see her go through that."



Nicki Hinton receives her crown while a disappointed Rosanne Parodi turns away. photo by Laura Facino

St. Francis Hotel Hosts St. Mary's Homecoming Celebration

by June Ahearn

The 1984 Homecoming Dance, held in the Grand Ballroom of the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco was an overwhelming success! After enjoying an eventful day on campus, it was time to trade in the jeans for more sophisticated attire and head

across the bay to the bright lights and life of the City.

A crowd of 800 students arrived, with spirits high, ready to dance the night away. This spirit was kindled with another sort of spirit, complements of a well stocked bar. Additional replenishment was available

in the form of a variety of refreshments, from watermelon to wheat thins.

The night had much to offer, not only to the spirit and the palate, but to the eyes as well. The glass elevators, ascending to the heights of the Hotel's exterior, were a popular attraction for many students who discovered the spectacular view.

The enthusiastic group danced to the end of the evening and beyond, encouraging the band to return for three encores.

The Homecoming dance offered an opportunity for more students than ever before to participate in an event like this.

Initially, the Social Committee had hoped to sell 200 tickets. Demand, however, was so great that a larger room had to be rented, and the number of tickets, doubled!

Anyone who worried that the attendance was too high for the dance to be enjoyable was set at ease by the smooth running of the event.

This, at least, was one case in which St. Mary's growing pains were not so severe.



Couple finds cheerful reprieve in semi-private hideway.



Happy faces portray the festive mood of Saturday's Homecoming dance. photo by Eric Ipson

"THE MOST NEWSWORTHY

THE COMPLETE STORY OF THE TELEPHONE BOOTH STUFF

by Eamon Murphy

While the football game and dance may be the important events of homecoming to most students, a different, much more obscure happening will remain in the minds of two dozen young men long after their date's name and the game's score have been forgotten. Indeed, it may be the most newsworthy event to ever hit this small liberal arts college.

In a re-enactment of 1959 shenanigans, 24 diminutive St. Mary's

the haphazard '59 group, the modern bunch decided to be organized. The first practice, however, was fraught with administrative red tape (liability releases, faculty concern over injuries etc.) and they were able to stuff just a miserable fourteen students. On hand was most of the event's faculty organizers, an ambulance and a paramedic team (safety is not a new aspect; in 1959, on hand were a rescue squad and, for an unknown reason, two fire trucks). Seeing that little would get done

Solari and Tim McCaffery made up the nucleus of 'the base'. They were on all fours — wrists taped, elbows locked, shoes off and kneepads on. Accompanying them was Rich Reviglio on their legs and a fifth, Mike Buckley, underneath the base-three's chests. 'Keeping the door closed' was Steve Becker, who was not in the count but was nonetheless vital to its success. Becker, who lay on his side on the bottom of the opening, acted as a rope to keep the human jelly sandwich from oozing out at the sides.

Upon this solid foundation history was made.

It was estimated that 850 pounds of pressure was placed upon each member of the "base-three." They learned to cope with this agony mentally removing themselves from the situation as best as they could. Contini explains, "At twelve your arms start shaking. At 15 or 16 we started counting the alphabet to ourselves." Actually, they 'counted the alphabet' to anyone within earshot. Also audible in the early-going were encouraging yells such as "Oh yeah!" and "Push it!" though they were reduced to mere grunts and groans

midway through.

Although the rest of the stuffees may look like they were thrown in haphazardly, stuffers Tom Fitzsimmons and Steve Dondanville stuffed them into pre-planned, specific areas. "Efficiency was crucial," said Aguilar. It must be noted, however, that when the count reached 20, the scene turned into a free-for-all with bodies being mercilessly flung anywhere to reach the magic number before the wavering base collapsed.

When the record was finally set, the minutes of pain were exchanged for minutes of elation while experiencing their newfound, albeit momentary celebritydom.

"It's not fun at first," sparked an ebullient Solari surrounded by reporters "but it's a natural high once you get out. It's truly enlightening."

"It's hell," said a half-serious Contini. "It's tough until they yell their numbers" (from 16 on, each stufee yelled his number to let the base know approximately how much more they had to endure).

Contini gave a candid reason for participating, "Fame, to tell you the

truth." But he adds, "It's so college to do something like this. It's an experience I'll never forget."

Although much of the attention was focused on the base, it should not be inferred that the other 19 stuffees had an easy go of it.

Number 13 Vic Costanza, who was thrown in the middle, said "It's hot and tight, but bearable."

The nineteenth entrant, Rob Holloway, thought that the middle was actually tougher than the bottom. "The guys on the bottom said that they reached a plateau where they couldn't feel any more. But in the middle, every new body changed the pile. I had a tailbone on my cheek and a guy in an L-shape on top of me. It hurt my head. A lot." Holloway wasn't too pleased with Don Danville's and Fitzsimmons's handling of number's 20-24 either. "On top, it was tougher to get them in, so they had to either climb up over the middle or the stuffers would throw them up and they'd just land anywhere." He endured, though, because, "I knew there was a big reward in a few minutes."



students crammed into a telephone booth, thereby shattering the old mark by two. It thrust them into local and national fringe history by appearing on the cover of every major local newspaper and television station and on many national publications and television news shows.

It also set off a frenzy of old-fashioned college camaraderie between the participants and the 300 or so onlookers. It was this spontaneous outburst that organizer Father Patrick LaBelle (who also organized the first as a student in '59) saw as the real victory, "The thing it did for me is show me a strong sense of community. It says that we're doing some of the right things." Then, in reference to the recent onslaught of campus crime and other problems that have gripped the school this year he added, "When you see something like this happen, you can't help but be confident that there's hope."

The re-enactment idea was started this summer when a group of students were sitting around LaBelle's office shooting the breeze. One remarked that he'd like to have the picture on the wall (the one of the '59 scene). LaBelle declined, saying the picture was part of college history but realized that it had been 25 years. From there the idea snowballed, with various school administrators trying to help. They succeeded in acquiring a telephone booth from Pacific Bell (which also donated badges), and had local radio station KINQ print T-shirts.

In the most notable change from

with the administrative eyes watching their every move, senior Chris Aguilar decided to bring the event back to whom it belonged: the students. "There was too much bureaucracy," said the self-appointed coach, "In order for this thing to be successful we had to cut the red tape."

Even LaBelle noticed the problem, "I told (administrative organizers) after the first practice, if they didn't but-out this wasn't going to happen. And they listened."

So late one night the 24 assembled secretly and stole the donated booth from its perch between trailer's B and C behind the library. They held three more meetings, stuffing 16, 21 and 24 in. Even the confident Aguilar had his doubts. "The first day of practice I thought it wasn't going to be possible. The key was that we had to learn discipline."

And disciplined they were. The 1959 group, according to retired stuffer Ron Diritto, was not, "As far as I can recall, we just practiced in the hallway once."

Diritto's stuffmate Pat McCaulley has only a slightly different version, "The first time, some kid at the bottom couldn't breathe, so we had to get out and reorganize. Then we did it." Asked if they had a safer system similar to the '84 group (whereby silence is maintained so that anyone in danger can yell "out") he said, "No, the guy just yelled help as loud as he could."

This year, a more scientific approach was taken. The three stockiest, Pete Contini, Robert



Talking to Reporters

HOW THE PRESS VIEWED "THE STUFF"

by Eamon Murphy

The significance of the 1984 phone booth stuffing has been much more than Father LaBelle, Shawn Pines & Co. ever dreamed of while they were sitting around one lacksadaisical summer's day admiring a picture on LaBelle's office wall. Little did that group know that their little meeting would bring Saint Mary's College to the attention of the nation.

The timing of the event could not have been better. With no major news stories to grab the headlines, the St. Mary's hijinx could be given prime coverage on local and national media. A front-page photograph appeared on the San Francisco Examiner-Chronicle, Contra Costa Times, San Jose Mercury News and the Oakland Tribune. Television stations KGO (channel 7), KPIX (channel 5), KTVU (channel 2), and KOVR (channel 40) gave the happening extensive coverage.

So much for local media. The USA Today and Los Angeles Times national edition carried a photograph. ABC used KGO's footage in their news as a lead-in to the fifth game of the National League Championship Series. Coordinator Father LaBelle and women's

coach Peter Dowley (who was also on the men's team) were flown to New York on Tuesday and appeared on ABC's Good Morning America at 8:40 Wednesday morning, PST. LaBelle was looking into the possibility of re-enacting the re-enactment on NBC's The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson. As of press time early Wednesday morning, Carson Productions had not reached a decision yet.

The day of the event, this reporter had a chance to talk with the local press (his peers?) about covering an event such as this.

Don Sanchez, the KGO reporter who covered the story for ABC said, "They may talk about the presidential debates and Mayor Feinstein as the headlines, but this is the sort of thing that people will remember. I like doing it because it's positive and upbeat." Sanchez added a personal wish, "I volunteered for the women's team, but they wouldn't let me go."

The Contra Costa Times Brad Rovanner, who was given a reprieve from his political beat to cover the stuffing. "This was one of my more enjoyable assignments," he said, "It's nice to cover something happy. It sure beats covering train wrecks, even though it looked like a train wreck."

KTVU independent San Francisco station assigned Faith Faunder to the story. She was at a happening of a different sort just a few miles away recently. "Yesterday I did the 20th anniversary of the free-speech movement at UC Berkeley. Today I'm here. It's very, very different. This is interesting, very up." The personable reporter added, "It's nice to know that some traditions can come back again and be so successful. Also, it's good to see the women do it."

As the junior member of the news staff covering the Saint Mary's phone booth stuffing, this reporter has formed his own opinions of the event.

The show was a hit because it was classic Americana; the sort of wholesome college fun that has been sorely lacking media coverage in the past decade. It is a myth, however, a never-attainable virtue of happiness that we would all like to believe exists. But this isn't to say that it was phony. No, nobody can deny the rare, intangible feeling of closeness that unified those within and those beyond the rope barriers, at that moment when everyone won. The moment that will never be repeated — but can never be taken away.

EVENT TO HIT ST. MARY'S

Women Prove Equal to Men

Reach Out and Stuff Someone

by Eamon Murphy

While the men's actions may have grabbed most of the headlines, a group of no-less-enthusiastic women also participated in this record-breaking day.

Although the official mark was unknown (estimates were that 18 had been the previous high), the St. Mary's co-eds equalled the men's feat, stuffing 23 or 24 (depending if the girl nearly entirely out of the booth is counted) into the world's most overworked telephone booth.

The women's effort looked even more futile than the men's at early practices. With little organization and publicity, the coaches could

stuff just 16 in at the first meeting. Then, curiously, waning interest led to less and less being fit in. After 16, they could fit just 14, then 12, then 10.

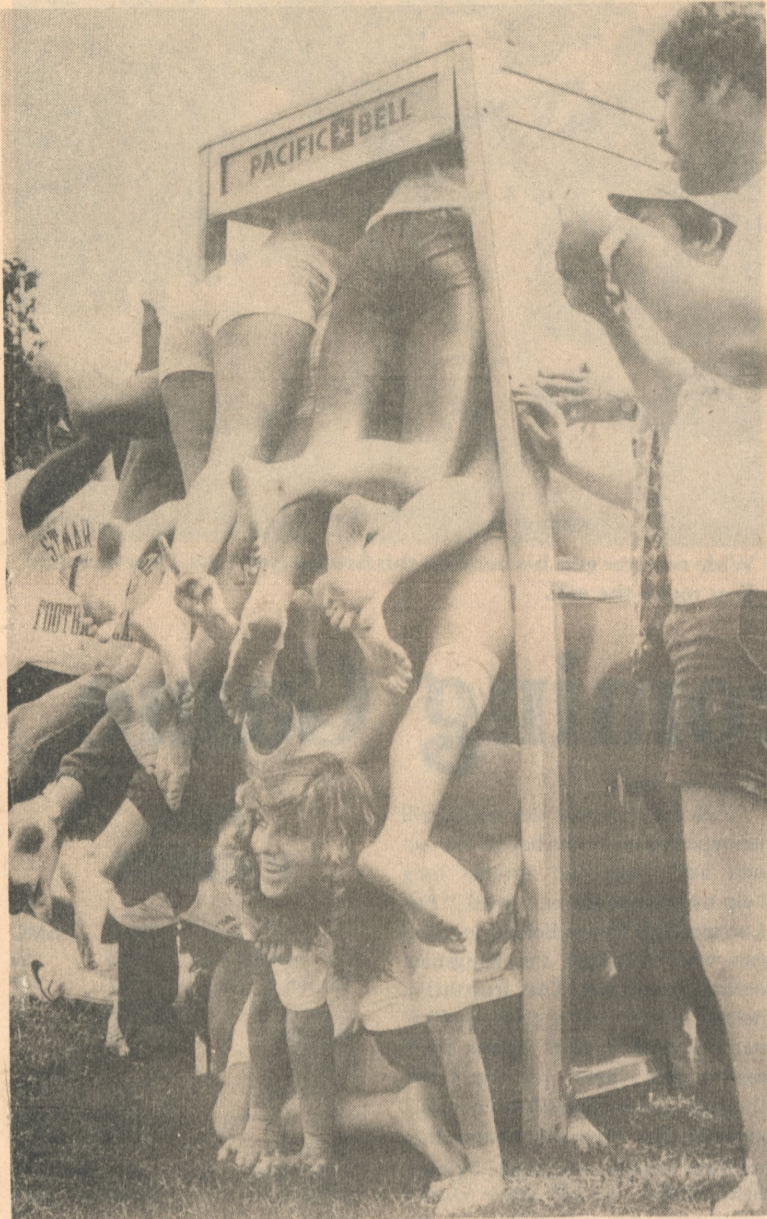
It was then that leadership had to be taken. And Peter Dowley stepped in. Under his tutelage the floundering co-eds practiced eight more times, each time stuffing more and more human olives in the glass martini. The high was 21.

But the experimenting and practicing went on until the big moment. "We put them in differently today," said bottom-row 'player-coach' Mary Wilson. "We practiced four times yesterday and only got 21. The

adrenaline put us over today." Wilson did encounter some physical problems. "It was getting tight. There was a lot of pressure on my rib-cage, but I'd do it again."

Tricia Belmessieri experienced some of the problems that the men in the middle of the pack did. "It got real stuffy. I couldn't breath that well. We were talking to each other, but with each new person (the pile) changed."

Christina McDonald was at the base. She admitted to having second thoughts about the pain, "but when they yelled out twenty, there was no way I was going to stay out. I knew there was only four more."



WHAT WAS OR WILL BE

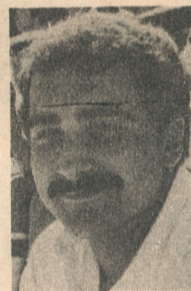
THE HIGHLIGHT OF HOMECOMING FOR YOU?

(Asked at the football game)

by Laura Facino

STAFF BOX

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PETER NUTI
(Junior)
The parties after the dance.



BUFFALO BOB & DELORES
The dance — not the game.

The Faces Behind the Butts



Robert Solari, Pete Contini, Tim McCafferey, Rich Brunni, Bill McKenna, Jeff Disdati, Briab Foss, Joe Viera, Scott Edgar, Pete Dowley, Ivan Padilla, Robert Holloway, Tim Soldati, Bill Clark, Alberto Canizares, Mike Wilson, Steve Sirienni, Chris Aguilar, Joe Fitzsimmons, Eric Cesenare, Irwam Kamadani, Mark Descrothers.



Mary Wilson, Mary Grywezynski, Katie O'Neil, Christina McDonald, Kathy Scott, Suzi Anderson, Victoria Verber, Chris Caper, Julie Harrison, Barbara Wittick, Tricia Belmessieri, Deborah Fisher, C.C. Chernev, Mary Ann Nichols, Melissa Schikler, Regena Ross, Lucy Sallaberry, Frances Sweeney, Janna Brown, Patti Koenen, Julie Pryde, Judy Harris, Alyson Brant, Tricia Cobb.

C.C. CHERNER
(Sophomore)
The phone booth.



LIBBY CLARKE
(Freshman)
This is my first year, so I need to experience it.



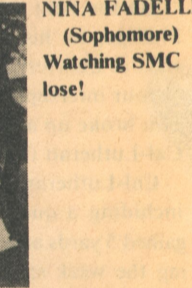
NINA FADELL
(Sophomore)
Watching SMC lose!



HOWARD KAUFMAN
(Alumni)
Seeing everybody.



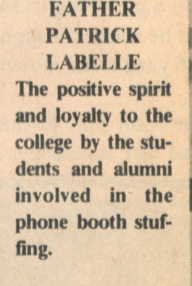
FATHER PATRICK LABELLE
The positive spirit and loyalty to the college by the students and alumni involved in the phone booth stuffing.



DON OSUNA
(Sophomore)
The parties before and after, because the game sure isn't.



TIM LUCY
(Sophomore)
Interceptions!?

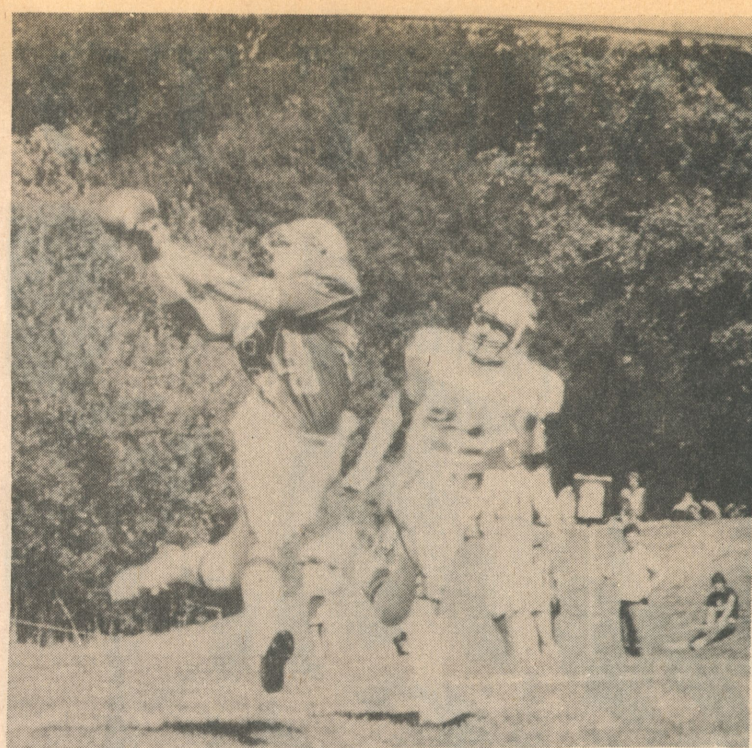
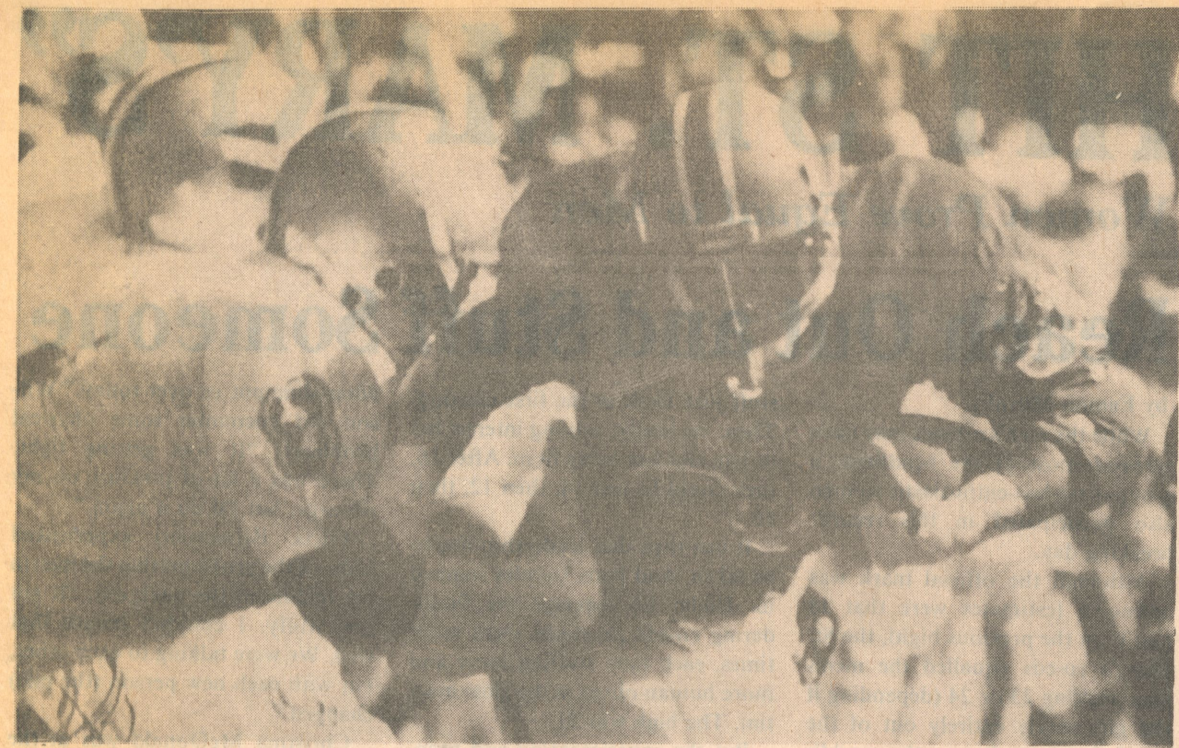


BOB GALLAGHER
The telephone booth, definitely.



SUSIE DALLANY & MIKE COWLER
(Junior, Senior)
The dance, the happy couple we are afterwards!





Running back, Dennis Loo breaks through the Kingsman line for a big gain in the second quarter.

Wide receiver gets his hand on this first quarter pass. Does he catch? You make the call.

Turnovers Cost Homecoming Game

by Joe Fitzpatrick

Stuffing twenty-four people in a phone booth wasn't the only record set last Saturday in the Homecoming football game versus the Cal-Lutheran Kingsmen. Tony Molino set a school record late in the second quarter with a 74 yard punt. But records don't mean much in a losing effort.

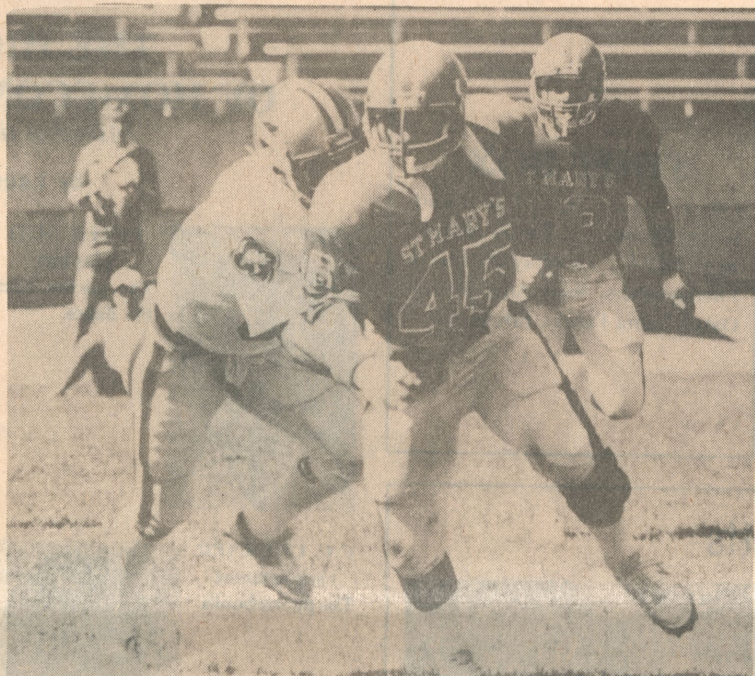
The Gaels entered the game with their record square at 2-2, they were also coming in with an emotional victory at Sonoma State where linebacker John Meyers intercepted a pass late in the 4th quarter and ran it back for a touchdown to give SMC a victory. A win against Cal-Lutheran would have meant a lot but the Gaels came up empty handed as turnovers and some key play calling by the Kingsmen did them in. The final score: Cal-Lutheran 23, Saint Mary's 13.

The Kingsmen were the first to draw blood, set up by an SMC fumble at the 30. Seven plays later Greg DeGennaro hit Leo Brionnes in the end zone on a seven yard pass play.

On the next set of downs Buddy Phillips, in his first Saint Mary's start at quarterback, threw the first of four interceptions. That interception broke up a Gael drive and gave Cal-Lutheran the ball on the 31.

Cal-Lutheran then ran four plays including a quarterback sneak that gained 5 yards and a first down. Seeking the weak spot in the middle the Kingsmen then gave the ball to Leo Brionnes, who had a game high 114 yards rushing, and he broke through the middle for a 56 yard touch down run.

"They called the right play at the right time, we had our linebackers



Gael linebacker, John Pregil, finds a lucky surprise in the early going.

moving around and they pursued on that play, that left Brionnes one on one with our safety and he was out of position for the tackle" commented head coach Joe DeLuca on that play.

Shortly after the Brionnes run SMC got the ball back at their own 20 yard line. On first and 10 Phillips went back to pass and a swarm of defenders were on him. His inexperience was apparent at he tried a desperation pass. "He definitely should have ate the ball, but that can only help us prepare for next week," DeLuca added. Ruben Solorio grabbed it and walked into the end zone.

Down 21-0 the Gaels were really in a deep hole. Catch up football is for the most part losing football.

"Once we were 21 points down we were at a big disadvantage because it took us out of our game play," coach DeLuca said, adding, "We don't have the big play capability as of yet and you can't run when you're 21 points down."

In the second quarter the Gaels came back with a 79 yard drive for a touchdown. In that drive they showed the coaches and fans that they do indeed have a running game and a running back, Raoul Fulcher. Raoul's running kept the drive going with two big gains, one of 19 and another of 13 yards. Raoul played just the first half due to slight ankle injury (he should be back next week). He gained 73 yards on just 14 carries leaving him with a hefty 5.3

yards per carry.

With Fulcher out the Gaels still managed to move the ball in the second half. They had another long help us prepare for next week," DeLuca added. Ruben Solorio grabbed run well and kept the Kingsmen defense frustrated. That frustration helped keep the drive going as CLC had 15 yards tacked against them and a first down for the Gaels through unsportsmanlike conduct penalty. The drive culminated in a one yard touchdown plunge by Dab Schoenhofer. Kicker Dave Hunt's point after try missed, leaving the score CLC-21, SMC-13.

With a quarter of football left, neither team could move the ball well. The SMC defense held on a Kingsmen series and with 2:20 to go CLC was to punt. The Gaels sent nine men to try to block the punt and were penalized on a questionable roughing the kicker call, giving the Kingsmen a first down. CLC sat on the ball from there on as SMC was out of time-outs. Final score: Cal-Lutheran 21, Saint Mary's 13.

Coach DeLuca, obviously not pleased with the loss, did have some words of praise for the team however.

"The ball players are coming together, and because they are working together they are more productive as we do this as a unit we should win a few more ball games."

He also had words of praise for the fine defensive job his team did. "We played well on defense, except for that big gainer we played real well." He also noted the improvement of Dyke Mundy and the consistency of Jim Wardy and Chris Will.

FINAL STATISTICS

	CLC	SMC
First Downs	15	13
Rushing	7	7
Passing	4	5
Penalty	4	1
Rushing Attempts	51	41
Yards Rushing	218	134
Tackles—		
Yards Lost		
Rushing	10-41	4-22
Net Yards		
Rushing	177	112
Net Yards		
Passing	139	
Passes		
Attempted	24	31
Passes		
Completed	9	10
Had		
Intercepted	2	4
Total Offensive		
Plays	75	72
Total Net Yards	254	251
Average Gain		
Per Play	3.4	3.5
Return Yards	68	47
Fumbles:		
Number-Lost	1-1	1-1
Penalties:		
Number-Yards	12-97	9-93
Interceptions:		
Number-Yards	4-45	2-19
Number of Punts		
Yards	10-440	10-420
Average per		
Punt	44.0	42.0
Punt Returns:		
Number-Yards	5-23	4-28
Kickoff Returns		
Number-Yards	2-36	3-60
Possession		
Time	32:30	27:30



Cheerleaders give their all for the Gaels. L-R Jennifer Diaz, Deanna Guerisoli, Monica Mendenhall, Kathy O'Rourke, Gabby Asafour, Melissa Cardou.

Top Row, L-R: Miguel Garcia, Mike Magnini, Steve Cronin, Tom Elliot, Mike Kreizenbeck. Bottom Row, L-R: Brent Eastman, Dave Bierman, Jim Abatte.