



THE COLLEGIAN

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA

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Tuesday, May 13, 2003

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Volume 100, Number 24

The price of being 'Lasallian'

Long-time professor Lou Berney exits

by **Susanne E. Schweitzer**
Chief Copy Editor

If the foundation of a liberal arts education is based on faculty who excel in a wide variety of subjects, then Saint Mary's is losing one of its cornerstones.

In what seems to be a growing trend at SMC, Lou Berney, an English and Seminar professor, and a founding member of the MFA program, is leaving at the end of the academic year.

"I joined the faculty because it seemed like a really exciting place to be. It was a good salary and a great part of the country, and when I interviewed here, it was a college that was on its way up. There was a lot of excitement about how the college was going to get better and better," said Berney.

However, the salary he was offered twelve years ago failed to keep up with the increasingly prohibitive cost of housing in the Bay Area, and for the past two years Berney has been commuting back and forth between SMC and Oklahoma City, where his wife and family are living.

Ultimately, his decision to leave hinged on three separate but related issues.



"I'm leaving because the housing prices in the Bay Area are just unbelievably expensive, and the salaries for faculty and staff at Saint Mary's are really low, and the administration at Saint Mary's doesn't seem to recognize that there's a problem. If any one of those things was different—if the

housing prices were any lower, or if the salaries were better, or even if the administration had made a greater effort to recognize that there was a problem—or, I would even say, a crisis with faculty leaving, I'd probably be staying," said

see **LASALLIAN**, p2

Living wage in limbo

by **Chris Swain**
News Editor

How much progress can be made in one year?

Is this important enough to do?

Can things move around and happen in one year?

Or will it take two?

Many questions still need answering in determining a living wage policy for Saint Mary's.

"There is a lot of support for the concept of a living wage," said the college's chief financial officer, Peter Michell.

"It looks like the recommendation is coming to develop our own living wage, but in the interim, benchmark against the city of Richmond."

Some concerns were raised after the recommendation that was made by the work group only had one benchmark, so the budget committee formed a

sub-group to determine other standards.

"There is good reason for using [the Richmond model] because it is relatively new and it's the only one in Contra Costa County," said Michell.

"I am sure it will improve the quality of life for those workers who will be receiving a living wage, however we end up defining it," Michell added. "There are some workers who will see substantial increases if we use the Richmond model."

Michell said that a living wage is something definitely embodied in the mission of the college; the challenge is funding it.

In the past, faculty and staff have used a three-year implementation to raise their salaries to the level of their peers'.

"It is a challenge to the budget committee to figure out if we can do this in one year," said

Michell.

Living wage work group member and professor Michael Avila, FSC, still has reservations about the passage of a living wage.

"I hope something good comes of it and [the living wage] is able to be implemented for the janitors," said Avila.

Avila worries about what sacrifices the campus will have to make to implement a living wage, as well as wondering where the money will come from.

"What can we [the faculty] and students sacrifice to make this a reality?" asked Avila.

"I believe it is part of our mission as a college to do everything possible to make the living wage a reality," said Avila.

"I don't know what to say; I hope it happens soon."

Tuition costs make it hard to follow patron's mission

by **Josh Farley**
Editor-in-Chief

Some of us have read about him. Some of us have attempted to emulate him. Some of us serve our community in his name. And many of us know him by the enormous multi-ton statue of him by the Chapel Lawn.

He is John Baptist De La Salle, Patron Saint of education within the Catholic tradition, whose ideology of "faith and zeal" and devotion to service, especially to those less fortunate, we follow in the mission statement of Saint Mary's College.

The College promises all students a unique educational experience in which they will leave SMC as "better people"—and as people, we are told, whom La Salle would want us to be.

Unfortunately, not everyone on campus is able to embrace Saint Mary's "Lasallian" ideals. The increasing price of tuition may also make students pay the price of sacrificing the Lasallian education.

This holds especially true for transfer students, who might not be able to afford four years at over \$30,000 per, and for students who work full-time to cover the enormous cost of college education.

Anna Stewart '04, who believes strongly in the Lasallian ideal, is one of the students who has to work to put herself through college.

"When I hear 'Lasallian,' I think of volunteering," said Stewart. "Basically, giving back to your community."

But during the academic year, she works 35 to 40 hours a week to pay for college tuition. She does not have time to volunteer and explore the aspects of what she considers Lasallian.

"Its weird coming up [to Moraga] and not doing as much community service," Stewart said. "But I don't have much choice."

Many students at SMC are faced with this dilemma. They'd like to play a bigger role in their Lasallian education, volunteering and serving their community. But due to financial constraints,

they must work to stay in school, and may not feel included in the SMC community.

"Being Lasallian is being open-minded," said Jason Greenland '03. "It means becoming a part of your community."

Greenland, who transferred to Saint Mary's his sophomore year, lives off campus. He also works to help pay the tuition bills. He says these factors all contribute to his lack of involvement in what he believes is his "Lasallian" community.

"A lot of [campus activities] are geared towards freshmen," said Greenland. "Being a transfer student, and living off campus, I find it hard to be connected."

According to the Saint Mary's Fact Book, 153 transfer students were enrolled in the fall of 2002. The vast majority of transfers (about 68%) join the community around the halfway point of a four-year education, entering as second-semester sophomores or first-semester juniors.

But do transfer and working students lose touch with the Lasallian mission of the College altogether? No, says Carole Swain, the special assistant to the president for Lasallian initiatives.

"[Transfer and working students] can't escape the Lasallian mission because it is alive and well through the critical mass of faculty, staff, and administrators."

Swain came to Saint Mary's 12 years ago, has taught Seminar for eight years, and has been working the last three years as the special assistant.

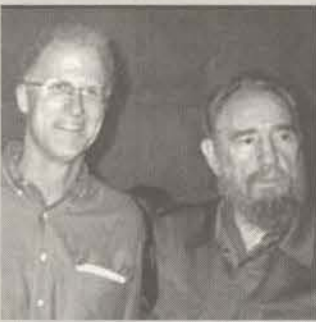
"I hope that [transfer and working students] receive the Lasallian experience," said Swain. "But I could see how [transfer students] could get lost because we give so much of that attention to incoming freshmen."

She ultimately believes that transfers and working students do notice, and receive a Lasallian education.

see **THE PRICE**, pg 3

IN THE NEWS

SMC dean talks business with Fidel Castro



Roy Allen, Dean of Economics and Business Administration at Saint Mary's, went to Cuba during April as part of a local delegation that met with government officials, including Fidel Castro, and provided much-needed medical supplies to the disabled community in Cuba.

"We had the chance to meet with him (Castro) and several high-ranking state officials. He emphasized the serious challenges with the Cuban economy and the progress that is being made despite the impact of the 40-year U.S. blockade on his country."

Congress member Barbara Lee, D-Oakland, headed the delegation that consisted of 33 persons, including former Oakland Mayor Elihu Harris and Oakland City Councilmember Henry Chang. The trip lasted seven days. The contingent toured Havana as well as outlying villages, and talked to many Cuban citizens. Allen was one of just a few educators making the journey.

Women's center seeks men

The Women's Resource center will be starting a Male Peer Educator Program next fall. The program seeks to include men in the movement to end violence against women.

"This program is about meeting people where they are, and helping them confront whatever issues they feel comfortable starting with," said Sharon Sobotta, Sexual Assault Awareness Coordinator.

Training will be done in the residence halls, as well as with athletic teams to foster a stronger sense of awareness at SMC.

This past semester Residence Advisors were required to have education programming about the sexual assault policy at SMC.

The women's center is looking for men who want to get involved and educate peers about the issues of consent, communication, healthy relationships, dating violence and sexual assault. Please nominate friends, students, peers or yourself. For more information call the Women's Resource Center at x 4193.

CAMPUS SNAPSHOT



Allison Moore/ COLLEGIAN

Students show support

Last Friday students signed and decorated a large canvas in support of art professors that won't be returning to SMC next year.

LASALLIAN

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Berney. "The administration doesn't seem to recognize the scope of the problem. In my opinion, they haven't addressed it to the degree I think would be necessary. I wish there was more of a sense of [them] acknowledging the problem and trying to work it out, but I don't get that sense."

"I love Saint Mary's. I really hate to go, and it was a hard decision to leave, but I felt like I didn't have a choice."

During his twelve years here, Berney has taught communication; Seminar; English composition, upper-division English classes - many in film and screenwriting - and in the MFA fiction program.

When asked what he's enjoyed most about his Saint Mary's experience, Berney replied, "By far my favorite thing is the students. I really, really, unequivocally, love the students at Saint Mary's. Of course, some classes are better than others are. But generally that's been, by far, the most rewarding, enriching thing. It's helped my own writing as well. The students are just great."

He's equally positive about his fellow professors. "I have a lot of respect for them, and I've learned an enormous amount about being a teacher from my colleagues. They've been helpful and supportive from the very beginning. I really love my colleagues," said Berney.

Berney's classes are popular according to students, and most SMC students have only positive things to say about him.

Dario Albiar-Carmona, a senior in Berney's 2003 Jan Term class said, "Lou made the class extremely enjoyable to be in. I looked forward to going to class everyday."

"He's really a funny, fun person to be around. It was by far the best Jan Term class I've ever taken," said senior Corey O'Brien, another member of the Jan Term class.

"I think it's a sad fact that Saint Mary's is allowing such a quality, engaging professor to go."

Senior Mary Kuczkowski, currently enrolled in Berney's "Page to Screen" class, added,

"I wish I had had him sooner. He's been great and he's become one of my favorite professors here."

In 1995, along with Rosemary Graham, Carol Lashof, Brenda Hillman, and Phyllis Stowell, Berney began the MFA Graduate Writing program at Saint Mary's. Graham, who is also a close friend of Berney's, said, "I still can't quite conceive of the department without Lou. He makes the department meetings bearable! Lou's one of the best teachers we have. He works students hard, and inspires them to do their best. This is a serious loss for the college."

Berney first considered leaving Saint Mary's two years ago, for many of the same reasons, when fellow MFA fiction professor John Fleming left. "I had a strong personal investment in the program, and I didn't want to leave it behind, because we'd just lost another professor, so that's why I stayed. And I was hoping that something would change, and I could have a reason to stay," said Berney.

Unfortunately, faculty salaries remained the same, and Saint Mary's is losing one of its most valued instructors.

"I just worry that more and more good faculty and staff members are leaving each year, and that cannot be good. We seem to attract people for a few years, but then we lose them, and it's really not good, long term, for a college to have this revolving door for Saint Mary's faculty."

"The college seems to take this attitude of 'well, we're going to lose faculty, that happens', and I think it's something much bigger than that."

"If your house is on fire, you don't sit down and figure out, 'well, we'll do a bucket of water today, and a bucket of water tomorrow, and another bucket on Friday.'"

Albiar-Carmona summed up many students' feelings on the departure: "I think the only thing that would make this worse is if I wasn't a graduating senior. This is too bad, and it's really sad to see him go."

Student Ambassadors

by Chris Mateo

Assistant News Editor

The Saint Mary's College Office of Admissions selected eight new young men and women to join eight returning members in the Student Ambassador Program.

This program, which has finished its first year on the campus, was initiated as a way to have current students become representatives of the college by interacting with prospective Gaels in various ways.

Next year's ambassadors will consist of 16 students that represent SMC's greater population.

Of the 16, there is an even amount of men and women; there are eleven sophomores, four juniors, and one senior.

In addition to touring and calling prospective students, and working at the admissions

office, a few changes in the program will be made for the new staff.

"We're going to have ambassadors at some of the local college fairs this year," said Laura Layton, assistant director of admissions and the creator of the Ambassador Program.

"All we were able to do, in terms of traveling this year, was the Hometown Hero program where ambassadors went to their old high schools to speak to students.

"We also plan on reorganizing the telecounseling project so that prospective students that we're calling will have indicated that they wanted to receive a call from an ambassador."

As for the inaugural staff, the admissions office found them to be a very positive addition to the office. "We are extremely happy," said Layton.

CRIME BEAT

5/3 11:05 a.m.

Incident: Informational

Synopsis: Possession of alcohol and failure to provide ID at parking lot of Ageno East. Case referred to Student Code of Conduct.

5/3 4:00 p.m.

Incident: Failure to comply

Synopsis: Disrespect to college official at Gaelstock. Case referred to Student Conduct.

5/3 9:30 p.m.

Incident: Informational

Synopsis: Visitor found urinating on grass of Ageno West. Case referred to Residence Life.

5/4 1:53 a.m.

Incident: Handbook violations-weapons

Synopsis: Paintball gun confiscated in Aquinas. Case referred to Student Conduct.

5/4 9:45 p.m.

Incident: Vandalism

Synopsis: Burglary of vehicle in the Guerrieri East parking lot. Case suspended.

5/6 12:00 p.m.

Incident: Accident

Synopsis: Incident involving a Public Safety vehicle at the Siena parking lot. Case referred to Business Office.

Thank you to Bill Foley and Public Safety for allowing the Collegian to print the campus crime reports and keep the student body educated and informed about what is happening at SMC.

New executive team advocates a closer community

by Jonathan Morales
Staff Writer

On May 1, the new ASSMC Senate took office, including the new executive team led by President Tony Ancelj. Ancelj has already outlined some of his plans for next year.

"First off, we have to get a strong Senate," said Ancelj. "So far we don't have a big Senate." Heavy recruitment will take place in September to fill the many vacancies that currently exist.

Another of Ancelj's goals is to strengthen the community-like atmosphere at Saint Mary's by trying to get media groups, clubs and organizations to work together.

"Sometimes they don't realize how much they can help each other," said Ancelj.

Ancelj also hopes to work with the Office of Residence Life, and said, "I want to see more of our student residents

treated like adults," referring to a new residence life policy requiring that, after an underage student's second alcohol violation, the student's parents will be called. While Ancelj acknowledged that underage drinking is a problem, he said that calling a student's parents is "going a bit too far."

Ancelj will also help address sexual assault issues on campus, and plans to "sit on different committees; continue the work that the exec team from last year did."

New Vice President for Administration Erik Johnson agreed with Ancelj's desire to increase the level of student engagement in the SMC community.



Tony Ancelj



Erik Johnson



Jennifer Merlo



Gina Damiano

"We just want to encourage people from all different groups on campus to get involved," said Johnson.

Johnson also said that he hopes to make the Senate more representative of the student body, and that he wants to "continue the good work done this year in making the Senate an important part of campus life and an outlet for students to be heard by the administration."

Vice President for Finance Jennifer Merlo expressed optimism about next year, and

hopes to work closely with clubs and organizations.

"I'll try to be as fair as possible with clubs as far as making the budget next year," said Merlo. "I can establish a good relationship between the student organizations and myself."

She also addressed the budget problems facing the Class of '04, saying "It's something to be talked about." She mentioned using money from the General Fund as one option to solve the issue.

"I'll do the best I can so that

the senior class can have a great year," said Merlo. "I'm really excited."

Rounding out the new exec team is Vice President for Student Affairs Gina Damiano. She said that one of her hopes next year is that residence halls will be more involved in the planning and implementation of campus activities. She also hopes to "get every club and media organization on campus to do some kind of fundraising."

"I want to see all the clubs making themselves present on campus and being more self-sufficient," said Damiano. "It will make it possible for more clubs to come out of Associated Student's budget."

"The main goal of the executive team is we want Saint Mary's to be a closer-knit community," said Damiano, echoing the remarks of the other members of the executive team.

THE PRICE

continued from pg 1

"[Working and transfer students] may lose some connection, but they love what they have here," said Swain. "They may not get the same level of attention, but they have their own level of appreciation for the education."

Allegra Porter '04, a student who works about 15 hours a week, apart from being a championship runner for the cross-country team, sees this "mentality," but not just in transfer students—she sees it in her fellow students, and in how having to work has affected her own life at SMC.

"I define 'Lasallian' as being generous and empathetic to others, and able to give your time and effort to help them," Porter said.

"It becomes more difficult as I get older and realize just how much money matters—especially in the Bay Area," Porter said.

Working to instill within each student a sense of the Lasallian ideal, especially in those who have transferred to SMC, or work up to forty hours a week, is also a difficult task.

But Assistant Vice President Michael Meister, FSC, would like to think that SMC students have more at stake at Saint Mary's than just making the money to get through college; more at stake than just earning a degree.

Meister is a true believer in de La Salle for everyone who walks through the doors of

SMC. He never strays far from his patron saint, keeping a picture of de La Salle at his office computer.

"I always think there is more we can do to make the Lasallian message more available," said Meister. "But it is definitely a work in progress."

Meister realizes that the economic effects of paying for college are hard on students, but also says that running a college is expensive.

"My dream would be to have a free [of tuition] college," he said. "But in the real world, especially in this country, it is virtually impossible to do that."

"'Lasallian' is defined so broadly," said Milad Sarkis '04 '04, a former CILSA Bonner Leader. "We're trying to shape it here at SMC."

Sarkis is no stranger to De La Salle tradition—he came from a Lasallian high school. And his father went to a Christian Brother's school in Lebanon.

"It's not a paper mission—it is real on this campus," he said. "It really starts outside the classroom, and it's not about just learning, but applying what you've learned."

TO READ THE FULL VERSION OF THIS STORY GO TO:

smcnet.stmarys-ca.edu/gaelpage

THE WAY WE WERE ...

(24 of 24)



The places we will go...

Class of 1999 graduate Frank Knight jumps up to give a fellow graduate a congratulatory hug before going abroad to play basketball.

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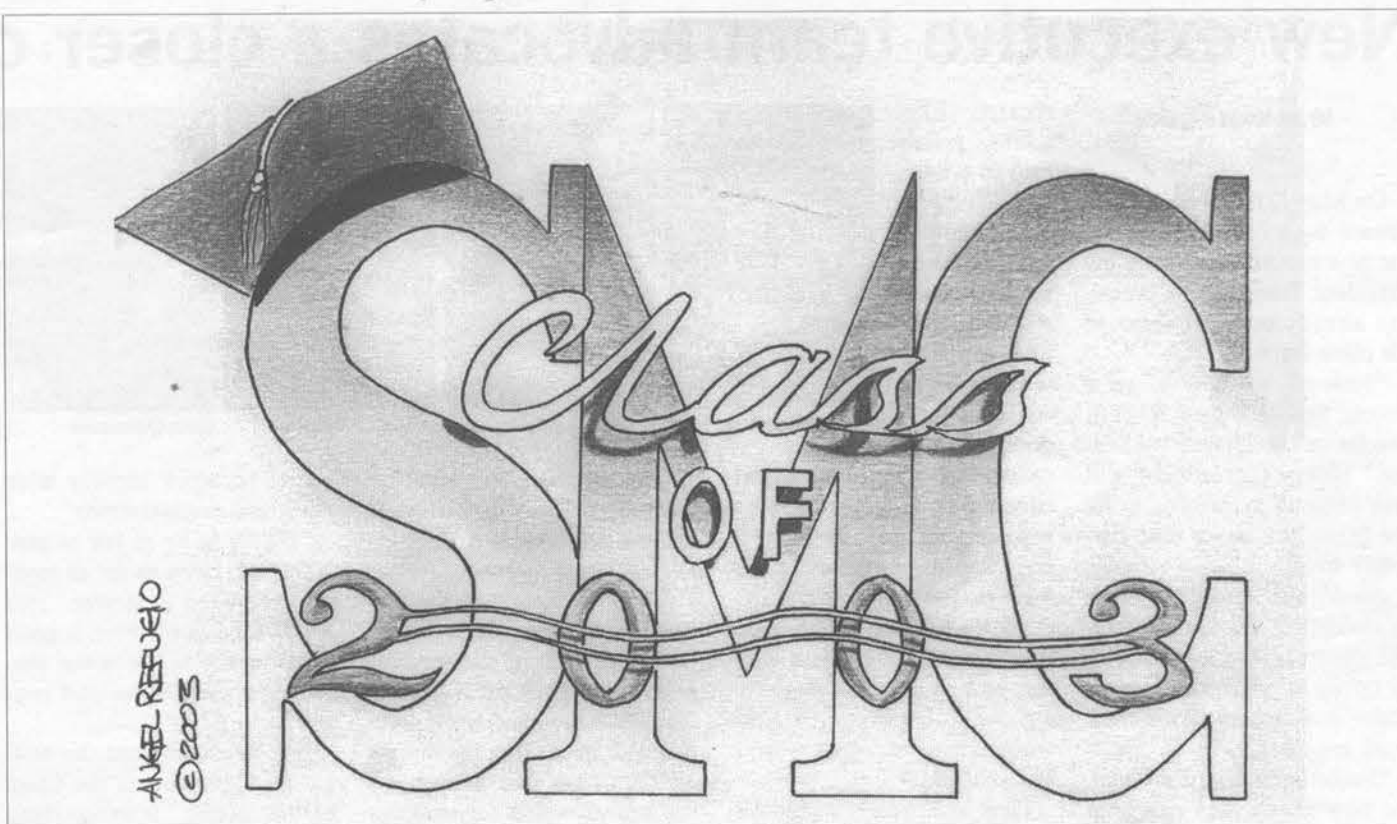
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OPINION



Farewell, seniors.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Submit your letters to the editor by mail, e-mail, or in person. All letters must be signed, and should be as concise as possible. The *Collegian* reserves the right to edit any submitted material, solicited or unsolicited.

THE COLLEGIAN

We cannot, under any circumstances, publish unsigned or anonymous letters to the editor, so sign it!

Gael POLL

Questions regarding summer plans and reflections on the year

92

Percentage of students who will be working during the summer.

67

Percentage of students who will be moving (back) in with their parents.

70

Percentage of students who said that their academic year was fulfilling.

54

Percentage of students who said that their social life at Saint Mary's was fulfilling.

73

Percentage of students who will be traveling during the summer.

This week, the Collegian asked 85 students about their summer plans and feelings on the past year, and compiled the results above. All surveys are anonymous.

Fellow Gaels,

I write this as a senior who will be leaving this beautiful campus to go back home to Chicago, where the closest we get to hills are landfills, which is both literally true and sort of pathetic. What is even sadder is how littered the school has become due to some pathological urge particular to SMC students to junk up a remarkably pretty campus. Last year someone thought it was a good joke to leave cereal bowls (generously filled with both Coco Puffs and milk) right on the steps to North Claeys, in faith that someone wouldn't be looking as they walked up to his or her dorm. Like a Saturday Night Live skit that was never funny the first time, more bowls full of cereal and milk appeared in dorm hallways on campus, to be followed later by cake, cups with soda, overturned trash cans ...you get the gag by now....

I'm not saying this needs to stop. Why bother suggesting that? There are, evidently, two breeds of people in the world: those who see nothing intriguing about leaving dishes out on campus to be tripped on and

then cleaned-up, and those who do. In fact, if I made fun of such a fulfilling activity, I might be accused of jealousy for not having thought it up. I couldn't bear to be accused of having secret envy for such an imaginative lark.

Truthfully, I wouldn't mind rounding these weirdos up and assessing their intellect as well as their questionable psychological health. For instance, do trash-planters have other predilections, such as relieving themselves on the dorm walls, or should that fetish be listed separately in the SMC Diagnostic Statistical Manual? Studies could be done on what childhood trauma leads one to leave burritos in an elevator. Who knows what could be learned about humanity and SMC in the process...

Here's all I have to say, after five years at Saint Mary's College: Pranks take creativity and planning. College students pull pranks because they are both kids and budding intellectuals. Thus, pranks should be silly, yet contain some irony or meaning behind them. You know, so others can get them. A group of students already

perceived of as spoiled and entitled leaving trash around for the Diamond Janitorial staff to clean up just has no irony to it, unless you consider that this year has seen a student campaign for better pay for these individuals, yet students don't mind making their job harder.

Liz Schnitz, '03

CHECK US OUT

ON THE WEB

www.stmarys-ca.edu/gaelpage

Letter From The Editor

...And straight on 'til morning

24 issues later, the *Collegian's* 100th edition comes to a close.

It was a year that offered a bit of everything: a college-wide controversy (November's sexual assault investigation), a worldwide dilemma (war in Iraq), and coverage of many year-to-year issues (tuition rises, plagiarism, and bookstore problems).

In all of these events, our staff surpassed all expectations, rising to the challenge of a tumultuous year.

And given the addition of the *Gaelpage* web presence, the 100th year celebration, and the second year as a weekly publication, The *Collegian* staff had to work under a lot of pressure. But I think we'd all agree, it was worth it.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my term as editor, and hope to have left a positive impact and influence on the *Collegian* newspaper. I could not have been graced with a better staff. Producing the *Collegian* is a team effort; and this is the most talented and hard-working team I could ask for.

Next year, a bold *Collegian* staff will continue the

great traditions of our college newspaper into its second century. With Editor-in-Chief Andrea Camarena at the helm, the newspaper will continue to expand, continue to provide news for the Saint Mary's community, and, most importantly, continue to educate young journalists, on the way into an exciting career.

Freedom of thought at Saint Mary's

The architectonic for thought, and the final cause of questioning

by Rob Porter
Opinion Editor

All things have a final cause. At a liberal-arts institution such as ours, the act of questioning is a fundamental element of our intellectual activity. It is clear that with each new conclusion, a line of inquiry does not close but extends only further, causing new questions to arise based on the new principles discovered. But to what end does this seemingly endless process aim? What is its final cause?

The only answer is that there exists a plentitude of truth that continually reveals itself through our rational abilities. If there is not, then questioning becomes its own end, which is contradictory and pointless, for then there would be no answers, ultimately resulting in a nihilistic void to which there is no meaning.

To begin the process of questioning, there must be a structure, an architectonic, on which to base our path of argumentation and aspiration toward some degree of enlightenment. This provides

grounds for new questions, and acts as a guide in our progress towards truth. Through a firmly established architectonic, the mind is truly liber-

ated, for its end is conceivable, and obstacles and snares reveal themselves. There is little or no enlightenment to be found without an architectonic guide, even if it is as simple as 'truth exists.' Otherwise the mind is not liberated because its ability to question has no final cause.

“Through an architectonic, the mind is truly liberated, for its end is conceivable, and obstacles and snares reveal themselves.”

We question for the sake of real answers. Though more questions arise with each new conclusion, we move steadily closer to the truth. With each conclusion reached, the path towards

the final cause of our questioning becomes clearer, and the new questions that arise with each step facilitate our continuous movement.

At Saint Mary's, Catholicism is the commonly intended basis for such thought, and it is approached through the liberal arts. Through it, truth becomes synonymous with God, and the wisdom of saints and theologians joins our arsenal whenever we call an issue into question. With this grounding, our minds are liberated - free to question by virtue of its illumination.

other things, it appears that the school's basis for thought been altered from Catholicism and liberal arts to ill-defined (or rather, undefined) concepts of "diversity" and "social injustice." These do not satisfy because they are ways of directing action, not critical thought. Activism does not lead to wisdom and knowledge, but rather the reverse - wisdom and knowledge guide our actions. This reversal at Saint Mary's is narrowing thought and taking away the freedom of our minds. Without an architectonic to guide thought, its direction is unclear.

You may ignore the nonsensical ramblings of this philosophy major, "naïve realist," or what-have-you, but considering that the college's declining prestige has shadowed its 'progressive' orientation, a common purpose with a sense of the true (as Saint Mary's had when it was respected) may be the only thing that can save it before its intellectual fog bottoms out and leaves us a Saint Mary's famous for sexual assaults, not Catholicism and liberal arts.

Fond Words of Farewell



By
Kacie Le
Compte

One senior's last words

If I could utter but a few last words to simultaneously describe the beauty of my existence and inspire those who are to proceed following my departure, what would they be? Perhaps I would choose to speak of my childhood, of my family, and of my faith, but in this moment, all I desire is to write of you, St. Mary's College of California. How does one summarize her four most life-changing years. Such cannot be done solely through words, as much of it, so much of it, is purely emotion and feeling that touches me to the core of my very being. Like all intrinsic fundamentals, perhaps it simply cannot be placed in the context of written or spoken language for others to understand. My experience here has been mine, and your experience is yours, and as much as others have contributed and molded this experience, I claim possession of it. It is me and only me who shall embrace it for eternity. I pray that my fellow graduates feel within them what they have been given here, what they are leaving, and what all of this offers them to offer to the world awaiting.

If you are lucky, seniors of class '2003, when you walk across that stage to receive your diploma, you will realize that at some point along the way you became something that four years ago you could not have fathomed. A very wise man once said, "Your education should humble you," for the more we are exposed to, the more there is awaiting each of us around the bend to be discovered, to be disproved, to essentially be embraced. Four years ago we came here thinking we knew it all, and I wish that you may, as I shall, leave here knowing how little you knew then, that you know a bit more now, but that truth is not something to be possessed but to be pursued.

And so my friends, those leaving with me, and those staying behind: may your eyes remain open and your hearts humble, for when you say you know everything, you know nothing, but when you say you have learned much but wish to see more, you shall live your life as we are now responsible for living. That is, to ENTER TO LEARN, which we have done, and now to do all there is left to do - LEAVE TO SERVE.

IN OUR REALITY...

Two senior columnists, Susanne Schweitzer and Billy Porter, reflect on life inside and soon to be outside of Saint Mary's

What is it with every senior wanting to give a heartfelt send-off at the end of their tenure as a Gael? How many times have you heard in the past two months

"Keep up the SMC traditions!" or "I'm really, really going to miss you!" (from someone you see in passing once a month) or "It just went by so fast!"

Guys, it's okay. The thing about college is that at some point, it's going to end. That's supposed to happen. Whether it takes you four or seven years, at some point, you too will graduate. So, in the long tradition of staff-writers pontificating on their experiences at SMC, here's our two cents (which is all that remained in our collective couches after four years here).

We thought about making a list of "Do's" and "Don'ts"; getting weepy about graduation, or just waxing sentimental about the glory of the Lasallian traditions. But the truth is, we've all read it before. Everyone from RD's to professor's to that weird looking clown in your English class has something to say when leaving Moraga, and most of the drivel is not worth repeating time after time.

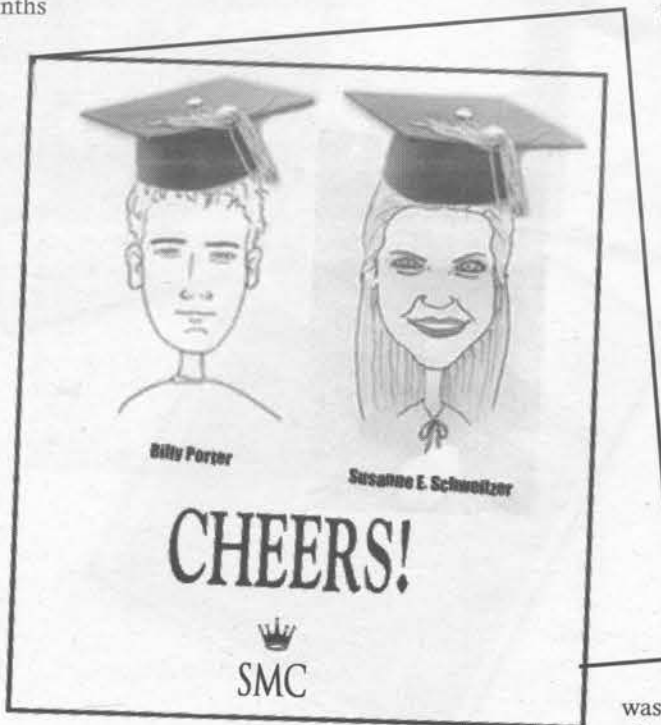
We wanted to start a new tradition; a trend, if you will. One in which seniors don't give advice about appreciating every moment, but rather look towards the no-doubt

ets. They can't wait to peel out of Saint Mary's. Most of us are looking forward and back at the same time, hoping that the future will make the past something we're proud to leave behind.

There is a lot about Saint Mary's that's bad: the administration has a faculty crisis on their hands, and they don't seem to realize it; students value their social lives above their education; dealing with other people's drama gets old. And our history of sexual assaults is cringe-worthy.

But there is also a great deal to appreciate about the education we have received here. Thanks to Saint Mary's, we can think critically, share opinions articulately, and see beyond our own corners of the world. Neither of us believe our time here was perfect. That's what makes college real life, not a Hallmark card. We both hope that the problems Saint Mary's shares with many other schools will someday be solved, because there is a lot to praise about SMC.

So all we wanted to say is thank you. To all the professors, friends and staff who have prepared us so well for the future. Good luck, everyone. Cheers!



better futures ahead, whether employed or not. Realistically, we've all had our illegal highs and painful lows. Yes, Saint Mary's is a great place for some of us. Those seniors will probably stick around the Bay Area, making cameos at SMC events. Others take with their diplomas a lot of trendy bitterness that is as deep as "Joe Millionaire's" pock-

DETOUR

100 WORD REVIEWS

FILM

"Jake Wakes" was written, acted, directed and produced by Lou Berney's Jan-Term 105 class, and while it's clever and funny, these adjectives are more remarkable considering it was done in one month, from script to DVD. Corey O'Brien stars as Jake, a player who wakes up after a shopping cart accident in a parallel universe where gender roles have completely switched. Directed by Bryan Murphy, and with cameos from Adam Coy, Thomas Cooney and Rebecca Glover as Tara, the object of Jake's affection, "Jake Wakes" is lots of fun. A documentary by Mike Lineweaver and Marc Alkons provides additional amusement.

-Susanne Schweitzer

MUSIC


Often classified as a heavy metal band after their breakthrough on the TV show Jackass, CKY proves to be much more on their most recent album, Infiltrate-Destroy-Rebuild. By managing to blend a mix of melodic hooks and heavy guitar riffs, CKY is able to come up with a sound that is much needed in today's sometimes stale and clichéd rock scene. Particular standouts on the album include "Escape from Hellview", which epitomizes the unique sound of CKY and "Close Yet Far", which shows the bands softer, more melodic side. Expand your horizons and grab a copy of CKY's newest album.

-Chris Lucchetti

CD

The third release by the White Stripes, the album *Elephant* is a glimpse of the duo at their finest. Songs range from the slamming garage-band sound in "Ball and Biscuit" to the gentle acoustic sound in "You Got Her In Your Pocket." Jack White's voice is wonderfully raw and untutored with his acrid whining (in the best sense of the words) on songs like "Hypnotise" and "Black Math." Meg White even lends her ordinary yet somehow perfectly suited voice to the softer songs "In The Cold, Cold Night" and "It's True That We Love One Another." A truly magnificent recording.

-Jessica Simons

START	8:00AM Sleep through your first class	9:10 Walk in and out of the wrong classroom.		10:20 Skip class and go to the Ranch House	11:30 Attend class after mid-morning mimosas.	
FINISH	<div style="text-align: center;"> <h1>How To Make The Best of the Saint Mary's Experience in 24 Hours</h1> <p>brought to you by William Porter and Susanne Schweitzer</p> <p>pictures by Lissette Garcia</p> <p>To ensure that you will experience every "extracurricular" element Saint Mary's has to offer, we have assembled the following timeline. Though you are more than welcome to follow it exactly, be warned—only the strongest will last 'till morning.</p>  </div>					12:40PM Claim your printer broke, explaining away your late paper.
8:00 Wake up in time to lead your Seminar class in a discussion in the similarities of you and Odysseus.						1:50 Speed on campus and get a ticket from public safety.
7:30 Pass out in a Dante classroom.						2:00 Play frisbee on the chapel lawn
						4:00 Hike the hills behind SMC
						6:00 Walk to Safeway in Moraga and buy dinner with your "club" card.
7:00 Walk of-shame across central campus to Dante.						8:00 Attempt to channel the theatre ghost.
5:00 Call up your 'cross-buddy' and ask to watch a movie.						8:30 Host a "pre-party" in your room
						9:00 Get written up by your RA
						9:30 "Groove" over to a townhouse party.
4:30 Streak through the grove behind the football field.						10:00 Hit the "G-spot" bay-bee!
	10:30 Convince a 'friend' to hike the cross with you.					
4:00 Emerge from the catacombs						
1:30 Find the entrance to the catacombs and go exploring.	1:00 Jump in the bushes in an attempt to run away.	12:30 Get chased by Public Safety, try to bribe them with Krispy Kreme.	12:00AM Swim in the Cassin Student Union fountain.	11:30 Borrow a golf-cart and drive to late night. 'Aquire' something from Saga.	11:00 Actually make it to the cross.	

"I SEE DEAD PEOPLE"

Supernatural presences that haunt central campus

by Chris Mateo
Asst. News Editor

From the catacombs to a possible Indian burial ground, Saint Mary's College has been full of ghost stories. Many are scary. Some are ridiculous. Which are real and which are fake?

During this summer, Augustine Hall will be receiving a renovation, and will be transformed into a beautiful dorm. But will that mean the ghosts will leave or will they be replaced with renovated spirits?

Augustine is full of ghost stories. There was a cow that a few students placed on the fourth floor of the building. Since its mobility was limited, the cow was killed and brought down. But wait, there's more.

"There's that nun who jumped out of the fourth floor. Oh, and what about the exorcism of a room on the second floor? Apparently, books flew across the room in the middle of the night," said a sophomore who resided in the possessed hall.

A current and a former resident of Augustine had similar experiences. "During the first semester of this year I heard tapping on my ceiling," said the freshman female. "The tapping sounded exactly like heels on a hardwood floor." Simple enough, right? "One problem, the floor above me has a carpet, not a hard floor," com-

mented the sophomore witness. "Where the hell did tapping come from? At the wee hours of the morning, the scary effect just freaks you out."

Don't think you're safe in the library. A current junior student felt that the 'haunted library' stories were ludicrous until she experienced the paranormal event herself. "I walked into the women's bathroom of the Saint Albert Hall Library and I saw a reflection on one of the stall's walls" said the jittered junior. "I saw the reflection of a tall girl with white hair in the other stall. I went to the other stall to grab some toilet paper. So I walked out of my stall right away to see who else was inside besides me, and no one was there. The main bathroom door never opened, but the other stall's door swung for a bit."

A male sophomore, also afraid of revealing his identity due to potentially ludicrous remarks, supported his junior counterpart's story by telling a similar one. "Every time I go into the second floor bathroom of the library, and I think I'm alone, I'm never really alone," said the sophomore. "Either I hear the faucet turned on a bit, I hear the toilet paper roll in the next stall move, or I hear the main door open, something happens and no one else is there. I've never seen any shadows or reflections, but then



again, maybe these guys are more bashful than the ghosts in the ladies' room."

What's the freakiest painting on the SMC campus? Many believe it's the painting in the stairwell of Ageno C. Why does it give off such a creepy vibe (besides groovy lighting effect surrounding it)? One legend states that the painting "watches" all those who enter the residence hall. It's well lit

because of the darkness it holds inside. The lights attract all spirits of SMC. It is a flame for the dead moths of old. One student claims to have seen the bride in the main picture switch places with her standing groom. Not scared yet? There are plenty of ghosts to go around. Some are Brothers. All are dead. But don't worry; I hear they love gardening.

summer tours



compiled by
Kim Dao

With summer making way, many hot tickets are popping up as musical acts head on the road. Here's some of the hottest concerts touring the country:

Live 105 presents BFD 2003

Acts: Foo Fighters, Deftones, AFI, White Stripes, Evanescence, Transplants, The Donnas, The Used, Interpol, The Ataris, All-American Rejects, Finch, Hot Hot Heat (more to be added)
Locally Playing: June 13th - Shoreline Amphitheatre, Mountain View

The Charmbracelet Tour

Acts: Mariah Carey - Ashanti (opening)
Locally Playing: August 24th - HP Center, San Jose

Roc The Mic Tour

Acts: Jay-Z, 50 Cent, Missy Elliott, Busta Rhymes, Fabolous, Sean Paul, Lil' Mo
Locally Playing: July 25th - Sleepy Train Amphitheater, Sacramento; July 26th - Shoreline Amphitheater, Mountain View

Dixie Chicks

Opening Act: Michelle Branch
Locally Playing: July 15th - Oakland Arena, Oakland; July 16th - HP Center, San Jose; July 17th - Arco Arena, Sacramento

Are You Happy Now? Tour

Acts: Michelle Branch
Locally Playing: May 14th - Great American Music Hall, San Francisco

Norah Jones

Opening Act: Richard Julian
Locally Playing: August 2nd - Greek Theater, Berkeley

John Mayer/Counting Crows

Opening Act: Maroon 5
Locally Playing: July 13th - Shoreline Amphitheater, Mountain View

Jack Johnson/Ben Harper

Locally Playing: August 15th through August 17th - Greek Theater, Berkeley

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SPORTS

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

MAY 6
Saint Mary's 5
Nevada 16

MAY 9
Saint Mary's 6
Pepperdine 8

MAY 10
Saint Mary's 2
Pepperdine 8

SOFTBALL

MAY 4
Saint Mary's 3
Loyola Marymount 4

MAY 6
Saint Mary's 3
Santa Clara 0

Saint Mary's 2
Santa Clara 0

CORRECTION ROWING

New Jersey's Cooper River fills to the brim with the top collegiate crew teams from across the country this May, and among them will be Saint Mary's own Men's Varsity pair boat.

Both Dan Tichenor '04 and Ryan Neibuhr '03 manned the two-person boat that took first place in the Grand Final at last week's Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association's Regatta. Aside from the Varsity pair, the remaining Gael boats competed well in the WIRA, but will not advance to the next round of competition.

The women's rowing team also competed in the WIRA event and performed well against tough competitors. The lady Gaels though, will not continue any further into the post season.

GAELS

2002-2003

DOMINATE



Farewell graduating Gaels

The last of 2003's spring sports are wrapping up their seasons quickly and for many senior Gaels, their last collegiate game has been played. Transitions now begin for both the SMC athletic programs and for their graduating seniors who now take on the challenges a world outside of undergraduate collegiate athletics.

Despite criticism against the athletic teams, the Gaels are collegiate level players nonetheless, and for a few, this means a continuing pursuance in the sports world. All-WCC basketball player, Sam Saint-Jean plans to play professionally in Europe and owes much to his time as a Gael. "It taught me that I should welcome challenges," Saint-Jean said. "Challenges are opportunities in the waiting. I will certainly apply this to my 'after college life' and be ready to accept the challenges that will come my way."

For many, life after graduation leads to more school. Megan Ceccotti from the women's lacrosse team

and soccer player Ruth Montgomery both plan to attain their credentials through the Saint Mary's program.

Montgomery though, like Saint-Jean, is not yet hanging up her cleats. Although she declined her recruitment into the WUSA this spring, the SMC keeper has not yet put aside the idea of playing professional soccer.

"I see soccer as always being a part of my life. Either coaching or playing," said Montgomery. And as for the team she's leaving behind, "I'm excited for the girls for next year. They're going to be one of the toughest teams in the nation. I wish I had one more year."

Although most Gaels won't be heading into the world of professional sports, their participation in college-level athletics leaves them with great gifts.

"After playing lacrosse," said Courtney Nelson, "I have an understanding of what success means other than just winning." **By Katie Linnett**

Photos courtesy of www.smcgael.com



Gaels in the Gallows

SMC athletics in dire need of a jumpstart

by Denny Bulcao, Jr.
Staff Writer

You've seen the caps and sweatshirts around campus: Cal, UCLA, Notre Dame, etc. Whether you underachieved and couldn't cut the admission requirements or have some sort of connection with a "big-name" college, the fact is people like to be associated with excellence.

Why not be a "big time" wanna-be? Colleges like the aforementioned institutions have two things we hold in high regard, reputations built on academic (brains) and athletic (brawn) prowess. The latter of these two qualities has the most to offer four year schools. Success on the field carries over into academics. A little tougher to get into Ohio State after a national championship season? Have the crazy idea of freezing your rear off in Washington as a Gonzaga Bulldog (after another run in the NCAA tourney)? Go for it. More people will be applying with you.

My point is this: Athletic excellence is essential for the advancement of a competitive Division I college. Success equals higher admission standards, increased national exposure, revenue for a college and its athletic department, and the ability to recruit more top-notch coaches, athletes, and even professors. These effects continue multiplying into more positive change throughout an institution. "Athletics" may be the last option on a college

voice mail or official website, but the role it plays is in no way minor. Aside from the Ivy League, a college's image and potential for higher standards in and outside of the classroom is dependent on a successful athletic program (with generous donors).

Now, let's look at our good 'ol Gaels.

In 2002, the West Coast Conference awarded their inaugural Commissioner's Cup, an all-sports award presented at the end of each academic year to the league's top-performing school in conference play. A men's and women's all-sports award is also presented, recognizing the best WCC athletic programs by gender. Last year, Saint Mary's finished 7th in the overall standings, with Gonzaga coming in last. SMC's male athletes finished last in WCC competition while the women finished tied for fourth.

This year things have gotten even worse. The Gaels are currently last overall after fall and winter sports equaled the worst standings in WCC play. It is doubtful that women's rowing (last), golf (4th), tennis (men's and women's tied for last), or baseball (currently last in their division) will change this trend as the 2002-2003 school year comes to a close.

What are some answers? There is far too little space in this article to even begin. Athletic Director Carl Clapp has worked with a dedicated staff and limited resources for

nearly three years. In these three years we have seen the women's basketball team rise and fall, men's basketball improve dramatically, and the women's soccer team continue to represent us well. Teams are going to win some and lose some. Pepperdine, Santa Clara and San Diego (the top three WCC schools last year) find a way to win more. Every athletic department works hard, the coaches are qualified, and most of the contests are close throughout WCC competition.

For Saint Mary's to take the next step, the administration must make a commitment to athletic excellence. Schools with superior facilities and more scholarships to offer are going to attract better Division I athletes.

Saint Mary's is a great little school that has some amazing history. The question is, will we continue to be "Saint Mary's where?, Gael what?, and SMC huh?" or will we make our OWN name on the national scene? I'm sick of answering the previous three questions. I'd also like to say a little more than "It's pretty and has a nice guy/girl ratio."

This is a challenge to everyone from Brother Craig to the Gael athlete in the clutch. Take us up a notch. Find the money, make the move, hire the coach, attract the athletes, want the ball, relish the opportunity of a big game upset, shine in the spotlight, and make Saint Mary's faithful proud.

Put us on the map.

Four years end in disbelief and disappointment

by C.J. Daft
Staff Writer

Four years at Saint Mary's have generated a lot of great memories for myself that I will remember forever, but I'm not here to get misty-eyed and nostalgic. Instead, I'm here to gripe about how SMC's intramural program stole my heart and left it in San Francisco.

Earlier this year I played on arguably, the most dominant sports team at the school, the Hell-Bent flag football team. Yeah, you might laugh at this, but we blew out every team that we faced and won an exciting championship game where we finally beat our rivals of two years. It was great, we finally won the coveted Championship T-shirt, or did we? Well, my teammates and I have been waiting and waiting and waiting. We won the league in October, were told that the shirts would arrive before Thanksgiving, and are still waiting for them. Every time this is addressed to the intramural organizers, they say the shirts are in the mail, as if to say, "yeah, the check is in the mail." I guess the intramural department has more things to worry about, like trying to make the basketball referees call more fouls.

Their department would rather make sure that they're technologically up to date, so participants can access their schedule online and through a hot line. Oh, I was impressed.

Hellbent regrouped to dominate in softball this past month. My last season of intramural sports could have been a success, except for the rain that cost the Monday-Wednesday league two weeks of play. Because of it, Hell-Bent only played three games that actually counted.

After the season ended, our team manager received a phone call, claiming that we had made it to the playoffs. We were set to play Roosters and Kitties. Two days later, we received another call informing us that a mathematical error was made in the standings. Our team and our dedicated opponents no longer qualified for the post season.

How did this happen? The league should keep a running tab throughout the season, not just add up wins and losses at the end of the season. This leaves too much room for errors, point proven. Secondly, the intramural department could have added another week to the season to make-up for all the rained out contests. If this were done, the playoffs still would have ended before finals.

Until this recreation department gets more organized, it will always have good intention, but will fall short of its goals like many other things in the school.