

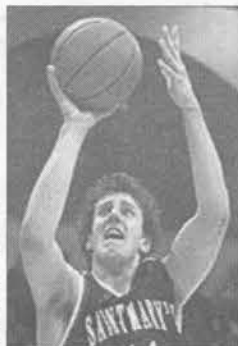
THE COLLEGIAN

Serving Saint Mary's for over a century

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Tuesday, November 4, 2003

Volume 101, Number 9

Gael TV moves to communication department

Student media organization to transition away from ASSMC for improvements

by **Chris Mateo**
News Editor

On Sept. 10, 2003, Gael TV moved from the student media department to under the communication department of Saint Mary's College.

This move has sparked much concern among students involved both from the media as well as the Associated Students Senate.

However, according to Emily Olsen '05, general manager of Gael TV, "it's not that big of a deal. There was no scandal involved. We just moved because under the communication department, we will be able to grow as student media by learning and then, within a few years, switch over to the Associated Students to provide the students with a well-developed, prepared, and entertaining source of information."

According to Olsen, the transition that took place early on in the year was a surprise to her as much as anyone else.

"When I came back for the fall semester, I was shocked to hear what had happened. Ed Tywoniak, our moderator and now the chair of the communication department, informed me of the change. I'm hoping it's a good thing because of the many aspects the department will provide Gael TV."

Under the communication department, Gael TV will receive not only financial backing for its functioning, but equipment and education as well. "Since we are part of the department, we have

access to more cameras and other production equipment that we weren't exposed to or just didn't have as a student organization," said Olsen.

Olsen continued to say that though the equipment is great, the education is a greater asset to the club.

The upper-division students in the communication department, who are well-versed in the equipment, process and other facets of television production, will be available to Gael TV as much as the students involved with the running of the station itself.

As for the Associated Students of Saint Mary's College (ASSMC), a few issues have been

taken into account before the complete transition takes place. According to Gina Damiano '04, Vice President of Student Affairs, during the budget planning period, Gael TV was inactive. Last year's media board laid out stipulations for what the group had to do to become active again, including original programming.

These stipulations were not met due to a miscommunication between Olsen, Tywoniak and the ASSMC. Senator Alex Kirschner '06 recognized Gael TV's current situation and outlined the stipulations. "The current group at Gael TV is not getting things done and they know it. [Olsen] had no problem with

revoking their charter. We gave them a list of stipulations of what they had to do [see info graphic on pg.3]," said Kirschner.

The media board met last week and wrote a resolution revoking their charter.

The resolution will be presented at the Nov. 9 Senate meeting. If the Senate passes the resolution, Gael TV will no longer fall under the jurisdiction of the ASSMC and Student Activities.

"This is not a negative thing," said Damiano. "[Olsen] was ok with it. They've been receiving money from the communication department. This is a coordinated effort."

see **GAELTV**, p3



Programming from Gael TV will not be produced under ASSMC.

Chris Swain/ COLLEGIAN

Peeping Tom caught

Officials take campus voyeur into custody

by **Andrea Camarena**
Editor-in-Chief

Public Safety and the Moraga Police Department arrested an Orinda man as the suspect in the 'Peeping Tom' investigation last Sunday.

According to Bill Foley, director of Public Safety, Robert Weiss, 45, has no affiliation with the college and is now being detained at the county jail in Martinez on charges of reckless driving and assault with a deadly weapon.

On the Sept. 26, a student recognized the man from the suspect description issued by Public Safety two weeks ago and gave a vehicle description that led to a pursuit and arrest of Weiss by SMC's Sgt. Hickman in Lafayette.

During the pursuit, Weiss nearly collided with oncoming traffic on Saint Mary's Road, allowing for Hickman to catch up with the suspect.

"Our hope was predicated because a member of the community remembered what he saw in the flyer and took affirmative action," said Foley.

A camcorder with two days of video footage of Saint Mary's was found in Weiss' vehicle. The evidence links him to the peeping case at SMC as well as several other similar unsolved crimes.

"I definitely do feel safer. I'm impressed that Public Safety and the student responded so quickly," said Becky Glover, '06, the Resident Advisor who first reported the prowler on Sept. 29.

Residence Life changes housing lottery

Committee revisits the process of campus placement

by **Katie Alpizar**
Staff Writer

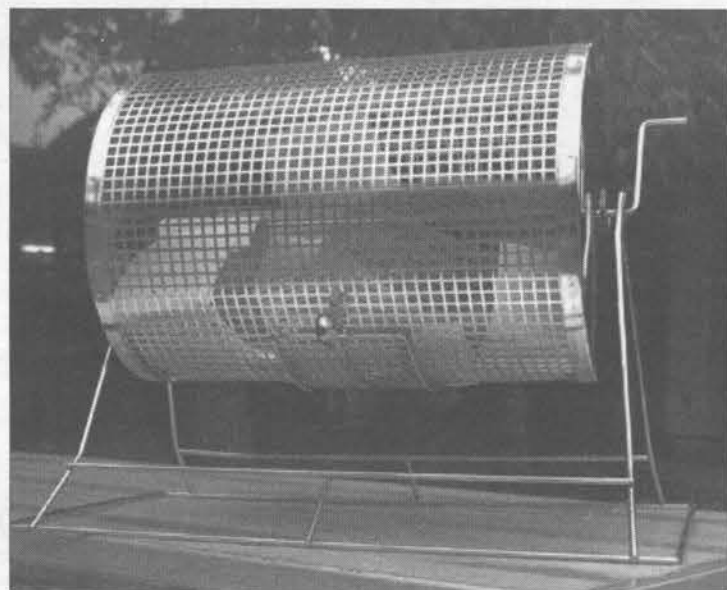
This year the Office of Residence Life and a committee of trained staff and students are looking at ways to improve the housing lottery process. They hope to have the new process in effect this coming year.

Currently, "If you're a freshman and live on campus through the academic year you're guaranteed housing as a sophomore," said Norma Armtrout, associate director of Residence Life.

For Juniors and Seniors, the process for about the last five years has involved two separate lotteries.

The first lottery determines if a student is offered housing, the second lottery determines where the students will be living.

see **LOTTERY**, p2



Lissette Garcia/ COLLEGIAN

Residence Life looks to change the housing lottery process.

Dia de los Muertos ends month

Community gathers to share stories of deceased

by **Chris Mateo**
News Editor

On Wednesday, Oct. 29, students gathered to celebrate Dia de los Muertos in the Delphine Multicultural Lounge. Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a celebration that captures the idea of unity between life and death. It emphasizes death as part of the cycle of life and came into being after the Spanish conquered Mexico in 1521 when the Catholic feast of All Souls' Day (a day to remember the dead with prayer) merged with Indian rituals of death.

The celebration for Dia de los Muertos coincides with both indigenous celebrations and the Catholic religious practices of All Saints Day (Nov. 1) and All Souls Day (Nov. 2). In anticipation of the honored guests, the cleaning and decorating of the altars (at the grave site) tradition-

ally occurs on October 31. The annual festivities associated with the Day of the Dead mark a very special occasion when the living have an opportunity to show respect for their deceased relatives, whose spirits are expected to return to their homes.

Rosa Garcia '04, president of the Latin American Student Association, brought the celebration to the SMC campus this year. "LASA wanted to educate the community about Dia de los Muertos," said Garcia. "This event is important because it incorporates the Catholic religion that the Spaniards brought over to Latin America with indigenous traditions of bringing back spirits of those who have passed away. I wanted to expose the students

see **MUERTOS**, p2

What's Happening

Big Media

Robert and Rob Wussler will be presenting "Big Media" on Thursday, Nov. 6 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Robert Wussler - president of Turner Pictures, co-founder of CNN and former president of CBS and CBS Sports - and his son Rob Wussler - vice president of Midwest Sales for NBC Enterprises - will share insights on the hegemony and strategies of big American media.

Campus play

Saint Mary's College Performing Arts Department presents "Good Night Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet," by Anne-Marie Macdonald and directed by Frank Murray. This new campus play will be playing on Nov. 6, 7, and 8 at 8:00 p.m. and Nov. 9 at 2:00 p.m. in LeFevre Theatre. Admission for all SMC faculty, staff and students is \$8; general admission is \$15; and non-SMC students pay \$10. For reservations, call (925) 631-4670.

Hollywood and the American Dream

On Wednesday, Nov. 5, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. a panel of representatives from Bay Area companies, including Industrial Light and Magic and Pixar Studios, will join creative professionals from Hollywood to discuss the rise of digital technologies that are allowing Bay Area companies to play an active role in shaping the future of entertainment at the Soda Activity Center.

Screening Day

How are you feeling today? Test your moods! Screening Day is on Wednesday, Nov. 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. outside of Ferroggiaro. Come for informational materials, and check out the cool video, and get free stuff. This event is co-sponsored by the Counseling Center and the Peer Educators Network.

Senior portraits

Senior portraits will take place Nov. 3-9 at 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Dryden game room. Schedule an appointment at www.laurenstudios.com. For questions, call x4673.

The U.S. and Iraq

Today, Middle East news correspondents Deborah Amos and Rick Davis will present "The U.S. and Iraq" in the Soda Activity Center from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Amos reports on Iraq for ABC News and is a former foreign correspondent for National Public Radio. Davis is an NBC news correspondent who has reported from 80 countries, including Beirut and Jordan. The two will discuss current events in Iraq and the role of the national news media.

If you have any events you would like to see posted, please email the event with details to collegia@stmarys-ca.edu.

Crime Beat

10/25 Incident: Minor under the influence Synopsis: Minor under the influence of alcohol at the Soda Activity Center; referred to the Office of Residence Life.	10:50 p.m.	10/29 Incident: Possession Synopsis: Possession of marijuana and paraphernalia at Aquinas Hall; referred to the Office of Residence Life.	11:05 p.m.
10/26 Incident: Fire alarm Synopsis: Fire alarm at Guerrieri East; case closed.	4:06 a.m.	10/30 Incident: Fire alarm Synopsis: False fire alarm at Guerrieri West; case closed.	10:40 a.m.
10/27 Incident: Informational Synopsis: Vandalism at Ferroggiaro Center; case suspended.	8:45 a.m.	10/30 Incident: Fire alarm Synopsis: Fire alarm smoke detection at Mitty Hall; referred to Student Conduct.	9:25 p.m.
10/27 Incident: Non-injury hit and run Synopsis: Non-injury hit and run at Filippi Hall parking lot; referred to the Office of Residence Life.	11:20 a.m.	10/30 Incident: Informational Synopsis: False identification at Aquinas Hall; referred to Student Conduct.	10:43 p.m.
10/28 Incident: Petty theft Synopsis: Petty theft at Dryden game room; referred to Office of Residence Life.	10:10 a.m.	10/31 Incident: Handbook violation Synopsis: Minors in possession of alcohol at Augustine Hall; referred to Student Conduct.	12:27 a.m.

Psychology Club educates, assists students

by Danielle Tinsley
Staff Writer

The new President of the Psychology Club has transformed the organization into an informational and academic club that provides its members with valuable resources and a chance to socialize in a productive way. During their meetings, information is provided about graduate school resources, research opportunities, and collaboration with other clubs. Professors within the Psychology Department will also present their research that they have been working on.

Movie nights are also hosted by the club, in which they watch movies that discuss a psychological disorder. Afterward, professors volunteer to discuss the disorders. According to Elsie Rita Wanton, president of the Psychology Club, "the most important aspect of the club is the

fact that the members are able to develop a stronger relationship with faculty and staff within the Psychology Department."

The faculty advisor of the club, Professor Hoang Vu is very supportive and keeps the members connected with faculty and staff.

Recently the club hosted a Graduate School Career Information Night on October 28 in the Delphine Multicultural Lounge - an informational event for all Psychology majors, minors and other related fields.

Wanton feels that this event was very informational and helped out a lot of students.

She was extremely impressed with the turn out and said it was only possible because of active membership of the Psychology Club members and the help of the Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society.

MUERTOS: Post-Halloween culture taught continued from pg 1

to a cultural aspect that they're not accustomed to."

The celebration at SMC was the final event for Latino Heritage Month. "To celebrate, we set up an altar in the Delphine Multicultural Lounge, invited the entire community, shared sto-

ries of ancestors and those we wanted to remember that night. It was nice for students to be able to express emotions towards those who have passed on. The scariest part was when we started telling stories. The lights started flickering off and on and there was absolutely no one near the switches," said Garcia.



Students place candles on the altar in Delphine for the celebration.
Ken Fung/ COLLEGIAN

SMC Best Buddies reach out Club joins others in aiding community

by Jonathan Morales
In-Depth Editor

Having a friend, someone to talk to and to be there to support you, is something everybody wants. For adults living with mental retardation, such as Down syndrome, having a friend is a critical element in being able to survive in the world.

Nineteen Saint Mary's students have volunteered to do just that through the Best Buddies Program at Saint Mary's College, an independent service club dedicated to providing companionship for these adults.

"The basis of the program is just to give them a friend. They are in general very sheltered from a normal society, from having normal friends," said Kayla Banion '06, the college buddy director. "Our job is just be a friend to them, to help integrate them into society."

The Best Buddies program at SMC works with Futures Explored in Lafayette, a social skills training center. Buddies make a commitment to talk to their buddies once a week and have one-on-one contact with them at least twice a month. Last Wednesday, several SMC students went with their buddies to see the film "Radio" at the Rheem theatre.

Best Buddies is an international club started in 1987 by Anthony Kennedy Shriver, brother of Maria Shriver. Shriver now serves as the organization's chairman. It operates in 38 states in the United States, and California has the most active college chapters.

SMC was recently recognized as an All-Star Chapter.

"We have made our friendship matches early in the year, we've gotten a good start, all our friendships are working well," said Banion. UCLA, UC Irvine and

UC Santa Cruz were also recognized.

"For us to be recognized with them is something pretty big for us," said Banion.

Laci Jackson '06 said she really enjoys being a buddy. She and her 25-year-old buddy Danielle were matched up because of their similar interests; namely, outdoor activities.

"We're planning on getting together pretty soon, probably next week sometime, to play tennis," said Jackson. She described how she went to meet Danielle and her family for dinner at their Walnut Creek home.

The program is open to all students. Any student interested in participating in the program is encouraged to attend Best Buddies events, meetings and activities.

"It's probably one of the most rewarding experiences I've ever been involved in," said Jackson. "You just feel like you're really making a big difference in someone's life, just by being a friend."



Lisette Garcia/ COLLEGIAN
Kayla Banion matches friends through Best Buddies

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LOTTERY: Res Life simplifies room selection

continued from pg 1

Students have expressed concern that they sign up together but do not always get to stay together.

"So that's what we're revisiting, we're trying to see how we can accommodate those students that sign up together and would be able to stay together," said Armtrout. "It's going to be a lot of time and a lot of effort, a lot of input from students."

Part of the plan is to condense the time of the lottery process; normally this begins in February and continues into May.

In an effort to make more informed improvements and changes, the committee has developed a survey that will be online Monday said a hopeful Armtrout.

The three-paged Student Survey for Lottery and Room Selection Revision, Fall 2003, asks students, predominantly Sophomores through Seniors who have experienced the lottery system

before, to, "please rank what is most important to you about your on-campus living accommodations."

This committee hopes that once they get the results of the survey, they will be able to see what kinds of obstacles and challenges they have ahead of them.

Next on their agenda is to review all the communication sent to the students and parents.

"There's a feeling right now that there is sometimes too much information sent out at one set time," said Armtrout.

They plan to work closely with the webmaster to update their website with information on the lottery and housing.

Lastly they plan to "Train our RA's so they can be informed with any questions the students might have," said Armtrout.

Armtrout has been with residence life for thirty-one years and has seen the lottery process come full circle.

"You're not ever going to meet everyone's needs, but if we serve the majority of them that would be our goal," said Armtrout.

In conjunction with professional staff, the committee will get together with students to chat and listen to their concerns and opinions regarding the existing lottery process and plans for the improvements and changes.

Their first meeting was Oct. 30 and the next one is scheduled for Nov. 6.

Armtrout said this is an open invitation for students to come in. All students need to do is give Residence Life a call and let them know they will be attending.

"I'm excited about it. I want to make sure students are involved in the process, that to me is the most important part—to make sure students have a say, and that they know they are being included," said Armtrout.

GAELTV: station to move back to ASSMC after changes

continued from pg 1

Damiano continued, "It mainly had to do with a lack of effort on their part to produce a good and useful media." The result is Gael TV's decision to improve their department under the expertise of their new department.

The proposed advancements for the program by Tywoniak and Shawny Anderson will cost anywhere between \$25,000-\$100,000. According to Damiano, Student Activities does not have that amount of money to help support this project. No decisions have been made, nor has any official planning begun on this project. However, Olsen remains very optimistic about the future of Gael TV. "Most of the airtime will be taken up by our scrolling bulletin

ASSMC's Stipulations for Gael TV:

1. Continue running Program Board movies four times a week.
2. Have two original programs a month.
3. Air one taped campus event each week.
4. Check-in with media board monthly.

board. But when we have actual programming, it'll be entertaining. We plan on having a knock-off of MTV's *Cribs*, a dating game television show, and an SMC version of Comedy Central's *Insomniac*," said Olsen.

Correction: In the October 28 issue of the Collegian, a sub-headline read "CILSA holds annual inner city Halloween party." The event was coordinated by Campus Ministry, not by CILSA.

SNAPSHOT

Las Vegas moves to Saint Mary's College



Lisette Garcia/COLLEGIAN

Sin City and SMC came together for one night at Program Board's "Viva Las Vegas" on Saturday, Nov. 1 at the Soda Center. Students tried their luck and had a classy, post-Halloween, fun-filled night.

ESSAY CONTEST 2004

THE ELIE WIESEL PRIZE IN ETHICS

SUGGESTED TOPICS

Reflect on the most profound, moral dilemma you have encountered and analyze what it has taught you about ethics.

How can human beings move beyond hate and violence?

Explore how writing can be an ethical activity.

What ethical issue concerns you the most and what concrete proposals would you make to deal with it?

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 5, 2003

ELIGIBILITY: FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE JUNIORS AND SENIORS DURING THE FALL 2003 SEMESTER

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Too Much in Common?

J. alexandra tsou

There's the old saying, "Too much of a good thing is bad for you." This is true in cases such as dessert and Ja Rule's music: both are great indulgences, but too much of either will make you sick to your stomach.

However why in relationships is too much of a good thing bad for you (and no, I'm not talking about sex)? I'm talking about personalities. Whether it has been from my own personal experience, or that of my friends, when two people who are "pursuing each other" seem to have too many good personal qualities in common, a red flag saying, "Stop the pursuit!" immediately goes off in one of the parties' heads. Why are we so quick to fall back on the phrase "opposites attract" when it comes to relationships? There has to be a common ground somewhere.

I'm not saying having different interests is bad; different interests are part of what makes seeing another person interesting and fun. But why, when a person sees too much of themselves in the person they're pursuing, does he or she get scared and give the "let's just be friends" line and decide to pursue other people? It's just inversely saying that you wouldn't date yourself, and if you wouldn't want to date yourself, who would? There's nothing wrong with having similar thoughts, similar philosophies, or similar habits. People shouldn't be scared when a prospect shares similar beliefs or any other commonality.

Granted, other elements can be involved: a person's emotional fears, lack of trust, not being ready for a relationship, or wanting to pursue many options and not just one. Then there are the people who get scared when they see too much of themselves in the other person. They'll still flirt with you while pursuing other options. Some people just never want to face anything serious, or anything that might actually be good for them.

The latter is what tremendously disturbs me: how a person could be with someone who is really good for them, but are not because it's "too easy." Is it too easy because you got along so well so fast? Well, what's wrong with that? Some people are all about the chase - going after what they think they want, then once they get it, get rid of it because they've finally obtained it. Why do people play games? Person A pursues Person B, gets to know him or her, then once Person B is into Person A as well, Person A drops Person B, and moves on to something new.

I know some people like the thrill of "conquest," but they should wear a sign or something, because it's very frustrating to the unsuspecting. I know there's this whole notion about being a "player," and yes we're all young and shouldn't be "tied down," but if a good and healthy relationship happens to come along, don't fight it, and just quit all the B.S. and games.

OPINION

Collegian View

Paranoia spreads like wild fire across the nation when one case of anthrax is reported, or a shark attack is on the evening news. Take that kind of mobility of terror and transfer it to a small private school of 2,500 undergrads and reports of the infamous Peeping Tom will hold the Public Safety crime log hostage.

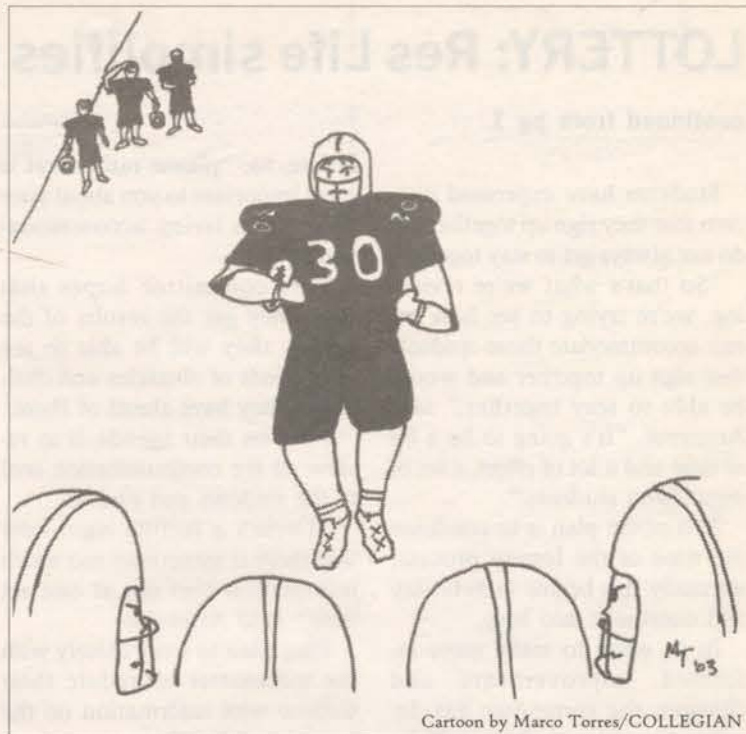
Throughout the last month, false reports of peeper sightings, stalker sightings, and lurid phone calls have circulated all over campus. While emergency phone calls from a group of students who worried they were being followed lead to a brother driving to his residence and not a stalker maliciously following a group of college women, everyone has a good laugh and sometimes even lose respect for the crime at hand.

But while students poke fun at whom the mystery man on the flyers might be (suggesting professors, brothers, and neighbors),

the campus became aware of their surroundings and perhaps paranoia brought on better results than the alternative: blowing off the news. Amidst the rumors and false reports, a student made the call that caught the campus' prowler, and it finally wasn't a just another balding student.

On such a small campus, rumors are one of the highest forms of communication. Word-of-mouth moves more stories than the Collegian could ever squeeze onto its 8-page spread. But, while "everyone hears everything," not everything represents the truth.

At a time when the college looks to better campus-wide communication, a failing Gael TV may become more inactive than ever as ASSMC moves to revoke its charter; Gael TV has moved away from the Associated Students to underneath the wing of the communication department; the president of the Associated Students of the college is



Cartoon by Marco Torres/COLLEGIAN

Perhaps this year's team should be called Wes Borba & Co.

denied the ability to send out "all student" emails; and student informational flyers are being removed from their sites before anyone gets a chance to read them.

Saint Mary's doesn't have the task of providing 30-thousand students with the important and not-so-important information affecting them and their college lives: it only has 2,500. Why then, in such a small community, is there a breakdown in communication?

Perhaps, as in the case of Gael TV, it is a problem of finances and leadership.

But more likely, the problem lies in what sparks our interest.

Let's face it- not many of us are interested in hearing, yet again, explanations of how the sexual assault policy is changing.

How many of us delete those campus emails before opening them?

As students, we are only interested in the issues that pertain to us -and it seems that the only time all of us become interested is when our safety is threatened. And although we make make fun of these serious issues, at least we are talking.

Community Views

Dear Editor,

I picked up the class schedule for the spring semester and started planning my classes for the next semester. Being a transfer student from San Diego State University, I was accustomed to using a very helpful website to determine which teachers to pick and classes to attend based on opinions of students from those classes/teachers. This website is called ratemyprofessors.com.

This website shows statistics for things such as overall quality, ease, the number of ratings, classes taught, whether the teacher is "hot or not" and allows comments on the teacher.

This is a free website I have found to be very useful for picking out teachers and classes and also giving feedback on the classes/teachers I have experienced.

I understand Saint Mary's is much smaller than a large university, and "word of mouth" is very popular for rating teachers, but the more people using this, the more everyone will benefit. Who knows, maybe even teachers will look at this and finally realize what the students like and dislike

about their classes and change their ways.

Jeff Kiyama '05

Dear Editor,

Attention Juniors:

So what's going on with the Junior Formal and Fundraising? Well, here are some statistics from the survey that 109 Juniors took about the Jr. Formal:

- * 85% want a Jr. Formal
- * 74% want some of the fundraised money to go towards the Jr. Formal
- * 79% said a bid of \$70 is not too expensive
- * Dress Attire: Semi-Formal or Formal was split 50/50

There are three possible locations we're checking into:

- * Waterfront Plaza Hotel in Jack London Square (right on the water)
- * Hs Lordships in Berkeley (restaurant on the Bay, specialize in fish)
- * Blue and Gold Fleet - Boat Dance on the Bay (start/end from SF)

The Junior Formal Will Happen!! Start marking your calen-

dars for Saturday, March 20th, 2004! Also, our first fundraiser is the "SMC Saver" discount card for local restaurants/businesses, which should be available mid-late November. Other possible fundraisers include: Junior Class t-shirts, selling water at athletic events, Monday-night bowling, and more. Please come and talk to us about these issues or others that concern you. Thanks, from your Junior Class Officers!!! Any questions, call x5859.

Jeff Haskins
President, Class of '05

Letters to the editor may be submitted to the Collegian through mail, email, or in person. All letters should be no more than 150 words in length.

The Collegian holds the right to edit any submitted material, solicited or unsolicited.
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Write the Collegian.
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GAEL POLL

119 Saint Mary's students were polled on their opinion of censorship on campus.

What do YOU think about censorship on campus?

50% of students think that student media is censored.

"No, because the paper is a public forum and the school doesn't want to be responsible for what goes in it."

Collin Pugh '05



CENSORSHIP at Saint Mary's

Keeping up Appearances

by Marissa Nichols Staff Writer

Saint Mary's College has a certain image that it must uphold in the name of being a Catholic Lasallian institution, but does this mean that its students are being kept from the truth?

With negative media concerning sexual assault and electrocuted employees, the secrets of Saint Mary's are beginning to be unearthed. Disillusioned students voice their opinions all over Saint Mary's campus, and are beginning to wonder, "What do we not know about our school?"

Censorship occurs all over America as we can see from recent history. Today's media and commercialism manipulates our eyes and ears. Restrictions on what information I am privy to is something I have gotten used to, but when it comes to my education and the institution in which it takes place, not getting all the information that I have a right to makes me feel lied to. What else is being hidden?

Saint Mary's owes it to its students to include them in all aspects of its comings and goings; positive and negative included. Mere e-mails from the president that reflect only the sunshine and smiles of the college and do not make me feel informed completely, if at all (but thanks for the effort Brother Craig).

Saint Mary's students are anything but candid about what they want to see happen on their campus and in their world. From

anti-war protests to clubs that embrace many walks of life, Saint Mary's is not a place where students feel shy about their opinions if they have the correct information.

In the past weeks, the *Collegian* has shed light on a lot of issues that the rest of the student body is blind to. Why is a student run organization made to go out of its way to find the truth?

The image that Saint Mary's is bound to restricts the freedoms of its students. From a new "ma-

At Saint Mary's it seems as though the school is doing everything but censoring us. Encouraging open conversation through seminar, round table discussions for In-depth topics, and numerous administrators wanting to work with students, censorship is the last word to come to my mind. Rather, I think that students who want to voice their concerns are either concerned with going against what the crowd says or not being able to constructively voice what

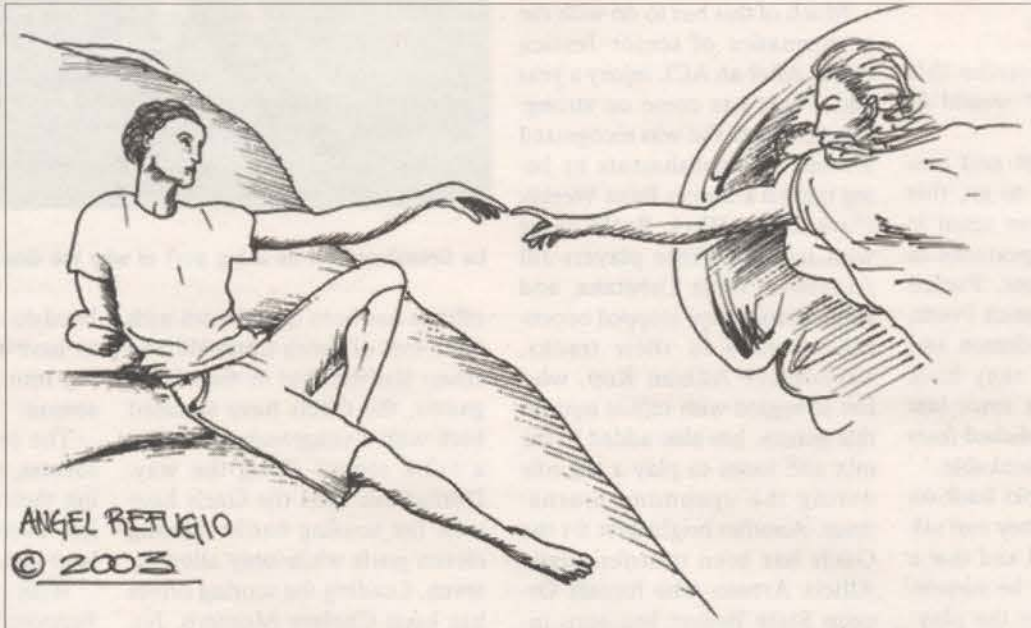
place. Is this censorship?

Although some issues such as alcohol consumption, violence, and the dreaded "s" word (sex) are not always issues the administration may want to discuss, they are matters to discuss because they happen on our campus, and have been addressed. But when having an open conversation about these topics and about any other issue, one must be open-minded for answers one might not like. However, this is not censorship. Just because one may not get the exact answer that he wants does not mean his voice has not been heard. These, as the administrators have said, are welcomed dialogues.

Furthermore, there is a distinct difference between having an opinion and voicing an opinion with respect when it comes to these issues or any others that may present themselves in a dis-

respectful manner.

Rather than the Saint Mary's community censoring its students, the students are censoring themselves. Stepping out and being different is hard, especially in a smaller campus setting; however, taking a stand for what you are preaching to your friends will give you a greater reward.



Today's standards require even classics be censored.

Cartoon by Angel Refugio/COLLEGIAN

trix" that informs our parents of our wrongdoings, to the lack of recognition of the fact that teenagers have sex - proven by the absent prophylactics in the bookstore (that by the way, sells shot glasses) - Saint Mary's is very obviously putting blinders on the student body and in effect censoring us from making our own decisions.

Administrators want to know what we have to say. Brother Craig, Sally Stamp, and Mike Zoll - to name a few - send emails about what is going on in our community. They encourage students to respond to their comments. Through open communication, they feel Saint Mary's can become a better

Does equal enrollment equal diversity? Patriarchy rears its ugly head at Saint Mary's

by Caitlin Hungate Staff Writer

As you are walking down the various halls throughout campus, the overwhelming number of female students compared to male students is obvious. Because of this "unbalanced ratio" of female students to male students, admissions is doing everything they can to attract males to Saint Mary's. The official claim of the administration is that female enrollment is down based on the sexual assault publicity from last year. This may be true given that over 60% of

students are from the northern California region, however how much the publicity affected and impacted incoming students is unknown.

What is striking to me is how the admissions office is depicting Saint Mary's. The new pamphlet sent out to prospective students is filled with diverse groups of minority men. Only one or two pictures are of women, and in one particular picture, there is a female with short hair, so upon quick glance, her gender may be unclear. Hopefully by having pictures of

men in the pamphlet, prospective male students would see other males, not just females on their college campus.

Through an anonymous source, I have learned that the admissions office is placing priority in calling males in their phone recruiting of incoming freshmen. The admissions office wants men back on this campus, in the same numbers as females. This phenomenon of catering to the male sector is not a problem that only Saint Mary's is facing. Many colleges across the nation are facing more female enroll-

ment over male enrollment.

With this in mind, why is the admissions office saying female enrollment is down based purely on the sexual assault publicity? By trying to even out the ratio of females and males, it would appear that an idea of bringing diversity to the campus is prevalent. But this is a clear example of patriarchy alive and well. Why must there be an equal amount of men and women attending college? To equalize gender attendance does not guarantee diversity.

Free at Last?
walker lines

President Bush justified going to war with Iraq on what many now consider to be false pretenses. Convincing arguments made prior to the war, by almost every Bush official, for the presence and threat of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction, are now mute. However, due to the quick collapse of Saddam Hussein's regime and the relatively few American troop casualties during the War, the ends clearly justified the means - until now.

More American Soldiers have now been killed during the Post-War Occupation of Iraq than during combat. Adding to the 113 U.S. soldiers who lost their lives during the war, 117 American soldiers have been killed since President Bush declared an end to major active combat on May 1.

President Bush has thus far failed in his attempt to force the Iraqis to embrace American democratic ideals. He has consistently ignored the lively debate occurring not only within the United States Congress, but most disturbingly ignored the debate within the Iraqi Governing Council as well.

Take, for example, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, Hoshiyar Zebari: a Kurd. According to The New York Times, a bomb was planted outside Zebari's office two weeks ago. Fortunately Zebari was out of town and the bomb exploded without injuring anyone. However, it begs the question, why would anyone want to kill the Iraqi Foreign Minister? Zebari was appointed to his position by the allied forces, not through an election by the Iraqi people. Zebari represents the most hated minority in Iraq, the Kurds, who were often persecuted and ex-

communicated under Saddam Hussein's government. Worse, almost the entire staff working under Zebari is made up of Hussein's Baath Party loyalists. Under President Bush's administration, the United States has refused to allow any Baath Party members to serve in the new U.S. formulated Iraqi government. Yet hundreds of Baath Party members still hold lower positions which are essential in constructing and instilling the new laws and policies. Soon, Turkish troops are expected to be involved with security detail in Iraq. Due to the culture clashing between the Turks and the Iraqis—the Turks occupied Iraq until World War II—more problems are on the verge of arising.

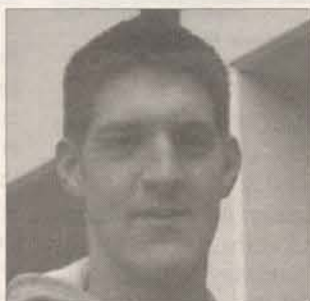
President Bush has relied on his own faith-based politics to help garner support and conviction in the homeland. He is now trying to take advantage of that support on very unfamiliar and volatile territory. John Locke said it best by saying, "Freedom of men under government is to have a standing rule to live by, common to every one of that society...and not to be subject to the inconstant, uncertain, arbitrary will of another man."

President Bush, heed Locke's words of "common to every one of that society" and not "the inconstant, uncertain, arbitrary will" of yourself. In a press conference from the White House, President Bush prematurely stated that "they (the terrorists) can't stand the thought of a free society. They hate freedom." Until President Bush allows the Iraqi citizens to truly be free, the concept of freedom only serves to be blamed as the culprit.

67%

Feel that the school censors dialogue on certain issues.

Blake Sholberg '06



Yes, because we students have no freedom. Fight the power!

54%

of students feel that their classmates censor themselves in seminar.

Yes, because you can't ever say what you want to say because of the grade.

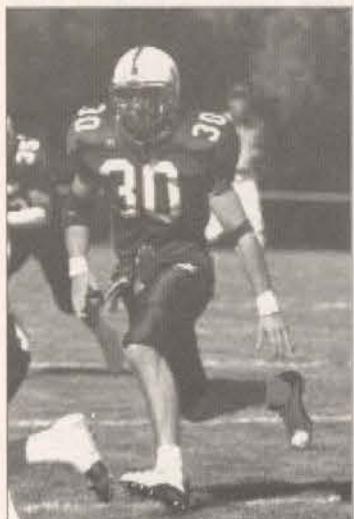
Jon Sanders '05



Players of the Week

Wes Borba

Even though it turned out to be a another big loss for the Gaels, Borba did his usual part. In what players from both teams said was the greatest play they ever saw, Borba intercepted a pass and took it 54 yards for a touchdown, but along the way juked and spun past nearly every Aggie on the field. One person called it "Dante Hall esque."



courtesy of smcgaels.com

Jessica Poole

Poole was named to the Soccer America Team of the Week for the week of October 20-26 and at the same time was named to the Soccer Buzz Elite Team all in the same week. She recorded her first goal of the season and her first goal since her freshman year in 1999. Poole also was a key contributor in the Gaels' 0-0 tie against No. 8-ranked Santa Clara.

- Sam Adams

Score Card

Football (1-8)

	1	2	3	4	Final
SMC	0	0	7	7	14
UC Davis	0	21	7	17	45

C. Webb - 16-31, 157 yards, TD, 3 INT
 R. Mike - 8 tackles, sack (6)
 W. Borba - 7 tackles, INT(4), TD(3), sack(3)
 A. Cook - 9 tackles, 3 for a loss

Women's Soccer (8-7-3)

	1	2	OT	Final
SMC	0	1	1	2
San Jose State	1	0	0	1

J. Belzer - goal (4)

	1	2	Final
SMC	1	0	1
(20) Pepperdine	0	1	1

Volleyball (17-10)

SMC d. San Jose State 3-0
 (5) Pepperdine d. SMC 3-0
 SMC d. (13) Loyola Marymount 3-2

Men's Soccer (6-11)

	1	2	Final
SMC	0	1	1
(5) Santa Clara	2	0	2

Golf

Santa Clara Men's Invitational at the Silver Creek Country Club
 Fifth Place (906 strokes)
 L. Kenderson - 14th place

SPORTS

Women's soccer tries to run the table, get to the tournament

After long season, Gaels look to a Saturday victory for a playoff berth

by Micheal Chin
 Staff Writer

If one were to describe this team, "perseverance" would fit perfectly.

With one-week left and two games in conference to go, this year's women's soccer team is poised to make an appearance in the NCAA tournament. Fueled by senior leaders - Jessica Poole, Shauna Rech, Jill Anderson and Chelsea Montero - they have made major progress since last year and have accomplished feats that fans thought unthinkable.

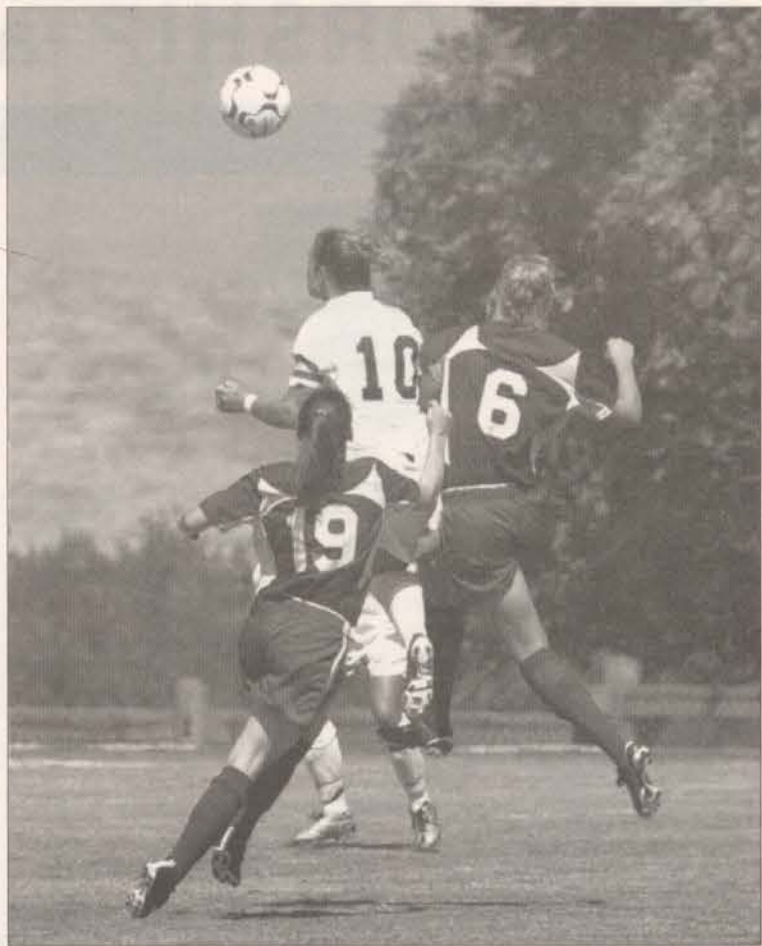
Yet, as the team looks back on the last few months, they can say that this was expected and that a tournament bid won't be surprising should they make the playoffs.

This will all be dependent on their play in the last two games, where the Gaels will face WCC opponents Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount. Currently the Gaels sit in a second place tie with archrival Santa Clara. After a hard-fought, scoreless tie against the Broncos and overtime win against San Jose State, the Gaels know the daunting task ahead of them in the coming days. So what has kept them in the hunt for so long this year? One

word: defense.

Much of this has to do with the performance of senior Jessica Poole. After an ACL injury a year ago, Poole has come on strong. Just last week she was recognized for her accomplishments by being named a Soccer Buzz Weekly Player of the Week. Poole, along with fellow defense players Jill Anderson, Tonja Cabatana, and Kali Larson, have stopped opposing offenses in their tracks. Sophomore Allison Kop, who has struggled with minor injuries this season, has also added to the mix and looks to play a big role during the upcoming tournament. Another bright spot for the Gaels has been transfer goalie Allicia Artuso. The former Oregon State Beaver has seen increased playing time and has flourished, helping ease the pain of the injury to incumbent goalie Amaya Zabala. She played her biggest game last Sunday, when she held the eighth-ranked Santa Clara Broncos to a scoreless tie. She will enter these last two games with an overall record of 5-6-1.

On offense, the biggest thing for the Gaels has been timing. Lately the offense has started to come on after a tough first half, where the Gaels went 3-6. The



Lisette Garcia/COLLEGIAN

Lu Crenshaw will be a big part of why the Gaels get into the playoffs.

offense has been dealt blows with the losses of Sarah Churchill and Jenny Barbera, but in their latest games, the Gaels have stormed back with a vengeance, recording a 5-2-1 record along the way. During this span the Gaels have won the scoring battle, netting eleven goals while only allowing seven. Leading the scoring drives has been Chelsea Montero, Jen Belzer, Sarah Takakawa and Sarah Burgess. Montero leads the team in points with 11, followed by Belzer with nine. Senior forward Shauna Rech has also played well lately and netted a winning overtime goal last Wednesday against San Jose State. Adding to this mix, freshman McKenna Belzer has had an excellent campaign, recording four goals and ten points overall. With the return of Katie Frattone and the possible return of Lu Crenshaw, who has been side-

lined due to injury, the Gaels look to have a formidable offense going into the homestretch of the season.

The season so far has been a success, with the Gaels surpassing their predicted 6th place finish, currently 3rd behind Portland and Santa Clara.

With a 1-1 tie Sunday against Pepperdine, the team still has a chance to make the playoffs, but needs a win next Saturday against Loyola Marymount.

If the Gaels do in fact make the NAA tournament, it is unlikely they will play at home. Either way, though, it will be a big accomplishment for them this season.

Catch the Gaels as they play their last home game against the LMU Lions this Saturday at 12 P.M.. A win could mean tournament, and a loss a long off-season in Moraga.

Gael's X-Country Finishes 8th at WCC Championships

Season ends in Crystal Springs, Porter makes last WCC appearance

by Cori Simpson
 Staff Writer

The Gael's men's and women's cross-country teams competed in their most important race of the season on Saturday. The race took place on the Crystal Springs course in Belmont, CA. The WCC championships, which determines who continues on to compete in the NCAA championships, typically marks the end

of the cross-country season. Runners prepare for it all year long, training both their minds and bodies to be strong.

"We've been preparing mentally for this race all season," said runner Blair Howard '05.

Even with all their preparation, the men's and women's Gael teams put in their best efforts, but finished 8th in the conference.

Although they finished last, the women's team put up a decent showing. Lead by senior Allegra Porter (11th, 18:46), Strada Morris (42nd, 20:24), and Ashley Viens (43rd, 20:24). Bethany DeMoore, Deanna Price, Kristen Hurst, and Emily Van Buskirk also ran for the Gaels, finishing 51st, 53rd (21:38), 54th (21:42), and 55th (21:50), respectively.

The men's team, led by Andrew Parsel, also had several runners in the top 50. Andrew Parsel finished 19th (27:11), Casey



courtesy of smcgaels.com

Freshman Andrew Parsel has led the Gaels all season.

Chad in 34th (28:00), Peter Stemp 40th (28:26), and Travis Bisiorek in 48th (29:03).

Sean Hanley, Anthony Holder, and Gabe Ramos also ran for the Gaels on Saturday, with times of (29:15), (29:49), and (31:07), respectively.

Portland lead the men's race for the 25th year in a row with 5 runners in the top five places.

Gonzaga placed second, followed by Santa Clara, Loyola Marymount, Pepperdine, University of San Francisco, University of San Diego, and then Saint Mary's.

Portland kept up their winning streak for the women as well, with their seventh victory in eight years, by placing many of their runners in the top ten. Santa Clara finished second, followed by Pepperdine, Gonzaga, Loyola Marymount, University of San Diego, University of San Francisco, and Saint Mary's.

"We did the best we could," said Jacqui Powell.

Even though overall the Gaels finished last in the conference, some of their runners will be competing in the NCAA Western Regionals in Portland, OR on Saturday, November 15th, which will be the final race for some of their senior runners, like Porter, who has set many St. Mary's marks in her four year career.

Next Race:
 NCAA Western Regionals
 Portland, OR.
 11/15---10:00 AM



courtesy of smcgaels.com

Allegra Porter, '04 ran in her final WCC championship.

Gaels basketball kicks into gear

Men's basketball comes to the rescue; ever-improving team hopes to save SMC athletics

by Sam Adams
Sports Editor

And just in time, here come the Gaels galloping in to save the day.

Coming off yet another improved season, Randy Bennet and the Gaels hope to fill the seats at McKeon pavilion with an exciting basketball season.

Over the off-season, the Gaels were picked to finish second in the WCC in a coach's poll, even receiving one first place vote.

It will be a difficult battle for the Gaels, who have the Gonzaga Bulldogs standing in the way of them and a WCC title. The Bulldogs, coming off yet another NCAA tournament appearance, are the favorite to win the conference and are ranked No. 12 in the

country by an ESPN preseason poll.

The Gaels do have the makings of a team that can match the size and skill of Gonzaga, with returning players forward Daniel Kickert (6'10), Chase Poole (6'8), and seven footers Blake Sholberg (red shirt freshman) and Reda Rhalimi, a transfer from Morocco. This is also a Gaels team that has led the WCC in scoring defense the past two seasons under Bennet.

Kickert will be an intriguing returning player. He was the only player to start all 30 games, and as a freshman, led the team in scoring with 12.7 points per game.

The biggest void will be replacing departed guards Samuel Saint-Jean and Anthony Woodards. Junior college transfer E.J. Rowland could start in the backcourt for the Gaels, and incoming freshman Brett Collins will compete for playing time as well. The team will also get back guard Paul Marigney, who sat out last season after suffering a torn ACL. He led the team in scoring two years ago with 11.3 ppg.

Rowland could be a key player. Last year for Hartnell College, he averaged 18.3 ppg, 5.6 assists, 2.7 steals, and 5.2 rebounds.

"We're excited to have E.J. Rowland join our basketball program," Bennett told smcgaels.com. "We had a void at the point guard position and we feel that E.J. has the ability to fill that need. He's a skilled player who can score and has the ability to make other players around him better."

Seniors Tyler Herr and Frederic Adjwanou will help provide depth coming off the bench.

The Gaels will face their share of tough teams, with a rougher schedule than last year. They will travel to face Arizona and will face USC at home.

"The league is up this year," Bennett told basketballtimes.com. "Everyone is improved. We've taken a number of positive steps, but you can always regress quickly. We need to keep improving, continue to be unselfish."

If the returning players pick up where they left off, and the new guards fall into place, the team is looking at another improved season, maybe a 20+ win season, and even an NCAA tournament bid.

middle or at the power forward, the Gaels look to have one of the most potent threats in the league.

Next to her in the frontcourt will be fellow junior, Carrie Nokes. Despite battling knee injuries, Nokes has still made an impact on the team recording 20 starts for the Gaels last season.

Adding to the mix will be the lone senior on the team, Lindsey Lopez, who looks to fill the guard position. The other major returning player for the team will be junior Savannah Williams. Appearing in 20 games last season at guard, Williams looks to challenge for a starting role and compete for playing time.

A talented group of emerging Gael sophomores is ready to make their mark on Gael basketball. Leading the way for the sophomores will be guard Evynn Van Burger. Last year, she started 12 games, averaging five points and one rebound per game. Another sophomore is transfer Briana Winn, who sat last season. While playing for UCLA she posted three games of nine plus points.

Another key to success lies in the growth of young talent behind these seven returnees. This year's freshman class looks to be one of the most talented to be recruited in recent history.

The Gaels are coming off a 7-11 record from last season. In conference they finished 4-10. That won't be good enough this season if there are hopes of winning conference or getting into the tourney. With the Gaels currently dead-last in the rankings, Jacoby and her team have some ground to cover, but with some early wins could be the surprise of the year for SMC athletics.

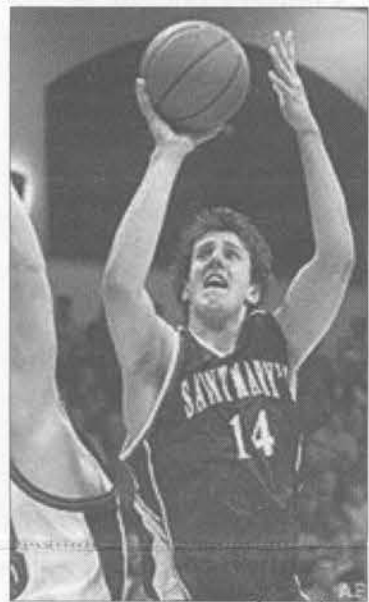
Women's young basketball team looks to improve

by Micheal Chin
Staff Writer

Young and talented would be the words to describe this year's Saint Mary's women's basketball team. Under the guidance of coach Michelle Jacoby, this year's team looks to become accomplished as well.

After a first-round loss in the WCC tournament last year, the Gaels know they need to improve. With a daunting schedule ahead that includes UCLA, Utah and UNLV, the team needs to form into a unit quickly.

The team will be lead by none other than WCC first team All-Conference forward Triola Jackson. Coming off of knee surgery in 2001, Jackson led the Gaels last season in points (16.5 ppg) and proved to be a top rebounder in the conference, averaging nearly 10 a game. With her in the



Sophomore Daniel Kickert could be a key force for the Gaels this year

ARMCHAIR MANAGER

sam adams

Getting a glimpse of how the other half lives



It has been a dream five years in the making.

My sophomore year at De La Salle, my History teacher, then in charge of starting a school newspaper, asked me to work on sports. Unprepared and poorly written, I wrote my first article – a men's water-polo preview.

Since then I've had a dream. I've dreamt of getting paid to go to the ballpark everyday. Jon Miller, Henry Schulman, Brian Sabean – now those guys are livin' the dream. And after five years, I was given a taste.

The Golden State Warriors decided to open their doors to smaller newspapers. They waved a press pass in my face and I grabbed it. Opening night against the Dallas Mavericks.

I arrived at the stadium two hours before tip-off. I walked to the back of the arena and received my golden ticket. St Mary's alumni C.J. Daft showed me around, the media room, the locker room, the press conference room, and even the court. I walked where these guys get paid tens of millions of dollars to play. I saw injured point guard Nick Van Exel rehabbing on an exercise bike, and Pepe Sanchez shooting around on the far end of the court.

I later sat down alone with my free dinner – chicken fajitas and a diet coke. Quite the spread for journalists. A man was scooting by my seat, and I looked up and it was Martin Wyatt from channel seven. Starting to get a big head about having the same credentials as a TV reporter, I recognize a voice to my right, and it belonged to KNBR's Bruce McGowan, and using the bartender's ears I inherited from my parents, I heard him and two other guys talking about the Giants' off-season. It took most of my will power not to get up and sit in the empty seat and try and impress them all with my self-evaluated baseball genius.

The game was interesting, with the banged-up Warriors, missing three starters, hanging with one of the best teams in the league, only to eventually falter and lose 95-87.

After the game was the best part. I then went to coach Eric Musselman's press conference, took notes, heard him give the usual quotes. Then I floated into the locker room. I wrote down quotes from Mike Dunleavy, Clifford Robinson, and Avery Johnson. Then Shawn Bradley walked in to greet former teammate Van Exel, and I debated whether or not I, being 6'4, could jump and touch the top of his head.

It was a great first experience, and something to wet my lips and strive for. People pay thousands of dollars for season tickets, then more on food, drinks and parking. Imagine not only getting in for free, but getting paid to tell everyone what happened. Those guys are livin' the dream, and hopefully someday I can call them my peers.

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watch:

"Texas Chainsaw Massacre"
starring Jessica Biel

Okay, so maybe you're not a big fan of Jessica Biel, or chainsaws for that matter, but if you're looking for a good scare, check out Texas Chainsaw Massacre. The movie, a remake of the original 70s horror flick, is based on the true story of a series of murders in Texas involving a group of hippie teenagers and a family of chainsaw-loving cannibals. The fact that these horrors really happened is the creepiest part. And although this movie provides a couple of good scream moments, there's nothing like the original, which really leaves you with an unrealistic fear of power tools.

-Anna Gates

tube:

"One Bad Trip"
MTV: Sundays - 10:30p.m.

As part of MTV's new Sunday Stew, One Bad Trip proves true to its name - not for viewers, but for those who are viewed. The series premiere featured a dream bachelor party held in Las Vegas. Unbeknownst to the groom-to-be, his fiancée and future mother-in-law were right there with him, in disguise of course, while he partied with his buddies and cavorted with strippers. Captivating and evocative of pitiful groans, this show will have you shaking your head with empathetic sorrow while still leaving you with a smile by the end. Unlike other reality shows, this is the one to watch.

-Cori Simpson

hear:

Room on Fire
The Strokes

Room on Fire, by The Strokes, finds the band tip-toeing through some new sonic territory but mainly staying faithful to the formula on *Is This It?* Songs like "12:51" seem to take on a Cars style feel with the keyboard sounding guitar riff and intermittent hand claps. "Reptilia," the second track on the album, is an obvious single, with lead vocalist Julian Casablancas's slightly drunken yelps all over the place. *Room on Fire* is not as coherent an album as *Is This It?* but the new album is by no means sub-par and is just as delicious as their first.

-Brent Mills

hear:

Verve Remixed 2
Various Artists

Remixes are of the norm. Some artists take it to a whole new approach, like the queen of all media - Jennifer Lopez. Verve Records takes the same approach to breathe life into old music. Verve Remixed 2, the latest in the series, takes jazz classics and sends them through the turntables of the hottest DJs. The album is perfect if you need to do some reading or just for a long drive. Dizzy Gillespie's "Manteca" is re-tooled by Funky Lowlives with the soaring trumpet runs that made Gillespie's cheeks oh-so-famous. The album shows that good music is timeless; it's all in the way it's packaged.

-Kim Dao

DETOUR

Violence and ACTION: Male at the Movies

The girls had their turn, now it's time to take a peek at movies that top every male's list. Charge up the testosterone...

By Chris Swain
Managing Editor

Combine one big name stereotypical male actor with any sort of excessive violence, sex or action, and a guy-movie is in the making. These films perpetuate any and all male clichés by promoting the animalistic instinct of the male species in a Darwinian, survival of the fittest, sort-of way.

Top Gun

Stellar combat scenes coupled with two overtly aggressive male fighter pilots going at one another is only a portion of the genius that gets *Top Gun* (1986) on the list. Granted most of the plot is outlandishly predictable, but who cares? The academy award winning soundtrack, the token hot chick Kelly McGillis (flight instructor/love interest), and the gravity defying international relations keep my interests as this perennial is a reliable television rerun.

Scarface

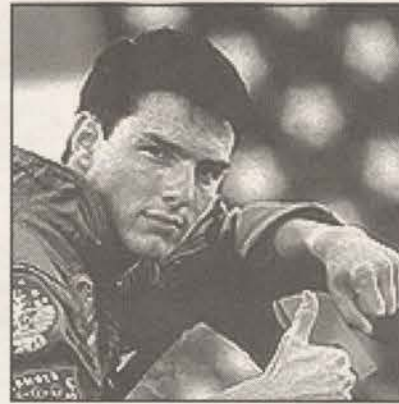
According to MTV's *Cribs*, this flick is a must have if you want to be a thug, but more importantly, a sure way to get rich quick and die young quicker. The coke-dealing Tony Montana (Al Pacino) lives, snorts, and succumbs to the violent life of a Florida mobster. A blood lustful plotline and the perpetuation of negative stereotypes granted this movie a re-release in Sept. 2003 - proving drugs, sex and violence sell...even if they're 20-years-old.

Rocky

By the fifth—ok, the second—the plot was obvious, but what guy doesn't like a bone-bruising, root for the underdog, go and beat something blue kind of movie? Sylvester Stallone coincides nicely as the macho southpaw from Philly that beats Apollo Creed, Clubber Lang, and the Soviet Drago—you go Rambo!

Braveheart

A bloodbath of patriotism, this film leaves little to the imagination. It's Mel Gibson at his finest and bloodiest in his debut as a director and as playing William Wallace (Scottish Folk hero). With a running time of 2 hours 50 minutes, this film isn't for the faint of heart, but neither are the blood drenched battle scenes, or for Wallace: freedom.



Lifestyles of the Rich and Heinous

MTV frontiers a new reality for viewers: ones of the very rich

By Adrienne Gallo
Staff Writer

MTV has done it again. They have successfully filled the Tuesday 10:30 spot with a new ditz. But ohhh wait, there's two! The two Rich Girls, Ally Hilfiger and Jaime Gleicher, are extremely wealthy, over-privileged high school seniors who admit that money does not buy happiness and proved that it doesn't buy beauty either. Apparently, these "normal teenagers who enjoy doing normal teenage things like shopping, talking on the phone, and going to prom," are just as normal as Jessica Simpson is intelligent.

While my friends and I sat and watched in awe for an entertaining half-hour, I couldn't help but wonder what it would be like to be that rich. I didn't know if I should feel sorry for these girls—who get taken advantage of by their friends who use them for their money - or to be jealous of these girls who actually have that much money at their disposal. They strolled through the city of New York with their little dog,



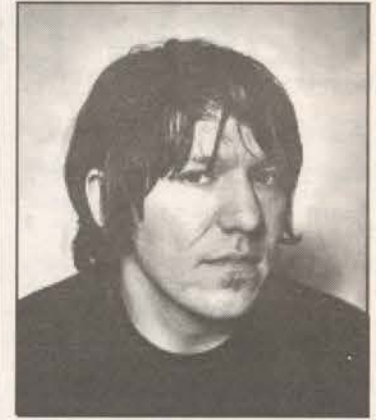
Jamie Gleicher and Ally Hilfiger display two of their many handbags. (<http://www.mtv.com>)

Star, and tons of shopping bags filled with purchases from Saks. They also refused to take the subway and instead opted for a limo. Their entourage includes a personal shopper who takes them to stores exclusively for the famous. Obviously, these girls have the connection from the party scene to the shopping scene; they are living the epitome of a wealthy lifestyle.

In comparison, this less than "reality" show offers insight as to how little my shopping sprees cost and how little drama I en-

dure on a night out with my friends. However, humor can be found in their dilemmas, fashion sense, clothing ensembles, and excitement of their typical clichéd life. I watch this show knowing that their drama-filled lives make for an interesting night of television.

As a female, I live vicariously through their credit card. I can learn something from these girls who live in their rich world away from the norm. "Even though we are rich, we are good people." Let's watch and see.



The end of a musical genius Singer-songwriter Elliott Smith commits suicide, age 34

Elliott Smith, singer-songwriter, died at age 34. His songs appeared in movies such as "Good Will Hunting" and "The Royal Tenenbaums." Smith had also recorded five solo albums and was working on a sixth at the time of his death.

Coroner's officials believe Smith's death to be a suicide. There was a single, apparently self-inflicted stab wound to Smith's chest, according to Associated Press reports. Smith's girlfriend found his body in their Echo Park apartment with the knife still in his chest, according to the LA Weekly News.

Director Gus Van Sant of "Good Will Hunting" used a couple of Smith's songs in the Matt Damon flick. One of the songs in the movie, "Miss Misery," was nominated for an Academy Award.

Along with "Miss Misery," Smith lent his song "Needle in the Hay" from his self-titled Elliott Smith album to the wrist-slashing scene of Luke Wilson's character Richie in "The Royal Tenenbaums."

The honesty of a song like "Sweet Adeline" is striking. Lyrics like, "It's a picture perfect evening and I'm staring down the sun/Fully loaded deaf and dumb and done/Waiting for sedation to disconnect my head/Or any situation where I'm better off than dead." His soft, almost whispery voice sounded close to breaking down at any moment.

The sparse arrangements of his earlier work focus attention on his acoustic guitar playing and angelic voice. His musical style was a sort of stripped down folk rock, often drawing comparisons to the late Nick Drake, a musician who committed suicide from an overdose of anti-depressants.

His two albums recorded on the Kill Rock Stars label, *Elliott Smith* and *either/or* were the albums that brought his sound to the college crowd and into regular rotation on college radio stations. Shortly after *either/or* was released Smith got signed to DreamWorks Records, which released his last two full-length albums, *XO* and *Figure 8*.

The sixth, unfinished recording was called "From A Basement On The Hill." The album was tentatively scheduled for release sometime in 2003, according to Pitchforkmedia.com.

"The next thing I record will be more scaled down; recorded at home," Smith said during an interview from inmusicwetrust.com.

-Brent Mills, Staff Writer