

SPORTS

Spring sports season preview bonanza pg.8



THE COLLEGIAN

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Tuesday, January 20, 2004

Volume 101, Number 13

Res Life makes changes, Nygaard leaves

Major movements include created positions, communication, and RA returning to work

by Chris Mateo

News Editor

According to Mary Spellman, Dean of Student Development, and Mike Zoll, Vice Provost for Student Affairs, by January 6, 2004, three staff members in the Office of Residence Life resigned from their positions.

Steve Nygaard, former Dean of Campus Life and Director of Residence Life, left SMC on December 31; Martha Gonzalez, former Associate Director of Residence Life, left her position at SMC on January 6; Adriano Amaya, former Resident Community Coordinator (RCC), left SMC on December 28.

"It's important to understand that these individuals resigned and that personal issues are always confidential," said Zoll. "In months prior to their leaving it wasn't a secret as a result of student input and other input to me, as a new person, that there was dissatisfaction with various parts of Residence Life. So I had begun an assessment and started talking to every staff member and

every group to help me see some of the issues that were there. So this was preceding the four folks who made decisions in their lives to move on and/or leave the College."

These events as well as additional movements in the Residence Life staff have caused a reorganization process to occur.

In a letter from Zoll, two premises guide a new forward momentum: "First, we need a short-term (spring semester) plan that would use our current, experienced staff to cover the duties in the office; and second, we need to facilitate a community-wide discussion about the mission and values of Residence Life that would serve to inform how the office is positioned and staffed for the 2004-2005 academic year and beyond."

Immediately after the staff members resigned, a meeting was called to discuss the recent issues.

"Shortly after the two resignations of Adrianno Amaya and Steve Nygaard in December, Mike and I gathered a group of

staff, brothers, in-resident staff, and resident advisors (RAs) to create a transition team to figure out how we are to function in the coming semester," said Spellman. "There was about a dozen of us who had an honest conversation about the needs in this area."

Immediate as well as long-term needs were addressed through the first week of Jan Term.

"Some of these short-term changes include us asking Michael Viola to act as Assistant Director of Residence Life and, in addition to continuing his facilities management responsibilities, serves as a Residence Community Coordinator for the five Ageno residence halls," said Spellman. "We reorganized the areas into the Ageno Park, the middle campus, and the lower campus."

In addition to Michael Viola serving the Agenos, Michael Barham continues as

Tina McAfee/COLLEGIAN
Spellman now resides in the Office of Residence Life along with the RCC's.

an RCC and is joined by Michelle Batista (In-residence staff) as Assistant Resident Community Coordinator.

Barham and Batista will work with RAs and IRs to serve students in the "lower campus" area that includes Assumption, Augustine, Syufy, Sabatte, Thille,

Freitas, and both Guerrieri Halls. Barham's office is now located in the Office of Residence Life in Mitty Hall.

Jennifer Preciado continues as an RCC as well. Marc Dominguez (In-residence staff)

see RES LIFE, p2

Social justice shines through speakers

January Term brings lectures, presentations, and panels to support "dream"

by C. McAfee & K. Sacro

Staff Writers

The co-curricular Jan Term events calendar offers students many things to do.

A series of lectures, panels, and discussions revolving around this year's Jan Term theme "I Have a Dream: Civil Rights and Social Change," have been selected and planned especially for Saint Mary's College students.

Lisa Manter, the director of Jan Term, began working as early as last summer to compile an agenda of both inspirational and educational events for January.

After getting an idea of what was expected and desired by the community through feedback from students, faculty and staff, Manter and members of the Jan Term Program sought out influential, successful figures to ex-

pose the importance of societal issues.

From artistic directors to creative writers and social activists, January's events are packed with vivid, meaningful lectures, productions and panels.

The greatest attribute to the success of the Jan Term calendar is due to the individuals and clubs who participate and support the events. "More student involvement has made the difference," says Manter. "We work hard to make sure [the programs] are compelling."

The audience felt that the film screening of independent film *Civil Brand*, followed by a discussion with director Neema Barnette and co-writer Joyce Lewis, was exceptionally interesting and informative. Responders of the 150 attending found the "raw reality" of the production

motivating, adding that the conversation afterward gave "valuable insight from the film's creators."

Nontombi Naomi Tutu, the daughter of South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu will be giving a lecture "Striving for Justice." Tutu shares her father's ideals with her work in race relations in Africa and the US.

Keeping with the theme, Reverend Samuel "Billy" Kyles will be speaking on his participation in the Civil Rights Movement.

After inviting Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. to speak in Memphis he was a witness to King's assassination. Professor Linda Saulsby feels this visit is poignant for her Jan Term class, *Eyes on the Prize*. "We go through texts and materials in all the theme related Jan Term see JAN TERM, p3

Year-end formals TBA

Seniors seek money, Juniors save for next year

by Cori Simpson

Staff Writer

With spring semester approaching, both the senior and junior classes have altered the usual plans to have formal dances at the end of the year.

The senior class announced in the fall of 2003 that they needed to raise a significant amount of money in order to hold a senior formal for 2004. Students were reminded of this fact through an email sent at the beginning of January.

As of early January, the senior class needs to raise \$2000 by the first of February. Jim Sciuto, coordinator of Student Activities feels that the class has an even chance to get this event set. "Obviously, if they don't raise the money they can't put it on. Right now there is probably a fifty-fifty chance that there will be a senior formal," said Sciuto.

The senior class has known about their lack of funds since before school started. "The senior class senators have known since the summer that they have to raise money," said Sciuto. Although the seniors need to raise a large sum of money in a relatively short period of time, they are optimistic that it will happen. "We're having a big fundraiser with Gael Force to sell 'buck the Fracos' shirts," said Irene Guzman, president of the class of 2004. "Last time we did that we made \$2000, so hopefully this time we will make more. It depends on how we split it with Gael Force. We are also having a Baja Fresh night."

The money raised from these fundraisers will go towards putting on the senior formal and will keep the bid prices reasonable see FORMALS, p2

Unusual cluster of car thefts concerns campus

Vehicles broken into, stolen over first weekend of Jan Term

by Katie Alpazar

Staff Writer

On Sunday, January 11 between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. two cars were stolen and two cars were burglarized on Saint Mary's College campus.

"[It is] highly unusual to have four similar type of crimes occur in a very short period of time," said Bill Foley, chief of Public Safety.

One of the stolen vehicles had been initially parked in the Aquinas parking lot and then

moved to the Guerrieri townhouse parking lot.

The faceplate to the stereo system had been stolen and then replaced with one from another car involved in the cluster of stolen or burglarized vehicles, "which all interconnects these together," said Foley. In addition a set of Wilson golf clubs were taken from this particular vehicle.

The second stolen vehicle had been missing until Tuesday, January 13. "That particular car has since been recovered yesterday

morning by the Modesto police department totally stripped and burned, they had set it on fire," said Foley. The Modesto police have no suspects.

"Having recovered a vehicle in Modesto adds a twist to the case because it is not within close proximity to SMC," said Foley. "It gives a 'sense they are not SMC affiliated.'"

All four vehicles showed no forced entry and were Hondas, all made in the early 90's. "Hondas see THEFTS, p2



Lissette Garcia/COLLEGIAN

The townhouse parking lot fell victim to theft a few times after the first week of January.

What's Happening

Amandla!

On Tuesday, January 20, a viewing of *Amandla! A Revolution in Four-Part Harmony* will be held in the Moraga Room of the Soda Center from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. A Dine and Discussion will be held from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; please RSVP to x8317.

Dam/Age

January Term presents *Dam/Age*, a film on the Narmada dam project with Arundhati Roy by Aradhana Seth on Thursday, January 22 in Sichel 106 at 3:00 p.m. For more information, contact Chris Sindt at x4088.

Elizabeth Robinson

Creative Writing Reading Series and January Term present Elizabeth Robinson in a poetry reading in the Soda Center at 7:00 p.m.

Helen Zia

January Term and CILSA present Helen Zia on Wednesday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Soda Center. Zia will present a lecture on her work as a writer and activist on Asian American dreams. The post-reception is co-sponsored by APASA and Asian Pacific American Student Programs.

Nontombi Naomi Tutu

January Term, CILSA, and Women's Studies present Nontombi Naomi Tutu, daughter of Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Her lecture, "Striving for Justice" will be held Wednesday, January 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Soda Center. Admission is free. For more information on this speaker, please visit www.apbspeakers.com.

President's Open House

The annual President's Open House will take place on Saturday, January 24 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the second floor of Filippi Hall. Volunteers are needed to greet prospective students, lead tours and be a representative of Saint Mary's College. For more information, call x4983 or x4449.

Rev. Samuel Kyles

On Tuesday, January 27 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., January Term presents Reverend Samuel "Billy" Kyles, compatriot of Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. For more information, contact Linda Saulsby at x4574.

Women of Color in Social Justice

Women of Color in Social Justice, a panel discussion by women about why they went into social justice will be held on Monday, January 26 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Delphine Multicultural Lounge. For more information, please call x8317.

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

Crime Beat

1/3 Incident: Vehicle damage Synopsis: College-owned vehicle damage at Chapel circle; case closed.	9:35 a.m.	1/11 Incident: Stolen vehicle Synopsis: Stolen vehicle at Guerrieri East parking lot; case suspended.	2:00 a.m.
1/5 Incident: Petty theft Synopsis: Petty theft at De La Salle; case suspended.	10:30 a.m.	1/11 Incident: Auto burglary Synopsis: Auto burglary at Guerrieri East parking lot; case suspended.	9:50 a.m.
1/5 Incident: Burglary Synopsis: Burglary at Becket Hall; referred to student conduct.	10:55 a.m.	1/11 Incident: Vehicle theft and recovery Synopsis: Vehicle theft and recovery at Aquinas parking lot; case suspended.	3:30 p.m.
1/6 Incident: Burglary Synopsis: Burglary at psychology department; referred to Sharon Neward.	9:30 a.m.	1/12 Incident: Locked auto burglary Synopsis: Locked auto burglary at townhouse parking lot; case suspended.	6:04 a.m.
1/8 Incident: Domestic violence Synopsis: Domestic violence at North Claeys; referred to student conduct.	10:40 p.m.	1/14 Incident: Tampering with vending machine Synopsis: Tampering with vending machine outside tennis court office; referred to student conduct.	4:50 a.m.

RES LIFE: Staff plans for next year

continued from pg 1

now joins Preciado as an Assistant RCC.

Preciado and Dominguez will serve the "middle campus" area that includes North and South Claeys, Becket, More, Justin, Mitty, Aquinas, and De La Salle Halls. Preciado's office is also located in the Office of Residence Life in Mitty Hall.

"We also had conversations about internal policies and practices. Topics such as office interaction and communication between different groups were discussed. The RCC offices were moved into the Office of Residence Life to better facilitate our office communication," said Spellman, whose own office was moved to Mitty Hall as well.

In regards to the In-Resident staff, communication was a key issue in their transitioning for spring semester as well.

To make the role of the IR better, Zoll listened to the requests such as inviting the IRs to Residence Life functions and keep an open communication with them.

"We've made that commitment to them," said Zoll. "They'll be invited to all the functions that Residence Life has, both business and social. We're going to try and keep them in the loop of what's going on."

Communication changes include IRs being attached to Residence Life emails as well as more interaction with RAs and residents in general.

The Resident Advisors faced their own changes, some of which carried over from last semester.

On November 17, Residence Life relieved two full-time RAs from their duties in the Guerrieri Townhouses, citing a "failure to perform to expectations" after distributing resource information to a resident who the RAs felt concern for.

"We had an open position in De La Salle, so to fill it, we hired

Eleanor-Rosa Alfaro as an assistant RA on the third floor," said Spellman. "Then, we have a staff member who is returning to her position in Guerrieri West, Katherine LaMons. When her position was open, we promoted Ronnie Willit to a full-time RA in the townhouse area."

Willit, now an RA in Freitas, waits for any other changes happening in the altered Residence Life.

"I just feel that it's a huge, complicated mess and I think it's just the effects of the big changes that they made for this year," said Willit. "I don't think anybody was 100 percent sure of what was going to happen as a result of the changes."

Overall, Willit addressed some of his frustration with the Residence Life system, but remains optimistic.

"I think the most frustrating part about it is that confidentiality is the number one priority in that office," said Willit. "Things might happen, the office will take care of it, and they might tell us that something happened, but that's about it. They won't give out any details or anything. We're definitely working on some improvements. Now that we have these interim positions in place, our objectives are much more clear now on what we need to work on. We'll pull out of it."

With this transition, the administration reminded RAs that their concerns are important to the process.

"One thing that was really important to us was knowing the RAs' dissatisfaction with things last semester and that they should be involved from the start," said Zoll. "There were two RAs on the transition team, so we were really fortunate to have them provide that perspective for us."

-Additional reporting by Jonathan Morales.

FORMALS: Seniors Plan Fundraiser

continued from pg 1

able. "We know that if the price is really high, people won't go, so we are trying to keep it as reasonable as possible," said Guzman. "People will be disappointed if we don't have a formal, but at the same time they can turn it around and change that by supporting our events."

Following the roadblocks in trying to put on a formal, Jeff Haskins, president of the class of 2005, said that the junior formal has been cancelled, although not entirely due to the lack of funds. There are three main reasons for not having a junior formal. First, the senior formal is more expensive than the junior officers anticipated. Second, more people typically attend the senior for-

mal. And third, by canceling the junior formal, the bid price for the senior formal may be reduced from \$20 to \$25.

"The trend over the past few years has been that the junior formal is not a big priority," said Haskins. "The emphasis is on a senior formal. We did a survey that showed students were interested in having a junior formal, which typically attracts only 100 to 150 people, whereas the senior formal attracts 400 to 500 people. We decided that we would save the money from the junior formal and hold on to the money the school gives us so that next year we can drop the bid price for the senior formal and make it a more spectacular event."

THEFTS: Car awareness raised

continued from pg 1

are very popular vehicles to steal, both for parts and their locking systems are prone to being defeated," said Foley.

Public Safety is working with the Moraga Police Department but has no leads or suspects for these crimes.

The crimes occurred in the Guerrieri townhouse lot and no other areas of campus were hit.

"We get very few problems in the townhouse lots when it comes to cars," said Foley. "The cars were parked toward the end of the chain of residence halls."

There may have been less movement or people in this area although Foley stated that more lighting had been installed and bushes clipped back to improve safety conditions.

Since the incidents, Public Safety has stepped up their pa-

trol and released the Public Safety Crime Alert.

Foley said residents are calling in more frequently to report things that seem or sound suspicious.

It appears to be a crime of opportunity and Saint Mary's was randomly targeted, said Foley.

At least two or more individuals are suspected in these crimes.

A witness claims to have seen people by one of the targeted vehicles in the Guerrieri lot around 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning. It is hard to determine whether they were suspects or simply people coming and going from parties that morning.

Foley advises residents to reduce temptation by locking vehicles and not leaving items of value in plain view.

"Use your intuition if something doesn't feel right whether driving or walking—don't stop, leave the area," said Foley.

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'Vagina Monologues' Returns To SMC

The Women's Resource Center brings the powerful play back with a message

by Kim Dao
Detour Editor

Usually, on February 14, fluffy teddy bears are cascaded everywhere along with the typical long stem roses and the expensive chocolates.

But since 1998 Eve Ensler's award winning play, *The Vagina Monologues* has turned Valentine's Day into "V-Day", a movement across America that seeks to stop violence against women.

This year, V-Day will not only encompass valentines, but also victory and vagina - two important words that lead the fight "until the violence stops."

The Women's Resource Center will be bringing the production to the Saint Mary's College campus for the second year on February 13 in LeFevre Theater.

The production is a part of the college campaign of the V-Day movement, where Ensler the playwright allows colleges to perform the play free of copyright to spread the message around the world. A silent auction takes place at the production, to generate funds.

This year the highlighted charity is NARIKA, a South Asian Woman's Center in Berkeley.

Bringing the "Vagina Monologues" to SMC is a culmination

of the work of students and the Women's Resource Center. First, they must seek permission from V-Day and then it is all a grassroots matter. People are recruited and the production becomes a labor of love and a matter of empowerment.

"One of the things I like about the production is that it emphasizes the importance of sharing women's stories. It connects us as a gender," said Ana Montanez '04, an actress in the production and organizing committee member.

"Everyone who is involved plays a role. It's all a matter of trusting the system - students have to go to six rehearsals including a dress rehearsal," said Sharon Sobotta, interim director of the Women's Resource Center.

A few changes make the Saint Mary's production different from last year's. A matinee show has been added due to the great demand of last year's show that sold out. Also, Dholrhythms Dance Company, an all-female Bhangra dance group will be a special guest at the production. "Bhangra, was a dance that was usually performed by men, but now it's done by women as well," explained Sharon Sobotta, the production

notes a term that can be perceived as being exclusive (vagina) - men should not shy away.

"The audience will have a chance to learn through people's experiences and realities of other people's countries, traditions, cultures, and walks of life," said Lindsay Lamb, the Women's Resource Center administrative assistant.

"For men, you can get a different perspective," commented Montanez.

The V-Day website notes the mission statement, "V-Day's mission is simple. It demands that the violence must end. It proclaims Valentine's Day as V-Day until the violence stops. When all women live in safety, no longer fearing violence or the threat of violence, then V-Day will be known as Victory Over Violence Day."

As V-Day brings gets closer, do not think only valentine, think vagina. *The Vagina Monologues* channels out a new voice to be heard. Come out and hear a new voice from lips that you never thought could talk.

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES
February 13 - LeFevre Theater
3:00pm and 8:00pm
Tickets on sale beginning Jan. 21 in Women's Resource Center

Beyond the Bubble

National and world news bites

Tony Vala-Haynes

American forces in Iraq captured the former leader of the Baath Party Wednesday. Khamis Sirhan Al-Muhammad was number 54 on a list of the 55 most-wanted Iraqi citizens.

A suicide Car bombing kills 2 civilians, 2 members of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps, and 1 police officer while injuring 29 others on Wednesday in Baqubah.

President Bush allows Canada to bid for contracts to rebuild Iraq, ignoring the Pentagons' earlier rule stating countries who did not support the U.S.-led war will not be allowed to bid for reconstruction contracts in Iraq.

It's now official. According to experts in London, Mobile Phones will not cause cancer.

Jack White, the lead singer for White Stripes, pleads innocent to the charges of repeatedly punching a singer from another band in the face at a concert on December 13.

Dick Gephardt, Democratic presidential candidate, attacks Howard Dean's integrity, referring to Dean as "a fair-weather friend of the American worker".

On Wednesday, January 14th, Judge Maria Silveira refused to dismiss the murder charges against Scott Peterson, ruling the prosecution has obtained sufficient evidence to proceed to trial.

The assistant secretary of health affairs, William Winkenwerder, reports the U.S. military has documented 21 suicides in 2003 among troops stationed in Iraq. After several soldiers murdered their wives and themselves at Fort Bragg, N.C., the Army began to offer more counseling to troops returning from the war.

President Bush proposes the development of a new spacecraft in order to have Americans back on the moon as early as 2015. He proposes the construction of an international space station as well, to be used as a "springboard" to Mars.

(Sources: CNN.com, MSNBC.com, Contra Costa Times)

JAN TERM: Speakers help educate about melting pot

continued from pg 1

classes, but Reverend Kyles' visit provides us with a real life eyewitness perspective of what we've been studying.

Renowned Asian American writer and activist, Helen Zia, will be delivering a lecture on January 28 in the Soda Center. Zia is an acclaimed writer with the book *Asian American Dreams*

detailing Asia's history as well as her own experience.

Carol Lashof presents "The Melting Pot," a student performance searching to answer whether America is a melting pot.

Using Israel Zangwill's 1908 love story of mixed races and cultures, Lashof and San Francisco director Susannah Martin, have

been reworking the story for several years.

With the help of Lashof's Jan Term class, they can finally present a free "workshop production" of their work.

The Jan Term events are designed for students to be engaged, inspired and informed by internationally and nationally recognized social leaders.

SNAPSHOT



This Jan Term, Professor Costanza Dopfel is teaching the class "To Be a Knight." This class allows students to learn about the Middle Ages and the process of becoming a knight.

Lissette Garcia/COLLEGIAN



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Media Uncovered
what don't we know?
 caitlin hungate

When you are flipping through the television and see the same news stories on channels like ABC, CNN, Fox, and other stations, do you really think they are covering all the stories of the day? As of lately, the Michael Jackson scandal and Britney's latest publicity stunt seem to permeate airwaves. Is this all that is going on? Reality check: NO! All the news stations are covering what sells. Even when there is actual news on the news, the stories are the same.

During recent global conflicts, there was not complete coverage of what was really going on. The government was clearly controlling what they wanted the public to know and not to know. In the book *Censored 2004* by Peter Phillips and Project Censored, there are many issues that were not adequately covered, or covered at all in the mainstream media. These issues are important and include human rights violations, abuse of governmental power, etc. But the two stories that should have been covered that have been lacking in coverage were the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The Taliban regime in Afghanistan clearly had to go - they used violence whenever possible, women's rights were a foreign concept and there was no freedom. After the United States invasion, the image that Americans received was that everything was peachy, the Taliban was gone and things in Afghanistan were better than ever. WRONG. Poverty in Afghanistan is the worst it has been in decades, there is still no new constitution, little has changed for the average woman, and aid for reconstruction has barely been delivered. Once the United States moved into Iraq, coverage on Afghanistan was limited. So then why not tell the complete story that everything is not so grand in Afghanistan? The lack of attention the topic has received proves the government controls what they want us to know.

More shocking was information regarding the war on Iraq and weapons of mass destruction. On December 19, 2002, the Berlin newspaper *Die Tageszeitung* reported that more than 8,000 pages of the original weapons declaration report were removed by the United States that had originally contained 11,800 pages. What was the United States trying to hide? The story explained that "the missing pages implicated 24 U.S.-based corporations and the successive Ronald Reagan and George Bush Sr. Administration in connection with the illegal supplying of Saddam Hussein's government with myriad weapons of mass destruction and the training to use them." One may at first question this information because it is opposite to what the mainstream media has been covering. So where does the truth lie?

As a concerned global citizen, it is our job to look for it. We must turn to non-mainstream sources for information if we hope to find out what is really happening in the world. Turn off CNN, get on the internet, or listen to NPR. The truth is out there if you know where to look for it.

OPINION

Collegian View

The year 2004 has arrived and to welcome its coming, students across the SMC campus made their various resolutions in attempts to improve their lives in the upcoming 12 months (see Detour p. 6).

But, it may be that more than just students made their resolutions as 2003 faded away with a ten-second count down.

It seems that the office of Student Affairs made the move to follow in the footsteps of the students it regulates and made a resolution of its own. The extreme changes made to Residence Life since the end of the fall semester (see News p. 1) are showing signs of a change of heart in Student Affairs.

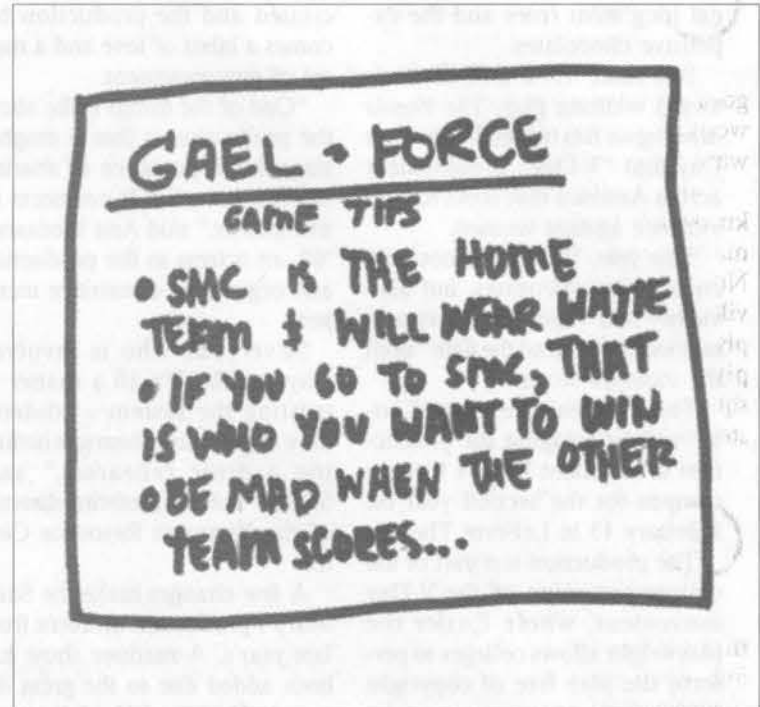
The attempted restructuring of Residence Life for the next semester looks as though it may actually be an attempt to answer the complaints, criticisms and critiques voiced by numerous members of this community including students. Many students heard the complaints of residents as well as advisors and In-Residents over the last semester: the new system didn't make sense to

most.

Fortunately, someone with the capability to do something beyond complain listened to what the community had to say. Perhaps a new trend has begun at SMC. Has a resolution to listen to students, to consider the opinions of all involved, and to not fear change been instated in Saint Mary's division of Student Affairs? If so, let's hope it lasts longer than that doomed resolution of losing weight.

It also looks as though the Athletic Department is aiming to turn around the levels of pep at SMC. While the Women's Basketball team is doing their part to get the crowds cheering (3-0 in conference), Gaelforce is attempting to do its part with its clever new cheer sheets (see Sports p. 10). If it takes a flyer to get the crowd intense at a home basketball game, is it time for the fans to make a resolution of their own? It may be slightly over optimistic but who's to tell if this is the return of an NCAA tournament appearance for the Gaels? Well, you never know.

SMC's junior class also looks



Cartoon by Sam Adams/COLLEGIAN

as though it's preparing to make waves in the new year with leader Jeff Haskins nowhere near shying away from making big decisions in an attempt to make big change (see News p. 1). While it's too late for some, the class of '05 may be setting a precedent for future classes without realizing it. Only the year 2005 will tell.

And loyal readers don't fear, we haven't forgotten ourselves.

The Collegian has made a few resolutions of its own.

The Collegian always strives to deliver the news to students in a timely and accurate manner.

The Collegian now looks to expand, taking its contents and more to the Internet. Keep an eye out for gaelpage online, coming this spring (see advertisement p. 4). SMC, good luck with your resolutions!

Community Views

Attention Junior Class of 2005:

We have a lot of activities planned during these next few months! During the Fall semester, we organized and planned, and now you're going to see the result of our work. First, I must inform you that the Junior Formal has been CANCELLED! Our reasons why:

1. The Senior Formal is costing more than we anticipated
2. More people attend the Sr. than the Jr. (400-500 compared to 150)
3. If we save the money then the cost of Sr. bids will decrease by \$25.

This is the best decision, and will be completely worth it next year!! Possible locations of Senior Ball 2005: Claremont, Mark Hopkins, and Westin St. Francis.

The Spring semester activities we have planned are:

1. Baseball style T-shirts will be available the first week of the spring semester
2. Baja Fresh fundraiser is Thursday, Feb. 12th

3. "Battle of the Bands" is Friday, Feb. 20th (5 SMC bands will perform)

4. Bowling Night early March (Date T.B.A.)

5. Junior social/BBQ towards the end of March (T.B.A.)

We NEED your support, and it's a great way to build class unity. Also, we want to hear feedback/new ideas from you! Contact us at ASSMC, x4704.

Jeff Haskins
 Junior Class President

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. Submit to collegia@stmarys-ca.edu

Dryden Gameroom
Open Hours
 Sunday- Wednesday
 10am- Midnight
 Thursday- Saturday
 10am- 2am

Air Hockey * Foosball * X-BOX * Ping Pong * Pool Tables * Board Games

WEBMASTER NEEDED

Help put the Collegian online.

We need a site built from scratch.

Up for the challenge?

All equipment provided.

collegia@stmarys-ca.edu 925.631.4279
 (ask for Andrea)

GAEL POLL

90 Saint Mary's students were polled on their opinion of their Janterm class thus far.

How do you feel about Jan term?



Chris Bellman '04



"I'm happy with it because I couldn't take this class otherwise because of my major."

89% of students are happy with their Jan term class

Life at SMC: A Love/Hate Relationship

10 Things I Hate About You It's All Relative

by Brent Mills Staff Writer

by Christian Muller Staff Writer

Ding Dong! Let's Get Life On

michelle dalida

I've been pushed into a corner. The pressure of doing something "special" because you receive a diploma from SMC stares me face to face. The thought of having to choose just one thing to do with my life for the remainder of it is like Mike Tyson with his fist coming at me to take me out and devour both my ears.

How do you battle the expectations, the uncertainty, and the insecurity? How do we face true independence alone? Somewhere along the journey we call life, we are given preconceived notions of how to live, act, and learn what is right from wrong. We are pre-programmed to become a certain individual, and function as that certain person in society.

The whole thought of this holds me hostage from my true self. Is there ever a "right" time to question and think about what direction our lives are really going? I think I procrastinated until it was too late. People say to me, "You have your whole life to figure it out!" But when your whole life starts after you receive your diploma, where are you supposed to begin?

Undoubtedly we all start from the bottom, build firm foundations and work our way to the top, but how can you start building your great career and life if you don't even know where to break ground?

The only thing I've really learned at SMC is that there are no easy answers to life anymore. Even with the expensive education and guidance, there still is uncertainty and fear of the unknown - which is disguised as life. It doesn't matter that we all (hopefully) make it through four years, because success is measured by how we fit into the world, not in ten years, but now.

The extreme pressure of that is sure to pop any student's inflated ideas about exploring and challenging life. Although the answers seem easy: get a job, work hard, and strive for the best or go to graduate school, life can still numb anyone with an uppercut when they least expect it.

In the end, even with my great doubts and bouts of anxiety, maybe my stress is just pre-life jitters. I've come this far, I don't plan on becoming a bum, and I don't plan on letting life knock me out before my time.

My corner shouldn't be my hell. Maybe my name being called at graduation is the symbolic bell to start the fight. I just have to go out, fists up and fight life- hopefully not to face any of the big guns just yet.

There are no correct answers to life; we just have to live it and see where our decisions take us. Maybe I shouldn't hold myself back because of my education and expectations. It's about time I fight for myself. Even if life turns out really bad, at least I know I got myself there. Life can give us some hard blows, but it's not about taking them with dignity, but learning how to give some of them back.

1 Fire Alarms - Maybe this is just an Ageno B thing. But it seems like at least once a week one of these goes off. Rage is just too weak a word to describe my feelings toward the people that pull these.

2 The Smell - I know that in that marshy jungle next to North Claeys lives a vile beast. I will simply call him sewage. Is it a busted pipe? Where all the deer are squatting? I don't know, but that stench has to go.

3 Rich, Dumb Idiots - We all are aware of the fact that your dad bought your way into here. But do you have to make it so abundantly clear that it leaves the rest of us wanting to stab you in the throat with a hard-earned pencil?

4 The Food - It seems cliché to rip on Saga. But what again are we paying for? Styrofoam cups and paper dishes. We're reduced to children by relying on cereal to get us through our days.

5 Freshman Dorms - Ok, so I'm no longer a freshman and am of the attitude that you punks deserve very little, but maybe caging them up in pseudo prison cells isn't the answer. I'd like to think of Augustino would cringe upon seeing the hall emblazoned with his name.

6 The Internet - Cuts you off randomly, slow when it works. Cause of much anger on campus.

7 Lack of Birth Control on Campus - Getting pregnant may be a good time for some. But I just don't think many women want to jump on that train right now.

8 Student Apathy - Does anyone care about anything anymore? Eh, whatever.

9 The new Traffic Circles - Waste of money. Your tires will skid when it rains in the circle by Syufy. Those cute lil' rocks should have been replaced by ugly, safe and cheap pavement. Oh, I give up. Hearing tires screech is so rad! It's like I'm in "The Fast And The Furious!"

10 Public "Safety" - So a window gets broken in none other than Mitty last year. The officer refused to believe the guy my group of friends saw break it based on the following. This is no joke.

Officer: "Oh he drives a Ferrari, it's not his style"
Students: "But he's the one who did it, we saw him."
Officer: "You don't understand, he has others, you know other cars."
Uhhhh...

• We go to school twenty minutes outside the best city in the world in the beautiful hills of Moraga.

• Job Opportunities. Where else can you walk a dog for fifteen dollars an hour while making a great business connection

• The campus is safe! Honestly, if you don't feel safe in this community than good luck in the real world, because this sure ain't it.

Sure, the campus is strict but this leads to memories made of gold like the one I have of sneaking warm Natty Ice into De La Salle freshman year.



chopping it up with the CEO of a Fortune 500 company?

• We benefit from an education that keeps us focused on the societal essentials while we are allowed to explore a deeper and different form of thinking courtesy of Jan term and seminar.

• There is rarely an unknown face at SMC. We have a variety of students, and when we step on this campus differences are left at the front gate and for the most part we all get along. I really can't emphasize this enough, my last statement was as corny as it was true.

• Professors know their students by name within the first two weeks no questions asked.

• The campus beauty is accompanied by its serene and tranquil atmosphere. You can tell the difference between Saturday night and Sunday morning. If you want to find a party, you will. If you want to relax quietly, you can.

It is so easy to complain and people seem to love to do it. Sure, I have some gripes about the way the system works, however, take a second and look around and tell me what we have to complain about in regards to SMC. I could make a list of complaints, however, it would pale in comparison to the list of complaints that victims of the Iranian earthquake would make as they struggled to find a qualified doctor to treat a flesh wound. How about the six-year-old child that just lost his parents due to a heat-seeking missile, his list of complaints is probably getting pretty lengthy. My point in writing this was not to make my love of SMC known, but rather to draw something out that so many of us seem to lack today: appreciation. Appreciate what you have and what you have been given. Just by being born in this country we have been given so much more than others will ever have. If you don't like SMC, leave. Everything's relative, if you like what you have, it can always get better; if you don't like what you have, it could always get worse. So quit complaining and enjoy the college experience that so many of us have been blessed with thanks to the Syufy's or some form of financial aid.

Is Arnold Poisoning the State?

Governor's budget cuts could prove disastrous in the long run

by Jonathan Morales

In-Depth Editor

Earlier this year I wrote an article that contained in it some doubts about Arnold Schwarzenegger's ability to govern California. I expressed doubts that any of the 150 recall candidates could do a better job of getting us out of this mess than Gray Davis.

The truth is, this became a no-win situation for whoever was destined to get the job. That unlucky man is now Schwarzenegger.

There are really only two ways to eliminate a deficit. Increase revenue (raise taxes) or cut spending (social programs).

Make that deficit \$15 billion, and that's either a lot of taxes or a lot of budget cuts. Either option is not favorable with the public.

Schwarzenegger is, unfortunately, choosing the greater of two evils. He has decided that rather than ask all Californians to pitch in and help out by increasing taxes, he is going to ask mainly poor and working-class Californians to make "sacrifices." These sacrifices come in the form of budget cuts to programs that primarily serve the poor of California. Schools that are near failing will lose the last bit of money they cling to, parents who can't afford health care

for their children will face the loss of Medicare benefits, and many will be forced off of Welfare.

In a major blow to higher education, as many as 8,200 would-be freshmen to the UC system will instead be forced to go to two-year community colleges, according to the San Francisco Chronicle. In addition, the governor has called for a 10% increase of tuition. This, of course, will affect poorer students who will now be unable to afford an education they would otherwise be more than qualified for.

Striking down essential programs will not help. It will

merely further poison an already crippled state.

Currently, Schwarzenegger is enjoying a "honeymoon" of popularity. Like President Bush after the September 11th attacks, he can do no wrong. His movie-star legacy and the fact that he is someone besides Gray Davis blind many into submitting to his disastrous budget cuts. However, Schwarzenegger may soon find that, when the honeymoon is over and the novelty of having the Terminator in office has worn off, what was a fully submissive public will soon find the taste of Schwarzeneggonomics bitter, and turn into a very angry electorate.

"I like my teacher, he is so interesting. But it's just a little too long."



Tiffany Sieber '06

41%

of students do not feel there are enough activities offered during Jan term

Greg MacArthur '07



"It's interesting and it has good subject matter."

47%

of students said their favorite part of Jan term is the extra free time

top ten

things to do during Jan Term... (BESIDES THE OBVIOUS)

ten Take part in the Jan Term festivities:
-Karaoke Nights
-Coffee Nights
-Midnight Bowling

nine Have a marathon:
-Catch up on Sex and the City
-Last chance to see the Oscar Nominations
-MTV is a running marathon.

eight Go hiking at Mt. Diablo or hit the bike paths around school to shed off the holiday pounds

seven A Day in the Car:
-Drive to Santa Cruz and take a surfing lesson...or walk along the Boardwalk.
-Drive to Tahoe and eat some snow.

six Hit up the Arts and Entertainment section in the Contra Costa Times for listings of local concerts at the Fillmore and Warfield. Visit the Diane Arbus Photography Exhibit currently showing at S.F.M.O.M.A.

five Have a picnic in Golden Gate Park.

four Explore thrift stores. You get a lot for a little. Try Crossroads Trading on Telegraph in Berkeley.

three Go to Berkeley:
-Be adventurous and get a new tattoo on Telegraph
-Try a couple excellent, cheap restaurants: Cafe Intermezzo Gypsy's Italian.

two Leave school and visit friends at other college campuses. Try Santa Clara's gourmet kitchen.

one Grow some cajones and ask your crush out to the drive-in. If anything, it's a good place to makeout.

-by Caitlin Hungate and Tony Vala-Haynes
Staff Writers

DETOUR

Making New Year's Resolutions Watching the ball drop...along with those resolutions

So we're into the third week of January now. And I hate to sound like one of those self-help magazines for women going through their mid-life crisis, but here I go anyways: how are your New Year's resolutions going?

Have you broken into that package of Cheetos yet? Is your gym membership card lost behind your frequent buyer's card for Cold Stone? Did you drink a little too much last weekend and proceed to embarrass yourself by doing your infamous impression of Britney Spears?

Chances are that by now you've forgotten all your blissfully blind resolutions for 2004. But come on, let's face it: New Year's resolutions suck. The way I see it, resolutions serve only as confirmation that changing your self is nearly impossible.

But why are New Year's resolutions so pointless? And why does it always end in a tragic scene with you, Ben, Jerry, and a bottle of wine in front of the TV? And more perplexing, why do we insist on making such empty promises year after year? Well, in order to truly understand this phenomenon, let's take a mind trip back to New Year's Eve itself.

So there's Dick Clark and a giant ball, there are old friends and new friends, there's merriment, and of course there's a kiss at midnight (or else there's the sad realization that, once again, you're alone on New Year's Eve). And amidst all the belligerency (if you're coherent enough) you begin to think that this year is going to be "the year." The year that you shed five pounds; the year you refrain from the seductive bottle of rum in your closet and focus on school work; the year you finally break out of your shell; the year you tame your sarcastic bite and work on your inner chi. Whatever the resolution, at midnight on New Year's Eve you promise yourself that this will be the year that things will be different. A few days into the new year, however, you forget your new outlook on life and revert right back to the old you.

We all want to change, to grow, to develop into the idealized self we know we are capable of becoming. But I'm here to tell you that New Year's resolutions are not the solution to life's little problem areas, such as love handles or failing grades. I'm here to urge you to protest New Year's resolutions.

Instead, just focus on living in the moment (as cliché and overly used as it may sound). Forget the bondage of promises for 2004. Because after all, New Year's is at best only an excuse to drink and watch balls drop. So don't freak out if you find yourself gorging on Chinese food and beer or spacing out during class. Some things are just meant to be broken.

anna gates
staff writer



"...to tell you that New Year's resolutions are **NOT** the solution to life's little problem areas, such as love handles or failing grades."



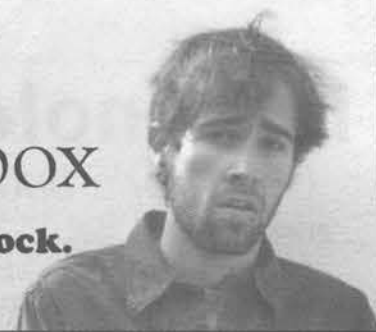
http://www.timesquarebid.org/new_year

The ball has dropped and explosions have ensued, has your New Year's resolutions done the same?

stepping outside the saga box

We take 'cold and lonely' for a spin around the saga-less block.

by Brent Mills, Staff Writer



Many students complain of Saga's food quality and selection. I am also one of these people. I set out to see if eating at other locations besides Saga would be worthwhile and possibly more nutritious. From Tuesday the thirteenth to Saturday the seventeenth I banned myself from Saga and set out on the mission. Here's a brief rundown on what I bought and consumed during that almost week.

Monday - Didn't start just yet

Tuesday - Wake up late with a headache, a massive headache. Drink some water to quench my thirst. Go to class. Come back from class hungry. Eat a couple warmed tortillas and a yogurt. Go to sleep fairly hungry.

Total food cost for day: Under three dollars

Wednesday - Same routine as Tuesday except I eat the rest of the tortillas pack. Later on in the evening I jet down to Safeway only to purchase the wrong type of chicken potpie. Seems the one I bought could only be cooked in an oven. Instead of making the smart decision and cook in the hall oven I decide to futilely attempt to cook it in the microwave. The sloppy mess that came out was not edible. I drive back down to purchase a fish loaf frozen dinner that is microwave compatible. Taken with alcohol the fish paste was tolerable.

Total food cost for day: Under five dollars

Thursday - Wake up with yet another headache and tortilla-less. Near panic I try to enlist a friend to go to Gourmet Hams in Rheem with me. Success. By far the best meal I consumed during this whole debacle. Clam chowder and a hot Swiss and turkey sandwich was the delicious meal of choice. Feeling fancy I also grab a beverage from the refrigerator. With a Pepsi for dinner I'm ready to hit the hay.

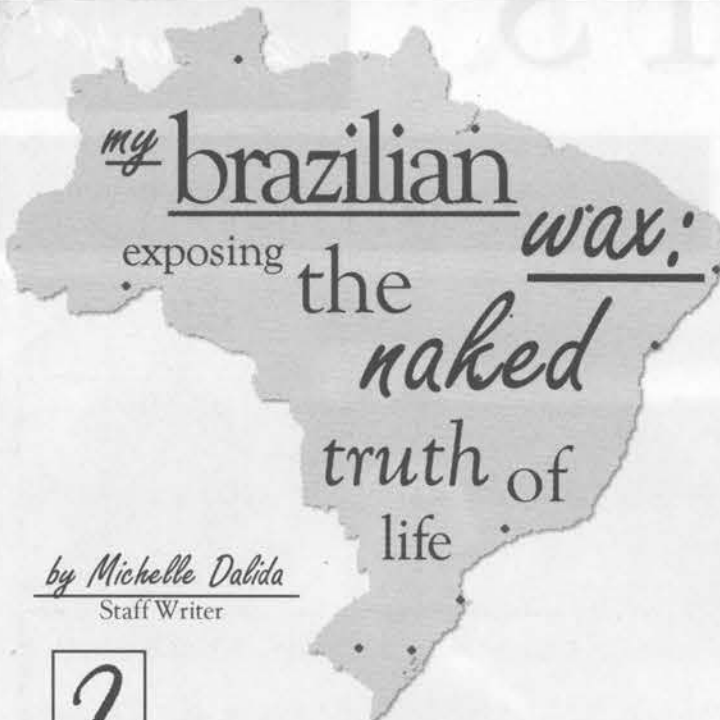
Total food cost for day: Around eight dollars

Friday - Upon awakening I get ready to take on the day at 2 p.m. and go to Berkeley with some friends. I visit Le Vals Pizza and order a slice of pepperoni and a drink for exactly three dollars. Now I see why people would rather go to Berkeley. I decide to see the movie Big Fish that evening with some friends. After the movie was over the girl sitting next to me told me that she'd never sit by me during a movie that showed any food again. Apparently the salivation and groans during the food scenes gave her the wrong impression. Heart-broken and hungry I get a Haagen Daz ice cream bar on the way back to ease my heart and stomachache. Bad idea, ice cream will just exacerbate those problems, not make them any better. Going to bed in pain I feel thankful that the week is over.

Total food cost for day: Under five dollars

The conclusion that I came to was that while eating at Saga is a painful and never quite enjoyable time, eating at other places is just too much work. Maybe if I wasn't so lazy and had a real cooking space in the dorms this article would have been different. If you have the drive to eat healthy I say go for it! You'll be better off. But for us lazy piles Saga is the only option.

This month, Staff Writer Michelle Dalida gives you a special insight into worldly views gained during her Jan Term class in Brazil.



by Michelle Dalida
Staff Writer

?

I am constantly surrounded by beautiful people. They are tan, light-eyed, curly-haired and friendlier than a Prada salesperson on a millionaire customer. The Brazilian people open their homes, and share their food with us, yet they are some of the poorest people I have ever met. The favelas are certainly one of the most dismal places I have ever experienced. The majority of the houses in the favelas are the size of a dorm room suite, at best, and house twice as many people on average. Kids run around barefoot on unpaved streets, and commonly eat a diet of rice and beans. Even though this situation sounds unbearable, either the people do not realize what kind of wealth other people live in, or do not understand how it is to be cynical and greedy for material wealth.

Every time I have stepped into the favela to visit families with my Christian Service Internship organization, Pastoral de Criaca, every family we have visited has willingly opened up their homes to myself and my Jan term group. They offer us the little food they have in order to be hospitable, and they talk up a Portuguese storm even though I cannot speak more than a few sentences. I see how genuine they are to make me feel welcome, and give me presents that they should not be spending their hard earned reals (Brazilian money) on. Every time we work in the favelas, we are always well fed, hugged, and wondered at, and I see that even though I am not doing much in the scheme of their lives, they are appreciative of my effort and my willingness to try to make their situation a little bit more cheerful.

As I look at the situation in Brazil, I can see how much it mirrors the United States in terms of the wide gap between the wealthy and the poor. When we are in our own country, we never really understand the disadvantaged. We blame the poor for their own laziness, or financial situation. We are chagrined, cynical, and too obsessed about picking out the right outfit to wear that shows that we are casual, yet rich all at the same time. The poor never really consciously cross our minds until the holidays when we toss a couple of bucks into a red Salvation Army donation pot. Where has our consciousness of our society and people gone?

America, ultimately, is on top of the world food chain and we are the country that others are starting to emulate when it comes to fashion, sports, food, and language. Nothing about Brazil is very much different than the U.S. other than the language, but there is one major differentiation - the people. It is the Brazilian spirit of hope, warmth, and friendliness that I notice most about their people. Rich or poor, young and old, everyone treats each other equally, something that is truly missing from the U.S.

Although I miss speaking the English language, my car, and my friends, I do not miss the anomosity that is felt amongst Americans to compete with each other in order to be a winner in the money game we call a profession. In America, it's not about what we have, but what we don't have that makes us bitter, and I'm tired of having that funny taste in my mouth. I have learned to become appreciative of the kind of life I live, when, before the time I left I thought my life was headed down the highway to nowhere.

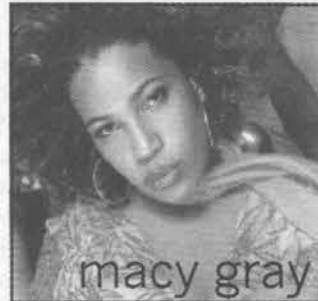
As I uncover the mystery of basic human living through my Jan term trip, I begin to understand that life anywhere in the world is not smooth and perfect. It has its unsightly bumps and is unpleasant. But it is how we make the most of it that can turn a bad situation into a good one - a true bad situation, even one in a favela, can still be a good one.

"In America, it's not about what we have, but what we don't have that makes us bitter, and I'm tired of having that funny taste in my mouth."

concert calendar

january 25

Travis
\$30
all ages
The Warfield
San Francisco, CA



macy gray

january 28

Ted Leo/Pharmacists
\$10
all ages
9:00pm
Bottom of the Hill
San Francisco, CA

february 7

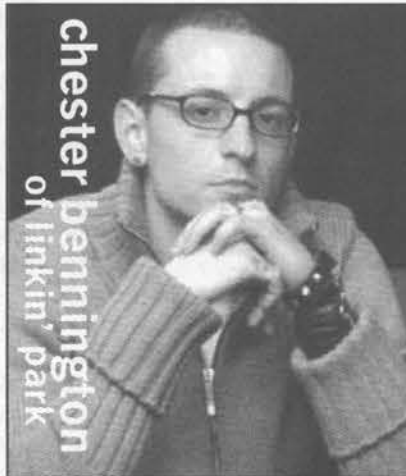
Atmosphere
\$20
9:00pm
The Fillmore
San Francisco, CA



evanescence

february 16

Meteora Tour:
Linkin' Park
Hoobastank
P.O.D.
Story of the Year
\$34.50
7:00pm
HP Pavilion
San Jose, CA



chester bennington
of linkin' park



hoobastank

january 24

Boys Gone Wild
The Brodys
Rain Fur Rent
\$10 / \$12 at the door
21 and over
Red Devil Lounge
San Francisco, CA

january 27

David Bowie
w/ Macy Gray
\$51-\$76
7:30pm
HP Pavilion
San Jose, CA

february 4

The Shins
\$17.50
8:00pm
The Fillmore
San Francisco, CA

february 13

Evanescence
w/ Default
\$28.50
7:00pm
S.J. State Event Center
San Jose, CA

100 word reviews

hear:

Phantom Planet
Phantom Planet

Phantom Planet's latest offering is quite a departure from the sunny tunes on *The Guest*. With the departure of drummer Jason Schwartzbaugh the band is left feeling at a loss for some of the energy exhibited on *The Guest*. Songs like "Big Brat" and "The Happy Ending" show the grittier sound they're futilely attempting to capture. Looks like they've been listening to The Strokes as well with songs like "Just A Scratch." Overall, this album pales in comparison to *The Guest*. It doesn't sound like the old Phantom Planet I knew recorded this. Stay away.

-Brent Mills

eat:

Public Market
Emeryville, CA

Five hungry, indecisive people... what to do? One wants Chinese; others want Mexican, or Japanese, or Korean, or Jamaican, or Italian, or Afghan, or who knows. Emeryville's Public Market has the solution. Home to over a dozen types of ethnic foods, served fast and reasonably priced you can't go wrong here. It doesn't compare to a four star restaurant but it's so much better than Panda Express or Taco Bell. Explore other cultural foods you'd never thought you'd try. Free Samples! Connected to Borders you can browse away the calories. And if your friends leave unsatisfied, tough, you at least tried.

-Christina McAfee

watch:

Chasing Liberty
starring Mandy Moore

Pop tart Mandy Moore takes another star turn in *Chasing Liberty*, an escapade where she plays the first daughter (Anna Foster) striving for some freedom from the watchful eye of secret service. Her dad decides to give her controlled freedom with a safety net from agent Ben Culver (Goode). Their adventures strike a romance against beautiful Europe. Newcomer Matthew Goode takes this a vehicle on a ride to make him a star, perfect to inject chemistry with the talented Moore. It's just too bad, the movie can fizzle on the material: fortunately Moore and Goode, however more than make up for it.

-Kim Dao

small talk



"I DO BELIEVE IN THE SANCTITY OF MARRIAGE, I DO. BUT I WAS IN VEGAS AND IT TOOK OVER ME. DO YOU REALIZE WE LANDED ON MARS THAT DAY? WHY ISN'T ANYONE TALKING ABOUT THAT?"

-BRITNEY SPEARS ON HER 55-HOUR MARRIAGE, PHONING INTO MTV'S *TRL*

-compiled by Andrea Camarena and Brent Mills
DATES ARE CORRECT AS OF PRESS TIME

SPORTS

SPRING
SPORTS
PREVIEW
Bonanza!

Players of the Week



courtesy of SMCGaels.com

paul marigney

Even though the Gaels' most important game of the season ended in a disappointing loss, Marigney continued his hot streak. Earlier in the week, Marigney hung 30 points on Portland as the Gaels opened WCC play, setting the tone for the conference season. Then, against Gonzaga, Marigney scored 20 points, leading the offensive attack. He single handedly kept St. Marys in the game with 16 points in the first half, including three three-pointers at the end of the half.

-Sam Adams, Sports Editor

triola jackson

As the women's basketball team continued on its ubdefeated ways in the WCC, Jackson helped them stay perfect Saturday. Against Gonzaga, Jackson went for 19 points along with four rebounds and an assist.

-Sam Adams, Sports Editor

Score Card

Women's basketball (11-6)

	1	2	Final
Saint Mary'	33	30	63
Portland	19	39	48

T. Jackson - 20 points, 16 reb.
E. Van Burger - 14 points

	1	2	Final
Saint Mary's	23	37	60
Gonzaga	18	30	48

T. Jackson - 19 points, 4 reb.

Men's basketball (10-7)

	1	2	Final
Saint Mary's	37	33	70
Portland	28	23	51

P. Marigney - 30 points
E.J. Rowland - 16 points

	1	2	Final
Saint Mary's	32	29	61
Gonzaga	35	40	75

P. Marigney - 20 points
D. Kickert - 14 points
F. Adjiwanou - 13 points,
10 reb.

Breath of Fresh Air:

New coach has baseball team believing they can win... now

by Sam Adams
Sports Editor

At the end of last year, things looked as if they couldn't get any worse. Ending the season on an 11 game losing streak will do that to a baseball team. They finished 18-37 (8-21 in the WCC), and then head coach John Baptista was let go. So of course, the baseball team is walking around with their heads held high and their chests puffed out.

The team has a new attitude heading into the season. New 29 year old coach Jedd Soto has the team looking up. Soto, a unanimous choice of the players, coaches, administrators and search committee, is no stranger to success. His record at Feather River City was 167-85 (.663 winning percentage) Last year five players were drafted from his squad. And here he has the team looking in a new direction.

"There's definitely an improvement in attitude," said Soto. "There is more of a family environment from coaches to players and how they respond to us."

Soto will bring a new concept to the team; or, as he calls it, a "new system." He also will bring a more aggressive attack to the offense. His previous team (Feather River) led the state in stolen bases over the past four years. Last year, they were successful on stolen base attempts 138 out of 150 tries.

"We will be absolutely aggressive," said Soto, "especially on the base paths. It's going to be a different approach offensively; we're not afraid to run."

The team lost some key components over the off-season with catcher Nick Conte, who hit .335 with 36 RBI, being drafted by the Giants in the 13th round. The team also lost senior outfielder/DH Tim Spooner (.272, 30 RBI), first baseman James Gaulke (.276), outfielder Jeff Cunningham (.277, 14 RBI), and leading pitcher Eric Bowden (7-8, 5.52, 6 CG).

But the entire starting infield will return, including Bryan Byrne. Byrne, starting at third base as only a freshman, was named a freshman All-American, first team all-WCC, and the WCC freshman of the year. Byrne led the team with a .358 average 78 hits, 42 runs, 46 RBI, and a .429 OBP. Also returning is second baseman Mike Harris (.247), shortstop Gilbert Gil (.314), and first baseman Delhanny Gallager (.317). Stepping in to fill Conte's shoes will be Stefan Foushee (.154).

"All four infielders will see extensive time," said Soto, "but some freshmen will be there to push for playing time."

Also returning are outfielders Mike Sansoe, Adam Bellows, Preston Young, and Adam Thompson.



"This team is going to be extremely experienced as far as position players, and young on the mound," said Soto. "I think that sums up my feelings as far as where the team is at this point. We'll play solid defense and at times some dominant pitching performances."

On the hill for the Gaels will be starter Kevin Trochez, who finally looks healthy after arm surgery. Other starters will include Dane Dobrinich and Justin Sloan.

Although the team has no closer, Soto says he will enter a

series with his best eight pitchers, and anyone can be called on at any time. One arm to look out for is Jordan Simo, a transfer from east LA, who has been impressive in camp. The lone lefty in the bullpen will be Parker Mangum, who also played quarterback for the football team.

"The coaching staff is looking forward to getting out there and competing," said Soto. "We have a group of kids that have bought into our system of baseball."

Gaels get a split against 'Zags

Men can't quiet kennel, Ladies handle Gonzaga at home

The Men (61-75)

They say the road to the WCC championship runs through Gonzaga, and the Gaels got a flat tire at the kennel.

The 17th-ranked Bulldogs sealed their 15th straight game against Saint Mary's Saturday night 75-61 despite a gritty effort by the Gaels.

Saint Mary's kept it close for most of the game despite trailing early by 12, but Blake Stepp, who had only scored one point in the first half, reeled off 15 in the second to lead the Bulldogs to victory.

The Gaels had trimmed the deficit to five with 3:30 to go, but Stepp scored seven consecutive points, and the Gaels could not score a point for the rest of the game.

Paul Marigney led the Gaels back into the game with his 16-point first half performance, and a team-leading 20 points. Marigney hit three three-pointers right before the half to make the score 35-32, but the Zags were able to pull away once he cooled off. Daniel Kickert added 14 and Frederic Adjiwanou finished with a double double with 13

points and 10 rebounds.

The next game for the Gaels is another impact match-up, against rival Santa Clara Thursday at McKeon Pavillion, tip off at 7:05. After taking on San Diego Saturday, the Gaels will make a southern California road trip to visit Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount.

-Sam Adams, Sports Editor

The Women (60-48)

With the recent 60-48 win against Gonzaga at home on Saturday night, the Gaels continue to look for exciting things to happen this season, looking to prove a preseason West Coast Conference poll that ranked the girls 8th wrong.

"There is no pressure on the team because we were picked last," said junior forward Triola Jackson, "and we want to prove them wrong."

With four home wins against UCLA, USD, Portland, and now Gonzaga, the Gaels appear unstoppable.

Key contributors in the win against Gonzaga were Jackson, with a game-high 19 points, as well as freshman guard Serena Benavente with 13 points. A key to the victory was the rebound

battle, which Saint Mary's controlled, out-rebounding Gonzaga, 37-31.

"As the season progresses, we will play more as a team and constantly improve," said Benavente. "We are going to be scary come the end of the season."

With her prediction and how the Gaels are playing, they show early signs of a possible post-season appearance.

One of the most impressive aspects about the team is their depth.

"Everyone on the team contributes and having a solid bench where there are two or three people for every position helps," said guard Evynn Van Burger.

This depth has garnered the team three consecutive WCC wins in a strong conference where every team has talent.

Besides the upper-classmen talent in Jackson, Van Burger, junior guard Savannah Williams and senior guard Lindsay Lopez, there are seven freshmen that look to step up to any WCC team. Guards Benavente and Lauren Shaughnessy both are extremely aggressive in their defensive play as well as being a silent offensive threat. Other new faces to watch for are freshmen forwards

Eghosa Obaiza and Monica Mertle, freshman center Sheridan Arredondo and sophomore transfer guard Brianna Winn.

The women now go on the road to San Diego for a rematch and to Santa Clara. Both West Coast Conference games are key games to look forward to a WCC title.

-Caitlin Hungate, Staff Writer

Upcoming Games

Jan. 22
Men's Basketball
vs. Santa Clara
7:05 p.m.

Jan. 24
Men's Basketball
vs. San Diego
7:05 p.m.

Jan. 25
Women's Basketball
@Santa Clara
1:00 p.m.

Jan. 29
Women's Basketball
vs. Loyola Marymount
7:05 p.m.

Tennis roars toward conference play

SMC Men's tennis looks to take their game to the next level

by Micheal Chin
Staff Writer

With the season upon them, Coach Michael Wayman and the rest of this year's men's tennis team understands what this year means: another step forward. After finishing above .500 last year, the bar has once again been raised and the expectations lengthened.

"We're very balanced as a team this year, both singles and doubles have a lot of players who are capable," said Wayman.

For the Gaels, they will look to several sophomores who gained valuable playing time last year. Much was also learned in the fall as the Gaels made good showings at both tournaments that they participated in, those being the ITA Regionals and the Fresno St. Bulldog Classic.

"We gained a lot of mental toughness, which in some cases may even be more important than the physical aspect," said Wayman.

Adam Fauvre especially played well as he advanced to the semifinals of the consolation round of play. Also competing in



Lisette Garcia/COLLEGIAN

these was Martin Marchel in singles. In doubles, JJ Whitlinger and Adam Fauvre made a very good showing.

Yet another strength for this year's men's team will be its closeness.

"We're a very close knit team, we know how to win together," said Wayman.

Adding to this mix of close knit players will be several freshman who are competing for playing time in the top six. These men will include freshman Vincent Lombard, who played well this

fall. He looks to fill one of the top six spots this season. A concern for Wayman this year however, will be his depth.

"We really can't afford anyone to go down to injury. In tennis it's a common thing, but it can't happen."

So far the Gaels have been fairly lucky as they have suffered only minor injuries to players. However, if one of the top six should go down, it would mean that younger players will have to learn the hard way and prepare to play early and often.

Like all season past, the Gaels will once again face very tough conference action. Not only will they play powerhouses Pepperdine and San Diego, but they also face non-conference opponents Hawaii and UC Santa Barbara, all of which are very tough teams.

"We have the ability to compete with all programs," said Wayman.

For now though the players will continue to hit thousands and thousands of ball in order to take their games to the next level and be ready for their first match January 28th.

Young and hungry women's squad seeks to burn the competition

by Micheal Chin
Staff Writer

They're brash, they're bold, they're young, and ready to win. This phrase is that which best describes this year's women's tennis team.

With the return of sophomore sensation Kate Harden and the additional of six freshmen Coach Lisa Alipaz looks to be building for a bright future in the world of Gaels women's tennis. This year however, for the Gaels will be one of growth.

The mainstay of this team will be Harden. Having played last year at the one and two singles spots, she brings great athleticism and experience to the starting lineup. Adding to her will be freshman phenom Aude Lambert. Lambert, who hails from Lyons, France, has played exceptionally well this fall and looks to battle Harden for the number one spot.

"Aude really could make a splash this year in conference if she plays well" said Alipaz.

After these two, the three through six spots are up for grabs.

"It's a good thing for us to have so many talented players who can play three through six. It really gives the team depth and adds a new dimension to the team," said Alipaz.

For the Lady Gaels, the bar will most definitely be raised.

"Our goal is to have a winning record and finish in the top three in conference."

This will be no easy task as they face perennial powerhouse Pepperdine as well as rivals Santa Clara and USF. Another problem, which the Gaels look to contend with, is experience.

"We are lacking a little in experience," Alipaz said. "It could work out to be a bad thing if we get in over our head, but it could also be a great thing because it will add some mental toughness to our game."

Hoping to make a major difference is sophomore transfer Kristin Kimmer. A Junior College transfer, Kimmer finished in the top ten nationally at the junior college level. Another player who looks to be a major factor is Valerie Vellier. However after suffering a lower back injury in the fall, it is questionable as to whether or not she will compete this spring. This past fall SMC got off on the right foot as they continued to play well in several tournaments including the ITA Regional tournament.

"In the fall our girls saw that they could play with anyone if they just hit like they know how to."

For now however the Gaels still look fill some shoes and make a dent in conference. Join them later this week as they begin their season.

Rugby eyes another tournament run

Men's Rugby Once Again Seeks National Championship

by Micheal Chin
Staff Writer

There were the four horseman of Notre Dame in football, Michigan's fab-five in basketball and here at St. Mary's we have our own greats, the five pillars of Pat Vincent Field, Dan Heller, Evan Barial, Cody Heller, Joey Vega, and Damien Fatonaga (Ok, maybe I'm exaggerating; but they are good). These five, along with forty other men, will look to once again vie for the Collegiate National Championship.

The name of the game for this year's Gael Rugby team: speed. With already excellent speed from a year ago, the Gaels have added even more octane to their high-powered arsenal.

"Were definitely quicker and faster than a year ago," said Ed Todd, head coach of the Gaels.

The strength of this team will be its backfield. With five of seven returning starters in the back-line, this should be the fastest team the Gaels have had in years.

With Barial, Vega, and Cody, and Rudy Galetti, opponents will have their hands full. Adding to the already supersonic speed of the Gaels are Michael Hare and JD Noonan.

However, in order to vie for title, the Gaels, under the command of Todd and Tim O'Brien, must rebuild a front-line that lost five of eight starters from a season ago, including All-Americans Dan Furlong, Cole Ugondo, and Johnny Busher. Taking the lead will be Senior Dan Heller.

"He's really the team leader,"



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN

said Todd. "The team will go where he takes them."

The other spots are up for grabs as the coaches hope that their younger talent may rise to the occasion and make a play up front.

Another question for the Gaels will be consistency.

"When we're on, we're a very good team, but we need to keep that consistency up all the time," said Todd.

The other question mark that faces the team is injuries. The biggest concern is the health of junior outside back Damien Fatonaga who suffered a vicious face injury against Arizona.

In preseason, the Gaels played well, going 6-2 while traveling to Washington and Arizona. Both losses came at the hands of Pac-10 foes Washington (where they lost a heart breaker by one point) and Arizona (giving up a seventeen point lead to the Wildcats). Wins include Oregon State, Cen-

tral Washington, and San Diego State.

The team got off on the right foot last week with a convincing win over arch-rival Santa Clara. The Gaels will begin league play as they face Chico State this weekend and then move onto the national champion the California Golden Bears on the 24th of January.

Playing already in the tough-

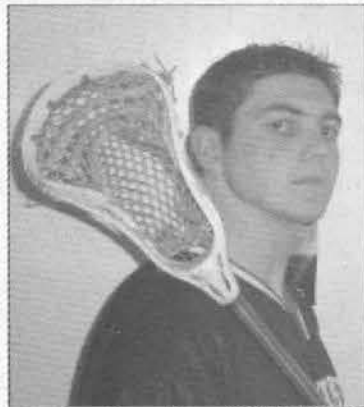
est rugby section in the United States, the Gaels will have a daunting task ahead of them. For now, catch them in action on the 24th (Saturday) when the Gaels take on California (Location TBA).

Other key dates: The Pat Vincent Classic, where the Gaels will face the University of Nevada, Reno, and then the winner of the Colorado/Loyola Marymount game.



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN

This lacrosse player likes to score...



Sam Adams/COLLEGIAN

Peter Burns - 20, Alamo, Ca - De La Salle High School
 This junior attack picked up a lacrosse stick halfway through freshman year and took off. Over the past two years his goals per game has gone 3.5 to 4.2., and he doubled his assists from 0.7 to 1.5. He is one of the leaders of the team, as well as the leading scorer, and will likely be the force that could get the team to the championship game yet again. But that is Peter Burns the attack, what about Burns the person? Here is the Burns most of you don't know...

by Sam Adams
 Sports Editor

DVD you can't get enough of:

"*Family Guy*. We have all three seasons on DVD at the house. I love the inappropriateness of it... plus it's so awkward."

CD on repeat:

"The new Outkast. I can't get enough of that **Caroline song**; it's my theme song."

Favorite Pastime:

"Hoops. I have a half basketball court in my driveway; I even played in High school. I've played the game since I was a little kid."

Famous person you'd like to spend a day with:

"I'd like to hit the links with **Charles Barkley**. I'd love to see that messed up swing in person."

Guilty Pleasure:

"Snacks; I love late night snacking. I am on a diet right now on account of my **extra large** size butt. I didn't get the nickname **Fat Pete** for nothing."

Favorite Superhero:

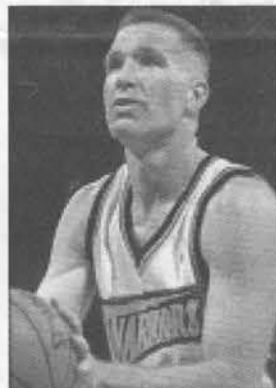
"**Spiderman**, because he's so **sneaky**, kind of like I am on the lacrosse field."



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN

Famous encounters:

"I met David Robinson in the Warriors locker room when I was a kid; he even gave an autograph. My sister babysat for the head media lady or something, so we got court passes all the time. I met **Chris Mullin** too."



Courtesy of nba.com

What I want to be when I grow up:

"I'd like to be an **FBI agent**. I'm an active guy; I'd like to be on the move. I would enjoy the risk."

Best Game as a Gael:

"Last year versus our rival Santa Clara - I had six goals and three assists, and we won by three or so. It was a huge win because it was the **first time** our lacrosse program had beaten them ever, I think."



Courtesy of comics.cro.net

The team that almost never was

Women's Lacrosse battled on despite lack of a coach, but not leadership

by Micheal Chin
 Staff Writer

Last September, Irene Guzman, Katie Flood, and Colette Spencer feared that their careers as Gaels Lacrosse players would end without them taking the field senior year. Now, four months later and after a national search for coaches, Carl Clapp and company finally found their man in Brandon Badgley. Defined by his philosophy which states, "every time we hit the field, we dominate" he has the Lady Gaels primed for a breakout year. Having coached at Cal Poly for the last four years and adding three national championships to his reputation, this coach understands what needs to be done.

"I see a lot of potential in these girls," said Badgley. "They're amazing athletes with great speed. What they lack in stick skills and basic handlings of the game they make up for with attitude and effort."

For the Gaels everything will start and end with senior Colette Spencer. While being the leading scorer the past three years, Spencer most recently served as captain, player, and head coach during the fall. Knowing a great deal about the sport, she along with fellow seniors conducted daily practice, but due to their lack of a coach, were not allowed to compete in fall action.



Lisette Garcia/COLLEGIAN
 Irene Guzman can now finish her SMC career.

"Colette is the undisputed leader of our team. We will go where she takes us," said Coach Badgley

For the Gaels much of the season will come down to consistency.

"It seems like when we play a better team we play up to their level, but when we a lower team we play down. We can't do that. We have to be consistent," said Badgley.

They will not only have Spencer, but also Senior experience in Flood and Guzman who boast great speed up front.

Everyday Coach feels as though they have made constant improvement. He has also expressed that many of the young players will make an impact this next season and in years to come. One to especially watch out for is the younger Spencer sister Jackie. Having grown up with her sister and watching her she knows how to play this game and will be a factor for years to come. Another strength for this team will be its closeness. Having played

without a Coach for nearly three months, they have grown to know each other's strengths and weakness, which should play a major factor in the upcoming year. As of now there are no serious injuries, which is an excellent thing for the Gaels. With a schedule that includes Ohio and Stanford, and Hofstra they will need every person to post a quality season.



Lisette Garcia/COLLEGIAN

Out of Bounds

Sam Adams

Close, but no cigar.

This has been a good, but not quite great year for the basketball program. You can see that Randy Bennet has assembled a team that is an entertaining product and could go to the March Madness tournament. But if you had to summarize this season, it would be that they have been so close, but not close enough.

It all started in the biggest game of the season. USC was coming to town and McKeon Pavilion was not only packed, but it was sold out. The stadium buzzed as the Gaels came out running, making USC look not only beatable, but laughable. They seized an eight-point lead at half time. But by the end of regulation, USC had stormed back and taken advantage of mistakes to tie the game and send it to overtime. Missed free throws in overtime led to a disappointing loss, leaving everyone feeling empty.

The Gaels pulled their disappearing act again in Arizona. This time, playing against the No. 5 team, the Gaels came out rolling to a tie game at the half. With just two minutes left, the Gaels were sporting a five-point lead and could taste the victory against a basketball powerhouse. But Arizona went on an 11-0 run, and again the Gaels were stunned as they walked off the court.

Then the latest loss was similar, with the Gaels hanging with Gonzaga all game, only to falter down the stretch and lose by 12. This team needs to learn how to finish, and it also needs the support of its student body. Sure, big games like Santa Clara and Gonzaga pull in a packed house, but why don't we get as rowdy as the rest of the big time basketball programs?

If you need a barometer of how people think of our sports knowledge/loyalty, look no further than the school itself. Attending St. Mary's game against San Diego State, someone wearing a Gael Force t-shirt handed me a small, red piece of paper. It reminded fans of cheers for the game; "Lets-Go-Gaels, S-M-C," and, "DE-FENSE." Then it told us to be really loud when the Aztecs were shooting free throws.

In all honesty, if that is something the fans and student body needs to attend a game, then we don't deserve Randy Bennet's hard work and the amazing turnaround he and these players have accomplished in this program.

Do Arizona fans need to be alerted of the proper time to go wild? Do Duke students need a flier to tell them to wear and paint their faces blue? Do Stanford fans need to be shown when to jump during the fight song? No, the answer is no they do not.

In a time where most college students don't have much cash to spend and are looking for a good time, look no further than McKeon Pavilion. We have an entertaining team putting on a good show for free. So lets do our part and turn the Gaels into the next Gonzaga; a small school with a program that came out of nowhere to be successful and get recognition. I don't see why it shouldn't be us jumping up and down on Sportscenter while our team drives towards the NCAA tournament.