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Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Volume 101, Number 19

Student Affairs shrinks again

Students await administration's next move after another position opens

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

Students donned shirts with the slogan, "We love Mark Jaime. Administrators first, student last" expressing their dissatisfaction of changes in the department after hearing that Mark Jaime, director of Student Activities and Leadership Programs (SALP) would no longer be an employee of the College as of March 17.

"Is it frustrating? Yeah, it really is. Anytime there's a change that's so sudden and unexpected, it's hard," said Jeff Haskins, junior class president.

The college is beginning a national search to fill Jaime's position "immediately," according to Mike Zoll, vice provost for student affairs.

In the interim, a plan was proposed by Zoll to place Mary Spellman, dean of student development and interim director of residence life into the open position. Student opposition to the interim plan was discussed and made known in the last week. Zoll plans to announce his decision on the change by this afternoon.

"I received a good deal of feedback from student leaders and staff in the student activities office about what they believe is



Amy Beth Kelly/Collegian

Outraged with changes in Student Activities, John Zabala '06, Tony Ancelj '04, Lindsay Vanoli '06, Jen Merlo '05, and Jessica Porras '05 wear shirts supporting Mark Jaime and criticizing College administrators.

best for the office and for the college," said Zoll, "and I'm taking those ideas under consideration right now."

With the recent opening in the SALP office, the department of student affairs must now fill three positions; Director of the Women's Resource Center, Dean of Residence Life and now Director of SALP.

In Zoll's interim plan, Scott Kier, director of student conduct and acting assistant dean of students would take a leadership role in Residence Life to help in

the delegation of responsibility brought on by the shortage in staff, said Zoll.

Kier and Spellman both took on interim positions after the resignation of Steve Nygaard, dean of campus life, Martha Gonzales, associate director of residence life, and Adriano Amaya, residence community coordinator (RCC) in January. Residence Life this year was set up for four RCC's, however, there are now only two in place.

"[The change in Residence Life] was something that the com-

munity wanted and needed," said Natalie Wilson '04, resident advisor, "Now, Residence Life still hasn't met the needs of the residents. We're in the middle of March and residents haven't seen any positive effects yet."

In the Women's Resource Center (WRC), after Laura Armstrong's resignation in September, Sharon Sobotta, coordinator of sexual assault awareness added on the title of Interim Director for the Center to her role.

see STUDENTS, p2

Seniors announce speaker

Alumnus reminds students to dream

by **Chris Swain**
Managing Editor

With a notepad and pen within arm's reach, George Schmitt has been recently waking up in the middle of the night again to brainstorm new ideas by the glow of his bedside lamp, this time for what he might mention as "this little thing I agreed to do" on May 22.

His awakenings remind him of his time as an executive in the telecommunications industry in which he would similarly keep a pen and pad nearby, so no idea would escape him, even in his dreams.

Indeed, this might have been what made him so successful.

"I dreamed—maybe—bigger dreams than other people," said Schmitt, who was named as the graduation speaker for the class of 2004, by the senior class senators and at the recommendation of Br. Craig Franz, president of Saint Mary's College.

"When you're going into the world, no matter what you're going to do, you need to dream big dreams or you're never going to get there," said Schmitt.

Maybe this dreamer's attitude is what took him from being just alumnus and student manager of Oliver Dining Hall during his time at SMC to the boardrooms of Omnipoint Communications, Mannesmann (now Vodafone Germany) and AirTouch Communications, along with many other professional appointments during his career.

During Schmitt's 35-year career he has helped establish cellular telephone networks in the U.S., Germany, Belgium, France, Italy, Japan, Korea, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Thailand, along with being responsible for the development and implementation of the first commercial all-digital network using Global System for Mobile (GSM) communication technology.

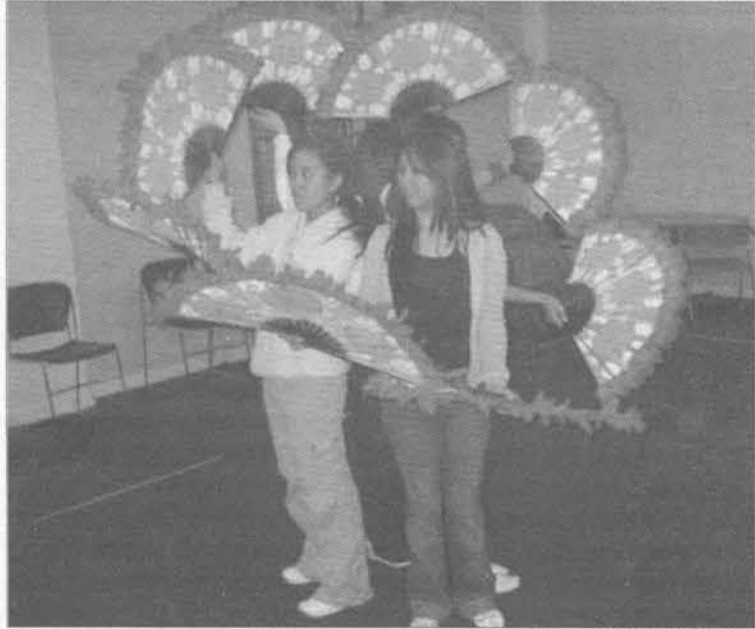
Currently, Schmitt serves on the boards of Global Locate, Inc. Megisto Systems, Telesoft Partners, Teleworx, Websoft Developers, Affinity, Inc. and also the board of regents at SMC.

Schmitt remembers the speaker at his graduation - Joseph Alioto. "I remember the speaker from my graduation, but I don't remember a word he said," said Schmitt.

With that in mind Schmitt wants to share some of his life experiences and wisdom.

see SPEAKER, p2

ACN 'bridges' past and present



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN

Amy Hammond '06, Ludi Cayas '04, Ahnah Lee '07, and Nancy Han '04 practice a traditional fan dance for the Korea set in Hagerty Lounge.

by **Cori Simpson**
Staff Writer

After six months of planning, this year's Asian Cultural Night (ACN) will present a vast array of diverse sets including both traditional and modern acts. This year's theme, "Bridging the Past and the Present" seeks to join aspects of the past with aspects of modern times and to educate stu-

dents about the different cultures encompassed by the term Asian Pacific American.

"We're striving this year to really have the voice of the students come out through the performances," said Elaine Abelaye, a member of the executive team in charge of organizing ACN. "We're really going out on a limb

see ACN, p2

Students surveyed on Matrix

SMCnet addresses alcohol sanction policies

by **Bettina Adragna**
Staff Writer

Last week, the committee to address the Alcohol Matrix policy created a survey on SMCnet that asked students about their thoughts on the matrix.

The survey asked students how much they agree with statements such as "I am happy with the Alcohol Sanction Matrix" on a scale from one to five.

It also requested for demographic information such as age, sex, class standing, and whether the participant is a drinker or a non-drinker. Finally, there was room for additional comments at the bottom of the survey.

The committee that created the survey was formed in October in order to address students' concerns about the new Alcohol Matrix.

The matrix has caused concern among many students who feel it is too strict.

Students aren't the only ones concerned about the matrix. According to Tony Ancelj, current ASSMC President, parents at a recent committee meeting have said that the matrix is "too extreme."

What do students think about the survey itself? "It looks like an excellent survey that will help the school understand the issues with the matrix, and that increased restrictions don't cause decreased abuse," said Jesse Radin '07.

Jason McGann '07 commented, "I didn't really look at it, considering I don't drink, so I just didn't really pay any attention to it."

"I doubt they're really going to pay attention to what the survey says," said Gabriel Wood '06.

Chris Healy '05 said, "I think it's comprehensive and I think it's important that they have the feedback."

The survey will be used to make recommendations to Ancelj and Mike Zoll, vice provost for Student Affairs, about the matrix policies.

"It goes from either making changes or just getting rid of it completely," said Ancelj.

Ancelj suggested that students interested in making changes to the alcohol policies on campus, might want to go online to smcnet.stmarys-ca.edu and tell the administration what they think.

What's Happening

In-Depth Roundtable

The *Collegian* will hold an In-Depth Roundtable discussion on drug and alcohol use and policy at SMC. A panel of students, faculty and staff will share their concerns and comments on the subject. Bring your concerns and questions as well. Thursday, March 25 at 5 p.m. in Delphine Multicultural Lounge. Call x4279 for more information.

Carnival for Kids

The annual Carnival for Kids is coming up. The actual carnival will take place on April 23 from 3:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sign-ups for Big Buddies will go through April 10. Sign-ups will be at CILSA or the ASSMC office.

Deal Hudson

On Wednesday, March 31, at 7:30 p.m. in the Soda Center, writer and magazine publisher Deal Hudson will present his lecture, "The primary challenges facing Catholic higher learning today." Hudson is the publisher and editor of *Crisis*, a Catholic monthly magazine, and appears regularly on television news and commentary shows. The event, sponsored by the departments of philosophy and religious studies, is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Debra Holtz at x4222.

Diversity Dance

This year's Diversity Dance, "A Night of Stars," will be held on March 26 at Scott's Seafood in Oakland from 7:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Tickets will be on sale from March 18 to 23 for \$40. Tickets will be sold at the Dante quad, Monday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Come and dress up as your favorite celebrity in semi-formal attire. Your campus diversity clubs brings this event to you. For more information, please call x8317.

Faculty Art Exhibit

From March 27 to April 25, the Hearst Art Gallery will have the faculty art exhibit. The exhibit is free to all students. A public reception will be held on March 28 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

"Journey of a Man"

Michael Cook will present his new play "Saint John Baptist De La Salle: Journey of a Man," today at 7:30 p.m. in the Soda Center. The event is free and open to the public. In this one-man play, Cook portrays De La Salle, the founder of the Christian Brothers, as he struggles to create a teaching order for the poor in 18th century France.

Senior Ball

Attention seniors: Do you have a date for Senior Ball? This year, the Senior Ball will take place on Friday, April 23 at Hs. Lordships Restaurant at the Berkeley Marina. Bids will be sold for three weeks. Call x3566 with any questions.

Senate Petitions

Petitions for those interested in running for class president, vice president, and senators are due Thursday, March 25. For more information, please call x4271.

Crime Beat

3/15 5:15 a.m.

Incident: Prank

Synopsis: Soap suds in fountains (Chapel Courtyard and Cassin Student Union); referred to student conduct.

3/15 2:20 p.m.

Incident: Property damage

Synopsis: Broken window at Madigan Gym football office; referred to business office.

3/16 2:05 a.m.

Incident: Prank

Synopsis: Tampering with student's vehicle at San Miguel parking circle; referred to student conduct.

Public Safety Crime Alert

Crime: Suspicious Fires in Residence Hall

Date/Time: Wednesday, March 10, 2004 and Saturday, March 13, 2004

Location: First floor Mitty Hall and first floor Aquinas Hall

Synopsis: At 4:55 a.m., Wednesday, March 10, an unknown person tried to set a fire to the first floor hallway wall of Mitty Hall. The fire self-extinguished itself and

caused no damage to the building. The fire alarm system functioned properly.

At 11:35 p.m., Saturday, March 13, an unknown person started two small fires at Aquinas Hall. One fire was started using newspapers just inside the first floor entrance and the second fire was to posters on the outside of the first floor entrance. Students exiting the building because of the fire alarm were able to put the newspaper fire out.

There is no suspect information or description available at this time. Anyone with information about these fires is encouraged to contact the Department of Public Safety (925-631-4282), the Moraga-Orinda Fire District (925-258-4525) or the Moraga Police Department (925-376-2515).

As with any emergency situation, if you see suspicious activity, call (925) 631-4282 or 9-1-1. Public Safety will be providing directed patrols in residence hall areas. Please assist our community and us by reporting any suspicious activities or persons to us.

SPEAKER: Schmitt credits SMC education

continued from pg 1

"Calculus," said Schmitt, "was the only class in my life I have never used...I had no use for it when I took it and no use for it after."

However, Schmitt said, other than Calculus, "I can honestly say I have used every other class I took in my work life or my personal life."

One class important to Schmitt and those planning on going to business is ethics.

"There is an absolute need for absolute honesty and integrity," said Schmitt, who mentioned the loss of ethics as one of the failings of his generation.

"When you graduate from SMC you should be firmly rooted in ethics, or you need to quickly get them seeded in you," said Schmitt.

Schmitt impressed the senior class in their search for a commencement speaker because of his ties to Lasallian roots and the way in which he applied his SMC education in the real world.

"We found Mr. Schmitt's background and experience at SMC, as well as afterwards to be very interesting and inspiring," said Irene Guzman, senior class president.

The senior class senators voted unanimously in favor of inviting Schmitt to speak.

ACN: Diversity celebrated

continued from pg 1

trying to educate the community beyond fashion shows and Asian food." Asian Cultural Night is really about educating both the students involved and the audience about various cultures within the APA community.

Kim Wesolowski, facilitator of the event said, "The impact of ACN is to help create a community where diversity is valued, that acknowledging the differences of people's cultures is valued and celebrated, and that for Asian Pacific American students that it really gives them an opportunity to learn about themselves and about others and really feel comfortable that they are at a place that really supports their culture."

The night will start off with Asian food from different countries. The food comes from a variety of restaurants in the Bay Area and will showcase the cuisine of many countries.

The first half of the show will consist of more traditional performances, including a percussion set from the Philippines, a traditional Korean fan dance as well as a Korean poem translated into English, and a traditional Vietnamese dance that incorporates the cha-cha.

The second half of the show will consist of a video montage of three Asian Pacific American students and their lives, a rap about what it means to be Vietnamese American, a poem that pokes fun at the stereotypes of

Filipinos, and a spoken art set that dispels common stereotypes of Asian Americans.

The event also includes a raffle of prizes donated by alumni and members of the community and will be hosted by William Nguyen and Mona Lee, both alumni of Saint Mary's.

All of the sets are completely run by students. Students came up with the ideas, put it all together, and worked various backstage elements as well, including the spotlight, the music, and finding the costumes. Approximately 50 students from all over campus are involved in making it happen.

"It's a huge project and the students who work on ACN are so dedicated and I have so much respect for them. They really are an inspiration because we start planning in October and they start rehearsing hopefully in December. It just takes so much work but it really is work out of love," said Wesolowski.

This year marks the seventh Asian Cultural Night, an event started and continued by interest from the students. Abelaye said, "The students are from all across the board. They are not all Asian. Year after year we have diverse students working on this." It is mainly organized through Asian Pacific American student programs, but also works in collaboration with over fourteen other organizations on campus along with support from Brother Craig Franz and Brother Michael Meister.

Asian Cultural Night is on Tuesday, March 30 in the Soda Center. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., the event starts at 6:00 p.m.

STUDENTS:

continued from pg 1

The national search to fill the director position is developing, according to Kier, who is leading the search committee, which has received applications but has not yet met any applicants.

None of the openings in Student Affairs have been filled this year.

"There's still more that needs to be done in Student Affairs and

getting rid of Mark Jaime isn't one of those things," said Wilson.

"Mark was a mentor, a role model, a friend, our rock, our foundation. He was all about empowerment of the students. No matter what you said, you always knew you could say it to him," said Haskins.

Kier will take job descriptions for the openings in student affairs to national conferences such as NASPA in the coming month to find nation-wide applicants.

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COLLEGIATE SEMINAR PROGRAM

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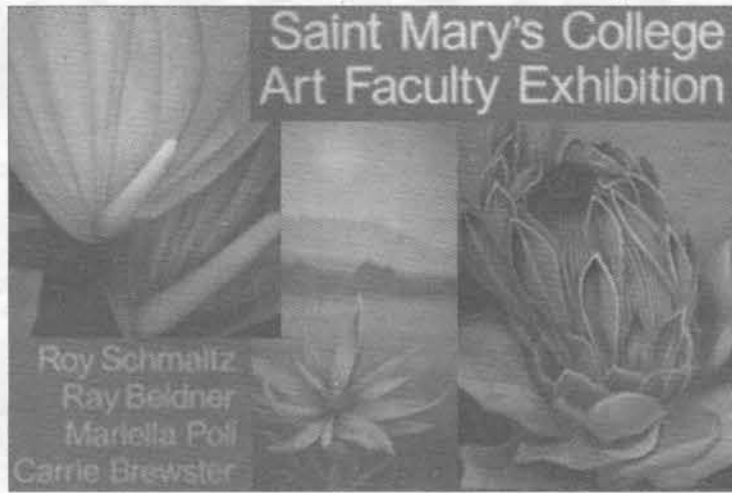
Faculty exhibit art on campus

by Jenna Fox
Staff Writer

Every four years the Hearst Art Gallery features the art of members of the Saint Mary's College faculty. This year, four distinguished faculty members have contributed their work in a number of different media.

Professor Roy Schmaltz has contributed 31 pieces, selected from a 60-piece series entitled "Humor Takes the Edge Off Reality." Schmaltz, who has headed the Art and Art History Department for thirty years, produced this series of "whimsical watercolors" during his recuperation from a back injury. "Whatever I felt like, I tried to just let it all come out on the paper," Schmaltz explained.

Professor Ray Beldner teaches several studio art classes while continuing to work on a collection he calls "Counterfeit," from which 7 pieces have been selected for the show. The significance of the title is twofold. Not only are the sculptures reproductions of 20th century masterpieces, but they are also made of dollar bills. According to Beldner, "Money is an icon, a myth, a metaphor, a collectible, a talisman, a commodity, a means to an end, and much more." The message of this body of work is compounded, and its quality proven, by the fact that Beldner had to borrow some of his own pieces for the show, having already sold most of the pieces in the series.



Photos by Danielle Tinsley, Collage designed by Amy Kelly/COLLEGIAN

"The Montecatini is an aluminum factory built in 1928 and situated at the foot of the Alps in Northern Italy," writes Italian-born photographer Mariella Poli. She is this year's artist-in-residence at SMC. She has contributed a collection of photographs and a video of Montecatini's abandoned architecture.

Carrie Brewster is the museum's director, and a contributor to the show. Her symbolic-realist work focuses on several elements of nature. The collection is titled "Reflections on the Natural World." "In creating compositions of elements I have drawn from nature," she said, "I pay homage to it and the act of painting has almost become a form of meditation."

Schmaltz's students will be viewing the show, Beldner said jokingly, if they want to receive a

good grade. But in all seriousness Professor Schmaltz assures that his aim is not to direct his students' artistic motivation. "I want the students to work with their own interests," he said.

Viewers should expect a wide range of messages and styles, for within the exhibition "there are four very distinct personalities, different points of view. The only unifying element is that it's a faculty show. This is good for the faculty because each one of us represents different areas. We come from someplace different, which gives students a greater opportunity to find themselves," said Schmaltz.

Beyond NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS BITES

By TONY VALA-HAYNES

the bubble

- BAGHDAD — A 1,000 pound car bomb killed 29 people in a hotel Wednesday night. U.S. military officials assisted as Iraqi police worked tirelessly to pull people from the hotel's debris; however, they don't believe anyone under the debris survived.

- SAVANNAH, Georgia — 8 people were injured during the St. Patrick's Day Parade when a convertible ran through an intersection, hitting three marching band members and 5 spectators.

- YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP, Michigan — Mikel M. Mills, a five-year-old boy, was fatally struck by a school bus Tuesday morning when he was attempting to catch it.

- When asked about the situation in Iraq, Vice President Dick Cheney said, "The thugs and assassins in Iraq are desperately trying to shake our will. Just this morning, they conducted a murderous attack on a hotel in Baghdad. Their goal is to prevent the rise of democracy, but they will fail."

- SALT LAKE CITY, Utah - Gov. Olene Walker signed the measure Wednesday that will no longer allow execution by a firing squad. Lethal injection will now be the only means by which to execute someone in Utah.

- NOME, Alaska — In his tenth attempt, Mitch Seavey won his first Iditarod late Tuesday evening.

- LOS ANGELES, California — Whitney Houston entered a drug rehabilitation center last Monday. While Houston is in rehab, her husband, Bobby Brown, will continue to serve his 60-day prison sentence for violating his probation.

(Sources: Cnn.com, Msnbc.com, The Contra Costa Times)

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SNAPSHOT



Liz Hearst/COLLEGIAN

In honor of Saint Patrick's Day, Ferroggiaro Quad was full of music, including bagpipes, courtesy of Steve Norton, dancing and food on Wednesday, March 17.

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OPINION

Terror in... Spain?

Josh Krehbiel

The worst terrorist attack since 9-11, and it happened in Spain? You mean where they have bullfighting? I think that the American media was as surprised as you are. "Two hundred are dead after a terrorist attack in Madrid. Madrid is in Spain. Yes, where the rain stays mainly on the plain."

As thousands of Spanish people ran into the street holding signs proclaiming "paz" (peace) and screaming "why?", Americans were sitting on their couches with their potato chips, watching crews disassemble the wreckage, and thinking "why?"

Yes, why Spain? What did Spain ever do? Why attack the quiet American ally? The country that gave support in all of America's recent wars? That sent over 1,000 troops to Iraq? The country targeted for supporting America, according to a tape sent out by Al-Qaeda regarding the attack? That Spain?

Admittedly, America had a friend in Spain. Had. After the attacks and the tape, the people of Spain decided that they had had enough. They ousted the former government in the national election, which was mysteriously only three days after the attack, and elected Zapatero, the unlikely candidate, who has promised to pull all Spanish forces out of Iraq as soon as possible. Bush was quick to congratulate the new prime minister on his win, but he was also quick to remind the other coalition forces that terrorists will "never shake the will of the United States," or, in other words, "don't bum out on me now." Is the Spanish response justified? Should we be angry at their backing out? Not right now, at least. We should let the Spanish people mourn, just like the rest of the world let us mourn, failing to point any angry fingers at us for at least a month. We should, however, take note about what the Spanish have done.

Two days after the attack, the Spanish were in the streets, asking for peace, demanding that the government tell it to them straight. And when the government kept their mouths decidedly closed, the Spanish kicked the Populists out. The people had heard about what happened in the United States. They had heard about our lack of evidence in the Iraqi war, and were well aware of the staggering American economy after the attack. They didn't want to be pushed around by their government over this, and they took it into their hands to assure that their government was paying attention. American media is saying that the shocking turnabout election is proof that the terrorists have won. In the war on Iraq, it could be considered a minor victory. But in terms of the Spanish people, who are blamed of being reckless in their voting practices, this is, if anything, an affirmation that they still hold the reins. There still is democracy in the world, and Spain has proven that the people still have control. The government shouldn't use a terrorist attack to bully the country around. A lesson well learned.

Collegian View

Dear Saint Mary's staff,

Let us remember...

We, the students, are the reason why you are here.

We, the students, are the sole reason this institution is here.

We, the students, are learners, teachers and leaders at this institution.

We, the students, are the center, the nucleus, of this learning community.

We, the students, remember why we came here, when other places were just as appealing. We came for the student-centered culture. We came to learn to think critically. We came to reflect more deeply on ourselves, our surroundings, our world. We came to be Lasallian. What did you come for?

Definitely not for the paycheck, we understand that, but to go so far as to say you're here solely for students, we're not so convinced.

Your actions at times, leave us,

the students, wondering if you get this whole Lasallian thing, or maybe if we are missing the boat, since you are supposed to be (we'd hope) exemplary role models of the Lasallian tradition, in word and action, for us.

Lead by example, remember? Recent examples we've seen of your leadership are:

- The lack of consideration that has been given in looking out for students' needs and making our concerns a top priority. For example, the preparedness, or lack thereof, to deal with student athletes after the announcement to cut the football program was made. You don't let us have a say in the decisions you make, despite the fact that we are the ones who bear the consequences of your actions.

- The blatant disregard for effectively communicating all relevant information to students. How can we be expected to help solve problems if we are never notified of them in the first



When it comes to school budget cuts, how much is too much?

place?

- The constant sense of instability and inconsistency portrayed through actions and communication to the community. It's impossible to build meaningful working relationships with our administrators when we never know who is going to disappear next.

Can these actions be considered Lasallian?

We don't think so.

Please stop sending contradicting messages to the students, who want to believe you're in it for us, who want to believe you want SMC to truly be the Catholic, Lasallian, liberal arts learning community for the students.

Based on your actions, we aren't so sure that we can believe you.

We, the students know our place in this institution.

Do you know yours?

Community Views

Saint Mary's Student Body:

I want to extend my thanks and appreciation to the student body for your support of the men's basketball team this season. The turnout at a number of our home games and the awesome showing at the conference tournament certainly made a difference and gave our players a huge boost. Our players, staff, and administration are extremely grateful for the increased following and support of the team and we recognize how important you all are to our program's success. Thank you from all of us!

Randy Bennett
Head Basketball Coach

Dear Community,

For the future of Saint Mary's College we strongly urge the following from our administration:

- The three director positions: Student Activities, Residence Life and Women's Resource Center, are filled by individuals dedicated to the mission of the college by May 10, 2004 such that these individuals may properly integrate into our community prior to the 2004-2005 academic

school year. We as students deserve to have this commitment in writing. Communicating the progress of this process on a regular basis to the student body is key in regaining confidence in the administration's commitment to the community.

- Creative methods must be developed to rekindle the interest and passion that once existed for the Liberal Arts at Saint Mary's. Programs such as Integral, Philosophy, and Seminar, to name a few, must be seen as examples of this tradition.

- We encourage that traditional Catholic values be reintegrated into the Saint Mary's College community, while reviving the rich Lasallian values and reconnecting with the history of our own institution.

- Staff, faculty, and students must integrate on a more personal level in order to develop a sense of community.

- Though resources are currently available to meet the emotional and practical needs of students, we need appropriate means for sudden changes that may occur.

We as student leaders strive daily to fulfill and live the mission of our college. We hope that Vice Provost, Mike Zoll, along

with other administrators will actively pursue these concerns regarding our future as a campus community. We must learn from our mistakes, build on our traditions, and be the premier Catholic, Lasallian, Liberal Arts community. Let us remember...

Yours in the mission,

Tony J. Ancelj
Associated Students President
In representation of various concerned student leaders with these issues.

Dear Editor,

A couple days ago, a friend and student of Saint Mary's College informed me that Mark Jaime, Director of Student Activities and Leadership Programs, is no longer in his position.

My purpose of writing this letter is not in hopes of getting Mark Jaime's job back. However, I would like to bring to light how much students respect and appreciate the work and effort that he put forth for all of us.

During the summer of 2002, I had the opportunity to work for Mark Jaime as a Student Orientation Coordinator. He provided

me, as well as the rest of the Student Orientation Staff, with thoughtful guidance and positive reinforcement. I know that everyone that worked in the ASSMC with Mark Jaime was glad to be working alongside him. His direction of the office offered students to have an experience in which they felt like they were making a difference.

I would like to thank Mark Jaime for being the person he is. His role at Saint Mary's gave students a breath of fresh air and instilled in us a motivation to participate in Student Activities and Leadership Programs. He had a huge impact on me by helping me grow as a student leader, and I am certain that he assisted many others to gain a sense of confidence and pride for their jobs as well. Mark Jaime's presence at our college will be greatly missed and considered a loss of a caring, thoughtful employee and friend in our community.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Arevalo
Class of 2003

The Collegian reserves the right to edit any submitted material, solicited or unsolicited.

GAEL POLL

Photos by Lissette Garcia
Compiled by Pablo Armas

101

SMC students were polled on their knowledge and opinion of budget cuts in Contra Costa County school district.

Have you heard about the budget cuts?

"It's ridiculous! This is unnecessary because they need these resources at that age to develop fully as students."

Kelle Montgomery '05

4 of s hav ab bud

Budget cuts fix finances: but at what cost?

Students square off over loss of athletics, fine arts, and libraries in Contra Costa Schools

More than just a game

by Allison Kop

by Jonathan Morales

Welcome to our world

Last week, the West Contra Costa County school board voted to eliminate all high school sports in hopes of balancing their school budget. With many students and SMC supporters still smarting from the loss of Saint Mary's football, another program dropped due to financial trouble, the decision stings like salt in an open wound.

Is anyone else as outraged as I am over this new trend of cutting athletics? As an athlete here at SMC, I know first-hand just how important sports are to a fulfilling high school or college experience.

For many kids, sports are more than just a fun activity to do after school. Being part of a team helps them form their identities as they make new friends and learn how to work together.

Sports also offer a positive way for kids to socialize without getting into trouble. With a minimum GPA requirement, athletics serve as incentive for kids to come to class and earn good grades.

And what about the athletes who have aspirations to play in college? For many people, sports scholarships are the only way they can afford an expensive college tuition, and for some, sports offer a way for many students to get into colleges they could not ordinarily afford.

Cutting sports ruins the chances for many kids to get into good schools, because for many sports, it is almost impossible to get recruited without a high school team to play for. I understand that California is in a financial crisis, but when looking for programs to cut, why is education the first thing to go under the knife? Not only is West Contra Costa County eliminating all sports programs, but the schools are closing down their libraries as well. Call me crazy, but it seems libraries, much like sports, are rather essential to a quality, well-rounded education.

The real losers in this situation are the kids that have to attend high school in this new age of bare minimums. They are the ones who will pay the price 20 years down the road when they can't look back on those great memories cheering their team to victory in a championship game or playing the sport they love, wearing their school's colors. If the children are our future, then I'm afraid the forecast for the years ahead looks pretty grim.

Budget cuts are part of life in California, and none are more piercing than cuts to education. I wish to comment on the recent cuts to sports programs.

Deal with it.

Last week the Contra Costa Times featured an article on the front page about protesting Richmond high school students with the headline, "You cut sports? We cut classes!"

As a product of an under-funded high school music program, I would like to welcome athletes to the world of budget cuts on behalf of unappreciated music students everywhere.

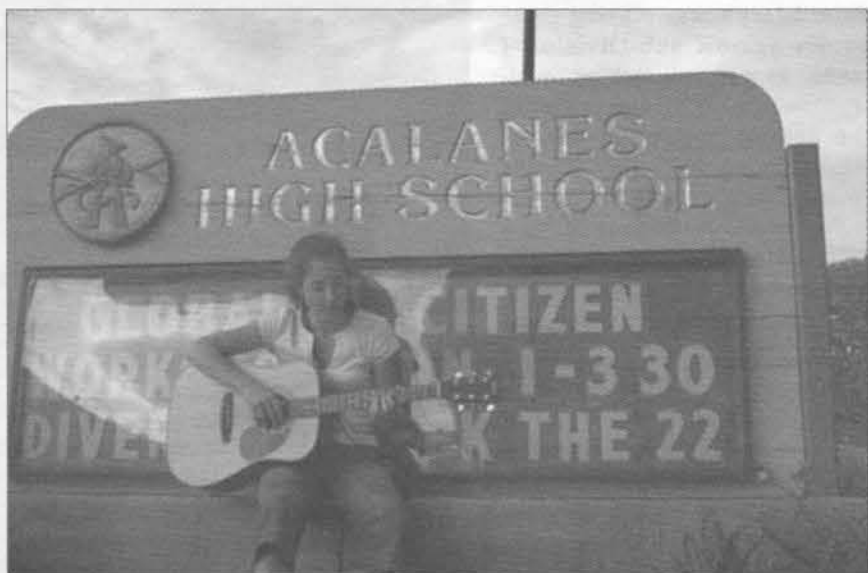
Let's face it, music and art classes are always the first to go (or at the least, lose their funding) when schools are facing budget cuts. Sports only face the ax when the situation is dire (as it is now). But cuts to music and art garner little, let alone front page, attention.

No one seemed to care when the band students at my high school had to deal with a new director each year because the school couldn't pay him or her enough to keep them there longer than a year. Imagine the effects on a football or basketball season if

the players had to adjust to a new coach every year.

Now I understand that sports greatly contribute to a student's success in school. I am in no way downplaying the positive effect of participating in a sport. But music and art are just as positive. According to a Department of Education study conducted over 10 years, 48% of students highly interested in music received high marks on math exams, compared to 38.6% of those not involved in music. Also, students in the tenth grade were asked if making a racist remark was okay. Only 12% of students involved in drama said it was, compared with 40% of students not involved in drama.

Believe it or not, this does affect us. Music, like sports, has a positive effect on students during high school, which translates to better college students. I'm not saying sports are unimportant, or that the cutting of such programs is not appalling. What I am saying is that it seems unfair to cry bloody murder when sports are cut, but to do nothing when equally positive programs in music and art face the same fate.



Lucky for talented senior Amy McCowan, Acalanes High has not suffered the fate of other local schools. Nick Silva/Collegian

The truth about women's studies

caitlin hungate

Women's studies. Admit it, your face cringes when you hear those two words. Particularly when someone, usually a young woman, says, "I am a women's studies major/minor." However, the common perception of women's studies is incredibly wrong and the stereotype of this major needs to be eliminated. For the record, many men also have women's studies majors or minors. Furthermore, the women who choose this major are not the "fem-nazi," "anti-men" many people think of; they are humans who care about the liberation of any and every oppressed group. Besides carrying that stereotype, many women (and men, for that matter) face tremendous obstacles to be able to graduate with this selected plan of study. Because women's studies is not an official major yet (key word: yet), those who choose women's studies as a major have endless "Special Action Petition" forms to fill out. Sometimes it can take three to five petitions just for your major to be approved. Then come the next round of petitions. Because the women's studies courses are cross-listed with various areas of study such as politics, religious studies, history, biology, English, etc., there are petitions for those classes as well.

To add to this, women's studies students encounter a lot of criticism. Many people think of the concept of feminism as a very negative thing. Just as Ronald Reagan in the 1980's vilified the word "liberal," so have people today vilified "feminism." Contrary to this negative image, the American Heritage College Dictionary accurately defines feminism as the "Belief in the social, political, and economic equality of the sexes."

Through studying the liberation of women, many other important issues are discussed. Historically, women have been oppressed, abused, and violated in horrific ways. Why would one not want to be enlightened of this oppression to stop the cycle? World organizations such as Amnesty International (which has recently added a campaign to stop violence against women) are recognizing the plight of women. Why not talk about these issues? Why not talk about patriarchy, a system that hurts both men and women? Recent speaker Chris Kilmartin noted that through patriarchy, "masculinity is the mission impossible." Men are raised to not cry, to be strong, to dominate, to be the head of the household and above all, have authority over women and children. No man or woman should have authority over another human being. Looking at how humans live and treat each other can only help everyone. Yes, there are issues that may divide us, but that is not the focus of women's studies. The in-depth analysis of the required texts embodies exactly what our tradition teaches us: to think for ourselves. We enter Saint Mary's to learn and we leave to serve our fellow human being, and one great way to do this is to study humanity through women's studies.

Living the simple life at Saint Mary's

Reflecting on life's simple pleasures can be the key to happiness

by Cori Simpson

Staff Writer

Just like other people at Saint Mary's, I have a pretty good life. But I have to admit that sometimes I don't appreciate things. I fall into "woe is me" moods and I want everything to be gray and dreary and dripping with rain. I want to let out all of my frustration and let the raindrops wash my troubles away.

Recently, I was in one of these moods, and lucky for me, there were rain clouds in the sky. I headed out when it looked like the clouds were ready to break over the school. So as to not let my efforts be in vain, I chased after the clouds. Wherever the

wind blew them, I followed. The pursuit led me into the hills on the way to the cross. But no matter how much I kept running, the clouds kept getting farther and farther away. It soon seemed as if my search for rain was futile.

Looking out over the school from the top of a hill, I noticed something astonishing. The dark rain clouds that I couldn't seem to find were all over the sky. But over the school, there was nothing but blue sky. At first this made me mad. Why did this place have to be free from gloom? Even more upset, I began my descent towards central campus. The farther down the hill I ran, the more a different point of view began to emerge.

Seeing the blue sky over our school made me realize that life isn't as bad as I thought. I just needed a new outlook.

With all of the money that comes into this school, I can't help but notice how everyone flaunts what they have. New cars with vanity plates, Gucci purses, and the newest cellular phones show up all over campus. One would think that with all of these wonderful possessions students would be content. After all, having the latest designer duds seems to be of utmost importance in their lives. But day after day I hear people complain about how they aren't happy with the way things are. They too fall into

"woe is me" moods, but they think that spending money and keeping on top of the trends will fix their problems and give their lives meaning.

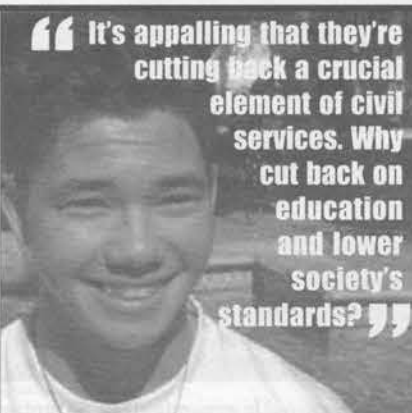
Have these people ever stopped to enjoy what they do have rather than mope about the things they don't? Maybe if people took some time to look at their non-material blessings they would actually feel better. Family and friends don't have a price tag, but both of them are things to be grateful for and things to want more than Britney's new CD.

All it takes is a little perspective. Instead of heading to the mall after a bad day, look for the blue sky among the clouds.

Kelle Montgomery '05

42%

of students have heard about the budget cuts.

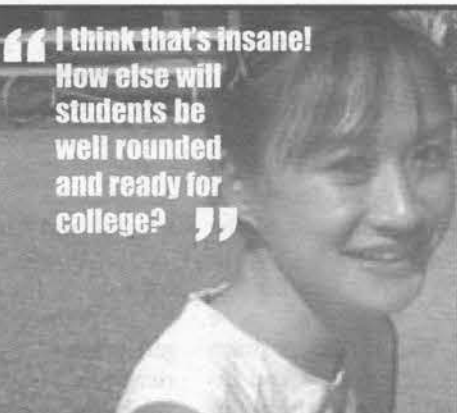


"It's appalling that they're cutting back a crucial element of civil services. Why cut back on education and lower society's standards?"

Tom Darcy '06

47%

of students said that if they could save something, they would save the libraries.



"I think that's insanel How else will students be well rounded and ready for college?"

Corliss Lee '05

Players of the Week

Mike Harris

In baseball, second baseman Mike Harris was believed to be out for the season with a knee injury; instead, he has come back strong this week. In his first game back, a win against Nevada, he went 2 for 5 with a homerun and three RBIs. Against Gonzaga, he went 3 for 5 with an RBI triple in the eighth inning to tie the score with two outs.

Aude Lambert

The women's tennis team has won four matches in a row, in part thanks to the solid play of Aude Lambert. Lambert has won four straight singles matches at the number one position, and when teamed up with Nicole Hunstock, has won nine straight doubles matches.

-Sam Adams, Sports Editor

Score Card

Tennis

Women (6-9)

SMC def. Westmont College 7-0
SMC def. Nevada 7-0

Men (7-6)

SMC def. San Francisco 4-3
SMC def. Sacramento State 4-3

W. Lacrosse (2-5)

George Washington - 11
Saint Mary's - 7

Softball (7-21)

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	0	3	2
Iowa	7	11	0

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	2	3	0
Utah St.	0	1	1

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	3	10	1
Nevada	12	15	0

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	0	8	5
Purdue	6	10	0

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	1	-	-
Pittsburgh	4	-	-

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	0	-	-
Purdue	8	-	-

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	3	-	-
Wisconsin	6	-	-

Baseball (6-17)

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	10	14	1
Nevada	6	11	4

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	4	13	0
Gonzaga	6	10	2

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	2	4	2
Gonzaga	8	11	2

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	8	12	0
Gonzaga	3	6	2

SPORTS

Gaels' NIT hopes unrealized

SMC men's team left out of tournament, Bennett hopes this doesn't taint season

by Sam Adams
Sports Editor

Out of a field of 40 teams, apparently Saint Mary's was 41.

Saint Mary's basketball missed out on its first post-season appearance since 1997, despite a solid 19-12 season and going to the WCC Tournament championship round.

Saint Mary's thought they were in - the National Invitational Tournament said that if Colorado rejected their bid to get in, then Saint Mary's was the next team in - but at the last minute Colorado changed their minds, accepted, and left the Gaels out in the cold.

"So much of that NIT is match-ups, and they went with six teams in the West - you'd think they'd go with 7 or 8," said head coach Randy Bennett. "We were close; no question we were the next in the West to go."

Saint Mary's just seemed to pick a bad year to knock on the post season door - their RPI ranking of 105 would have been the second lowest in the NIT, behind Purdue's 107.

Last year Santa Barbara and Eastern Washington made the NIT with RPI rankings of 133 and 113.

"Just based on past history we had a good chance," said Bennett, "but good teams were left out of NCAA and they

picked them up at the NIT."

One thing that went against Saint Mary's was playing three games against sub-Division I teams, as well as a lack of "quality" wins; the Gaels went 0-6 against postseason teams: Rice, Arizona, BYU and Gonzaga (three times).

Part of the problem is that the NIT doesn't necessarily pick who goes based on best teams, but the best match ups and who could draw the biggest crowds.

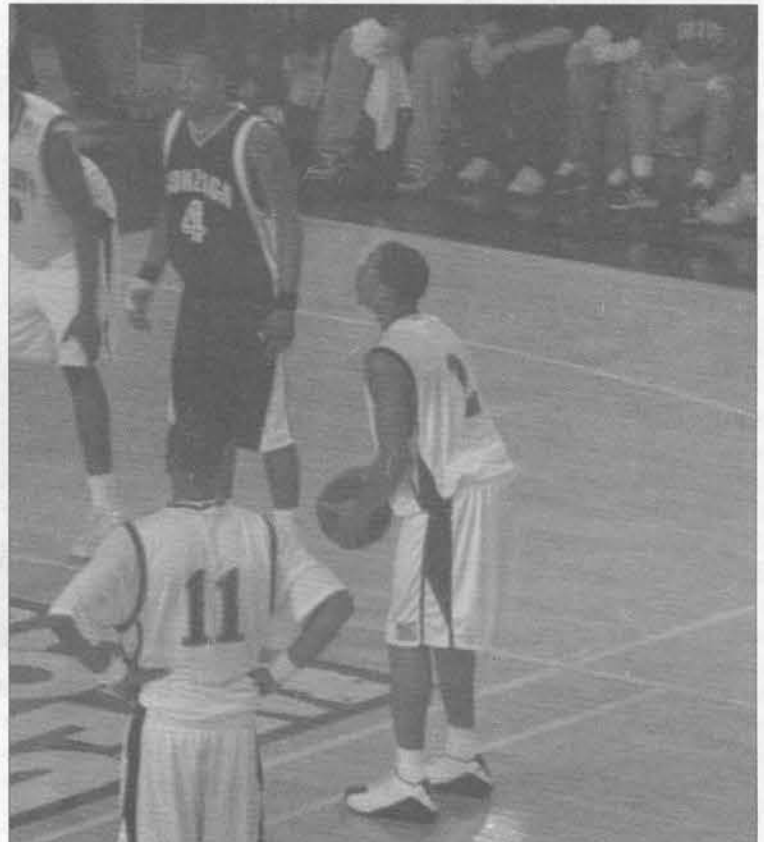
"We didn't really get ahead of ourselves' cause we knew it was so iffy," said Bennett. "Its just that way because they can do whatever they want and don't have to answer to anyone."

Many other things went against the Gaels. Cal not staying above .500 and missing the tournament hurt their chances, because Saint Mary's at Cal would have been a favorable match-up. Or if UOP didn't make the NCAA tournament, maybe Saint Mary's could have been picked to head there.

"It didn't matter where we went," said Bennett.

Still, the Gaels have had a good season, one to be proud of, going from 15-15 last year to 19-12.

"I think you get hung up on missing out on NIT, but at the same time you don't want to taint your season," said Bennett, "they finished strong, they hung with some high expectations and I felt that they held up to them."



Amy Beth Kelly/COLLEGIAN

E.J. Rowland (2) and Paul Marigney (11) will be returning to knock off Gonzaga.

The Gaels won seven of their last ten games, two of those losses coming to Gonzaga (who was eliminated in the second round of the NCAA tournament by Nevada).

And while it is time for the staff to begin preparing for next year and for Gonzaga (who will graduate Blake Stepp, Cory

Violette and Kyle Bankhead, and who might even lose Ronny Turiaf to the NBA), Bennett says he'll have fond memories of this team.

"I don't want to look back on this team and say we got snubbed," said Bennett. "I want to say we did a lot - they've got a lot to be proud of."

Borba hoping to impress scouts

by Chris Swain
Managing Editor

Wes Borba has heard it all before, but for him getting drafted into the NFL is a whole new game.

Borba, who finished his academic coursework at Saint Mary's, now spends five days a week running, doing position drills and lifting with two trainers in Fresno as preparation for workouts with the Patriots, Colts and Tampa Bay coming up this month.

"It's real busy this month, you do pretty much everything you can to try and get drafted," said Borba, who already had a workout with the Chiefs, during which he ran a 4.61 forty.

NFL Wire, a position-by-position ranking system of prospective draftees, has listed Borba as possibly the fourteenth best safety to come out of the draft.

The wire service lists Borba's strengths as his size (6'3", 210 lbs.) for his position and his aggressiveness and instinctive attitude on the field,

while he needs to improve his speed and quickness.

What could this possibly mean for Borba?

"I'm not expecting to get picked on the first day, the draft is so crazy then," said Borba, who most likely expects to be drafted in the fourth, fifth, or sixth round.

"I really don't care which team, I just want to play," said Borba.

For Borba, all things ideal, he would want to play on the west coast, near home, but "when you're trying to get there," said Borba, "you just want to get in; I'll play for anybody."

The unpredictable calls from recruiters is one of the "craziest things" for Borba about the past few months, "one day getting a call, wanting to work out the next day...I could get a call from a team tomorrow," said Borba.

But for now, training is what occupies the schedule for Borba: training and hard work.

"It's an eye opener to all the hard work. It's hard work and a lot of politics too, but it's definitely worth it and a great experience and hopefully everything works out," said Borba.

Baseball opens WCC play

Gaels lose both ends of a Saturday doubleheader

by Sam Adams
Sports Editor

The Gaels opened the WCC portion of their schedule Saturday, dropping both ends of a doubleheader to Gonzaga, losing the first 6-4 and the second 8-2.

In the first game, the Gaels held on most of the game, but couldn't overcome a two run homerun by leadoff hitter Mike Rundle in the top of the ninth inning, breaking a 4-4 tie.

Down 3-0 in the sixth inning, they tied the game when Mike Sansoe scored on shortstop Aaron McGuinness' error and then Stefan Foushee hit a two run homerun to left centerfield.

Gonzaga retook the lead in the eighth inning when starting pitcher Bryan Oland's leadoff walk scored on a Jeff Culpepper RBI single, his third of the game. Hard luck pitcher Oland threw 7 1/3 innings, allowed four runs, struck out six and got a no-decision.

Saint Mary's responded in the bottom of the inning. Foushee reached on an error, then pinch runner Adam Callan stole second. With two outs, second baseman Mike Harris knocked him in with an RBI triple. Bryan Bryne was intentionally walked and Adam Bellows struck out swinging, ending the Gael's last scoring threat.



Lissette Garcia/COLLEGIAN

Preston Young tries to beat out a groundball in Saturday's loss.

Senior Hoopsters talk trash and more

The story you don't know about basketball's Tyler Herr and Chase Poole

by Allison Kop
Staff Writer

Rising from the disappointment of a dismal 2-27 season their freshman year, seniors Tyler Herr and Chase Poole have become vital contributors to the Saint Mary's basketball program. After four years of hard work and dedication, the two roommates finally saw their efforts pay off this year as the Gaels reached the final of the WCC tournament. Now that they have each played in their final game as a Gael, the two teammates spared some time to share some intimate secrets with the Collegian.

What's it like going from a 2-27 season to where you are now?

Chase: Freshman year was a disaster. We've come a long way. I think everyone takes a lot more pride in being a part of this team now.

Tyler: He said it was a disaster, I would just call freshman year miserable. Coming this far is really something to be proud of.

Best sports memory of each other:

T: My favorite memory of Chase is when he grabbed a rebound out of Ross' hands (a Saint Mary's player last year) in a game last year and then dunked it.

C: My best memory of Tyler was his outstanding 3-point shootout against Portland this year. He was on.

Plans after graduation:

T: We both plan to play overseas somewhere. I'm looking at Australia.

C: I want to play somewhere in Europe hopefully.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

C: Well, the basketball is only for a few years. Then we are going to have a joint venture garbage trucking business in the Lamorinda area.

T: Yeah, we are going to be "Waste Technicians."

Favorite movie/DVD:

C: Dumb and Dumber. And we both like Christmas Vacation.

T: Yeah, Christmas Vacation is the best.

Favorite TV show:

C: The Sopranos. It's just a guy show.

T: SportsCenter.

If you could be any superhero?

T: I'd be Superman. I mean, you can't pass up that X-ray vision. And he's tough too.

C: Popeye. No reason, he's just cool.

Favorite song right now:

C: "Overnight Celebrity" by Kanye West.

T: "Yeah" by Usher and Ludacris.

Favorite sports memory ever:

C: All of senior year in high school. We were made out to be legends back then.

T: I gotta say this year. We came from the bottom of the barrel and this year we came really close to making the post season.

Most famous person you've ever met:

C: John Elway. I met him on an airplane and I got a picture with him too.

T: Danny Ainge (former Suns player and owner of the Boston Celtics) lived in the town I grew up in. I used to see him all the time.

What will you miss most about SMC?

C: I'll miss everyone knowing everyone else. It's such a community here.

T: I'll miss just going in the locker room and seeing all the guys. Cracking jokes and making fun of each other. I'll miss the team.

Do you have any nicknames?

T: I'm "Ya Daddy" and Chase is "Ya Uncle."

C: He was calling himself "Ya Daddy" so I just decided to call myself "Ya Uncle." His just fits his personality and mine was kind of a spin-off.

Guilty pleasure:

T: Shoes. I have to buy all the new Nikes.

C: This isn't really so much a guilty pleasure as a habit. I count all of the girls' thongs I see every day.

Favorite video game:

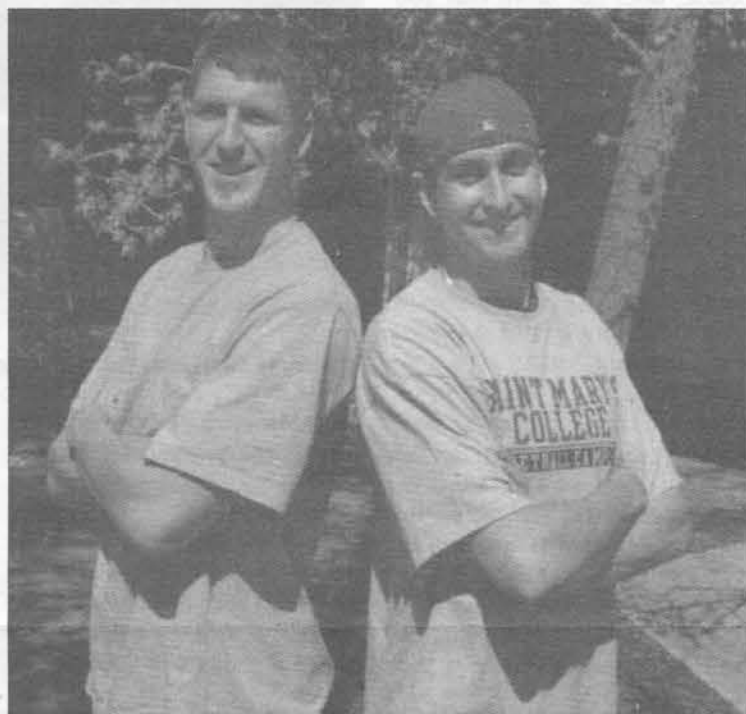
T: James Bond. All four of the roommates play together.

C: Vice City or Grand Theft Auto.

Hidden Talent:

T: Ping pong.

C: I can do backflips on a trampoline.



Lissette Garcia/COLLEGIAN
Herr(right) averaged 9.1 points/game in conference play; Poole 5.4.



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Chin's Corner

michael chin

What SMC Football Really Brought to us

So by now all the reasons as to why football should not have been dropped from the SMC sports program have been stated. People have said we did have the money to keep the program and that we could have dropped to a lower league or played with no scholarships. All these arguments are indeed valid and truthful. However, as I analyze these, I find that perhaps they are not the most important ones. The real question is how is the loss of football going to affect our students and student life around the campus.

On the surface many would say "not at all." Some would say "the football team lost all the time; no one cared about them or went to the games." There is some truth to these statements, but let me ask you something; how many of you have been to a football party at that famous house (trying not to divulge its location to the local authorities). Yeah, that's right, probably all of you have been to at least one of those parties. Next year, those parties will be but another memory in the minds of upper-classmen. I'm not saying that is what football is about but that the football team was an integral part to SMC community and that that part of the community will no longer be here.

In the last month or so, the student government and campus life department have also begun a campaign known as enlivenment. Its mission is to make the campus a better environment for students to have fun in during the year. The question I have is how did football aid in the school's mission to enliven campus? Many of the fall events that were held at Saint Mary's revolve around football. Think about what happened during a Saturday last fall. There would always be a barbeque before the game (much better food than the regular junk at Saga), you would have the game, and then the infamous fifth quarter, where students and alumni would kick back, listen to the local band and throw back a few Coors lights. All these things, with a twirl of the magic wand, have disappeared.

Lastly, I want to talk about the players. "The who? The players? What do they have to do with this?" The answer is everything. Not only has the board of trustees crushed the dreams of many young men to play football for the Gaels by telling them they have to follow their dream somewhere else, we have scattered these boys to the wind. By now at SMC most have met one or two football players. By and large they are great people with awesome attitudes both on and off the field. To see men of such character leave this institution is saddening. When it comes down to it, Saint Mary's football should not have been about wins and losses but about the players, coaches, and athletic department staff who worked so hard day in and day out to provide the students with a program that represented its school with pride and dignity. It is the end of an era for not only SMC athletics, but also for Saint Mary's College.

tongue incheek

Where we delve into issues that are big or small.

BY JON SLOBODIN

YOU'RE BIG AND BEAUTIFUL: BODY ACCEPTANCE IS EXACTLY WHAT THIS COUNTRY NEEDS

This March is Body Acceptance Month at Saint Mary's, a month in which plus-size girls accept the fact that they are not Victoria's Secret models, and that it is okay. To which I say, you go, girl!! Body obsession is a growing trend in this country, especially among women, and this needs to be stopped.

Studies say that flat butt syndrome is one of the biggest problems our country faces today, with approximately 10 out of 10 white girls being afflicted with this awful disease, and 9 out of 10 Asian girls suffering the same fate. But I should point out that in 2000, 10 out of 10 Asians had flat butt syndrome, so we are definitely moving in a positive direction. But there still needs to be a collaborative effort, on our part, to put some junk back in the trunk, so to speak. Which is why I am so appreciative of this fat acceptance month. In case you hadn't noticed, skinny is out, and big is in, and if you don't believe me, ask Jamal Jackson, aka "The Marshmallow Man." "I'm so damn tired of these skinny little white girls who ain't got no behind. I need a bodonkadonk. I need something to hold on to, know what I'm saying?" Yes, we do, Jamal, yes we do.

Robert Forster, a sociology professor at Harvard University, undoubtedly agrees with Marshmallow, citing a strong trend towards love of the plump. "The so-called ideal of a woman with a perfect body has become very passé," he says. "The image of a standard swimsuit model, with her perfect round golden breasts, her streamlined toned stomach, her curvaceous yet lithe behind, her incredibly gorgeous, statuesque legs that seem to go on forever, anyway, where was I? Oh, yeah, fat girls are beautiful too. And they should not be ashamed. In fact, a few extra rolls could add a lot of charm. Just ask my wife."

Tanisha Fatashe, a self-described "plump and proud" woman, is fed up with the constant images of perfect, beautiful women that look nothing like her in magazines giving young girls the wrong message. "It's just so shttoopid, she says with a ding-dong still in her mouth, "mosht girls jusht can't live up to these ideals. Ushh girls need to bond together and realize that yes we're a little overweight, but we're also very special people, and we will find true love eventually." You said it, sister. So keep stuffing your face and watching Oprah. We'll see you at the drive-thru.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: TONGUE IN CHEEK IS A WORK OF SATIRE AND NOT BASED ON ACTUAL FACTS.]

DETOUR

Beauty for spring is killer
The real deal on tanning and how to protect yourself this spring.

BY JENNA FOX STAFF WRITER

Spring, as they say, has sprung, and with it have come bikinis, sun bathing by the pool or on the lawn, short skirts and tank tops, and tanning in salons. It seems that everyone wants to be tan, but despite the vibrancy people think a tan gives them now, [says Peggy Burns, director of the St. Mary's Health and Wellness Center], there are serious risks associated with sun bathing and tanning. "You may have perfect skin at 19 or 20, but the negative effects of sun exposure will show up when you're 40," said Burns.

The concept that tan skin is beautiful, and even healthy, is fairly new. It began in the 1920's when Coco Chanel set the trend. But the Skin Cancer Foundation warns that there is no such thing as a healthy tan.

Sun effects are cumulative, Burns informs us, so everyone, even people of color, should wear a sunscreen, with a higher sun protection factor (SPF) depending on skin tone. According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, the SPF of a sunscreen measures the length of time the skin is protected from harmful rays; a sunscreen with an SPF of 15 will

multiply the amount of time it would take to do damage by 15.

If damage occurs, precancerous (and not to mention unattractive) skin lesions called keratoses may appear on the skin. The American Cancer Society estimated that in 2003 1.3 million new cases of skin cancer would be reported, and 9,800 people would die from it. This, of course, does not mean that you should stay out of the sun entirely! Outdoor activities like swimming and hiking are healthy, and perfect stress-relievers for this time of year. But be especially careful around the pool, as Burns warns, "around the pool the sun's rays bounce off the water, creating an increased intensity and risk. People should wear a hat with a brim, a t-shirt, and sunscreen."

But what about tanning beds? Those are completely safe, right? And they give you a killer tan the babes dig! If you think this, you're not alone. The use of indoor tanning devices that emit ultraviolet (UV) light, has never been more popular. But in fact, as the Skin Cancer Foundation reports, it doesn't matter how you



Liz Hearst/Collegian

Contrary to popular belief, the sun can give you more things than a tan.

got that bronze glow. Any tanners may develop keratoses later in life.

Fair-skinned people and people with freckles are especially at risk. Burns says there is an added risk to tanning beds; bacterial infections can be transmitted if the bed is not properly

sanitized. So what should you do? Do not sunbathe is the number one recommendation. Wear sunscreen when you are out-of-doors.

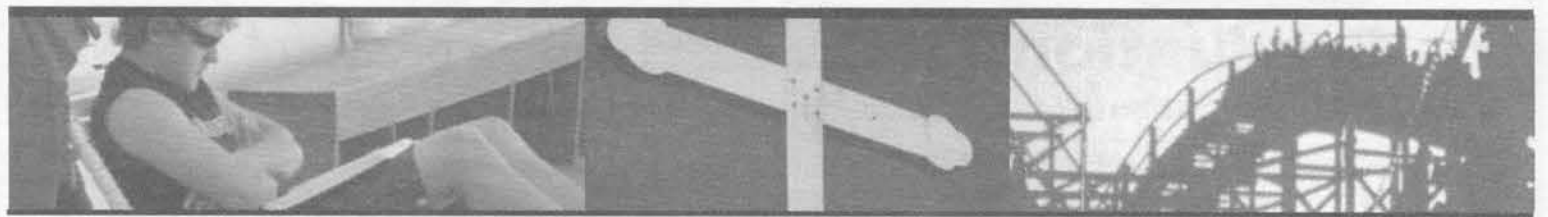
And repeat this mantra: Black is beautiful, brown is beautiful, and white is beautiful, too!

Getting some sunlight

BY KATIE KIMBALL | OPINION EDITOR

Making the most of sunlight around Saint Mary's

The sun is once again shining on the bright hills of Moraga. That means it's time to put the books down and head outside! But if it feels like there is nothing to do in this quiet area, think again. There is plenty of fun to be had if you get creative. Turn off your computer, get your sunscreen, some friends, and an appreciation for the spontaneous and head outside before it starts raining again!



The lawns: On days like this, there is just no reason to be studying in the library. Take a hint from the freshmen, and read outside. With a few books, a towel, and a Nalgene of your favorite (and maybe non-alcoholic) beverage, you can work on your tan while you work on your thesis.

The pool: SMC has a pool? Yes we do! And if you're feeling like showing off those rock hard abs you've worked so hard for or that tan you paid all that money for, the pool is the place to do it. Warning: if you are intimidated by the idea of swimwear, you may want to skip what is quickly becoming SMC's meat market. Impress your fellow undergraduates with your rockin' bod, or just enjoy the cool water.

Lafayette Reservoir: This hidden jewel off Mount Diablo road is the closest you're gonna get to good old fashioned outdoor fun. This man-made wonder boasts 925 acres of land and 1.4 billion gallons of water for whatever activity your heart desires. The perfect place for a picnic or BBQ, the Reservoir is convenient and for only a \$6 entrance fee, worth every penny.

Hiking: Contra Costa County boasts a variety of trails for different experience levels. For a quick local walk, try hiking on the trail that runs down Saint Mary's Road. If you're feeling more adventurous, get on the internet and check out local trails and directions.

The cross and the SMC: You know tradition dictates that before you graduate you have to hike to the cross and the SMC sign. Stop putting it off any longer, and head for the hills! Pilgrimage alone or grab some friends to relive your SMC memories with. If you do this at night, be sure to remember what I learned the hard way: you need a flashlight!

Road trip it: Feeling landlocked? All that expensive gas just burning a hole in your tank? Head for the coast! This is a great time to make a quick road trip out to Santa Cruz. Only about an hour and a half away, the drive is worth it. You can spend a day enjoying the boardwalk, the food, downtown, and the view, or make a weekend out of it and visit those UCSC friends you've been promising to visit. Bring your books and you can study on the beach while grilling hotdogs. Does it get any better than that?



PHOTOS: COLLEGIAN ARCHIVES/ROLLERCOASTER.COM/GOOGLE.COM