

Box  
347

# INSIDE

- ▶ **OPINION**  
Is the draft a real possibility? **pg.5**
- ▶ **DETOUR**  
Fashion peevs of 2004. **pg.8**

**SPORTS**  
Women's rugby finds respect in second season. **pg.6**



Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Volume 101, Number 22

# Academic dishonesty rises

## New academic honor policy promises changes

by Amy Kelly  
Photo Editor

Academic dishonesty is defined as being "any activity, which falsely represents one's own academic performance or interferes with that of another." The most common offenses are cheating and plagiarism. In recent years the upsurge at Saint Mary's has proven to be such a large problem that a new policy will be in place by Fall 2004.

The number of students that have been reported in the past year is astounding. Fifty-four cases of academic dishonesty have been reported in the School of Liberal Arts alone. Of these, three to four of the students were dismissed.

Academic dishonesty is taken very seriously at Saint Mary's and yet no one ever truly explains the policy to incoming students. This is about to change, as a new student-run Academic Honor Committee will be in place in the fall.

"Some people are unaware of the policy and they do not become aware until they have been charged," said Shawny Anderson, associate dean for liberal arts. This is one of the main faults that the new policy will attempt to control. To break the pattern, incoming freshmen will be educated on the new policy during orientation as well as during the Week of Welcome. Anderson would like students to "face the blank page" and emphasize "the importance of original work," especially to incoming freshman.

Few cases of academic dishonesty are for cheating on exams. Instead, plagiarism and obtaining papers from the web are the top offenses. Anderson says that the uprising in cases is due pri-

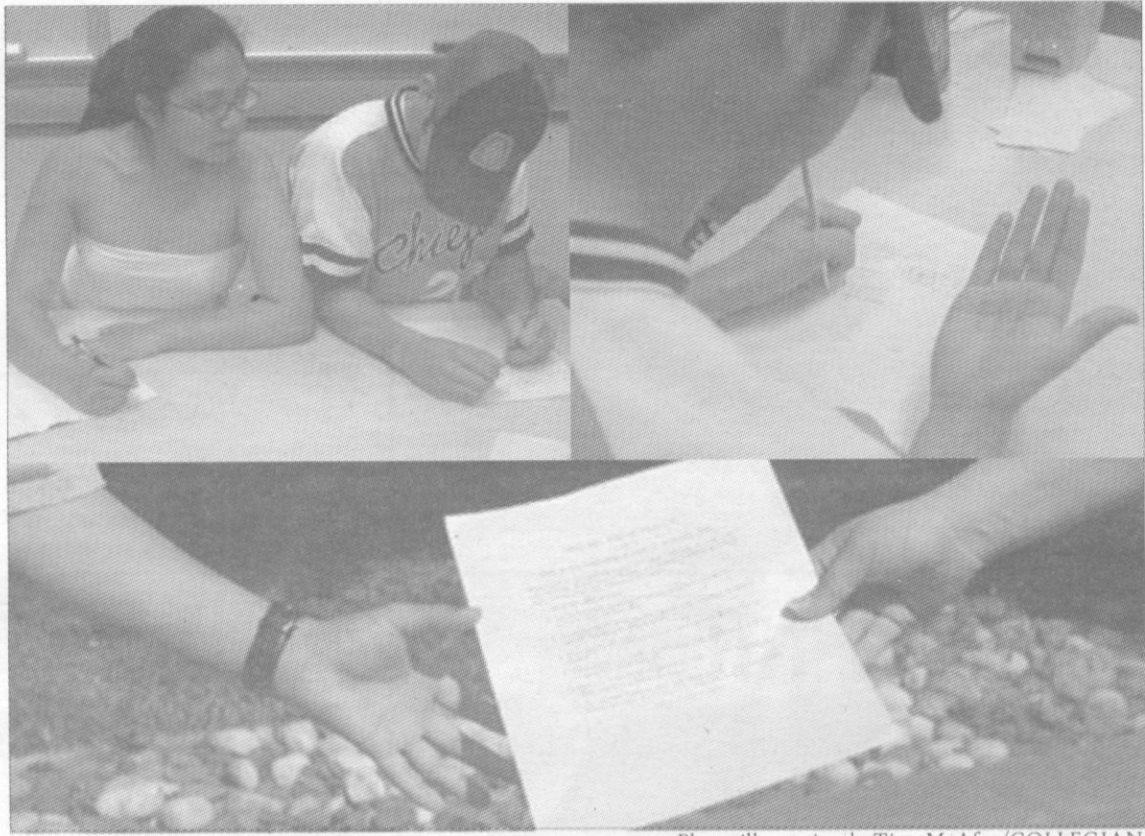


Photo illustration by Tina McAfee/COLLEGIAN

Cases of academic dishonesty vary from in-class copying to an exchange of information.

marily to the Internet; websites such as Spark Notes are primarily to blame. While Saint Mary's is no longer officially affiliated with Turnitin.com, some faculty members will still Google search phrases, which would appear to be outside an individual student's range. Turnitin.com's website allows faculty to insert phrases of a paper to search for cases of plagiarism. Yet even with technology to detect plagiarism students are still not afraid to use web resources.

Current policy states that a first offense will result in a failing grade on the assignment, a meeting with the dean of the student's department, and a letter in a student's permanent file in the Registrar's office. This letter

serves as a marker, should there be a second offense. A second offense results in dismissal from the college. The new student-run Transitional Academic Honor Council will consist of 12 students and two faculty members. The council will evaluate each case individually but in most cases require a failing grade in a course on the first offense and an "XF grade" will be awarded for the course on a student's transcript. The grade will show that the student was awarded an "XF" as a result of academic dishonesty. Yet, if in the following semester a student would like the mark taken from their file, he/she can enroll in a special seminar course on academic integrity. In order for a student to re-take the course

in which an "XF" grade was received this seminar class must be taken prior to re-enrollment. This new policy could actually set a student back a full academic year if the course is required for a major or graduation.

David Wood '05, Co-Chair for the Transitional Academic Honor Council, states that the policy's effectiveness will depend on the ability to introduce the program to the school and added that, "the biggest challenge will be introducing the policy to upperclassmen."

Overall the program looks to bring a greater sense of integrity to the Saint Mary's campus. If taken seriously, the policy could prove to have an impact on the excellence of the college.

# LCN unites campus community

Cultural awareness raised through food, entertainment

by Cori Simpson  
Staff Writer

Latino Cultural Night will once again educate members of the community about different Latino Cultures. This is the fourth year it has taken place, all as a result of dedicated students. The event originated from student motivation. A few students got together and decided to start this event with inspiration from Asian Cultural Night. The event is completely run by students, who have been planning it and working on it since the beginning of the academic year.

This year's Latino Cultural Night seeks to educate the community about different Latino cultures and to break down various stereotypes. Executive team member Alicia Perez said, "Latin America isn't just Mexico. Each country is unique. Latin America isn't one lump of land. Each country has its own history, its own music, its own dance."

LCN will show students the history, music, and dance of four different Latin American countries.

see LCN, p2

# Future students visit campus

Prospectives consider SMC through Admissions' program

by Chris Swain  
Managing Editor

To sum up why prospective student, Deshon Craton, is interested in coming to Saint Mary's, it comes down to something quite simple: "the girls," Craton said jokingly.

On a more serious note, the high school senior from Houston, Texas liked the "seminar classes and the scenery" that SMC has to offer.

Craton came as part of the Admissions Overnight Program that allows prospective students to attend classes, live in residence halls and get a brief taste of what the SMC experience is all about.

Craton asked, "How many people from Texas are at this school?" The future freshman heard about SMC as one of a

see PROSPECTIVE, p2

# Dinner raises funds

Celebrities serve, alumni office holds event for third year to assist SMC scholarships

by Chris Mateo  
News Editor

The third annual Celebrity Waiter Dinner took place on Saturday, April 24 in the Soda Activity Center. The dinner is a fundraising event that aims to benefit student scholarships and the Associated Students Activities Endowment of Saint Mary's College.

Celebrities included Mike Bouve, the radio voice of the Gaels KDIA 1640 AM; Dick Callahan, the voice of Saint Mary's College Basketball; Mark Curtis from KTVU; Katie Davis and Danielle Ferris, Lady Gaels fan favorites; fire fighters from

the Moraga Fire Department; Tony Gemignani, five-time World Champion Pizza Thrower; Denis Kelly '60, SMC Professor/Cookbook Author and 2004 nominee for the James Beard Award (a very prestigious honor for cookbook writers); Vicki Liviakis from KRON, Kelly, Tracy, and Julie Morris, the longest running sister act in college basketball; and Billy Steel from The Bone 107.7 FM.

The event was inspired from a model set up by Brother Gale Condit, the director of development of Saint Paul's High School outside of New Orleans. "This model served as a successful fundraiser for the school and its students," said Giles Miller, di-



Amy Kelly/COLLEGIAN

Over 100 dinner guests were entertained by waiters including TV and radio personalities as well as other local celebrities.

rector of alumni relations. "It was a unique idea, so we decided to give it a shot here at SMC.

As for the actual event, the celebrities visited tables and served as entertainment to earn tips for the fundraising portion of the night. "The celebrity waiters didn't serve the food, but they worked the room," said Lloyd

Schine, associate director of alumni relations. Because all of the tips made go straight to the alumni scholarship, student scholarships, and the ASSMC endowment, the celebrities were asked to do things such things from delivering a glass of water to singing a song for guest donations."

# What's Happening

## Kairos

Kairos is coming. For more information to attend or to help with this student-led retreat coming May 7 and 8, please stop by Campus Ministry or call x4366. All are welcome.

## Latino Cultural Night

Latino Cultural Night is on Thursday, April 29 at the Soda Center. Registration is at 5:30 p.m. and the event is from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. To attend, please RSVP to the Office of Academic Advising at x4349. It is \$3 for students, \$7 for faculty, and \$5 for guests.

## Mary True

Faculty, staff and students are cordially invited to a presentation by Mary True, "Infant-mother attachment among the Dogon of Mali: New findings on the universal and culturally-specific dimensions of our first relationship." The event will take place today from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Hagerty Lounge. In this presentation, Dr. True will give an overview of the project's published findings as well as those of her sabbatical work. In this work she investigated the relationship between infant undernutrition and maternal responsiveness to infant distress and, also, the differences in attachment behaviors in American and Malian mothers and infants. This presentation will be presented more formally in Berlin this August at the World Congress of the International Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions.

## Science Career Night

Is the warm weather taking away your motivation to study? Come to (the Science Club's) Science Career Night and get inspired! The event will take place April 28 at 7:00 p.m. in JC Gatehouse room 114. Come and learn what you need to do to get the career of your dreams. For more information please call 349-5909 or email sci-club@stmarys-ca.edu.

## SMCDC

The Saint Mary's College Department of Performing Arts presents the Saint Mary's College Dance Company (SMCDC) from May 6 to May 8 at 8:00 p.m. in LeFevre Theatre. Admission is \$10 for general admission, \$9 for non-SMC students, and \$7 for the SMC community. For reservations, call x4670.

## Women's self defense

Join Michelle Marks from the Contra Costa County Rape Crisis Center on April 27 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Hagerty Lounge for an interactive workshop on self-defense training. Learn about awareness and assertiveness skills, psychological and physical self-defense techniques and safety tips and strategies. To register, email llamb@stmarys-ca.edu or call x4193.

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

# Crime Beat

4/16	7:58 a.m.	4/20	12:47 a.m.
<b>Incident:</b> Malicious mischief		<b>Incident:</b> Suspicion	
<b>Synopsis:</b> Damage to bicycle at Ferrogiario Quad; referred to student conduct.		<b>Synopsis:</b> Possession of fireworks in Justin Hall; referred to student conduct.	
4/17	4:49 a.m.	4/21	3:35 p.m.
<b>Incident:</b> Explosion of destructive device		<b>Incident:</b> Vandalism	
<b>Synopsis:</b> Explosion of destructive device at North Claeys parking lot; referred to student conduct.		<b>Synopsis:</b> Vandalism in Dante Hall; referred to student conduct.	
4/17	4:30 p.m.	4/22	1:18 a.m.
<b>Incident:</b> Vehicle damage		<b>Incident:</b> Disorderly conduct	
<b>Synopsis:</b> Broken outside driver mirror at Baseball parking lot; referred to business office and athletics.		<b>Synopsis:</b> Disorderly conduct at Ageno B; referred to student conduct.	
4/18	12:50 a.m.	4/22	1:30 p.m.
<b>Incident:</b> Drunk in public		<b>Incident:</b> Auto burglary	
<b>Synopsis:</b> Medical assistance at Ageno C parking lot; referred to student conduct and health center.		<b>Synopsis:</b> Theft of car stereo at the Aquinas parking lot; referred to student conduct.	
4/20	12:25 a.m.	4/22	3:45 p.m.
<b>Incident:</b> Fire alarm		<b>Incident:</b> Possession	
<b>Synopsis:</b> Burning incense in Becket Hall; referred to student conduct.		<b>Synopsis:</b> Possession of drug paraphernalia at De La Salle Hall; referred to student conduct.	
		4/22	7:41 p.m.
		<b>Incident:</b> Vehicle damage	
		<b>Synopsis:</b> Vehicle hit by a softball at the lacrosse field parking lot; referred to business office and athletics.	

# Need a Tutor?

Call Supreme Educational Services! We are a group of UC-Berkeley PhD. students who have all taught at the college level. We can meet you on campus and work one-on-one so each session is customized to your needs.

www.supremetutors.com  
510 912-6773 Supreme Educational Services

## LCN: students emphasize uniqueness in Latino cultures

Brazil, Peru, the Dominican Republic, and Cuba are all countries that will be represented. Each set will showcase that country's dance, poetry, and history. There will also be some political skits. There is a variety for each country instead of one country demonstrating only dance, another country demonstrating only poetry, etc. This way, the event is entertaining as well as educational, and raises cultural awareness.

Students started planning the event in the fall and really started to bring it together in the spring. The Latin American Student Association helps out, but the main leadership comes from the SMC community as a whole.

Other organizations that have provided support include: the office of Latino Student programs, the office of the president, Student Activities and Leadership Programs, Student Affairs,

Women's Studies Department, CILSA, the School of Education, the School of Science, and Program Board.

The event is intended for everyone on campus as well as for the community off campus. "This event is campus-wide. It's for the whole community both on campus and the community surrounding campus. The assumption is that it is put on by LASA and that it is for LASA members or for Latino students, but it's not just for Latino students and it's not just Latino students who are involved with it. It's a community wide event. We do it for the whole community," said Perez.

Latino Cultural Night is this Thursday, April 29 at the Soda Center. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. and the event is from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. If you would like to attend, RSVP to the Academic Advising Center at x4349. It is \$3.00 for students, \$7.00 for faculty, and \$5.00 for guests.

## PROSPECTIVE: future Gaels make most of Overnight

number of schools through the Venture Scholars Program.

"I want to get involved with CILSA...I've been involved with the Rotary Club and at school we have mandatory community service hours, which after a while just get addicting," said Craton, who was impressed with the visibility of diversity.

"There is a nice mix of diversity...seeing all the crowds at once instead of having to look for them/seek them out...it's nice they are already there," said Craton.

The basketball program also interested Craton.

"A division one school, wow...we're going to beat Gonzaga," said Craton, who has his mind pretty much made up that SMC is where he will be attending school this fall.

One recruiting change in the past few years has been the switch to recruiting at a larger level nationally.

"Recruiting nationally allows SMC to enhance the geographic diversity of the incoming class," said Michael Beseda, vice provost of admissions.

Also, said Beseda, there has been a large jump in the number of male applicants, almost 20 percent from the last group of prospective students.

Another quality of the prospective students is that around 20 percent more than last year have qualified with honors at entrance.

For prospective student, Crystal Corona, the appeal of SMC came with the size of the school.

"It's a small community," said Corona, who liked the smaller class sizes.

"It gives students and teachers a better relationship," said the high school senior from Chicago, Illinois.

Hearing about the school through a guidance counselor, Corona said that she too probably would end up at SMC because "it's different."

## SMC remembers Rwanda

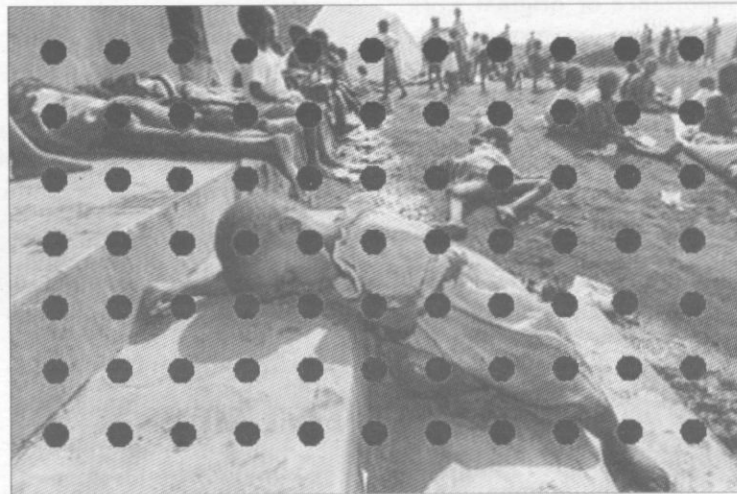


Photo illustration by Amy Kelly/COLLEGIAN

April 7, 2004, marked the tenth anniversary of the Rwandan genocide that took the lives of at least 800,000 people. According to Amnesty International [www.amnesty.org], "The mass killings, torture and rape of 1994 amount to one of the single largest human rights catastrophes of the 20th century. This was a genocide - defined as the 'intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group' - planned and orchestrated by the then Hutu-dominated Rwandese government."

The above photo illustration represents a fusion of two things. First, the picture is one of many

photographs of Corinne Dufka, whose work can be seen in the "Rwanda 1994 Genocide Commemorative Photo Gallery" on the website of the Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), part of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), www.irinnews.org. Second, the dots placed on the actual photo represent the dots posted up around the campus by SMC's own Amnesty International. The club's campaign relayed the message, "Remember Rwanda" and used these dots to represent the many lives taken on April 7, 1994.

-C.M.

# New officers take office May 1

## Getting to know next year's ASSMC executive team

by Allison Kop  
Staff Writer

The votes are in and the new officers are ready to take office. The ASSMC Executive officers

for the 2004-2005 school year, made up of Jeff Haskins '05, Jessica Porras '05, John Zabala '06, and Jennifer Merlo '05, begin their terms on May 1.

The officers are excited for the new academic year and are ready

to tackle the task of representing the students of Saint Mary's College. Here are some interesting tidbits the students of SMC might want to know about the people who will be representing them next year.

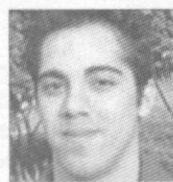


**Jeff Haskins**  
ASSMC President  
Year: Senior  
Major: Psychology  
Hometown: Pittsburgh, CA

**Biggest goals for next year:** "Campus Enlivenment, dealing with the Catholic, LaSallian, and Liberal Arts traditions at Saint Mary's, and improving communication."

**Best Memory at SMC:** "When I was a Gael-for-a-Day before my freshman year."

**Favorite thing to do in Moraga:** "Going up to the Berkeley Hills and watching the sun go down."



**John Zabala**  
VP for Administration  
Year: Junior  
Major: Integral  
Hometown: Los Angeles, CA (not the O.C.)

**Biggest goal for next year:** "Getting the senators involved on campus."

**Best Memory at SMC:** "I love the party scene. You can go to a party in one place and know everyone there and then you go to another party and know everyone there too. It's a great community atmosphere."

**Career Plans:** "I want to be a teacher and eventually teach Integral here at Saint Mary's."



**Jessica Porras**  
VP for Student Affairs  
Year: Senior  
Major: Politics  
Hometown: Yucaipa, CA

**Biggest goal for next year:** "I want to help the clubs work together to put on quality events and enliven the campus."

**Favorite class at SMC:** "My Jan Term class last year, Encountering Christian Art, with Tom Poundstone was great."

**Favorite thing to do in Bay Area:** "Spending time in San Francisco. I like shopping and walking around, just taking in the sights."



**Jennifer Merlo**  
VP for Finance  
Year: Senior  
Major: Business  
Hometown: Valencia, CA

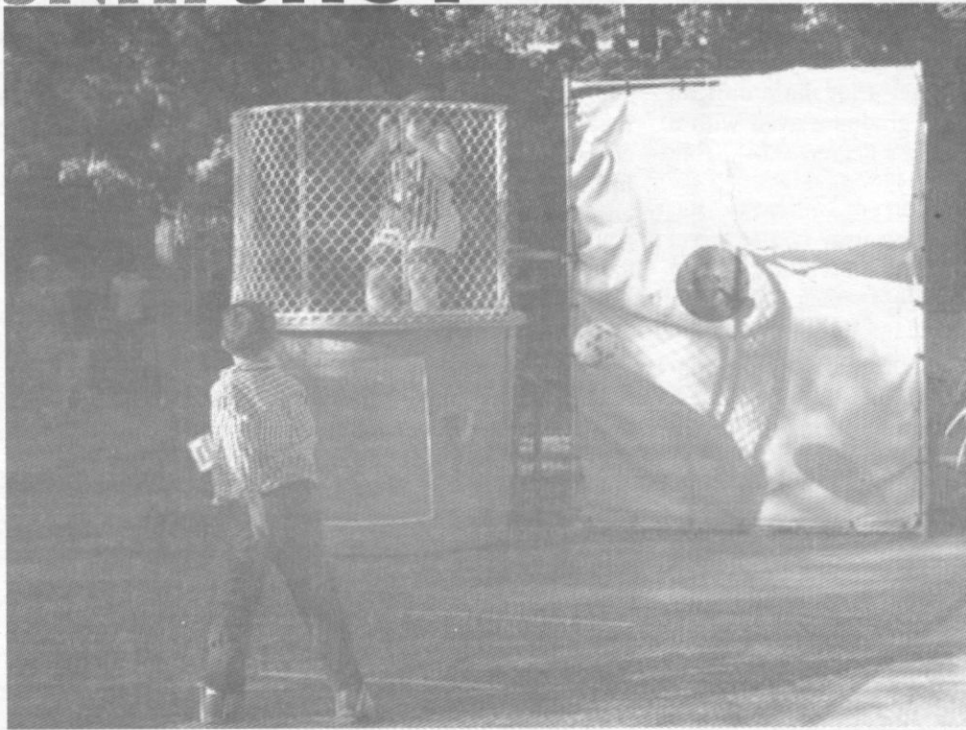
**Biggest Goal for next year:** "To redo the budget process and make it more objective, rather than subjective. I want to standardize it so everyone knows what is going on."

**Best Memory at SMC:** "When David Holquin called me last year and told me that I won [VP for Finance]. I only won by 16 votes so it was pretty close."

**Favorite Professor:** "Rebecca Carroll. She was my freshman seminar teacher and is a great mentor for any student."

Photos by Ken Fung

## SNAPSHOT



Tina McAfee/COLLEGIAN

On Friday, April 23, children filled the SMC campus for the second annual Carnival 4 Kids. The event included numerous games, food, and prizes.

## Beyond NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS BITES

### the bubble

By TONY VALA-HAYNES

**-NORTH KOREA** - Two trains, both carrying explosive cargo, collided early Thursday. 154 people died and 1,300 people were injured. The cause of the crash is still under investigation.

**-SEATTLE, Washington** - A group of National Christian leaders is organizing a letter to send to President Bush on Earth Day that criticizes his abuse of the Clean Air Act.

**-SOUTH AFRICA, Cape Town** - Nicholas Du Plooy survived an 18 floor fall out of the window of the Cape Town Ritz Hotel Tuesday. Plooy broke two arms, one leg and injured his neck after stumbling out of a window on the 19th floor.

**-NEW YORK** - 15-year-old Flavia Bujor became a best-selling author with her first children's book *The Prophecy of the Stones*. Over 20 countries have purchased rights to sell her book.

**-DOVER, Delaware** - A web site published a number of photographs with American dead arriving at one of the nation's largest military mortuaries. The Pentagon was extremely upset at the release of the photographs and intends to shut down such web sites.

**-SOUTH ORANGE, New Jersey** - Jules Gabriel, a sixth grader, was suspended after exposing his allergic teacher to peanut butter cookies.

**-ORLANDO, Florida** - Airport security officials refused to allow a cancer patient on to her flight home claiming she did not look like the photograph on her I.D.

**-WASHINGTON** - A U.S. researcher revealed that poets die younger than novelists, playwrights and other writers.

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

**TAKE ALL THIS STUFF**

**STORE IT HERE**

**NOW RELAX & ENJOY THE FREEDOM OF YOUR ORGANIZED LIFE!**

**AAAA RENT-A-SPACE**  
Near Things Move Everything to Etc.

Credit Cards Welcome  
[www.5Aspace.com](http://www.5Aspace.com)

Bring this coupon into 5A when you rent

**Your 1st Mo. FREE\***  
Plus up to \$50 rebate on your moving truck

**MORAGA**  
455 MORAGA RD. SUITE F  
**(800) 5A-SPACE**  
1(800) 527-7223

\* On selected units, with payment of 2nd mo. Truck rebate on 2nd mo. rent. Expires 4/30/04, call for details.

## THE COLLEGIAN

P.O. Box 4407 - Moraga, CA 94575  
Second Floor of Ferroggiaro Hall  
Telephone: 925.631.4279  
Fax: 925.631.4675  
E-mail: [collegia@stmarys-ca.edu](mailto:collegia@stmarys-ca.edu)  
[smcnet.stmarys-ca.edu/gaelpage](http://smcnet.stmarys-ca.edu/gaelpage)

The *Collegian* is the official newspaper of the Associated Students of Saint Mary's College. The *Collegian* is published weekly, except during examination periods and academic recesses. The *Collegian* reserves the right to hold and edit all submitted materials, solicited and unsolicited. The *Collegian View* is the unsigned opinion of the *Collegian* Editorial Board. The *Collegian* Editorial Board is comprised of all oversight staff members. Other opinions expressed are not necessarily endorsed by the *Collegian*, its contributors and/or advertisers. To place an advertisement or inquire about a subscription, call the *Collegian* Business Department at 925.631.4279.

## Staff

ANDREA CAMARENA  
Editor-in-Chief

CHRIS SWAIN  
Managing Editor

JOSH KREHBIEL  
Chief Copy Editor

LISSETTE GARCIA  
Chief Photographer

AMY BETH KELLY  
Photo Editor

ELLEN RIGSBY  
Faculty Advisor

DAVID ARDEN  
CHRIS LUCCHETTI  
Business Managers

CHRIS MATEO  
News Editor

KATIE KIMBALL  
Opinion Editor

PABLO ARMAS  
Assistant Opinion Editor

SAM ADAMS  
Sports Editor

KIM DAO  
Detour Editor

JONATHAN MORALES  
In-Depth Editor

ANA MONTANEZ  
Layout Designer

KEN FUNG  
LIZ HEARST  
CHRISTINA MCAFEE  
NICK SYLVA  
DANIELLE TINSLEY  
Photographers

ANGEL REFUGIO  
MARCO TORRES  
Cartoonists

BETTINA ADRAGNA  
KATIE ALPIZAR  
JO-ANN ARQUILLANO  
CAITLIN BLIGHE  
MICHAEL CHIN  
LARA ENDRESZL

JENNA FOX  
JESSICA GUTIERREZ  
ADRIANNE GALLO  
ANNA GATES  
BRIGID HUGHES  
CAITLIN HUNGATE  
ALLISON KOP  
JAMES "PANDA" LEE  
JESSICA LEE  
BRENT MILLS  
KATYANA SACRO  
CORI SIMPSON  
JON SLOBODIN  
TONY VALA-HAYNES  
Staff Writers

# OPINION

## Carnival-4-Kids

All about the gummy worms

tony va la-haynes

I spent this past Friday hanging out with a couple dudes I've never met and in all likelihood will never see again. Initially, I had no intention of spending my Friday afternoon under the blazing sun with Curtis and Steven, a couple of squirmy boys. However, after two friends kindly manipulated me into participating, I found myself painting a couple young, smiling faces Friday afternoon. My reward for spending an afternoon with two fourth graders was a face smeared with paint, tired legs, pink shoulders, and a smile that only died after I closed my eyes for the night.

The Carnival-4-Kids is not a life changing experience if you're a Big Buddy. However, it introduces us to the life we often forget exists beyond the protected, beautiful hills of Moraga. It reminds us that spending Friday afternoon with two hyper kids whose only goal is to get more candy than their classmates is okay. I walked around with Curtis and Steven. Curtis never stopped talking about how fast he is and how he only wanted to do what I wanted to do. Steven never said much, his eyes just kind of glowed every time he won a prize.

Even though Curtis swore it was up to me what we did, he proceeded to lead Steven and I around the whole afternoon, looking for candy, squirt guns and anything else he could throw in his bag. At one point Curtis began to rub his belly and complain about how deathly hungry he had become while winning so many prizes. However, it soon became obvious he had other intentions. In the food court he came up with a plan for me to distract the candy lady while he dumped bowls of gummy worms into his bag. I did my best to keep the candy lady busy while he and Steven grabbed handfuls of candy and stuffed their pockets and bags. Following our secret mission I earned a couple hugs and they decided I was okay. On a later trip through the food court Curtis marveled at how the bowls of candy were full again. He pulled my ear to his mouth and whispered, "that candy lady is on to us. She's setting a trap." I simply smiled.

As the carnival came to an end I felt sorry I didn't have more time with my two buddies. Before they walked to the bus they gave me hugs and promised to look for me at next year's carnival. I told them to stay cool and headed off to my room. Initially I thought my Friday could be spent in a more exciting way but after saying goodbye to Curtis and Steven, I knew I had been wrong. Sometimes, the best afternoon is spent trying to keep up with two fourth graders in pursuit of the ultimate sugar rush. Friday afternoon I ate my fill of gummy worms. I want to thank everyone that organized the carnival. I know it wasn't easy. Curtis recommends more gummy worms next year.

## Collegian View

News, generally, can be defined as something new, current, or out of the ordinary happening, also news can be made by ordinary people doing something remarkable in their day-to-day lives.

Someone should have clued in our school's media relation people.

Having over 200 children from inner city schools and programs on campus for a carnival is pretty newsworthy in itself.

Having over 200 college students participating as 'big buddies,' in numerous booths run by sports teams, residence halls and clubs and organizations, is even more phenomenal.

Having the whole event created as the brainchild of one student and planned/facilitated through the continuous work and commitment of a small

group of students for the second year in its existence is newsworthy.

There are no ifs, ands or buts about it, especially if we're who we consistently say we are.

We want students to "enter to learn and leave to serve."

Students have taken this challenge upon themselves, not waiting to graduate to engage in service, but taking steps to make a difference in the here and now.

And they have, yet if you asked members of the Contra Costa community what's happening with students at SMC, we at the *Collegian* aren't so sure they could tell you.

They probably could tell you about a SMC football player in the NFL draft, or about the professor who wrote some *CliffsNotes*, but couldn't tell you about the extraordinary tradi-

tional undergraduate population's engagement in community service and volunteer activities.

Why not?

Was having over 400 people, participating in a carnival for inner city youth, not a draw for local media, or was there some disconnect, miscommunication in getting the word out about the news students are making?

Most colleges and universities graduate students into the job-force aiming to better themselves, while SMC consistently graduates students willing to give back for the betterment of their communities.

Something new, current, and out of the ordinary is going on here.

Students, are doing remarkable, newsworthy things, it's a shame the broader community doesn't get to hear about them.

## Community Views

Dear Editor,

As an old alumnus '54 and a former editor of the *Collegian*, I reacted adversely to the editorial in the Mar. 23 edition. It sounds like you were feeling sorry for yourself because a beloved College staff person was terminated and football was suddenly dropped.

Termination couldn't have been to save money since your front page news story on the subject reports that the College is hunting for someone to replace the departed staff person. Of course, you don't make it clear whether the termination was by mutual agreement or for misconduct or inappropriate behavior. Surely, if the President or Board of Trustees imposed a termination, he or the Board had a reason.

I have always loved SMC. I thought it was my privilege to have been a student there. My class attended the College during the Korean War and most deemed ourselves lucky to have our army draft status deferred until we graduated.

It was too bad then, in January 1951, when the College for economic reasons suddenly decided to drop intercollegiate football and baseball my freshman year. However, it was a time for growing up. No one thought to ask the students if we thought that dropping football was okay, nor did anyone of us expect to be asked.

Attitudes about the dropping varied among the students, but we learned to live with disappointments. We thought someone wiser than we should make those decisions. Although I was still young and immature in college, there were a sizable number of military veterans on campus going to school on the G.I. bill. None of them wrote an opinion about how unfair the administration was. I can understand your recent disappointment over the loss of a friend. I do hope, however, my own college experience might be helpful to you. Life is going to get a lot more difficult once you graduate even with a Saint Mary's degree.

Sincerely,

John A. Burke '54

Dear Editor,

We at the SMC Compost Coalition (SMCCC) have critical information regarding the health of our SMC community.

The SMC has a serious problem with Styrofoam and stolen dishes. SMC has used Styrofoam as a cost effective solution to deter people from stealing dishes. SMC uses an average of 3,500 plates per week.

The SMCCC has been formed to address this issue and investigate alternatives. Recent studies show that Styrene, an important component in the composition of Styrofoam, which may cause hor-

mone alteration, prevents or mutates reproduction, and an increased risk of cancer. Styrofoam is also not biodegradable. During its 5,000 year decomposition process, Styrene is emitted into the soil further exposing humans to the risk of cancer, and possible hormone alteration and reproductive mutations.

SMCCC is a team of students designed to combat the use of Styrofoam and create a system of recycling and composting that positively affects our health and environment.

The goals of the SMCCC are to raise awareness of the problem, eliminate the amount of Styrofoam usage by replacing it with the innovative new product. We have researched companies that produce biodegradable and compostable dinnerware that will help solve this problem. Another goal of the SMCCC is to reduce the loss of ceramic plates.

Be responsible and respectful.

Sodexo Dining Hall (Saga) replaces ceramic plates three times per year as a result of theft. Join us in our mission to create healthier choices for students, and inspire minds to think of their environment and each other. You can join the SMCCC by contacting Crystal Kelly at [ckelly@stmarys-ca.edu](mailto:ckelly@stmarys-ca.edu).

Sincerely,

SMC Compost Coalition

Dear Editor,

Buyback is coming! Sell your textbooks during finals week, 5/17-5/21! Selling used textbooks

back to your SMC bookstore is not only a good way for you to get some extra money, it also helps provide an ample supply of less expensive, used textbooks for all students. Here are some guidelines to help sell back your books: The bookstore will buy used books at any time during regular business hours. However, it is almost always better to sell used books at the end of a term. As long as a professor has requested a book for the next term, we'll pay 50% of the selling price if it's a current edition, as long as the bookstore is not overstocked for that title. If overstocked or not requested by any professor, we will pay the current price offered by the national used book market for that title.

Sincerely,

Chris Rose, Bookstore Manager

Dear Editor,

Though I found Mr. Muller's article very interesting, I think the answer to his dilemma needs to extend beyond a glib understanding of the term faith. We are not supposed to believe automatically like drones, giving our ascent without due comprehension. We are not "told to believe it without doubt or hesitation", as Mr. Muller asserts. Instead, we are called to have informed faith. Our first task is to understand what is being put forth; this is not the same as "blind" faith. Our understanding precedes our free ascent. Additionally, I think our conditioned culture of doubt stems far beyond our generation as is evident in the works of David Hume or even Feuerbach. The way we should approach things is with a healthy dose of skepticism, this is in contrast to utter and total skepticism where, for example, the gospel writers are to be treated as defendants in a courtroom. We should not begin with the premise that everyone is trying to deceive us, but rather to read the gospels as we read the newspaper, absorbing what is written unless we have good reason to think otherwise. The lesson we learn from seeing, as Mr. Muller has, that our culture is filled with doubt can be traced to the fact that ideas, even odd ones, have consequences.

Sincerely,

Nathan A. Cho '04

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](mailto:collegia@stmarys-ca.edu)

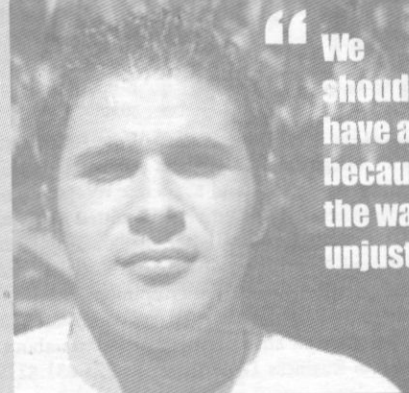
## GAEL POLL

Photos by  
Lisette Garcia  
Compiled by  
Pablo Armas

## 106

SMC students voiced their opinions of the possibility of a draft.

## Should we bring back the draft?



"We shouldn't have a draft because the war is unjust."

Milad Sarkis '04

# Bringing back the draft: fact or fiction?

As tensions mount in Iraq, the possibility of a draft looms larger and larger

by Jessica Gutierrez

Staff Writer

In time of a major conflict, the United States may issue the draft, which draws soldiers from the general civilian population. The United States has used a couple of different draft systems to fill its military ranks in both times of war and peace. Right now, the United States does not exercise any form of the draft.

In case of emergency, the government maintains a Selective Service System (SSS). The purpose of the SSS is to provide the military with more soldiers in the event that volunteer forces are not enough to handle a war or other national crisis. Potential draftees are made up of male U.S. residents between the ages of 18 and 25 are chosen randomly by the SSS. If the military were in need of additional troops, congress and the president would have to consider reinstating the draft. For this to happen, congress would have to pass legislation and the president would have to approve it for the drafting process to begin.

Recently, the Pentagon has been struggling to find troops to fight against the resistance in Iraq. Over 100 U.S. soldiers have been killed since the beginning of April. Because of this, Republican Senator from Nebraska Chuck Hagel appeared on NBC's "Today Show" saying that mandatory military service had to be

considered in this time of a "generational war against terrorism." By generational, the Senator is assuming that this war against terrorism is going to last for 25 years or more. His comments on the "Today Show" were also used in a statement

## Uncle Sam



Graphic by Amy Kelly

he made to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee the day before. He argued that a draft, which had been abolished after the Vietnam War, would "help our citizens to understand the intensity and depth of challenges we face."

The topic of a draft has become a national public discussion and has focused on the U.S. occupation in Iraq. At this point, troop casualties have begun to reach lev-

els unmatched since the Vietnam War. The military has already extended the service tours of 20,000 soldiers who were supposed to return to the United States three months ago. This has kept U.S. troop strength in Iraq

too involved in this war and our nation is risking a civilian breakdown that could be compared to the rebellious times during the Vietnam war.

Despite all of its controversy, US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said last week, "there is no need to reinstate the military draft." He talked

Rumsfeld also talked about how reorganizing the military could be more beneficial than drafting. Even though lawmakers are arguing over a return to military draft, he said that the old draft system had "a lot of difficulties," including inefficiency.

While talk of the draft is still a hot topic, it is presumably far from being passed. Senator Hagel said that he "did not expect to see action on such a bill this year."

I recently went with my grandmother to see the film "The Fog of War," a documentary on the life and work of Robert McNamara, who served as Secretary of Defense during the Vietnam War. McNamara discussed all of the regretful actions and unnecessary atrocities that took place during that time. Afterwards we went for a cup of coffee and discussed the film in relation to what is going on with the United States and our standing in the war against Iraq. We talked about the similarities between the two and what McNamara's main points were. At the end of our conversation my grandmother, having lived through two of our nation's intense wartimes, said, "War begins, but it never ends, especially for those who actually engage in combat."

Her words struck deep and I realized that as long as our nation feels the need to fight this war and as long we have alternative ways to fight against it, we should not force our nation's youth to do so.

## Spring's most disturbing trend

The "butt crack" look makes a repulsive comeback

by Cori Simpson

Staff Writer

There seems to be a cutting edge new look for spring this year: butt cracks. Yes, butt cracks. These solid masses of flesh are rapidly replacing rolling green hills as this school's most prominent scenery. Everywhere I look, there is a butt crack looking right back at me with its cheeky little smile.

I first noticed this in class one day while I was trying to take notes. In one direction there was a sly plumber crack, in another direction there was just a little hint of butt crack trying to peep out, and then straight ahead was half a butt in full view. I thought maybe this was only a problem for people sitting down, because of today's low-rise pant styles, but then some butt cracks started showing up even when people were standing.

For example, one day on my way to lunch, the guy in front of me walked up the stairs while his pants seemed to want to walk down the stairs. Of course, this put his uncovered rear end right at eye level and I lost my appetite.

Sometimes I manage to avoid a butt crack sighting on my way to the cafeteria. However, a butt crack sighting inside the cafeteria is often inevitable. It is especially unavoidable on weekends when everyone rolls out of bed in their loose-waisted sweat pants without taking a moment to pull them up. Aside from the discomfort of having to see these butt cracks, don't these butt crack models realize that everyone can see their backside cleavage?

Perhaps the breeze they feel or the chill that goes up their spine when flesh touches the back of a chair just isn't enough. Perhaps these people need a good strong

wedgie to realize that they are exposed.

Sometimes it isn't just the buttcracks that are a nuisance. There are the people who (fortunately) wear underwear but feel the need to show it off above their pants. On guys this is not always noticeable because their baggy shirts often hide their underwear. On girls, however, high cut shirts and low cut pants allow underwear to show.

Is this supposed to be cute? It's just as bothersome as the buttcracks and looks even trashier when underwear is shown on purpose.

While I do complain about frequent butt crack sightings, I don't actually have a problem with butt cracks in general as long as they stay out of sight. My rule of thumb is that butt cracks are for your mother and your lover, but not for me.

## HIV TESTING

Free & Confidential

No blood work or appointment needed!  
Orasure Testing (saliva sample)

What's Safe? What's Not?

Where: Student Health & Wellness Center

When: Wednesday, April 28, 2004

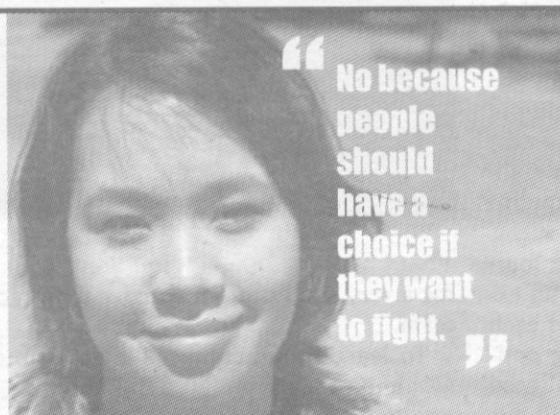
Time: 11 am - 2 pm

Questions? Call the Health & Wellness Center  
X4776 or X4254

Brought to You by Peer Educators Network and  
Student Health and Wellness Center

92%

of students said there should not be a draft



"No because people should have a choice if they want to fight."

Molly McCarthy '06

48%

of students feel that women should also be drafted

"It depends on the standing of the war and if there is a need for additional troops. But right now, there isn't a need for the draft."



Anne Radke '06

Milad Sarkis '04

## Players of the Week

### Sam Carter

In baseball, Sam Carter is hot. In the first three games this week, Carter is 6-10 with two homeruns, seven RBIs, four runs scored and a double.

### Jennifer Eaton

In four games this week, Eaton has pitched in three, throwing 18.2 innings, giving up only two earned runs while striking out 10.

-Sam Adams, Sports Editor

## Score Card

### Tennis - WCC Tournament

#### Women (10-14)

Sant Clara def. SMC 4-3  
SMC def. Gonzaga 4-1  
SMC vs. Portland

#### Men (13-11)

Santa Clara def. SMC 4-0  
Portland def. SMC 4-2  
SMC vs. Gonzaga

### Lacrosse

#### Women (4-10)

Colorado College - 14  
Saint Mary's - 12

#### Men (6-7)

Reno - 5  
Saint Mary's - 16

Win advances Gaels to play the winner of the USD-SDSU game next week in the Division B Championship in San Diego

### Softball (11-38)

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	1	3	3
Portland State	5	11	0

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	1	5	0
Portland State	0	5	2

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

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	2	5	1
Stanford	1	6	0

### Baseball (12-29)

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	5	8	0
(2) Stanford	10	18	0

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	5	11	2
Santa Clara	6	8	2

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	9	12	0
Santa Clara	5	12	2

	R	H	E
Saint Mary's	6	8	1
Santa Clara	14	18	1

### Correction:

Last week's Scorecard errors: The Men's Lacrosse team played Reno, not Renon, and defeated them 21-4, not losing by the opposite score. And finally, the baseball team's games against UC Davis and the first two against San Francisco scores were incorrectly entered backwards. We apologize for the mix up.

# SPORTS

## Water Polo ends with record wins

Women's club team closes season with three wins and a seventh place finish

by Andrea Camarena

Editor-in-Chief

Taking one win away from their final league tournament last weekend, the SMC women's water polo team pulled themselves out of a last place finish for the first time in five years.

The Gaels took a 6-5 victory over the U.C. Davis B team in a double over time, sudden death match at a U.S. Collegiate Water Polo Club League tournament on Saturday in San Luis Obispo.

While they only took one win away from the tournament, it pulled the team into a seventh place season finish.

The victory over the Aggies marked the third win of the season for the growing program. This more than doubles the success of last year's squad.

"This year all of our talent came together," said Shelby Hughes '04. "Our coach showed us how to use our ability successfully to work as a team."

"We didn't know how to do that last year," Hughes said of the newfound success of the team under the instruction of new coach Jerry Cvecko.

Cvecko came to Saint Mary's



Gaels scrimmage in preparation for last week's tournament.

Andrea Camarena / COLLEGIAN

in 2000 serving as the men's club coach. For the 2004 season, Cvecko took over for the women's team as well.

Beginning their season in March, the team faced a rebuild-

ing year, losing six starters to graduation in 2003.

Next year's team will play without goalie Megan Matheny, Jessica Erlandson, Megan Bilich and Hughes who will all gradu-

ate in May. All but Erlandson devoted all four years to the team.

The Gaels finished their weekend with losses to Cal Poly's, Davis', and Chico's A teams.

## Women's Rugby looking for Respect

Saint Mary's newest club team finishes second season with success

by Kristina Maka & Katie McKay

W. Rugby team members

Club sports are often seen as casual and usually looked upon with certain inferiority, but Saint Mary's newly established women's rugby team is refusing to be overlooked as they start to make their mark in collegiate rugby.

After their first year in the collegiate league, the women's rugby team has finished second with a 4-1 record. With a promising future ahead of them, the women are not basking in their post-season glory. Instead they are preparing and improving for next year.

A team comprised of 32 dedicated and ambitious women, started by Giselle Murillo in the spring of 2002, was chartered in August 2003 as a Division II team.

The team practices year-round, demanding dedication and time. Having the largest women's team in Saint Mary's and also in the league, the consistent dedication of each player is even more astounding for a team of such magnitude.

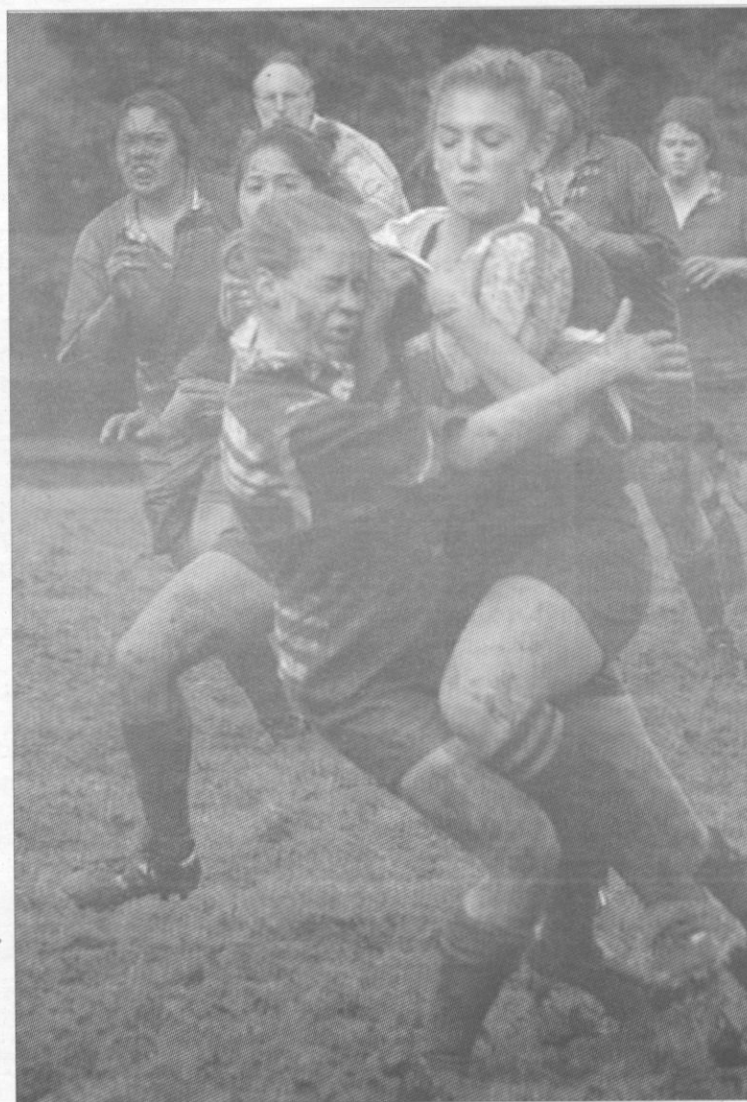
"This team has a unity that I have never experienced before," said freshman Amanda Gamble. "All the team members are great people that are there for you on and off the field...without this I don't think our team would have made it as far as we did in our first year in the league."

The success of this young team is due in part to the addition of their coach, Daniel Kamenetzky, who came from being an assistant and fitness coach for women's rugby team at the University of California, Berkeley. Joining the Gaels in January 2003, he came to SMC with years of experience, with an incredible passion for rugby.

Kamenetzky brought to the team structure in the form of a four-year plan, allowing the team's goals to quickly unfold. With an extensive knowledge of science and physical fitness, he provides each player with a personal workout regimen, in order to achieve optimum performance from each individual. The elements are all aligned

"This team has a unity that I have never experienced before. All the team members are great people that are there for you on and off the field"

-Amanda Gamble '07



Courtesy of SMC W. Rugby

for a very successful prospective future for the women Gael's rugby team.

To learn more, contact Daniel Kamenetzky at sporttrainingdk@yahoo.com.

# Byrne's Burnin' at the Hot Corner

Saint Mary's Baseball third baseman Brian Byrne reveals deep dark secrets.

by Allison Kop  
Staff Writer

One look at Bryan Byrne's impressive statistics this season and you'd think the third baseman from Danville, CA must be a seasoned veteran. His .329 batting average, 51 hits, 26 walks and 5 homeruns lead the team: he has been the go-to-guy for the Gaels for much of the season. And although Byrne has become an expert at putting up big numbers, the talented underclassman is only in his sophomore year. Byrne is obviously a great baseball player, but there's got to be more to last year's WCC freshman of the year than sports, right? Judge for yourself in this *Collegian* exclusive.

**Best game as a Gael:**

"Last year when we played Sac. State at home. I hit my first two homeruns of my college career. I think we won too."

**Favorite movie:**

"Top Gun."

**If you could spend one night with any person:**

"I would pick Alex Rodriguez. We'd go to a Yankees game and then talk baseball all night."

**Most famous person you've met:**

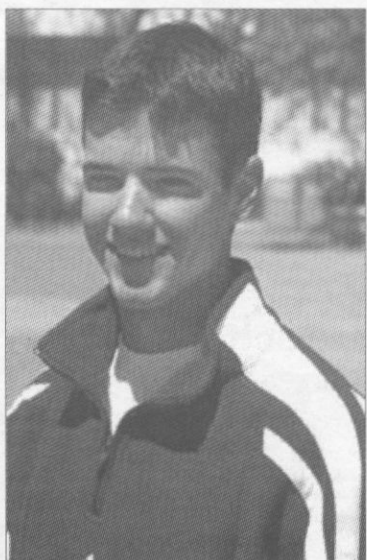
"I met Bip Roberts at Pac Bell one time. He was friends with someone I work out with and we got to go down on the field and talk with him."

**Last dream:**

"I dreamed that I locked my keys in my car. Luckily, it hasn't hap-

pened in real life yet."

**Video game addiction:**  
"I love Playstation. MVP Baseball is my favorite game."



Lisette Garcia/COLLEGIAN

**Hidden talent:**  
"I've been playing guitar for three years. And I can juggle."

**If you could have any job:**  
"My dream job would be a major league baseball player. It doesn't even matter what team, whoever would take me."

**Wallpaper on computer:**  
"It's a picture of Barry Bonds hitting his 660th homerun."

**Passion besides sports:**  
"Music. I love classic rock. I'm a big Bon Jovi fan."

**Other favorite sport:**  
"I like soccer. I played in high school."

**Favorite pro athlete:**  
"Cal Ripken, Jr. He's a good role model on and off the field. He's got a good work ethic and he's like me because he's a quiet guy who let's his playing do the talking for him. I don't talk much."

**Guilty Pleasure:**  
"Before every home game I have to have chocolate milk and donuts. If I can't get the donuts, I at least always have chocolate milk."

**Favorite TV show:**  
"Seinfeld. It's just a funny show, and I like Kramer's hair."

**Favorite hangout spot in Bay Area:**  
"Pac Bell Park. I'm a big Giant's fan. I have season tickets, so it is pretty awesome."

**First job:**  
"In eighth grade I got paid for cutting the grass. I had great adventures with the lawn mower. Then they got a gardener and I got fired."

**Bad Habit:**  
"Burger King...and just junkfood in general."

**Nickname:**  
"Bernie, because of my last name. Or Bernie Mac. I don't know why, I didn't make it up."

**If you could be any superhero:**  
"That's a good one. I would want to be Batman because he has the Batmobile, but Spiderman would also be cool because he can swing from buildings. It's a toss-up."

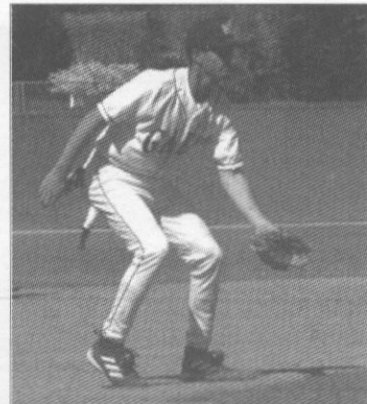
**Favorite Song:**  
"Black Balloon by Goo Goo Dolls. It came on in my car today and I was jammin'."

**Where you see yourself in 10 years:**  
"Hmm, in 10 years I'll be 30. I'll say playing third base for the Oakland Athletics. Eric Chavez will be retired by then."

**Dream Car:**  
"911 Porsche Turbo in bright yellow. It's fast and it stands out."

**Most embarrassing moment:**  
"Last year during finals week I was in Saga at breakfast and I was so tired that I dropped my whole tray into the trashcan. There were like eight people behind me just laughing. I didn't even get it out, I just left it and walked out."

**Mentor:**  
"My parents are good role models and they're always there for me. And my old baseball coach at De La Salle is a good mentor. He was my teacher and my coach in high school. We are a lot alike, so we can relate to each other."



## Why am I such a sucker?

samadams

### Mel Kiper Jr. and his diabolical scheme

I get suckered in every year. Mel Kiper Jr. starts gracing my television, preaching the glory of the NFL draft and the excitement that this weekend will bring. He preaches of trading up, trading down, steals, busts, while images of college football players race across the screen.

And I fell for it again. On a Saturday when I had tests and projects inching closer on my calendar, I sat in my living room from 10 in the morning until nearly six watching as Kiper Jr., Chris Berman and the NFL crew dispute the value of San Francisco's third round pick wide receiver Derrick Hamilton.

I knew nothing of the four players the 49ers took on Saturday, and even less about the three the Raiders took, (except for Robert Gallery - you know the second overall pick has to have some potential).

Why oh why do I get fooled every year?

It's because we all have delusions of grandeur - ESPN tricks you into thinking your team is going to draft a Ricky Williams in the first round, a Jerry Rice in the second, a Ray Lewis in the third, a Warren Sapp in the fourth, then find a steal of century by grabbing the next Joe Montana in the seventh.

The truth is, not only will you not know what kind of draft it will be, you won't even know how it will be on Monday.

Sure, people will gripe, praise, say whatever - but you don't know until the season starts, and usually you won't really know until 3-5 years down the road.

I take a look at the board and think, "wow, the Lions got Roy Williams, Kevin Jones, AND Teddy Lehman? Wow, what a good job."

Of course we all forget that good college players do not always equal good pro players.

I remember when the 49ers drafted the next Jerry Rice - JJ Stokes, one of the worst players I've ever seen - I threw a party the day the 49ers cut him.

If drafting was such an exact science, Tom Brady would have switched draft positions with Jim Druckenmiller.

But we all still watch. We want to see the swings, the trades, stocks rising and falling.

We even wait while the team with the first overall pick, who has had months to figure out whether they want to trade it or pick someone, take almost the full 15 minutes to decide who they want! Infuriating!

Well, its about the end of the fifth round as I finish up this article. The Titans are on the clock, and I wonder if they will take their fifth defensive lineman of the draft. And then I hang my head in disgust that I even know that they had already taken four.

And you know what? I will watch the second day as well to see if Wes Borba gets drafted (which didn't happen), so I wasted more free time on Sunday, just mad at the whole weekend once more.

Real Men Understand Yes.  
Real Men Understand No.  
Real Men Know the Difference.

1-800-670-7273  
Contra Costa County  
24 Hour Rape Crisis Line  
  
878-9207  
24 Hour SMC Sexual Assault  
Crisis Response Team

REAL MEN HEAR WOMEN

China Moon  
Restaurant  
Fine Asian Dining

**It's Graduation TIME.**  
**Plan your party now**  
6 course dinners start  
as low as \$9.00/person  
Party trays now available at discounted price

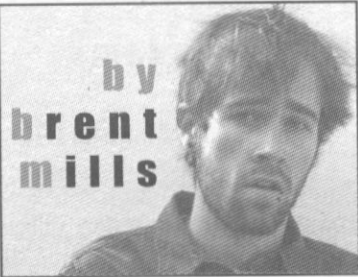
FREE DELIVERY to Saint Mary's Residence Halls

**50% Off**  
Buy one entree at Reg. price, Get a 2nd Entree of equal or lesser value at 50% off.  
Dine in/Take out only. Not valid with other offers. One coupon per party. Expires 5/22/04.

**One free appetizer**  
Egg Rolls (4), Pot Stickers (6), or Fried Wonton (10), for every two entrees ordered - NO LIMIT.  
Sunday through Thursday. Dine in/Take out only. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 5/22/04.

380 Park Street  
in the Rheem Valley Shopping Center  
(between Nation's & Rheem Theater)  
**376-8558 or 376-1828**  
Open 7 days a week  
Sunday-Thursday: 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday: 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.  
**FREE additional parking behind the restaurant**

**Summer can't get here soon enough**



by  
**brent  
mills**

Dude, honestly, summer just seems way too freaking far away. During these 'end days,' I all too often find myself sitting in this cramped dorm room about an inch away from spontaneously combusting with anxiety over school work and longing for the end of May with its way with me already. Oh, unfair world. The Atlas-sized load of responsibilities and worries on my back just never seems to get any lighter.

Seldom can I fully rationalize a reason for the Simpson's being a better choice than homework. Still, that's no reason to quit trying. Ignoring the headache from last night's liquid filled night of revelry isn't as easy. It's hard to ignore Mr. Brain's laughs of 'idiot!' over and over and over again. But as a student of this highly esteemed institution, I'm obliged to give it the old college try.

Finals are coming up here soon and I personally hold them up with no great regard. It's hard to not care when so much is on the line, but it's one of the crosses I've decided to bear. The only offense at a time like this is an impenetrable defense. And friends, apathy is the best shield you can hope to carry.

So why can't summer get here soon enough? You're probably telling yourself a thousand reasons why right now. But here are the top five reasons I found for summer's need to appear sooner rather than later:

**1) Dreams with Don Quixote in them** – Sure you can laugh if you want, but this isn't funny. It's an extremely disturbing phenomenon that has plagued more than a few unlucky students.

**2) Body has already set itself to 'summer' time** – St. Mary's students failing to achieve academically isn't anything new, but when your excuse for being 20 minutes late to a 3 p.m. class is: "I'm just not a morning person," chances are that you've already set out on vacation.

**3) Distracting seasonal clothing** – I've discovered an interesting mathematical equation that the faculty and students might agree with: my performance in class is inversely proportional to the day's temperature. As skirts get shorter, so do attention spans. Plunging necklines are usually a precursor to plunging grades. You should have seen my grades during winter. Phenomenal!

**4) Teacher's guilt** – As the school year ends, professors all over St. Mary's are scratching their heads at how to cram four-months worth of material into four-weeks of class time. The answer: Making students lives unbearable.

**5) Drugs are cheaper now** – Naw, I'm just kidding... I wouldn't know.

While not an all-exhaustive list of reasons why summer needs to get here sooner, this is a smattering of the more important ones. Right now all we can do is wait it out. But the end is near, thankfully.

# DETOUR

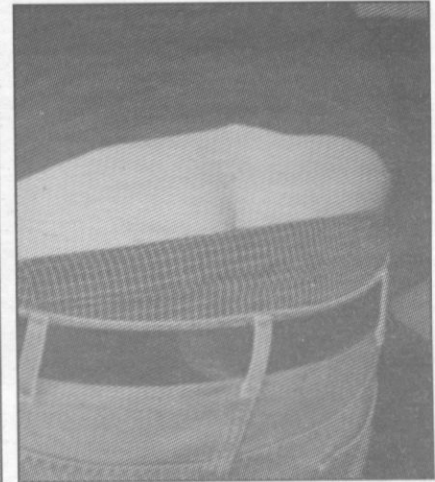
## Trend Spotting

### Fashion Peeves of 2004

by Katyana Sacro

**Let's get one thing straight before the masses stone me for my seemingly caustic bluntness:** I know I am not the fashion guru. I'll admit to the fact that I'm not worthy of giving advice on the **trendiest outfits** or this season's **fashion accessory must-haves**. But take into account my credibility as an **average human being**, and you might be able to at least try to understand the reasoning behind my deep, deep frustration with a few of this year's trends.

**Cracks & Boxers**



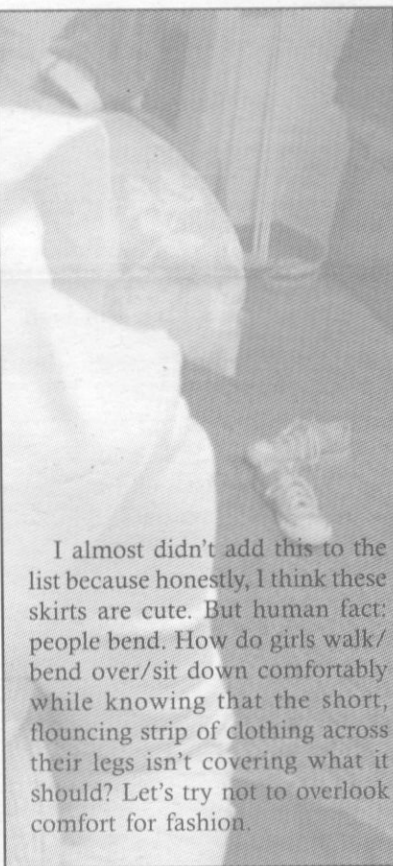
So this trend isn't all too new. I just feel that you handsome fellows out there need a little reminder: butt cracks/boxers/briefs = unattractive. It's understandable that you're not keen on severe tightness, but relaxation to the point of nearly losing your pants while walking? You can't enjoy having to pull up your pants every other minute.

**Letter-Personalized Purses/Shirts/Jackets**

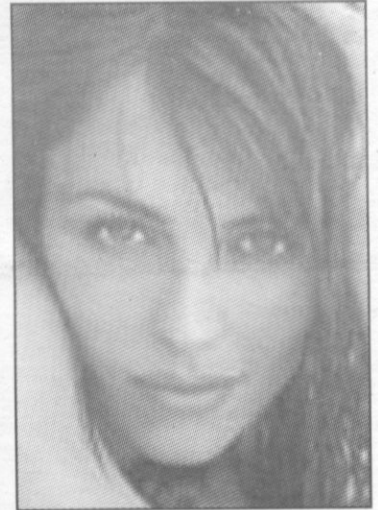
The only thing great about owning a purse with the first letter of my name stitched onto it is getting to say the word Monogrammatic ("What purse matches my outfit? The monogrammatic one!"). Perhaps people feel that identifying themselves publicly with the first letter of their name is nice. But if you'd like to personalize any item of yours, why not fully personalize it? None of this ambiguous, mysterious, single-letter nonsense.



**Floppy SkirtS**



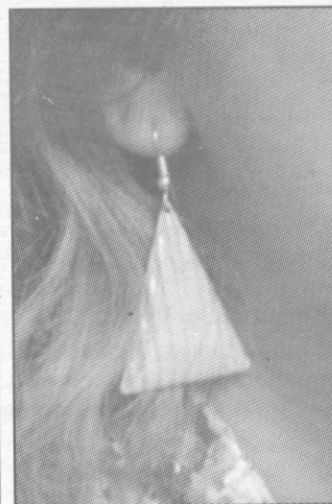
I almost didn't add this to the list because honestly, I think these skirts are cute. But human fact: people bend. How do girls walk/bend over/sit down comfortably while knowing that the short, flouncing strip of clothing across their legs isn't covering what it should? Let's try not to overlook comfort for fashion.



**Hipster Bangs**

**Faux 80's Look**

Back in the 80's, style revolved around uniqueness and originality. Kids distorted shirts and contrived their own outfits for that purpose alone! This means that they, themselves, cut up the collars of their shirts (it's cheaper anyways), and the black-and-some-other-bright-color-striped tees wasn't the only acceptable blouse for girls. The fact of the matter is, you can't pull the 80's look with clothes that are perfectly cut and scream designer names. Not only does it look tacky instead of distinctly appealing, but it's expensive!



See! I, too, claim folly (and you wouldn't believe me if I told you I got them cut earlier anyway). But the fact is as true as is annoying: a good percent of girls returned second semester bang-happy and lovin' it. So the side bangs and messy-slanted-across-the-forehead bangs are a bit fun, but let's promote individuality on campus by not becoming hair clones. Please?

