

THE COLLEGIAN

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA

Serving Saint Mary's for over a century

Moraga, California

Tuesday, September 14, 2004

Volume 102, Number 3

Brother Mel Anderson back on campus

Former Saint Mary's president now living in Freitas Hall

by Jonathan Morales
News Editor

Brother Mel Anderson's residence is small but warmly lit and inviting. Bob Woodward's book, *Plan of Attack*, is on his coffee table, along with dozens of other books scattered throughout the living room and lining the bookshelf.

Anderson, president of the Saint Mary's College from 1969 to 1997, is once again part of the on-campus community and living in Freitas Hall.

"I think my interest in the college has always been very strong," said Anderson, who, in addition to serving as president for 28 years, was also a student at Saint Mary's. "I'm in the process of writing my memoirs of my time here at the college. I was really interested in writing my memoirs, and this is the best place to do it."

Despite stepping down as president, Anderson has taught one course at the college every semester since 1997. Only recently, however, has he moved back onto campus. He currently teaches Critical Perspectives, the Extended Education version of Collegiate Seminar.

While away from the college, Anderson worked in Sacramento for the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU), lobbying on behalf of students in independent colleges and universities.



Brother Mel Anderson, former president of the college, sits in his Freitas residence

(Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN)

"What they are is we [sic] watch the legislation that comes out of Sacramento, especially the proposed bills, to make sure that there's nothing adversely affecting higher education," said Anderson.

Before beginning to write his memoirs, Anderson also worked for the Diocese of Oakland for four years, helping with the preparations for a new cathedral in Oakland to replace the one damaged in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.

Many changes took place while Anderson was president, including the college turning co-educational in 1970.

"We started building because we needed more space for classrooms

and for our students to live," said Anderson. "We also added courses. For instance, we built up the education department so that it was eventually educating a lot of teachers that were going all around California."

In addition, the Extended Education program was developed during this time. Anderson also worked to build up the school's endowment and reserve funds and laid the groundwork for a new science building, which eventually became J.C. Gatehouse Hall.

"Some sow and others reap; that's the way it goes," said Anderson. "So you start sowing the seed to get the science building, and we were working on a possibility, and

then there was a change in administration and they took it up."

As Anderson sits back on his couch, his comment on how he likes *Plan of Attack* because its objectivity is almost seminar-like - fitting for someone who has been involved with the college for as long as he has. However, he says he hasn't yet been back on campus long enough to observe what has and hasn't changed here.

"I like the intellectual life of the campus...seeing students absorb the intellectual grandeur of the college, in a way. I think it's important to see the students grow and learn what they learn, and come to appreciate what the college stands for."

INSIDE THIS WEEK

NEWS

Amy Kelly reports the Health Center's reaction to recent events
pg. 3

OPINION

Students face off on finding a political voice on campus
pg. 5

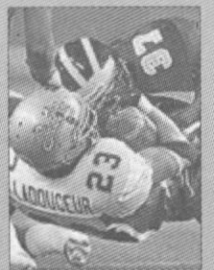


Chris Mateo's life of Sin (City)
pg. 5

SPORTS

Battle of the Bay: 49ers vs Raiders
pg. 8

De la Salle football alums talk about the streak
pg. 8



DETOUR

More top tens than you'll ever need
pg. 7



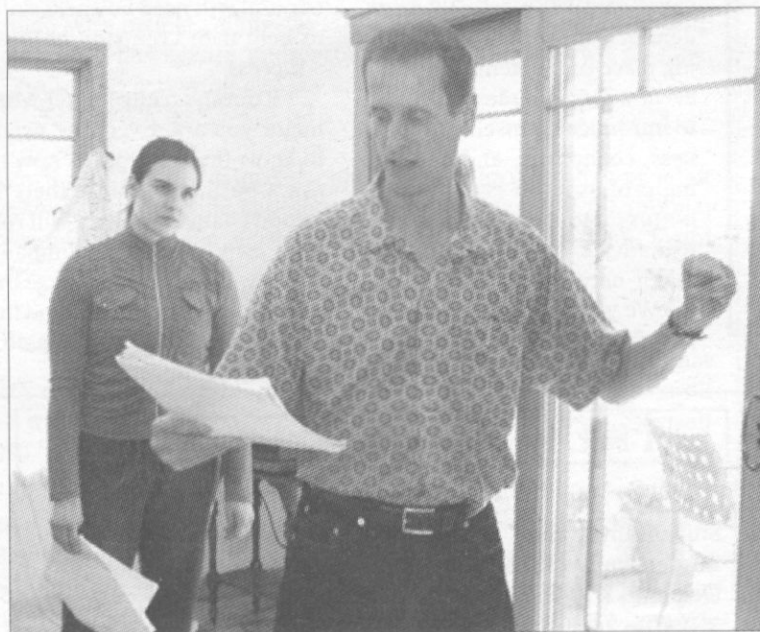
Theatre and art events abundant

The Collegiate Players, "The Firebugs" highlight this fall's productions

by Amy Beth Kelly
Managing Editor

This semester, Saint Mary's campus arts are going to be a big hit. With the upcoming play directed by Rebecca Engle, "The Firebugs," last week's CLAM presentation of *Women at Ground Zero*, a reflection on women working during the tragedy on 9/11, the Hearst Gallery's presentation of "Revelations and Reflections of Self-Taught Artists," and the Seminar Department's presentation of Barry Horowitz's Collegiate Players, the year seems to be in full swing.

This year, the Seminar department is launching a new series of short plays that will adapt the seminar readings into a modern day setting. Barry Horowitz spent the better part of the summer recruiting and auditioning Bay Area actors for the group that has been named the Collegiate Players. This group of highly trained actors' first presentation to the college will be Sophocles' "Antigone." The



Members of the Collegiate Players rehearse "Antigone"

(Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN)

play will be on October 25 and 26 in the Soda Center at 7:30 p.m., as well as a preview on October 24 at 4:00 p.m. in the Soda Center. Admission will be free to all of the Saint Mary's community and each production will last about an hour.

Also directed by Barry Horowitz this semester will be a

brand new play written by MFA alumni Sandra Alassio, "Face to Face: Sor Juana Meets Virginia Woolf." The play will feature the playwright as Woolf interviewing Sor Juana as part of an arts and lectures series. The incorporation

see EVENTS, p2

Oasis returns to Saint Mary's

by Jenna Fox
Staff Writer

Besides a fertile, green refuge in a desert, what does the word "oasis" call to mind? In the past, Saint Mary's College students may have said "a lame dance for drunk freshmen." This year, however, Program Board is striving to change the image of the dance, which will take place on Friday, September 17, from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. in Ferroggiaro Quad. With a bigger budget, a great new DJ, more decorations, lights, and safety precautions, Program Board Chair Luke Kircher '06 and Vice President Jared Gagnon '06 expect this to be the best Oasis yet.

Program Board officials have been planning this year's Oasis since the beginning of August, and have been working hard to make it an event students of all classes will want to attend sober.

"We're trying to make an emphasis on the dance, instead of the drinking and pre-partying," said Kircher. "We're trying to clean up

see OASIS, p2

Crime Beat

<p>9/5 11:38 a.m. Incident: Welfare check Synopsis: Possession of alcohol by a minor in Ageno B; referred to Student Conduct.</p> <p>9/7 11:05 a.m. Incident: Grand theft Synopsis: Stolen mountain bike from Ageno B.</p> <p>9/8 3:15 p.m. Incident: Vehicle collision Synopsis: Vehicle collision with non-Saint Mary's vehicles in outbound lane of entrance.</p> <p>9/8 9:44 p.m. Incident: Theft Synopsis: Theft of international flag from Delphine; referred to Student Conduct.</p> <p>9/8 11:50 p.m. Incident: Possible harassment Synopsis: Possible harassment in Guerrieri East; referred to Student Conduct.</p>	<p>9/9 1:42 a.m. Incident: Suspicious circumstances Synopsis: Suspicious circumstances in North Claeys; referred to Student Conduct.</p> <p>9/9 5:33 p.m. Incident: Medical assist Synopsis: Volleyball player cut to forehead in Madigan Gym; referred to Student Health.</p> <p>9/10 12:01 a.m. Incident: Violation of quiet hours Synopsis: Disrespect of college official in Mitty; referred to Student Conduct.</p> <p>9/10 9:10 a.m. Incident: Grand theft Synopsis: Irrigation items taken from Dante basement; referred to Moraga PD and Physical Plant.</p>
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Congratulations to the 2004-2005 Ambassador Staff!



- Kayla Banion, Psychology, '06
- Sarah Beer, Accounting, '07
- Brandon Birr, History, '07
- Lorena Cortez, Int'l Studies, '07
- Joe Esquivel, History, '05
- Beth Fineran, Psychology, '06
- Mark Gilson, Int'l Business, '07
- Demario Jones, Business, '07
- Donny Keim, Psychology, '07
- Jeff Kellogg, Psychology, '06
- Alex Kirschner, Communications, '06
- Michelle Kujawski, Int'l Business, '06
- Jonathan Morales, Politics, '06
- Marisa Peralta, Communications, '07
- Briana Pierce, Communications, '06
- Preeya Prasad, Biology, '07
- Chris Quiry, Psychology, '05
- Stephanie Roybal, History, '05
- Omari Starks, Integral, '07
- Patrick Young, Accounting, '05

EVENTS: New art gallery exhibit opens: "Self-taught Artists"

continued from p. 1

of both women from largely different eras will make for a fantastic run. Both plays are eagerly awaited moments in department's hope to get students involved and excited about the readings.

The semester's student play is "The Firebugs," directed by Rebecca Engle. The dramatic comedy is a satire about pyro-

maniacs who are terrorizing a town in Europe during the middle of the 20th Century. The play addresses trust and mistrust while looking at class structure.

In the Hearst Art Gallery, the expressions of self-taught artists will be displayed until October 17. "Removed from the formal conventions of art...self taught artists have profoundly influenced the mainstream art world,

particularly by their use of unexpected materials and by deft ability to mix text and images," Public Information Manager Heidi Donner wrote in a press release. The self-taught artists tour is originally from Kansas and showcases many expressions from a diverse group of artists. The Hearst Art Gallery is free to all SMC students, faculty, and staff.

OASIS: Welcome Back Dance DJ to return to SMC

continued from p. 1

the image as far as drinking beforehand. We're making it a more safe, clean environment. But on the other hand, we are still amply prepared for mishaps that may occur."

Not only will the entire Public Safety staff be on duty, but also a private security company will help at the dance. Hagerty Lounge will be turned into a first aid station, and tables and chairs will be set up in a lounge area

next to the theatre for students to escape the heat of the dance floor. As always, Public Safety will have breathalyzers at the door. There is "a lot of push to make sure everyone is as safe as they can be," said Kircher.

The highlight of this year's dance will be the new DJ from Amos Productions, who also performed at the Welcome Back dance and was described as the best DJ to ever perform on campus. "We're really excited about

this guy," said Gagnon.

Last year's attendance exceeded 1,600 people, and this year, even more are expected. Each student is allowed one guest. Guest registration forms are due on September 14 by 5:00 p.m. in the Student Involvement office. Tickets are \$5.00, and the first 50 people will receive free leis.

"We definitely encourage not drinking because maybe you'll remember it," said Gagnon.

CLUB PROFILE: BUSINESS CLUB

A new focus for the Business Club

Meet the Faculty first event on the schedule

by Jessica Lee
Staff Writer

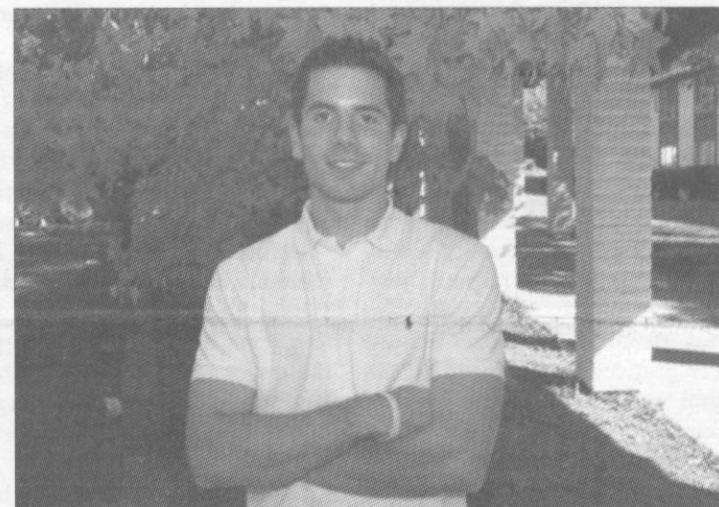
This year, the Business Club is shifting its main focus away from speakers and looking more at becoming a great asset to all students, not just business majors.

"The club is really trying to be a tool for students which they can continue to use in the future," said Royce Copeman '05, director of Public Relations.

One way the Business Club plans to achieve this through is through more interactive events such as resume workshops and the upcoming Meet the Faculty Night.

"Meet the Faculty is going to be a huge event for us and really set the tone for the rest of the year," said Jeff Gaeto '06, president of the Business Club. Taking place on September 15, this event will give students a chance to introduce themselves to business, economics, and accounting professors. It is a great opportunity to not only gather career advice, but to also do some major networking.

"We want to offer a wider array of events that will really ben-



(Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN)

President of the Business Club Jeff Gaeto '06

efit everybody. It's not just an exclusive club. It should be totally inclusive to everyone," said Treasurer Peter Vogt '06. The team stressed that even science majors will find the club useful because at some point in time they might run their own practice and will need business skills to help their company become a success.

"It doesn't really matter what major you are. Everyone needs to know the concepts of how to run a business because there is a good chance that they will run their own practice or company one day. We really encourage the whole student body to attend the upcoming events," said Gaeto.

Upcoming BUSINESS CLUB events

Meet the Faculty Night
Wednesday September 15, 4-6 p.m.,
Delphine

Speaker: Darlene Heredia; Head Broker-First Financial Corporation
Wednesday September 29, 7 p.m.,
Soda Center

Speaker: Tapan Monroe; Internationally Renown Economist
Wednesday October 13, 7 p.m.,
Soda Center

Resume Workshop
Monday November 8 7 p.m.,
Delphine

WHAT'S HAPPENING...

TODAY

APASA 1st Meeting and BBQ - Delphine & Justin/Mitty commons 5-7 p.m.

Circle K meeting - Delphine 6-7 p.m.

Dante Club meeting - Delphine 7-8 p.m.

Senate Elections (online)

WEDNESDAY

Music in the quad - Jazz trio 12:15 p.m.

Senate Elections (online)

Karaoke Night - Dryden 9-11 p.m.

THURSDAY

Student Involvement and Leadership workshop - Delphine 3:30-5:00 p.m.

International Club BBQ - Justin/Mitty commons 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Bishop Cummins Institute Mass- Chapel 7:30 p.m.

APA New Student Orientation - Hagerty 5:30-6:45 p.m.

FRIDAY

Oasis Dance - Ferroggiaro Quad 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. Student I.D. required for entry. Guests must be registered by Tuesday, September 14 at 5 p.m. in the Student Involvement office.

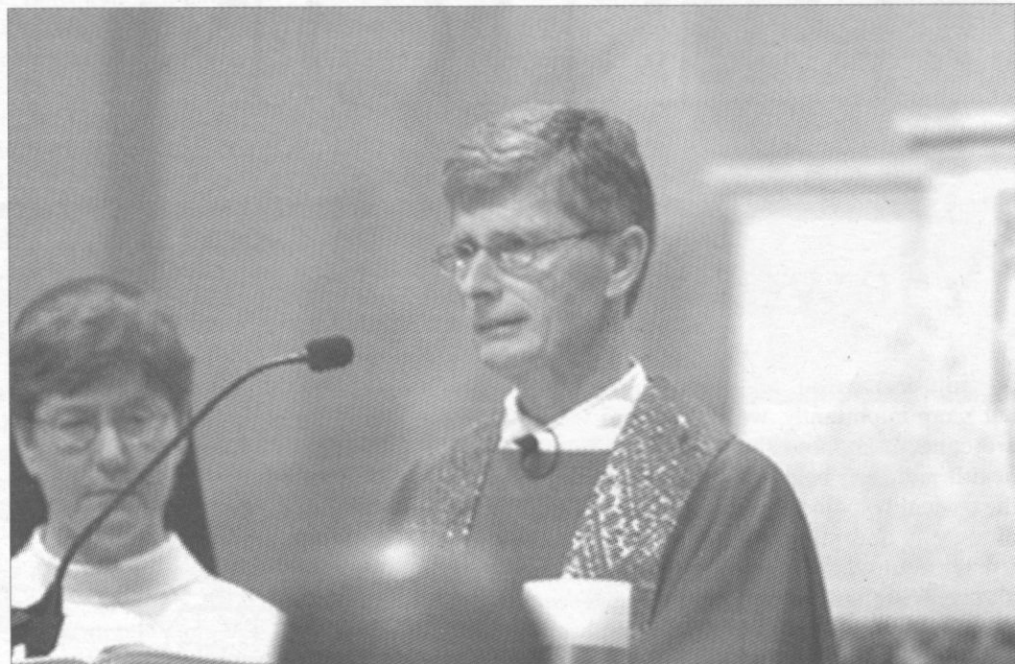
SUNDAY

Mass - Chapel 8 p.m.

Don't forget

The first Collegian In-Depth Round Table Discussion of the year will be held on Tuesday, September 21, in Delphine from 7:30-8:30 p.m. In-Depth's topic this month is a recap of last years In-Depth topics, including sex, sexual assault, and drugs and alcohol.

SNAPSHOT



(Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN)

Sr. Ingrid Clemmensen looks on as Fr. Tom McElligot delivers the homily at last Tuesday's Mass of the Holy Spirit. The mass marked the beginning of the new school year.

Health Center responds to recent events Condom controversy looked to bring campus conversation

by Amy Beth Kelly
Managing Editor

Last week *The Collegian* printed an article about the availability of condoms in the Health Center. In response to the current rumors on campus of what will be happening next, the Health Center responded that, "they will continue to do a really excellent job here and work on behalf of the students, according to Peggy Burns, R.N. and Director of the Health and Wellness Center.

Burns continued to defend herself against allegations of foul play and said that she "will take full responsibility as Director of the Health and Wellness Center for not having more adequately clarified our [Health Center staff's] intent, and I will really say I did think I had done so." Burns struggles with the

politics of the campus and still wishes to provide maximum services for the student without straying from the rules and regulations that are set forth by Saint Mary's College. "It's really hard when there is an overlay of politics and healthcare," said Burns. She recognized that the distribution of a condom in a bag with sexual health information was, "outside of the scope of what the school wants to see us do, and I respect that."

Burns hopes that with the news spreading on campus it will open the community up for healthy campus conversations and that the students will still come to the health center for information and detection of STI's. "This is a college that should be a spirit of healthy inquiry and dialogue and debate," Burns asserted. Mary Spellman, Dean of Student Life, still encourages students to "use the Health Center for education and

information," and that the Health Center has done this really well.

Even though the Health Center will no longer be distributing condoms on campus, the issue is far from being out of the public eye. There are still some unanswered questions on campus and they will be looked at closely in the upcoming weeks.

In response to an accidental error in the article from last week, Peggy Burns would like the student to know that while the testing in the Health Center is not actually free, it is strictly confidential and the fee is minimal with a 30-day grace period before the fee will show up on a student's bill. Burns said that the availability of information and testing will not diminish, and she hopes to have a healthy response from the student body for the upcoming free HIV testing provided by Contra Costa Public Health AIDS Program.

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

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.

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beyond the bubble

national and world news bites

By TONY VALA-HAYNES

-BAGHDAD, Iraq--A suicide bombing at Abu Ghraib prison outside Baghdad left 31 dead, reported Iraqi and U.S. officials Sunday. U.S. soldiers fired at the vehicle in vain when they realized it was trying to crash into the gated compound.

-Democratic presidential nominee Sen. John Kerry attacked the Bush administration for falsely linking Iraq to 9/11 in what he refers to as a desperate attempt "to reinvent a rationale for the Iraq war."

-COLUMBUS, Ohio--A fire ripped through an apartment complex Sunday killing 10 people. The fire, suspected to have been started by an arsonist, forced people to jump from the third-story in order to escape.

-SAN FRANCISCO, California--Just 10 years after banning all assault weapons due to three mass shootings in California, the federal assault weapons ban will be lifted on Monday allowing anyone with proper identification to purchase AK-47s, Uzis, and TEC-9s.

-LOS ANGELES, California--Milla Jovovich's sci-fi sequel "Resident Evil: Apocalypse" hit number one at the box office this weekend with \$23.7 million, ending the two week reign of "Hero" at number one.

-HOUSTON, Texas--Robbers forced Burger King Employees to strip off their clothes and then locked them in the freezer. No one was reported injured and all the criminals were apprehended.

(Sources: Cnn.com, Msnb.com, The San Francisco Chronicle)

CORRECTIONS:

Issue 1 of the *Collegian* had an incorrect title for Ete Anderson. The correct title is Assistant Dean of Student Life and Student Involvement

Issue 2 of the *Collegian* incorrectly indicated the group that sponsored Coffee Night. The correct group is Student Involvement.

The *Collegian* reports all significant factual errors. To report an error please contact the *Collegian*.

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left is right:
reclaiming liberal
.....
by jonathan morales
news editor

There's a word we all hear every day. It's a perfectly good word with a good meaning. It's so good, in fact, that it's used to describe well over half the people in this country. It's a word I'm proud to identify myself with. The word is "liberal."

Liberal has many definitions. Its modern political definition has a lot to do with openness. To be liberal is to be free-thinking, tolerant, and free from bigotry. It is to not be tied down to authoritarian or orthodox points of view, and to be open to change.

It's hard to imagine anybody being so against these principles. But day after day, we hear this word growled and said with a snarl. In political discussions, it's equivalent to "traitor" or "criminal." In fact, often all a person needs to do to ruin the credibility of an adversary is to label him or her a "liberal."

And who can blame them? After all, it was liberals who brought us the idea of human freedom and basic liberties, such as freedom of speech and freedom of the press. Who wants that? Or what about that lousy liberal Susan B. Anthony and all the other lefties who fought for women's rights? Or that radical minister from the south, Martin Luther King Jr., who had the audacity to dream that people of different colors could all be treated equally?

We can even go back 2,000 years, to a small community in the Middle East, where one man spent his life preaching an unheard-of (at that time) maxim: love your neighbor, and pray for your enemies. Yes, conservative church-goers, even Jesus Christ was a liberal.

Nearly every positive change in human history has been brought about by liberals. But despite all this positive change, the word liberal is still used as a weapon: don't disagree with us or we'll call you a liberal! And we liberals just fall over and die. God forbid they call us a liberal!

It's time to reclaim this word, because it's a perfectly good word, with a good meaning. It's a good thing to be liberal.

Liberals are not "anti-American," nor are we trying to make America communist (as is often claimed). Liberals simply have the courage to recognize that change is always necessary, while conservatives prefer to look at a bad situation and say, "well, it could be worse."

My favorite line from John Kerry's speech at the Democratic National Convention was when he said, responding to those saying he was running a negative campaign, "There is nothing more pessimistic than saying that America can't do better."

There are many things that are great about our country, but there are many things that need changing. America can always do better.

Now is the time to stand up and proudly say you're a liberal. Think about history's great liberals, and realize that you're in excellent company.

OPINION

Collegian Quote of the Week: "Yeah, there are a couple of gangs on campus. They tried to recruit me for my sweet ho-staff skills." -Napoleon Dynamite

Collegian View

While the editorial board recognizes and respects that we are at a Catholic private institution and understand their beliefs on such issues as premarital sex, abortion, homosexuality, etc., yet it is hard for the board to understand how money above all controls the politics of how things operate, even when people's health and well being is at stake.

According to the Student Handbook, "Saint Mary's College of California, as a Catholic college, does not condone sexual relations by unmarried students and reserves the right to take disciplinary action when the College has knowledge of such behavior. The College also prohibits the cohabitation by students who are unmarried and/or dating partners, regardless of gender, in College-sponsored housing" (35).

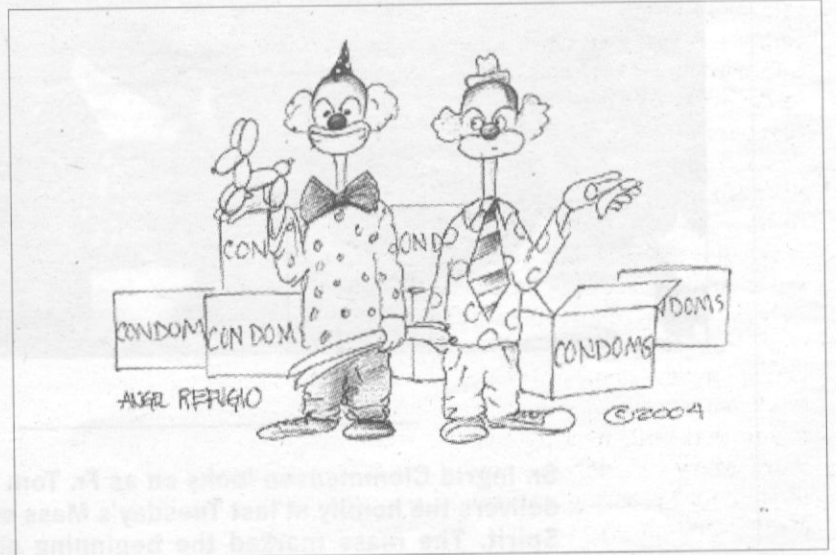
Yes, this is the policy, but just look to the crime beat section of the Collegian, and you will get a small dose of these infractions. We are neither condoning nor sup-

porting premarital sex, but more importantly, we are concerned about the health and well being of the student body in a time of sexually transmitted infections, unwanted/unplanned pregnancies and the spread of AIDS/HIV.

Some may argue that if you are having sexual relations, you should be able to provide your own contraceptives.

We believe that this is an important and valid argument, but also this isn't just about people having rampant sexual encounters. This is about a generation being wiped out by things that we can prevent. Some are taught that abstinence is the only form of birth control, but the information many young adults do not receive in their upbringing (maybe even from a religious perspective) is that of safe sex.

The Health and Wellness center has the opportunity to defy



How to dispose of the condom inventory. Cartoon by Angel Refugio

these boundaries and norms by reaching out to us, those affected by this modern day plague, educate us in safe practices (that include abstinence), signs of STI's, etc. Part of safe sex, is contraceptives.

This is a matter of health, not religion. And money coming into our institution should not dictate the policies that affect us, the students.

Without us, there is no college. It is not just about the millions that people donate, which is incredibly generous and noble.

While we respect their beliefs and appreciate the money, the fear of losing funding for providing protection is unacceptable. We as students have beliefs too, and we believe health comes first.

Cram.

And jam.

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GAEL POLL: Are you registered to vote?

68% yes	32% no
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To find information regarding political candidates go to www.johnkerry.com and www.georgewbush.com

This last week, College Republicans set up a booth to encourage students to join and gain as much information regarding the Republican Party as possible. This fall it is especially refreshing to see that there are a variety of political views on campus. Like many other college campuses, Saint Mary's is dominated by liberal views and the College Republicans help provide an alternative to the pool of political information being provided on campus. It can be difficult to find information on both parties because many of the teachers and students tend to support liberal politics.

Despite the personal opinions and values demonstrated on campus, perhaps it is this quote from Rudy Giuliani that best sums up the attitude that will most help the Saint Mary's College community: "I don't believe we are right about everything and the Democrats are wrong about everything. Neither party has a monopoly on virtue."

It is our job to be informed citizens and if we are blindly following one party or another, it is an indication that this election is no longer about the plans and ideals of the candidates, but about

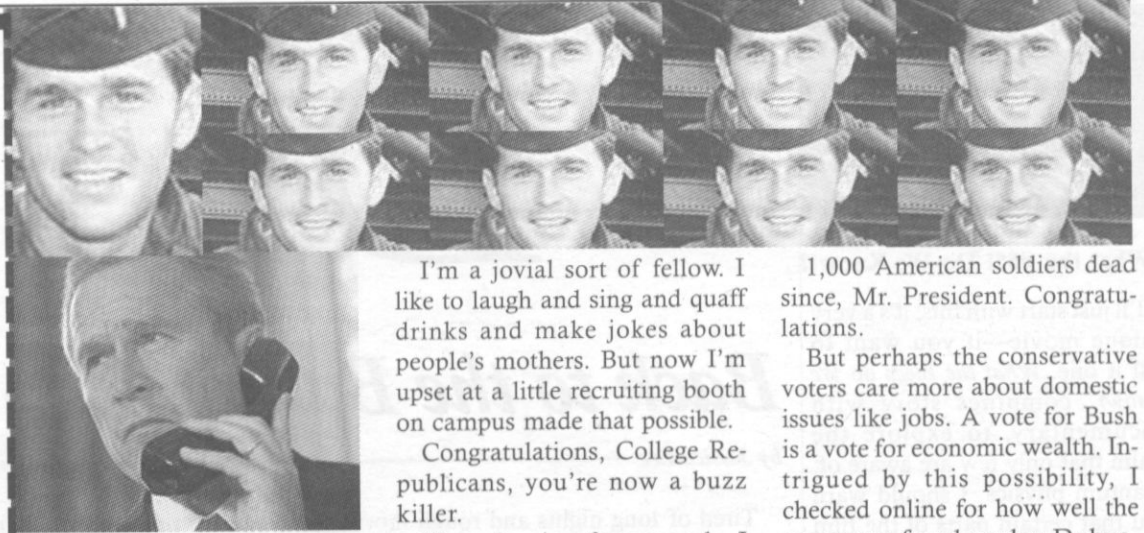
mudraking and our own reluctance to bother informing ourselves.

In addition, there are at least as many reasons not to vote for John Kerry as there are not to vote for President Bush. In several speeches, John Kerry has said that he has great ideas for this country, yet he has not been forthcoming with what exactly these ideas are. Nor has his voting record given any indication of what he stands for. In a recent speech, John Kerry asked that people view his website in order to find out more about his ideas for the country rather than stating them in the speech itself. This makes it difficult for some people to find out more about political candidates, either because they are busy or they lack the inclination to do outside research. In either case, it appears that John Kerry is planning to gain the presidency based not on his own ideas or ability, but rather on the votes of people who dislike President Bush.

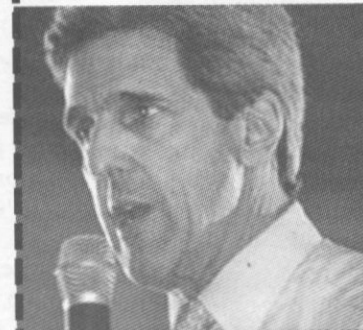
The more political clubs on campus, the better. They are helping to serve the Saint Mary's community by enriching the type of knowledge available on campus and increasing voter registration as well as political awareness and open-mindedness.



Laura Longobardi
ASST. OPINION EDITOR



THE POLITICAL HEAT POURS OVER SAINT MARY'S



I'm a jovial sort of fellow. I like to laugh and sing and quaff drinks and make jokes about people's mothers. But now I'm upset at a little recruiting booth on campus made that possible.

Congratulations, College Republicans, you're now a buzz killer.

Now, I enjoy free speech. I adore it. I try to bring it back to my place for a foot massage after plying it with flowers and chocolates just to pamper it as a way of saying thanks. Love your free speech St.

Mary's, but goshdarnit don't be silly about it. For instance, I could go running about with a sign that says blow up all the soup kitchens and feed the homeless Snickers, but that's just absurd.

Why do people still vote Republican? Voting Republican is voting for the administration that allowed the greatest terrorist attack in history to occur on our own soil, for the president that attacked a sovereign nation without the consent of the United Nations and for the president that thinks finishing a war is as simple as landing a plane on a carrier with a banner stating "Mission Accomplished."

1,000 American soldiers dead since, Mr. President. Congratulations.

But perhaps the conservative voters care more about domestic issues like jobs. A vote for Bush is a vote for economic wealth. Intrigued by this possibility, I checked online for how well the economy fared under Dubya.

According to the AFL-CIO website, 1.7 million jobs have been lost during this term. CNN calls this job slump the worse since World War II. Um...

Let's look at gay marriage: George W. Bush says he wants to protect the sanctity of marriage. Yet this is in conflict with the divorce rate at 50%.

Unfortunately, for the president, the number two man in the country, Dick Cheney, "...spoke supportively of gay relationships, saying 'freedom means freedom for everyone,'" according to a CNN report. I wonder if Dubya said "yikes" when he heard that?

So what we have, finally, is an inadequate president. Vote Republican if you accept being misguided or if you are uninformed. But for Pete's sake, don't vote if you like George W. Bush's policies.



Colin deLeon Horton
STAFF WRITER



Sex, drugs and Celine Dion: Lost Vegas, found adulthood

by **Chris Mateo**
Editor-in-Chief

Two summers ago I was in front of the Bellagio in Las Vegas with my friends trying to reenact a scene from Ocean's Eleven, and I realized two things. First, my friends and I were too into that movie (so much so that we wanted to start off small...you know, Indian gaming facilities). Second, I wanted my 21st birthday to be in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Two summers later, I'm married.

No, seriously, that I had to decide how I would celebrate my birthday. Anyone who knows me knows that I have visited Las Vegas once a year for at least ten years, and the same question comes from those same people, "What the hell do you do in Las Vegas when you're 11 (or 12, 13, etc.)?"

For ten years I had a general response, "Simple, I did everything within my legal limits."

That included a divorce.

No, seriously, I did the magic

show, the midways, the buffets, the shopping, the guided tours, and "collected" stuff. By "collected," I mean I had two main consistent hobbies - I collected suspicious looks from security guards that led to my being carded at every major hotel and casino on the Strip, and I collected coin buckets. That's right, coin buckets.

Needless to say - and maybe it's my inner only-child talking - I found ways to keep me entertained. For those people that had a hard time believing that I had fun during my pre-21 days, I usually told them that I had two things to look forward to. Then it hit me - I didn't want to be a prostitute, and I think there's only room for one Asian Elvis impersonator. Okay, so I really meant drinking and gambling.

After finally turning 21 this week, I realized that I have only one real reason to consume alcoholic beverages; I've lost my youthful spirit, and, as a result, the responsibility of being completely "of legal age" has left me with 50 as the next memorable birthday.

How depressing. Drink up.

Perhaps it was the last two times (both this year) I visited Vegas that has kept my decade-long praise for the city to a dull roar. The first time I went in 2004, I was there for business - a conference. Nothing takes the "life" out of "Vegas nightlife" quite like a weekend-long conference...well that and unrequited love, of course. No car. Early mornings. Boring speakers. I told myself I'd make it up to myself.

The second time I went with my parents and my girlfriend. It was fun. However, the downer was the fact that they were all surprised that I knew the names of back roads, knew the best buffets, and pretty much served as a tour guide. Then my mind paused for about two months. Why did the lights no longer captivate me? Why did everything seem so boring? Why am I asking these questions instead of working?

I then realized that I had lost the cool factor of being under-

age in the city of sin. Now that my legality was official, I couldn't say things like, "I got carded," "My cousin snuck me a margarita," or, "That old French couple wanted to adopt me" without hearing my friends say, "So what?" Now that I'm 21, those things just mean "I just look young for my age," "I was too lazy to buy a drink for myself," and "French people really like me."

So looking back at birthday number 21, I don't regret not going to Vegas. I don't regret not accidentally ending up at the Elton John store and having one of my friends offer to buy me a shirt that says, "The Bitch is Back." I don't regret not stopping to see a replica of the Coliseum only to shake my head and say something like, "If that were real, Celine Dion would have been tiger food by now." I don't regret not trashing a hotel room. And I don't regret missing the gambling.

That's being 21. That's being married.



Photo Illustration by Amy Kelly/Collegian

35% yes **no 65%**

Have you voted before?

Voters may apply for an absentee ballot, by mail, for the November 2, 2004 Election between October 4, 2004, and October 26, 2004.

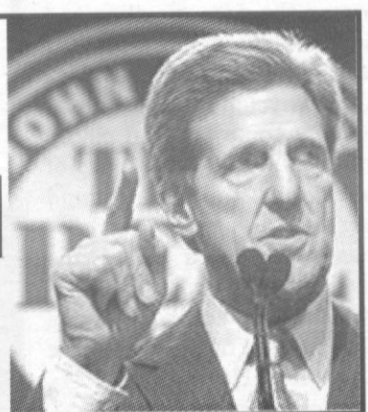
Days until November 2: **47**

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Do you plan to vote this election?

90% yes **no 10%**



more than 100
word
REVIEWS

What the #\$! Do We Know!?

I'll just start with this: it's a very unique movie—if you want to call it one. *What the Bleep do We Know!?* combines story with documentary, to explore the realm that only few are aware of: quantum physics. I should warn you that certain parts of the film will have you confusing it for a corny science lab or self-help video. And there is some irony in utilizing peculiar (and sometimes annoying) visual effects to help the audience better understand a science that focuses on the abstract. None of that, though, takes away from the real significance of the film: it makes an impression that leaves you feeling more curious, more introspective, and much more clueless about the life you thought you knew.

-Katyana Sacro

Napoleon Dynamite

Napoleon Dynamite is a must-see movie for all of us who have ever felt weird or awkward or under appreciated. It follows Napoleon through his life as it gets worse and worse. He is picked on at school. His uncle picks on him, and his brother shuts him out. None of the girls in town would even give him the time of day, much less date him. However, as the movie progresses his essential humanity is revealed as he gathers the other geeks and outcasts around him to help his friend Pedro run for school president. In the end, we are left with a feeling of nerdy uniqueness and heroism. But what truly makes this movie stand out is its deceptive simplicity. On the surface it is a silly comedy that makes use of a kind of rehearsed idiocy that distracts casual viewers from what is actually going on. In truth, however, the simplicity of the characters serves to drive home the central idea that goodness runs deep around the margins of society.

-Noah Friedman-Biglin

Ashes Of The Wake

Politically fueled, Lamb Of God's *Ashes of the Wake* is a giant middle finger to the Bush administration. Musically, it is a headbanger's dream come to life. The never-ending double kicks are masterfully integrated into massive breakdowns after breakneck speed riffs. They cured the problem with their previous albums by making the drums more prominent. Another improvement is Randy Blythe's voice, more on the deep growling end than the high-pitched inaudible screeches of before. Though his trademark yelling is still present, it is more controlled and placed rhythmically. They make use of spoken word this time around along with an array of complex guitar orchestration. This is the revival of thrash, and a clear demonstration why Lamb Of God is at the forefront of the New Wave of American Heavy Metal.

-Angel Vasquez

DETOUR

Back to the Ballroom <><><><><><><><><><>

by Jessica Lee

Tired of long nights and rough mornings? Need a little exercise? Want a little culture? Whatever your reason, treat yourself to a night of ballroom dancing at San Francisco's Metronome Ballroom. Offering a wide variety of classes and parties with live music every weekend, the Metronome Ballroom lets you learn and enjoy swing dancing, salsa, hip-hop, and more. Student discounts are often available, and with the combination dance lesson/party packages with live music for only \$15, anyone can readily enjoy without having to worry about scraping up change.

A few weeks ago I took the plunge into East Coast swing dancing and it was absolutely amazing. I can't even begin to stress how important it is to check out the ballroom when there is a live band. The atmosphere is unbelievably fun and inviting with a style that will really get your adrenaline pumping. Beginners are highly recommended to take the one hour class beforehand but the more experienced have many talented dancers to share the night with. Different skill levels mix with incredible ease, but the more experience you have, the more you will be able to enjoy the dancing; from the eager newbie who still counts the steps, to the pro who finds great rhythm with any partner and just flies around the room. Also be aware that this is not the swing dancing you remember from phys ed class in high school. East Coast swing is a much different style and a fresh way to look at swing dancing. Even if you didn't like to swing dance in high school, give this a try.

Here are some upcoming Saturday events, with live bands, at the Metronome Ballroom.
1830 17th Street in San Francisco
(415) 252-9000
<http://www.metronomeballroom.com/>

September 18

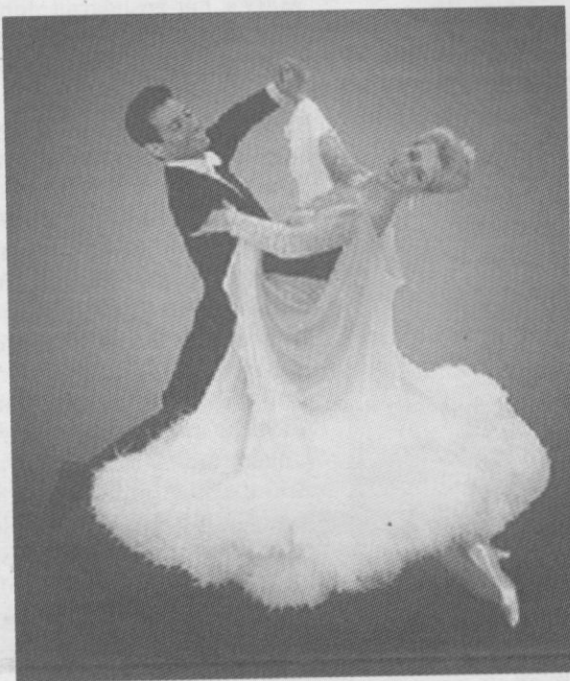
9-10 p.m.: Intro to Argentine Tango Lesson or Advanced Combinations Lesson
10-2 a.m.: Milonga with live music by "Marcelo and Bocha"

September 25

8-9 p.m.: Beginning East Coast Swing Lessons
9-12 a.m.: Swing Party with live music by "Stompy Jones"

~~~~~  
Free swing dancing lessons in Golden Gate Park every Sunday!  
Sunday mornings from 11-2 p.m.  
Free beginner's lessons at 12:30 p.m.  
<http://www.lindyinthepark.com/>  
~~~~~

Check out <http://sanfrancisco.citysearch.com/> for other recommended dancing hot spots.



(www.comcast.net)

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Lists of the **top ten** variety

10

Things you should know about, but don't

By Colin de-Leon Horton

College is a unique time in our lives. We are adults and are allowed to do adult things, but we are surrounded by our friends with not much to do for much of the day. After classes end, many of us sit around playing video games, which is wasteful. For you, my fellow students, I have compiled a list of websites to visit, movies to see, and television shows to watch so that you may become cultured.

10) Xanga/Livejournal

Since we all have free Internet, we might as well contribute to it. These two websites are just sitting there waiting for us to write blogs that perfect strangers can look at. It is a little involved, but if you like telling everybody about yourself, I suggest you check this out. It is rather tempting, even to a recluse like myself. From all the links I see on people's profiles though, I gather that it is all the rage with us young kids.

9) The Boondock Saints

Even without having been released in theaters, this movie became a huge cult hit. This movie stars Sean Patrick Flannery and Norman Reedus as Irish twins in Boston who like to get really drunk. They also think they are on a mission from God to destroy all the evil that they can find. The movie also stars Willem Defoe as the FBI agent trying to capture them. It doesn't sound like a funny premise, but it is hilarious because the main characters are Irish.

8) Modest Mouse

This is neither a TV show nor a website because I decided that variety is the spice of life. Modest Mouse has been around since they released "This is a Long Drive for Someone with Nothing to Think About" in 1996 and built up an underground following. However, this summer they got huge with the song "Float On." Recent fans should look up their last album, *The Moon and Antarctica*. Their best song was the opening track of their first album, entitled "Dramamine."

7) Red Vs. Blue

For those of you that have beaten Halo on legendary and are the scourge of their friends in splitscreen multiplayer, sit down and take a look at some other people who don't waste their time running homeless shelters or clothing the naked. Red vs. Blue takes the graphics from Halo and creates downloadable episodes of characters that the creators just made up. Available at www.redvsblue.com.

6) Collegehumor.com

This one is really, really, really obvious. Just go check it out and look at all the pictures sent in. I doubt that I'll have to say much more than that. However, it has some pretty funny columns too.

5) The Onion

This is sort of like a *Daily Show* online. This has become so popular that they manage to sell books of their old issues. I know because my R.A. has one. I've seen headlines that make me laugh out loud such as "America's sweetheart dumps U.S. for douche bag," referring to Kirsten Dunst. The address is www.theonion.com.

4) The Daily Show

As long as I am plugging Comedy Central, we may as well include this. *The Daily Show* satires news media, and hilarity ensues. It is political and raunchy at the same time, just right for people our age. The show usually includes anchor Jon Stewart mocking headlines, followed by a report from correspondents, Stephen Colbert being one of the best. The last 10 minutes of the show feature celebrity guests. So far I've seen Natalie Portman, Bill Clinton, and John Kerry, among others.

3) Chapelle's Show

Everybody ought to know about this little gem of comedy. I'm fairly certain everybody does since every party I attended last year was filled with people yelling "WHAT? YEAH! OK!" and of course, "I'm Rick James, b*tch!" Unfortunately, this has been a midseason show for the last two seasons. However, that will give you time to check out everything else on this list.

2) Adult Swim

Started about a few years ago, Adult Swim has rapidly gained popularity for its broadcasting of adult cartoons such as *Family Guy* and *Futurama*. However, the best shows on Adult Swim are the original cartoons such as *Aqua Teen Hunger Force*, *Sealab 2021*, and *Harvey Birdman: Attorney at Law*. Adult Swim also features anime with shows like *Inuyasha*, *Wolf's Rain*, and the classic *Cowboy Bebop*.

1) Homestarrunner.com

One of the most awesome sites I have seen. While the animation of this site is rather strange, I find that it only adds to the hilarity of the site. A common pastime is just to sit and watch Strongbad answer all of his e-mails. If you have never been there, I suggest you find the e-mail labeled "dragon". You will find out why I tend to yell "Trogdor!!!" at random times.

Are You Addicted To OKCupid.com?

By Bettina Adragna

Who would have thought a matching website could be so addicting? OKCupid.com is flip-pant, intelligent, and most of all, entertaining.

OKCupid's classic test consists of 16 personality types for both males and females. My personality type was "The Sonnet," whose

description begins with: "Romantic, hopeful, and composed. Get it? Composed?" Other personality types have creative names such as "Genghis Khunt" and "The Hornivore."

Once you take the test, you can start answering questions about yourself to determine your compatibility with other users. Questions range from intensely personal to seemingly irrelevant inquiries such as, "Divide 30 by half and add ten. What do you get?" Answering each question is

a three-part process. First, you actually answer the question. Second, you indicate how your "ideal match" would answer the question. Finally, OKCupid asks, "How important is it that they answer this question the way you want them to?" The site uses these answers, along with other unnamed factors, to determine your compatibility with other users.

Another feature of OKCupid is the user-made quizzes, such as "The Super-Amazing Girl-

friend Test," "The My Pet Rules The House Test," and "The Are You Addicted to OKCupid Test."

There are also whimsical games such as "The GAYDAR Test" and "The Virgin Game." "The GAYDAR Test" displays two photos and asks you to determine which of the subjects is gay. "The Virgin Game" asks you to do basically the same thing, except find the virgin. According to OKCupid, "We're trying to prove our theory that

you can't really tell who's done it and who hasn't until you create a large, successful matching service with a very flexible 'Terms And Conditions.'"

If you're looking for something to do in between homework breaks, or are in search of friends or lovers, OKCupid is worth checking out.

Even if you are not at all interested in the matching capabilities or its many zany features, it will at least give you something to put in your blog.

Ways to avoid/annoy your roommate

by Amy Beth Kelly and Chris Mateo

10. Every time they come home put on headphones and not even listen to music.
9. When they come into the room use your cell phone to call their phone and when they pick up walk out.
8. Right before they start to speak run to turn off the lights and yell "Yhatzee!"
7. Sleep on his/her bed.
6. Sleep on his/her desk.
5. Have a 24-hour web cam randomly placed in the room...and have the link on their AIM profile.
4. Throw a rave...on his/her side of the room.
3. Get a job, lazy.
2. Join a monastery for a year.
1. Hang out at the Collegian.



(Illustration Melanie Linney/Collegian)

Top ten things to do in Lamorinda:

By Chris Mateo

10. Eat at Saga (Oliver Hall) with a group of friends and think of your own top ten list.
9. Trick-or-treat year-round...and they say we don't get involved with locals
8. Hit a deer.
7. Go to local Mom & Pop shops and say aloud, "Yes, yes, this would be a good place to start another Saint Mary's extension. No one likes it anyway."
6. Rent a movie from the Rheem Blockbuster...and then return it to the Lafayette one!
5. Write for the Collegian.
4. Create your own town called "Dali" and petition for the area's name to be now called "Dalilamorinda"
3. Make your own store whose hours will be after 8p.m. (Oh, it can be done).
2. Take the BART from Lafayette to Orinda and back.
1. Make a top ten list and leave the number one slot empty for the Detour Editor to fill in.

SPORTS

Which NFL team comes out on top in the Bay?

Young, Talented 49ers look to add Playoffs to their Resume

By Michael Chin

Here in the Bay Area 49er fans are used to hearing of Hall of Famers such as Montana, Young, Rice, Owens, and Lott. There are no Hall of Famers this year for the Niners. Instead say hello to Tim Rattay, Brandon Lloyd, and Kevin Barlow. Welcome to the next generation of San Francisco 49ers. Despite all the new faces, these boys will be worthy of the name "Team of the Bay Area."

Although the departures All Pro Terrell Owens hurts their big play ability, the Niners have gained something much more valuable than ten touchdowns per season: chemistry. In a sport that requires much more than raw talent, Owens was taking away from the team. His on and off the field antics gave the Niners more things to worry about than Brett Favre did. Given the fact that he is gone, San Francisco instantly becomes a better team. Owner John York and company are once again strapped for cash, but still managed to add several additions to the team. Following in the 49er tradition, York, along with General Manager Terry Donohue, traded down to draft some major talent headlined by wide receivers Rashaan Woods and Derrick Hamilton, guard John Smiley, and quarterback Cody Pickett.

Following a productive draft, coach Dennis Erickson went out and got defensive guru Willy Robinson to install the 3-4 defense used by AFC powerhouses Pittsburgh and Baltimore. Putting All Pro linebackers in such as Julian Peterson and Derrick Smith into this system will give the 49ers a newfound attitude as well as maximize the speed of the team. The defense also got better as defensive end Andre Carter and cornerback Ahmed Plummer have finally come into their own on the field.

The big question this year will be the offense. Under new coordinator Ted Tollner, this young offense may experience some growing pains this season. The backbone of this squad will be the offensive line lead by pro bowler Jerry Newberry and nine year veteran Scott Gragg. If players such as Brandon Lloyd and Kevin Barlow can mature in a hurry, expect the 49ers to be a threat in the NFC West.

With the little money York and Donohoe had, they went and acquired some veteran experience by signing wide receiver Curtis Conway. They also dipped into the market to get defensive linemen Otis Levorette and James Atkins. The schedule is favorable for the 49ers who will play with NFC south and AFC east, both conferences with problems. Only the defending Superbowl Champion New England Patriots and the Seattle Seahawks seem to overwhelm the 49ers.

Given all these factors the 49ers will be "the Team of the Bay Area." Why you might ask? Compared to the Raiders, the 49ers possess two things the Raiders do not have: youth and unity. Despite the loss of their premier players in the off-season, the Niners got younger. Many of their former players were getting old and had lost a step. More importantly the loss has given way to unity within the team. Both these factors will be every important for San Francisco and will make them the better team in the bay area.

Owner Al Davis and Company re-tool Raider Nation

By Nick Carr

Ask any team in the NFL which city they fear playing a road game in and the majority will say Oakland. Without question, the Raiders strike fear in their opponents. Whether it's the midnight black uniforms, or the now infamous "Black Hole" where the monstrous Raider Nation lurks; teams that come to the Coliseum know that they are facing the true villains of the NFL. Compared to their rivals across the bay, these guys look like inmates from Alcatraz. This nasty spirit, along with some new off-season acquisitions, will surely make the Raiders the better Bay Area team to cheer for this upcoming season.

Several key events during this off-season have proven to the skeptics that the silver and black will be in full force for the 2004 campaign. Looking for redemption after a crushing Super Bowl defeat to Tampa Bay in '02 and an injury ridden '03 season, Raider's owner Al Davis exercised some of his fulgent brilliance to strengthen the team. Davis started by beefing up the Defensive Line with big, bad, All-Pro Warren Sapp and 350 pound nose tackle Ted Washington. Sapp, a trash talker that can back it up, adds a new dimension to the silver and black with ability to fill gaps and bring the pass rush this defense has lacked for years. With the second overall pick in the 2004 Draft Davis and company selected Robert Gallery, a 325-pound offensive tackle who was named "The Big Ten's Offensive Lineman of the Year". He is projected to be a strong candidate for rookie of the year and will no doubt make an immediate impact. Davis then dipped into the free agency market by snatching up quarterback Kerry Collins after the New York Giants released him to make room for top pick Eli Manning. Oakland will also look to several others such as Amos Zereoue, Charles Woodson, Jerry Porter, Sebastian Janikowski, and Jerry Rice for leadership this 2004 year. Health will be a concern for Oakland as much of their team is over thirty, considered dinosaur age in the NFL. The other crucial step to success is winning division games, which include tough battles with the Denver Broncos and Kansas City Chiefs. Oakland plays the Chiefs two out of their last five games. These contests just might determine the Raiders playoff chances. Even if they finish at .500 it will be far better than the 49ers.

You may ask, "Why, Mr. Sports Writer?" Well, I have a few statistics that will convince you to trade gold for silver this year. With the departures of ex-Niner powerhouses Terrell Owens and Jeff Garcia, the San Francisco offense has struggled to put up points, resulting in a 0-4 preseason performance. The Raiders, on the other hand, won three out of four exhibitions and are well on their way to drastically improving their dismal 4-12 record from a year ago. It is a fact that over sixty percent of teams who finished undefeated in the preseason made the playoffs (ESPN.com). So watch the silver and black this season because if you watch the 49ers, you'll just end up frustrated.

De La Salle's Streak over

Former Spartan football players and alumni speak on the loss to Bellevue

Allison Kop

Assistant Sports Editor

By now we've all heard the news. The "streak" is over. On September 3, national football powerhouse De La Salle, located in Concord, just a Hail Mary pass away from Saint Mary's, lost their first football game in over 12 years. In a stunning victory, the Bellevue Wolverines from Washington smeared the Spartans 39-20. To put it into perspective, the last time De La Salle lost, their seniors were in kindergarten.

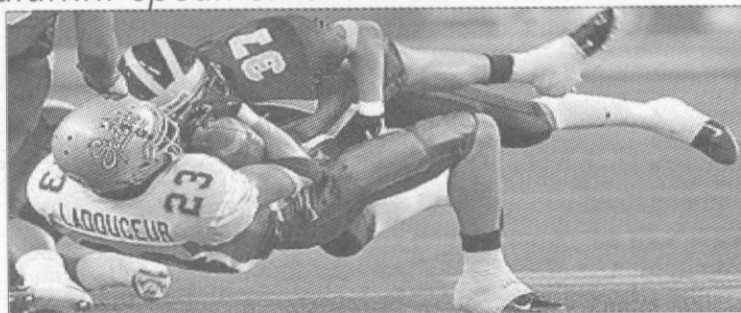
Not only was the 151 game winning streak a huge local story, but it also made headlines throughout the country. News giants such as USA Today and the New York Times had it on their front page. Here at SMC, we are lucky enough to have a unique local perspective on the loss. Several De La Salle grads now attend Saint Mary's, many of whom were part of the streak and have donned the silver and green. Here in Moraga, we have an insider's view on what "the streak" was all about.

For many Spartan graduates, the loss wasn't as big of a shock as one might have guessed. Most people were surprised, but not overly upset. Dan Tabacco, a former DLS safety and running back from 2000-2002 said, "I was surprised, but it didn't ruin my day. I felt bad for the guys, but in the actual program it's not that big a deal."

Not that big a deal? Surely the longest win streak in all of football must be a big deal. But according to Tabacco, the team is about a lot more than just winning. "The people that made it [the streak] big news are the people who know nothing about it," he said.

The graduates were also quick to point out that De La Salle is about a lot more than just football. "It's not just about football. Our coaches wanted to teach young guys about life." Tabacco said. Before "the streak" became the main focus of the media, De La Salle was more known for its high academic standards (rather than football).

Other De La Salle grads had similar attitudes. Most were not



Seattle Times Newspaper

fazed by the disappointing result. "I figured it was a good way to go out," said John Davey, a recent graduate, "They played a good team and they just didn't have the numbers to beat them."

Other players such as David Major, a defensive end for the Spartans from 2000-2001 had similar thoughts. "It's a big deal, but somebody had to lose. Once you're graduated, you realize it was only high school football." Even so, for those outside the De La Salle community, the end of "the streak" seems as if it may be signaling the end of an era. Questions surround the dynasty. Will the Spartan's record be forever tarnished by the loss? Can they continue to dominate now that they have lost a game?

"It's definitely not going to kill our reputation," says Tabacco, "It's still a good team. What other high school has 150 wins?" This could be the start of a new era as expressed by some of them. "The players are probably not looking at it as an ending point, but more as a beginning," said Davey. After all, the last team that beat De La Salle ended up getting crushed by the Spartans the following year.

The rest of the season may be up in the air, but it seems that no matter what happens, De La Salle will never lack enthusiastic supporters. "It comes down to the whole Spartan mentality," says Davey, "I love my high school. I still bleed green, baby. 'Til the day I die."

Weekly Scorecard Women's Soccer (5-1)

SMC Defeats Columbia 1-0
Goals: Genevieve Hollis (1)
Win: Andrea Lee (3)

SMC Defeats Cal Poly 1-0
Goals: G. Hollis (2)
Win: A. Lee (4)

SMC Defeats San Jose St. 4-0
Goals: McKenna Belzer (3), Angela Elliot (1),
Maureen Cindrich (1), Katie Fagundes (1)
Win: A. Lee (5)

Men's Soccer (1-0-2)
SMC Defeats UC Davis 1-0
Goals: Anthony Butler
Wins: Brian Mason (1)

Women's Volleyball (6-0)
SMC Defeats Auburn 3-2
SMC Defeats Oral Roberts 3-2
SMC Defeats Oregon State 3-

Days Until
Men's Basketball Begins:
115