

THE COLLEGIAN

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA

Serving Saint Mary's for over a century

Moraga, California

Tuesday, October 26, 2004

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Board of Trustees issues pledge report

Details of elaborate scheme to deceive college revealed; Colbrant and Ageno step down from Boards

by Jo-Ann Arquilliano
Assistant News Editor

On October 5, 2004, a mass email sent to the Saint Mary's community announced that the college had been deceived by an elaborate scheme that resulted in J.C. Gatehouse being constructed without the necessary funds.

Independent investigator Neal Stephens, of Cooley Godward

LLP, in a 77-page presentation (available in its entirety online), relayed the mechanics of the ploy, current pertinent Board policies, and recommendations for the college's future plans.

It was also announced that Conrad Colbrant was removed from the Board of Regents and Barbara Ageno resigned from the Board of Trustees.

As the campus-wide email read, "the scheme incorporated the use of false documents, many lies and misleading representations, forgeries and false identities."

According to the report, Ed Ageno, well known for his donations to the college, invested large sums of money with John Banker, convicted criminal and nephew of co-founder of Coldwell Banker Real Estate.

The plan presented to shareholders was that Tracol was to do business with PepsiCo, earning

money through transactions that involved Tracol purchasing potential PepsiCo restaurant sites and later collecting rental income or liquidating existing PepsiCo real estate. This would allow Tracol to acquire broker fees and rent in the form of "dividend checks," which would go to investors. PepsiCo was never involved with Banker, Tracol, or Saint Mary's. Patrick Flanagan, using the name of an actual PepsiCo employee whose

see REPORT, p2



Tom Darcy '06 spreads some blue paint on the M of the SMC

Jonathan Morales/COLLEGIAN

Students repaint to show unity, respect

GSA leads students in painting symbol of inclusiveness on SMC

by Jonathan Morales
News Editor

On Wednesday, October 13, a group of approximately 25 students, led by the Gay-Straight Alliance (formerly GALA), hiked up the hill behind Becket and More to repaint the SMC.

The SMC was originally painted a week earlier in a rainbow, a symbol of diversity and inclusiveness, for National Coming Out Day, October 11. However, a small group of students painted over the rainbow with an American flag later in the week.

This time students again painted a rainbow, but kept the blue field of the American flag as a symbol that America is all-inclusive.

"It was really upsetting that someone would intentionally come up here and make it a point to destroy what we had done, and we're up here now to show that America includes everybody, and same with this campus at Saint Mary's. Everyone has to be accepted," said Catherine McKenna '06, vice president of GSA.

Most students agreed that the main issue was respect.

"I think everybody should have their own opinion, and other people should not be able to overwrite and speak over it and cover up other people's hard work," said

Tom Darcy '06. "I don't want to say injustice, but in a sense it is prejudice against GSA, because why would somebody come up here and paint over this beautiful symbol of diversity?"

Brent Mills '06 added that he thought it to be, "unpatriotic to paint over something that stands for diversity."

Both McKenna and GSA co-President Elizabeth Garcia '06 said that some type of rule needs to be created to prevent this type of incident from occurring again.

"People should respect that when clubs go up there that they're doing it for a reason. We couldn't even show it for National Coming Out Day," Garcia said.

Week honors victims of violence

by Bettina Agragna
Staff Writer

On Sunday, October 8, the Saint Mary's College community kicked off Week Without Violence, an international movement that has made its way onto the Saint Mary's College campus.

The goal of Week Without Violence is to focus on violence in schools, gender violence, racism, and hate crimes. It was sponsored by the Women's Resource Center Campus Ministry, the Health and Wellness Center, the Counseling Center, and the Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action. Week Without Violence was started by the YWCA.

According to Sharon Sobotta, director of the Women's Resource Center, Week Without Violence is about "raising awareness" so we can "all imagine what the world would be like without violence."

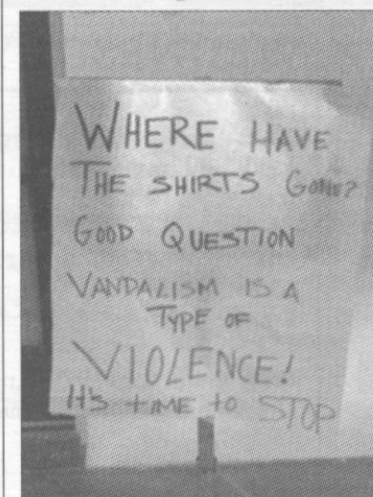
"What is our stake in it?" she asks of the Saint Mary's community.

One of the features of Week Without Violence was the clothesline project, in which t-shirts made by students on campus were displayed at various locations.

The t-shirts, a standard part of Week Without Violence at Saint Mary's, were stolen towards the end of last week.

According to Sobotta, the t-shirts empower the victims of violence and are inspiring to the viewers: "airing society's dirty laundry."

see WEEK, p2



Annual Halloween events return to campus

Local inner city kids will participate in trick-or-treating, haunted house

by Pablo Armas
Executive Assistant

This Friday, Saint Mary's will be hosting local inner city kids in a Halloween bash that will include trick-or-treating, dancing, and a haunted mansion built in Dryden.

"The goal of the event is to put on a Halloween event consisting of trick-or-treating, a haunted house, and a party for inner-city

children. We want to offer them a fun and safe environment that they otherwise would not have on Halloween," said Patricia Vargas '05, the event chairman for the Halloween bash.

The event is being put on by Campus Ministry with additional help from Hermanas Unidas, Sodexo, LASA, Liberal and Civics Studies, Program Board, CILSA, and Circle K. The event will start off around 4:00 p.m. with trick-or-treating, which takes

place here on campus in the various dorms.

After trick-or-treating, the children will head over to the cafeteria to have dinner/snacks. They will then head over to the haunted house that will lead into the party. Students are asked not only to help in giving away treats, but also by serving as guides for the kids and helping Campus Ministry set up the Haunted House.

see HALLOWEEN, p3

Crime Beat

10/15 2:13 a.m. Incident: Physical fight Synopsis: Fight among students in Mitty Hall; referred to Student Conduct.	10/19 1:48 a.m. Incident: Vandalism Synopsis: Malicious mischief in Becket and More Halls; referred to Student Conduct.
10/15 2:42 a.m. Incident: Vandalism Synopsis: Damage to entrance door – broken glass in Justin Hall; referred to Student Conduct and Business office.	10/19 12:00 p.m. Incident: Stolen auto Synopsis: Stolen auto from between North and South Claeys parking lot; referred to Moraga P.D.
10/15 10:04 p.m. Incident: Battery Synopsis: Assault of a student in Oliver Hall; referred to Student Conduct, Health and Wellness, and Moraga P.D.	10/20 3:55 p.m. Incident: Auto burglary Synopsis: Car stereo stolen from car in San Miguel circle between North and South Claeys; referred to Student Conduct.
10/16 1:30 a.m. Incident: Stink bombs Synopsis: Stink bombs thrown in student room in Justin Hall; referred to Student Conduct.	10/21 11:15 a.m. Incident: Stolen auto and recovery Synopsis: SMC vehicle from North Claeys parking lot; referred to Physical Plant.
10/16 3:25 a.m. Incident: Suspicious person Synopsis: Suspicious person in Ageno A parking lot; referred to Student Conduct.	10/21 2:30 p.m. Incident: Harassing phone calls Synopsis: Harassing phone calls in Aquinas Hall; referred to Student Conduct.

REPORT: Building plans reevaluated

continued from p1

son had been a Saint Mary's student, forged documents and claimed relations with respected individuals (e.g. Wayne Calloway, former PepsiCo CEO) to establish legitimacy among the Board of Trustees. Colbrandt, following Ageno's death in 1997, approached his sister, Barbara Ageno, with interests in donating funds to the college. In 2002 Colbrandt disclosed his alleged investments with PepsiCo with Saint Mary's President, Br. Craig Franz, then Chair of Board of Trustees B.J. Cassin and then Vice President of Advancement and Planning Michael Ferrigno. This meeting established Colbrandt (the anonymous donator for J.C. Gatehouse) as a credible source of funds. And while no funds were at hand at the onset of the project, construction commenced under written agreements that the money was to come. "We had the signed commitments to it, it's just that the signed commitments were fraudulent," Franz said.

While future projects have been affected by the unrealized pledges, Franz and Barry VanderKelen, vice president of Advancement and Planning, assure that no day-to-day operations will be impacted. Plans are underway for the next construction project. "Filippi Academic Hall is the priority right now," said VanderKelen. While the project was to have been partially funded by the anonymous donors involved in the Gatehouse scheme, the hall remains an important undertaking in future plans. He stated that Provost Sally Stampf is convening a project review group to prioritize upcoming facilities, and VanderKelen shared his optimism with the direction of the college. "I think these reviews, these discussions, are very healthy and helpful because we are going to have a unified sense of where we're going," VanderKelen said.

WEEK: main focus of week is to end violence

continued from p1

The different colors of the t-shirts represented different types of violence. For example, a white one was on display outside Campus Ministry in honor of a Saint Mary's student who died because of violence. Since the main focus of this event is to end violence, Sobotta offered several suggestions for students wanting to help out with this problem. One way is to challenge "inappropriate" comments, or not laughing at racist, sexist, or heterosexual jokes. Another way is to be an "informed consumer" when it comes to media such as movies or magazines. She suggested thinking about "whether we are

supporting exploitation by the money we spend." Taking a person's "no" at face value is another way to help end violence, as well as attending events such as the Women in the World on Wednesdays series or the Safe Zone trainings – anything that encourages students to "think outside of [their] own box." "It's easy to become apathetic in our society because we can't always see concrete results," said Sobotta. However, she encouraged the Saint Mary's community to think about "simple things they can do to make a difference." She explained that if we hear inappropriate comments about race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or gender and we don't challenge

it, we may be guilty of contributing to a "culture of violence." What do Saint Mary's students think about the problem of violence on campus? Daniel Lewis '07, who volunteers at the Women's Resource Center, offered his perspective and focused particularly on his experience as an athlete. He said when he came to the campus, he heard about the baseball team being "jerks." "I know for a fact that athletes are more prone to violence on college campuses everywhere," he said. However, he said that athletes on this campus are "good guys," and that he wants to change the perceptions of athletes on campus, saying that they are "not just jocks."

Race and Sex panel discussion brings unity

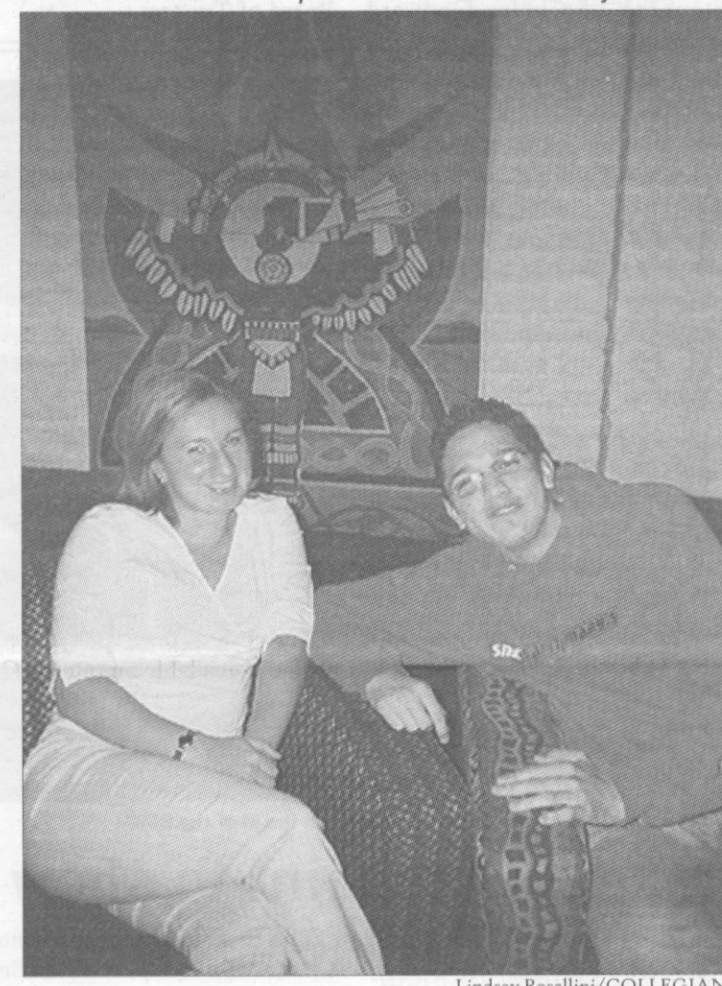
Saint Mary's students share their experiences with injustice

by Lindsey Rosellini
Copy Editor

Mary Ho of the Delphine Intercultural Center, the Diversity Clubs, along with co-sponsors, the Women's Resource Center, the Counseling Center, and Campus Ministry, together put on a panel discussion held on October 18 called Race and Sex.

The panel was initially created in response to the vandalism of a Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) poster last month. The night emulated unity between the diversity clubs and students of Saint Mary's and consisted of five panelists from different backgrounds. A moderator, Molly Zook from the Counseling Center, asked questions for each panelist to answer, based on personal experiences, about being discriminated and marginalized in different environments throughout their lives, including the Saint Mary's campus.

Saint Mary's diversity was also questioned by the panelists. Some students thought our campus lacks diversity, while others expressed that it was indeed diverse, but not very accepting. Despite that, Race and Sex gave minorities on the SMC campus an opportunity to speak out in a positive and safe environment. Sharon Sobotta, director of the WRC, thought the event to be much needed on the Saint Mary's campus. "Anytime you gather people of different backgrounds (race, sexuality, ethnicity, etc.) to dialogue with each other, discuss experiences and challenges to one another in a respectful and



Lindsey Rosellini/COLLEGIAN
Panelists Lauren Riggers '05 and Jorge Gonzalez '06

safe environment, it will bring about a positive change on campus," Sobotta said. Despite their different lives, the panelists all shared one thing in common: a voice speaking out about the need of diversity and acceptance on the Saint Mary's campus. Panelist Julia Barboza '05 stated her strong interest in Race and Sex. "When it comes to diversity, I'm very open to share my voice because if you don't, your voice

won't be heard," Barboza said. She, along with other panelists and attendees, expressed interest in doing more events like Race and Sex. Jorge Gonzalez '06, another panelist, shared Barboza's sentiments. "It is important we look at each other like human beings and what we have to offer the SMC community, instead of being guided by prejudice and stereotypes," Gonzalez said.

WHAT'S HAPPENING...

TODAY

Dine and discuss *Frida*, 7:00 p.m., Dryden Hall

Applications for absentee ballots due TODAY

WEDNESDAY

LASA Dia de los Muertos, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Delphine Intercultural Center

CILSA Wednesday Night Chill, 8:00 p.m., Justin Lounge

Poetry Slam, 8:00-10:00 p.m., Delphine Intercultural Center

THURSDAY

Latino Heritage Month closing speaker, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Soda Center

FRIDAY

Halloween Mask-making, 2:30-5:00 p.m., Art Studio 1

SATURDAY

Maria Elena Durazo '75, president of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union, Local 11 in LA: Living a Commitment to the Worker, 3:15-4:40 p.m., Soda Center

Halloween Dance, 10:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m., Soda Center

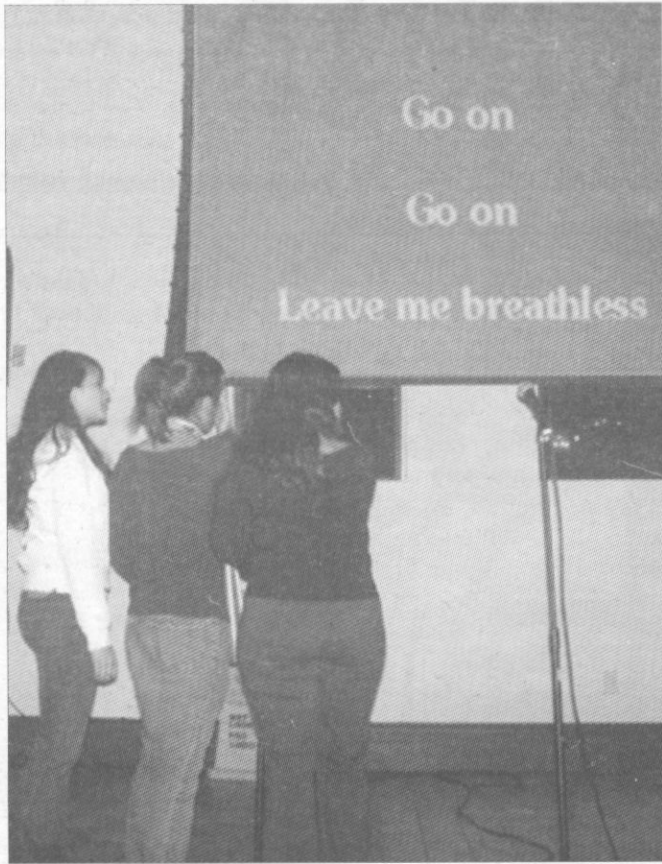
SUNDAY

Music for a Dark, Creepy night. Ghoulish music performed by Saint Mary's students, faculty and staff. Free admission, costumes welcome. Refreshments following, 10:00 p.m., Chapel

Don't forget

The Firebugs opens on Thursday, November 4. Shows Thursday-Saturday at 8:00 p.m., Sunday 2:00 p.m., LeFevre Theatre

SNAPSHOT



Liz Hearst/COLLEGIAN

Three SMC students leave the crowd breathless at last Wednesday night's Karaoke Night, sponsored by APASA.

A letter from the ASSMC president to the students



Jeff Haskins

As I reflect over the last eight weeks of school, I cannot help but to be excited for all the new events, programming, collaboration, energy, and the involvement I've seen from students. Over a week ago I updated our Board of Trustees and Board of Regents on these new initiatives, and I've never been more proud to be your President! I also discussed concerns I heard from you including: the degree our student voices are consulted and valued, the communication gap (especially with commuter students), and the use/reduction of student funds without consulting the Associated Students.

Currently, I sit as a voting member on the College Presidential Search Committee. Letters have been sent to Brothers internationally, inviting them to submit their name and applica-

tions by November 5. The committee is hoping to have Brothers [qualified and willing] on-campus late in November - early December. Please share with me your thoughts of what you're looking for in our next College President, because I need your input.

As a reminder, the full report created by the Trustees regarding our loss of the \$112 million pledge is available on our SMC website, under messages from the President. I encourage each of you to educate yourself on this situation. Some recommendations are to: increase training of our Trustees, conduct background checks on donors who pledge over a certain amount of money, implement a policy requiring a certain percentage of project funding to be cash in hand, and consider renaming J.C. Gatehouse and Calloway Grove (current names associated with this lost pledge).

Please, continue to speak your mind and voice your opinion! The Associated Students are your representatives and advocates, so never hesitate to contact us at assmc@stmarys-ca.edu or call x4280.

HALLOWEEN: Students encouraged to help out continued from p1

"Anyone can be involved," Vargas said. "They can contact myself at x8418 or Bob at x4075. We will direct them to the area in which they are interested in participating. We really will need a lot of help on Thursday night at 10 p.m. setting up the haunted house so that it could be ready for Friday."

This is not the first time that Saint Mary's has held an event like this.

"The event was started six years ago by an RA who wanted to give unprivileged children a chance to have a Halloween they otherwise wouldn't have because of the location where they lived. So, we are continuing this event for the children," Vargas said. She also says that she hopes that students learn something for the event.

"The participants should walk away knowing that they have given children a chance to have a great Halloween. Not every child is privileged to live in a safe city where they can go out and trick-or-treat."

THE COLLEGIAN

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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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b e y o n d the bubble

NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS BITES

By TONY VALA-HAYNES

-OJIYA, Japan--Japan's deadliest earthquake in 9 years killed 21 people Saturday. Eight other people are missing. The quake was so powerful that it was felt over 155 miles away in Tokyo.

-WASHINGTON, D.C.--Cardinal James A. Hickey, 84, died Sunday. Hickey was ordained a priest 58 years ago and spent 20 years as the head of the Roman Catholic Church in the nation's capital.

-ALTON, Illinois--Vernon Sasler, 26, and Randy Rasler, 45, were killed Saturday when a 14-foot-deep sewer trench collapsed on the two plumbers.

-WASHINGTON, D.C.--The first black naval officer to command a warship died Friday in Bethesda, Maryland from a stroke. Vice Adm. Samuel Lee Gravely Jr. was 82.

-FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, Pennsylvania--A 25-pound bomb dropped by the military landed on a hiking trail on October 13. The bomb was a mile off course and the military is investigating what may have gone wrong. One hiker was close enough to hear the cast-iron bomb strike the ground.

-DETROIT, Michigan--A man's body was found Friday in the wheel well of an American Airlines jet. The man reportedly died from lack of oxygen.

-NEW YORK--William Shatner, 73, released the follow-up album to his 1968 debut last Monday. His new album, entitled "Has Been," includes collaboration with The Ben Folds Five.

-SAN FRANCISCO, California--Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger endorsed a \$3 billion bond measure in support of stem-cell research last Tuesday.

-LOS ANGELES, California--With President Bartlet's end in sight on "The West Wing," executive producer John Wells is considering having a Republican successor.

(Sources: Cnn.com, The New York Times)

RETRACTION

An incorrect photo ran with the story "Women speakers come to campus" in the October 12 issue of the Collegian. Ann Cummins was speaking at an M.F.A. event on campus.

The Collegian reports all significant factual errors. To report an error please contact the Collegian at x4279 or collegia@stmarys-ca.edu.

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left is right: why your vote doesn't count

.....
by Jonathan Morales

News Editor

A couple of weeks ago in one of my classes, one student identified herself as a "swing voter."

"Wow," said the student next to her. "A real live swing voter!" The rest of the class stirred in disbelief. Did we, here at Saint Mary's, actually have one of these curious creatures in our midst?

Please, don't feed the swing voters. Especially don't feed them the silly idea that their vote counts. At least not here.

Let me back up. I'm all for voter registration. I appreciate the work done by CILSA to register over 300 new voters this year. I think this election year we're going to see a young voter revolution of some sorts.

But here, in California, it is merely a symbolic act, not a practical one.

Yes, we live in the bright blue state of California. We know that come November 2, John Kerry is going to win this state by a landslide. Now I'm proud to live in a blue state, but it is a bit unnerving to know that my vote doesn't really count here, thanks to our winner-take-all electoral system. And each and every Republican in California is essentially disenfranchised in presidential elections, just as Democrats are in states such as Texas and Utah.

What we need is to reform the system. The electoral college was invented over 200 years ago by our founding fathers who thought the average citizen too dumb to know much about politics.

If this presidential campaign has shown anything, it is that Americans are in tune to politics more than ever before.

Now my personal preference would be to scrap the electoral system altogether for the popular vote. However, this isn't going to happen any time soon. Americans are too embedded in their antiquated traditions.

But I'm willing to make a compromise. Every state should switch to proportional electoral allotment. This means that whatever percentage of the vote you receive in a state, that's the percentage of electoral votes you receive.

This will appease the smaller states, who are worried about losing their relative power to the larger ones, and still allow the 10 largest states to still keep their stranglehold on the electoral system.

To solve the problem of how to allocate electors, especially in smaller states, I propose we also multiply the amount of electors by 10 in every state. Since the numbers are pretty much symbolic anyways, this shouldn't be a problem. It will be much easier for states like Wyoming to divide up 30 electoral votes as opposed to three. And think how awesome California will be with its 550 electoral votes.

To win the presidency, you must garner the necessary 270 electoral votes, but you must get them nationwide, as opposed to just clinching a region, such as the South in Bush's case and the Northeast and West in Kerry's case.

And then, truly every vote will matter. Everywhere.

OPINION

Collegian Quote of the Week: Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people.
-Author Unknown

Collegian View

With the many requests for certain news, opinion, sports, or detour articles to be placed in The Collegian, the editors of The Collegian would like to take the time to explain the process by which our paper gets put together so as to clarify why some subjects are covered, and why some are either delayed or not put in at all. First off, the staff has Monday storyboard budget meetings. These meetings take place between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in Dante 114. During these meetings we follow a regular schedule. The first ten minutes are dedicated to sharing ideas for the different sections. Here, the staff provides story ideas for the editors to consider placing in the current (or future) week's issue. After the story ideas, each section

editor will approach the board and go through ideas – both previously known and those just shared at the beginning of the meeting. After the ideas are listed by the section editor, the staff votes on what goes into that specific section (that's not to say that the executive staff cannot override the votes if they feel it necessary, but this action is very rare). After the voting and the correct number of articles are set, the assignments are made. First the editors ask for volunteers to write the decided articles. If no writers volunteer, then it is up to the editor to assign the articles to their regular writers, their assistants, or to themselves. Once all of the articles have been assigned, the writers are instructed to meet with their section editors for fi-

Community Views

Saint Mary's College Community:

After very positive conversations with The Collegian, the edition in the first week of November will feature the first spotlight on a Saint Mary's College student who is living the Lasallian mission on campus. To start, this "spotlight" in The Collegian will be a monthly feature in the paper and there is the hope that there will be a frequency of nominations to justify it being in the paper more often. Members of the campus community are invited to take some time to consider students who give expression to the Lasallian mission through their involvement and example at Saint Mary's College. The completed nomination forms (found in Student Involvement and Leadership, First Floor Ferroggiaro) can be returned to the same office by November 15 in order to meet and honor the timetable and schedule that have been established with The Collegian. It

would be great to have students nominating other students. Finally, if you are interested in being involved in selecting the student to be highlighted each month, please contact me. Thanks to those of you who have already submitted nominations and have volunteered to assist in this effort.

As always, Student Involvement and Leadership is open to your thoughts, ideas, and feedback!

On behalf of Student Involvement and Leadership,
Brother Michael E. Sanderl, FSC
Assistant Dean of Student Life for Mission and Leadership

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



A typical weekend at Saint Mary's characterized by fights and drunken debauchery.
Cartoon by Angel Refugio

nal details. Section editors then meet with the chief photo editor for photo assignments. By Thursday, all of the articles should be ready and turned into the specific section editor they were assigned. Editors then go over a preliminary read-through of the articles

and prepare to lay them out on Sunday. Finally, the Sunday layout begins at 10:00 a.m. and includes everything from multiple copy edits, design of the pages, and the final copy's transfer to the printer (which is usually done by 10:00 p.m.).

Why Bush Needs to Go

A final glance at Bush's policies

by Naveen Prasad

Staff Writer

November second is coming up, and with it the choice between reinstalling an incumbent who is fast ruining our country, or putting a new man in the white house, a senator with a perceived history of flip-flops, vote for Kerry. Here's why:

Under Hoover, Reagan, Big Daddy Bush, and Dubya the economy dropped like a rock. Under FDR and Clinton, the economy soared. Why? Because the former presidents used supply side economics, and the latter used demand side. Supply side can work, but not how Dubya is implementing it. Even his own treasury secretary, John Snow, believed Bush's policies to be wrong.

Time to face the truth, ladies and gentlemen. America is not safer now than it was before. If anything, it's less safe. There are now more people who hate us, more people who wish to hurt us. All Bush has done is increased the hassle. I have brown skin and a beard. Even though I'm from India, even though I was born here, and truly love this country, I have been pulled aside every time I have been at an airport for a "random" security

check. And yet, people are still able to get contraband through. Who hasn't heard of the teen who snuck box-cutters on to different planes to prove a point? Or of the reporters who were able to get a gun, a knife, box-cutters, and other weapons aboard? Perhaps you have heard of the investigative report that was easily able to smuggle depleted uranium into the US through seaports?

Over 1000 deaths. Over 7000 maimed, or crippled soldiers. All for a war that was launched without any hard evidence, according to Donald Rumsfeld, and without the world community's approval. Dubya has managed to take the greatest sympathy ever produced for the U.S. and turn it into the greatest animosity within the world community. It is perhaps the greatest diplomatic failure in the history of the world. And in today's modern global context, we can't afford that. The war has not helped the U.S. It has hurt us. Well done, Mr. President.

I would strongly suggest everyone to visit www.emogame.com/bushgame.html for more information on Bush's presidency. It can be rabid at times, but there are links to take you directly to the informational parts. It's quite enlightening.

Don't forget to vote on November 2 2004!

Vist www.thebeehive.org or www.issues2000.org for a last minute independent resource about presidential candidates.

Gael Poll

Only 19.6% of students polled had a "Live Strong" bracelet

75.5% of students knew what the bracelets meant

92.2% of students polled believed that the bracelets were a good idea. The same percent felt that they had become a fad.

8.8% of those polled had other bracelets, such as the breast cancer and AIDS bracelets.

inDEPTH

ELECTION



2004

Important information you should know

Go Vote! Third party candidates alternatives to traditional contenders

by Bettina Adranga
Staff Writer

Vote your conscience if regulars don't suit you



by Caitlin Hungate
Opinion Editor

Hopefully with the surge of voter registration this year, people will actually go out and vote. Many people may say their vote doesn't matter, or it's just one vote, but the fact remains that it does matter. Voting is the opportunity to put your beliefs into action, where you have the opportunity to make your voice heard. Even if the people or the propositions (as Californians love these things) you vote for do not win, you still have made your voice heard.

The controversy surrounding the last presidential election shows how every vote is important and why everyone who is of voting age should do so. 22 million women did not vote in the last presidential election and their voices and their interests were not heard. People have struggled and suffered to win the right to vote, including women and African Americans. What does it say in their remembrance when we do not vote?

It is one thing to talk about political issues and complain about things going on in this world, but unless we do something (and voting is the easiest thing to do), we will not be truly engaged citizens. Without people voting, we do not have a true democracy. Through us, citizens of this country, democracy can flourish and exist, without our voice, it has no meaning.

Voting in presidential elections and other major elections are not the only places to vote. On our campus we have elections for senators and the executive office. How many people vote in these? It is a simple way to learn the importance of voting. And it's easy. There are also school board elections for local public education districts, mayors, etc. And you can always count on propositions to be on the ballot.

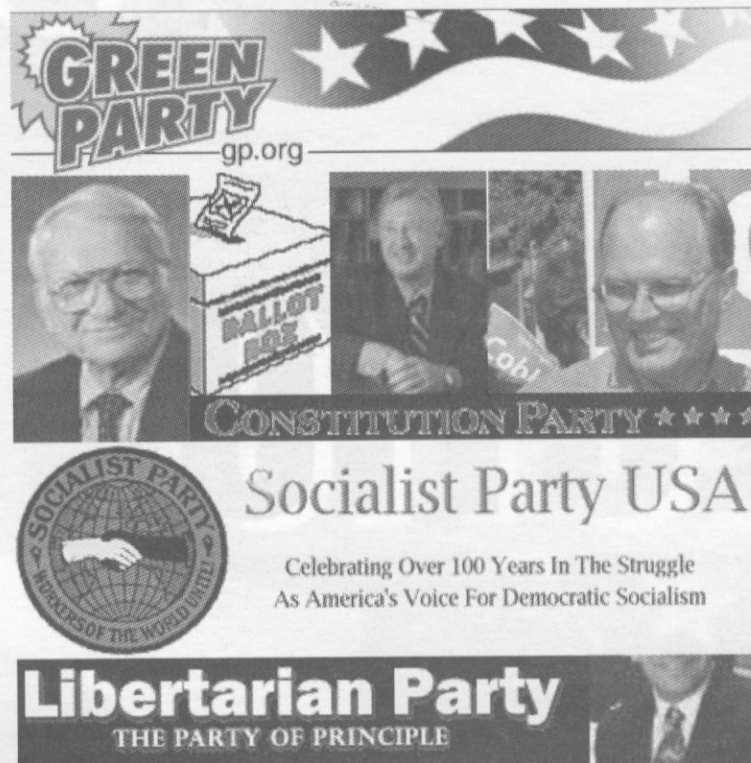
Because Election Day is on a Tuesday, it can be hard for some people to leave school or work and actually go to polls. However, our beloved government has made such a thing as absentee ballots for people who are out of the country (military service men and women, for example), who cannot leave their home or work, who are out of state, etc.

Voting is the first step to living an engaged life; the next step (and more difficult one) is to be an informed voter. Voting is not like a standardized test that you take, where you can make designs because you are too lazy to actually read the questions. Know for what and whom you are voting for. Again, the government makes it easy, or at least tries to, by sending you official voter information guides. In the state of California, you get the pros and cons to all the propositions, who is running, etc. Just put aside an hour of your time to learn about the issues and the politicians to be an educated voter.

Bush and Kerry got you down? Can't decide which of the two is worse? There are alternatives to the two-party system candidates.

Michael Badnarik is one of them. He is a self-employed computer consultant for Evolutionary Technologies from Austin, Texas, and has run for the Texas House of Representatives. He does not support, "pre-emptive strikes against countries deemed to be a threat to national security," and, "one of [his] first tasks will be to begin the orderly process of bringing our troops home as quickly as can safely be accomplished." His main focus is the enforcement of citizens' constitutional rights, with a special emphasis on the Bill of Rights.

David Keith Cobb, an attorney from California, is the Green Party candidate. He was the co-founder of the Texas Green Party in 1999 and is part of the Board of Directors for Democracy Unlimited of Humboldt County. His key issues are ecology, universal health care, electoral reform, and a living wage. He calls the war in Iraq, "illegitimate, un-



constitutional and immoral," and, like Badnarik, wants to bring the troops in Iraq home.

Representing the Constitution party is Michael A. Peroutka, an attorney from Maryland. He is the State Chair of the Constitu-

tion Party of Maryland, and the founder and director of the Institute on the Constitution (which is a "conservative non-profit organization"). He wants to, "fight to defend America against enemies domestic and foreign and

return to a Republic of self-governing states whose laws are rooted in biblical principles." William Kevin Lowry of Michigan is his challenger. He is a church administrator and the department manager/Director of Operations for "various retail outfits." His priorities include, "[establishing] culpability for all elected and appointed officials regarding their office departments [sic] overall service performance."

Finally, if you're interested in a non-capitalistic president, you can vote for Socialist Candidate Walter F. Brown, a Voluntary Attorney for the Consumer Justice Alliance who hails from Oregon. He is for repealing the Patriot Act and levying Social Security taxes, "on all salaries above \$87,900."

If the major two candidates don't appeal to you, think about voting for a third-party candidate. They may not be guaranteed to win, but at least you'll be voting your conscience. All information in the article is from www.vote-smart.org/ and www.politics1.com/.

Fit for command

Democrats record shows history of strength and leadership

by Jonathan Morales
News Editor

"How do you ask a man to be the last man to die for a mistake?" asked John Forbes Kerry famously in April of 1971, testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee as a member of Vietnam Veterans against the war.

Eleven years later, Kerry would be elected to the United States Senate, and would serve on the Foreign Relations Committee. The experience both in and out of the Senate that Kerry gained would mold him into a man most definitely fit for our nation's highest office.

After graduating from Yale, Kerry joined the Navy, "essentially volunteering for service in Vietnam," according to a PBS.com biography of Kerry. He was assigned to captain a Swift Boat in the Mekong Delta.

He became a hero when he turned his ship around in the midst of battle, confronting and eventually defeating his attackers. For this act he received the Silver and Bronze Stars, and three Purple Hearts. Although those who were not present at this battle may claim that Kerry did not deserve his awards, those men who were actually on his ship that day, as well as the shrapnel Kerry still has in his leg, have testified otherwise.

Kerry returned to the United States with a new perspective on the war. He realized he had been misled by his leaders, and testified to Congress in the hopes of sparing his brothers in

Vietnam from dying for other's mistakes. This experience taught Kerry that national leaders are not always right, and that just because America is at war does not mean America was right in going to war.

Kerry then went to Boston College Law School and graduated in 1976. He helped to put the number two mob boss in New England in prison. In 1982 he was elected Lt. Governor of Massachusetts, and in 1984 he was elected to the Senate.

In the Senate, Kerry has established a "left of center" voting record, and, according to PBS.com, has consistently fought for education and the environment; he helped to stop President Bush from opening up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for oil drilling.

He also has spent nineteen years on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and worked with Sen. John McCain to find out the truth about POW/MIA soldiers in Vietnam.

In 2002, John Kerry did indeed make a mistake: he believed his president. As has been frequently mentioned by his opposition, Kerry voted in favor of giving the president authority to invade Iraq.

However, it became clear that the administration's reasons for going to war were not genuine and that there was no clear plan to establish peace in a post-Saddam Iraq. Recognizing this, Kerry voted against Bush's request for \$87 billion in war funding, refusing to let the administration use more

taxpayer money for a war they could no longer justify.

Don't believe the media's "carpet-bombing" of the word "flip-flop." Kerry's vote reflects not a character flaw, but an ability to recognize mistakes, and to demand accountability. This is a lesson he learned 25 years ago in Vietnam. It is something he's practiced and built on in his 20-year Senate career. And it is what makes Kerry the best man to be

the next president. He is, most definitely, fit for command.

59% of students think Kerry SHOULD win
40% of students think Kerry WILL win
13% think a third party candidate should win
2 surveys were omitted

524 Saint Mary's Gaels were newly registered to vote,

But there are a few more steps....

1. Read about candidates and propositions:

easyvoter.org/california/index.html

2. If you have any problems, such as not receiving your absentee ballot OR your voter registration confirmation....

Call the voter office for the country you registered in or 1-800-345-Vote OR Visit www.myvotecounts.org

3. When you go to vote, try to bring:

- A Driver's License or Photo ID
- Your voter registration receipt

4. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE.

You may go to any poll and ask for a "provisional ballot." This allows you to vote, then they will check on your registration.

Face off: Bush vs. Kerry

What the candidates have to say for themselves

by Lindsey Owen

Copy Editor

Bush said:

U.S. long-term plans in Iraq:

"Like every nation that has made the journey to democracy, Iraqis will raise up a government that reflects their own culture and values. I sent American troops to Iraq to defend our security, not to stay as an occupying power. Our work there has been hard and required great sacrifice. But it was necessary for the security of our country and the world. Iraqis will write their own history and find their own way. As they do, Iraqis can be certain that a free Iraq will always have a friend in the United States."

(www.congress.org, DemocracyNet)

State of the economy:

"America's economy is getting stronger. I am optimistic about our future, not only because of what I see today, but because of what I know we have overcome."

(www.georgewbush.com)

Education:

"Under the No Child Left Behind Act, every student in this country will be held to high standards, and every school will be held accountable for results. Teachers will get the training they need to help their students achieve. Parents will get the information and choices they need to make sure their children are learning. And together we will bring the promise of a quality education to every child in America."

(www.georgewbush.com)

Environment:

"In this century, the greatest environmental progress will come about not through endless lawsuits or command-and-control regulations, but through technology and innovation."

(www.georgewbush.com)

Energy:

"America must have an energy

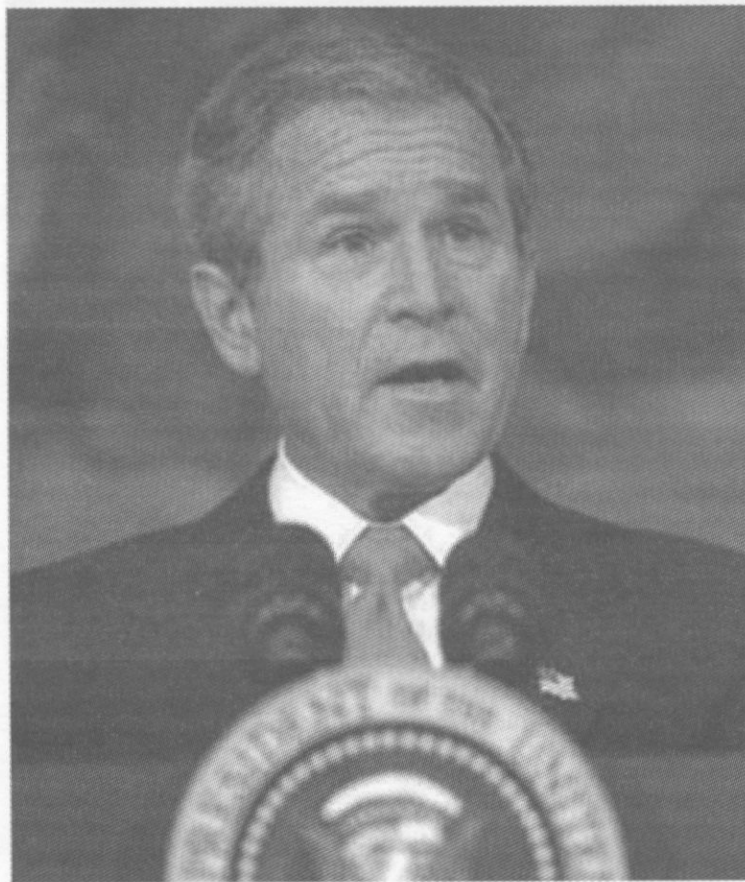


Photo courtesy of www.graphics.jsonline.com

policy that plans for the future, but meets the needs of today. I believe we can develop our natural resources and protect our environment."

(www.georgewbush.com)

Abortion:

"...we're not going to spend federal taxpayers' money on abortion. This is an issue that divides America, but certainly reasonable people can agree on how to reduce abortions in America. I signed the ban on partial-birth abortion. It's a brutal practice. It's one way to help reduce abortions. My opponent voted against the ban. I think there ought to be parental notification laws. He's against them. I signed a bill called the Unborn Victims of Violent Act — in other words, if you're a mom and you're pregnant, you get killed, the murderer gets tried for two cases, not just one. My opponent is against that. These are reasonable ways to help promote a culture of life in America."

(www.vote-smart.org)

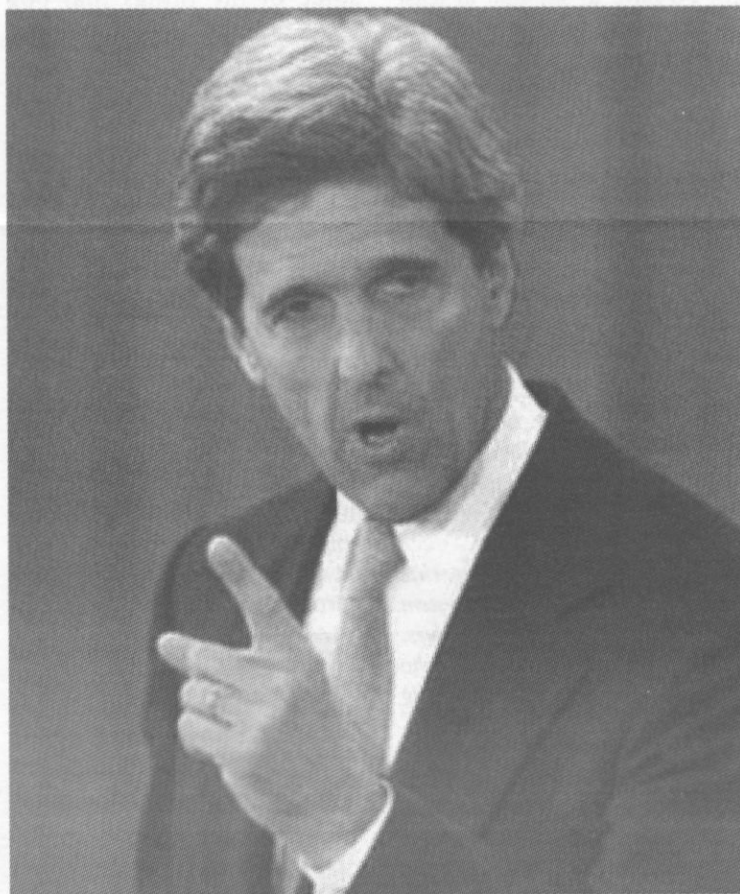


Photo courtesy of www.s-t.com

Kerry said:

U.S.'s long-term involvement in Iraq:

"This Administration has made countless mistakes that have complicated our mission and jeopardized our objective of a stable, free Iraq with a representative government, secure in its borders. We may have differences about how we went into Iraq, but we do not have the choice just to pick up and leave—and leave behind a failed state and a new haven for terrorists." (www.congress.org)

State of the economy:

"John Kerry and John Edwards know that we're stronger when we create good-paying jobs here, not ship them overseas. They want to reward hardworking middle-class families with tax breaks, not larger bills. They want to expand the reach of opportunity, not the size of government. And they want to lead an America where we work together to invest in the jobs of

tomorrow."

(www.johnkerry.com)

Education:

"...Every child should be held to high standards, and every school should have the resources and the responsibility to meet those standards. Every classroom should have a great teacher. Every young person should graduate from high school, and every young person who works hard and wants to go to college should be able to afford it. And all Americans should be able to get the skills they need to succeed throughout their lives."

(www.johnkerry.com)

Environment:

"Kerry has continuously criticized the Bush administration for its abandonment of the Kyoto protocol and encouraged the United States to promote what he views as sound and sustainable environmental policies. The United States must stop being an environmental isolationist and once again work with our global allies...First and foremost, we must lead at home, where American's unrivaled ability to drive economic growth through innovation can protect the environment and create jobs."

(www.publicintegrity.org)

Energy:

"For the sake of our children, for the sake of our security, for the sake of our economy, for the sake of our environment - we must meet that challenge and make America energy independent of Mideast oil."

(www.johnkerry.com)

Abortion:

"Religion has been a huge part of my life. It helped lead me through a war, leads me today. But I can't take what is an article of faith for me and legislate it for someone who doesn't share that article of faith, whether they be agnostic, atheist, Jew, protestant, whatever. I can't do that."

(www.vote-smart.org)

Bush's resilience makes him the better candidate

by Mike Chin

Sports Editor

In hard times, Bush has shown he's a capable of leading the nation

With less than two weeks to go, presidential candidates George W. Bush and John Kerry are clamoring for last minute votes and to give you reasons as to why they will be the best person for the presidency. A graduate of Yale, Mr. Bush's political background really begins as governor of Texas. Prior to this he served as general manager to the Texas Rangers baseball organization and was a businessman in the oil industry.

Although elected in 2000, in 2001 he was officially instated as our 43rd President. It is here where I think we really need to focus on what he has done in the past four years.

When I think of Bush's tenure

in office one word comes to mind: RESILIENCE. From the ashes of the World Trade Center and Pentagon bombings came a man willing to do whatever is necessary to keep this country safe. Like Franklin Roosevelt's response to Pearl Harbor, Bush initiated a program to keep our nation safe. This called for swift action against terrorists or those with weapons of mass destruction. During his address to the union he mentioned an "axis of evil": North Korea, Iran, Iraq. This axis, like that of Germany, Japan, and Italy in World War II, is dangerous. Like the axis of old, these nations pose a threat to peace. Some may draw on the fact that thus far there is no evi-

dence to link Saddam Hussein to 9-11 or that he had weapons of mass destruction. Still, it remains that he was a threat to us, that he was a dictator similar to Mussolini and, dare I say it, Hitler. Maybe we went to Iraq for the wrong reasons, maybe we could have gone in with the support of the Germans and French, but the fact still remains: President Bush did the right thing. We gave freedom to those who were oppressed.

Domestically, Bush's background also shows the resilience he has displayed in foreign policy. When he took over in 2001 our economy was on the down swing. Unlike past presidents such as Herbert Hoover during the depression or Andrew

Johnson following the Civil War, who stuck their heads into the dirt, he did not cower, he did not falter. Instead he began plans for recovery, giving tax breaks to all people in order to infuse money into our economy. Over the last year he has recovered some 1.5 million jobs and counting. Unemployment is down to 5.6 percent. Our economy has grown 4.8 percent. He has passed health care and education acts to better these two areas of our lives.

As we enter into the middle of this decade it is critical that our leader be strong and resolute, decisive and able. Moreover, a president who can stand up for what is right and decent, not what is popular. Hard decisions must

be made by the president, and though they may not be popular, they are right. While sometimes unpopular, Bush has made the right choices. As proven by his background George W. Bush is the right man for the job.

Note: all statistics are from www.georgewbush.com.

26% of students think Bush SHOULD win
48% of students think Bush WILL win
2% think a third party candidate will win
9% don't know who will win
1 survey was omitted

A minimally objective look at the debates

by Jaime Zepeda

Round Table Discussion: "Election 2004"



Liz Hearst/COLLEGIAN

The panelists: Jaime Zepeda '07; Blair Howard, Graduate Intern at the Women's Resource Center; Pablo Armas, '06; Bettina Adranga, '06, Brandon Birr, '07

First Presidential Debate

As soon as John Kerry and George W. Bush answered their first question, the tone for the debate was set. Sen. Kerry spoke eloquently and clearly about his stance on many foreign policy issues, such as Homeland Security, Iraq, and Afghanistan. President Bush on the other hand, answered the moderator's questions with eagerness and forcefulness. Reacting with annoyance and smirks, President Bush gave the American people an immature image.

One key moment of the debate came when Sen. Kerry asked the American people, "when I talked about the \$87 billion, I made a mistake in how I talk about the war. But the president made a mistake of invading Iraq. Which is worse?" President Bush continued to argue that Kerry was too soft on terrorism, and that Sen. Kerry did not know how much "hard work" comes with presidential decisions.

Vice Presidential Debate

In the only Vice Presidential Debate this election will have, Mr. Cheney became the incumbent attack dog, while Sen. Edwards stayed true to his career in law. The VP debate became, so far, the most personal and at times ruthless exchange of attacks between the two parties in this debate process.

Sen. Edwards maintained his sunny grin through most of the debate, while slashing at the current administration's record with calm and ease. Mr. Cheney's attacks were also subdued, which focused on the Senatorial record of both contenders. Re-enforcing his campaign's accusations of inconsistency within the challengers, the incumbent focused on being insistently aggressive over touting his boss' record.

While Edwards did not show the "golden tongue" communication skills he is famous for, he managed to hold his ground. Most surprising was Mr. Cheney's ability to let remarks slide, maintaining his tranquil tone.



Liz Hearst/COLLEGIAN

What issue do you think is most important in this election and why?

B.B.: I'd have to say that at least for me, the economy is what's on my mind in terms of taxes and payment. I think that when you read the newspapers everyday though, the war in Iraq kind of overshadows everything that's happened and you always kind of read the headlines about how Kerry or Bush are going back and forth about who is going to make America safer and when someone thinks of who's going to make America safer they think of terrorism or they think of Iraq. So the war in Iraq tends to overshadow things like the economy, [and other] domestic issues.

What do you think about this country's two party political system where there are two main candidates, but there are other candidates who you would feel better about voting for?

B.H.: What really makes me mad about the last election is that something like only 50 or 60 million people voted for George Bush. That means there were 150 million people in this country who did not vote for George

Bush. And that's not a democracy to me- that's a failing system that says that few people can rule over the majority just because of how the system is set up. If people had other options that they actually really believed in... they would feel better about voting. Maybe more people would vote [and] we'd have a more interesting and different and varied dialogue in American politics and I think some of the things that bog down democracy wouldn't exist.

J.Z.: There's really no third party- there's republicans, democrats, and the rest. And that's just sad because if you had a lot of other parties it would be extremely beneficial for democracy because then the whole mentality of 'I won't vote for green because my vote doesn't count' or 'I won't vote libertarian because my vote won't count' will be totally obsolete because nobody will think that way. But right now the mentality is if you do that you're just throwing your vote away. The system we have obviously does not promote third parties or small parties. You ei-

ther vote for Bush or against Bush, and obviously you could vote third party, but I mean, if you're in Florida and you want to vote green you might think, 'whoa I'm gonna mess something up.'

What would Kerry have to do to get you to vote for him, or what would Bush have to do to get you to vote for him?

P.A.: If either one would just say, 'we're sorry [about Iraq]' or 'we made a mistake' he would have my vote... Just get them out.

Are you registered to vote, and if you are, what made you register yourself to vote? If not, why aren't you registered to vote?

B.A.: I want to have a say in my country. We rule, there's not a king. Might as well take advantage of that.



Liz Hearst/COLLEGIAN



Liz Hearst/COLLEGIAN

Second Presidential Debate

As soon as the gates opened, President Bush was aggressive and Sen. Kerry was unrelenting. Looking much more comfortable, President Bush walked around the town hall-style debate floor, and made his points forcefully. Sen. Kerry, on the other hand, was constantly reminding the undecided voters in the town hall what Bush has done wrong: "choosing a tax cut over homeland security" and "going at it alone" in Iraq.

Focusing on Sen. Kerry's record, Mr. Bush painted the Senator as a "wishy-washy" free-spending liberal. At these instances Sen. Kerry did not relent, and pointed out the various failed Bush policies: education, foreign policy, economy. Mr. Bush rebutted by calling Sen. Kerry's statements misinterpretations, and, at instances, looked befuddled.

Third Presidential Debate

The last chance for President Bush and Sen. Kerry to sway the undecided came; and both candidates made their focus group clear. President Bush wanted to remind his Evangelical base that he has not forgotten about them by reinforcing his positions on abortion, and the role faith takes into his daily presidential life. Sen. Kerry focused on women and moderate believers: he told women how much he supports their right to choose, while reminding the public that through his presidency, his faith will not be imposed on them.

"Misinterpretations," President Bush rebuffed the accusations made by the Senator, but he was never able to respond with a substantiated argument. Once again, President Bush kept it simple.

Sen. Kerry added to his aura of strength and wise guidance with his proposals and delivery. However, President Bush manufactured a false sense of steady leadership by continuing to deny he has made any mistakes. The American people, however, may think differently.

80% of Saint Mary's Students watched at least one of the debates.

An In-Depth Survey of 110 student found that 85% are registered to vote, while 15% are not registered to vote.

Which percent do you belong to? Exercise your rights and vote on November 2nd.

FRIGHT NIGHT DANCE

October 29, 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.
Madigan Gym
\$100 prize for Best Costume

Use one or all of these words to spark your ideas:

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Design the cover for the Gael 2005 yearbook!

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Questions call x4673

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Imagining a world of peace

“You may say I’m a dreamer but I’m not the only one”

-John Lennon

by Caitlin Hungate

Opinion Editor

Peace. The word simply has a Utopian-like ring to it, right? Peace, something that we all aspire to but we, as humans, simply cannot ever reach. After a most recent trip to Memphis for the First Annual Gandhian Nonviolence Conference, I realized how dangerous this aforementioned thought could be. Examples of Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and countless others give hope that not only is peace an option but *the* option.

In a time where violence is everywhere, it is hard to figure out where to start in this new path towards non-violence. This is not a passive movement like critics might suggest, nonviolence is an active, engaged life dedicated to peace and the betterment of society.

Violence pervades our everyday dialogue and sense of self—just start by really listening to the lyrics of the songs you listen to, looking at the music videos playing on MTV, the movies we watch, the clothes we wear (or don’t wear), what we put in our bodies (or don’t put in), and how we talk to each other. This is just a start in our local sense of being. Why do we harm our very being

by doing these things or not doing these things?

Evaluating our inner selves is a difficult task, because that involves admitting imperfections, however it is a necessary step to

Too many people have died or been killed (mostly innocent civilians) in this century for “freedom.” War can never, and will never, bring peace. The only way

that commit horrible atrocities. No matter the difficulty, separate the person from the act. What has caused this human being to act in such a manner? How have my actions affected this person? It is necessary to take responsibility for the deeds that we have done and the effects they have on others.

Thomas Merton said it perfectly, “So instead of loving what you think is peace, love other men and love God above all. And instead of hating the people you think are warmongers, hate the appetites and the disorder in your own soul, which are the causes of war. If you love peace, then hate injustice, hate tyranny, hate greed—but hate these things in yourself, not in another.”

We must first look within ourselves to examine where the fear we have of others stems from. Then we can disarm this fear of others, because no matter our sex, race, religion, etc. We are all human. Despite what the media and our government might project on us, we can ignore these messages of fear and hate and turn to love and genuine compassion of others. Given that we are all humans, we all want love and happiness. Active nonviolence is a struggle, but is a task that calls upon us.



Illustration by Melanie Linney

lead a more peaceful life. First see the violence within and change that and then work towards peace in local communities and beyond.

As much as we might try to ignore the reality, we cannot forget violence breeds violence. World War I was called, “the war to end all wars,” and yet 14 years later, we were faced with another war.

to achieve peace is through peaceful means, not violent ones. This road of nonviolence is by no means short and easy, but it is the only way to a truly peaceful society.

Gandhi said, “An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind.” What is the point of violent acts? Yes, there are people

Buying into the ladder theory

by Ryan Wilkins

Staff Writer

Don’t ask me why, but I’ve been acting as a pseudo-relationship counselor to a number of people lately, and it’s beginning to wear on me. That is, after a week-and-a-half of thoughtful listening and unconditional positive regard, I’m beginning to re-think some of my old views on how men and women see the world. Specifically, I’m starting to buy into the Ladder Theory of Relationships – a cynical, simplistic take on how men and women go about their business, but one that makes far too much sense to be ignored.

For those unacquainted with Ladder Theory, the philosophy goes a little something like this. Men and women are different in many ways. One of these differences comes in the form of picking a potential mate. Men, as I’m sure we’ve all discerned from episodes of “The King of Queens,” are relatively simplistic animals when it comes to evaluating women they’d like to, uh, *mate with*. We basically care about three things, none of which should be terribly controversial: physical attractiveness (self-explanatory), personality (encompassing intelligence, sense-of-humor, etc.), and parents’ wealth (welcome to reality). We weigh these categories, rate the girl, and move on. Some might not score as well as others, but the point is that men use the same scale (or “ladder”) for all potential mates.

Women, on the other hand, use more than one “ladder” when it comes to evaluating men – a fact that’s responsible for more problems and conflicts in this society than religion. Unlike men, who use the same ladder to rank all women, women employ the use of a “friends” ladder in addition to the “real” ladder. Now, this might not seem like a very big deal on its face, but when you begin to dig, you realize how problematic this is, especially when you consider that 1) most men just assume that women are using only one ladder, and 2) most men have no idea what ladder they’ve secretly been put on. Also frustrating is the fact that the female rating scale is more cracked out than Robert Downey Jr. (“How tall is he?” “Does he own a Harley?” “Is he everything that the one guy, who I consider a friend, that totally likes me is not, including intelligent, funny, and successful?”).

None of this is particularly groundbreaking. Everyone knows that men and women communicate differently. But I do think it’s meaningful in that very few people discuss this *fundamental* difference between the sexes. After all, every girl I’ve discussed Ladder Theory with agrees that this is the way the world works. But at same time, nearly every guy I’ve spoken to about this is just blown away at the implications. How are we not taught this stuff in middle school? So the next time you’re chasing a girl, fellas, be sure to consider the possibility that you might already be on the “friend” ladder. It makes no sense whatsoever, but it’s apparently the way the world works. Who would have thought?

Already thinking of the turkey

You can never go home again

by Josh Krehbiel

Chief Copy Editor

The freshmen are already talking about it. I know that it’s been a while, but I can’t believe how quickly it entered their thoughts and took precedence of everything. Thanksgiving.

Now, I’m a fan of the concept, if not the execution. I believe that families should get together every once in a while and say to each other, “You’re pretty cool.” I also believe that it should happen more than once a year, but hey. Honestly, all the chasing around and absurd travel conditions merely because you’re expected to be at “Gramma’s” this year just makes a mockery of our secular holiday.

But when the frosh sit around a month ahead of time saying how they “just can’t wait to get back,” when they can hang out with their friends again and pretend it’s old times, it’s kinda disturbing. I’m aware that it can be harrowing to move away from home and

change your life completely, I’ve been through it too. Sitting in anticipation, waiting to fly back and see the boys again. But, realize this now, in under a year, you’re going to be agonizing over every moment you’re sitting at home again, your friends gone, your family pissing you off, and you’ll wish that you were back here again, hanging with your new friends, your college friends.

I’m not going back home this year. It wouldn’t be worth the airplane ticket. This year I’m spending Thanksgiving on campus, having dinner with my friends, who don’t feel like going back either. It’ll be fun.

So please, don’t obsess about going home. It’ll be fun for the first day or two, but come the weekend you’ll be bored again, and want to come back. Don’t alienate your friends here, anticipating that everything’s the same back home, because two or three years from now, they will be the people you’ll be having Thanksgiving dinner with.

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“I don’t wear mine anymore because everyone wears them.”



Daniella Mafitano, '08

“If he wasn’t famous, I don’t think it would have been that popular, but it’s a good thing he is using his fame that way.”

Natalie Miske, '06



“It was a pretty brilliant idea, but now that it’s become a phenomena, that’s the reason I don’t buy it.”



Peter Mathieu, '08

Reviews...
of the 21st Century
(literally)



I Heart
Huckabees

Original and quirky, *I Heart Huckabees* is an "existential comedy" (as it is promoting itself) that spends time on the metaphysical, the philosophical, and the just plain loopy. At times it can be infuriating in its ever-increasing theory-of-existence stockpile—which can take multiple viewings to understand it completely. However, it never disappoints in its fearlessness. It also never makes the audience over-think, but opts instead to challenge it to go for the ride. Supported by very credible performances by a bevy of renowned actors, this movie and its plot aims at one thing: leaving you happily puzzled. It succeeds.

- Jaime Zepeda



Hanson

I bet you didn't know that Hanson performed on the 9th at the Warfield. Let me just say that you missed out. You're probably laughing, asking yourself, 'what exactly did I miss out on again?'

You missed out on a show that you probably would have enjoyed. You most likely wouldn't even recognize their sound today if it was on the radio right now. Their 'bubblegum pop' days are long gone, but they can still get your foot tapping and humming along when you think no one is looking.

Hanson knows how to entertain. Taylor's soulful infused melodies, Isaac's guitar funk, and Zac's rhythm kept the audience moving the whole time they performed. These guys know where they've come from, and where they want to take their music.

And in case you were wondering, yes, they did play *MMMBop*. I hope it's stuck in your head all day.

- Liz Garcia

DETOUR

21 Questions with....

Angel Vasquez
Detour Editor

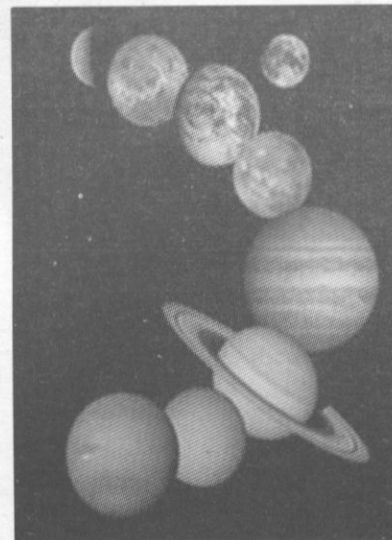
So I've decided to do a new segment where I go around and ask people 21 questions. In this first installment, I was lucky enough to interview one of my favorite professors from the English Department. He seemed a bit hesitant at first, but loosened up as the interview progressed. A couple questions were omitted, but the rest is solid gold. So here you go, a nice serving of 19 questions with Prof. Robert Gorsch.

1. What did you want to be when you grew up?
An astronomer.



(www.sc.edu)

2. What's your favorite band or musician?
Count Basie. Do you know who that is? You should find out.



(www.wikimedia.com)

3. What's your favorite science fiction book?
The Moon Is A Harsh Mistress. That's by Heinlein.

4. What do you have your PhD in?
English Lit.

5. Did you ever care if Jimmy cracked corn?
Did I ever care? No.

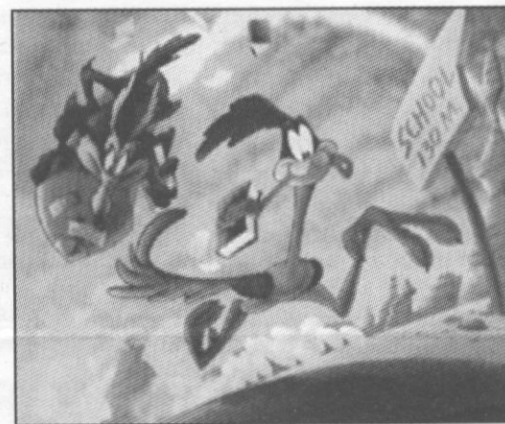
6. If you could have a super human power, what would it be?
Mind reading.

7. If they made a movie about you, who would play you?
No idea.

8. If you could have your own cereal named after you, what would it be?
I don't know.

9. Have you ever thought about a world without hypothetical questions?
(Laughs) No.

10. Did you ever have a favorite Saturday morning cartoon growing up...or now?
I don't remember. It's been a while...Roadrunner.



(www.focusmag.com)

11. Who would win in a fight: Odysseus or Beowulf?
Beowulf.



(www.gpsaremembers.beep.net)

12. If you could stay one age for the rest of your life, what would it be?
Oh boy. 35. That was a good age. 35.

13. Have you ever called a psychic hotline?
No.

14. Can you dance?
No.

15. Do you know the words to "Take Me Out to the Ball Game"?
Only...the title.

16. Which character on Gilligan's Island would you want to be?
The Captain.



(www.buzzstuff.net)

17. What vegetable do you think will most likely evolve into a sentient being and take over the world?
Broccoli. They look like brains.



(www.digilander.liter.io.com)

18. If you could street fight any celebrity, who would it be?
(Thinks) None.

19. What's the weirdest question you've ever been asked in an interview?
If I could street fight any celebrity...(Laughs)

Liz Hearst
Photographer

The Unknown Pumpkin Maze aka The Maize Maze

Unless you drive Hwy 205 to I5 a few times during the fall I doubt you have heard of the pumpkin maze. This is a maze made out of corn stalks, specially planted to create hours of fun wandering through a large maze. I went with a couple of friends; they usually say it is a lot of fun. It sure looked it. We got there one rainy evening and

were warned about the mud. They said it was extremely slick, but we decided to try and trudge on. I, in my normal birks, thought it can't be that bad. I was wrong. We took about 30 steps into my maze, my shoes got stuck in the mud, and then my feet were caked in mud. We decided it wasn't worth it and would try another time. We

heard from so many people who dealt with the mud and were also covered in it how great the maze was and how much fun it was. Such a shame, we weren't wearing the right shoes. Yes, I would recommend it to anyone and everyone, but I will give two pieces of advice: 1)where shoes that can handle mud, dirt, and walking; 2) try and go after a sunny day.



(www.pumpkinmaze.com)

The maze is open until the 31st and if you have the chance, I recommend going. It is about an hour or so drive away, but of course that all depends on the Bay Area traffic. Check out all the information at www.pumpkinmaze.com.

Beyond fireworks: Explosions in the Sky

Katyana Sacro
Staff Writer

October 22 @Café Du Nord

The truth is, I didn't really want to go to the show. With exhaustion from studying the entire night before, I hopped onto the BART to meet up with some guy I didn't really know, to go see the live performance of a band I didn't really know. With the mark of an X on each hand (we minors are ones to look out for) and a stranger at my arm, I entered Café du Nord with much hesitation. Throughout the night, none of that hesitation faded, until the band began to play.

The artists wore clothes more modest than their ever-praising audience, they walked up onto the tiny stage, latched on to their instruments, and did what it seems they knew to do best: live

up to their band's name. Explosions in the Sky had its crowd early, and wouldn't let us go throughout the entire set.

This seems all too perfect, I know. But you should have seen the expressions these guys had on their faces, as they glided from one song to the next. Their eyes closed nearly the entire time (guitarist Mark Smith, with a look of perfect contentment), it was only so obvious that they were enjoying this time onstage so much more than anyone else there could have. And let me tell you, that has got to be better than bliss. Because I was just standing there, surrounded by too many tall people to really see what was going on, but feeling everything

from their sound alone. The slow building or sudden thrashing into seconds of intensity, the dynamics that laid out a clear precept so that even whispering at any moment was sacrilege. People stopped trying to clap between songs, because the musicians had them blend from one to the other so well that nobody could really tell where one ended or began, and because applause only got in the way of the incredible melody.

It was their last song that really did it for me. The bloke I was with disturbed my peace by nudging me and telling me the title of that final song. "This one's the best, 'The Only Moment We Were Alone.'" Yes, the songs have titles as much as they may not have words—but that was what was so amazing about their songs, especially this one. I didn't need to hear any words

to understand that moment, and it made me and everyone else there struck by a feeling of complete satisfaction, grief, and awe. That moment crept up on us like a forbidden memory from the past, and left us haunted by something unseen but only experienced. We were silent as the musicians set down their instruments and walked off of the stage. Finally there erupted an applause, and it only intensified when guitarist Rayani returned to the stage to say something more. "You guys are great, thanks so much guys, we gave you all that we have," and he walked away from the stage. The crowd did too, in silence, content in knowing and understanding that his last statement was true: this band did give us all that it had. And that, past any hesitations that may have come before knowing that performance, was more than enough.

Ghost Stories III

The Final Chapter

Naveen Prasad
Ghost Tracker N



(www.letterstosanta.com)

anchors away!

Story: Saint Mary's was a pre-flight school for the US Navy during WWII. The life of a cadet is stressful, and not everybody can handle it. One cadet in particular had problems. So, he took one of the many guns lying around, took a hike up to the cross, and then took his own life.

Conclusion: Supposedly, you don't see this ghost, you feel it. Around the bend where the trail starts getting dark, that's where the ghost is. As one walks up the path, they feel the temperature drop sharply. I felt this. Then I put on the sweatshirt I had taken off earlier. I felt fine. But as I walked up the path, it got darker and darker. There was rustling in the bushes. "It's a raccoon or something," I told myself. And then, as the trail got darkest, an ear-splitting, blood-curdling scream filled my ears! I swung around, swinging my flashlight, and managed to get a direct hit across the face of my friend, who thought it would be funny to scare the...to scare me, and had hidden in the bushes awaiting my arrival. No longer will I tell anyone of my ghost tracking excursions. As for the ghost, yes, it got cooler, but that is to be expected when one walks around and over fresh mud. As for my friend, he'll be scaring a lot more people with that big old bruise now. Ha! I win.

Curtain Call

Story: During the children's play, a little girl went missing. Nobody really knows how or where she went to. She just sort of disappeared. They searched for her, but to this day, she remains lost. *Conclusion:* I sat in the theatre for a while, then heard one of the tell-tale signs of the ghost. Footsteps across the stage. I looked up, looking for some sort of shadowy outline. Instead I saw a very definite outline. It was a techie, working on the upcoming play "Firebugs". She chased me out. Rehearsal was about to start.

Well, my happy and hopefully scared campers, hope you enjoyed the stories, and keep searching for more ghosts. Remember, just because I didn't find them, doesn't mean they won't find you!

This week's Detour is dedicated to the memory of Link, the best fish anyone could ever ask for. He was a soldier, the lord of his own castle, the biggest AFI fan, but most importantly he was my friend. Swim in peace, Link.

-AV

The 'real' ghost of SMC, in his own words

Andy Pliska

Contributor

My name is Andy Pliska and I am a homeless man. I have nearly all of my possessions in my car. On a number of occasions I wake up in the middle of the night with no idea where I am, and as I write this, I have no idea where I will sleep tonight. I started out this homeless adventure about two months ago. I had just been released from the hospital, where I had received four staples in my head. I had fallen into a ditch in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and hit my head and spine on a rock. I had to drive myself to the hospital at 12:30 a.m. with a head wound, covered in blood, in a city that I had no familiarity with. The resulting medical bills left my bank account too low for first and last month's rent. I decided to sleep in my car. I had no mattress and no heater, just a sleeping bag, some blankets, and a

pillow. I am too tall to sleep on any of the seats in my car, so I have to put the back seat down, sleep in the back and bend my legs in order to fit. Lying next to me was a bag of all of my clothes, and my toothbrush. I told everyone I was homeless, that I was living in my car, and instantly I had about 15 offers of good places to stay, both on and off campus. After that, I stopped staying in my car. I am living every kids dream; every night is a sleepover. I hang out until I pass out. I have stayed in so many different dorms. I have taken showers in the freshman halls. I give myself haircuts in public restrooms. I have even crashed in a lounge on the couch, hoping no one would come in while I slept.

One day I was staying with a friend out in Lafayette, and I got a call on my phone from Bill Foley, the head of Public Safety. Someone called him anonymously and told him I was sleeping in my car

on campus. I laughed to myself, because I hadn't done that in a long time. I was hoping that Public Safety looked for my car the night before only to be disappointed that I wasn't there. But they hadn't, Bill Foley was too cool for that, he just wanted to talk with me. I admit I was a little worried about meeting with Bill Foley, but I decided to be upfront with him and let him know my situation. He then told me that I am not allowed to stay on campus overnight anymore. I left the meeting with a smile on my face feeling like Bill was a mentor or a good friend. Ever since that day, I have stayed off campus at night. That moment I had just lost a large portion of my safety net. But I survived. Now I am trying to make a new one out in the real world. Whoever turned me in, I thank you. I have made some really good friends off campus since I left St. Mary's.

I have decided to be homeless and have adopted a Fight Club mentality. In order to find out who I truly am, I am destroying all the frivolous external things that I use to define myself. I was moving forward in life, I received my bachelors last May, and I was on my way to grad school in Portland... now I am a loser.

Imagine reading about me in a St. Mary's recruitment letter. *Andy Pliska (class of 2004) is a homeless man, with most of his possessions in the back of his 13-year-old Explorer. He works on call swiping cards in the cafeteria, and as a babysitter. Brings a smile?*

If everyone in society took only what they needed no one would be hungry. No one would be homeless. All I need is a 6' by 3' space of floor to sleep on and an Explorer to store my stuff in. If everyone would live as I live, the world would be a much better place. Labeling me an "outcast" is an insult to society.

Gay? Lesbian? Bi? Trans? Questioning?

SEXUALITY

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Interested persons must schedule an initial individual appointment with Molly Zook, Psy.D. Or Tim Lewis, M.A.

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Players of the Week

Derrick Youpel

Despite Friday's defeat to USF, Youpel has been spectacular, leading the Gaels in goals (4) and points (7) this season. His offensive spark has been in the wake of a thus far disappointing conference season. Should the Gaels make a late season run, Youpel will be at the center of it.



Kaui Salzman

In the Gaels demolition of the competition, Salzman has been at the helm of the wrecking crew. The junior leads the team in kills this season with 261 and is tied for the most games played with 74. With the type of season Salzman has had, she should be a prime candidate for WCC player of the year.



-Michael Chin, Sports Editor

SCORE CARD

Gael Zone

Women's Soccer (8-9)
Pepperdine Defeats SMC 1-0

Men's Soccer (2-6-5)
USF Defeats SMC 2-1

Volleyball (17-2)
SMC Defeats USF 3-0
(30-24, 30-24, 30-27)

Men's Basketball
Opening Game Date:
November 11th

SMC Weekly Athletic Schedule

Wednesday
Men's Soccer vs. Cal State Hayward at Garaventa Field, 3pm

Saturday
Women's Crew, Head of American Regatta, All Day

Men's Rugby at Oregon St. all day

Volleyball at Loyola-Marymount, 7pm

Sunday
Men's Soccer at Santa Clara, Buckshaw Stadium, 3pm

Women's Soccer at Gonzaga, 2pm

SPORTS

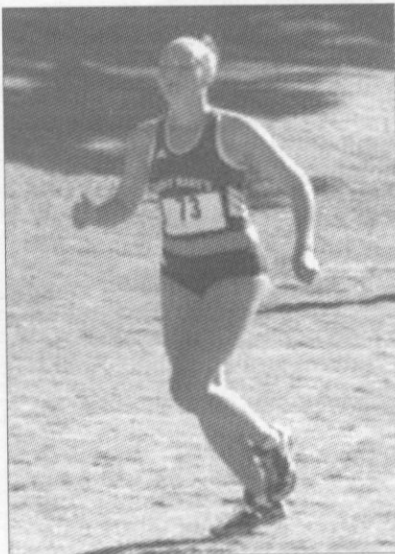
Galloping Gael runs to the finishline

After finishing second at the Mills Invitational runner Thomsom reveals all

Allison Kop

Assistant Sports Editor

Jamee Thomson came all the way from Kula, HI to kick butt as a cross-country runner for the Gaels. The senior, who will be back next year to finish out her eligibility, has been one of the top runners for the Gaels all season. She has become one of the leaders on the team. Last week Thomson galloped to a career best second place finish in the Mills College Invitational. But Jamee does a lot more than just run. Here's everything you want to know about this SMC speedster, presented to you by the Collegian.



smcgaels.com

Best race as a Gael:

At the Mill's College Invitational last weekend when I broke the 21 minute mark for the first time. It was my personal best. I've never run in the 20's before.

Favorite athlete/pro team:

I like the Lakers and the A's. When you're from Hawaii, it is hard because there are no pro teams around.

Favorite sport to play besides yours:

I love volleyball. I played all through high school. I made varsity my freshman year.

Departed Rice Signals the end of an era

by Michael Chin
Sports Editor

Last week the Oakland Raiders traded wide receiver Jerry Rice to the Seattle Seahawks for a 7th round draft pick. Newsflash: the Golden Age of pro football is over in the bay area.

With the 49ers a dismal 1-5 and the Raiders 2-4 the question is not who will make the playoffs but which team will get the better draft pick in June. I then ask myself, "how did this happen?" Just two years ago the Raiders were in the Superbowl and the Niners won the NFC West Conference.

I soon find the answer when I enter into Monster Park, the oldest and most dilapidated venue in the NFL. The only one worse is Oakland Coliseum. Nowadays players demand the best; million dollar contracts, cars, luxurious facilities, and in even some cases a jet. Neither team in the bay area can give them the amenities they seek. Moreover, ownership is unwilling to foot the bill to win. Look at former receiver Terrell Owens. The marquee player of the Niners organization and all we got for him was a no-name defensive end. There is only one way to describe these two teams: rebuilding.

Here's a thought, instead of watching the 49ers or Raiders watch some college football, because most of those guys will be playing the bay area next year anyways. Until then, say goodbye to bay area pro football or just pray for miracle, that is more likely than a 49er or Raider win.

What do you want to be when you grow up:

I want to work for a pro team and do their marketing or be a sports agent. I'm going to get an internship with the Raiders after the season is over to try it out.

If you could box anyone, famous or not:

Oooh, that girl from Real World San Diego, I think her name is Cameron. Her voice and the stuff she does is just so annoying.

Coollest present you've ever gotten:

My black Honda Civic that I got for graduation. We had it shipped over for college.

Most famous person you've met:

I saw Tom Green in Santa Monica on Sunset Boulevard. He was getting in his car and there was a big crowd around, so my friends and I ran over and took pictures.

If you were running for president who would be your running mate:

My roommate Maka, cause she's a great girl and we'd be a good team.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years:

Somewhere around here, finishing up grad school and getting my career started. I might go to law school, but I'm not sure yet.

Guilty pleasure/ Bad Habit:

Eating chocolate. I really like peanut butter ice cream.

Nicknames:

Jaime (the Spanish way) or Jamee Foshamee.

If you could be any superhero:

"SheRa" because she has cool super powers and I used to watch her all the time when I was a kid. Or Kim Possible, I like her too.

Worst trend you ever joined:

When I was younger I had bangs. I tried to have the long ones that you brush to the side, but mine were curly so it definitely didn't work for me.

Gaels cruises over USF

Volleyball 1st in West Coast Conference

by Sam Adams

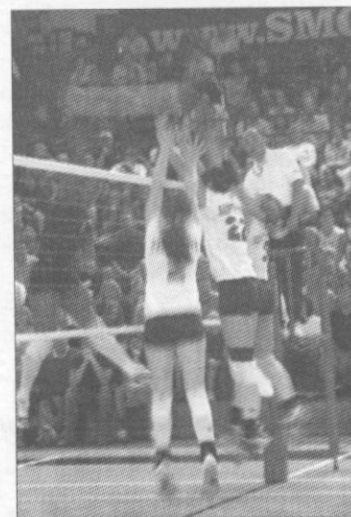
Co-Sports Editor

Coming off a win over the 15th ranked Santa Clara Broncos, the Gaels continued their winning ways Saturday against San Francisco, sweeping their WCC counterpart in just an hour and a half. The Gaels won by scores of 30-24, 30-24, and 30-27 to improve their stellar overall record of 17-2, and 6-1 West Conference conference play.

It wasn't an easy victory for the Gaels, falling behind in game one before rallying for the win. They breezed through the second game, but had to rally again from a third game deficit before sweeping the Dons. San Francisco fell to 9-14, 2-5 in conference play.

The Gaels were led by junior outside hitter Kaui Salzman, who slammed 18 kills to go with her 11 digs, netting her a .318 hitting percentage. The Gaels' Lindsey Bogason added 13 kills, (with a .440 hitting percentage), Cassandra Kolkka added a double-double of her own with 11 kills and 11 digs and Mariko Coverdale had 10 kills. The offense was really set up by sophomore setter Mandy Bible, leading the offense with an impres-

sive 37 assists to go with her eight digs and two aces. Saint Mary's finished with 60 kills and 47 digs, while the Dons recorded just 45 kills, but beat Saint Mary's with 55 digs. The Gaels had lost their previous two matches to San



M. Marquez-H. Soto/Collegian

Francisco, both last season, including their final match at McKeon Pavilion last year. The tide had surely changed from a year ago.

The Saint Mary's volleyball team returns to action on Friday, October 29th when they travel south to take on Pepperdine. The team will then face off against Loyola on Saturday, October 30th. The Gaels return home Friday, November 5th to take on Portland at McKeon Pavilion.

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

Saint Marys Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team was away at Pepperdine this past Friday. Despite another outstanding performance from freshman goal-keeper Andrea Lee, who recorded a game-high five saves, the Gaels could not manage a win, dropping to 0-4-0 in West Coast Conference play. SMC did not manage much offense in the contest, putting together only four shots to the Waves' 11, and only one on goal. The game's lone goal came in the sixty-fifth minute when Diana Sanguinetti curled a free kick around the defense into the far side of the net. The women have no more home games this season.

Noah Friedman-Biglin,
Copy Editor

Saint Marys Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team continued to struggle in conference play this past Friday, falling to the University of San Francisco 2-1. The Dons opened the scoring in the 26th minute with Kevin Long expertly placing a perfect header into the back of the net off of Jordan Keyes' throw in. SMC pulled the score even mid-way through the second half on midfielder Derek Youpel's goal. Youpel increased his season total to four, the most on the team. Unfortunately, the Gaels couldn't keep Aaron Chandler from scoring only six minutes later, putting USF in the lead for good.

Noah Friedman-Biglin,
Copy Editor

Saint Marys Men's Tennis

Men's Tennis got underway for the second time this season as the Gaels faced regional opponents Cal, Stanford, and Santa Clara in the ITA Regional tournament held in Berkeley this weekend. SMC had a good showing from the sophomores Adam Favre and Martin Marechal as well Turien Tizot. All made it past the first round action. The toughest match came in the round of 64 as Marechal lost a tough three setter to Sacramento State's Jonaid Hussain (4-6, 6-4, 6-1). The Gaels will be in action all week at the Regional which will end the fall season for them. They resume official play in the spring.

Michael Chin, Sports Editor

Saint Marys Women's Tennis

For the second time this fall, the SMC women's tennis team was in action, competing in the Regional ITA Tournament at Stanford. SMC fared well as sophomore Aude Lambert and the doubles team of Kristy Kummer and Megan Schulman advanced to the quarterfinals before falling to Cal Poly and Pacific respectively. In singles, Lambert easily beat Pacific's Christie Feyen. In the second match Lambert slugged away at #14 ranked player in the country Samantha Waller, taking a set off her but eventually losing the match (6-4, 4-6, 7-5).

Michael Chin, Sport Editor