

Safe Ride, Spring plans on Senate agenda at General Assembly

Haskins addresses students on campus issues

by Chris Mateo
Editor-in-Chief

On Sunday, February 13, the Associated Students Senate met for the first general assembly of the semester to discuss matters such as the discontinuation of the Safe Ride program.

The docket included the appointment of sophomore class Senator Cait Norgard, a presentation of Safe Ride by Vice President for Finance Jennifer Merlo who called the program "fiscally out of control", and a few general fund requests by three clubs.

After opening business President of the Associated Students Jeff Haskins presented his State of the Student Body Address. "It's what we do and how we act now that will have an effect on us and a lasting effect on those who come behind us," said Haskins. He continued on about the collaboration between student leaders and the active role that these leaders have taken in ensuring future leadership for their clubs and the campus in general. Haskins also commented on the energy of the active students and cheered the appointment of Brother Ron Gallagher.

see ASSEMBLY, p2

'Vaginas' strike SMC again



Paola Castellanos '05 recites her monologue

Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN

Third annual student production raises money for Berkeley women's shelter

by Jesse Radin
Staff Writer

Last Friday Saint Mary's students and the Women's Resource Center presented the third annual production of Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues* in LeFevre Theatre.

The production was performed as part of "V-Day," a global move-

ment to stop violence against women that designates February 14 as V-Day. Ensler has made *The Vagina Monologues* available to colleges all around the world with the understanding that they will donate all of the proceeds to a women's shelter.

"It's done to stop violence against women. All the proceeds are donated to women's shelters," said Natalie Miske.

This year, Saint Mary's donated its ticket sales to The Bridge House in Berkeley, a shelter for women. Tickets were \$5 for students and \$8 for the general public.

"Last year [we raised] \$2,000," said Sexual Assault Awareness Coordinator Sharon Sobotta. The year before, they raised \$1,400 dollars. They hoped to have raised \$3,000 this year.

Fliers explain that *The Vagina Monologues* is for a mature audience but according to Sobotta, "nobody in the audience has ever been offended," by the show's content.

The play was created from over 200 interviews Ensler conducted with women around the world. She weaved all the stories she collected into what became *The Vagina Monologues*.

The monologues reflect the women's views about their identity, sexuality, empowerment, and of course, their concern about violence against women.

While the play mainly attracts actresses and a female audience, some men also have helped out with *The Vagina Monologues*. Two such men are Kim Dao and Blair Howard.

"There's guys that support it but it's the Vagina Monologues so only women play roles," said Dao. "I basically wanted to lend my hand for the event because I really believe in it. It's a great representation of women and the complex people that they are. It's not for everybody, but it's a shame because the idea is so simple. The idea of the Vagina Monologues is to empower women."

Safe Ride contract not renewed for 2005

Rising costs one of several reasons exec team discontinues program

by Leslie Ajari
Staff Writer

The ASSMC exec team has made the decision that Saint Mary's will not be renewing their contract with Yellow Cab Company, which provides the student body with the service Safe Ride.

Safe ride is a service provided for students that feel who they are not in a safe situation and need a ride back to campus. It was being used on a trial basis this year to see if there was a venue for students needing rides back to campus who are not able to drive due to intoxication or some other reason. The contract ends on the March 9, and it was announced at Sunday's ASSMC General Assembly that the contract will not be renewed in the near future.

There are a few main reasons for not continuing safe ride. Since the program began, the school has kept track of when students are

using safe ride. There were many occasions that safe ride was being used in the early afternoon to get to and from residential areas. Of all rides since last April, only 13% were to or from bars, while 53% were for "general" use, including Safeway, Blockbuster, and McDonalds, according to a presentation by ASSMC VP for Finance Jennifer Merlo '05 at the Senate meeting. Trips to BART accounted for 34% of rides.

"Basically what we're seeing here is people need general transportation," said Merlo at the meeting.

However, the program leaders thought that there would be more traffic to and from the bars and on weekend nights to and from parties. This was one of the main reasons that the program will not be continued.

Another reason for the discontinuation of safe ride is that there is no educational component to safe ride. It does not educate stu-

dents on the dangers of drunk driving but rather is just a free ride for students when they are intoxicated. It places less importance on the responsibility of having a designated driver.

After the organizers compiled data from the time that safe ride has been in service, they found that the amount of students to the cost of safe ride just wasn't cost effective.

From April to December 2004, the cost of Safe Ride ballooned to over \$5,000. The bill for January 2005 is expected to add an additional \$1,000.

The data in their findings also told them that there were few students using safe ride, but they were using it multiple times. Since ev-

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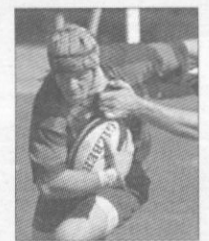
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Crime Beat

- | | |
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 Incident: Noise complaint
 Synopsis: Noise violation in Mitty/Justin quad, referred to Student Conduct.</p> <p>2/6 3:45 a.m.
 Incident: Noise violation/room occupancy violation
 Synopsis: Coed visitors after 2 a.m. in Augustine Hall, referred to Student Conduct.</p> <p>2/6 4:16 p.m.
 Incident: Tampering with a motor vehicle
 Synopsis: Petty theft of a car parts in More parking lot; referred to Student Conduct.</p> <p>2/6 8:41 p.m.
 Incident: Vandalism
 Synopsis: Damage to and removal of smoke detector in Aquinas Hall; referred to Student Conduct and Athletics department.</p> <p>2/6 9:46 p.m.
 Incident: Smell of marijuana</p> | <p>Synopsis: Possession of marijuana in Ageno A; referred to Student Conduct.</p> <p>2/7 12:45 p.m.
 Incident: Theft from vehicle
 Synopsis: Stereo and CD player stolen from vehicle in North Claeys/Becket parking lot, referred to Student Conduct.</p> <p>2/7 4:30 p.m.
 Incident: Petty theft
 Synopsis: Missing wallet-found with cash missing from the Saint Mary's bookstore.</p> <p>2/10 4:55 p.m.
 Incident: Activated burglar alarm
 Synopsis: False alarm in the Rheem center warehouse.</p> <p>2/10 5:12 p.m.
 Incident: Suspicious circumstances
 Synopsis: Unlocked office door in Sichel Hall.</p> |
|---|---|

Speech and Debate team competing hard, winning awards

by Jonathan Morales
News Editor

The Saint Mary's College Macken Speech and Debate Team has been busy competing the last couple of weeks, performing well at a tournament at DVC on January 28-30.

Six students attended the tournament, and four broke into finals. Saint Mary's placed fourth in the University category, one point behind UC Davis and ahead of both Stanford and Santa Clara.

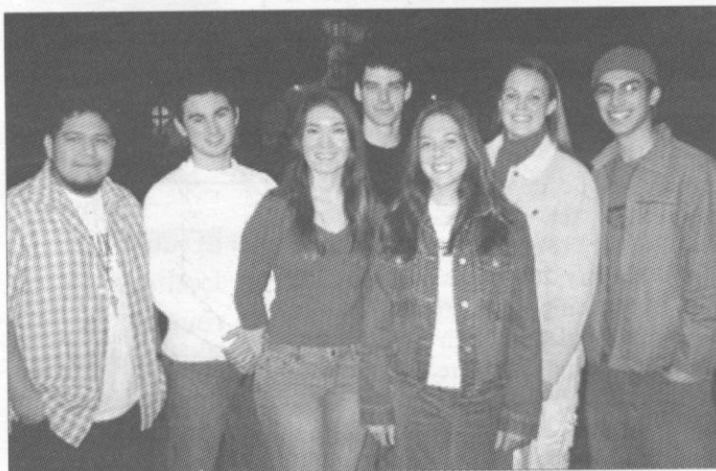
Brice Rey-Herme and Craig Pasillas placed first in Duo In-

terpretation, and Aideen Rahimi and Brandie Coin placed second.

Pasillas placed first in prose interpretation and second in dramatic interpretation. He also set a school record by individually earning 25 points for the team.

At the regional tournament this past weekend, Pasillas and Rey-Herme placed second in Duo-Interpretation.

Pasillas places second in open-level dramatic interpretation, and Rey-Herme placed second out of fifty students in novice-level interpretation.



The 2004-2005 Speech and Debate Team

Photo courtesy of Mary Barnes

Brother Ron begins presidency

by Jonathan Morales
News Editor



Jonathan Morales/COLLEGIAN

It has been a little over a month since Brother Ron Gallagher took over for Brother Craig Franz as Saint Mary's College president, and he has spent that time familiarizing himself with all aspects of the college and identifying the immediate problems Saint Mary's faces.

"One of the things I've noticed is that we've had a drop-off in the number of alumni and friends who felt connected to the institution, so one of my goals is to find a way to reconnect them with the core values of the institution," Gallagher said. He identified rebuilding relationships with alumni and "rethinking" facilities planning and development as two main issues that must be addressed.

He also stressed that the college must "look at our core traditions and renew our understanding and commitment to those."

Gallagher said that over the past month he has heard from hundreds of alums that have asked what they can do to help him, which he credits to his long association to Saint Mary's College.

"I feel like Saint Mary's is an old shoe, not in the smelly sense but in the comfortable sense," Gallagher said. He graduated from Saint Mary's with a degree in English in 1969. He has also taught English at the college since 1993 and was chairperson of the English department beginning in 2002.

In addition to his experience at Saint Mary's, Gallagher also served as the Vice Chancellor of Bethlehem University, where he said he gained valuable knowledge about running an institution in the face of serious internal and external challenges.

"That builds a kind of character in a person that I think is valuable," Gallagher said. "I

"I FEEL LIKE SAINT MARY'S IS AN OLD SHOE, NOT IN THE SMELLY SENSE BUT IN THE COMFORTABLE SENSE."

- BROTHER RON GALLAGHER

can't identify it other than to say it's the fruit of experience."

From 1997 to 2001 he served in Rome as the Secretary General of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, where part of his job was to organize a General Chapter of the brothers in the year 2000 to look at the chal-

lenges they faced and plan for the future.

He said that seeing how the work of the Brothers is changing was a valuable lesson that he learned in Rome, and that another one of his goals is to "see how we can energize and renew commitment to our values and traditions."

Gallagher also said he's looking forward to the task of working with all of the current students of Saint Mary's.

He said that he plans to continue to live in the residence halls and to continue to teach when he has time.

"I'm getting to know your generation, the generation of students that are here now and the kind of challenges that you face, the experiences that you have and the kind of ideals, which are very impressive," Gallagher said.

"You're asking us to be authentic to our values and our traditions, and I think that's a wonderful challenge."

SAFE RIDE: Other transportation programs being discussed

continued from p1

ery student is paying for the privileged of safe ride, it didn't seem fair that so few students were using it. This information also had a factor in the elimination of safe ride.

But it was not only these reasons for the discontinuation of safe ride. It also had to do with the cab company not being reliable. In the month of October 2004, they changed their rates without telling the people responsible for organizing the program.

As of now the rate the cab company is giving Saint Mary's is \$1.80 per mile. In October the

cab company tried to change it to a fixed rate per ride, raising the bill by more than \$600.

The ASSMC senate is looking into other programs that students can use when there is no more safe ride. The school is thinking of purchasing minivans and having student drivers run a program instead of hiring a cab company. Other ideas will also be debated because with the Safe Ride data the school has been able to realize that there is a demand for this type of service.

"I hope that the college will use this data...to find another program," Merlo said.

ASSEMBLY: Clubs request funds, student voices frustration

continued from p1

The Public Forum included a student's perspective on the recent departure of an RCC, and updates on a few clubs and organizations. Among these clubs were the Asian Pacific American Student Association (APASA) who reminded the audience of two upcoming events, the Lunar New Year Dinner this coming Tuesday in Hagerty, and Asian Cultural Night arriving in Soda Center by early April.

WHAT'S HAPPENING...

TODAY

APASA Lunar New Year Dinner - Hagerty - 5 p.m.

Collegian roundtable discussion - Delphine - 6 p.m.

SIL Workshop: Mission Centered Leadership - Delphine - 12-1:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Open Mic Night - Dryden - 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

Intersivity Info Meeting - Delphine - 6 p.m.

WEEKEND

Meditation Workshop - Delphine - 8:30 a.m.

Pre-Game Social - Dryden - 5 p.m.

DON'T FORGET

The annual college Convocation will honor Brother Vincent Malham, Vice Chancellor-President at Bethlehem University in Bethlehem. Mass will be held at 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel on Wednesday, February 16. Classes are cancelled during this time.

Sponsoring an event?

Want it in the calendar?

email the Collegian at collegia@stmarys-ca.edu or call us at x4279

(sorry, due to space limitations we cannot list club meetings)

SNAPSHOT



Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN

Public Safety Officer Joe Arone shows off Saint Mary's spirit in his usual fashion at the Women's basketball game against Santa Clara last Saturday

Black History celebrated at SMC

Events such as Expressions of Blackness aim to raise awareness, celebrate culture

by **Bettina Adragna**
Staff Writer

The Black Student Union, the Associated Students of Saint Mary's College, the Delphine Intercultural Center, and Black Student Programs are working together to coordinate Black History Month throughout February.

Black History Month is "a worldwide event," according to Julia Barboza, events coordinator for the Black Student Union. It is a time to "celebrate black culture" and celebrate African-American history "from slavery to now." It helps "to keep our culture alive" and "not forget the past."

"The story of Black America is the story of America," said Brian Stanley, coordinator of

Black Student Programs. Its purpose is to highlight black history, because there isn't sufficient time in one month to learn all of black history.

Black History Month was originally "Negro History Week," which was started by Carter G. Woodson, a black graduate of Harvard, according to Jenny Bruton, president of the Black Student Union. Woodson wanted to dedicate a week to balance out black history and general American history.

Some of the events that will occur throughout the month include "Expressions of Blackness" on Tuesday, February 22 in the Soda Center, which will include dinner and entertainment that "celebrates what it means to be black."

This year's theme is "Struggle to Overcome." "We're telling a story," Barboza said, "with what we researched and know." "Everyone is welcome," Barboza added. "We don't discriminate."

Also, on Wednesday, Febru-

ary 16 at 3:30 p.m. students will march around the campus to represent "the power and pride of African-American cultures," said Bruton, and will paint the SMC sign black, green, and red (black for the color of their skin, green for the land, and red for the blood of the people). "Anyone can participate," said Bruton. "You have to know the history of your brothers and sisters, because it's your history."

Black history, Bruton said, is "not as presented" as much of the rest of American history. "You have to find black history," she said. It has been "dehumanized."

Barboza said, "Our history has been ripped from us." The month is a "way for us to connect," to say, "This is what happened...Black history is not only February, it's every day," said Barboza.

"You never forget, because it's your past...it still reflects on us today." The "problem with society is that we tend to separate ourselves," she said. "Come out and support us."

b e y o n d the bubble

NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS BITES

By **TONY VALA-HAYNES**

- **MANILA, Philippines** - After breaking the Guinness World Record with just over 5,300 couples kissing simultaneously last year, couples in the Philippines were aiming for over a million people this year. While they fell short of the desired turnout, the event - held at a popular seaside walkway in the Philippine capital - was still successful according to a number of lip-lockers.

- **STAUNTON, Virginia** - Heather and Logan Ward are protesting bible classes that their son in kindergarten attends while at a public school. For a half hour each day children are shuttled over to local churches to receive lessons on Christianity.

- **FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida** - After making up a story that she witnessed a child being thrown from a moving vehicle, Patricia Pokriots, 38, admitted to issuing a false statement to the police. Initially, Pokriots brought her own infant in to the police station claiming he was the victim of her fabricated story.

- **HOUSTON, Texas** - After witnessing a sexual act between his parents, a 16-year-old boy shot his father. The boy believed his father to be hurting his mother and as a consequence opened fire. However, the police report states, "During the course of love making, the wife was evidently being somewhat loud...loud enough to where it woke the children up."

- **WARREN, Michigan** - Twelve Warren high school swimmers have been suspended for the remainder of the season for pulling a prank on their coach. During the Super Bowl the swimmers planted a gatorade bottle full of urine on their coach's front porch. The parents of the suspended swimmers plan to appeal the decision.

- **ROXBURY, Connecticut** - Arthur Miller, the famous American playwright responsible for such works as "Death of a Salesman" and "The Crucible" died Thursday in his home. Miller died of heart failure at the age of 89.

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Fax: 925.631.4675
E-mail: collegia@stmarys-ca.edu

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The Guru Speaks

by Colin de Leon-Horton

Opinion Editor

A week ago at Marquette University, the administration blocked an attempt of their chapter of the College Republicans from selling products created by an organization called American Snipers designed to raise monetary support for American snipers. One of the products bears the quote "one shot one kill no remorse I decide." A friend of mine was disgusted by the action that the school took, calling it a leftist move. However, this isn't the issue. The issue is the fact that the administration with its usual carelessness and lack of foresight has failed to provide for the men and women that they have put in harm's way.

American Snipers is not the only organization to respond to this problem. Another group called Operation AC formed to provide the soldiers with air conditioning in the summer and space heaters in the winter. However, not only has the administration failed to provide these items, they have also failed to provide the basic necessity of adequate boots, *boots* for crying out loud, to the soldiers. Operation AC attempts to deal with this problem by allowing civilians to donate a pair at their own expense to the soldiers. Then there was the army unit based out of Mountain View that did not have adequate body armor and attempted to start a fundraiser through a local business. They were later reprimanded.

These facts, all outrageous, are eclipsed by the flippant attitude that the administration takes toward this issue. On December 8th, Donald Rumsfeld took a tour of Iraq, stopping in Kuwait to answer questions of the troops. One question from Specialist Thomas Wilson asked why, after three years of war, "we soldiers have to dig through local landfills for pieces of scrap metal and compromised ballistic glass to up-armor our vehicles, and why we don't have those resources already available to us." Rumsfeld's reply, "You go to war with the army you have."

Rumsfeld was correct. You go to war with the army you have, but only because it is impossible to go to war with the army you don't have. There have been arguments that the military budget cuts by the Clinton administration are to blame for this. Then again, Clinton wasn't dealing with a war and didn't need a large military budget. In any case, the military budget for 2003 and 2004 add up to over 800 billion dollars. Couldn't any of this have gone to provide snipers with adequate gear? Or soldiers with boots and body armor?

The sad truth is that the basic needs of our troops have been neglected and it's the fault of the Bush administration. Shame on them for starting a war that could not adequately be fought, and shame on them for betraying our troops.

OPINION

Collegian Quote of the Week: (Love) A temporary insanity curable by marriage.

Ambrose Bierce

Collegian View

On behalf of the editorial board of The Collegian, we would all like to welcome you back from Jan Term break. Spring Semester of 2005 will undoubtedly prove to be yet another interesting one. Proof of this exists within this week's insert feature the many clubs of the Associated Student of Saint Mary's College.

This insert is complete with a letter from President of the ASSMC, Jeff Haskins, a profile of every active club, a pictorial of the executive team of the ASSMC and the class officers.

With this insert, the editorial board would like to remind our

readers that there are plenty of ways to get involved. From academic clubs to service clubs, diversity clubs to special interest, there is some type of organization out there for everyone.

If for some reason these different groups do not suit your interests, you're always more than welcome to share your interest, opinion, talents, or curiosities with The Collegian.

Whatever the case may be, please stay involved. Not only will joining a club enhance your collegiate experience, it will help you appreciate the Saint Mary's College campus to the fullest with others that share your interests.

Community Views

Dear Editor,

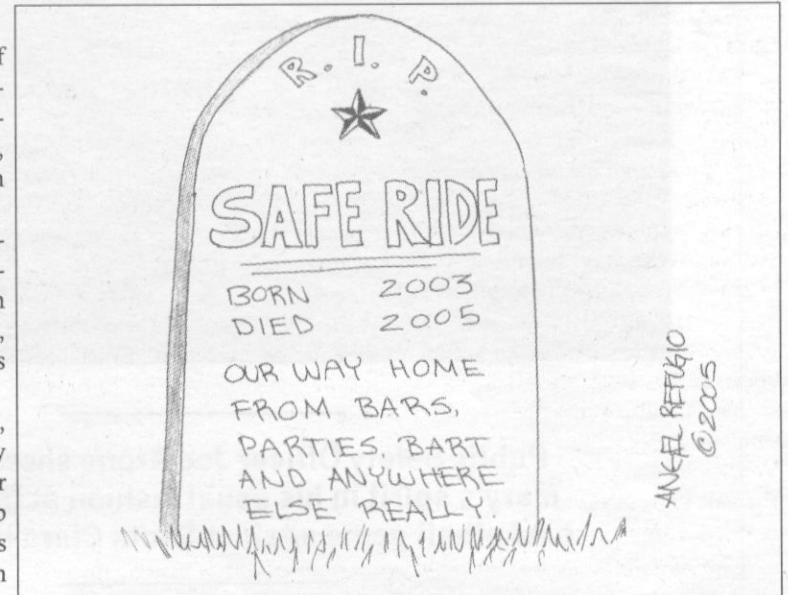
Our Syufy performing arts hall may look clean, pretty, and may cost tens of thousands of dollars in tuition to maintain, but a closer inspection would reveal more. Before the piano sale last weekend, the Knabe upright pianos in the individual practice rooms were "fair" at best; with the exception of one piano, most produced a cold, clang-like tone and had keys that were too light, making it difficult to control volume dynamics for any serious pianist. After the piano sale, *all* the Knabes had been gotten rid of indiscriminately and replaced with Petrovs – a brand I had never heard of in my 16 years of piano study. These pianos had not been broken in yet, which is bad, considering that few people in this school really use the pianos to their full potential. The keys totally lack sensitivity, and when pressed the pianos produce a very shallow, unfulfilling sound. As a matter of fact, one of the new pianos had already

been damaged; inside, one of its strings had been cut! What a shame that Syufy hall must suffer such egregious and mindless administration.

Carlo Barlaan
Class of '06

If you went to Coffee Night last Wednesday, you most likely heard the talent of Matthew Park and his band. Matthew, a senior, is trying to petition Program Board to let him open for the Gaelstock band this year. I'm writing in support of his aspiration to play this April.

A petition was passed around the room that night, asking those who liked what they heard to support the cause. In about 25 minutes, two pages of signatures were gathered. Dryden Hall wasn't very crowded that night, so needless to say practically everyone there signed the petition. Some may say that Matthew's laid-back style of music is not what students want at Gaelstock. However, most students are enjoying the sun, inflatable toys, and



ASSMC fixes their money problem by abandoning the students to drunk driving

Cartoon by Angel Refugio

yes – the beer garden – during the opening band, not standing by the stage waiting to rock out or dance. Really, what does it matter? Talent is talent. Good music is good music. And no knock against KSMC, but live music beats canned music any day.

Matthew is incredibly talented. He even has a CD coming out in March. He loves Saint Mary's and he loves performing.

If Saint Mary's strives to be a student-centered school, what better way to show this than have one of its own students perform at the most popular event of the year?

Jonathan Morales '06
News Editor
The Collegian

The Katie Springer Forum:
GOD vs. SCIENCE
Are they really that different?



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Iraqi Elections

Out of the Frying Pan into the Fire?

One Giant Leap for Mankind

by Michael Chin
Sports Editor

For the last year and half or so, thousands of Americans, and even more foreign observers have bashed the Bush administration in their attempt to bring democracy to the people of Iraq. Now we are at a critical time in this process. Elections are over and the people have chosen. Yet, although elections have moved smoothly, some are still not sure about the prospect of democracy in the country.

For some it is because these elections were supposedly forced on the Iraqi people while others say that it wasn't our problem to begin with. Still some simply will not regard this triumph for democracy as a win for the world because it is Bush's win.

When I look at these trying times in Iraq I think back to post World War II Germany. Like President Bush's plan in Iraq, Harry Truman and the western powers implemented a similar re-

covery plan in Germany. The result: a fully viable democratic first world nation. This is not about nation building or forcible government but instead bringing freedom to this nation.

With all these critiques of Iraq, it is clear that one thing has been forgotten: they have democracy. People say that this was forced on them, that government should only come from domestic groups. Have they forgotten what democracy is about? The people can pick their government. If they choose to have a theocracy or tyrannical dictatorship they can. It is their choice.

Already these elections have proved to be successful. Sixty percent of the population voted in these elections. That turnout is higher than our own elections at home. To say the least America has brought democracy to these people. As President Bush has said, "Freedom is on the move."

Iraq has now conducted its first legitimate election in more than fifty years. While it gave hope to that ravaged land, its ugly exposition of the country's problems cannot be ignored: continuing insecurity because of the relentless insurgency, a possible theocracy, and the awkward position the U.S. will force itself into are only some of Iraq's post-election headaches.

The insurgency continues to permeate the daily lives of all Iraqis, and the election did not change that. While turnout was good (depends who you ask and about what area of Iraq) the voters had to rely more on courage than will. Close to fifty Iraqis were slain on Election day, even though the entire country had to be temporarily shut down for security measures. Baghdad was a no-car zone for the day, while other cities followed its martial-law suit. The U.S. and Iraqi forces assigned to look over the vote did a great job, but not without using extreme measures like these to push off the bloody truth that has no end in sight. There are now more than 170 insurgency-related deaths since Election Day.

Along with this grim reality comes a hazy future: a possible theocracy. At the finish of a hand count, the Shitte's came up with 48% of the vote. A government headed by them seems very

likely. Grand Ayatollah Al-Huseini Al-Sistani, leader of the exit poll-leading Shiite alliance, is an Iranian who continually insists on Islamic law making up Iraq's constitution. An Iranian-style theocracy could be in Iraq's future, something the Bush administration hardly wants, seeing as it already has troubles with Iran.

The role of the U.S. is now at its most awkward. After the election, Ayad Allawi (the U.S. hand appointed Prime Minister who trailed third in the results of the vote) declared he wants American troops to stay until Iraq is insurgency-safe; Bush, of course, agreed. Whenever that may be no one knows, not even Allawi. However, Al-Sistani has always been critical of the U.S. occupation, wanting it to end since the day it began. Where does this leave our troops and our government's role in Mesopotamia? Will they stay, in accord with the possibly ousted PM? Or will American troops stand uncomfortably between the new Iraq power, Al-Sistani, and Iraq's power-grabber, Bush?

Sadly, this great day of democratic demonstration was draped in old questions with no clear answers, and new doubts with no clear explanations. As Rumsfeld once said, "democracy is messy." It just got messier.

Facing the Issues: On Assignment in Cape Town



by Caitlin Hungate
Foreign Correspondant

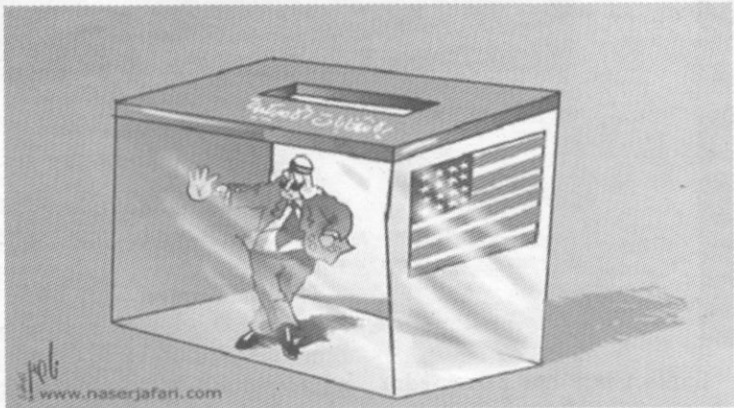
Going anywhere new can be both exciting and nerve-racking at the same time. But it seems like being in Cape Town it is much more exciting. Although we notice huge differences and we (the students on this Cape Town study abroad) stick out like sore thumbs, the differences seem to blur. We have been here over a week and school hasn't even begun. Our house is beautiful, very nice for the area we are in; we all live comfortably in double rooms and showering is not a problem because there are four showers that eleven people share. Not too shabby. And to top it all off, we have a pool. Yes, ladies and gents Saint Mary's does a study abroad where the students have a pool at their house.

This past week has been nothing but non-stop adventure as we slowly try to orient ourselves in this huge city. People drive on the opposite side of the road, using foreign currency, even the signs to the bathrooms are quite entertaining—they have women with a triangle skirt on them.

Wednesday we had the opportunity to take an underground tour of the old sewer/pipeline that the colonialists created when Cape Town was developed. It seemed like a great idea, but I certainly did not know what we were getting into. Boots up to your knees is the first bad sign. We climbed down the manhole into the sewer surrounded by cobwebs and cockroaches. We were all lucky we didn't pee our pants because the sight of thousands of cockroaches surrounding us with nowhere to go was not the most comfortable experience of my life.

Today marked another fabulous day of adventure. Two other girls and I got lost in the middle of a busy street in downtown Cape Town trying to find our way to the Castle of Good Hope for A Rage for the Revolution concert which was aimed at raising money and awareness for HIV/AIDS. In the midst of all the cars passing us it was hard not to notice the tremendous poverty as children were begging on the street at any possible benefactor. Having a conscious and wanting to help out anyone we can, a few of us stopped to buy them a meal. We definitely made their day but now it's hard not to buy something for every child on the street. Yet, as we experience these scary and exhilarating moments, the growth is already noticeable in all of us. Life is simpler here, we walk a lot and caring about our appearance is unimportant unlike in the USA.

Survival comes first to people here. I am extremely grateful for being here where I will continue to grow and to realize how lucky I am. At the same time it is unfair how much we Americans have and waste while the rest of the world struggles to survive.



SafeRide: Tweak it, Don't Kill it

ASSMC shouldn't get rid of a good thing just because it didn't work on the first try

by Naveen Prasad
Staff Writer



As I sat there alone in the dark in some unknown place, I couldn't help but notice the seedy elements of society moving all around, looking a bit like a wolf does when he sees a small lamb. Honestly, some were sitting there licking their lips. I tried to tell myself that it was because they had chapped lips, and looked around. How do I get home? The gang members started circling me, snapping their fingers and performing well choreographed and menacing dance moves reminiscent of West Side Story. I started running, then suddenly remembered! Saferide! I whipped out my phone, and within minutes there was a car at my disposal. I rode home in safety and security.

This, as you might have guessed, didn't actually happen. If you didn't guess that, well... But there have been times when stories similar to this have occurred, not just to me but to others as well. One time, and this story is true, I accompanied a friend to the hospital. We went there in the ambulance. Oddly enough, the ambulance would not give us a ride back. Something about being too busy. We would have been stranded, had

it not been for that little thing called SafeRide. But now it seems that this option will no longer be available to Saint Mary's students.

On the Sunday morning that this article was written, I used SafeRide to get home from the Lafayette BART station. The driver was ranting to me about how SafeRide would soon be ending. This was scary, as I liked SafeRide. So why is SafeRide ending? Simple. The system has been abused. Students use SafeRide to get off campus, going to restaurants or parties. The drivers hate SafeRide because they don't get paid as well. So what's the solution? Fix the system, not take away SafeRide. SafeRide provides a very necessary service to SMC. I hate to be the one to say this, but the rules need to be changed, and then followed. Students should not be picked up from SMC. The cabs should take them back only to SMC or to their homes if they live off campus, not to parties or into town.

Saint Mary's students need SafeRide. It helps keep us safe, hence the name. But there are limits that we need to recognize and abide by. Fix the system, and keep SafeRide.

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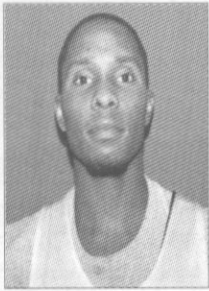
Come to the CILSA 1st floor Ferroggiaro office to sign up for a meeting time.

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Players of the Week

EJ Rowland

No one has done more for the Gaels than senior guard, Rowland.



Through-out conference action, Rowland has made the big shots when the Gaels needed them. Currently he is averaging just over 16 points a game while also leading the team in assists.

Aude Lambert

Although it is early in the season Lambert has already started to place herself into the elite players of the WCC. Through the first five matches, Lambert has been spectacular re-cording a 9-1 record in combined singles and doubles play and an undefeated record playing exclusively at the #1 singles spot.



-Michael Chin, Sports Editor

GAEL ZONE

Score Card

Women's Basketball(12-11)
SMC defeats UC Riverside
UC Santa Barbara Defeats SMC

Softball
SMC defeats USF 3-1

Men's Basketball(20-7)
Santa Clara defeats SMC 78-76

Men's Rugby (6-1)
SMC defeats UC Davis 48-22

Baseball (1-5)
Long Beach St. defeats SMC 5-1, 2-1, 7-6
Pacific defeats SMC 2-1
SMC defeats Sac State 6-2
UC Davis defeats SMC 9-5

Men's Tennis
Stanford defeats SMC 7-0
Portland defeats SMC 5-2

Women's Tennis (6-1)
SMC Defeats Gonzaga
SMC defeats Portland
SMC defeats Sonoma St.

SPORTS

SCU buzzer beater downs Gaels

Gaels fall short 78-76 in a late comeback push against the Broncos

by Sam Adams
Co-Sports Editor

Daniel Kickert had the best game of his Gaels career – too bad it was all for naught.

Freshman point guard Brody Angley hit an off-balance 10-foot jumper with 2.4 seconds left in the game to put the Santa Clara ahead for good in the Bronco's 78-76 win Friday night despite Kickert's career-high 30 points.

The loss dropped the Gaels (20-7, 7-3) a game behind 14th-ranked Gonzaga in the West Coast Conference standings. The Broncos (13-12, 6-4) remained in third place. Kyle Bailey had another big game for the Broncos, scoring 14 while adding five assists and four rebounds. E.J. Rowland tied the game with 35.2 seconds left at 76. Rowland had a solid game, finishing with 17 points, scoring 10 of those points in the final nine minutes.

There were six ties in final 4:20 and points on six consecutive possessions over the last 2:04. Saint Mary's made a run to get back into the game after falling behind by as many as 11 in the second half.

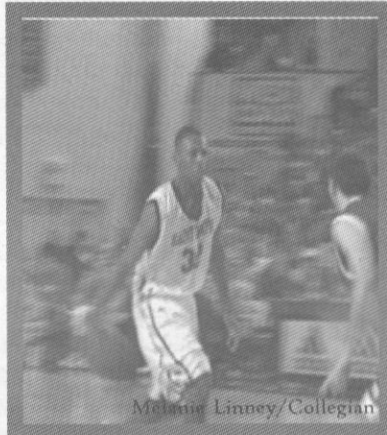
Ethan Rohde's three-pointer with 14:28 to go made it 52-46, and then the Broncos scored four more unanswered points for a 10-point lead. Saint Mary's later rolled off a 10-2 run to lower the deficit to 63-60. Frederic

Adjiwanou had another solid outing with 13 points and 11 rebounds. Paul Marigney was quiet, scoring only eight points and missed all four of his three-point shots. "I always struggle against Santa Clara," Marigney told the *San Francisco Chronicle*. "It just seems to happen. I'm not going to let it bother me."

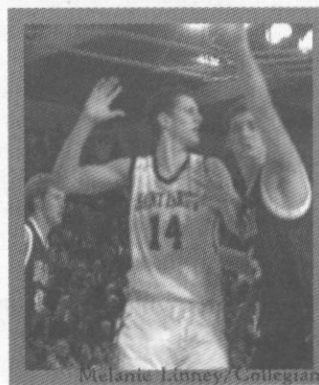
Santa Clara has extracted a little revenge after the Gaels beat them by a combined 62 points in two games, beating Saint Mary's twice this season. This second loss of the season to the Broncos includes the 23-point loss on January 15th. The Broncos finished with four players scoring in double figures. Doron Perkins

scored 22, Bailey 14, Ethan Rohde had 13 and Travis Niesen finished with 12.

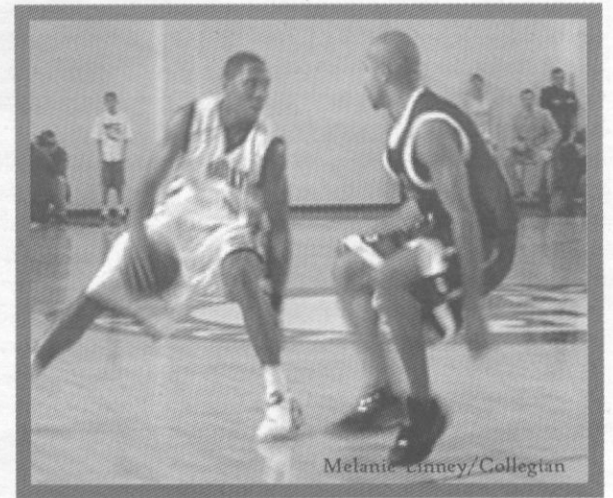
The Gaels travel back home a little shell shocked from their recent road trips, losing to Gonzaga after leading by 12 at the half, surviving an upset by Portland when Rowland hit an 8-foot jumper with 11 seconds left, and the heart-breaking loss to the Broncos on Friday. The next game for the Gaels comes Thursday, February 17th when the Gaels host the LMU Lions, who they beat back on January 22 by a score of 83-66.



Melanie Linney/Collegian



Melanie Linney/Collegian



Melanie Linney/Collegian

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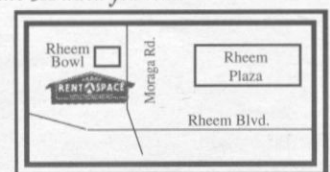


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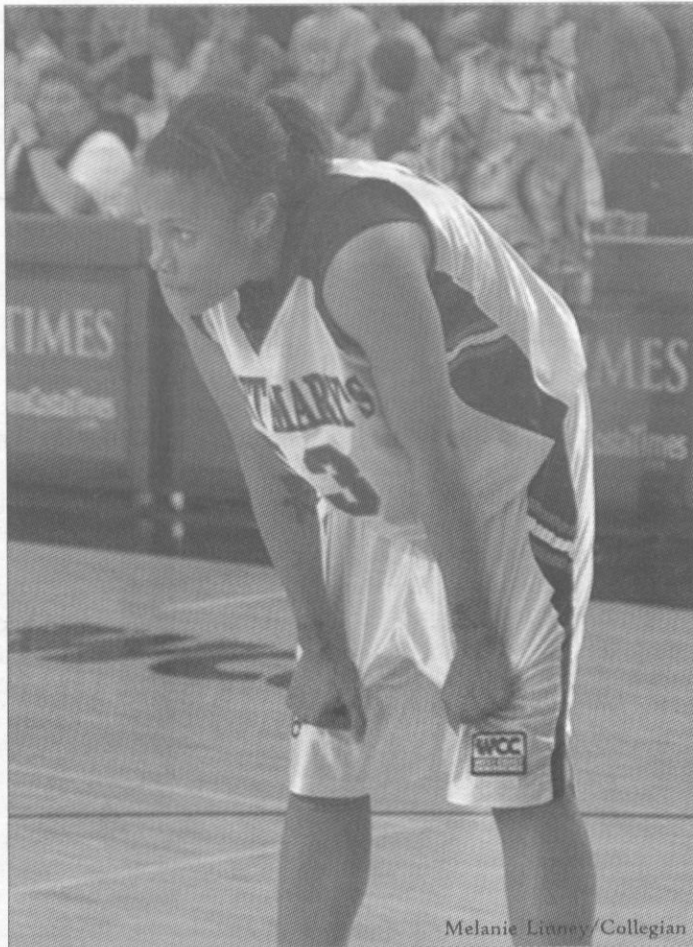
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Basketball bucked by Broncos

Despite losing record in conference, Gaels still over .500



5th year senior Triola Jackson expresses her disappointment as the Gaels fall to SCU

Allison Kop

Co-Sports Editor

The Saint Mary's women's basketball team lost a tough game at home to rival Santa Clara 70-55 on Saturday. Both teams came out fired up for one of the most intense games the women have played at McKeon this year. Despite falling behind the Broncos 3-18 after the first seven minutes, the Gaels rallied and cut the lead to six points just two minutes later. But the Gaels just couldn't keep up with the Broncos hot shooting and went into the locker room at halftime still trailing by double digits.

In the second half, bodies were banging beneath the boards in one of the most physical contests the Gaels played this year. Freshman Maija Lahde grabbed a team-high 10 rebounds, including seven offensive boards, to go along with her 13 points for her second double-double of the season. Triola Jackson also had a big game leading all scorers with 18 points and nabbing seven rebounds. The Gaels cut the Santa Clara lead to eight points with 6:30 remaining in the game after a big three by Evynn Van Burger, but just couldn't keep the momentum. Van Burger finished the game with six points and seven rebounds. Point guard Brianna Winn had six points and five rebounds in the loss.

Despite the defeat, Saint Mary's put on an entertaining show for the large home crowd in a fast-paced, up-tempo game. The Gaels will try to redeem themselves this week when they take a road trip to southern California to take on Loyola Marymount on Thursday and Pepperdine on Saturday. Catch the Gaels' next home game on February 24th when they take on San Diego for their second to last regular season game.

Spring sports open with bumpy beginning

Michael Chin

Co-Sports Editor

With only a few weeks under their belt, SMC spring sports is out to yet another rocky start.

Thus far, the big bright spots for the Gaels have been women's tennis and men's rugby. Rugby has had big wins this season and has climbed to number 11 in the country. Their lone loss came against last year's national champion Cal Berkeley.

Women's tennis has by far been the biggest surprise of the season posting a 5-0 record this season. Sophomore Aude Lambert has been spectacular this season posting a 9-1 record. Junior Kate Harden has also been solid at the two spot in singles. They will next face off against Cal on Tuesday.

Softball got off to a positive start as first year coach Jessica Hanaseth recorded her first head coaching victory of her career.

Baseball, however, is a very different story. The Gaels have been over powered and out pitched this season going 1-5 thus far. Their lone victory came against Sacramento State last week. Senior pitcher Kevin Trochez got the victory while Sam Carter provided the offensive punch for the Gaels.

Men's tennis has also had a rough start, falling most recently to conference opponent Portland and perennial power Stanford. Prior to that however they recorded two victories, one against Eastern Washington and the other against Idaho State.

The upside to these results is that the season is still young. While women's tennis and men's rugby just need to keep on going, baseball and men's tennis have some regrouping to do. Much of this will be up to their coaches Jed Sato and Michael Wayman. Both are highly regarded in the WCC and have the ability to turn their squads around in a hurry.

11th Ranked Gaels send UC Davis packing 48-22

Rugby moves to 6-1 on the season and 2nd on the west coast

By Anthony Cuadro

Sports Writer

On a beautiful Saturday afternoon two nationally ranked teams clashed on Pat Vincent Memorial Field. Saint Mary's came into the match ranked 11th in the country, boasting a 2-1 league record (6-1 overall). The U.C. Davis Aggies came into the contest ranked 14th in the country with a 5-2 overall record.

The action was fast and furious in the first half of the game. Saint Mary's scored early on a try from Evan Barryel and another by stand out first year player, Kevin Swiryn. The next try came with a spectacular assist from Volney Rouse to Barryel. Rouse was 1 for 3 in the first half on kicks. One was nearly in, but nicked the crossbar. The Gaels nearly had another try when Corey Sichi blocked an Aggie kick within the five minute mark. At the half the score stood at 17-15 Gaels.

The second half was a clinic given by the Gaels. Saint Mary's scored quick and often. Five minutes into the second half Charlie Smith added a try and Rouse added yet another kick. Two minutes later Rouse scored his own try on a break away play. The squad put their hearts into the stand.

While scoring brings the fans, defense is what wins games and the Gaels did just that, making an outstanding defensive stand twelve minutes into the second half. Spreading the wealth around, second year player Matt Leatherby scored on a break away play and Rouse followed with yet another kick to put the score at 38-15. It would be the Aggies last offensive gasp of the game. Late in the game, Corey Sichi added a hard fought try to bring the score to 43-22. With under a minute to play Pat Follett added his first try of the day to bring the final score to 48-22. The Gaels have a bye week next week, but they'll be in action again on the 26th at the University of Nevada at Reno.



All pictures by Melanie Linney/Collegian

SMC WEEKLY ATHLETIC SCHEDULE:

Tuesday

Men's Baseball vs Nevada
Reno, 2:00

Women's Tennis vs Cal,
3:00

Thursday

Men's Basketball vs. Loyola
Marymount, 7:05

Women's Basketball @
Loyola Marymount, 7:05

Friday

Women's Tennis @ Cal Poly,
All Day

Women's Basketball vs
Washington St, 7:05

Saturday

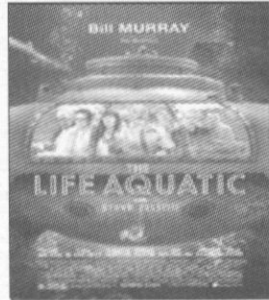
Men's Basketball vs
Pepperdine, 7:05

Women's Basketball vs @
Pepperdine
7:05

Reviews

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The Life Aquatic

Filled with an array of great talents, *The Life Aquatic* proves to be a very quirky and amusing flick. Steve Zissou (Bill Murray) is a famous undersea documentarian whose career has entered into the realm of "has-been". After his best friend is eaten by the "Jaguar Shark," Zissou sets out with his eccentric film crew to find and kill this shark, inspired I'm sure by Captain Ahab of *Moby Dick*. Along the way, many complications and misadventures enter his life. This film is more for the understated and the witty rather than the bombastic or the hysterical.

-Aideen Rahimi

My Space Dot Com

Myspace.com has become a new rage among students at SMC. Well not just at SMC, I just found out my 15 year old brother, Jeff Long beat me to www.myspace.com.

Anyway, this website is a combination of both the old classic friendster.com and the blogging (for those who do not know, a "blog" is an online journal) abilities of Xanga. Already hundreds of SMC students are on Myspace. There are several SMC groups; the largest contains over 200 members. Not to mention the Vasquez Outlaws, which has 9 (me being a proud member).

Myspace.com lets the user post their photos, write blogs, but more importantly find old friends. Recently I found my friend Meg who lives in Brooklyn, who I met while studying abroad in Rome.

I came to Myspace one month ago at the behest of Angel Vasquez, and since then he has commandeered my account. He cracked my insane 8 character password (ed. note: *His password is 12345678*) and added about 20 people who I have to say amaze and astound me. He added me to several different and scary groups whose gothic members appear to want to suck out my blood. It is okay though, one promised that she would not hurt me too badly.

I Love Myspace.com.

-Christopher Long

DÉTOUR

Because "Vagina Monologues" was already taken

The SAG Awards

Leslie Ajari

Staff Writer

As with every year at the Screen Actor's Guild Awards (SAG), the clothes were dazzling, the guests glamorous, and the red carpet rolled out. While there were many great films, actors and television series nominated for awards, not everyone took home an "actor" (the Screen Actors Guild Award statuette) when the night was over. The show was stolen by Jamie Foxx and Hilary Swank for their actor award winning performances on the big screen in *Ray* and *Million Dollar Baby*.

The night was made memorable when *Law and Order's* Jerry Orbach received the actor for outstanding performance by an actor in a drama series. Jerry passed away on December 31, 2004. Elaine Orbach received his award for him graciously and with teary eyes. Jenifer Garner received the actor for best female actor in a drama series for her role as Sydney Bristow in ABC's TV series *Alias*.

Taking outstanding performance by male actor in a supporting role was Morgan Freeman for his role as Scrap in *Million Dollar Baby*. *The Aviators'* Cate Blanchett received the award for outstanding performance by a female actor in a supporting role for her role in *The Aviator* as Katherine Hepburn.

Taking the actor for outstanding cast in a motion picture was the cast of *Sideways*. This includes Thomas Haden Church

Jack, Paul Giamatti Miles, Virginia Madsen Maya and Sandra Oh Stephanie.

For outstanding performance in television series or mini series the awards went to actor Geoffrey Rush for his role in *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers*, and Glenn Close for her role in *The Lion of Winter*.

In the area of comedy the awards for outstanding female and male actor in a comedy series went to Tony Shalhoub for his acting in the TV series *Monk* and Teri Hatcher for her role as Susan Mayer in ABC's hit series *Desperate Housewives*.

Cleaning up at the awards show, the cast of *Desperate Housewives* also received the actor for outstanding performance by an ensemble in a comedy series. The cast of *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* received the award for outstanding performance by an ensemble in a drama series.

To wrap up the spectacular evening, the life time achievement award went to male actor James Garner.

www.yahoo.com



www.darkshades.net



By Chris Mateo

- Top Ten worst Valentine's Day gifts
10. Autographed Collegian newspaper
 9. A half-eaten box of chocolates
 8. A half-used box of condoms
 7. A top ten list of worst Valentine's Day gifts
 6. Fake flowers sprayed with perfume
 5. Dead flowers sprayed with perfume
 4. A Christmas card
 3. A laundry basket full of unmatched socks
 2. Crabs
 1. A baby



Million Dollar Baby: An Extended Review

Jaime Zepeda

Staff Writer

I have seen many movies. Enough to be able to feel a cliché creep up or suddenly pop itself on the screen. Most come because of the subject they are dealing with—war movies have the slow-mo bullet dodging (or butchery) climax; romantic films like to give us a sentimental exchange between the main characters that summarizes their pleasures and troubles at the end. Yet when the clichés come-a-rollin' and you do not mind it, that is something worth praising. Clint Eastwood's *Million Dollar Baby* achieves just that. *MDB* is a movie about the rise and powerful fall of a female boxer who doesn't know any better, and her trainer who is the same way. With powerful performances and directing, accompanied by a script that hits all the right emotional notes, *MDB* is a jewel of a movie.

Hillary Swank is the white trash boxer who wants to be a pro, not caring that she is in her thirties and has only raw talent to her advantage. She asks Clint Eastwood's character, Franky, to be her trainer, to which he refuses at first because he doesn't train girls. After suffering a rejection by the boxer he spent years training and teaching, Franky accepts, with apprehension. At that point, the beautiful father-daughter relationship between the two begins to develop, and eventually leads us to one of the most heartbreaking decisions any friend, teacher, or father figure might have to make. I will not spoil the compelling last quarter of the movie, for it is too original and well executed to be treated that way. But it alone is worth the admission ticket.

Although the boxing movie clichés are ever-present and easily noticeable (the loveable skinny guy who thinks he can train himself to the world championship, or the star boxer who opts for the manager who can give him a shot for the title), they never annoy. While watching the movie you can comfortably acknowledge the familiar material, and still feel this is a great movie. There is where *MDB* thrives; it puts all of its money on the execution and not the material. In Roger Ebert's words, "It is not the subject of the movie, but the subject-matter, the way it is done, that is important."

www.grahngok

Godaddy Go

Anna Gates
Staff Writer

Superbowl Sunday: It's all about the game. Viewers live for fourth quarter field goals, fumbles, first and goals with one minute left on the clock, and those bouncing blonde cheerleaders. It's about beer and all the dip you can eat, while screaming at the top of your lungs.

But for those of us who aren't well-versed in the language of football, it's all about the entertainment. And for those who think that a safety is actually the padding players wear and for those who don't know the difference between a quarterback and a quarter-pounder, the half-time show and commercials are all we watch for.

Last year's game satisfied a thirst for raunchy entertainment. The risqué commercials and Janet Jackson's wardrobe malfunction left viewers talking for weeks. But after the shirt-popping controversy from last year's game, Superbowl XXXIX tried to play it safe. And so we were left with a mixture of old presidents, a children's choir for the blind and deaf, a past-his-prime Beatle, and a sing-a-long to "Hey Jude." This year's entertainment, in other words, was slightly reminiscent of a PBS educational video. No Janet Jackson, no JT, and no more "broken" shirts.

The effort to ameliorate the exposed boob catastrophe from last year was painfully evident. The entire entertainment line-up seemed to be walking on eggshells in an effort to not offend any worried American sitting contently at home. And how much less offensive can you get than a sixty-something British Man?

Not even the commercials could save the excitement level of this year's entertainment. And for millions of dollars for just a few seconds of airtime, one would expect more quality from the array of advertisements. But this year's commercials were rather disappointing. However, amongst the cheesiness of frozen mustangs, miniature stars, and MC Hammer, there was one diamond in the rough.

Godaddy.com proved to be the sexy savior of Superbowl XXXIX.

Godaddy was the only company brave enough to poke fun at the mishaps from last year's game. The commercial included a busty brunette, not exactly the brightest crayon in the box, who experiences her own wardrobe malfunction in front of a panel during a censorship hearing. The panel members coil back in dismay, while the Hooters-esque girl dances around the room.

The commercial was a welcomed reminder that perhaps it is time to simmer down. Seeing a little skin is not the end of the world, and I doubt that those who saw a more intimate side to Ms. Jackson will, in any way, shape or form, be damaged for life. Let's move on people. Put your hands above your head, do a little twirl, and call it the Godaddy move. Because you only live once, and turtlenecks are for grandmothers living in Nebraska.