

# THE COLLEGIAN

Serving Saint Mary's for over a century

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA

Moraga, California

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Volume 102, Number 16

## Students to defend Cal Grants

Seniors travel to Capitol, talk to state legislators

by Chris Mateo  
Editor-in-Chief

On Wednesday, March 9, three seniors will be traveling to the state capitol in Sacramento for the AICCU Cal Grant Student Lobbying Day. The Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU), according to its website, "serves as the unified statewide voice of independent higher education in California. The association represents 76 private colleges and universities on policy issues with the state and federal government" (www.aiccu.edu). This is the third year that Saint Mary's College will be involved in the annual event.

Lisa Douglass '99, director of community and government relations at SMC, is coordinating the trip.

"The participating institutes are asked to send two to four students to represent their college," said Douglass. "In the morning, the students get a briefing from the AICCU and an overview of Cal Grants in general. They discuss things like what the proposed cut is for this year. The students then have lunch with legislative staffers, some lobbyists and district directors. Then in the afternoon, the AICCU books appointments with legislators specific to where the student is from."

Douglass continued by stating see GRANTS, p2

## Dryden suffers thefts

Students lose video games, PS2, Xbox, and controllers

by Pablo Armas  
Executive Assistant

Last week, equipment from the Dryden game room was stolen. The items stolen were the Xbox and Playstation 2 consoles, two controllers for both of the consoles, and two Xbox games; Halo: Combat Evolved and Halo 2.

"After we closed the game room on February 17, the equipment was probably stolen in the early morning of Friday the 18," said Senior Game Room Supervisor Matt Byrom '05. There were no signs of forced entry, leading Byrom to believe that whoever took the equipment probably had a key for it. "There are three keys that we use for Dryden. One is [for the] office, another for the closet where the stuff is held, and the last for the main entrances. In early Jan term, the AC 10 key that we have in the main office was stolen. The key opens the closet where we keep the Playstation and the Xbox. My guess is that the same person who took the key used it to open the closet and take the stuff," said Byrom. He also pointed out "it was only those two games that were taken. All of the PS2 games are there and except for two games, all of the Xbox games are there as well."

This is not the first time that things have been stolen from Dryden. Before the school year started, the Xbox and PS2 were



Photo Illustration by Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN

Equipment from Dryden Hall was stolen for the second time in a year

stolen as well as the DVD player. The Xbox and PS2 that were recently stolen were their replacements that were bought in the early fall semester.

"I was surprised that it happened again," said Kate Minogue, a student worker in Dryden who was also surprised that they would steal the games "since everyone has the games (the Halo games).

see THEFTS, p2

### What happened?

**Incident:** Game room equipment stolen

**When:** Friday, February 18

**What:** Xbox console, Playstation 2 console, two controllers from each console, two Xbox games

## Chat Room to discuss inclusion

Campus conversation to attract more than the first

by Chris Mateo  
Editor-in-Chief

The Chat Room conversation will take place tonight, from 5:15 to 7:30 p.m.

The Chat Room, which takes place in the Soda Center, has small tables with about eight people per table. There are several rotations so as to give the participants a chance to meet many different people.

According to Jeff Haskins '05, the president of the Associated Students, this event will allow students to share their voices. "The Chat Room is an opportunity to create conversation and dialogue among everyone at Saint Mary's," said Haskins.

"One problem we have and can face, like any institution and group, is communication issues. So this provides a forum for everyone to get together and talk about what's on their minds as well as just see that the thoughts we, as students, have are shared by the staff and faculty," said Haskins. "It's a time to understand that we're all moving in the same direction, even though we may not always see that. And so on Tuesday, March 1, we will have our second Chat Room. This time we will be focusing on who we are. We are still anticipating the arrival of the WASC report because in it, WASC mentioned how [SMC], in terms of diversity and civility, is lacking. This is one of those opportunities to ask how do we include diversity, where are our strengths and weaknesses, do you feel included in some respects as a member of this community, and do you feel excluded?"

The Chat Room series began in Fall 2004 as a response to a call for more opportunities to talk with the entire SMC community about issues that are important to the students. The Dialogue and Deliberation Committee, whose members represent students, ASSMC, Athletics and Recreational Sports, Academic Affairs, the Christian Brothers, CILSA, and other campus groups, sponsors the Chat Room.

"Last time we had about eighty to ninety people. So for being the very first time it was very good," said Haskins. "The Soda Center

see CHAT, p2

## Saint Mary's gets a new 'Comedy' in art gallery

Artist, writer re-create Dante's divine poem

by Jessica Lee  
Staff Writer

On February 24 and 28, students, faculty, and community members alike all came together at the Soda Center to learn about and celebrate the achievements of artist Sandow Birk and writer Marcus Sanders who created their own illustrated version of Dante's *Divine Comedy*.

The event and art exhibition, a joint effort between the Hearst Art Gallery and the Collegiate Seminar Program, was an attempt to combine visuals with education so that students could gain a fuller learning experience.

Students learned that Saint Mary's College's own Brother Michael Meister was instrumental in providing Birk and Sanders scholarly guidance throughout the project. Meister, who joined the



panel those evenings, was the reason why the college was able to have an art exhibit that ran from January 25 to February 27.

Birk and Sanders' version of the *Divine Comedy* combines contemporary images and text in a new rendering of Dante's timeless poem.

Meister spoke of how the two men are trying to help readers understand that Dante's words, while written centuries ago, "still reach out to us, even in a 21st century world."

The original story is intricate and alludes to political and religious figures, which makes it a difficult read for many students. Where as Birk and Sander's version is simpler to read and incorporates modern symbols for today's audience. "The story,

while old, is applicable and current, we can still relate," said Sanders.

Birk was first inspired by an illustrated copy of Gustave Doré's version of the *Divine Comedy* which he bought at a used book store. The images were so fantastic that Birk was inspired to make his own creation, infused with satire, political content, humor and irony.

The original project, a book with black and white illustrations, has developed into art shows with oil paintings featured in Los Angeles, San Francisco, SMC, and New York.

Meister spoke of how the imagination can help the text and while Dante wrote the story ages ago, the *Divine Comedy* still has the power to speak.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

### OPINION

Booze versus grass: Aiden Rahimi makes the choice  
pg. 5

### SPORTS

Baseball drops three games to Cal over the weekend  
pg. 6



### DETOUR

Comedian Vince Morris comes to SMC  
pg. 8

# Crime Beat

2/18	10:20 p.m.	the townhouse area by Sabatte; referred to Student Conduct.
<b>Incident:</b>	Missing equipment	
<b>Synopsis:</b>	XBox and Playstation with controllers missing from Dryden Lounge; referred to Student Conduct.	
2/18	11:47 p.m.	
<b>Incident:</b>	Malicious mischief	
<b>Synopsis:</b>	Broken window in Augustine Hall; referred to Student Conduct and Business Office.	
2/19	12:49 a.m.	
<b>Incident:</b>	Vandalism/student conduct violation	
<b>Synopsis:</b>	Room trashed and cabinet door broken in Hagerty Lounge; referred to Student Conduct and Business Office.	
2/19	10:38 p.m.	
<b>Incident:</b>	Vandalism	
<b>Synopsis:</b>	Hole kicked in wall of the second floor stairwell of Augustine Hall; referred to Student Conduct and Business Office.	
2/20	12:30 a.m.	
<b>Incident:</b>	Student conduct violation/public intoxication	
<b>Synopsis:</b>	Failure to comply with college official's orders in	
2/20	12:50 a.m.	
<b>Incident:</b>	Student conduct violation - underage drinking/public intoxication	
<b>Synopsis:</b>	Assault and vandalism in Syufy and Justin; referred to Student Conduct and Health and Wellness Center.	
2/20	1:45 a.m.	
<b>Incident:</b>	Underage drinking/public intoxication	
<b>Synopsis:</b>	Disturbance and vandalism in Frietas and Guerrieri East; referred to Student Conduct.	
2/20	2:20 a.m.	
<b>Incident:</b>	Student conduct violation - forced illegal entry into dorm room	
<b>Synopsis:</b>	Public intoxication, vandalism, and battery in North Claeys; referred to Student Conduct and Business Office.	
2/20	9:24 p.m.	
<b>Incident:</b>	Grand theft	
<b>Synopsis:</b>	DVD player, cash, credit card stolen from Guerrieri West; referred to Student Conduct.	

## Interested in a Career in Finance or Investment Management?

Attend the Saint Mary's College M.S. in Financial Analysis and Investment Management (MS-FAIM) Open House on March 16 from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm, located at the Marriott Hotel in downtown San Francisco. Administrators, faculty, and a current student will be on hand to discuss the program and answer your questions.

### The MS-FAIM Program at a Glance

- 15 month, lock-step, cohort-based
- No post-graduate work experience required
- Classes held twice a week from 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm in downtown San Francisco, near BART
- MBA Option: graduates of the MS-FAIM Program can also earn an MBA from Saint Mary's College by taking 6-9 additional courses
- Offered summer 2005

### Student Opinion

*"The MS-FAIM Program has elevated my analytical skills. I now feel confident when valuing a firm, security, or alternative investment. The program has helped me perform my work more efficiently and prepared me for all three levels of the CFA Exam - a designation which is a 'must-have' these days."*

Ben C. Sanders, Securities Compliance Examiner, U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission  
B.S. in Economics and Business Administration (SMC Class of 2003)  
M.S. in Financial Analysis and Investment Management (SMC Class of 2005)

For more information or to RSVP: visit [smcmba.com](http://smcmba.com), email [smcmba@stmarys-ca.edu](mailto:smcmba@stmarys-ca.edu) or call extension 4622

# Students: Donate your old glasses and cell phones

by Marcy Bowie  
Contributing Writer

Have you ever wondered what to do with your old eyeglasses or sunglasses when you get a new pair? Or how about any old cell phones when you upgrade to a better brand or service? Public Safety donates used eyeglasses to the Lyon's Club. The Lyon's Club recycles and gives used eyeglasses to those less fortunate. Old/used cell phones (and batteries) are donated to Shelter Alliance.

Through their "Reuse" program Shelter Alliance markets collected cell phones to cellular phone companies in need of inexpensive, outdated technology. The "Reuse" program has enabled Shelter Alliance to contribute \$1,700,000 to domestic violence programs (approximately 70% of the phone donated). Public Safety has designed a specific women's shelter where the money from our cell phone donations is sent. As of this date \$108 on behalf of Saint Mary's College has been sent to this shelter. Phones that are de-

termined as "non-reusable" are disposed of safely, responsibly, and legally.

Let's do our part in helping those less fortunate, those who are victims of domestic violence and protecting our environment. All used eyeglasses, sunglasses and cell phones (and phone batteries) can be dropped off in the Public Safety Administrative Office in Sienna Hall, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Marcy Bowie is the administrative assistant for the Department of Public Safety.

## How can you help?

**What:** Old eyeglasses, sunglasses and cell phones

**Where:** Public Safety Office, Siena Hall

**For more info:**  
Public Safety: x4282;  
[www.shelteralliance.com](http://www.shelteralliance.com)

# THEFTS:

continued from pg. 1

You think they would just share with their friends that do have the games rather than stealing them."

Those who work in Dryden have already noticeable a drop in the amount of students using the game room.

"There is [sic] definitely less people coming into Dryden. People usually come in here for three reasons. The main reason is ping pong, then pool, and then the Xbox. I would say there's been a 15-20% reduction in people coming into Dryden," said Byrom.

The stolen stuff probably won't be replaced this year, added Byrom. "I talked to Jim [Sciuto] and he says that there isn't any budget right now to replace the stuff that was stolen. It might be replaced next year."

Most of the workers were surprised and felt terrible for those who used the systems.

"I feel bad for the students that used to come in here between classes and play Halo on the Xbox. Now they don't do anything except sit and watch daytime television," said Minogue '06.

# GRANTS: Students' voice powerful, says Douglas

continued from pg. 1

the importance of students giving their thoughts to government officials. "It's a great thing because I could go up there and talk about Cal Grants and everything, but when a student goes up to talk to a legislator, the impact is really great," said Douglass. "In addition to that, we have a lot of alumni that are in public office up there. They really know SMC, so when a student from here visits to talk with them specifically, the public official remembers what it's like to be a student, and an automatic rapport gets established."

The proposed cut, \$873, according to Douglass is the issue

at hand. "It's important to bring this issue forward and have the legislators know that \$873 may seem like a small amount to a lot of people, but it's a huge amount for students. Many students in general work part time and work out their loans, so we want to make sure that they're cutting a huge amount of money and that cutting back on education is not a good thing."

Douglass also wanted to applaud the participating SMC seniors on their duty to not only the school as representatives, but as voices for students who come after them. "I really appreciate the students taking the time to make

this trip in the middle of the week to show the legislators how important the Cal Grant is to their lives. I tend to think that the education process here at SMC is only in the classroom, but it's also taking the knowledge and being able to communicate it effectively in the real world."

Other schools attending Student Lobbying Day include the University of San Francisco, the California Institute of Technology, the University of Southern California, Mount Saint Mary's, the University of San Diego, and the University of Redlands.

The second Lobbying Day will take place on May 25.

# CHAT: WASC report to motivate some discussion

continued from pg. 1

completely transformed into this café-style area with bubble machines and lights and music to create this ambience and environment that's comfortable for conversation. In the Chat Room no one is the head or the leader, ev-

eryone is on an equal playing field."

The Dialogue and Deliberation Committee is responsible for organizing the Chat Room. "Hopefully everyone will show up, even those who typically don't come to

things," said Haskins. "If you feel that you don't have a voice to express your thoughts and opinions, this is your chance to do it."

The compiled results of the dialogue will be available online through SMCnet.



Logo courtesy of Jeff Haskins

# WHAT'S HAPPENING...

## WEDNESDAY

Lasallian Community information sessions - 7 p.m. - Justin Lounge

Movie Night - "Like Water for Chocolate" - 7 p.m. - Dante 204

## THURSDAY

Petitions due for ASSMC Executive Officers elections - 6 p.m. - ASSMC Office

## FRIDAY

Applications for Summer Orientation Staff (SOS) due in the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership

## SATURDAY

CILSA Group Service Project at Alameda Point Collaborative

## Don't forget

Online voting for ASSMC Executive Officers take place Tuesday, March 8 to Wednesday, March 9 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

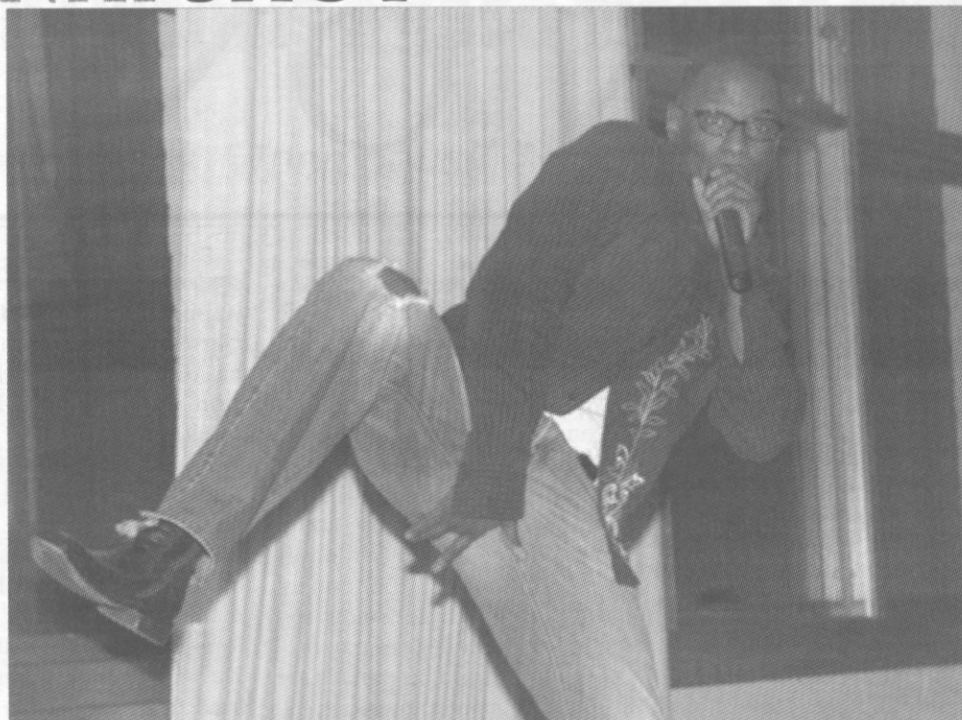
## Sponsoring an event?

## Want it in the calender?

email the Collegian at [collegia@stmarys-ca.edu](mailto:collegia@stmarys-ca.edu) or call us at x4279

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

# SNAPSHOT



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN

**Actions speak just as loud as words for comedian Vince Morris Thursday night at the Soda Center. For the story, see page 8.**

Have something to say?

Want to try your hand at journalism?

Photography?

Designing?

The Collegian wants you!

Meetings Monday nights at 6:00 p.m., Dante 115

Or contact us: x4279 collegia@stmarys-ca.edu

Program Board & Integral Present

## THE WALTZ

Thursday, April 7  
2005

Soda Center

Dinner @ 6pm  
Lessons & Dancing @ 8pm  
Tickets are \$35 each for dinner, lessons, and dancing

Advance purchase of dinner ticket  
**REQUIRED**  
\$20 for Lessons, Dance  
Questions call (925) 631-4146

## beyond the bubble

NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS BITES

By TONY VALA-HAYNES

- WASHINGTON, D.C. - After returning home from a trip to Europe, President Bush announced his desire to strengthen and save Social Security. The president considers Social Security one of his top domestic priorities. He fears citizens his age will soon be retiring and wants to make it a priority to protect their interests.

- BERKS COUNTY, Pennsylvania - After being hit by a freight train early Friday morning, a man remains in critical condition. Jason Conrad, 27, was spotted by the train's engineer on the tracks. The engineer blew his horn, but Conrad did not have time to get off the tracks before he was struck.

- ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico - An investigation is underway after a man, reportedly in his 30s, went up in flames while buying gas at a local gas station Thursday. The man is in critical condition after nearly fifty percent of his body was covered with 2nd and 3rd degree burns. Witnesses have no idea how the fire began.

- ANDERSON, Indiana - Alejandra Martinez is making an astonishing recovery after what should have been a fatal accident three months ago. Martinez was impaled by a fence post in a car crash in November. The fence post entered her mouth and went through the back of her head. Martinez, 28, is speaking 4 months ahead of schedule according to her doctors.

- LOS ANGELES, California - The Razzie Awards took place Saturday and President Bush won worst actor for his role in Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11." The Razzie awards, now in their 25th year, are a parody of the Academy Awards which, rather than award the best in film, they seek out the worst performances and movies of the year. "Catwoman" tied with "Fahrenheit 9/11" for worst picture of the year.

- VATICAN CITY - In a sign of strength and his determination to continue on as leader of the Catholic Church, Pope John Paul II made his first public appearance since having his throat fitted with a breathing apparatus. He waved to the crowd on Sunday from Rome's Gemelli Hospital, but did not speak.

- TOKYO - Former President Bill Clinton said in an interview Sunday that his wife Hillary would make an "excellent president." A U.S. poll released last week showed that 60% of Americans think the country is ready for a female president.

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**Hilarious, yet misunderstood**



by Ryan Wilkins

Staff Writer

Fine. I'll admit it. I am addicted to MySpace. Third graders would call me a MySpace-aholic — in part because I've become a slave to the digital realm, but also because third graders love to stick "aholic" to the end of various words. I'm a sick man.

It all started a couple months ago, when a few of my friends started making accounts. They'd post a list of their favorite movies, TV shows, and musical artists, and frankly, I thought it looked like a rollicking good time. So I made one too. Who knew what I was getting myself into?

For the uninitiated, a "MySpace account" refers to a user profile at [myspace.com](http://myspace.com), one of many burgeoning web sites that are geared toward helping college students 1) digitally connect with one another, and 2) waste time, while feeling strangely creepy at 3 a.m. Sites similar to [myspace.com](http://myspace.com) are numerous, including [campushook.com](http://campushook.com) and [thefacebook.com](http://thefacebook.com), which you've probably heard about from your friends who go to real universities. (Pop quiz: Guess what Moraga institution isn't listed within the directory of either site?) Myspace.com has the biggest audience, however, because not only does it allow for non-students to register accounts, but because it allows users to post pictures online.

That said, I'm addicted. Every day I come back to my room and immediately check to see if I've been added to the "Friend Space" of any new MySpace users. I also check to see if anyone I know has created a new account, so I can add them and continue to have more buddies than my friends. I can't help myself. Checking MySpace accounts has just become part of my routine, right after secretly reading all my friends' AIM Profiles and Away Messages.

What's most fascinating about MySpace, however — and probably why I find it so addicting — is the way people use their accounts to indirectly say things about themselves that they might not be comfortable saying face-to-face. In other words, I'm engrossed with the way people try to manage their identities. After all, you can be almost anyone you want while on the Internet, and most MySpace users take full advantage of that.

Lest this read like a paid endorsement for MySpace — not unlike a government-funded article in the *Talon News* — I'm not in love with every aspect of the site. It's just become a pleasant diversion as I roll toward graduation in three short months. Every time I log on, I can't help but think that, come June, I won't be able to do this anymore without feeling a little weird — like that 24-year-old who graduated back in '01, but you still see at house parties in the area.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to get back to my computer.

# OPINION

## Collegian View

Ian Urtnowski's \$24 million lawsuit against SMC is completely ludicrous. Instead of accepting responsibility for his actions like an adult, Ian is childishly shirking that responsibility by trying to place the blame for his complete disregard of the college's alcohol policy on the administration.

Ian's father argues that, had he been given proper notification of the violations, Ian would have been taken out of the dorms immediately and the problems would have subsided. Scott Kier, associate dean of students, says that notification was sent in December 2004, and that Ian was told in November that a letter was being sent. The college's court documents correctly state

that because Ian was told the letter was being sent, he could have easily intercepted it or had it sent to another address.

Regardless, is it the school's responsibility to baby-sit the students and call Mom and Dad the second that there is trouble? That may have worked in high school, but as Ian apparently has not learned by now, at college, students are adults and expected to act like adults.

Ian himself claims that the school should have removed him from the dorms sooner. His logic states that if he had been removed from the dorms, that is, kicked off campus, he would not have received any more alcohol violations and thus would not have been suspended from the college.

This may be so, but the argument is inherently faulty on two counts. First, Saint Mary's students who live on campus are allowed to move off at any time. Second, drinking is of course not a requirement to live in the dorms. Several students who live on campus simply choose not to drink. This was a choice Ian was unable to make, the consequences of which he is now trying to get the college to pay for.

Finally, Ian and his parents are asking that Ian be allowed to continue his studies at SMC immediately, despite the fact that college officials have said he will be allowed to reapply in the fall. This is a request that is completely unfair to the current students. Even assuming the case is

settled quickly, it would be near impossible for him to begin classes weeks after the semester has begun. Does the class discussion suffer because Ian has to catch up? Will he be graded by the same standards as the other students? What if the classes he needs are full?

Many students take semesters off. Some even take off a year or more. The fact is Ian is allowed to reapply for the fall semester. He will only be a semester behind. If he chooses to not return to SMC, he still has plenty of time to apply to transfer to another school. Maybe the best choice is for him to attend a community college for a year. Then he will be able to live at home, under the watchful eyes of Mom and Dad.

## Community Views

Dear SMC Community,

Have you ever lost your cell phone, wallet, keys, jacket, etc... and wondered if there was a Lost & Found on campus? Or maybe you are someone who found a cell phone, wallet, etc... and wanted to do the right thing and turn it in somewhere so the lawful owner could claim it. All found property is logged, labeled and every attempt is made to return the found item to the lawful owner. Found property is stored at the Front Gate for two weeks, after which time the items are taken to the Public Safety Administrative Office in Sienna Hall for safekeeping. Once an item has been stored for sixty days the item is then discarded or donated, although keys and jewelry — which we have a lot of — are not discarded.

Our goal is to return as many of the found property items to the lawful owner as possible. Thank you for your help.

Marcy Bowie  
Administrative Assistant  
Department of Public Safety

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to three letters written by the ASSMC Executive team which appeared in the collegian dated February, 22. To begin, I note that much has been made recently in these pages as well as at the senate meetings of the decision to end the Safe Ride program. The question regarding whether or not to continue the program is essentially this one: how much is the life of a Saint

Mary's student worth? Evidently, according to the Senate, it is less than \$10,000. That is the amount it would have cost to renew the program. This is a \$2000 increase over the cost last year, but still an insignificant sum when compared to a human life. Will the added expenditure mean that there is less money for other student programs? Necessarily so. But is this too much? Definitely not! How much would the parents of a dead student pay to have their son or daughter back? How much would each one of us give up to have a dead friend back?

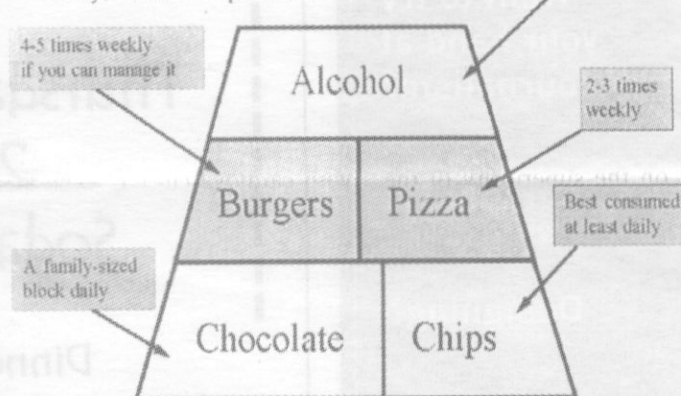
Objectors say that the program was being abused, and I agree with that assessment. We all know that a trip to Safeway is not the intended use of safe ride. But is the cost of that ride so great that it is not justified by preventing a student from driving drunk? Others will say that, from a pedagogical perspective, it is best to teach students how to be responsible and designate a driver. They will argue that after students leave Saint Mary's, they will have to fend for themselves and be responsible for their actions; that we should teach them that responsibility now, by forcing them to make their own arrangements. But how hollow do these arguments ring in the ears of someone whose son or daughter, boyfriend or girlfriend, friend or roommate has died by driving drunk? And so I ask you again, my fellow Saint Mary's community member, how much is the life of one of our own worth?

Sincerely,  
Irene Batista '05

## EATING RIGHT?

### Food pyramid

(Actually, more of a trapezoid)



### Free Screening!

Wed. Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>

11:30-2:00

Outside of Oliver Hall

For more info contact: SMC Counseling Center, 631-4364

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be submitted to the *Collegian* through mail, email, or in person. All letters should be no more than 150 words in length. The *Collegian* holds the right to edit any submitted material, solicited or unsolicited. Submit to [collegia@stmarys-ca.edu](mailto:collegia@stmarys-ca.edu)

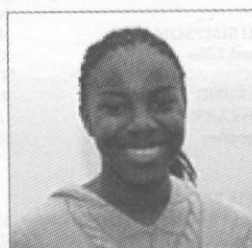
## What do you think about the 24 million dollar lawsuit?

Kendrea Chandler '08

"I think it's ridiculous. Saint Marys isn't supposed to play parent."



Colin Gallagher '08



"I don't think he has a right to sue because it was his decision to drink. The school didn't make him drink."

"I think it's ridiculous. He should be responsible for his actions, not the school."



John Gianini '06

# All I want is a good place to live...

When housing on campus is the pits, does ORL care?

by **Jessie Heying**  
Staff Writer

It was the eve of Jan Term; imagine this. A slightly-intoxicated senior woman arrived home shortly after midnight; the townhouse parties had been ex-

for the regular building and grounds crew to fix the roof once it stopped raining. But no one ever came.

During the month of January we had a variety of problems inside of our townhouse: a leak, a broken heater, a clogged sink, and a fierce ant infestation.

We had two separate leaks and an area of mold had formed due to the water, according to building and grounds.

That was the breaking point.

A suitemate and I went to see Norma in Residence Life. She had heard nothing of the leaks, the ants, the mold, or any of the other problems, and quickly

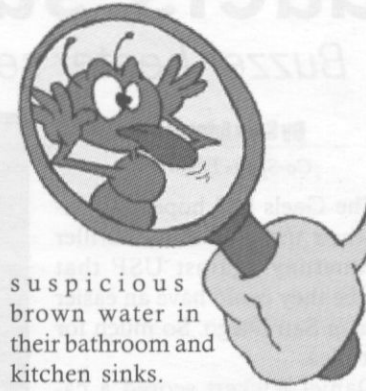
tried to resolve the housing issues. She blamed the delay on a lack of

communication between housing and building and grounds.

No matter what the lack of communication actually is, the townhouses are—to put it mildly—a cesspool of filth.

A break in occurred last semester in Syfy. Not by a perpetrator but a rat, who crawled across floors and on the walls while students scurried to trap it in a bucket.

Earlier this month, students in Guerrieri West had a back-up of



suspicious brown water in their bathroom and kitchen sinks.

Ants still overwhelm our kitchen and bathroom despite the fact we have attacked them with bleach, ant killer, nail polish remover, and sponges.

Leaks can cause damage to computers, furniture, carpet, and cause mold. Mold is a major health concern.

All I really want is to live in an environment that feels clean, healthy, and infestation free. It doesn't seem like an unreasonable request.

Earlier this month, students in Guerrieri West had a back-up of suspicious brown water in their bathroom and kitchen sinks.

tinguished and the rain had begun to pour.

Unfortunately for me, I walked into Guerrieri East and heard a big huge drip. I heard water falling and hitting something. I looked around in confusion and then I saw it, a fresh water spot on my ceiling.

The maintenance night crew arrived quickly, looked at the water, and convinced me that it would be okay for the night. He would promptly put in a request

We put in work orders (three in total) for our problems. Buildings and Grounds told us—on three different occasions—that they would relay the problems to the appropriate people.

Apparently they did not.

Six weeks later the leak had not been repaired; every so often a bowl would appear on my bedroom floor to collect the rainwater. Last week I heard another drip-drop hit the floor in the hallway.

# Weed is for me...

A comparison between two drugs shows that the law isn't always correct

by **Aideen Rahimi**  
Assistant Opinion Editor

For quite some time now, there has been a debate in the social arena on the superiority of the bottle or the joint. Many have attempted to settle this disagreement but in my opinion, no one has come close to mastering this debate until now. I am here to answer this question. Here it is folks...umm...Booze is better because...err...ahh...no, grass is better...okay, I give up, I can't choose between the two. To say that either alcohol or marijuana is better than the other would be like saying my left arm is better than my right leg. In all seriousness, I could make an argument for both booze and grass. Both have pros and cons, and maybe after laying those out, you as the reader and I as the "expert" writer could come to an agreement on which is better.

First, let's talk about the cons of these two drugs, and yes, alcohol is a drug as well. Alcohol, when taken in excess (which would be two or more drinks a day), can lead to cancer (e.g. oral, larynx, esophageal, and liver cancer), high blood pressure, miscarriage, depression, addiction, injuries due to impaired motor

skills, sudden death in people with cardiovascular disease, and many other health problems. Marijuana when taken in excess (which would be more than 2 drags a day) can lead to: most importantly, wrongful incarceration of average Joes found in possession, long-term impairment of the immune system, short-term memory loss, delayed puberty, paranoia when stoned, impairment of alertness, coordination and ability to concentrate when stoned.

There are many pros as well. Alcohol when taken in moderation can put you in an excited euphoric state, possibly reduce the risk of developing heart disease, possibly reduce the risk of dying of a heart attack and stroke, and



possibly lower the risk of diabetes. Marijuana, first of all, has the entertainment value—absolutely everything is hilarious to the stoned, it is not a depressant, it has not been proven addictive, it relieves pain brought on by cancer, AIDS, and PMS. It alle-

viates nausea and vomiting in people undergoing chemotherapy, it improves severe weight loss caused by AIDS, anorexia, and bulimia.

Looking at the pros and cons, I believe we can come to an agreement that both are great, and both cause major problems. Choosing between them is a tough and arduous task. But if weighing the pros and cons between the two, marijuana would be the wiser choice. Alcohol will make you violent whereas marijuana will just make you slow and laugh uncontrollably. Unlike alcohol, marijuana will not cause depression and kill you. Marijuana is used medicinally by many suffering from cancer and eating disorders, whereas the "possibility" of alcohol reducing some diseases and heart problems are just possibilities. Ironically, marijuana is the one that it is illegal. However, if taken in moderation, I don't see why we can't enjoy both booze and grass.

# ...if only it was legal

# I'm not laughing

Shock Jock's "Tsunami Song" an example of inexcusable callousness



by **Naveen Prasad**  
Staff Writer

As is already well known, Asia was struck by a major tsunami in late December of 2004. The devastation is stupefying, and in some cases even unbelievable. There are over 2 million dead. Thousands are still being discovered every day, even now. The destruction is so complete, that there was a major operation to save two dolphins trapped in a pool, because the rescuers felt that the dolphins were probably the only survivors of the tsunami. Yet there are still those who would laugh at this. On January 18, 2005, Tarsha Nicole Jones, also known as Miss Jones of the Miss Jones in the Morning Show, aired the "Tsunami Song." The Chorus goes: "So now you're screwed / It's the tsunami / You better run and kiss your ass goodbye / Go find your mommy I just saw her float by / A tree right through her head / And now your children will be sold, Child Slavery!" The lyrics include: "There were Africans drowning / Little Chinamen swept away / And you can hear god laughing, 'Swim, you bitches, swim!'" The song is filled with hate speech and racial slurs which trivializes and makes fun of the pain and suffering of these people. It is frankly unacceptable. The authors of this song claim that they are protected by the first amendment to record it, and indeed they are. But I don't want that kind of trash on America's airwaves, just like I don't want to hear Nazi's singing about the Holocaust either. The difference between Nazi's and these people is not much. I urge everyone to log onto <http://www.asianmediawatch.net/missjones/index.html>, to sign the petition to get Miss Jones off the air for good.

Also, if anyone would like to listen to upcoming hip hop star Jin's response to the Tsunami Song, they may log onto <http://www.badmash.org/videos/jin.mp3>.

The "Tsunami Song" is sick and disgusting. As people on this Earth, we must all come together to help those who have been so horribly affected by this terrible tragedy. Saint Mary's has already taken steps in this direction. Almost every club on this campus, including the SAAC, the College Progressives, APASA, and BSU, as well as others, have come together to help these people. Now let's show that we want basic decency on our airwaves, that we don't want such hate on our radio. In the words of Jin, "I'll bet you not a soul will miss Jones."

Christina Ithurburn '08



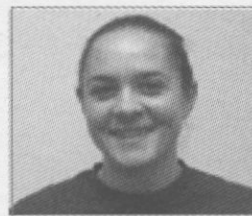
"I don't agree with the parents trying to sue the college. It wasn't the school's fault."

Enrique Ortiz '08



"Basically, he's an idiot."

"I think it's the kid's fault. He knew the policies, he should have told his parents what was going on."

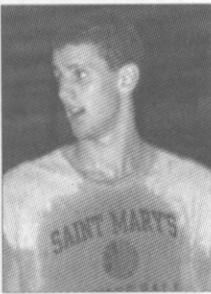


Amanda Van Loon '08

## Players of the Week

**Daniel Kickert**

The junior forward has been in exception these last two games, including scoring a career high 32 points against USD on Saturday. With the WCC tournament on the way and a possible NCAA tournament bid, Kickert may be able to showcase his game on national television.



**Triola Jackson**

On a weekend where her team needed her most, Jackson delivered, scoring double digits in both games last weekend, as well as posting a double-double (16 p & 10 RBs) against San Diego. The wins assured the Gaels of a first round bye in this weekend's WCC Tournament. Jackson is the only remaining member of the Saint Mary's squad that reached the NCAA tournament in 2000.



-Michael Chin, Sports Editor

**Score Card**

GAEL ZONE

- Men's Basketball (24-7)**  
SMC defeats USF, 81-77(3ot)  
SMC defeats USD, 86-83
- Women's Basketball (15-12)**  
SMC defeats USF, 72-57  
SMC defeats USD, 70-41
- Men's Rugby (6-1)**  
SMC defeats Nevada, Reno 34-11
- Baseball (2-9)**  
Cal defeats SMC, 5-4  
Cal defeats SMC, 5-1
- Women's Tennis (6-2)**  
SMC Defeats Nevada Reno  
UCSB defeats SMC
- Softball (1-9)**  
UCSB defeats SMC, 4-0 & 10-3
- Men's Lacrosse**  
Claremont defeats SMC, 13-12 (OT)

# SPORTS

## Gaels survive in San Diego

*Buzzer beater sends Gaels into the semi-finals of WCC tournament*

**By Sam Adams**  
Co-Sports Editor

The Gaels had hopes that after their triple-overtime thriller Wednesday against USF that maybe they could have an easier time in San Diego. So much for that idea.

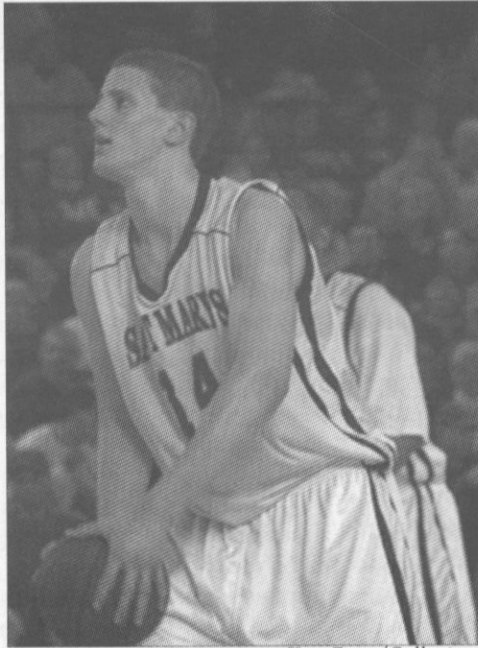
Daniel Kickert scored a career high 32 points but still had to watch USD get off two potential game tying three point attempts in the final seconds as the Gaels held on to beat the Toreros 86-83 Saturday afternoon at Jenny Craig Pavilion.

The win wrapped up second place in the WCC for the Gaels, who finished the regular season with a 24-7 overall record, 11-3 in conference play.

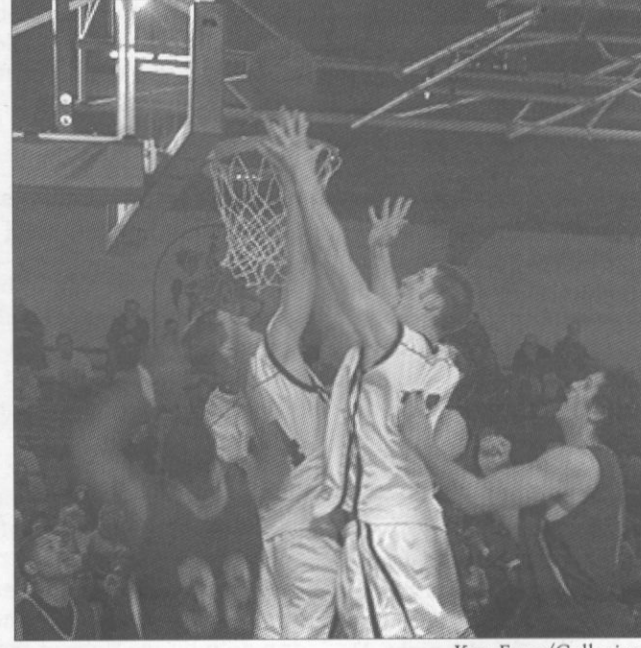
As usual, the Gaels were led by Kickert and Paul Marigney.

Kickert connected ten times from the floor, missing only five shots all game. This was especially impressive considering he was 6-for-8 from beyond the arc, a career-high as well. Marigney came on strong in the second half, scoring 18 of his 23 points. Marigney finished with four three-pointers.

The Gaels seemed to be in control for most of the game, but USD just would not let go. Saint Mary's jumped out to leads of 12-5 and 18-10, but USD closed it to 26-24 at the 6:18 in the first half. Kickert scored 11 straight points for Saint Mary's, helping the Gaels take a 37-28 lead with



Ken Fung/Collegian



Ken Fung/Collegian

Left to right: junior Daniel Kickert sinks a free throw last week against Pepperdine. Kickert, alongside center Blake Sholberg fight for a rebound against Loyola Marymount.

3:20 left until halftime. But again the Toreros went on an 11-3 run over the final three minutes to trail 40-39 at the half.

USD took the early lead in the second half, but one of Kickert's six three's tied the game at 47. With 15:57 left, Marigney drained a three to give the Gaels the lead, then scored another six straight points to give Saint Mary's a 56-48 lead.

But it was the last 11 seconds that made the game close.

With Saint Mary's holding a six point advantage, USD's Ross DeRogatas hit a three from the right corner with 10.4 seconds

remaining, cutting it to a three point game. On the following inbounds play, Marigney was called for traveling with 9.4 seconds left. Brandon Gay took an open 3-point attempt from the right corner, but missed off the front of the rim with five seconds left. After E.J. Rowland was fouled, he missed both free throws and Gay's final desperation three came up short.

Rowland finished the game with eight points and five assists.

The Gaels now look to the WCC tournament in Santa Clara next weekend, where they will receive a first and second round

bye for their 2nd place finish. But the tournament is wide open after a season in which anybody can beat anybody, with Gonzaga, USF, Santa Clara, Pepperdine and USD all in the hunt for a tournament win.

The Gaels will open WCC Tournament play on Sunday, March 6 in the semifinal round. The game, which will begin at 9:00 PM and will be shown on ESPN, will have the Gaels playing one of three teams - Santa Clara, San Francisco or Portland. The Gaels are a combined 4-2 against those three teams this season.

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# Big weekend at home pushes Gaels to 4th

## Back to Back home wins move SMC into top half of the WCC

By Jesse Radin  
Staff Writer

After consecutive victories against the San Diego Toreros and USF Dons, the Gaels improved to 15-12 on the season and 7-7 in conference play. With the wins the Gaels moved into a tie for 4th place in the West Coast Conference.

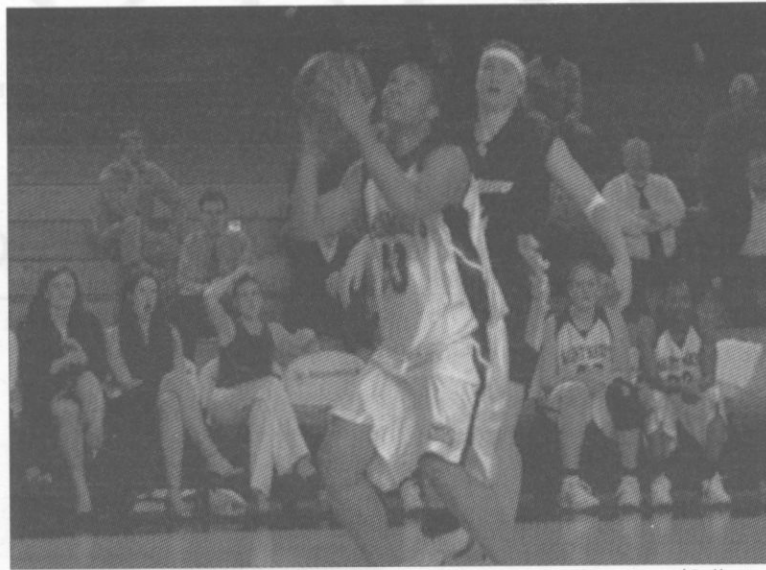
On Thursday, SMC started out hot and never cooled down. With 12 minutes to go in the first quarter, they had already amassed a 14-4 lead. That score stretched to 24-6 with seven minutes left and they finished the half ahead 35-17. San Diego's 6'5" center, Amanda Sprague, scored 13 in the first half.

While the Toreros heated up a little bit during the second half, their 26 points would not be enough to catch up to the Gaels, who posted another 35 points in the second half for a total of 70 in the game.

Senior Triola Jackson led the Gaels with 15 points and 11 rebounds on Thursday. Sheridan Arredondo added 10 points, while Eghoza Obazia scored nine points and snagged four rebounds. Brianna Winn scored eight times with five rebounds and three assists. "In our practices we've just [been] working on our execution of our plays. Our rotations on defense and cleaning up our overall game as a team," said Jackson.

Defense proved to be the key as the Gaels held USD to a 23.8% field goal percentage and a miniscule 15% 3-point ratio. The team shut down the Toreros' offense, and were especially effective at denying three-pointers.

Even when Toreros had the ball, they were rarely able to turn their opportunities into points, especially in the first half of the game. They scored only 6 points during the first thirteen minutes of the game. "We did a good job of shutting down their 3-point shot. Our



Ken Fung/Collegian

5th year senior Triola Jackson finished her final game at home with a 17 points and six rebounds.

transition defense was really good tonight. Our rotation defense is great," said head coach Michelle Jacoby.

"We played really well offensively and defensively tonight. Everybody contributed. We had played everybody by the ten-minute mark in the first half," said Coach Jacoby.

Saturday proved to be a bit closer, as the Gaels defeated USF by a score of 72-57.

Seniors Triola Jackson, Carrie Noakes, and Savannah Williams went out with a bang in their last game on the SMC stage.

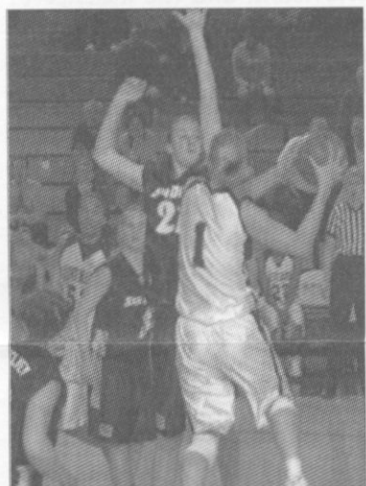
Although it was Senior Night, junior Briana Winn was the star of the show, leading all scorers with 20 points on the night. 5th year Senior Triola Jackson chipped in with 17. Freshman Majia Lahde posted her third double-double of the season with 12 points and 10 rebounds.

Like Thursday, the Gaels' defense proved to be the difference in the game. Saint Mary's held the Dons to just 25% shooting in the contest.

Jackson will look to cap off her impressive career as a Gael with a second trip to the Big Dance. Jackson is the only active player left from the 2000 Saint Mary's team that received a bid to the NCAA tournament. Currently, Jackson ranks in the top five of all time scorers in SMC history (1369) and points in a season (434). She is also in the top three for rebounds with over 500 and 6th in blocks with 60.

The Gaels will next be in action on Thursday at Santa Clara for their first game of the WCC tournament. SMC will face the 5th seeded Pepperdine Waves in a loser out game. The winner of the tournament will receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Bottom (left to right): Freshman Majia Lahde and junior Briana Winn have both been big contributors for the Gaels this season.



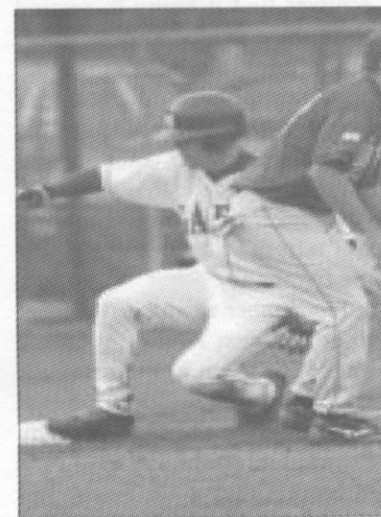
Ken Fung/Collegian



Ken Fung/Collegian

# Hitting woes continue for Gaels against Bears

Despite solid pitching, the Gaels have found wins tough to come by



smcgaels.com



smcgaels.com

(Left to right): Mike Sansoe avoids a tag by sliding into third. Bryan Byrne provided most of the Gaels' offense over the weekend.

By Michael Chin  
Sports Editor

After almost a week of non-stop rain, the Gaels were finally able to take the field this weekend for a three-game series against the California Golden Bears. Saint Mary's was met by problems, however, and were swept 3-0 in the series.

The first game, played at Evans Diamond in Berkeley, proved to be a nail biter as the two teams traded runs to nod the game up at 4-4 after 9 innings. The Gaels struck first when

junior outfielder Sam Carter blooped a single over the heads of the Cal infielders. Cal responded in the third inning with two runs of their own.

Saint Mary's regained the lead with a three run 5th inning that included a solo homerun by Bryan Byrne and a RBI single by Delaney Gallagher.

Cal responded quickly with another run of their own to tie the game at four all.

In extra innings, neither team was able to make a dent until the bottom of the 12th inning when Cal's DH James Holder hit a line

drive into the outfield for the game winning run off of SMC reliever Bryan Oland.

In the second game, the Gaels returned home to Louis Guisto field but were met with the same results, falling 5-1.

This time however, Cal jumped out to the early lead and never looked back. The two teams were tied into the 5th inning when Cal took the lead for good with a Mike Van Winden solo bomb off Gael pitcher Joel Fountain. The Bears would further pad their lead with three more runs, one coming in the 5th and followed by runs in the 8th and 9th innings.

The Gaels lone run came on consecutive two out singles from Mike Sansoe, Adam Thompson, and Cody Nelson.

The big difference for Cal was the play of Gonzaga transfer Eric Dworkis. Dworkis pitched the entire game, allowing only one earned run. He also struck out ten Gael batters.

On Sunday, Cal returned to Evans Diamond and took control of the game early, overpowering the Gaels enroute to a 6-0 victory.

Despite the losses, SMC's starting pitching played well as Kevin Trochez and Joel Foun-

tain, had excellent outings. They, however, lacked the run support to get the win. Trochez struck out three and gave up no earned runs. Fountain only gave up two runs.

Offensively, Bryan Byrne provided most of the punch with a homerun in the first game and a hit in the second. Junior College transfer Cody Nelson also added some offense as he recorded his team high 11th RBI of the season.

The series reflected the Gaels' inability to produce runs at crucial times. Out of their seven losses, four of the games have been decided by one run or less, including three extra innings contests. With a very young team, the Gaels must find the leadership they need to get through difficult situations.

Their is also the question of The Gaels' relief pitching. SMC starters have given some satisfactory innings and played well, but the relief pitchers have had some trouble as of late.

With the losses, the Gaels move to 2-8 on the season. They will return home this week to face the San Jose State Spartans and San Diego Toreros in a three game home stint at Louis Guisto Field.



Rugby

The Gaels pulled into Reno Saturday, after a long bus ride, to face a the Nevada Wolfpack. St. Mary's came into the game ranked 10th in nation, moving up one spot from last week. SMC was led by Kevin Swiryn, Damien Fatongia, Evan Bariault, and Dan Wright. Each player scored a try for the team. Volney Rouse made all four kicks after the tries. Rouse also added drop ball kick to make the final score 34-11. The Gaels will be in action next at Stanford on March 12th.

-Anthony Cuadro, Staff Writer



Women's Tennis

The women's tennis team showed why they have only lost two contests this season, as they crushed the visiting Nevada Reno 7-0 on Saturday. In a dominating display of tennis prowess, Aude Lambert, Kate Harden, Megan Schulman, Kristin Kummer, Jessica Hoath, and Steph Ordoveza all won their singles matches to steal the singles point 6-0. Not to be outdone in doubles, Lambert and Hoath combined to defeat their doubles opponent 8-1, while Harden and Ordoveza downed their challengers 8-2. With the win the Gaels improve to 6-2 on the season.

-Allison Kop,  
Assistant Sports Editor



Softball

The Gaels played a tough double header on Saturday, dropping two games to visiting UC Santa Barbara. In Game 1, senior Staci Hamaguchi had the only hit for Saint Mary's in the 4-0 loss. In Game 2, the Gaels got on the board first, but couldn't keep up with the Gauchos high-powered offense, losing 10-3. Lauren Mello and Chelsea Loftis each had one RBI for Saint Mary's. With the losses, the Gaels record drops to 1-9. Saint Mary's next faces UC Davis on this Saturday at high noon on Cottrell Field.

-Allison Kop,  
Assistant Sports Editor

### SMC WEEKLY ATHLETIC SCHEDULE:

#### Monday

Women's Crew, All Day  
Sacramento Invitational

#### Tuesday

Women's Tennis vs USF, 3pm  
Women's LAX vs UC Davis, 3pm

Baseball vs San Jose St.  
3pm

#### Thursday

Women's Basketball,  
WCC Tournament TBA

Men's Tennis vs Hawaii, 3pm

#### Friday

Women's Tennis @ Cal Poly,  
All Day

Baseball vs San Diego, 3pm

#### Sunday

Men's Basketball,  
WCC Tournament, TBD

## Reviews

will not be featured this week. We hope you enjoy Part II of The Legend of Chris Long: His side of the story.

## Lies, Tariffs, and Taxes

Chris Long

Dirty Assistant Editor

Lies, lies, slanderous lies. If you read last week's article by the hardcore Detour Editor Angel Vasquez, you must be under the impression that I am a moron, an imbecile, a dupe. Well, to Saint Mary's students, one and all, I bring you the true and unbiased story on how I became the softcore, assistant Detour editor.

I can't speak to how Vasquez and Mateo needed a fresh literary blood infusion into Collegian, but I can tell you that on Monday afternoon I was struck by an evil chill. Little did I know that the nefarious Angel Vasquez turned his evil eyes in my innocent direction. I was innocently sitting at my computer, when Vasquez messaged me via AOL Instant Messenger.

Chris, I need you to go to the collegian meeting cuz I'm not gonna be here this weekend. I already talked to mateo and he'll teach you how to put the page together.

There was no way I was going to work for Collegian. Who would want that kind of stress? But he continued pressuring me to help him. He said that he was leaving, and I was curious, what can I say, I'm a curious little cheeky monkey. He told me that:

*I'm auditioning for lynrd skynyrd in Alabama. I'll be back next week. If all goes well, I'll never be back.*

I am thinking, "whatever", who would be stupid enough to believe that? Besides I thought they were dead (does anyone know?). So I message back "kk." But I needed books from him for Brother Mark's Religions and Literature class. He had them, I needed them, and like the evil Dark Lord of the Sith he is, he had demands. I had to meet him at the storyboard meeting. So fine, I will go. Like hell was I going to pay \$60 for more books. To hell with that.

First, I did not meet Vasquez in the meeting; I met him outside, while I was calmly peeling an orange. By the way, it was delicious. Tasted like sweet Valentine's Day bliss. He gave me the books and then told me to go with him into the meeting, I did not have anything better to do so I went. Big mistake. Somehow, I end up writing an article, and then to make a joke I said I should be his assistant. I said it too loud. Angel heard, took it to Chris Mateo, and suddenly I was on staff. Damn.

Isn't that right big buddy?

[ed. note: No, that's wrong. Fool! Now your soul is mine forever. In you I plant the seeds of evil. On the seventh day, a child shall be born.]

# DÉTOUR

"How can I be down?" - Jerrad Fanucchi...quoting someone else

## My Evening With Jerrad and HIM

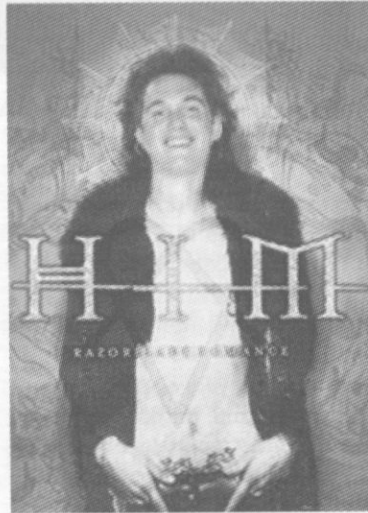
ANGEL VASQUEZ, THE ONE AND ONLY

This is the most glorious and best story in the world. See, me and my friend, Jerrad, were walking somewhere. I don't really remember where, but I know we were walking. We've always enjoyed each other's company, and this was no exception. I looked into his gentle, soft face and asked him if we wouldn't mind accompanying me to the HIM concert. Like a true gentleman, he agreed.

At first he was a little scared. He had never heard of HIM. In his angelic voice he asked, "What does HIM mean?" "His Infernal Majesty," I replied. This startled him. He believed their moniker meant that they were devil worshipers. I assured him that it wasn't about that and let him one of their albums. He thought it was awesome. In fact, he loved it.

He told me to meet him at the Playstation room in the Metreon. I was nervous. I wandered the store aimlessly for a while. The anticipation was unbearable. Yet, as the time passed I couldn't help but wonder if he would show. After the circling the store for the twenty-third time, I sat next to a

Metal Gear Solid 3: Snake Eater poster, so Snake could keep me company.



Just as hope began to fade, there he was. He apologized for being late. He blamed it on the traffic, but I could tell it was because he took the extra time to pretty himself up. It was sweet. He suggested before hitting up the concert that we go to Starbucks. He knew how I liked it.

Walking to The Warfield, we saw many people of the gothic variety. Instead of stopping to look

at their pretty clothes, my eyes were glued on him. I couldn't believe that I was hanging out with the fabled Jerrad Fanucchi, despite the fact that I see him everyday. But it was different this time. We were in the city. The most romantic city in...the Bay Area.

My memory starts getting a little hazy at this point. I just remember floating sometimes.

The first band was some dude with a buch or robots. They were pretty cool, but Jerrad seemed unimpressed. The second band was OK, and the singer tried to be like Mick Jagger. Only Scott Weiland can get away with that, but Jerrad thought they were pretty solid.

The time drew nigh for HIM to appear. And when they did, it was pure majesty, just like their name. Inbetween rubbing Jerrad's knee and serenading him, we were heartily rocked. HIM was just downright inspirational.

And there you have it. True life testament to the greatness of Jerrad, and a little bit of HIM.

## Comedian Vince Morris Entertains, Stimulates

Poignant remarks make for thought-provoking, laugh-filled night

by Bettina Adragna

Staff Writer

Comedian Vince Morris, who has had a half-hour special on Comedy Central and an appearance on *Sex and the City*, came to Saint Mary's on the February 24. The topics ranged from hip-hop and stereotypes to his personal life. Combining profundity with humor, Vince Morris made for a great show and an energetic audience.

Morris started off the night by talking about his trip to the college. He said that he didn't know Saint Mary's existed, and described the city of Oakland as [fecal]. He hypothesized that ten thousand people must've been enrolled at Saint Mary's, but the other eight thousand must've "gotten lost on the way here." He also remarked on the name of a certain building on campus. "Brother Jerome," he said, "Could you get a blacker name than that?"

Later on, Morris discussed hip-hop music and its faults. He didn't like how music videos degrade women—he thought "the

measure of a man is how he respects his women." This brought approving applause from the audience. He didn't discuss other types of music, like heavy metal, because they weren't his "problem," but thought that maybe, if one played a heavy metal CD "backwards, under water, and with mustard on it," the music might very well be compelling young people to kill their parents. He questioned the effect some hip-hop lyrics might have on young women, pointing out that girls would tolerate being called "bitches" and "hos" if there were a bass beat in the background, but that they weren't "a cappella sluts."

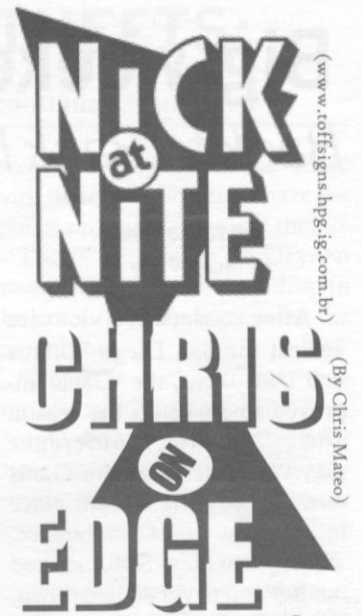
At one point during the night he called up an audience member to do some jokes of his own. One of the audience member's friends told her friend to do a speech. The audience member proceeded to start a talk about sexual positions, and Morris volunteered to demonstrate them. The audience learned a new word, "grundle"

(which is the area between the testicles and the anus). Morris called it a "taint."

On a more serious note, Morris reflected on his father, remembering that his dad would listen to The Isley Brothers or Louis Armstrong in the dark, smoking and only turning the light on to say something important, then turning it off again. It was during the discussion on his father that he made one of his most poignant remarks—"It's not where you're raised, it's how you're raised."

Morris also talked about his idea of having successful, older black men go to ghettos in order to inspire young black men. "You're the OG," the young men would say, and the successful older man in his nice car would say, "No, man, I'm the OB—G-Y-N. Stay in school, kids."

As this remark exemplifies, Vince Morris made for both a fun and thought-provoking night.



For twenty-one years I was under the impression that Nickelodeon's "Nick @ Nite" lineup was meant for classics. I remember when staying up after 9:00 p.m. meant watching stuff like The Brady Bunch, The Dick Van Dyke Show, Happy Days, I Love Lucy, Sanford and Sun, Bewitched, Leave it to Beaver, and a ton of other shows I filed as "Oldies but Goodies."

I was raised on more than just Saturday morning cartoons and TGIF (which, like Saturday Night Live, I've been told, will never die). I was raised on old school humor, black and white television, and the absence of crude language. I had a proper television upbringing, to say the least.

Now, in this age of reality TV, warnings to make sure my thirteen-year-old cousins don't watch TV14-rated shows, and winning money for eating four-legged roaches, I am slowly catching up to what violent perverted teenagers call "entertainment." It's moments like these that make me wish I could just turn to Tony Danza and ask, "Who's the Boss?"

Luckily, I'm officially old. My generation and I have left the secure regions of optimistic humor and have treaded lightly on the tragic-comic realms of pseudo-reality. In a world already full of pain and misery, television executives find it funny to remind us of the downfall known as living. In case you didn't remember how capitalism and hierarchy work in this society, perhaps "winning the heart" of a millionaire or singing to become America's next pop sensation will refresh your memory. Show me the money.

I remember when I just wanted to be the next American Idle. I remember when I could sit back and enjoy the wisdom of Bill Cosby, the bitterness of Murphy Brown, and the brain fart known as Steve Urkel.

Luckily, "Nick @ Nite" now has the lineup of my childhood. I get to relive my elementary years with The Cosby Show, Murphy Brown, Roseanne, Wings, Who's the Boss, and my personal favorite, The Fresh Prince of Bel Air.

I'm more confused than sad. I remember when watching these shows meant it was primetime on my couch, not late night in Saga (that's right, I said Saga).

I'm now watching things others label "Oldies but Goodies." I'm watching classics at the time only old farts stay up and new college students party up. I'm on the "Nick @ Nite" website wondering how much longer will it take for TGIF to stand for "Thank God I'm Forty."