

THE COLLEGIAN

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA

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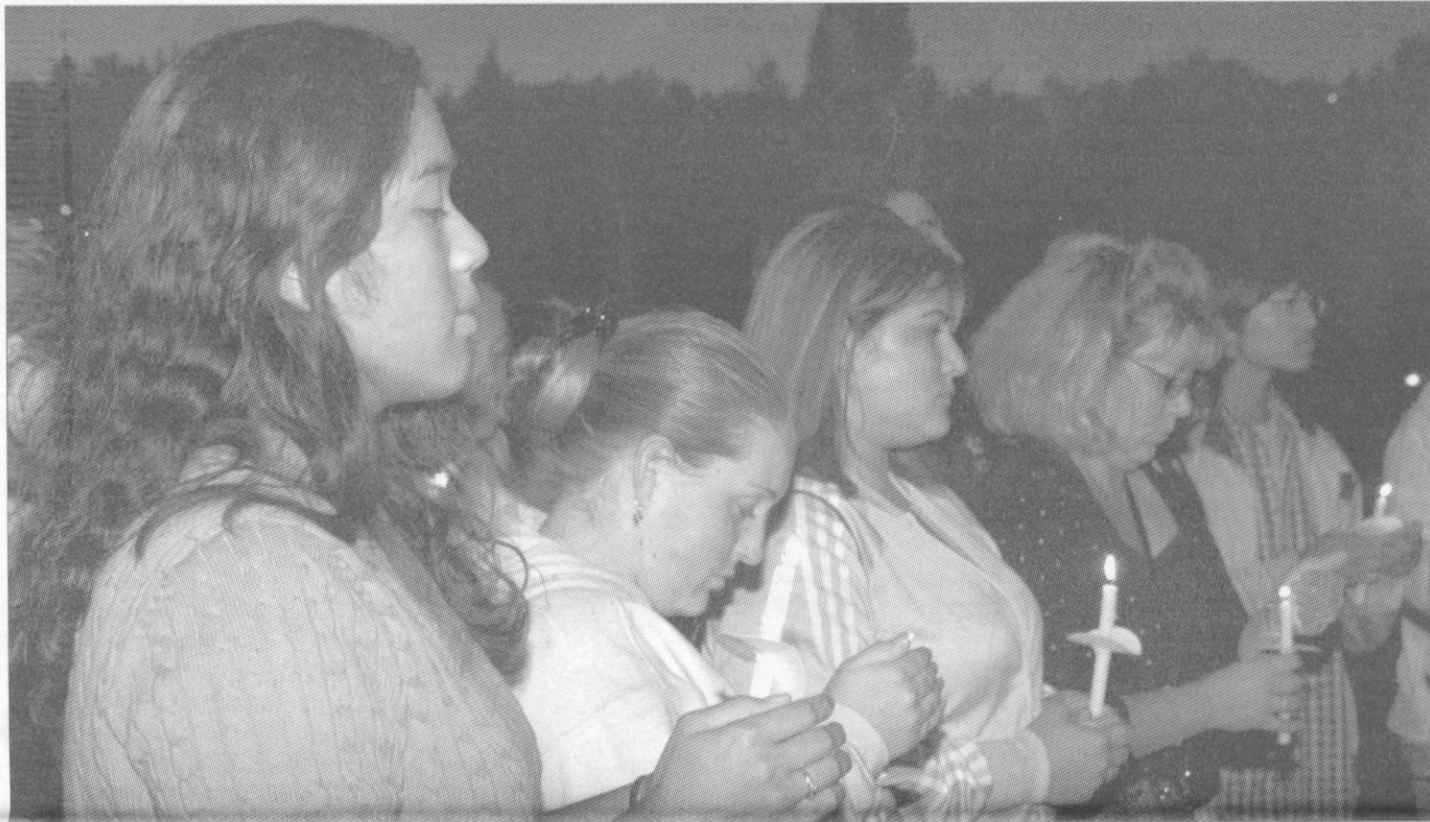


Moraga, California

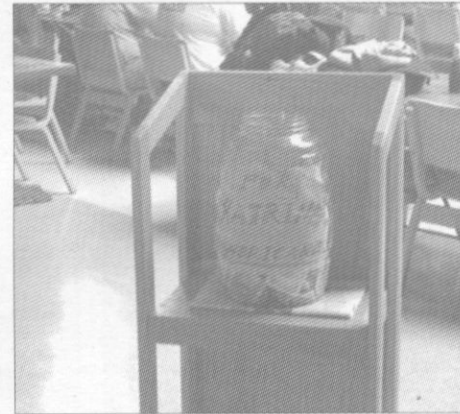
Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Volume 103, Number 2

CAMPUS RESPONDS TO KATRINA WITH WIDESPREAD RELIEF EFFORT



Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN

Students bow their heads during a candlelight procession for the victims of Hurricane Katrina during mass last Sunday (above). Top right: Money is collected in the dining hall on Friday for hurricane relief; Bottom right: Gas prices have risen dramatically as a result of the disaster, reaching \$3.00 a gallon in some places

Informational meeting to be held tonight to coordinate hurricane relief throughout the fall semester

by Jonathan Morales
Editor-in-Chief

A massive, campus-wide relief effort is underway at Saint Mary's College to help Lasallian schools affected by Hurricane Katrina and the ensuing crisis in the Gulf Coast. Saint Mary's has also accepted a handful of students from universities in the Gulf Coast region for the fall semester.

Campus Ministry is spearheading the fundraiser for the De La Salle Christian Brothers' San Francisco District with a campaign called Bridges to Bayou, headed by Campus Minister Pamela Thomas.

"[The campaign] is the San Francisco District's response to the needs of our Louisiana Lasallian community," said Thomas. "The hope is that as a unified response we are practicing what we preach, working as a community, focusing on our Lasallian community."

Hurricane Katrina stormed across the Gulf Coast last Monday, flooding most of the city of New Orleans and devastating the entire region in what many fear may be the worst natural disaster in the U.S. since the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. Three Lasallian schools in the region have been drastically affected: Christian Brothers School in New Orleans, De La Salle in New Orleans, and Saint Paul's School in Covington.

"Students from the Lasallian schools here in the New Orleans areas have lost everything except family," said Br. Jeffrey Calligan, Auxiliary Visitor for the New Orleans-Santa Fe (NOSF) District in an e-mail to Campus Ministry on Thursday. "God, the seeming perpetrator of this disaster, becomes a question and a needed resource."

The Bridges to Bayou campaign will create an "umbrella" for students, faculty and staff to organize under, and will coordinate relief efforts throughout the San Francisco District. The campaign kicked off last Friday and will last until December 4th, the annual Liturgy of Lights, when all schools will be invited as guests to "symbolically bring their gifts," according to Thomas.

"We're asking for participation," Thomas said, adding that schools with 100% participation in the campaign will be invited to send representatives to join Saint Mary's students for a community service project in Louisiana.

An informational meeting will be held tonight at 7:30 p.m. to begin planning events for the campaign, and Thomas encouraged students who want to get involved to bring their ideas and calendars.

"We're looking for students and organizations who want to get involved," said

see KATRINA, p4

Commuter students feel Katrina's crunch Students and staff feel effects of increasing gas prices

by Julie McAvoy
Staff Writer

With gas prices rising and further increases expected because of hurricane damage, Saint Mary's College students and staff must reevaluate their daily routines and gas expenditures. Teachers and commuter students fight traffic from as far as Davis to make it to Saint Mary's campus every day.

Since Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast and Southern United States a week and a half ago, energy companies have been struggling to generate and supply gasoline. This has caused further increases to an already expensive product.

Sophomore Andrew Wickler, who is among the 1,178 commuter students that attend Saint Mary's, has taken a proactive step toward avoiding costly gas prices and reducing pollution. Instead of driving to campus every day, Wickler takes the bus to save money.

"Public transportation is convenient and saves me up to 40 dollars a week, which can be used to buy other things," said

Wickler.

Other commuter students, including Danielle Arruda ('08), continue to depend on their cars to get them to classes and back home. Arruda drives 45 minutes from Concord, Monday through Friday, to attend classes. She estimated that she fills up her gas tank about once a week thanks to "driving to school, work, and back home every day." Arruda said, "I am definitely a penny pincher. I will drive around the block to find the cheapest gas. I don't want to pay more than I have to."

Even Saint Mary's students living on campus are affected by the expensive gas prices. Niki LaFemina ('08) has significantly reduced the amount that she drives to avoid having to put all of her money into her gas tank. "Instead of driving into Berkeley or San Francisco for shopping, I am going to take BART to save money," said LaFemina. "Even though BART is kind of dirty, it will be a lot cheaper than the gas it would take to get there."

see GAS, p4

ALSO IN THE NEWS:

Saint Mary's holds steady in national rankings
pg. 3

A letter from a friend in New Orleans
pg. 4

Meet the brothers: the four brothers interview
pg. 5

INSIDE THIS WEEK

OPINION

Brent Mills offers sage advice for your life
pg. 6

DETOUR

A freshman tells of her first-week experience
pg. 8

SPORTS

Women's soccer defeats Santa Barbara
pg. 10



The Collegian
THE INSIDE PAGE

THE COLLEGIAN

Saint Mary's College of California

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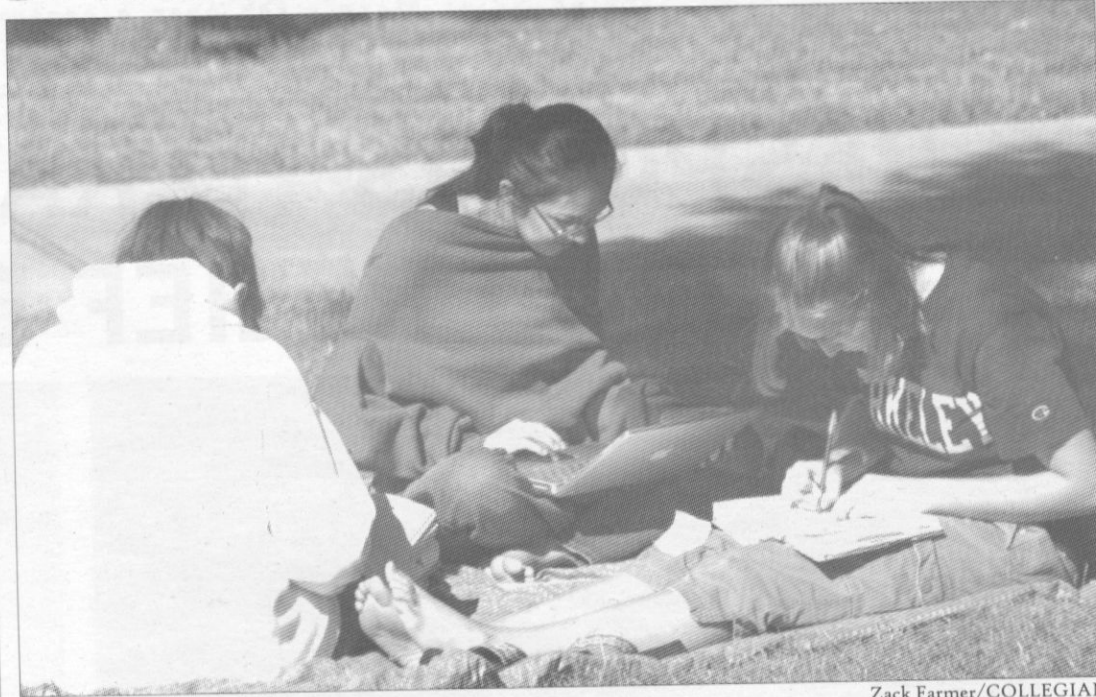
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SNAPSHOT



Zack Farmer/COLLEGIAN

Gillian Ellis '09, Katilin Gligo '09 and Jackie Castaneda '09 do some homework on the lawn after the first week of classes.



JO-ANN ARQUILLANO

From the Managing Editor's Desk

I sit at my desk and wonder what on earth I could possibly write about that would somehow manage to retain your attention. I fidget in my seat, I fumble with the stray pen caps that have ended up separated from their inky counterparts and construct some odd, three-pronged structure with absolutely no productive value. In search of inspiration I stare at the drying coconut in front of me – a permanent staple of my workspace that my dear friend and I christened Prometheus Van for no other reason than to amuse ourselves last year.

I thought I'd write about how incredibly terrified and yet simultaneously eager I am at the fact that in roughly nine months I – and my fellow seniors – will be facing the rest of our adult lives. But my current state of denial has completely eclipsed any ability I have to even begin to ponder what I'm going to do with my post-collegiate existence. I considered what I could say about the upcoming year of the Collegian and all my high hopes as we introduce a new design with an enthusiastic, promising staff propelling it. But I feared falling into the cop-out trap of filling space with exaggerated pleasantries and acclaim and coming off insincere or even worse, unbearably corny. I could discuss the unbelievable

see ARQUILLANO, p4

Campus Quotes: Did you go to the dance on Saturday?



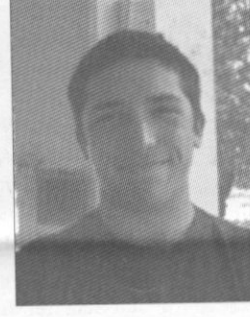
"Yes. It was fun. There was a lot of energy. People were dancing and having a good time."

Celine Miernicki '09



"Yes. I don't remember much."

Jacob Solis '06



"Yeah. I had fun. It was really crowded, nasty and sweaty."

Eddie Hayes '09



"No. I went home to watch my little brother's football game."

Kannon Smith '09

Crime Beat

8/28 1:00 a.m.
Incident: Handbook violation
Synopsis: Intoxicated student in Justin Hall; referred to Student Conduct.

8/28 3:48 a.m.
Incident: Confiscated property
Synopsis: Alcohol found hidden on top of De La Salle/Augustine breezeway.

8/28 9:30 a.m.
Incident: Assistance to a citizen
Synopsis: Unauthorized visitor at front gate; referred to Student Conduct.

8/28 7:35 p.m.
Incident: Medical assistance
Synopsis: Ill student in Aquinas; transported to Kaiser Walnut Creek. Referred to Student Conduct & Health and Health and Wellness Center.

8/28 10:33 p.m.
Incident: Property damage
Synopsis: Non-injury auto collision (fire hydrant & vehicles) at De La Salle Dr & Alemany Dr; referred to Sharon Neward, Business Office.

8/29 6:49 p.m.
Incident: Fire alarm activation
Synopsis: Fire alarm activation due to burnt popcorn in Aquinas Hall; referred to Student Conduct & Physical Plant.

8/29 10:10 p.m.
Incident: Student Handbook violation
Synopsis: Possession of a hookah and one beer in North Claeys; referred to Student Conduct.

8/30 1:40 p.m.
Incident: Verbal Threat
Synopsis: Verbal threat at Collegiate Seminar Office; referred to Student Conduct.

8/31 5:54 p.m.
Incident: Activated fire alarm
Synopsis: Activated fire alarm and broken window in Aquinas; referred to Student Conduct & Physical Plant.

8/31 10:30 p.m.
Incident: Medical call
Synopsis: Minor under the influence of alcohol in Aquinas Hall; transported to John Muir. Referred to Student Conduct and Health & Wellness Center.

9/1 4:16 a.m.
Incident: Medical assistance
Synopsis: Student transported to John Muir Hospital; referred to Student Conduct & Health and Wellness Center.

9/2 1:05 a.m.
Incident: Emergency restraining order
Synopsis: Emergency restraining order in city of Lafayette; referred to Student Conduct.

Beyond the Bubble

NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS BITES



TONY VALA-HAYNES

Beyond the Bubble Special: Hurricane Katrina

-While trying to evacuate patients from the hospital in Tulane, a helicopter was repeatedly fired upon by an unseen sniper on Thursday. The evacuations were halted for a time while officials tried to

investigate the source of the shooting.

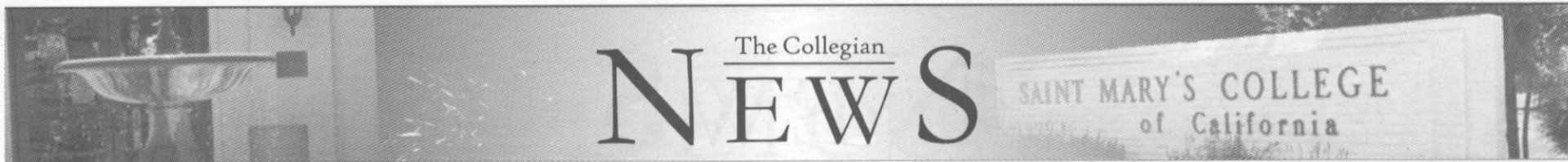
-Three luxury, carnival cruise ships have been chartered by the U.S. government to house victims of Hurricane Katrina. The cruise liners, Ecstasy and Sensation each have a capacity of 2,606 and will be docked in Galveston, Texas. The third cruise line, Holiday, can hold 1800 people and will be docked in Mobile, Alabama.

-Coroners are struggling to keep up with the number of bodies being brought to them by clean up crews. Because there is no electricity the bodies are being stored in white vans and semi or cooling trucks.

-During a live NBC televised broadcast Kanye West openly criticized President Bush's reaction to Hurricane Katrina. The rapper was reading a cue card with Mike Myers during a celebrity benefit when he stopped reading and said, "George Bush does not care about black people." NBC issued a statement apologizing for the rapper's outburst and claiming his stance did not reflect their own. While West's comment was televised on the live East Coast feed, NBC cut his appearance from the delayed West Coast feed.

-300 troops belonging to the Air Force were sent home from Iraq and Afghanistan to be with their families in the aftermath of the hurricane.

-Officials estimate it will take up to 80 days to pump all the water out of New Orleans.



Saint Mary's ranks ninth in *U.S. News and World Report*

No change from 2005 rankings; SMC also in "great schools, great prices"

by Bettina Adragna
Assistant News Editor

Saint Mary's College has once again ranked number nine in a list of best schools written by the *The U.S. News & World Report*, this year tying with Seattle University. *The U.S. News & World Report* compared the college to other schools in the Western region that offer up to a master's degree. The rankings were based on factors such as freshmen retention, class size, financial resources, and graduation rates. Saint Mary's also ranked number nine in a list of "great schools, great prices" for universities that offer up to a master's degree.

"I think that the recognition is appreciated by the college," said Debra Holtz, director of media relations for Saint Mary's College. She said the rankings were "one of many ways we assess our own quality."

"I think that students need to visit colleges and that they need to choose colleges based on what works for them," said Holtz. "You can't compare that in rankings."

Holtz said the rankings were "one of many tools" for high schools students who are looking at prospective colleges. It's definitely a resource, but I discourage high school students from using it as their only resource."

Holtz wasn't alone in her assessment. Michael Beseda, vice provost for Enrollment, said, "Most educators would say that the *U.S. News* ranking fails to capture what's most important in a



Illustration by Jonathan Morales
Trinity University in Texas once again topped the list of Western masters-level schools. Saint Mary's tied with Seattle for ninth.

college experience."

What is the most important thing? Education, of course.

"I think most educators would want to look at what actual learning goes on in classrooms and try to find ways to measure that to rank colleges."

One way of evaluating the quality of the college's education is the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), said Beseda. The survey asks students questions such as how many books they have read recently, how often they talk about their schoolwork with professors or outside of class, and how many drafts they have written and rewritten with professors.

"If the *U.S. News* was using those kinds of criteria, that would

be a different ranking," said Beseda.

Beseda called Saint Mary's "life-changing for a lot of students."

"What I consistently hear from alumni is that Saint Mary's had a tremendous impact on them," he said. "I think that's something that Saint Mary's does." The Collegiate Seminar, he said, was one part of the college experience that left an impression on alumni.

"Mostly, I think what I hear about is how the experience in the Collegiate Seminar has enriched their lives, made them different people and made them successful in their lives and careers."

Frances Sweeney, vice provost for Academic Affairs, said, "It's important for us to have external

markers as well as internal markers" of the college's success. She described the Western Accreditation of Schools and Colleges' (WASC) accreditation process as an alternative to the rankings by themselves.

"There are some factors that are important to us," said Sweeney, such as the number of classes with under 20 students. But, she said, "I'd say these are external variables."

Rachel Parrish '09 thought that the ranking could be improved. She said, "Most of the classes are good, but more of the popular majors should be branched out more" in order to reduce class size.

Amanda Cosio-Bognuda '08 said, "I just think it was great for us...I guess we worked hard to deserve it."

Doug Laurora '06 said, "It's a lot of fun to go to school here. It makes your degree more valuable to have your school ranked highly."

The *U.S. News & World Report's* top rated school for the west was Trinity University, located in Texas. Different factors were weighted when determining the rankings. The peer assessment factor was weighted by 25%, the retention rate by 25%, faculty resources by 20%, student selectivity by 15%, financial resources by 10%, and by 5% for alumni giving.

View the list at:
www.usnews.com

Larger than usual drop-out rate this year for Saint Mary's

Freshmen retention rate drops; many students cite school's isolation, difficulty getting involved in student life, and lack of academic challenge as reason for leaving

by Z. Farmer and D. Deyo
Assistant Sports Editor and Staff Writer

It is not unusual for schools to lose a defined percentage of sophomores, generally for reasons of incompatibility with the school or inability to stay at the school. The percentage is normally consistent at a 13% loss in returning sophomores, but this year Saint Mary's seems to have lost much more than that. According to sophomores who had intended to leave or had friends who left, there are a host of problems that drove students away.

One of the most significant factors in dropped enrollment was the size of the school and its isolation from the rest of the outside world. These were agents that acted as a crucible, which either attracted students to the college or drove them away. Furthermore, despite the size of the school, many freshmen last year found it hard to get involved in student life.

"I wasn't settled in my niche," said an anonymous sophomore. "I didn't feel I could really get involved in the community." The person particularly found it difficult to get involved in the Catholic Lasallian community that might not be geared to the students' interests.

Another complaint was that our education and student exercise facilities were not up to people's expectations.

"I didn't feel challenged in class. I thought it was absurd that I was paying so much for so little."

So why did many of those considering a transfer decide to actually stay?

"I had heard from upperclassmen that it's during your second year that you become more acclimated to the campus and find your niche," said Daniella Malfitano ('08). Also, being away from central campus allows the upperclassmen to escape the constant activity that surrounds freshmen. The anonymous sophomore said, "[I] found that

we really have a good community here. I learned to appreciate it." Nonetheless, this does not offer a solution for the standard classes many complained about or the insufficient facilities.

The school is well aware of these reasons for student dropout. Michael Beseda, vice provost for Enrollment, holds meetings with students who decide to withdraw from Saint Mary's. The interview gives an opportunity for the students to explain why they are leaving the school.

50-60% of students who withdraw meet with Beseda. Because he has been conducting these interviews for ten years, he has a general idea of why students withdraw.

"There are two categories normally. One is 'I feel isolated here.' When they get here they realize they wanted a school in a more urban setting, more of a college town," Beseda said.

"The other is the perception that there is not enough going on on campus." While there are an average of 87% of freshmen that

remain at Saint Mary's, a number of these students find other non-scholastic activities.

"The social life on campus, outside of class, is just not engaging enough. If you ask me, 'What's the major reason people are leaving?' That's it," said Beseda.

Beseda stated that the class of 2008 lost nine percent of its freshmen class after the first semester.

The class of 2008 is not a spike on the graph.

During the 2003-2004 school year, all four classes lost a significant amount of students. 26% of the class of 2007, 27% of the class of 2006, 17% of the class of 2005, and 15% of the class of 2004 left in a single year, which has not been matched in the past 15 years.

This is becoming a trend and with a record number of students in the class of 2009, with the increasingly cramped living conditions of freshmen dorms, the school risks another record dropout rate.

Campus Calendar

Latino Student Programs Student Welcome Dinner
Wednesday, September 7
5:30 p.m.
Soda Center
More info: x4349

ASSMC Fall Info Faire
Wednesday, September 7
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Le Fevre Quad.
Contact: Mary Barnes, X8057

Men's Lacrosse Info Meeting
Thursday, September 8
4 p.m.
Galileo 105
More info: x3607

REACH (Responsibility, Education, Achievement, Community, and Higher education) Meeting
Thursday, September 8
4:30 p.m.
Galileo 110
Info: Devin Jackson at 708-7628 or Ahnah Lee at 984-5496

International Student Welcome
Thursday, September 8
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Soda Center, Moraga Room
Contact: M.Little

BSU Welcome Back BBQ
Friday, September 9
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Le Fevre Quad
Contact: Jim Scuito

AA Meetings
Friday, September 9
7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Dante Hall 113.
Contact: Leslie Rolland

Culture on the Vine
Saturday, September 10
7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Le Fevre Theatre
Contact: Sharon Cahill

Flag Football Meeting
Sunday, September 11
7:30 p.m.
McKeon Pavilion,
Entry forms due September 9 at 5:00 p.m. in Madigan Gym
Info: X4949

OASIS Dance
Friday, September 16
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.
Ferrogiario Quad
Guest registration due September 13
Contact: Program Board, x4146

Planning an event? Want it in the Collegian?

E-mail us with the details of your event at:
collegia@stmarys-ca.edu
or call for more information:
(925) 631-4279

Sorry, but due to space limitations we cannot list individual club meetings.

KATRINA: Hurricane survivors enroll at Saint Mary's College

continued from page 1

Thomas. "We're going to create a calendar of events."

Campus Ministry will be working closely with the Associated Students of Saint Mary's College (ASSMC) in order to get students involved with the relief effort. ASSMC President John Zabala '06 stressed that the importance of the campaign is to create a unified effort.

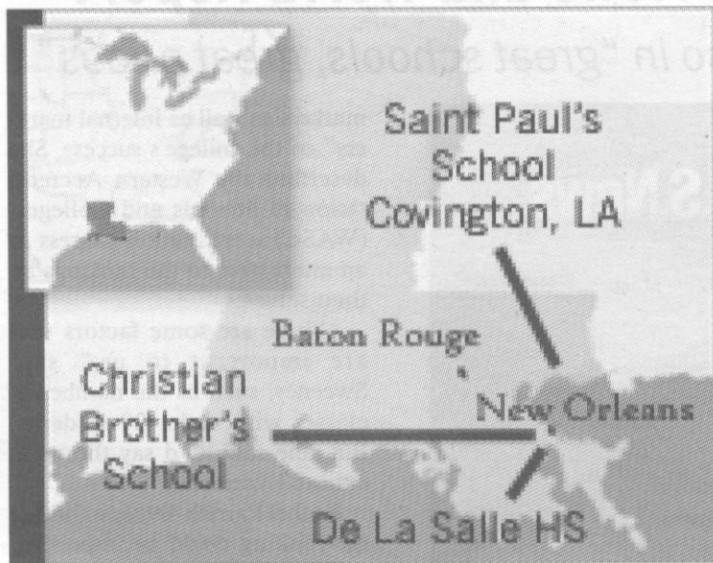
"We're really going to encourage our leaders to get behind Bridges to Bayou, because we can do all sorts of different fundraisers but when we come together to do it, that's when it's really powerful," said Zabala.

In order to coordinate the campaign throughout all of the Lasallian schools in the San Francisco district, some Saint Mary's students will be selected to act as communication liaisons and will be assigned a school to work with throughout the duration of the campaign.

In addition to the Bridges to Bayou campaign, Saint Mary's has also welcomed a handful of students from colleges and universities affected by the disaster.

Students from Xavier University of Louisiana, Loyola New Orleans, and Tulane University were greeted and oriented to Saint Mary's College in Filippi Hall on Tuesday, September 6 and began classes shortly afterwards.

Michael Beseda, vice provost for Enrollment and vice president for College Communica-



tions, said that officials at Xavier and Loyola, both Catholic colleges, and parents of students from Tulane called and asked about getting help from Saint Mary's. Many of the students are Bay Area natives. Beseda said that talking with students who had lost everything but still wanted to go to school was "powerful."

"I had a mother who said, 'I just want to tell you how different you've treated us from Santa Clara and USF. I could really tell you people care,'" he said.

Students from Xavier and Loyola will have their tuition and board covered by the college and Sodexo Food Services, respectively. The college is also working to provide housing to students who require it.

"We do have some spaces in the freshman halls in the event that there are freshmen looking

for housing," said Scott Kier, director of Residence Life. Spaces in upperclassmen residence halls will be filled first by current Saint Mary's students.

People in the community have also contacted Beseda about housing students in their apartments or homes, said Kier.

How to help:

Bridges to Bayou informational meeting, tonight, 7:30 p.m. in Campus Ministry

Call the American Red Cross:
1-800-435-7669

GAS: Prices are rising because of Katrina

continued from page 1

Saint Mary's College faculty and staff are also concerned with the increasing gas prices. Deanne Kruse, Program Manager for the Seminar Program, travels from Rodeo during the week, which is 24 miles each way and takes a half an hour to an hour, depending on traffic. Kruse has greatly altered her schedule because of the recent increase in prices.

She says, "I get to school about 45 minutes early every day to avoid traffic and save money on gas." Kruse has even looked into public

transportation, but she has not found any feasible options. She said, "There is no public transportation from my house that doesn't take two and a half hours each way. I just can't be commuting four hours a day."

"I have been trying to drive smarter by going out once and making several stops rather than making a number of smaller trips."

Bill Foley
Public Safety
Chief

Public Safety Chief Bill Foley has not been largely affected by the increased prices yet. He said, "I will notice it more when my credit card statement comes in this month and I see all the money I spent on gas."

Foley also said, "I have been trying to drive smarter by going out once and making several stops rather than making a number of smaller trips."

ARQUILLANO: Here's to a year of column-writing

continued from page 2

destruction that Hurricane Katrina has unleashed over New Orleans but I am confident that our writers who have volunteered to tackle this issue have gone far beyond anything I could offer on the subject.

So what on earth could I possibly offer you to introduce my-

self? What could I provide to attempt to project some hint, some trace of my personality without sounding like some ad from the personals? This, unfortunately, is a question I have yet to answer, but I'm hoping that sometime throughout the span of these nine months, these bi-weekly testimonies will, to some extent, construct some semblance of who I am.

First hand account of Hurricane Katrina

A letter from New Orleans from Walker Hines

Hello family, friends, and others,

Before everything sets in and I begin to lose my mind, I would like to share my thoughts with all of you. I just arrived safely in Baton Rouge after spending the past six days stranded in my home in uptown New Orleans. The devastation is beyond belief. No words could recreate the images in my mind. I'm filled with contradicting thoughts. People are dying in New Orleans right this moment. They will continue to die at a faster rate as each second goes by without food, water, and protection. The magnitude of the situation in New Orleans is bigger than anything you could ever imagine. There are so many stories to tell, so many stories worth hearing. This is my short story and my plea to all of you to help in any capacity possible.

Yes, there have been tremendous failures at every level of government. No, I do not care to spend any more time on what we could or should have done or on whom to blame. This is what we can do now: discuss what's going on in New Orleans with your family and friends. Keep us on the radar for as long as we need you to.

Tangibly, we need money, we need volunteers, and we need the resources to help us rebuild. Just

as important, we need faith and confidence in our current and future leaders. The renaissance of New Orleans will come with time; I, along with many others in New Orleans, have relied on

"We need money, we need volunteers, and we need the resources to help us rebuild."

Walker Hines

faith and hope to get through this most tragic time.

I ask that all of you who have visited or come to know New Orleans through my and others' accounts to never let that memory go. That memory will come alive with time. Regardless of the sensational and often times exaggerated images you see on television casting a negative light on the city and people of New Orleans, know that New Orleans pos-

sesses the most wonderful people in the world. Having traveled extensively throughout this country, I know the pulse of the nation. I beg of you, please contribute in any capacity. Keep us alive both physically and mentally.

The road ahead will be a constant struggle, but we locals are prepared to fight the fight and walk the walk. This very second, hundreds of thousands of people are without family members, friends, priceless possessions, and homes. Imagine no mother, no best friend, no childhood photographs, and no childhood backyard ever again. Gone, in an instant. While thanks to the grace of God this is certainly not my situation, it is many others.

I thank each of you for all of your encouraging words, thoughts, and prayers. I ask that they continue. Most importantly, remember to Pray and Contribute, Pray and Contribute, Pray and Contribute.

God save New Orleans.

Walker Hines
September 2, 2005

Note: Walker Hines attended Saint Mary's College from September 2002 to December 2004 as a member of the Class of 2006.

News Briefs

"Culture on the Vine"

The Committee for Lectures, Art, and Music, along with the Hearst Art Gallery, is sponsoring a multi-media presentation, "Culture on the Vine," with speaker Burke Owens, associate curator of wine at COPIA (The American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts in Napa). The event takes place on September 10 at 7 p.m. in the LeFevre Theatre. Cost is \$10 for Hearst Art Gallery members and \$20 for non-members. Following the presentation will be a tour of the gallery to see the exhibit "Pressing Matters: 500 Years of Wine in Art." The evening will conclude with a wine tasting and appetizers in the gallery courtyard.

For more info, call 631-4670 or go to <http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/arts/clam/events/culture.html>.

New student retreat

Campus Ministry is sponsoring a New Student Retreat from September 9 to September 11 in Occidental, California. The theme

this year is "Take a Walk on the Wild Side." Activities include rock climbing, a beach trip, a hike up to the cross, and an obstacle course. Those who are interested must sign up in Campus Ministry by Friday, September 2. Cost is \$60, but scholarships are available.

Student runs into hydrant

Sunday night a fire hydrant outside of Aquinas Hall was hit by a car, spurring water into the streets. Sara Jo Rodriguez, the driver of the car, says she had to swerve to avoid hitting a pedestrian who had stepped in front of the car. Upon swerving, the front end of the car collided with the fire hydrant, totaling the car. Sources could not confirm if a water outage Sunday night was related to the crash or not. Public Safety Chief, Bill Foley, said, "A couple of buildings did lose water but as far as I know, that was a problem with the pipes and was unrelated to the fire hydrant being hit."

Compiled by Bettina Adragna and Julie McAvo



The Collegian NEWS

Meet the brothers: The four brothers' interview

They teach, live, and serve across campus. They are the direct connection to our Lasallian tradition. The Collegian interviews four Christian brothers about their lives.

Photos by Bettina Adragna/COLLEGIAN

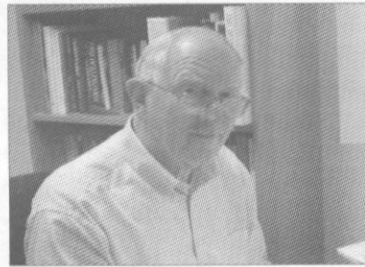
by Pablo Armas
Executive Assistant

The first one to be interviewed was Brother Mel Anderson, the resident brother in Ageno West and a former president of the school. Anderson attended a Christian Brother high school in Berkley. During his time there, he saw a old curled up flyer that said, "What does it profit a man if he gains the world but loses his soul." That flyer was what helped pushed him to join the brothers. "They were admirable men. It was that which lead me to join the brothers."

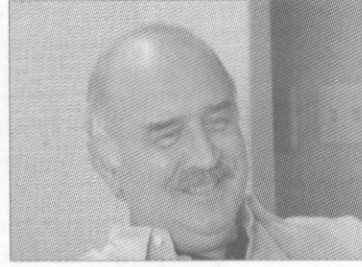
Aside from Saint Mary's, he has also taught at Sacred Heart in San Francisco, La Salle in Pasadena, San Joaquin memorial, and Saint Mary's College High School in Berkley. One of his fondest memories is teaching back at La Salle High School. "I thought the way that they taught down there was very effective." He also talked about the students he coming back and telling him how much they enjoyed being taught by him. "I recently had a former student who recently told me that my class had inspired him to go to teaching using the same teaching methods I use when I teach class."

When asked what the students are receiving from a Christian brother education, he said, the "tools that they need to mature and grow. We are here to to guide them. We are all pilgrims on a journey. We help the students to become lights themselves. To remind them that they are in the holy presence of God."

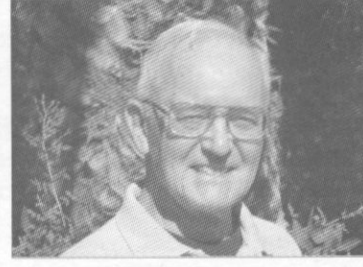
Next was Brother Micheal Meister, CBC in Ageno C. He has also started at Cathedral High School in Los Angeles and De La Salle in Concord. "I don't regret being a brother," he said, "I always wanted to teach. I also originally wanted to be a priest as well. When I heard about the brothers



Brother Mel Anderson



Brother Michael Meister



Brother Dominic Ruegg



Brother Martin Yribarren

and attended a high school by them, I fell hook line and sinker." Since then, "I can't think of myself not being a brother. It's me. It's who I am. I'm very happy about it."

His fondest experience was back when he first started teaching at Cathedral. "Back then I wasn't that much older than the students that I taught. The energy and enthusiasm...The students that we taught were mostly inner city kids who wanted to be there but also very down to earth. It was a challenge, and hard work, but good work." He also went on to say that "one of the important things to us as brothers is the relationship that we have with our students. The reason is because we have an influence on them and we are here for them. The relationship that we have with our students says something about the kind of education that they are receiving."

He later ended the interview with a quote from the founder of the Christian brothers, "La Salle told his teachers 'When you die and see God the first thing he is going to ask about is your students, for you are all responsible for them,' The students are the most respected, important people to us. You save us, not the other way."

The third brother was Brother Dominic Ruegg. He has been retired from teaching for some time, traveling extensively and working on medieval manuscripts. He started teaching in 1949, instructing classes such as

Greek, Seminar and Classic Archeology. Among the many students that he has taught in those classes, Professor Mike Riley of the Integral Program was one. He became interested in the Brothers during his time at Sacred Heart in San Francisco, another Christian Brothers' school. "Before that however, I always felt drawn to the church."

Since retiring from teaching, he has traveled all over, going to places such as Chile, Argentina, Italy, and Nairobi in Africa. He has already written several books, among them one about underwater archeology. When asked about why he is still a brother, he said, "I have always felt at home with the brothers...I like teaching. I like researching. The Brothers have given me an opportunity to do both of these things. I have never been worried about leaving or anything about that." He said that one of the most important things that a student of the Christian brothers can learn is "Love of thy neighbor and social justice" and that "Love conquers evil not arms."

He would continue to describe some of the more interesting events that occurred in his life time, among them being the return of the Korean War veterans back to the college campus. "It worked out very well and was interesting." Unlike some of the other brothers, he has not taught at a High school, spending most of his teaching years at colleges. As to the college itself, he said, "There is always all kinds of social interactions and occasions

going on among the students. It's a good place."

The final brother was Brother Martin Yribarren. For him, his family, having one of aunts being the secretary of a bishop and friends who were priests, had always had close ties to the church. After being taught by the brothers at his high school and observing the type of the community that the brothers have, he decided that's what he wanted to do.

He also taught at Christian brother high schools, among them Cathedral High and was principal during the time the high school was threatened to be closed. He explains, "What happened was, the archbishop during that time wanted to sell the school property. However, he had failed to inform the brothers or the other schools. After that was made public in the papers, we had alumni doing everything they could to prevent it from clos-

ing. There were prayer vigils outside his office, talking to City Hall, sending letters to the Pope, obtaining signatures. Because of these efforts, the deal never went through and the school was able to keep going." He was also the assistant coach for the varsity basketball team who won a state championship during one of his years there.

He did bring up the difficulties facing the brothers, "the world is changing and we have to learn what to keep and maintain and which things we should change and adapt." He does not plan on leaving the brothers saying, "I made a commitment and I plan on keeping it."

Write for the Collegian
Meetings Monday nights,
6:00 p.m.
Dante 117
Questions? x4279



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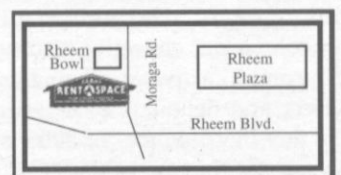


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The Collegian OPINION



BRENT MILLS

Impotent rage with your life counselor

Abortion, Creationism, Flooding Cities: Proud to be an American

Living in a country where, instead of L.A., New Orleans might sink into the ocean is both deeply disconcerting and sounds like a solid argumentative basis for a less than benevolent creator.

I could be wrong, but I'm probably not.

In addition to the eighty percent of New Orleans estimated to be underwater now, gas prices are steadily on the rise and Jesse Helms has just written a new book on abortion.

What Jesse's stance on the issue could possibly be is a mystery to me. So I'm more than glad that he decided to write a book to clear up the issue once and for all. I mean, really, it's not fair to straddle the fence for as long as he has.

Keeping with the obvious signs that our country is truly heading for one grisly train wreck I prefer the following as well:

A freshly released poll has just come out from the folks over at the Pew Forum stating that almost two-thirds of Americans want creationism taught in conjunction with evolution at public schools.

I'll repeat that.

Over half of the Americans polled want creationism and evolution taught together. This would happen in, more likely than not, our state-funded institutions of learning.

While teaching evolution alongside creationism is bound to make things a lot more interesting in our dreary schools and throw a bit of spice into the mix, it certainly won't make the students any smarter.

That two-thirds of Americans statistic made me yelp out in pain for a minute until I read that 42 percent of the respondents hold the view that "living things have existed in their present form since the beginning of time."

What a neat idea.

But the possibility that my relatives mustered up the resolve to deal with the 'giant-angry-lizard-problem'—while esteem boosting as it is—seems a bit implausible.

Call me vain, but I believe it took a lot of trial and error throughout our collective history of rutting to arrive at a being as perfect and debonair as myself. The fact that the 'me' of 2005 is the same as the 'me' of 25 B.C.E. just seems highly, highly dubious.

But maybe I should just go back to school.

Collegian View

It is with sadness that the Collegian devotes the entire front page to the tragedy that occurred along the Gulf Coast early last week. We, along with most of you, have been following closely the events that have unfolded over the past nine days.

It is now clear that Hurricane Katrina will be the worst natural disaster in the history of the United States, eclipsing the 1906 San Francisco earthquake in terms of deaths and property damage. What is also becoming increasingly clear is that the recovery effort for the city of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast is going to require us all to pitch in, and to do it effectively.

That's why we were pleased to hear about the Bridges to Bayou campaign, which will coordinate all relief efforts on campus as well as for all of the Lasallian schools in the San Francisco district.

As ASSMC President John Zabala pointed out, the major dif-

ference between the relief efforts the campus put forward after the tsunami of 2004 and Bridges to Bayou is the unity. Although after the tsunami, several separate clubs fundraised for relief, their efforts remained just that: separate. Bridges to Bayou will allow the entire campus to come together and work for something truly worthwhile.

We at the Collegian encourage all students to participate in the Bridges to Bayou campaign. Contact Campus Ministry for ways to do so, or e-mail one of our many service clubs.

In addition, remember that getting involved can sometimes mean a simple prayer.

It is not only our duty as citizens, but our mission as a Lasallian institution to respond to the needs of those affected by this tragedy. The next few months will be a test of the Lasallian heritage of Saint Mary's College, and therein will lie the true meaning of "enter to learn, leave to serve."

Community Views

Dear Editor,

I was astonished that The Collegian found Tony Vala-Haynes's editorial, "Too Busy Playing," worthy of print. I would expect legitimate journalists to at least attempt to back up claims, like "the truth is twisted, distorted, manipulated, or simply absent...from the White House" with evidence or fact. Rather than engage in a meaningful argument, Mr. Vala-Haynes enters into a sophomoric personal attack. He calls President Bush "a three-year-old" who "drool[s]" and "mess[es] himself." This is perhaps an attempt at humor or political slander but is vacuous at best. Tony Vala-Haynes also faults Bush for not meeting with Cindy Sheehan. But Mr. Vala-Haynes fails to discuss the fact that the President already met with her. I hope that The Collegian will reconsider printing such childish gibberish. Surely a more persuasive and reflective exploration of ideas is possible.

Scott Cullinane '09

Dear SMC Community:

Do you know where to go if you lose your cell phone, wallet, keys, jacket, etc.? Did you know we have a Lost & Found located on campus? 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.

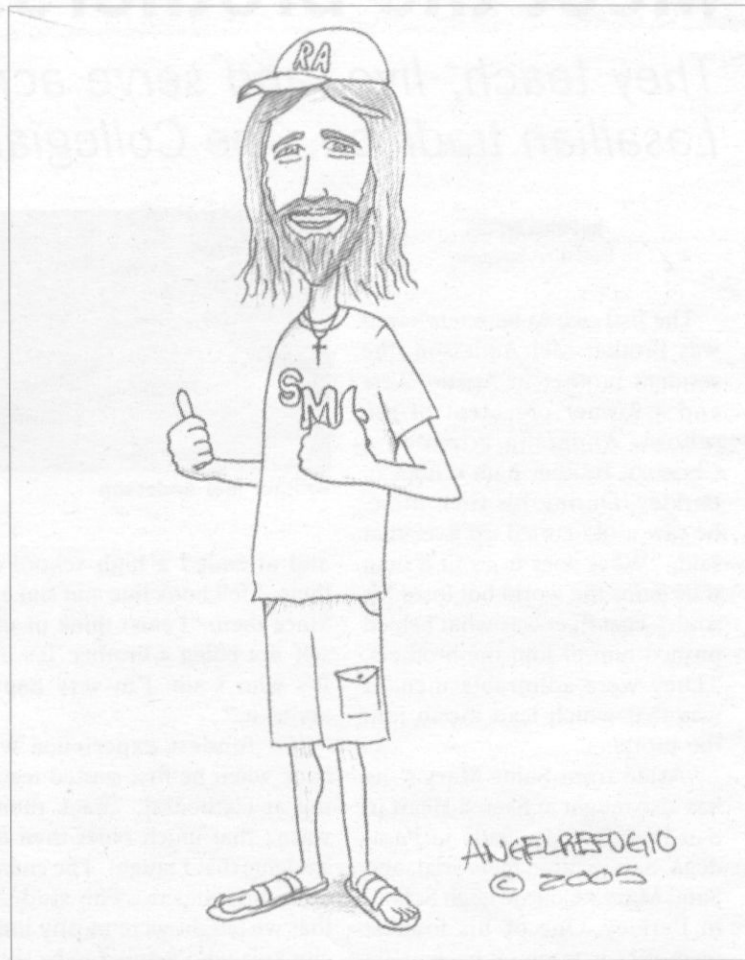
All found property should be brought to the Public Safety Department at the Front Gate. All found property is logged, labeled and every attempt is made to return the found item to the lawful owner. Found property is stored at the Front Gate for two weeks, after which time the items are taken to the Public Safety Administrative Office in Siena Hall for safekeeping. Once an item has been stored for 60 days the item is then discarded or donated.

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,

We would like to take a moment to remind all students that the Oasis is Friday September 16, from 9:00 p.m. – midnight. For all new students, the Oasis is



A 'heavenly' RA

Cartoon by Angel Refugio/COLLEGIAN

an annual outdoor dance held in Ferroggiaro Quad. We have an amazing DJ and we're expecting an awesome crowd, so make sure you're there!

We would also like to remind all students that guest registration forms are due Wednesday September 14th by 5:00 p.m. in either the Program Board office (between Subversions and Dryden) or Student Involvement and Leadership (SIL). If you are planning to bring a guest you MUST fill out a guest registration form. Be sure to fill it out COMPLETELY. You can find these bright orange forms in the SIL office or on posters hung around campus. We cannot make any exceptions to this policy, so make sure to get your form in on time or you will not be permitted to bring a guest into the event.

Finally, we would like to remind students to make responsible choices the night of the event and request that they demonstrate responsible behavior while at the event. Together, we ensure the quality of Oasis when we take care of ourselves and our

friends and when we show respect to the students, staff members, and security who will be working hard to bring you this event. Thank you in advance for your help to make this year's Oasis the best one yet!

We look forward to seeing you there in your tropical wear!

Luke Kircher
Program Board President

Daniella Malfitano
Program Board Vice-President

Ariel Beverly
Program Board Vice-President

WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS	Hate our paper?
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COLLEGIAN LETTER POLICY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be submitted to the Collegian through mail, e-mail, or in person. All letters should be no more than 200 words in length. The Collegian holds the right to edit any submitted material, solicited or unsolicited. Submit to collegia@stmarys-ca.edu

Are you familiar with Katrina?

90% were
10% weren't

Do you know what major city got flooded? (New Orleans)

86% knew
14% didn't

Gael

compiled by Pablo Armas

The Collegian
OPINION

Should Resident Advisors be required to attend Mass?

With a rumor about mandatory mass floating around campus, two writers weigh in about tolerance in the workplace

Optional Mass?

by Tony Vala-Haynes

As I understand it, attending mass is a personal decision not to be determined by anyone but myself. Although I am not Catholic I occasionally do sit in the chapel and collect my thoughts in the cool, quiet air. I find the stillness of the room comforting and a welcome retreat from the loud chaos outside. But when I choose to sit on a hard, polished church pew and contemplate the void, I do so independently. I am not there out of guilt—or worse, due to pressure from an outside force.

When the rumor about an alleged required mass for Resident Advisors brushed past my ears I made some phone calls. Not surprisingly, everyone I spoke to wished to remain anonymous, wary of the implications in revealing that the optional mass for RA's is surprisingly difficult to avoid. Because no one was willing to go on record and confirm the rumor, I can reveal nothing of my investigation to you. By sharing what I learned the Collegian would be placed in a compromising position, unable to corroborate a story without exposing the identity of our anonymous sources—something we would never do. I can only share my unrest over the issue that has recently caught my attention.

I went to a private Jesuit high school and remember having mass every Friday. I respected this tradition, but I rarely attended mass. Instead I went to an optional study hall and talked movies with my art teacher. I was not punished for my absence; nor was I labeled as a heathen. I simply felt my personal salvation was no one else's business, and I was respected for that.

The idea that Resident Advisors would be forced to attend a mass confuses me. I fail to see how attending church affects an individual's performance at his job. How an individual's personal faith is anyone's business but his own eludes me as well. Please try to convince me that dragging RA's to mass is beneficial to the students whom they care for. I would view such an attempt as a gross violation of my personal privacy as well as blatantly disrespectful of my own faith.

We are fortunate enough to have a beautiful chapel in the middle of our campus. If it does not represent tolerance, we may as well burn it.

by Mike Chin

Catholic: Fact or Fiction?

In the past we have had "all school masses" where we, the student body of Saint Mary's are encouraged to go to mass. Classes are rescheduled, offices are closed, and heaven forbid people even say a Hail Mary.

In recent months there have been rumors of a required mass for Resident Advisors. In response, emphatic uproars of "hell no, we won't go" statements have been sounded off by many RA's. Why should they go? After all, they have the right to do whatever they please, right?

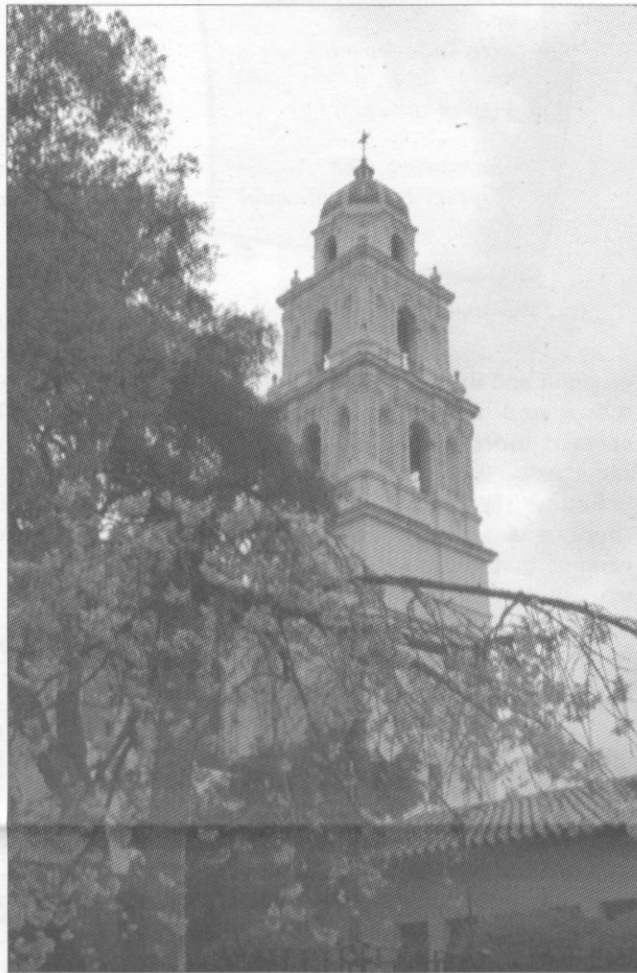
Sorry to burst the proverbial bubble but people at this school seem to forget that we are "Roman Catholic!" That's right, not just Christian, but that religion with the big "R" and "C."

With this tradition comes a great deal of responsibility. Like it or not this institution is part of that tradition. Moreover, aside from our tuition and alumni donations, it is the Church that extends financial aid.

The question of Resident Advisors attending a mandatory mass is not purely a matter of faith. Resident Advisors chose to accept a job that has certain requirements. Do not misinterpret me, I understand that everyone has the right to freedom of religion, but while at a Roman Catholic institution you should do as the Roman Catholics do.

With that said, I do not believe that the point of mass for the RA's was to convert people, for you cannot be

converted unless you believe in the faith. Nor does this mean that all those who are not Catholic should leave. I am merely saying that we are a (dare I say it one more time) Roman Catholic institution and that no matter your personal opinions about our religion, please respect it, because at Saint Mary's it is a sacred and holy institution.



OSCAR OROZCO

The truth about sweat shops: higher wages increases poverty

Zepeda overlooks negative chain reaction caused by increased wages

In last week's issue of the Collegian, Opinion writer Jaime Zepeda wrote about the necessity of sweat shops, but urged patrons of sweat shop businesses to buy with a conscientious heart. While Zepeda made good points about why governments should step in to help regulate sweat shops, the system as it is now works just fine.

Zepeda mentioned not boycotting sweat shop companies because it puts the overseas jobs in jeopardy. Instead, he suggests we promote wage increases and a better working environment for sweat shop workers.

Unfortunately, negative repercussions would follow this shift. If wages increased and there were better working conditions, then prices for the final product would also escalate.

If prices do rise, then consumers who could originally buy the product at a lower price will be unable to buy it at a higher price. Obviously, the same amount of money won't buy the same shirt.

In fact, this puts the sweat shop workers in an even more difficult situation. Right now, they can barely get by with prices where they are.

Even if wages went up, they wouldn't be able to keep up with the increased price for the finished good. It is a lose-lose situation.

Consumers of the product can't afford it as easily, and even though sweat shop workers have higher wages, they still can't afford higher prices.

Zepeda suggests other ways of helping. He says governments could pay families to keep children in schools and out of sweatshops. Again he is focusing just on the positive side but fails to mention the negative impact such a "solution" would have. The negative effect would be taking the workforce available to the sweat shops away from the factories and force the companies to increase their wages in order to attract labor to their factories. This too would increase prices in the United States and the effect would trickle down to the laborers again.

Ultimately, whether you buy from sweat shops or not is up to you. The question is, would you rather help people in the United States, or people overseas?

Charitable celebrities: In it for the cause or for the cash?

Celebrities don't do benefit concerts for the cause; they do it for the free promotion

'Tis better to give than to receive. Tell that to the entertainers at this summer's Live 8 concert who appear to have received more from their charity work than just the inner glow of good will.

The event, which took place in multiple stadiums across many continents, tried to convey "a serious political message about world poverty," said organizer and ex-rocker Bob Geldof.

But rather than simply raise funds for the cause the show was supposed to raise public awareness as well as political pressure on the leaders of the G8 Summit to support African famine relief.

Sounds like a worthwhile idea on paper, yet you have to wonder



LAUREN BECKER

how effective this global gig really was. Sure it brought international attention to a pressing matter, but the spotlight focused more on the rock stars than on the starving.

With all the free publicity and exposure to new audiences, musicians may not have had purely selfless motives. It didn't hurt that the performers in Philadelphia also acquired gift bags val-

ued at \$12,000. Besides those incentives for getting involved, some artists wished to use the stage as a backdrop for their band's reunion, such as Pink Floyd and even the Spice Girls, who were thankfully dismissed as "wannabe lovers" of charity work.

As much as this concert appeared to be shameless self-promotion, the singers still managed to act like musical martyrs. Yet how helpful can belting out a couple of Top 40 hits truly be for the good of a country?

At best, the tearjerker commercials could move viewers to action, maybe sell some "Make Poverty History" wristbands, but

that hardly affects any long-term change in Africa.

It's no wonder that Live 8 ended up being in vain. Entrepreneurial people designed the concert with an aim to please the sponsors, not the humanitarians. Show-business in the name of charity is still business, and if record sales go up because of the performances, then so be it. After all, the only chance capitalism has to survive is in the presence of poverty elsewhere.

Celebs could argue that they might as well make a fortune while "helping" the less fortunate. Food has to be put on the table somehow, but of course that doesn't apply to the emaciated Africans now does it?

Poll

73 students polled

Do you know how many days officials said it would take to remove the water from city? (80 days)

12% knew how many days' officials said it would take
88% didn't

**100
WORD
REVIEWS**

**The Aristocrats, an
astoinshingly dull
documentary**



by **Tony Vala-Haynes**
Opinion Editor

I'm not the guy who remembers every joke I hear. But I'll remember this joke. *The Aristocrats* is a documentary that premiered at the Sundance Film Festival this past January.

It follows a film crew as they interview a plethora of comedians about a classic, behind the scenes joke known only to the comic world.

Despite all the hype about the film—and the joke, which is remarkably disturbing—the film falls short. With so many interviews of so many great comedians, *The Aristocrats* is surprisingly unfunny. To give it another angle, Bob Saget steals the movie. 'Nuff said.

**Kanye West's
Late Registration
is on time**



by **Jaime Zepeda**
Staff Writer

KanYe from the jigga set is back in his best form yet. Surpassing his freshman (pardon the collegiate pun) *College Dropout*, the Louis-Vitton Don makes *Late Registration* a hip-hop album that surpasses its barrier-breaking predecessor.

Breakout tracks include the irresistibly witty "Golddigger," the addictive "Addiction," and the politically powerful "Crack Music." The album is engrossing throughout, leaving the listener wanting more of the savior of hip-hop, Mr. West.

While hurt by unexceptional skits, Kanye's "Registration" delivers a nomination for mastership of contemporary music. It is better to be *Late* than never, and I believe this is among the best ever.

Freshmen first week: Liberation or summercamp?

Combating confusion, stairs, and small bladders as they learn the ropes at Saint Mary's

by **Jillian Duffy**
Staff Writer

From figuring out the correct pronunciation of Augustine to combating the treacherous flights of stairs, moving into the freshmen dorms had more than its fair share of obstacles.

But after unpacking our boxes and saying goodbye to our parents we felt as if we had finally arrived. Our freedom tasted good...except it was short lived.

Within hours we were thrown into the whirlwind of WOW with so many planned events it left us little time to enjoy the sense of independence we thought our first days of college would hold.

From T-shirt decorating to ice cream socials, all the activities were mandatory and you couldn't help but feel as if you had unsuspectingly been dropped off at summer camp.

Many students had mixed reviews about the eagerness of the

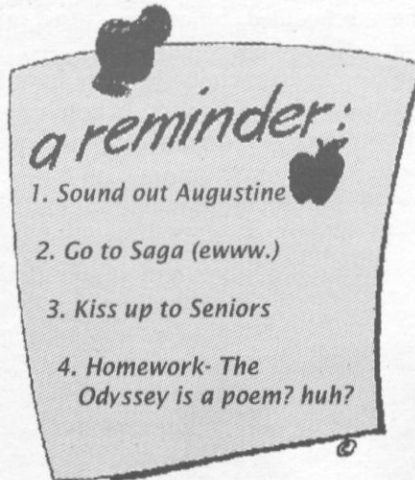


Illustration by Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN

program and their soldiers in the white and navy shirts who seemed more distressed than inclusive.

Besides the event of bowling there was another sport on campus that made people tense up, the inevitable first impression. "Where are you from?" could be heard echoing

out of the mouths of everyone as it became the conversation starter of choice.

Within hours the cliques were formed and new friendships emerged and the initial awkwardness we once felt about meeting our fellow future Gaels melted away. We actually began to get acclimated.

We began to figure out our way around campus, our stomachs began to tolerate cafeteria food, our eyes became adjusted to the sight of other people's hair in the shower drain, and our bladders learned to wait as we fumbled with our keys to unlock the bathroom doors.

We even began to relax and party like college kids. However,

the sudden liberation seemed to get to some of our heads as three ambulances showed up at the dorms to help our not-so-experienced counterparts.

Despite our bad rep thus far, many of us couldn't wait for school to start and actually begin studying.

"Its not like high school where you have to take what you're told. I'm actually taking things that I am interested in for once" said Stephanie Kaelin, '09.

Yes, the first day had finally arrived and we were suddenly bumped off of our platform and transported to the bottom of the SMC student food chain as the presence of upperclassmen was seen on campus.

The first week took some adjustment, but as each day goes by the class of 2009 shows promise that its presence will leave its mark on Saint Mary's history.

Buffy, a classic that 'like totally' slays with a keen fashion sense

Ok, so maybe it's not a classic, but a film with Pee Wee *and* Luke Perry can't be too bad

by **Jo-Ann Arquillano**
Managing Editor

Nine years ago, the world was swept up by the television phenomenon of the WB's "Buffy the Vampire Slayer." But before this now cult classic launched the careers of Sarah Michelle Gellar and David Boreanaz, there was "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" the movie.

Starring Kristy Swanson and Luke Perry (yes, Luke Perry), "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" begins the saga of the teen slayer as she discovers her destiny to save the world from villainous vampires.

Swanson plays vacuous valley-girl perfectly, second only to Hilary Swank's eerily accurate airhead as Buffy's best friend, Kimberly, who's so vapid that the tragedy of a friend's murder is quickly overshadowed by the fact that the body was found wearing Kimberly's beloved yellow leather jacket (after all, it was "retro").

As Buffy's life issues go from thinking of a socially conscious dance theme ("How about the ozone layer?" "Yeah, we gotta get rid of that.") to spending school nights on fresh graves, this 86 minute long movie flies by.

Years before a young Alicia Silverstone personified teenaged "clueless"ness, Swanson's Buffy encapsulates a blend of airheaded

charm that effectively keeps us rooting for her as our well-to-do heroine. I mean, with the life goal to "graduate high school, go to Europe, marry Christian Slater and die," how could you not love her?

Of course, the heroine wouldn't be complete without someone to save. Enter Luke Perry as the lovable townie Pike ("That's not a name, that's a fish"). Even sans his trademark James Dean-esque hairstyle, Perry is at his dreamiest, maintaining the super-dreamboat status his 90210 days earned him.

And while Perry and Swanson light enough sparks between each other to distract you through the movie, the supporting performances could practically carry the film themselves.

I mean, c'mon, any movie with Pee Wee Herman himself has got to be good, right? Paul Rueben's performance as the vampire Amilyn (post adult movie theater scandal) is a far cry from his Pee Wee days, and his ten-minute death scene is so obviously hammy that you can't help but buy into it and offer up a couple of chuckles to his corny schtick.

David Arquette as Pike's best-friend-turned-blood-sucker is just one more dose of charisma that fuels the young cast, while Donald Sutherland's Merrick (born to find and train "the chosen one") just makes you wonder, "don't you have something better to do?"

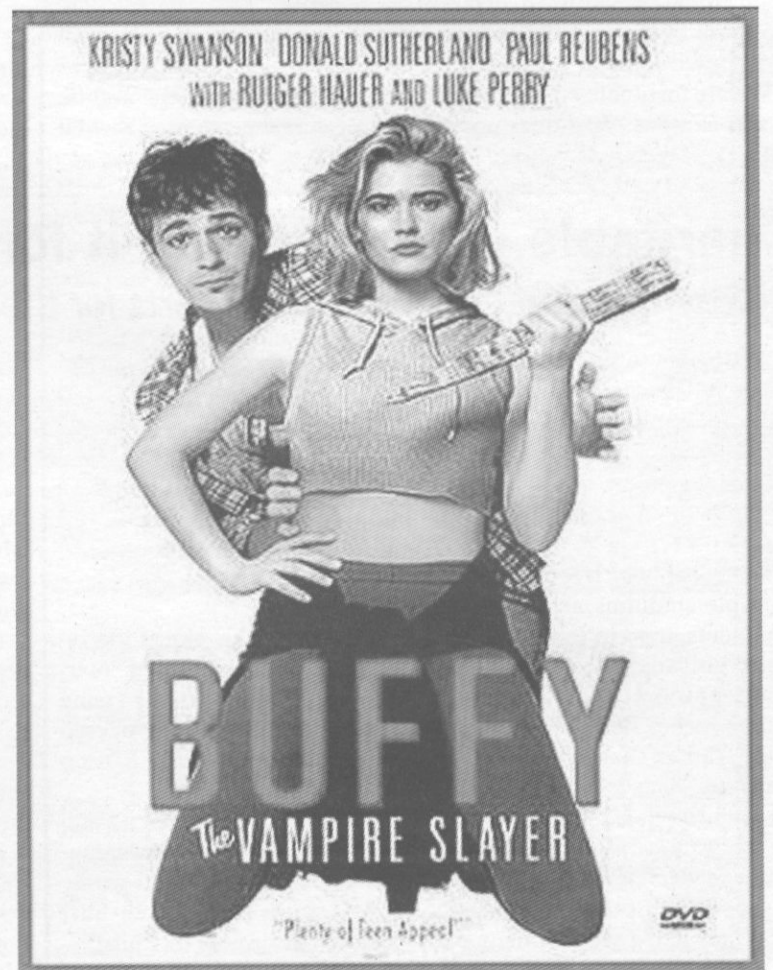


photo courtesy of www.storiamedivalez.net

Kristy Swanson and Luke Perry strike a pose in Buffy Movie poster first displayed in 1992.

And of course, as previously mentioned Ms. Hilary Swank shows off her pre-oscar chops, so convincingly dense that it's no wonder she's the "million dollar baby." (Please forgive the cheesy play on the title of the award winning film.)

So ok, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* is no *Godfather* or *Casablanca*, but it is entertaining, or at least, it is to me. If you don't feel like giving it a go, well, in the words of Kimberly, "get out of my facial."

The Collegian
DETOUR

...Not So Much

by Megan Manley
Staff Writer

Just a warning, what you are about to read is only my opinion.

Everyone has things in life that drive them crazy and this week I have chosen to gripe about Internet relationships on sites like MySpace.

I will admit it, I have MySpace, as do millions of other people. It is a great way to keep in touch with people, and it makes it easy to search for people who might fit your liking (with advanced searches you can even specify the desired height, race, etc. of someone who might be a match for you).

It is even acceptable to send them messages every once in a while, but dating people on MySpace...wait...not so much.

Just because you have talked to someone hundreds of times online or on the phone does not mean that you know them. Do not call your online companion your boyfriend or girlfriend if you have never met them. You have never seen them in person and they could be some creepy old pervert, maybe even a distant cousin, or even your little brother playing a joke.

People edit their faces on to other people's bodies, they say they make tons more money than they really do, or have pictures of their phony Porsches, when all they really have are Hot Wheels cars and a mountain bike, if you're lucky. In some cases they build altogether fake lives.

Yet, people still want to claim these apparent strangers as their committed significant other. Your whole "relationship" could be a complete lie. Seriously, is that realistic? Oh wait...not so much.

Then, to make it even more entertaining, they give each other little pet names like Pooky, Snookums, and worst of all, Big Daddy. (Can you say incest?) To enhance the level of nausea, people leave disturbing comments to each other about their "hot nights" and such, for the whole world to see. Keep the comments to yourself people, do you really think that we are jealous? Oh wait...not so much!

And last but not least, to all of you people who have profile names like "sexy" whatever and "hot body" whoever, can I just say you better damn well look good. And even if you do, do you really think that that is cute? Oh wait...not so much!

Don't front if you are ugly, because when people see the words sexy or hot, they are compelled to look, and well, disappointment is no fun. But, you know, as always, it is only my opinion.

A Wicked experience in S.F.

Musical comes to S.F.'s Orpheum with a message of diversity

by Melanie Linney
Detour Editor

'Programs! CDs! Green monkeys!' That's right, green monkeys. *Wicked* was a different kind of musical and I knew it as soon as I walked through the doors of the Orpheum.

In 2004, *Wicked* walked away with enough Tony nominations and wins to give this musical enough hype to fill the entire theatre with old and new fans. Some fans of the novel of the same name, written by Gregory Maguire, others fans of the classic *Wizard of Oz*.

I myself have never read the book, and according to the knowing (and disappointed) voices that floated around the theatre at the show's end it was nothing like the book. I have seen the film starring Judy Garland, but I knew better than to expect a carbon copy of the film. And because of that I left the show satisfied and, yes, tapping my toes.

The story begins at the end, a clever way to throw off the audience. We meet the beloved Glinda, formerly Galinda, the good witch—who in her youth was quite the opposite of the title she had gained in her later years. She is amongst the people of Oz who are celebrating the death of Elphaba, the 'wicked' witch in question. The plot then jumps back to their youth when Elphie joins her younger sister Nessarose

and Glinda at school and learns quickly that it isn't easy being green. Although quite the opposites, Glinda and Elphie soon become friends.

The plot thickens when they both go to meet The Wizard and find that he is the man creating the barriers between animals and humans. Instead of joining The Wizard, Elphie runs in protest and is officially proclaimed 'Wicked.' Glinda, who stays, gains the title of the 'good.'

At two and a half hours long *Wicked* leaves a lot of room for plot, but even more room for laughs. Glinda, "the 'ga' is silent now," was played by the hilarious Kendra Kassebaum, who used both physical comedy and tone to reveal her self absorption and shallowness. This woman was able to get the entire audience going with simple words like 'sparkle' and 'hello.'

Elphie shines too with her sarcasm, but it is her voice that truly stands out. In songs "I'm not that girl" and "Defying gravity"

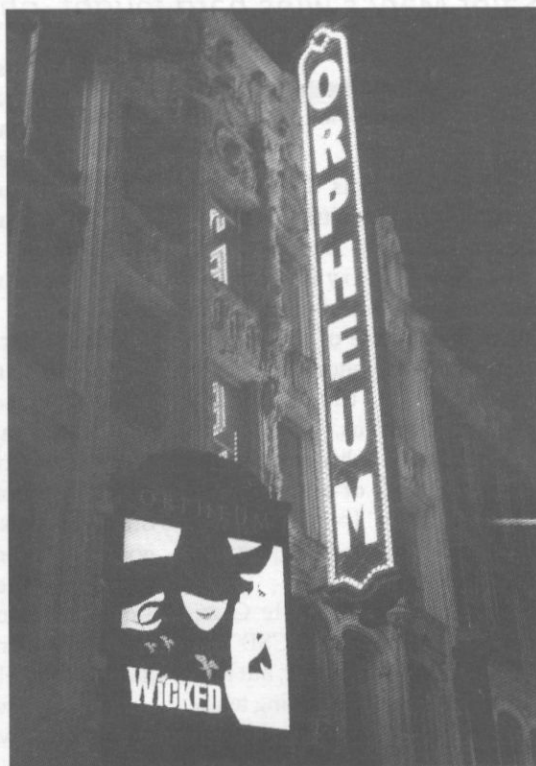


Photo courtesy of Kara Tiedemann
Gregory Maguire's novel *Wicked* on stage in S.F.

Eden Espinosa goes from the tragedy of being both different and in love to singing of her hopes to change the people of Oz.

Although the laughs were a plenty, *Wicked* was more than just a funny yarn. The Wizard uses the fear that many of his Oz-ians have for those things, or people, they don't understand to control them. He even goes so far as to explain to Elphaba that to "bring people together you must give them an enemy."

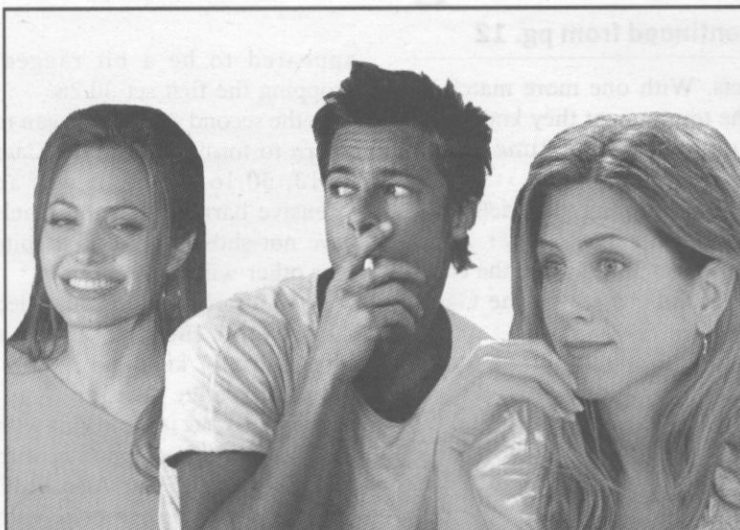
Overall *Wicked* was an ideal musical. There were lovable characters, as well as the ones you love to hate. The music was inspiring and the message was deep and one that many still need to learn.

FAST FOOD OF THE WEEK



This summer Burger King introduced chicken fries to their menu. These handy little snacks are essentially chicken tenders in a crispier, tall, mozzarella stick-like form. Chicken fries may not be any more convenient than their fried poultry brethren, but they sure are tasty – plus they come in a nifty travel box equipped with its own handy sauce holder.

-Jo-Ann Arquillano



Brad & Jen Angelina

He upgraded, so did we.

CHECK OUT OUR LATEST UPGRADES EVERY TUESDAY

Have something to add?

Join The Collegian @ our weekly storyboard meeting.

Mondays
6pm
Dante 117.

OUT THIS WEEK

FILMS



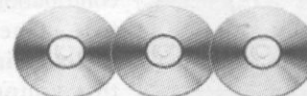
Wednesday 9/7/05
Romance & Cigarettes R
Starring: James Gandolfini, Susan Sarandon, Kate Winslet

Friday 9/9/05
The Exorcism of Emily Rose PG-13
Starring: Laura Linney, Tom Wilkinson, Jennifer Carpenter

An Unfinished Life PG-13
Starring: Robert Redford, Jennifer Lopez, Morgan Freeman

The Man PG-13
Starring: Samuel L. Jackson, Eugene Levy

ALBUMS



Certified
David Banner

Bloom: Remix 2
Sarah McLachlan

Miles Tones
Miles Davis

CONCERTS



9/9
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy
Mountain Winery, Saratoga

Jesse McCartney
Chronicle Pavilion, Concord

9/10
Garbage
Warfield, S.F.

9/11
The Beach Boys
Marin Center, San Rafael

Oasis, Jet, Kasabian
Shoreline, Mountain View

Tori Amos
Chronicle Pavilion, Concord

The Decemberists
Fillmore, S.F.

9/12
Black Rebel Motorcycle Club
Great American Music Hall, S.F.

9/13
Flogging Molly
Fillmore, S.F.



The Collegian
SPORTS

**Players
of the Week**

Michael Clegg

There is one word for Clegg's start this season: amazing. The freshman already tallied four goals for the Gaels in just two short games, including a hat-trick in his first ever appearance as a Gael. Should Gaels make a splash in the WCC this season, Clegg will surely be big factor in their success.



Nikki Schrey



Schrey is just one of the many freshman who have made a huge contribution to Gael athletics in this young season.

Schrey made her first big mark on Friday with a game winning goal against the UC Santa Barbara Gauchos. She also had a goal in the Gael's win against Montana on Sunday.

-Michael Chin, Sports Editor

Guachos fall to Gaels in weekend tourney

Saint Mary's wins hard-fought, physical match-up with UC Santa Barbara

by **Belen Garcia**
Sports Writer

The time was 2 p.m. The setting was that little East Bay haven known as Berkeley, CA. The Saint Mary's women's soccer team was facing off in their third game of the season, against those blonde bombshells from So Cal, the UC Santa Barbara Gauchos.

The Gaels, who entered the game fresh off of a sizzling 3-2 win against UC Irvine last week, expected a good match up against the Gauchos.

Senior captain Joelle Gizzi said, "Traditionally UCSB isn't known as a powerhouse, but they are a very talented passing team, so we had to go in looking to play our 'A' game."

From the minute the whistle blew, elbows were flying, and the Gauchos displayed one of their trademark tactics: the art of physical play. UCSB dominated the physical aspect of the game, dealing the Gaels a barrage of fouls, in an attempt to show SMC they were a force to be reckoned with.

The first half was a defensive battle spearheaded by Gael defenders Sarah Churchill, Allison Kop, Amy Massey and Stephanie Harrison. SMC tallied four shots on goal to the Gauchos three, and the half ended in a 0-0 tie.

Both teams went into halftime visibly frustrated at their lack of success. Going into the second half you could see that the Gaels were tired of playing the defensive game and were ready to show the co-champions of the Big West Conference who was the better team.

In the first ten minutes of the second half, the Gaels seemed to come alive, showering the Gauchos' goal with a barrage of shots. Senior Genevieve Hollis started the attack with a rifle shot far post that bounced off both posts and flirted with the goal line before being miraculously saved by the Gaucho's goalie. Junior McKenna Belzer joined the party with a breakaway shot on goal that also barely missed.

The game-winning goal came on an impressive ball to an SMC forward, who crossed the ball into the Gauchos 18-yard box. The ball then ricocheted off forward Genevieve Hollis and found the foot of freshman phenom Nikki Schrey, who deposited the ball into the back of the net, giving the Gaels the 1-0 lead and ultimately the game.

After the game Nikki Schrey said, "I'm just glad that I was able to help the team out and come through when we needed a goal."

The win brings the Gaels record to 2-1. So stay tuned, all you Gael fans, for the next installment in the women's soccer quest for glory, as the Gaels host perennial powerhouse Southern Methodist



Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN

Sarah Churchill: The Senior Captain of the Gaels was vital part of the defense this week helping to shutout both Montana and UCSB in the California University Invitational.

University this weekend at the Saint Mary's Stadium. Kick-off against SMU is slated for 4 p.m. Friday. SMC will also face Dartmouth University on Sunday at 12 p.m.

Gael Zone Athletic Schedule

Wednesday Sept. 7
Men's Soccer @ San Jose State
7 p.m.

Friday Sept. 9
Saint Mary's Tournament
Cal vs. Dartmouth
1 p.m.

Women's Soccer vs. SMU
4 p.m.

Saturday Sept. 10
Volleyball vs. Florida A&M
7:05 p.m.

Cross Country @ Aggie Invitational
Davis, CA
9 a.m.

Sunday Sept. 11
Saint Mary's Tournament
Cal vs. SMU
10 a.m.

Women's Soccer vs. Dartmouth
12 p.m.

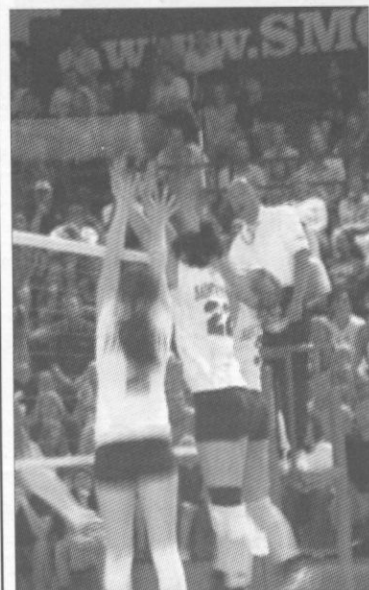
Men's Soccer vs. Washington
3 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL: Gaels rally to beat Virginia Cavaliers

continued from pg. 12

sets. With one more match in the tournament they knew that "gut check" time was approaching.

The next day the Gaels fired back with a win over ACC opponent Virginia. In the early stages of the match the Gaels



Lissite Garcia/COLLEGIAN

The Gaels made a huge turnaround this week. After falling to Texas A&M and losing the first game to the University of Virginia, SMC stepped up both their offense and defense to smother the Cavaliers and finish the Texas A&M Invitational on a high note.

appeared to be a bit ragged, dropping the first set 30-26.

In the second set SMC began to return to form, blasting the Cavs 30-13, 30-16, 30-15. It was an offensive barrage that the Gaels have not shown all year, despite four other wins.

Sophomore Missie Stidham led the way for the Gaels with a career high 17 kills and 30 digs. All-Conference senior Kauri Salzman led the team in kills with 26. Mandy Bible chipped in with 56 assists on the day. Also SMC found some defensive help, with junior Christina Kirk adding 14 blocks. With the win, the Gaels finish the tournament at 2-1 and improve to 5-1 on the season.

SMC will finally return home this week to host Florida A&M. The match is scheduled for Saturday at 7:05 p.m.

Saint Mary's All-Time Assists Leaders

1. Tracie Hajdukovich '91: 4305
2. Whitney Hoover '00: 3497
3. Nicole Pennington '95: 3232
4. Mandy Bible '07: 3159

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The Collegian
SPORTS

Coach Rob Browning lives up to expectations

Despite coaching changes, volleyball is still climbing up the national rankings

by Zach Farmer

Assistant Sports Editor

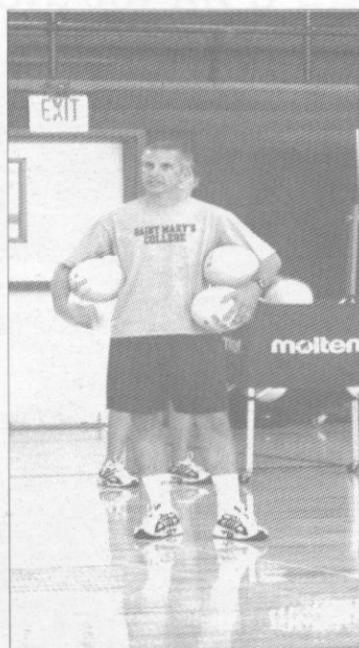
Last year former Saint Mary's volleyball coach Jon Stevenson was part of the greatest volleyball season in school history. A school record 25 wins, NCAA Coach-of-the-Year, and a Sweet 16 birth. Why leave on such a good note? To go to a school with more prestige? No, it was not the case. Stevenson departed Saint Mary's and went to Cal Poly, a team with only five wins last season. Stevenson is from the Santa Barbara area and is a graduate of UC Santa Barbara.

Mark Orr, Saint Mary's Senior Associate Director of Athletics, said, "He wanted to be closer to home, his family." Orr says Stevenson left on good terms with the school. "I would say [Stevenson] would have nothing but good things to say about the school," Orr said.

With the departure of Stevenson after last season, Orr had to find his replacement and Rob Browning was the "right fit."

Browning, a native of Newport Beach, CA, had been an assistant coach on the USA Men's Olympic volleyball team for the past six seasons.

Browning, who was hired last November as an advisor, fit right into the system.



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN

Although the Saint Mary's is only six games into the Browning era, Gael fans have a lot to cheer about. He is 5-1 on the season and has already toppled big name schools such as Virginia and Arizona State.

"He works well with the kids and staff," Orr said, "He has the right qualities."

He has gained the confidence of the coaching staff and the players and the Athletic Department recognized it. Browning should have an easy transition, since Orr said there are simple expectations for the team. "We want the team to be competitive and for the girls to have a good experience," Orr said. The Athletic Department will make Browning's job a bit easier with the additions of

assistant coaches Sam Crosson and Sydney Chute.

Crosson was an assistant for the University of the Pacific's Men's Volleyball team from 1999-2003 and was a volunteer coach at Santa Clara University last season.

In a smcgaels.com interview, Browning commented on his colleague saying, "I had the opportunity to work with Sam when he helped the Men's (National) Team, so I knew how great he is." Chute, who

attended high school in Santa Rosa, was the head coach of the University of Oregon's club men's volleyball team for two years, the women's club team last year and was setter for Oregon from 1999-2002.

In another interview from smcgaels.com, Browning said, "She has coaching experience and a very good understanding of the game."

With his new assistants, Browning should have a good first season and start to build his own Saint Mary's legacy.



ZACH FARMER

\$252 million doesn't buy what it used to

Even before Alex Rodriguez became a Yankee, I said, "He's a curse." But last year just reassured my thought. It is the curse of A-Rod.

As soon as A-Rod slapped the baseball from Red Sox pitcher Bronson Arroyo's hand, I knew that the momentum had shifted. The Yankees were desperate and A-Rod was their poster boy.

Alex Rodriguez was on incredible teams in Seattle with Ken Griffey Jr. and Randy Johnson. When A-Rod decided to leave the Emerald City for Texas, he left a sour taste in the mouth of every Mariner fan.

But that feeling quickly went away as the Mariners won 116 games that year, setting a Major League record. The Texas Rangers were in last place every year during A-Rod's tenure. The year they traded A-Rod, the Rangers missed the playoffs by only two games.

That same year, the Yankees would become the first team in MLB history to lead a playoff series 3-0 and lose the series. Not only that, but to their long-time rival, the Boston Red Sox.

The Red Sox would win the World Series and break the 86-year-old Curse of the Bambino. A-Rod going to the Yankees was a reverse of the curse. Alex Rodriguez is the youngest player in the history of baseball to hit 200, 300, 350, and 400 home runs in his career. Most baseball experts believe that he will be the one to break Hank Aaron's all-time home run record.

Babe Ruth was the first player ever to hit 30, 40, 50, and 60 home runs in a season and 700 in a career. Babe Ruth wore the number three with both the Red Sox and the Yankees and that number is immortalized at Yankee Stadium.

Alex Rodriguez, before joining the Yankees, wore the number three for the Mariners and the Rangers. When he got to New York, the Yankees did not give him number three. They gave him 13 and if you learned anything from a Freddy Kruger movie, it is that 13 is a bad number.

Even this season, with Rodriguez in the middle of the lineup, the Yankees are spending over \$200 million dollars and may not make the playoffs. Even if they win the Wild Card, it would be the first time in nine years that the Yankees would lose the division.

This is a message to baseball: whatever you do, do not bring A-Rod into your clubhouse because he can do nothing but harm your team. But for the Yankees, the message got there too late.

Saint Mary's College

Standings and Box Scores

Men's Soccer	
Saint Mary's	2-0-0
Gonzaga	1-0-0
San Francisco(15)	1-0-0
Santa Clara(13)	1-0-0
Portland	0-0-1
San Diego	0-0-1
LMU	0-1-0

Women's Soccer	
Pepperdine	4-0-0
Portland(4)	3-0-0
Gonzaga	2-0-1
Saint Mary's	3-1-0
USD(25)	2-1-0
Santa Clara(5)	1-0-1
San Francisco	1-2-0
LMU	0-2-1

Men's Cross Country	
Portland	19
Gonzaga	66
Santa Clara	105
LMU	107
San Francisco	109
San Diego	168
Saint Mary's	185
Pepperdine	188

Women's Volleyball	
San Francisco	7-0
LMU	3-0
Santa Clara	3-0
Saint Mary's(23)	4-1
San Diego(18)	4-1
Gonzaga	5-2
Pepperdine(25)	2-1
Portland	1-4

Men's Soccer Results

W(1-0) vs. Sacramento State 3-0
Goals: Clegg 3(3), Assists: Christlieb, Butler 1(1), Saves: Mason 7(7)

W(2-0) vs. Oregon State 1-0
Goals: Clegg 1(4), Saves: Mason 4(11)

Volleyball Results

W(4-0) vs. Lehigh 30-22, 30-17, 30-17
Kills: Stidham 11(46), Assists: Bible 26(148), Digs: Parker 7(28)

L(4-1) vs. #16 Texas A&M 24-30, 25-30, 23-30
Kills: Stidham 14(60), Assists: Bible 33(181), Digs: Parker 13(41)

W(5-1) vs. Virginia 26-30, 30-13, 30-16, 30-15
Kills: Salzman 26(84), Assists: Bible 56(237), Digs: Stidham 30(72)

Women's Cross Country

Portland	28
San Francisco	81
Gonzaga	102
Santa Clara	104
San Diego	110
LMU	130
Pepperdine	141
Saint Mary's	249

Women's Soccer Results

W(2-1) vs. UCSB 1-0
Goals: Schrey 1(1), Saves: A. Lee 1(7)

W(3-1) vs. Montana 2-0
Goals: Frattone 1(2), Schrey 1(2), Saves: A. Lee 4(11)

“Gimme some of that groupie love”

A tale of being a Saint Mary's sports fanatic, and then taking it to the next level

by **Belen Garcia**
 Staff Writer

Could rapper 50 Cent really have been onto something? With a single lyric, he captured the essence of the underground world of the enthusiastic athletic supporter. That crazy land where the face and body paint flow like water. That wonderful world where the athlete needs the fan just as much the fan needs the athlete.

Hold on as I take you on a foray into the world of a true fan.

I'm going into my senior year. And while I am excited about all of the fun senior year holds, what really gets my goat is the absolutely thrilling return of the fall sports season.

My roommates play a fall sport, and let me tell you they play the hell out of it. I'm not going to say what sport they play, but you might get its name confused with a certain sport played with pads, a helmet and two end zones. Through the years, I have attended every single game and cheered on our Gaels with the ferocity of a jungle predator. And this is the year that I have been waiting for—this is the year that I take my fandom to unheard of levels.

Some might call this diehard attitude “ridiculous.” Some might even go as far to insinuate that it's sad that I live vicariously through athletes to get my jollies. I have even, shockingly enough, been called a “groupie.” Can you believe that? The nerve, the audacity to criticize enthusiasm.

So what if I happen to do scales before games to get the perfect pitch for my heckle? So what if I happen to stretch out before each game, so that I don't pull any muscles while doing my patented victory dances? That doesn't make me sad or pathetic. It makes me 100% truly dedicated to something.

So I am sharing my story today for all those super fans out there. You guys just keep on keepin' on. Get those team tattoos, paint your faces, obsess over statistics and player performances. Make your witty signs with the clever putdowns and catch phrases. Continue to support your teams with the voraciousness of a great white shark. Because when the buzzer sounds, the superfan is what completes the recipe for a truly fulfilling sporting experience. To all you superfans, bravo!

Soccer stings Hornets, paddles Beavers

Freshman phenom Michael Clegg a hit for the 2005 Gaels

by **Rochelle Perkins**
 Staff Writer

The Saint Mary's men's soccer team made a killing this week as they defeated both Sacramento State and Oregon State on September 1st and September 3rd, respectively.

The team attacked early in Thursday's game, scoring all of their goals in the first half, leaving the final score at 3-0 versus Sacramento State.

The welcome home crew was more than enthusiastic for the entire game as the crowd cheered from their seats in the bleachers. The game gave the fans the chance to see the Gaels tear up the field with their synchronized offense at its best. Michael Clegg, a freshman forward from Santa Clarita, stepped up in the game with an outstanding performance, scoring all three Gael goals.

Clegg was also sensational in Saturday's game against Oregon State, scoring the game-winning goal for the Gaels in the 1-0 win.

Sophomore goalkeeper Brian Mason shut down each of Oregon State's attempts to put the ball in his net. He ended the game with four saves for his second shutout of the year. Despite the onslaught of Oregon offense, Saint Mary's held out as the field intensity continued to increase throughout the game.

The game also showed that the Saint Mary's student body has begun to take interest in the season. “I was intrigued the



Lisette Garcia/COLLEGIAN

Michael Clegg: Freshman sensation Michael Clegg avoids a Sacramento State defender while looking for an open shot. Clegg turned out to be a huge addition to the Gael's 2005 squad scoring all four goals this week and helping them to back-to-back wins against the Hornets and the Oregon State Beavers.

entire game because I wasn't sure if the other team was going to get past our defense,” said sophomore fan Maria Peralta. “But they played so well that I think I'm going to be making more time to come and watch their games.”

Despite head coach Steve Rammel's previous worries about being unprepared for the start of the season, it appears the team already has their game set.

Unfortunately, influential players, such as senior captain David Vedder, still remain on the bench due to injuries; however, it does not look as though the team's play has suffered.

Other players appear to be smoothly transitioning into the necessary leadership roles left by the absent injured players. Along with Clegg, players such as senior Matt Walker and last

year's First Team All-Conference selection Matthew Fitzgerald have only given a taste of what to expect for this year's season.

Come and check out men's soccer for yourself this Sunday, Sept. 11 when the Gaels host the University of Washington in the Saint Mary's Stadium at 7 p.m.. The Gaels will also face San Jose State this Wednesday in San Jose at 7 p.m.

Volleyball topples ACC's Virginia Cavaliers

Despite a loss to Texas A&M, Gaels record two wins at the Texas A&M Invitational

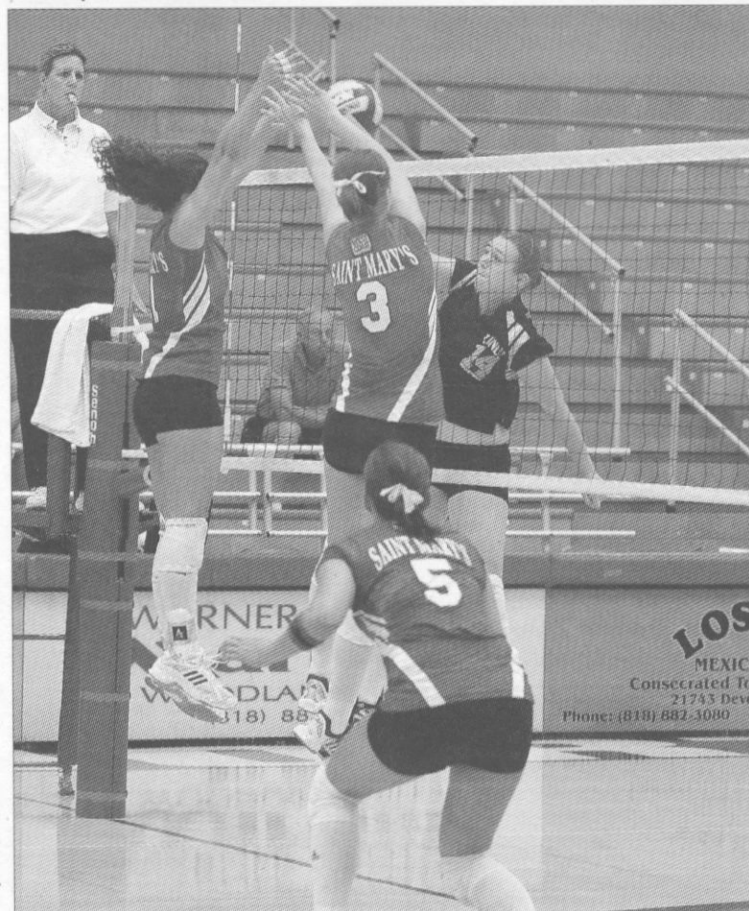


Photo Courtesy of Alyse McConnell
 Kau Salzman and Christina Kirk (3) played some great defense in this week's tournament at Texas A&M. The Gaels took 2 of 3 games in Texas.

by **Alyse McConnell**
 Staff Writer

Ranked #12 in the nation at season's end last year, the Saint Mary's volleyball team faced high expectations for this year. After a stellar start to the season with an opening tournament victory in the Northridge Invitational, there had been no reason to think otherwise.

The great start came despite many setbacks in the off-season including the resignation of coach Jon Stevenson and the loss of star player Lindsey Bogason. Senior outside hitter Kau Salzman acknowledges that “the hardest part was when we didn't have a coach [during spring training].” Although there are only six returning players, the team quickly incorporated the eight new players into their preseason practices.

The newly integrated group will work collectively to achieve this year's goals. Returning co-captains Kau Salzman and Mandy Bible will undertake the

task of leading their team back into the Sweet 16.

Meanwhile, the new additions have already proved to be valuable assets for the Gaels: freshman Lyndsey Parker has assumed the libero position, while Taylor Groess and Brittany Barker alternate at middle blocker.

Thus far new head coach Rob Browning, a former assistant coach for the U.S. Men's National Team, has not diverted from last year's plan. He “has the same expectations and drive to succeed” this year, states Salzman, adding that “when Rob came, it was a pretty smooth transition - he has the same philosophies and systems that we used before.”

However, this weekend the Gaels met their biggest setback of the season. After cruising past Lehigh University of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, SMC met their first major roadblock of the season falling to the 16th ranked Texas A&M Aggies in straight

see VOLLEYBALL, pg.10