

Moraga, California

Tuesday, November 22, 2005

Volume 103, Number 13

Saint Mary's scores high in study of student engagement

Students pleased with educational effectiveness of college efforts

by Julie McAvoy Staff Writer

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) reports that Saint Mary's College is outperforming similar private West Coast universities and the national average in measures of student engagement and educational effectiveness.

"This survey was started by leading researchers for higher education and it looks at what really matters in terms of education and practices that lead to real learning," said Michael Beseda, vice provost for enrollment. "This study is important because it is not based on how pretty the campus is, how big the institution is, or how much money it has." Instead it focuses on more important factors that contribute to the actual educational experience and learning.

Beseda also mentioned that this study is more complicated and harder to read than other studies such as the US News and World Report, which simplifies rankings by assigning every school a number. But this study also offers more information for the public and is a more complex assessment of different factors. "It is more complicated than other studies, which means the public has to think harder [to understand it]," said Beseda.

In four out of the five benchmarks of educational proficiency (academic challenge, active and collaborative learning, student-faculty interaction, and supportive campus environment), Saint Mary's College scored higher than peer schools, other master-level institutions, and national averages.

"We shine in academic challenge because of the seminar program, small class sizes, and the quality of faculty," said Beseda. "The faculty here put a lot of effort into interacting with students in and out of the classroom."

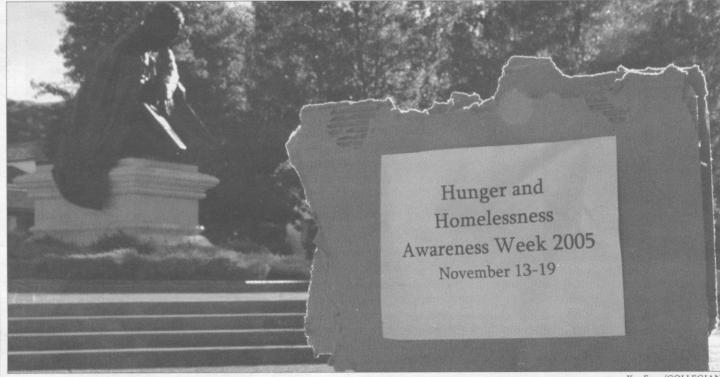
In the fifth category, enriching educational experiences, Saint Mary's was not far from comparable schools overall. Also, Saint Mary's seniors scored higher than the other comparison groups in the fifth category while first-year students scored higher than both master's institutions and the national average.

Saint Mary's College has participated in this study for the past five years and has

see SCORES, p4

Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week hits community

Students participate in Lasallian action to promote reality of national societal issue



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN

by K. Kauahi & L. Hua

Staff Writer & News Editor

Last week, not only Recycling Day was recognized on campus, National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week was also celebrated.

Campus Ministry, Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action (CILSA) Habitat for Humanity, Amnesty International, Homelessness Awareness Project (HAP), and Social Action Leadership Team (SALT) all got together and contributed their efforts to alert students throughout the Saint Mary's campus about hunger and homelessness in the Bay Area and the rest

of America.

While "HAP ultimately ran it," said Amanda Stump '08, vice president of Habitat for Humanity, each day was hosted by a different club and each event was a cry for students' attention.

"The goal is to get students to realize that we are not isolated from this problem," said Campus Minister Bob Mallon. There is a Crisis Center in Concord that students volunteered at, showing that students are not untouchable in the suburbia of Moraga.

not untouchable in the suburbia of Moraga.
Starting Sunday with Mass, the events ran until this past Saturday.

On Monday, Habitat for Humanity

placed signs on chapel that displayed different facts and statistics about hunger and homelessness, "but it didn't work out well," said Stump, "We put them up Sunday night." Between the lawn sprinklers and being out overnight, "the signs were ultimately destroyed by Monday," she said.

On Tuesday, students helped at the Crisis Center and Food Bank, sorting food and offering assistance. Other students also helped at a painting project at Elizabeth House later that day. Also, a food waste survey was held at Late Night, where the different trash cans for food, paper prod-

see HOMELESS, p3

Student research grants: Lesser-known option for studies



Couresy of Savannah Pronovos

Savannah Pronovost '07 received a research grant for the Katie Springer Forum on science and creationism last year. Such grants are available for all Saint Mary's students who wish to do such research.

by Bettina Adragna
Assistant News Editor

Last year, Savannah Pronovost '07 received a \$500 grant from the Saint Mary's College Student Research and Development Fund in order to fund The Katie Springer Forum, otherwise known as the God and Science Forum. The fund is available for "all traditional undergraduate students" for "independent academic research and professional development," according to the website for the grant.

Pronovost worked with Cheryl Kelly, the administrative assistant for Judd Case, dean of the Science Department, who mentioned that there was a grant available through Academic Support. Pronovost also worked with Nancy Clark, administrative assistant for Mission and Faculty Development, in order to develop the actual application.

"We needed funding for the event, basically, and we saw how the grant was offered, and we thought it would be a great idea to get support from the school," said Pronovost.

The application includes basic information such as name and contact information, as well as estimated expenses of the project/activity. The application asks how the project/activity relates to the applicant's disciplinary study and/or professional development, what the anticipated learning outcomes are, and how the applicant will report to the campus community.

"It wasn't that hard, actually," said Pronovost. "The hardest part was just organizing the application and the letter....They were pretty supportive, and the money was given pretty freely."

Another requirement for the application is a signature from a faculty or staff mentor. In Pronovost's case, the dean of the

Science department, Judd Case, "gave his authorization and his signature that he supported this event."

The forum also received funds from the Religious Studies department, the Science Department, and the Associated Students of Saint Mary's College enlivenment fund.

However, the funds from the other departments weren't enough to cover the event, which needed banners from Kinko's, fliers, food and beverages from Sodexho, thank-you gifts for the speakers on the panel, and handouts that were smaller versions of the fliers.

Pronovost said of the grant, "We were blessed because we really needed the funding to put on the event, and we were short on money. And so when this opportunity came up and we got the grant, it's definitely a blessing because it's something we

see GRANT, p4

INSIDE THIS WEEK

OPINION Hawai'i

Hawai'i five-O? No says Kauahi DETOUR

Movie review: Harry Potter pg. 8 SPORTS

Men's basketball opens in blowout pg. 12



THE

Saint Mary's College of California

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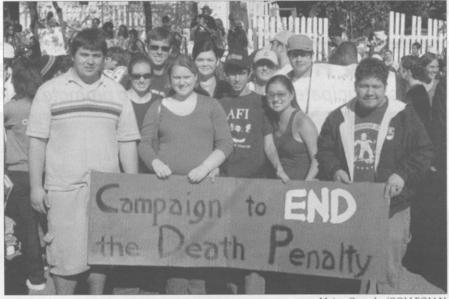
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The Collegian is the official newspaper of the Associated Students of Saint Mary's College. The Collegian is published weekly, except during examination periods and academic recesses. The Collegian reserves the right to hold and edit all submitted materials, solicited and unsolicited. The Collegian View is the unsigned opinion of the Collegian Editorial Board. The Collegian Editorial Board is comprised of all oversight staff members. Other opinions expressed are not necessarily endorsed by the Collegian, its contributors and/or advertisers. To place an advertisement or inquire about a subscription, call the Collegian Business Department at 925.631.4279.

SNAPSHOT



The Campaign to End the Death Penalty rallied at San Quentin Penitentiary where Snoop Dogg spoke this weekend.

Campus Quotes: What super powers would you like to have? Why?



The power to pull the exact amount of change from my pockets. I hate spare change. -David "Pat Dave" Stiles '09



I want to fly because I like to be able to see everything. Tommy Baggett '09



The power to fly because chicks dig it if you could fly. -Kyle Chee '07

Campus Quotes and photos compiled by Vince Ochoa



JONATHAN MORALES

We have forgotten the true role of media in society. What has it become?

"Just because your voice reaches halfway around the world doesn't mean you are wiser than when it reached only to the end of the bar," Edward R. Murrow once said, again expressing his concern over the dangers television could bring if it was used merely to entertain and distract, rather than to educate and inform.

Murrow has been brought back into the public consciousness through the film, Good Night, and Good Luck, (see review, pg. 10), which I finally saw last week and which chronicles the CBS newsman's fight against Sen. Joseph McCarthy in the 1950s. The main element of the movie is this battle of titans, but an underlying theme is the role of news in an ever-complicated, and ever-distracted, society.

Murrow became famous during World War II for broadcasting from the rooftops of London during the German air strikes. Afterwards, he became the host of "See It Now," an investigative journalism program, and the program that took on McCarthy and helped to expose him for the maniac that he was.

In the movie, and in history, Murrow seems to stand for everything that news is not right now: honest, bold, and simple. There

see MEDIA, p4

Beyond the Bubble

NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS BITES



TONY VALA-HAYNES

CAIRO, Egypt - Two years after a successful surgery which separated conjoined twins Ahmed and Mohammed Ibrahim, the twins returned home to Egypt on Sunday still wearing protective helmets. The twins were joined at the head when they were born June 2, 2001. One year after their

birth the twins were taken to a hospital in Dallas, Texas, that specializes in deformities of the head and face. There Ahmed and Mohammed were separated.

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania - Health Commissioner Joanne Godley apologized to the family of Unisha Jefferson, whose body remained in the city morgue unidentified for 2 years. Jefferson's sister questioned the sincerity of the apology. Katrina Johnson, 35, said in a statement, "I don't feel like the apology is genuine. Why did it take until [the story of what happened] was printed in the paper for an apology to be offered?"

DETROIT, Michigan - A teacher was robbed and assaulted in front of her elementary school on Thursday. The man who stole the teacher's wallet and assaulted her was said to be between 25-35 years old, around six feet tall and described as wearing a black bandana.

SAN DIEGO, California - Christopher and Shawn Kelly, both 18, are accused of assaulting a 14-year-old Hispanic boy with a crowbar last week. The victim sustained two cuts on his lips and a bruised thigh. When he was able to wrestle the crowbar away from the perpetrators he claims they ran off.

Crime Beat

11/13 1:30 a.m. Incident: Handbook Violation Synopsis: Occupying the dorm of another student, failure to comply and refusing to identify in De La Salle Hall; referred to Student Conduct.

11/13 6:25 p.m. Incident: Grand Theft Synopsis: Laptop Computer stolen at Mitty Hall; referred to Student Conduct.

11/14 10:12 a.m. Incident: Medical Assist Synopsis: Medical assist provided to student in De La Salle Hall; transported to Kaiser Walnut Creek. Referred to Student Conduct and Health & Wellness Center

11/14 12:50 p.m. Incident: Medical assist Synopsis: Medical assist provided to student in Aquinas / Mitty Quad; transported to John Muir Hospital. Referred to Student Conduct and Health and Wellness Center

11/14 5:20 p.m. Incident: PC Theft Synopsis: PC and leather chair stolen at Syufy Performing Arts 2nd floor foyer; referred to Business Office.

11/14 11:15 p.m. Incident: PC Vandalism Synopsis: PC Vandalism and glass door broken at Ageno C first floor, east extension door; referred to Student Conduct.

11/17 2:36 a.m. Incident: Possession of alcohol / Minor under the influence Synopsis: Littering and failure to comply at Mitty Hall; referred to Student Conduct.

11/18 2:10 p.m. Incident: Vandalism Synopsis: Damage to door knob at South Claeys; referred to Student Conduct.

During the week of November 7, 2005 a sexual assault was reported that occured during the week of October 10, 2005 on campus. The incident is under review.

Weekly **Featured** Profile

Lasallian Student Spotlight

Jahmese Myres

by Jenna Zack Staff Writer



Jahmese Myres '06, an economics major, is an active student within the Saint Mary's College community. She "is a vivid

and enthusiastic example of the Lasallian student." She is consistent in her efforts of demonstrating inclusive community.

Myres provides leadership to a number of organizations on campus. Jahmese is the Senior Class President for the 2005-2006 school year. She enjoys serving the senior class. She is hard at work with others in Student Government to select a speaker for the 2006 Graduation Ceremony and working on the Senior Ball. "I enjoy serving our class and want to make sure that we have a good senior year," she said.

Myres works for Recreational Sports and is the Coordinator of Intramural Basketball. She provides guidance and communication to the Intramural League Leadership Team throughout the year. She said, "It is fun being involved and watching how it all turns out." She communicates with the basketball participants in a knowledgeable, caring and positive manner that directly leads to the success of Intramural basketball. She is in her second year as a Resident Advisor for the second floor of Augustine Hall. She walked with residents from her floor in the Walk for Breast Cancer on October 22 in San Francisco. She likes helping her residents adjust to the college life at Saint Mary's. She is proud that almost all of her residents participated in the Halloween Party for Kids by handing out candy. She is a great mentor to her freshmen residents. She recommends her residents to get involved with an activity or organization on campus. She makes them feel welcome.

Myres also enjoys working with children. She tutors children in Lafayette. She has helped with the Carnival 4 Kids by being a committee member. She said, "I like dedicating time to kids having a fun time at Saint Mary's College." She is active in Pulses and likes to dance. She traveled to South Africa and encourages students to travel and said, "You are able to learn about the outside world."

Myres is thinking about what she wants to do after she graduates. She said that, "I think I am going to be a Lasallian volunteer and volunteer at a Lasallian school in the United States." If she pursues this goal, she plans to live with Christian Brothers. She also thinks she might want to get a Masters Degree. Myres truly embodies the Lasallian tradition.

How campus celebrates Native American Month

Why isn't there more of a celebration in Saint Mary's community

by Bettina Adragna Assistant News Editor

November is Native American Heritage Month, however some think that there is a lack of activities and awareness about it on campus. Students who have claimed Native American heritage have expressed a desire for a more prominent celebration.

"I think it should be celebrated more," said Stefani Carver '06, whose grandfather is Cherokee. "It was such a big part of history. We celebrated other holidays where something happened in one day, yet we don't celebrate a lifetime of achievements that [Native Americans] have accomplished." She said she didn't know who would facilitate it, but, as it stood, she didn't even know it was celebrated on campus.

Carver said that nonetheless, Native American Heritage Month creates a sense of pride in her.

"It's neat to hear about like our past and things like that," she said. "I'm more proud of it I think than anything.'

Other students, like Shannon Johnson '08, know a little about their heritage, but would like to know more. Her family celebrates mostly American holidays, not Native American, she said, but they keep Native American artifacts in the home.

ally don't know anything about it."

She suggested that speakers could be brought to the school so that she and others could learn more about Native American cultures. If there was a Native American club, she said, they could facilitate it. Otherwise, "I guess someone who is Native American and wants people to know" about Native American cultures would be optimum.

However, she said, "I don't really know if I'd attend [the events]. Maybe I would."

Not everyone has the privilege of being certain of their heritage. Brandon Castro '08 lives with his adopted parents in Los Angeles, but he believes he might be Native American because of his physical features. However, he has had trouble finding information about his biological parents. Even with the paperwork turned in, he said, he might not gain too much information about his biological

Castro said that "there's a little bit of pride, but there's kind of an ambiguity about [Native American Heritage Month].'

He said he would like Native American speakers to come to the school, to clear up misconceptions about Native Americans.

"I guess...people have this conception of Native Americans, that "I really think I should look they sort of hate the white man," more into it," said Johnson. "I re- he said. "I think it would be better

to have more speakers to clear the air with the students.'

Castro also expressed a desire for a more visible Native American Heritage Month.

"It should be more than something just written on the wall," he said. "There could just be more done, there could be actors, book writers, I mean, there could be more brought to the school." He had "no idea" who would facilitate this.

Pravda Wright, program coordinator for the Delphine Intercultural Center, wanted to emphasize that students are welcome to involve themselves in Native American Heritage Month, or any other month.

"The main thing that we want to get across to students is that if they want anyone to come on campus, they can come and talk to me, or Eté [Martinez-Anderson]." She also said that "it takes a while just to get a speaker or performer on campus." But this shouldn't be a setback, because Delphine wants "to celebrate diversity every month, not just during a heritage month.'

Wright said that the Heritage Months, along with the clubs that direct them, are student-driven.

"If there haven't been students that have come to us, that might be one reason," said Wright. "There's definitely a need for it, but it has to be student-driven."

Campus Calendar

Toy and Toiletry Drive Ongoing Through December 6 Donate toys and toiletries to children and victims of Hurricane Katrina at the

Gospel Voices of Saint Mary's Thanksgiving Concert Tuesday, November 22 12:00 p.m. Saint Mary's Chapel

ASSMC office.

Assistant Director of SIL Candidate Interview: Tina Bonacci

Monday, November 28 1:00 p.m. Delphine Lounge

Assistant Director of SIL Candidate Interview: Jennifer Donahue Tuesday, November 29 1:00 p.m. Delphine Lounge x8318

Women in the World on Wednesdays Wednesday, November 30 11:30 a.m. Delphine Lounge

LASA Heritage Month Event Wednesday, November 30 5:00 p.m. Hagerty

Lasallian Mission Event: Sharing the Mission Wednesday, November 30 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Seminar on Liberal Arts, Board Room Contacts: Carole Swain, Brother Michael Sanderl, and Sally Jamison

Creative Writing Reading Series: John Daniel Wednesday, November 30 7:30 p.m. Galileo 201 x4088

Movie Night: A Christmas Story Wednesday, November 30 9:00 p.m. Dryden Hall

Raw{k} for Charity featuring bands Normal Like You and Nural Thursday, December 1 9:00 p.m. Oliver Hall \$5 presale, \$6 at the door Contact: (925) 997-5699

Deadline to Submit Requests for Christmas Holiday Housing Friday, December 2

Stop by the Office of Residence Life Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the ground floor of Mitty.

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.

News Briefs Toy drive

Toys and Toletries drive at CILSA

Campus groups are organizing a toy and toiletry drive for survivors of recent hurricanes from now until December 7. Toys for boys and girls ages three to 13 years old are needed, as well as toiletries for women and men, including dental products, hair products, sanitary products for women, baby and adult size diapers, and baby wipes. Boxes to collect donations are located on campus in residence halls, Cam-

Students have a chance to help out a good cause and go to one of the most popular Saint Mary's fast-food restaurants at the same

All of next week, November 28 through December 2, students who bring a toy to Chipotle, located in Walnut Creek, will receive a free burrito. All the toys collected throughout the week will be donated to Children's Hospital in Oakland. The drive is sponsored by Circle K.

Students can bring in one toy a day, so potentially students could receive a free burrito all five days pus Ministry, the Student In- if they bring in a toy each day. volvement and Leadership office. Circle K asks that toys brought in be new or good condition or only

Distinguished writer reading

John Daniel, the MFA Program's Distinguished Writer in Residence for the fall of 2005, will be having a reading tomorrow, November 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Galileo 201. Daniel, the author of Rogue River Journal, The Trail Home, Looking After, Winter Creek, and two collections of poetry, is a former Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford University. He is also the recipient of two Oregon Book Awards for literary nonfiction and a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as the Viebranz Visiting Professor of Creative Writing for St. Lawrence University from 2002 to 2005.

HOMELESS: National event reaches Moraga hills as students participate continued from page 1

ucts, and dishes were set up and later weighed to alert students of how unnecessary leftovers are thrown away and paper goods dis-

On Wednesday, Amnesty International set up a table in Oliver Hall asking for flex dollar donations that would go to help the homeless. In addition, an Anthropology/Sociology class held a film showing and discussion entitled the "Future of Food" while SALT sponsored a Dine and Discuss about the situation in the Bay

There was also a graphic dem-

onstration at Thursday's "Faces of the Homeless" panel, sponsored by HAP. A group of people facing the problem of homelessness was brought to campus, using visuals to show students how drastic the problem is.

Friday featured a lunchtime fast and another opportunity to donate flex dollars, as well as a prayer session in front of the chapel.

Interwoven into this week was the Alameda Point Collaborative project run by CILSA.

The week ended Saturday with a hard-labor service project: the Habitat for Humanity build.

"We had a lot of volunteers.... About 25 people showed up. We built a fence and retaining wall. We did a lot," said Stump, "I had a lot of fun and it was really nice realizing that this is a house we're building for people who wouldn't otherwise have one."

National Hunger Homelessness Awareness Week, formerly known as Human Dignity Week, "was a success," said Stump. Everything from donations to painting the office at Elizabeth Home (a women's and children's center in Oakland) helped.





SCORES: College ranks low in different study; comparisions between NSSE and Princeton

continued from page 1

seen improvement in the results each year. "It is gratifying to see the measures over time and the improvements that the college has made in all benchmarks over the past five years," said Beseda.

More than 225,000 first-year and senior students at 529 colleges and universities were questioned for the sixth annual report, which was sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. "This study gives us insight into how well our programs are working," said Director of Media Relations, Debra Holtz. "It goes right to the heart of the student experience."

The six comparison institutions for Saint Mary's College include Holy Names University in Oakland, Santa Clara University, University of San Francisco, and Whittier College in Southern California. Saint Mary's students also scored very close to those in institutions that were top 10 percent overall.

Other interesting findings concerning undergraduates nationwide stated that first-year students who took seminar were more

more challenged academically, interacted more frequently with faculty, and were more satisfied with college. Also, first-year students that attended orientation perceived their campus to be more supportive and reported more development gains in their first year of college.

Also, the study found that there is little difference in educational engagement between high profile student athletes and other students. Furthermore, 54 percent of first-year students and 63 percent of seniors said that they often discussed ideas or readings with peers outside of class.

Beseda noted that when students have only experienced Saint Mary's College, they do not realize how great of an institution it is and can sometimes take the benefits for granted. However, the benefits are obvious when you look at the available activities outside of the classroom that contribute positively to the learning environment

Even though Saint Mary's scored so high on the NSSE, not all rankings have shone such posilikely to use campus services, felt tive light on the campus. The Princeton Review Rankings of colleges in the West Coast Conference (WCC) ranked Saint Mary's seventh or eighth out of the eight WCC schools in three categories.

Saint Mary's is ranked in last place in Academics, which is based on students' evaluations of their professors, class size, student-teacher ratio, and class discussion. This ranking is also based on the amount of time students study outside of class and the academic level of the students that attend the school.

In Financial Aid, Saint Mary's ranked seventh out of the eight WCC schools. This category looks at how pleased students are with the financial aid that they receive and the amount of students that receive financial aid.

Another category that Saint Mary's scored the least in is Quality of Life. Quality of Life is based on how satisfied students are with the time that they spend out of the classroom. This includes the appearance, safety, and location of the campus, the quality of the food and dorms, and the interactions with other students.

MEDIA: Where has its value gone?

continued from page 1

were no flashy intros, no elaborate set, no catchy-graphics. Just the courageousness to be willing to accept that there may not be two sides to every story along with the mindset that the press has been given a hallowed place in our

At a time when the American president and vice president can go on live television and attack their fellow Americans for exercising that most sacred of American freedoms, freedom of speech, remembering what Murrow stood for becomes critical. This is expounded by the never-ending follies of news today. Why do the press ask questions like, "Did the President convince the public tonight," instead of "Was the President honest tonight?"

An example closer to home hit last week. When Bill O'Reilly called for terrorists to attack San Francisco while live on the radio, the Bay Area's own CBS news team played "objectively" by giving both sides of the "argument" instead of chastising O'Reilly for his outrageous comments.

Real, genuine news has been replaced by sound bites, talking points, and, yes, Bill O'Reilly. It is a sad state of affairs when so many people consider "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report"

the most straightforward sources of news. Are Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert television's most trusted news team? If so, Murrow's worst fears about television and entertainment may have been realized.

In the movie, Murrow's celebrity interview program "Person to Person" is far more popular than "See It Now." He is told that game shows can easily pull more viewers, and therefore more money, than news programs. Entertainment is very quickly overshadowing news as the most important element of television, and Murrow doesn't like it.

"If we were to do the Second Coming of Christ in color for a full hour, there would be a considerable number of stations which would decline to carry it on the grounds that a Western or a quiz show would be more profitable," said Murrow, another real-life quote.

In today's media world where reality TV rules the network channels, where People and Cosmo are more read than The New Yorker and Time, and where newspaper circulation is freefalling because of the popularity of the Internet (where anyone can publish whatever they want, unchecked), I'm starting to believe he was right.

KEY FINDINGS OF THE NSSE SURVEY

-The 54 percent of all first-year students who took a first-year seminar were more likely to use campus services, were more satisfied with college, and gained more in terms of personal and social development.

- Three out of 10 first-year students reported studying just enough to get by.

-Students who worship frequently or engage in other spirituality-enhancing practices such as meditation also participate more in a broad cross section of collegiate activities.

Source: www.stmarys-ca.edu

WCC PRINCETON REVIEW RANKINGS

Academics

Pepperdine - 89 Santa Clara - 86 San Francisco - 83 Loyola - 83 Gonzaga - 82 San Diego - 82

Portland - 81 Saint Mary's - 73

Financial Aid

San Diego 81 Santa Clara - 79 Pepperdine - 79 Portland - 79

Gonzaga - 77 Loyola - 73 Saint Mary's - 71

San Francisco - 70

Quality of Life

Loyola - 96 Portland - 96 San Francisco - 90 San Diego - 89 Santa Clara - 87 Pepperdine - 81 Gonzaga - 80

Saint Mary's - 70 Source: www.princetonreview.com

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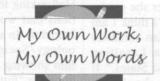
"It's just seminar, it's not even my major. So why should it matter if I borrow my roommate's paper?"





"It was 'just seminar' but now . I can't graduate."

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SMC ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

Get the full text of the SMC academic honor code at: http://smcnet.stmarys-ca.edu/code

GRANTS: Opportunities for students go unnoticed continued from page 1

Rankings are based on a score between 60 and 99

really needed in order to honor Katie and in order to make it successful, to make it a nice event that people would want to attend."

As for how the event would benefit the student body, Pronovost said, "It definitely benefits the student body as far as being able to attend an event like that, where you can speak about God and science openly...and being able to discuss the issues that we face today, the ethical issues that we face today, such as euthanasia and embryo cell research."

Pronovost advised other students who are interested in the grant to "definitely take advantage of that opportunity."

"It's there for a reason," she said. "Use it, because that's what the money's for."

A \$500 grant is available for

active participation, which includes "presentation of a paper or poster, or musical or artistic work, or research," and a \$300 grant is available for passive participation of an event (attendance only). Funds for the grant will be available until the fund is exhausted. Applications are due by the 20th of the month prior to the event that needs the funding. Applications are reviewed every month by the Student Research and Development Fund Committee, which includes three faculty and two students. More information is available at

http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/ academics/deans_faculty/ faculty_development/ grants_and_fellowships/ student_research_grant.html.



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 COUNSELORS
- SUPPORT COUNSELORS

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PINION



SCOTT CULLINANE

San Francisco: anti-gun law more liberal lunacy

In the recent election, San Francisco, that bastion of sound thinking, passed proposition H. San Francisco has banned anyone, except police, security guards and soldiers, from owning a hand-

San Francisco bravely ventures forward in this bold social experiment, overlooking the failure of every other program similar to proposition H. There is a direct, provable, and undeniable link between the increase in gun regulation and a rise in crime. Proposition H will lead to more crime, more assaults, more rapes, and more robbery. Criminals already buy and own their guns outside the law, or at least have that option. The only people this new law will effect are law abiding citizens. It removes the important ability of honest citizens to defend themselves against criminals. If anything, it will encourage outlaws to get a gun because they now know they are the only ones who will have them.

Evidence to support the idea that guns do deter crime can be found around the world. One year after Australia disarmed, armed-robbery went up 44%; Homicides in Victoria alone were up 300%, and that was after a decrease for the previous 25 years. Within two years after the United Kingdom banned handguns, handgun crime went up 40%. In contrast, when Florida decreased its gun restriction in 1987, the homicide rate plummeted by 23% while the national average went up 9%. States that have concealed carry laws have lower murder, assault and robbery rates than states with stricter gun laws. A survey of felons found that 57% were more worried about armed victims than the police. Washing ton DC, which has some of the toughest gun laws in the nation, has 46.4 murders per 100,000. But across the river in Arlington, which has looser gun laws, the murder rate is 2.1 per 100,000. In Texas, a right-to-carry law passed in 1996 resulted in a 60% fall in murder rates over four years. In America, guns are used millions of times a year for selfdefense, often without ever being fired. The body of evidence is undeniable: stricter gun laws do not make life safer for anyone but the criminals. The loony left has ignored a mountain of evidence that shows when citizens are allowed to own firearms, crime is deterred.

I hope this ridiculous law is quickly overturned and the citizens of San Francisco are allowed to defend themselves from criminal elements again.

Collegian View

Most people understand that the holiday season is a time for brotherhood, for humanity to come together and to rise above the many differences between us. Unfortunately, evangelist Jerry Falwell seems not to have gotten that message.

Yes, Falwell has declared war anyone who they claim is spreading misinformation about Christmas (SF Chronicle, 11/20/05). He has launched the "Friend or Foe Christmas Campaign," which has 750 lawyers behind it promising to file suit against anyone accused of "misrepresenting Christmas."

If they can't sue, they will boycott. Their target this week? Tar-

Falwell and his group have called for a boycott of the chain store this weekend due to a supposed ban on the use of the phrase "Merry Christmas" in its stores. Target has denied the ban. According to the article, while most of Target's signage carries the phrase "Gatherround," signs reading 'Celebrate Christmas" appear in the greeting card section.

Regardless, Target's only crime is correctly assuming that, out of the millions of people who will visit their stores in the coming month, many of them will not be Christian.

Other targets: schools that recognize religious diversity by singing religious-neutral songs during the season, and cities who understand that not all of their citizens are Christian and decide not to display nativity scenes in public

Forget the grinch who stole Christmas. What we have here is a grinch who is forcing Christmas.

There's nothing wrong with celebrating Christmas, but declaring war on those who don't is ridicu-

Perhaps Falwell and his group have forgotten that there are other religions in the world. Perhaps they have forgotten that Christmas also coincides with Hanukkah, Ramadan and Kwanzaa.

It's one thing to fight against the commercialization of Christmas, and thus the resulting loss of its message. It's quite another to attack those who choose to respect the diverse society that is America's greatest strength.

In fact, Falwell seems to be fighting for the commercialization of Christmas. How else do you describe a campaign that wants to force people to look at Christmas signs while partaking in that great 20th century religion: shopping. Merry Christmas, now buy our stuff.

And maybe, perhaps Falwell and his group have forgotten that the true message of Christmas is that when Christ came into the world, he brought with him love, peace and brotherhood. It's a shame that Falwell seems intent on destroying that this holiday

Community Views

Dear Editor,

Rather than stating the positives of his own political ideology, every week Scott Cullinane instead makes shallow attacks against liberals. From calling Hillary Clinton an extreme leftist to the walk-out "anti-American," Scott has not once seemed to put real thought into his own views. Rather he echoes one of Bush's most infamous quotes, "Either you're with us or against us." Scott seems to forget that the Iraqi War is based on lies and how Bush constantly linked Iraq to 9-11, when in fact Hussein had nothing to do with 9-11. I don't think anyone will argue Hussein is not evil and did not deserve to be taken out of power. However, it's the fact that Bush rushed into war without listening to his generals and CIA executives and let Bin Laden, the man responsible for 9-11, roam free. And secondly, money that New Orleans uses on strengthening their levees was taken and used on the war. Scott, instead of being a Bill O'Reilly protégé, can you please open your eyes, just a little?

Michael Cullen, '09

Dear Editor,

To those who have written

I fail to see how you dislike the comic relief this column has to offer. I'm a transfer and it's the first time I've lived at school. Hearing about school stuff and national crises gets old very fast. This column is meant as entertainment, that's why it's in the Detour section of the paper. If you don't like the article then don't read it. Why even go to the entertainment section if you don't want to be entertained? Ms. Manley's view on ridiculous couples' Halloween costumes and useless things such as glitter deodorant is hilarious and is meant to get your mind off school and the difficulties of life.

Finally, I think it's quite rude to make assumptions about the writer's life based on her column. I don't see how one individual could claim that she couldn't get a date. Do you even know the writer? If I were to assume things about the people who have criticized Ms. Manley and her work, I'd think that they were social failures that have never experienced anything outside of school. But like the saying goes "as always, it's only my opinion."

Julie Iden '07

Dear Editor,

As I was unable to register for about the "Not So Much" col- my classes, I decided to write a letter to the editor. This school's

Internet is embarrassing. I have visited many other schools, among them Cal Poly, UC Irvine, and Loyola Marymount. All these campuses are wireless and have insanely fast Internet. They don't get kicked off every 6 minutes while using AOL Instant Messenger. Registering for classes is easy and efficient. They are not randomly kicked off the server. There have been several nights, luckily none where I was doing anything important, where I was kicked off the Internet and unable to get back online for over 25 minutes. I have no idea what is wrong with the current Internet, but I would assume that \$40,000 a year per pupil could fix it.

Chris Orme '09

Dear Editor,

It disappoints me to think that The Collegian would support a writer such as Scott Cullinane. It has been repeatedly apparent that Mr. Cullinane is neither aware of his surroundings nor does he have any regard for his fellow students whom may share opposing viewpoints with himself. As a student with extremely different viewpoints from Mr. Cullinane, I recognize that there will be times when I find his views to be other than my own, but I have not expected to be so blatantly offended by his articles as I have

been. Repeatedly he has written things that support racism and violence, things that speak out against his fellow students, and express views that he can neither support nor justify. While I recognize also that The Collegian aims to give every voice a chance to be heard, it seems as though Mr. Cullinane has made his points quite clearly and dogmatically and now the exec team members of The Collegian should re-evaluate his contributions to The Collegian. I am terribly disappointed in The Collegian for continuing to publish his writings, as they neither support Lasallian traditions of caring for others nor help build a sense of community here at SMC. Originally I was going to address Mr. Cullinane himself but then realized that his messages of hate and ignorance are being encouraged by publication. Please take this into account as I am not the only student who feels this way and I believe it is up to the staff at The Collegian to make sure such messages are not consuming the school's main source of media.

Karen Reid '07

Collegian Office Hours:

Ionathan Morales: MWF 12:40-1:40; T 10:15-11:15 Jo-Ann Arquillano: MW 12:30-3

Please stop by if you have questions or comments!

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 and must be signed. We cannot print unsigned letters. The Collegian holds the right to edit any submitted material, solicited or unsolicited. Submit to collegia@stmarys-ca.edu.

Do you know who Samuel Alito is?

96% no

4% yes

Do you support Alito joining the Supreme Court? 3% no 6% yes 91% don't have enough information

Gael

compiled by Pablo Armas



The Collegian PINIO



Hawai'i not the 50th state in America

Hawai'i is not and has never been the 50th state of the United States of America. Hawai'i is recognized as independent and sovereign by the World Court, The Family of Nations (FN), and various countires.

In 1826 the US recognized the Hawaiian Kingdom's independence by agreement of the Family of Nations (a group of independent and sovereign nations recognized as so by the other nations within the FN). Decades later in 1890 John L. Stevens, America's Minister to Hawai'i, made King Kalakaua a "puppet king" and forced him to sign over his power (in the Bayonet Constitution) "under extreme duress," illegal protocol which should have made it non-binding by American standards.

In 1893, Kalakaua's successor, Queen Lili'uokalani, was intimidated and put under house arrest by Stevens along with the naval support from the U.S.S. Boston. This Gunboat Diplomacy forcing down the Queen allowed the establishment of a Provisional Government (PG). Later that year, in February, America announced Hawai'i as a protectorate of the U.S.S. Cleveland. They ordered an investigation that concluded "the representatives abused their power" and had



Ka'IULANI KAUAHI

Stevens removed from office. In retaliation the PG spread propaganda in America about Hawaiians, monarchies, and Cleveland. Political cartoons against "the Nigger Islands and its fat Nigger Queen" portrayed Hawaiians as ignorant, cruel, gluttonous, and unable to govern themselves. The PG then declared itself to be the Republic of Hawai'i, ceding 1.8 million acres of sovereign crown, government, and public

When McKinley took office he attempted to annex Hawai'i (in 1898) under a Joint Resolution. However, a Joint Resolution is only acceptable in place of a Treaty of Annexation if America and the country it wishes to annex agree to it. The agreement must be between America and the indigenous and aboriginal Government, but was instead signed by American representatives in Hawai'i, making the document obsolete and illegal by International Law.

established Hawai'i as a Territorial Government. With its choice location, resources, and natural harbors, Hawai'i made the American Naval force one not to be reckoned with. On August 21,

The Hawaiian people

know we have sover-

eignty and are now

fighting America's

occupation...

1959 Hawai'i was annexed as the 50th state of America, a plebiscite for statehood which is illegal according to UN standards because it did not provide the option of indepedence.

From the 1890s to the 1980s the Hawaiian people died of many diseases introduced by sailors and missionaries. The native language was outlawed and practicing culture forbidden. The people of Hawai'i underwent genocide, by its legal definition. In 1993 the American Congress offered an official apology to Hawai'i, documented in Public Law 103-150, Congress Resolution 19.

Being a native Hawaiian I have something to say: that's great. I'm sure now Hawaiians will not have

In April 1900, the Organic Act to deal with the after-affects of a stolen kingdom, and will therefore start getting better jobs, and won't be the largest percent of prisoners in Hawai'i's jail cells even though the Hawaiian ethnicity itself is one of the small-

est in Hawai'i. Now the language will no longer be extinct and the children will get a better education. Because of that apology the Hawaiian people have completely forgotten about the genocide, oppression, and humiliation and no longer care about their

stolen land and their destroyed culture.

The Hawaiian people know we have sovereignty and are now fighting America's occupation and the re-instatement of the land. Apologies are something we cannot use.

As Senator Slade Gorton states in the Public Law mentioned prior, "the logical consequences of this resolution would be independence."

He's right.



MIKE CHIN

Samuel Alito is more than qualified

Republican constituents are once again in for a fight as President Bush recently made his third nomination to the Supreme Court.

Samuel Alito, currently a federal circuit court judge, has been appointed by the President to stand for the seat to be vacated by Sandra Day O'Connor. Given his conservative record in making decisions, he is sure to draw much criticism from Democrats.

Democrats, as well as the press, have made his appointment out to be one not based upon his record, but more about his constituency. There is no mistaking his history. Alito is a practicing Roman Catholic and has been considered a "Scaliaite" in reference to Associate Justice Anton Scalia who has written many conservative opinions in the Supreme Court.

During the 1980's, Alito served as an assistant to recently deceased Chief Justice William Renquist.

However, in spite of Alito's conservative background, one must also recognize that he is a well qualified, judicial savvy candidate. Those who have failed to see his credentials also forget that the law is without pride or prejudice. One must interpret the law based on the Constitution, not based upon personal opinion. Alito has a proven record of doing this. He has served as a judge for more than a decade.

Even those who have come out against him, such as Yale Law School, his alma mater, have not attacked his knowledge of law or of the Constitution, but instead his conservative ideology.

Moreover, before liberal politicians begin to chastise Judge Alito they must remember that he has already been confirmed by the Senate twice. Unlike the previous nomination Harriet Myers, who was heavily criticized for having no judicial record, Alito is more than qualified for the job. Since 1990 he has served on the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals.

Democrats and Republicans alike must remember that despite his former opinions, he must be criticized not on his prior opinions, but on his understanding of the Constitution. Each individual opinion that he has written reflects the facts of that individual case and cannot ever be totally duplicated. His ideas about the law are sound and well thought out. As a future law student I only hope to have half the understanding of law that Alito possesses.

Should Samuel Alito not be confirmed as a Supreme Court Justice, it is fair to say that the law has lost its sense of objectivity and moved into the realm of subjective constituency.

Prop. 73 was not about abortion, but about family

I was sitting at home watching the election results come in on Tuesday night. I should have been reading for class, but I sometimes get consumed by politics. My wife doesn't allow me to watch television in bed because I tend to talk back to the television, mostly in frustration. So I sat by myself with a beer and watched and stirred uncomfortably as the future of our state unfolded before me on the screen, desperately checking the Secretary of State's web site to confirm the results.

Proposition 73 was written to solve a problem. The problem is that parents do not have to be notified that their minor child is going to have an abortion. This



JOE HEFFERNAN

is not so much of an issue on abortion as an issue on parental notification involving circumstances that concern their children.

Let's say my son breaks his arm and is taken to the emergency room. The emergency room is required by law to notify me. However, if my daughter was to become pregnant and wanted to have an abortion, she could go

to any clinic. That clinic does not have to notify me prior, or after, the procedure. Does any one see a problem here?

Proposition 73 even provided for a situation in which a minor child is in a dangerous situation and does not feel safe talking to her parents. In this case, the minor child, according to the proposition, could have gone before a judge and gained permission to have an abortion without parental notification.

Proposition 73 was not about abortion. It was about my right and obligation to make decisions for my child. No one, except for my wife and me, has the right to make family, medical, or even religious decisions on my child's behalf. If I fail to prevent my daughter from becoming pregnant prior to marriage by open discussion and education, I hope and pray that she is able to come and talk to me. Apparently, some do not share my opinion.

Susan Battalglia of Alameda was interviewed by Amber Lee of Channel 2 News on election night. She stated, "I voted no on [proposition 73]. I don't think it is going to be very good to start talking with the girls after they're pregnant if they haven't talked to them before they're pregnant." I had to rewind the segment several times to make sure I heard her correctly. Sadly, I did. Is this the future you want to have with your children?

The anonymous alcoholic recalls her stay in the hospital

Raindrops on my legs. My were constantly racing through into convulsions. father's strong arms. My mother crying. Bright lights of the emergency room. This all I can remember from that day. A simple series of sensations. This was the day I almost died. That was nearly six years ago.

I had planned on using ecstasy. As a freshman in high school, this was extremely appealing. All drugs were appealing. Anything that could deter the feelings that my mind was a seemingly pleasant relief.

When I couldn't get the drug I was hoping for, I drank a large bottle of whiskey in about 20 minutes. That seemed to be the best alternative. And with my then 98-pound frame, it quickly materialized into a really bad idea.

I threw up. All I could do was crawl on the floor. I broke a glass lined wall with my head. I went

When I woke up, I was lying in a urine stained hospital bed with an array of tubes and needles stuck in my body.

I was taken to a psychiatric ward. The doctors thought I had tried to commit suicide. I spent three long days there. Three days with unlocked doors, except the main door to the ward that was metal and bolted. Three days spent

with barred windows and no toothpaste. Three days with constant screaming and people crazier than me.

I have seen my father cry twice. Once when he was stung by a wasp cleaning the pool. The other sitting at my bed at the pysch ward wondering what he had done wrong. And despite this moment, I drank a week after I was released.

Do you know who Samuel Alito will replace on the Supreme Court? (Sandra Day O'Connor)

82% no

18% yes

104 students polled

DETOUR

100

Good Night and Good Luck more than just a period piece



by Jonathan Morales Editor in Chief

George Clooney's Good Night, and Good Luck takes place in the 1950s at a time when news seemed to matter more. The film depicts newsman Edward Murrow's three courageous news broadcasts that helped to bring down Sen. Joseph McCarthy and end his terrifying witch hunt for communists. David Strathairn is dead-on as the chain-smoking Murrow but the genius of the film was Clooney's decision to use real footage of McCarthy, not an actor. McCarthy is neither misrepresented, nor do we get the impression that he was anything other than a lunatic. The film ultimately shows television news at its best.

American Splendor



by Allison Kop

Sports Editor

If you're into slightly weird, but original and entertaining movies, than American Splendor will be right up your Paul Giamatti is alley. perfectly cast as Harvey Pekar, the depressed everyman and author of the acclaimed comic books American Splendor, which deal with his banal existence in Cleveland, Ohio. The film experiments with fun visual techniques to show the challenge of turning a comic book into a film. The story is often interrupted by scenes in which the real Harvey and other oddball characters tell the audience how they came up with the story. The movie is strangely funny and is highlighted by the hilarious Toby Radloff, who plays the best nerd on film since Milton from Office Space.

Goblet fails to capture the fire of book

New flick leaves readers of the book missing the magic of the series' fourth installment

by Melanie Linney

Detour Editor

Okay, so I know what you're thinking; Harry Potter, really? So what if I'm almost ten years older than the target audience for most Harry Potter films? And if there's a midnight showing, well, we already know where I am going with this...I was sooo there!

So there I was, sitting in the theater with all the Harry Potter fans waiting for the Goblet of Fire to begin. But there was something wrong. No, the chairs were still uncomfortable, and the floor was definitely still sticky from God knows what. But it wasn't the theater that felt wrong; it was the people. No longer did I stand out like sore thumb in this crowd as I had in years past. This time around I was surrounded by a bunch of high-schoolers, which I am presuming were probably the very same 11, 12 and 13 yearolds who were decked out in robes and sat with their parents, whom they dragged along just for the ride in past midnight showings.

Instead of innocent children giggling with anticipation, the theater was crowded with the noise of cell phones and the gossip that normally floats down the hallways of high schools.

There was definitely no dressing up either. Maybe a scarf or two, but that was just me and my best friend...I know, I know, stop judging. These kids were wearing their finest threads though—girls sporting Uggs and short skirts (by the by, didn't that trend end last year?) and guys with their collared-button up shirts and sleeves rolled to the elbows; I'm guessing the prep look is back in style.

It was as if the midnight showing of Harry Potter was the place to be seen, which, I mean, come on-it's nerdy, why are we trying to pretend it's cool? But I guess I get it. The kids that grew up with Harry Potter bedtime stories were also growing up like the characters we saw on the big

So yeah, about the movie... It was awesome. Or, at least as awesome as it can be when they

Photo courtesy of Mugglenet.com

Daniel Radcliffe strips down to play Harry for the latest film, Harry Potter and Goblet of Fire.

points and storylines. I don't think any fan of the novel will ever be fully satisfied with the screen version, but it's still nice to see what it might look like outside of one's imagination.

MadEye Moody, for example, was perfect in my eyes. I thought Brendan Gleeson was the embodiment of the swarthy character whose wandering eye was full of edge and mystery. Honestly, I don't know if this man truly exists, or if the casting director just plucked this man out

Hermione (Emma Watson) is wearing a dress, and yes, Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) brushed his hair for the Yule

growing up.

of my imagination.

Ball... It's official these kids are

Of course, like with any book-tomovie adaptations readers producers are always going to have some creative differences. Many come from me

leave out or rush major plot just not being satisfied with the meager offering of the Goblet fun, or that some of the biggest moments in the film just didn't live up to J.K. Rowling's descriptions in the books.

And seriously, what happened to Rita Skeeter? Or Igor Karkaroff - they completely left out the fact that he ran away at the end, which is key in the next installment of the series. The

ending is completely glazed over, with no mention of the doubt people have of Harry's

accusations of Voldemort being back!

The first screen appearance of Ralph Fiennes, as the horrific Lord Voldemort, was okay. After seeing Harry's amazing standoff against the Dementors with the Patronus charm in last year's Azkaban, the less than spectacular duel between Harry and Voldemort came up short,

way short.

Also, I didn't really picture Fiennes as Voldemort. He's too young, and I don't even want to ask, but are they just giving him the role because they know all the moms that are getting dragged to the theater have a thing for The English Patient? Because if that is the reason, what were they thinking!? It's not that he did a bad job, he did fine. It's just, well, anyone who has read the book knows what I am talking about. He just isn't a perfect fit.

So do I recommend seeing the movie? Sure. Just don't have high expectations. If possible none at all, so for all of those out there who have read the series, you may want to avoid the film.

Forgive me Madonna, for I have sinned...

Madonna crunches delicious beats to make her latest, "Confessions on a Dance Floor"

by Kim Dao Staff Writer

Madonna has always loved to confess

In her lengthy career, she has reinvented herself through her hits. She told the world it was her work, as she takes first time in "Like a Virgin." Madonna then confessed all her material habits and the way she loves to play boys in "Material Girl." We got a raw view of her in her late '90's documentary where she asked, Truth or Dare. The world then knew she was into sex through her explicit book, "Sex," and through songs like "Justify My Love" and "Erotica." Waffling through her politically charged "American Life" she is now the spiritual follower of Kabbalah, a mother of two while maintaining her status in pop music's highest ranks. After the abysmal sales of her last album, she takes it back to her where she had it best, she throws her Confessions on a Dance

Confessions on a Dance Floor is a electro charged album that casts a new disco ball glow over Madonna. The new sound her influences of her life now ... Gimme Gimme" and makes it intensely spiritual feel on the

being in London and getting over it. Her ranking as an artist is always defined in her what's around her and seems to put it in her music. Famed DJ and producer Stuart Price (or known as Jacques Lu Cont in the DJ world) takes helm along with her previous collaborators Mirwais, Bloodshy and Avant.

The album is laced through to

continue giving the listeners either a non-stop dance party or puts them in control of their Confessions. The first single, "Hung Up" probably displays everything you loved about Madonna. At the first opening beats, you can't help but dance. She plays the Kanye West card and chooses a great yet obvious sample of the old Swedish

probably comes compliments of legends, Abba -"Gimme,

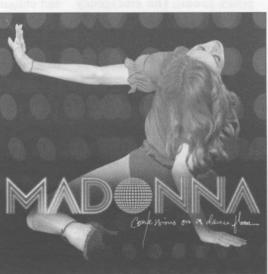


Photo courtesy of Amazon.c

her own. "Get Together" and "Sorry" feel like singles in the making, they are singles in the making. "Get Together" finds a groove that's irresistible and "Sorry" is perfect when you don't want to hear anymore from that stupid lover. "Issac" is a song that came under heat from the Kabbalah world, and it's probably no wonder. The additional vocals

that are added on the track add an

track, making you want to rub to see what comes out of that red bracelet on your arm.

Confessions for the most part is a delicious offering from America's pop queen (or maybe more godmother now). Most of the album makes you want to dance or at least maybe bop your head. But some of it makes you ponder like "I Love New York" where the lyrics are silly. She rhymes "York" with "dork" and enthuses to America that Los Angeles is the city that sleeps. The song also seems to come with some subliminal agenda telling people who can't make it in New York to go to Texas, cause isn't that "where they

Madonna in her current incarnation may seem like a recollection of Cher's makeover. But where Cher fails and Madonna succeeds is that Madonna sets the bar a bit higher and still remains a unique artist. Confessions is definitely proof. Pick it up, and we'll take this on the dance floor.



The Collegian



XMAS is August? Not so much Play us a song, You're the Piano Man

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 have chosen to gripe about Christmas before Christmas I weird, but Christmas has gone a little overboard. I love Christmas as much as everyone else, but does Santa Claus really need to be in the mall in October? ... Not so much.

Then there are the radio stations that play only Christmas songs for weeks before and after the holiday because that is cool, right? Oh wait ... not so much

I have been working at the same retail store for 5 years now, and one thing that drives me nuts is Christmas stuff. It is not the stuff in general that drives me crazy, but that we sell things like only my opinion.

Hallmark Ornaments, which are collectibles that we have on the floor by August 31st.

Christmas in August? ... Not so • much. In September, I went into like a college chemistry class putting up the Macy's Holiday function is to weed out all the Christmas Tree. Christmas trees slackers; few will succeed in know that may seem a little near Labor Day? ... Not so much. • becoming master chemists. Piano trying to capitalize on people's munchkins, along with violin (Is love for the holidays, and I guess there anything more excruciating that is their job, but Christmas than listening to 12 fifth-graders trying to make sense out of a Halloween will be stale long wooden box with strings, and a

> point, but there is such a thing as • miraculously plays the tuba. too early. Santa should stay in the North Pole until he is ready lessons on Tuesday evenings; and to make his appearance in the cram practice sessions on Thanksgiving Day Parade.

by Whitney Medved Staff Writer

Musical lessons in youth are a Macy's store and found the crew everyone takes it but its main It seems like companies are tends to be popular amongst before the Thanksgiving Turkey • another long stick with which to is even given a second thought. play it?) And there is always that I understand that Christmas • one kid who weighs less than the stuff needs to come out at some smallest girl in class, but

I played piano for a time, Monday and Tuesday afternoons, But you know, as always, it is every week for about three years. I'm not sure what my lame excuse was, but I eventually quit piano. Most likely my parents were tired of basically sending their money through a paper shredder- I just wasn't dedicated.

Many of my friends continued recovery was nobody's business. Now, a

music. I close my eyes and surrender my imagination over to my friend as his fingers re-create "Karma Police." Another friend will bust out a classic text-book sample of some Chopin.

I get lost in my own rhythmic breathing as everything around me fades away and all that's left are the vibrations that shoot through my body with each sonorous chord struck. I think what I love more than my experience with music though, is watching people play; you can tell when someone is fully investing his/herself in the music when their brow furrows and their lips purse. How awesome is it when a skilled violinist does that intense head jerk- he is soooo in the zone! Or when the harpist's fingers delicately dance across the strings and illustrate the elegance the ears have already discovered.

I know that it is possible for me to learn to play an instrument, but my parents are right - I'm just not dedicated. I have thrown myself into so many other areas that I just don't feel like I would do an instrument justice right now. Who knows, maybe down the road III develop an affinity for the bagpipe and become a virtuoso. For now though, I am content on the floor; where I can sit and get lost with my eyes closed, and a smile on my face.

to his superstardom. In a

profession where death is more

than common for the athletes

because of legal and illegal

substance abuse, Guerrero died

of natural causes. It is a testament

to his triumph over the demons

and the life he was living as a man

of God and a family man above

OUT THIS

11/25/05

The Ice Harvest Starring: John Cusack, Billy Bob Thornton

In The Mix Starring: Usher, Chazz PG-13 Palminteri

Just Friends Starring: Ryan Reynolds, **Amy Smart**

Rent Starring: Taye Diggs, Rosario Dawson

Yours, Mine and Ours Starring: Dennis Quaid, Rene Russo

Syriana Starring: George Clooney, Matt Damon



A Bigger Bang The Rolling Stones

Amarantine Enya

Better Days Goo Goo Dolls

C'mere (Remixes) Interpol

Doggystyle Snoop Dogg

Georgia/Gettin' Some Ludacris

Hit the Floor Twista

CONCERTS



11/22 The Lovemakers Fillmore, SF

11/23 **Babyface** Paramount, Oakland

11/25 Fiona Apple Warfield, SF

11/30 Sean Paul Fillmore, SF

12/1 Gwen Stefani Oakland Arena

Death of a life worth living A real man in the absurd world of pro-westling

by Danny Acosta

Staff Writer

Eduardo Gory Guerrero, known to the world as the professional wrestler Eddie Guerrero passed away this week. He is survived by his wife Vicki and his three daughters.

Eddie Guerrero was one of the youngest in Mexico's legendary first family of wrestling Los Guerreros. Guerrero grew up in El Paso, Texas and frequently helped in family-run shows. After collegiate wrestling, he turned professional, achieving fame in Japan and Mexico before coming to the United States to wrestle for independent promotion ECW. His dedication to traditional wrestling and lucha libre styles opened opportunity for a large contract with WCW. Guerrero's star rose quickly as did his affinity for alcohol and prescription pain pills. He became increasingly unhappy with his work and

Guerrero went to WWE, the largest wrestling promotion in the world, while still battling demons. In 2001, Guerrero's bout with alcohol nearly cost him

his life after a drunk driving . accident. He lost his job as a to diligently pound away at the result. This prompted Guerrero keys though, blowing through one to find sobriety. His fast and elesson book after another like it miraculous demonstrated to WWE officials • favorite pastime of mine is lying that Guerrero was serious about on the floor under or near a piano, his sobriety and passion for • while they make sweet, sweet wrestling. He returned to the WWE and quickly captured a championship and establishing a rabid fan base.

Guerrero won every major title culminating when he won the WWE World Championship in

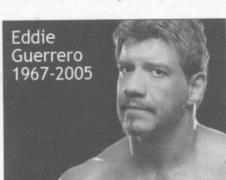


Photo courtesy of WWE.com

2004 making him the first Mexican champion in history. Professionally, this cemented Guerrero's place as one of the top wrestlers of all-time, and

Guerrero lost the title four months later. At age 38, Guerrero's abilities were peaking. Tragically, his career and

personally, it proves that

perseverance could lead an

eighteen year veteran to the top.

life were cut short. Guerrero was found on Sunday, November 13, 2005 in a Minnesota hotel room dead. He was brushing his teeth at the time and suffered from heart failure. It is rumored he was to recapture the World Title that night.

Guerrero made his victory over personal demons known to the world.

The honesty and struggle he presented to his fans contributed

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being an entertainer. Guerrero's legend will live on and his words will continue to echo: "Viva la raza!" Transportation the

week

off Fighting competition of other forms of transportation (e.g. the bike, the car, and the pogo stick) has left the foot out of favor with most of the world. This along with its many defects, like smelling funky, made it unfashionable for quite sometime. Not until recently, with the advent of the iPod and the Air Jordans, have people come to love the art of-"footing" (slang for when the foot is used to move from place to place). Now the foot is hotter than ever with Hollywood falling in love with "footbaring" (slang for footing with no shoes on).

-Jaime Zepada

Players of the Week

Diamon Simpson

The Freshman opened up his SMC career with a bang, finishing the night with nine points and



nine bounds. Simpson is also credited with the play of the game, a huge tomahawk dunk off a rebound. With the loss of four starters from last

year's squad, Simpson will surely be counted on to provide both and offensive and defensive spark off the bench.

Mandy Bible

Although Bible has not

been given the same attention that she did last season including two National Players of the Week, she has been silently force on the Gael's squad



Against SCU this week, the junior setter, found her offensive groove posting 64 assists on the day.

-Michael Chin, Sports Editor



Volleyball

Although the Gaels went one and one on the week, the win against the Broncos was huge as it most likely



them a birth into NCAA Tournament Moreover, it was the best offensive output the for Gaels this season. As a team they finished

ensured

with a .327 hitting percentage. Defensively they posted 14.5 blocks on the night without Christian Kirk, who is currently second in the nation in blocks. Saint Mary's will have little time to rest on their laurels, however, they travel to Pacific to compete in the Banker's Classic. In the first round they will face off against the University of Ohio.

-Zach Farmer, Assistant Sports Editor

Third-consecutive NCAA Tournament berth in the grasps of Gaels

Continued from p. 10

and the match 3-1. Midway through the game, Coach Rob Browning, being down by 20-17 called a crucial timeout to regroup his squad. Following the break, the Gaels reeled off five straight points to take a 22-20 lead. Santa Clara would come back to tie the game up at 24 a piece. From then SMC took control rattling off five straight points before getting the victory. Saint Mary's coach Rob Browning summed it up in three words: "We played well."

"After we played them good as that team right now. We have to get better

especially on offense," said Browning. They did make the changes and it showed on Friday. "This was our best offensive game of the season," said Browning

WCC

10-4

9-5

4-10

2-12

#11 SCU

#22 USD

PEP

SMC

LMU

GON

POR

PCT

857

.714

.643

286

.143

Overall

23-4

17-11

21-5

18-8

17-13

10-21



Players we were not as

Brittany Barker (left) and her Gael teammates had their best match of the year with Friday's win over Santa Clara in four sets. With the win the Gaels are sure to be invited to their third straight NCAA Tournament later this year.

On this night the Gaels' offense Defensively the Gaels freshmen came to life. Both outside hitters Kaui Salzman and Missie Stidham tallied huge numbers in kills with 17 and 22 respectively. Junior setter Mandy Bible led the Saint Mary's in assists with 64.

filled in for Christina Kirk, who was hampered by an injury. Freshmen middle blockers Brittany Barker and Christine Kennedy each recorded seven blocks.

Currently the West Coast Conference is ranked fourth nationally in conference power. That means that at least four teams from the WCC will be in the tournament, with a possibility of six.

Over the weekend, Kaui Salzman past Lindsey Bogason for third on the all-time kills list with 1160.

Next up for the Gaels however is a tough match against the twentieth ranked Ohio Bobcats at the Banker's Classic at the University of Pacific.

Gaels: First among many in the Bay?

Volleyball Results

W(18-7, 9-4) vs. #12 SCU 33-31, 30-18, 28-30, 30-25

K: Stidham 22(418); A: Bible 64(1142); D: Salzman 13(256)

L(18-8, 9-5) vs. #22 USD 28-30, 23-30, 30-21, 30-27, 11-15

K: Stidham 23(441); A: Bible 58(1200); D: Stidham 15(291)

Although the season is young, Saint Mary's could be the best in the Bay Area

Sports Editor

This weekend Bay Area basketball had a pretty dismal start. Both Pacific-10 teams went down, Berkeley at the hands of Eastern Michigan and Stanford to UC Irvine. USF also fell to UC Santa Barbara. The lone bright spot of the week were the Gaels, who beat UC Santa Cruz, 93-41. This wasn't just a win, it was a thrashing.

Granted the Banana Slugs were a Division III team, however, Saint Mary's was able to play their entire team and use their squad to their fullest. "We were able to see a lot of different combinations," said Coach Randy Bennett. In the first half Saint Mary's held their opponent of 15 points and outscored them by 33. Aside from one player, every Gael scored with four players in double digits and three more with nine points. Of those who scored nine points or more, two were freshman.

Although the season is young, you can already make a case for Saint Mary's being the best team in the Bay Area. Currently, the Gaels are ranked ahead of both the Dons and the Broncos in the West Coast Conference. Last year,

SMC in hostile territory won handily over Cal in the Coaches Versus Cancer Tournament. This year's Golden Bears have already lost their star player Leon Powe for at least two weeks to a stress fracture in the leg according to ESPN.com

The only team the Saint Mary's has yet to face is Stanford. On paper and in preseason polls the Cardinal have been predicted to go as far as the Final Four, but because of their early loss to Irvine, that ranking will drop significantly. Prior to the loss Stanford had two early wins against lower division Cal Poly Pomona and Sonoma State, but their scoring margins were not as convincing as the Gaels' win.

Personel-wise the Gaels and Cardinal are also very similar. Both have great scorers returning in Cardinal guard Chris Hernandez and Gael forward Daniel Kickert. However, since they will not play each other this season until a possible match up in postseason, we will wait to see who the "King of the Bay Area Court" is.

A good indicator of who is the better team will come in the next three weeks. The Gaels will open up against Big 12 opponent Colorado, and then return home

to face the Scarlet Knights of Rutgers, followed by a trip down south to play Arizona. After a quick stop at Air Force they come home to play in their own, Shamrock Solutions Classic.

They then will host the Shamrock Solutions Shootout. Of the teams playing in these events, none should come close to the Gaels. The non-conference season is wrapped by three games, against Saint Joe's, Nevada, and TCU. All of these contests are winnable, however, an upset of the Gaels is possible. Should SMC play to their fullest, they could wind up 11-1 coming into the biggest game in Saint Mary's history against Gonzaga. Either way however, these next few weeks should cement the Gaels into the upper echelon of Bay Area basketball.

Men's Basketball Schedule (non conference)

11/26 Colorado	8:05 p.m.
12/3 Rutgers	7:05 p.m.
12/10 Arizona	Noon FSN-BA
12/13 Air Force	7:05 p.m.
12/17 SE Louisiana	7:30 p.m.
12/18 Third Place Game	5:05 p.m.
12/18 Championship Game	7:30 p.m.
12/21 Mississippi Valley St.	7:30 p.m.
12/22 Kent State	7:30 p.m.
12/28 Saint Joseph's	7:05 p.m.
12/31 Nevada	4:05 p.m.
1/3 TCU	5:05 p.m.
Rold = Home	

SPORTS

Women's Basketball rained in Washington

Gaels suffer a pair of losses to Eastern Washington and Washington State

by Megan Manley Staff Writer

The Saint Mary's women's basketball team opened their season Friday on the road against Eastern Washington.

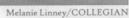
The road start was a bumpy one for the Gaels with them depleting their halftime lead and losing 63-53. Saint Mary's took a quick 17-3 lead in the game as the Eagles went more than eight minutes without scoring a single point. The Eagles bounced back with a few runs to leave them down by only six at the half. The Gaels headed to the locker room up 26-20.

In the second half the game continued to be a close one until the Eagles went on a 13-2 run with less than eight minutes to play. After that the Eagles never led by less than seven points. The Gaels were held to just 30.8 percent shooting in the game but out rebounded the Eagles 40-37 in the game. The Gaels only shot 21.4 percent from three-point range while committing 27 turn-

Offensively, Monica Mertle, who scored a game-high 18 points on 7-of-15 shooting, led the Gaels. Mertle also added seven re-Eghosa Obaiza bounds. added 11 points off the bench and grabbed three rebounds in 11 minutes of action. The Gaels also received nine points from Serena Benavente.

Eastern Washington had four players rack up at least eight points







Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN

Sheridan Arredondo (left) and Evynn Van Burger (right) are looking to get the Gaels their first win of the season against Princeton on Friday

but like the Gaels they also struggled on offense. Eastern Washington won despite not having a starter score double digits. Phynique Allen came off the bench to lead the Eagles with ten

points.

The women's basketball team returned to action on Sunday when they faced the Washington State Cougars. The Gaels were dealt their second loss of the sea-

son when they were defeated 53-43. The Gaels (0-2) will return to action over the Thanksgiving break when they participate in the Hilton Concord Thanksgiving Classic at McKeon Pavilion.



BELEN GARCIA

The Art of Prowling

Okay so this week I am going to actually focus on a Saint Mary's sporting issue. Yeah I know miraculous occurance, but hey I'll write what I want.

So being the avid Gael fan that I am, I attended the men's basketball's season opener against UC Santa Cruz on Friday night. Suffice to say it might have been the biggest blowout in history, I'm talking about 49ers vs. the Chargers in the 1995 Superbowl blowout. I mean to be completely honest, I thought I was watching our Gaels pummel my 15-year-old brother's CYO basketball team, but that is neither here nor there.

We definitely had the salt out over the Banana Slugs after the first ten minutes of the game. Needless to say the team didn't need my cheering skills any more that night, they were on cruise control, and I still had a whole half left to fill. That is when I switched gears from superfan to game prowler.

Now many of you are familiar with the game prowl. It is what we prowlers refer to as "cruising." It's what you do when your team is way ahead in a game and you just want to check out the social scene at the

So as I was saying we were crushing UCSC, and I switched into prowler mode. My fleece came off to revel my fierce red Gael Force shirt, and my hair went up in anticipation of the laps that I was about to make around McKeon Pavilion. Then it began.

Bam! I was up and out of my seat and on the prowl. First I started off by talking to a few close friends a few seats over, chatted them up then moved on. I followed that by running into my friend who I hadn't seen for a while and receiving a party invite for later that weekend. Score! Directly after that I decided to scale the stairs and make it to the upper sections where I proceeded to dish out hugs like halloween candy and dispense high fives in rapid succession. I was a game prowling machine and I was at the top of my game. So by the time the final buzzer sounded I had finally made it back to my seat, satisfied with my prowling.

So next time if you are at a game where your team is dominating and the score is just outlandish, take the time to prowl. It will not only make you a hit on the social scene, but it will give you a chance to catch up with those friends you don't get a chance to see during the week, all while working on your sweet high five technique. Good luck all you prowlers and prowlettes and have a Happy Turkey Day!

Standings and Box Scores

Schedule

Fri. 11/25: Volleyball vs. Ohio Stockton, CA 5 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. Princeton

Hilton Concord Thanksgiving Classic 7:05 p.m.

Sat. 11-26: Women's Basketball vs. TBA Hilton Concord Thanksgiving Classic

Men's Basketball @ Colorado 8:05 p.m.

7:05 p.m.

Volleyball vs. TBA Stockton, CA TBA

The Sport's Section would like to take a moment and apologize for mistating some of the facts in our article on Saint Mary's day. The actual attendance of the game was 45,000 and Coach Vince Lombardi started attending Fodham in 1933. The win streak was 16 games and not 24.

Men's Basketball Results

Santa Cruz (D-3) 41, (0-1) Saint Mary's 93, (1-0)

Team Leaders:

Points: Kickert, Collins, Rhalimi 12; Assists: Collins 4 Rebounds: Simpson 9

	Overall	PCT	
#7 GON	1-0	.000	
LMU	1-0	.000	
SMC	1-0	.000	
USD	1-0	.000	
SCU	1-0	.000	
PEP	0-1	.000	
USF	0-1	.000	
POR	0-2	.000	

Women's Basketball Results

53, (0-1) Saint Mary's East Wash. 63, (1-0)

Team Leaders:

Points: Mertle 18, Assists: Van Burger, Winn 3; Rebounds: Mertle 7

	Overall	PCT
GON	0-1	.000
LMU	0-1	.000
PEP	0-1	.000
POR	0-1	.000
SMC	0-1	.000
USD	0-1	.000
USF	0-1	.000
SCU	0-1	.000



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MEGAN MANLEY

NBA: New season brings new questions

This NBA season is already underway, but with new rules and many teams having revamped their rosters in the offseason there are many questions that avid fans are waiting to have answered.

Unlike last season, this season started with most of the major NBA stars in the same respective homes that they ended in last season, however this season is a season of a sort of sixth man switch.

Many pivotal bench players and overlooked players have taken residence in new homes, leaving many people wondering how Michael Finley, J-Will, Gary Payton, Bonzi Wells and many others will handle their new homes...only time will tell. Though the changes this season may seem minor to some, there is still many questions left up in the air, who knows, this season may be a season where minor tweaks cause majors changes, but all we can do is wait and

Will Lebron finally make the playoffs? Can Flip keep Detroit dominant? Can the Warriors continue their performance and make the playoffs? Will the talent packed Heat win the East? How long will it take for the Raptors to get a handful of wins? Are the Bucks the real deal?

Can Larry Brown force a transformation with the Knicks? Can Webber and Iverson continue to get along? Will the Jazz ever have all five starters healthy? Will Artest be able to hold his temper?

Can Bonzi overcome his bad ass image and help the Kings? Will big Ben Wallace win yet another defensive player of the year title? Which player will be the first to openly go against the new dress code? Can Ray Allen and Rashard Lewis help the Sonics achieve another impressive season?

Can Kobe and Phil Jackson get along long enough to pull out a winning season? Will Payton get the coveted ring he has been hoping for for so long with the help of Shaq, Flash and the rest of the Heat? How will the Denver Nuggets fair without Nene?

Will Amare come back in time to give more firepower to the Suns? Will the Spurs get another ring? Who will be rookie of the year? Is KG's dream past him or can the T-Wolves succeed?

So many questions. Such anticipation. Only time will tell on these questions. All I know is...I LOVE THIS GAME!!!

Gaels easily dispose of UC Santa Cruz

Men's Basketball opens season in impressive fashion

by Zach Farmer

Assistant Sports Editor

The scoreboard did not tell the whole story but it sure told most of it as the Gaels won their home opener in convincing fashion 93-41 over UC Santa Cruz. All twelve members of the active roster received significant playing time and the freshmen began to flourish. Coming off the bench, freshmen Wayne Hunter, Diamon Simpson, and Ian O'Leary combined for 25 points and 13 rebounds. "The crowd got us into the game," said Hunter.

The rout started with a 10-0 run at the start of the game and the Gaels never looked back as the Gaels held a 48-15 lead at the half. The Gaels shot a scorching 63 percent from the field in that

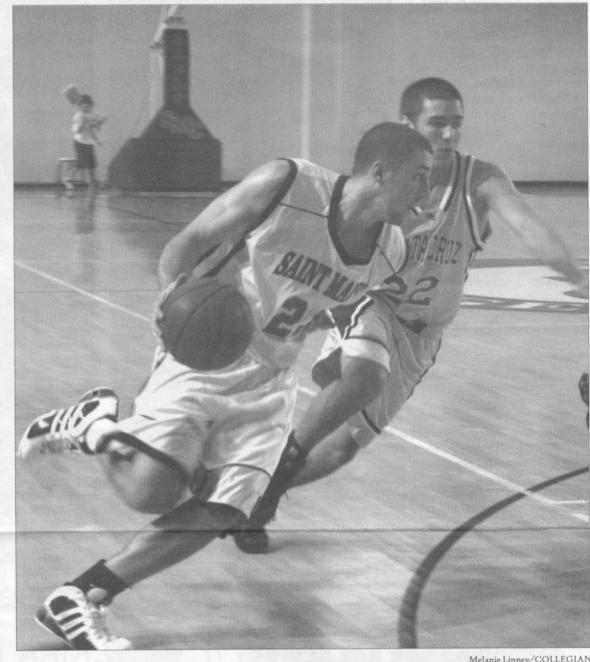
The Gaels dominated in every facet of the game. Santa Cruz was out-rebounded 46-16 and the Gaels forced 22 turnovers. The Banana Slugs were held to shooting under 30 percent for the

Coach Randy Bennett was not surprised but he was given confidence in his bench. "I think we have good depth," Bennett

They put on a show from three-point range as they hit 12 three-pointers and shot 48 percent from deep. "This is a good three-point shooting team; one of the better ones," Bennett said. Not only that, eight different players had career highs in points for the Gaels, including sophomores Rafael DaSilva, Todd Golden, and senior Reda Rhalimi.

Brett Collins started to show his vast improvement from last season. Collins scored 12 points while making all five of his shots from the field, including two three-pointers. Collins also had four assists in his 22 minutes of play. Rhalimi and fellow senior Daniel Kickert each scored 12 points.

NCAA Tournament berth.



Melanie Linney/COLLEGIAN

Brett Collins (23) takes the ball strong to the hole. Collins finished the game with 12 points on the night.

Seven-foot junior Blake Sholberg came off the bench to score nine points and grab five rebounds in only 14 minutes of work.

Toward the end of the second half, the crowd was ready to go home but with 4:35 left in the game, Simpson spiked a missed shot through the basket that ignited the energy in the building. When asked about the energy after the dunk, Simpson said, "I hope I [energized them].

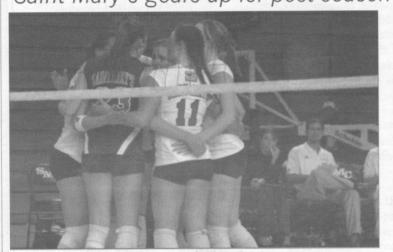
Bennett realizes that these games are not easy to control. 'I told my guys these games are tough to play in," Bennett said. "It's tough to concentrate, easy to start playing silly." The Gaels kept their composure and finished the game strong by posting their third consecutive victory over Santa Cruz, bringing the all-time record to 3-0 with their last meeting coming two years ago with a similar result.

Senior Jason Walberg, who started 21 games for the Gaels last season, is likely to miss the entire season due to the knee injury he suffered in the NCAA Tournament loss. UNLV transfer John Winston will miss two more games before he makes his debut

Coming off a school-record 25 wins, opening night starts the Gaels (1-0) in the right direction as they head to Colorado for a game against the Buffalos.

Volleyball deals Broncos first home loss

Saint Mary's gears up for post season with a win over archrival Santa Clara



Ken Fung/COLLEGIAN The Gaels regrouped late in the season and are on the verge of recieving a

by Michael Chin

Sports Editor

It was a humbling experience for upstart Santa Clara on Friday, as their arch nemesis from the East Bay came into Leavey Center and knocked off the favored Broncos 3-1. Saint Mary's, which was a bubble team Broncos their first home loss of the season

it looked liked the Gaels of last year, who made a run at the

national title last year before falling to the University of Washington in Seattle. In the first game, the Gaels fell behind early 19-21. However the Gaels, behind the play of Kaui Salzman, fought back to take the game 33-31.

In the second game, the Gaels before the victory, ensured a spot steamrolled the Broncos 30-18. to "The Dance" in December Throughout the third game, both with the victory over the teams fought hard, but the Gaels Broncos. SMC also handed the came up on the short end of the stick with a 30-28 loss.

In the fourth game, SMC Throughout the entire match regrouped to take the game 30-25

see VOLLEYBALL, pro