



THE COLLEGIAN

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA
www.smc.collegian.com

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Waves wank away Gaels

Moraga, California

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Volume 104, Number 15

SMC nationally recognized for social responsibility

by Khalida Sarwari
Staff Writer

With over half of the 2,500-plus members of the student body involved in community service activities, it comes as no surprise that Saint Mary's College has been chosen as one of 18 institutions by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) to participate in a two-year project aimed at promoting personal and social responsibility among undergraduates.

To be considered for the Core Commitments Leadership Consortium, a team of seven representatives at Saint Mary's submitted a proposal called "Walk the Talk," in which the College showed its efforts at promoting personal and social responsibility. Outlined in the proposal are the college's efforts in emphasizing a collective commitment to action, such as promoting social justice in the classroom, encouraging campus-wide dialogues, developing the core curriculum, as well as providing students with opportunities to get involved with a social cause outside the community through its Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action (CILSA).

Also included in the proposal are courses emphasizing social action, particularly Bridges to the Bayou, in which a group of students traveled by bus to New Orleans last January Term to provide relief to victims of Hurricane Katrina, as well as the Christian Service Internship course, which gives students the opportunity to travel to various locations to provide service to the poor, the mentally, and physically challenged among others.

Personal and social responsibility is an important part of education at Saint Mary's. According to Debra Holtz, Director of Media Relations, this means taking responsibility for one's own actions, awareness of social justice, and commitment to

see AAC&U, p4

Gaelfest 2007 celebrates alumni Homecoming



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

Saint Mary's students packed into McKeon Pavilion, excited for the sold-out men's basketball game against Pepperdine last Saturday.

by S. Wang & J. Zack
Asst. News Editor & Staff Writer

There were many ways for students to become involved in activities for the Saint Mary's Homecoming "Gaelfest 2007" Week that concluded with the Men's Basketball game versus the Pepperdine Waves last Saturday, January 27, 2007.

Students have had varying emotions and feelings toward Homecoming Week. Vera Schweglar '10 said, "They were dishing out activities that had a minor association with the actual Homecoming [Game]. When I saw their signs in [Oliver Hall], I didn't even know what it was about. There was more hype for Gonzaga; people were getting geared up for it. [During the game], everyone was either texting to get the score updated or walking around the dorm to see who had the game on. People seemed more into it."

Students got more excited for the Pepperdine game as the week went on, though. There was a hot dog eating contest, best Saint Mary's fan competition, and free Panda Express on Wednesday, Janu-

ary 24 for the Saint Mary's community. Also on Wednesday, the movie *Coach Carter* was shown in Dryden Hall. On Thursday, Saint Mary's students were able to draw on their friends' white T-shirts in the Soda Center at the Gaelfest Graffiti Dance.

On Tuesday January 23, 2007 in Dryden Hall, there was a Comedy Coffeehouse with comedian Brent Weinbach. He proved to be very entertaining for students on campus. Desiree Lopez '10 said, "I think the Homecoming Game is well advertised with the activities that they [have]."

However, Lopez believes there could have been more promotion of the homecoming game and that there was more excitement for the Gonzaga game because it was televised on ESPN.

There were many activities on Saturday before and after the basketball game. There was Mass in the Chapel at 4:00 p.m. and a pre-game tailgate party in Madigan Gym at 4:30 p.m. After the game there was a post-game celebration in the Soda Center featuring the '80s cover band Wonder Bread 5. Students, alumni, faculty, and staff enjoyed a great time of fun and reunion with other Gael friends. There was late night

food provided by Sodexo, dancing, and a beer garden for people over 21 to enjoy.

Program Board was in charge of many of the activities for Gaelfest 2007. They made Gaelfest packets with a red Homecoming T-shirt that said, "Crush the Waves," highlighters for the Graffiti Dance, M&Ms with letters and messages on them for Homecoming, a mini basketball that read, "Gaelfest 2007," a ticket to the Graffiti Dance, a schedule of events for Saint Mary's Homecoming week, and a cup that read, "Gaelfest 2007 Crush the Waves."

Homecoming is an event that gets students excited every year. "I've heard of it [and] I think Program Board did a good job promoting it," said Mary Guese '07. "I think it's good to have [homecoming] during Jan Term since so many people go home on the weekends."

Some students are traveling during Jan Term, but the ones who are on campus were encouraged to participate in the Homecoming Week's festivities and to go to the basketball game to root on their Gaels. It was an exciting week as students, alumni, staff, and faculty got ready for the basketball game.

National cyber-security advisor speaks on Internet privacy, technology

by Darwyn Deyo
Assistant Opinion Editor

On Tuesday, January 23, 2007, Saint Mary's Regent Dr. Rand Morimoto spoke to students on "Differences that Make a Difference." Morimoto is the advisor to President George W. Bush on cyber-security and owns Convergent Computing, a Bay Area consultancy which grew out of a retail business he started in 1986. He has also published 12 books on security, Microsoft Windows

networking, Microsoft Exchange messaging, and business to business transactions.

Morimoto's role as the advisor to the President of the United States on cyber-security has him meeting twice a month with President Bush for 35 minutes to discuss cyber-security and whether or not public policy should be enacted on a particular measure, sometimes while they are flipping burgers in the kitchen. He has helped draft legislation such as the Identity Theft Prevention Act

(HR 220 IH) and the Online Privacy Protection Act (HR 84 IH), and while he does not have a direct say in how other bills are drafted, he is an advocate of limited regulation because of limited foresight. "Technology can do whatever we program it to do... so who makes that decision of what is good or bad?... Don't create a law that tells us what we can do, create a guideline that tells us... this is as far as we want to go on the invasion of our privacy [because] what happens over gen-

erations is we flip-flop back and forth in society."

The achievement that led to his recognition was his computer consultancy Convergent Computing, which was founded as a business project with friends when he was an undergraduate at UC Berkeley. Though his company employs only 65 people, it has beaten global firms for coveted contracts. His business has security consult-

see MORIMOTO, p4



Courtesy of www.cco.com

Dr. Rand Morimoto, national cyber-security advisor spoke to students last Tuesday in the Soda Center.

OPINION

Vagina Monologues should be banned from campus

pg. 7

DETOUR

Emily Esguerra gives Club Thermal a chance

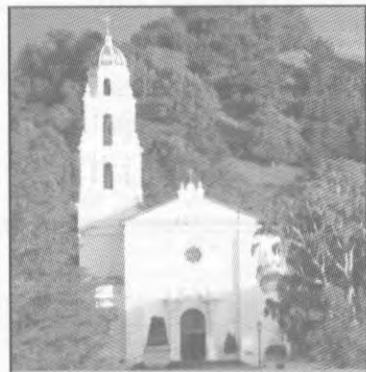
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The Collegian

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THE COLLEGIAN

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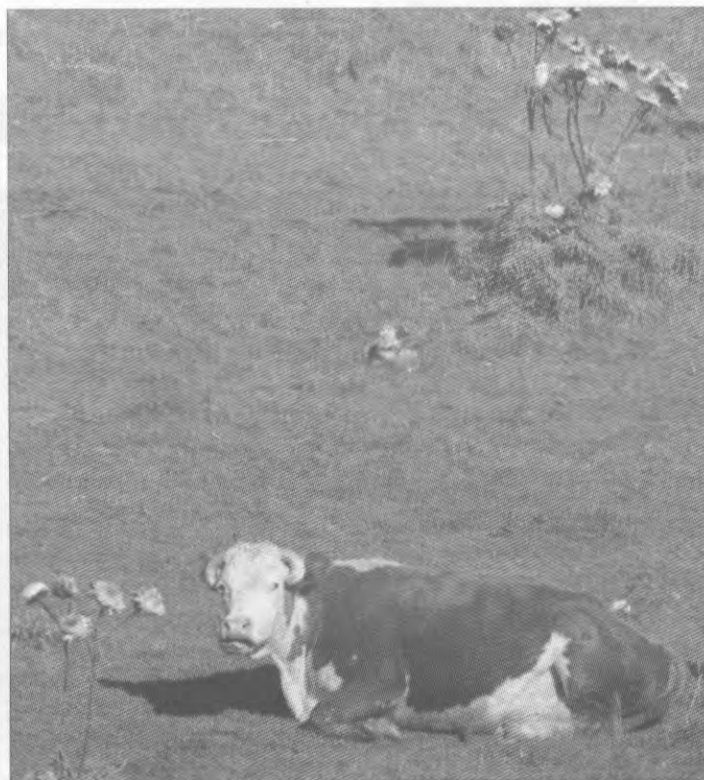
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S.M.C.

Snapshot



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

Five things this cow is probably not thinking:

"Told you Jan Term was just about the naps."

"I don't watch you while you sleep."

"I have four stomachs, I can handle my alcohol, unlike you college students."

"Hey, Annie! Stop taking my picture."

"Dude, do I look like news?"



LINDA HUA

Is it really apathy?

Saint Mary's hot topic last year was student apathy. Now looking back upon the year and last week's Gaelfest, one must wonder, is it truly student apathy that plagues this school?

For the most part, I say it's not apathy. This year at the Summer Leadership Forum, I co-presented a workshop on student apathy with registrar Bill Sullivan. We suggested that apathy is actually not what this student body suffers, because apathy, by definition, is indifference or lack of concern.

Thus, it is not the problem that students do not care about events that take place on campus, because they are aware of and have an opinion about them; students just don't attend the events. With that being said, why wouldn't students attend an event if it is something such an event is something that concerns them?

I believe a great deal of the problem has to do with the programming. Last week was Homecoming and a variety of events and activities were scheduled for the community. Many people were interested, but many of the events were flops, why? Everyone I talked to was excited about at least one of these events, but were disappointed afterwards and discontinued to attend any of the following gigs. Thus the gates opened for "student apathy."

For instance, on Wednesday, free Panda Express was to be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Ferroggiaro Quad. A great deal of people showed up and turned away disappointed by noon. While the first handful of people in line left with heaping plates of food, the remainder of the line found scraps for lunch as the event holders realized that not enough food was ordered. I found myself with a small scoop of noodles and four pieces of diced chicken and some peanuts. With so much anticipation resulting in disappointment, many of the students were turned off to the remaining events held afterward.

However, it is not only the students that hold such sentiments. Even alumni were disappointed by Gaelfest and the lack of captivating activities. Some alumni commented on how events have lost their sparkle since their reign as students here. There used to be a pub on campus to go to during Homecoming. Now, there is a dinner in Madigan and a "beer garden." So if events are bad enough for alumni to complain about them, then it's no wonder that students have stopped showing up to events.

So the next time you talk about student apathy, maybe you should rethink and talk about mediocre programming.

Crime Beat

1/13/07 12:04 a.m.
Incident: Vandalism

Synopsis: At Claeys Hall South parking lot, referred to Student Conduct, vandalism to three vehicles—shaving cream graffiti.

1/14/07 12:20 a.m.
Incident: Grand theft

Synopsis: In Justin Hall, referred to Student Conduct, stolen laptop.

1/14/07 12:50 a.m.
Incident: Vandalism

Synopsis: In Justin Hall parking lot, referred to Student Conduct, vehicles vandalized with shaving cream.

1/14/07 2:29 a.m.
Incident: Violation of suspension letter—failure to comply

Synopsis: In Justin Hall, referred to Student Conduct, minors under the influence of alcohol

1/15/07 12:10 a.m.
Incident: Fire alarm

Synopsis: In Guerrieri West, Referred to Student Conduct and Physical Plant, food cooking.

1/15/07 2:20 a.m.
Incident: Handbook violation

Synopsis: In De La Salle Hall, referred to Student Conduct, possession of a pellet gun.

1/15/07 11:30 a.m.
Incident: Alarm

Synopsis: In Hearst Art Gallery, referred to Hearst Art Gallery, door locked in the open position.

1/15/07 8:00 p.m.
Incident: Informational

Synopsis: In McKeon Gym, suspended, confiscated flasks and alcohol.

1/16/07 10:40 a.m.
Incident: Hit and run, no injury

Synopsis: In maintenance yard, referred to Business Office and

Physical Plant, damage to a college vehicle.

1/16/07 12:00 p.m.
Incident: Auto burglary

Synopsis: Soccer parking lot, suspended, two mountain bikes, aerobed, and dance shoes.

1/16/07 12:45 p.m.
Incident: Vandalism and burglary

Synopsis: Soccer parking lot, suspended, broken window and purse stolen.

1/17/07 11:30 a.m.
Incident: Informational

Synopsis: In Assumption Hall, referred to Student Conduct, conflict with roommates.

1/18/06 12:45 a.m.
Incident: Handbook violation

Synopsis: In Augustine Hall, referred to Student Conduct, minor in possession of cocaine and paraphernalia.

1/18/06 12:45 p.m.
Incident: Fire alarm

Synopsis: In Soda Center, referred to Physical Plant, steam from dishwasher.

1/18/06 10:19 p.m.
Incident: Fire alarm

Synopsis: In Ageno East, referred to Student Conduct and Physical Plant, burnt oil.

1/18/07 9:19 a.m.
Incident: Suspicious circumstances—hit and run

Synopsis: In lower Soda Center parking lot, suspended, suspect located and both parties exchanged information.

1/19/07 11:35 a.m.
Incident: Vandalism

Synopsis: In Justin Hall, referred to Student Conduct, damage to dorm room doors.

1/19/07 1:40 a.m.
Incident: Under the influence and in possession of marijuana

Synopsis: In De La Salle Hall, referred to Student Conduct, disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace.

1/19/07 8:15 p.m.
Incident: Domestic violence—use of racial slurs

Synopsis: Between Mitty and Aquinas quads, referred to Student Conduct, physical and verbal threats.

1/20/07 1:18 a.m.
Incident: Medical assistance—minor under influence of alcohol

Synopsis: At School of Education new construction site, referred to Student Conduct and Health and Wellness Center, transported to Hospital.

1/20/07 1:45 a.m.
Incident: Driving under the influence of alcohol

Synopsis: In Ageno East lower parking lot, referred to Student Conduct, reckless driving.

1/20/07 3:30 p.m.
Incident: Theft and disrespect to a college official/failure to comply

Synopsis: Behind McKeon Gym parking lot, referred to Student Conduct, two cases of Gatorade stolen.

1/21/07 2:15 a.m.
Incident: Assault on a school official/failure to comply

Synopsis: In Syufy Hall, referred to Student Conduct, minor under influence of alcohol.

1/21/07 12:50 p.m.
Incident: Unlawful burning of flyers

Synopsis: Pillars outside Oliver Hall, suspended, various flyers were burnt—no motive known.



Speaker examines racism

Dr. Shakti Butler brings fresh perspective and experience to SMC

by Mark Freeman
Staff Writer



Courtesy of www.newday.com

It's no secret racism still exists in America. Forty years after the Civil Rights Movement, celebrities like Michael Richards and Mel Gibson remind us that the problem is deeply engrained in our culture. Last Wednesday, Saint Mary's students confronted the issue of race with the help of Dr. Shakti Butler.

Butler is the executive director of World Trust Educational Services, a company which seeks to produce "interactive materials that support community conversations and social action worldwide," according to its website www.world-trust.org. As head of World Trust, Butler launched Heart to Heart Conversations, a "national program of public dialogue designed to help people to learn together and share deep feelings about race and culture."

While at Saint Mary's, Butler explained that in order to create an inclusive community, people must be willing to listen to each other and build bridges of trust. She led exercises that included self-reflecting in journals, listening intently to conversation, and finding good qualities in a stranger.

But the highlight of Butler's presentation was a film entitled *Mirrors of Privilege: Making Whiteness Visible*. According to the World Trust website, the film is a "conversation video" that focuses on the "experiences and learning pathways of white people who have committed their lives to challenging racism in the U.S."

The film provided startling examples of "what it means to be white in the United States," according to World Trust's website. Throughout the documentary, white men and women struggled with the pervasiveness of racism in American culture and grappled with their "white privilege." A biracial woman explained that she was often torn between "loving her black cousins" and finding acceptance with her white friends. Another expressed her rage at the "thousand little cuts" minorities

see BUTLER, p4

The highly-acclaimed movie, *Akeelah and the Bee*, displays core Lasallian values

Social justice, concern for the community, and education are displayed in movie that will be played on campus today

by Melissa Vlach
Staff Writer

Dr. Fannie Wiley Preston, the former Dean of the School of Education at Saint Mary's, visited the campus last week to promote the film "Akeelah and the Bee."

"It is the perfect embodiment of all that is Lasallian," Preston said during her visit on Thursday. "This story in 'Akeelah and the Bee' has a very powerful theme and teaches a powerful lesson about social justice, concern for others, a sense of community [and] faith in God," she said.

Preston worked with numerous others to bring the movie to Saint Mary's, including the current Dean of the School of Education, Nancy Sorenson.

"She actually came to the San Francisco 'Akeelah and the Bee' project and she felt that this is something that needed to be seen at Saint Mary's," Preston said of Sorenson.

Others Preston cites as being involved in the project include Mary Parish, Associate Dean of the School of Education, Sue Fallis and Chris Osteen of the Jan Term Office, and Professor Bob Gardner.

"Everybody that I have met has been just very, very gracious and very enthusiastic," Preston said.

"We're trying to make it fashionable and cool for kids to be students," said Gardner, who also promotes the message.

However, Preston's cause was not simply to promote a single viewing of the film. She hopes its content will be incorporated into the curriculum of the school of



Courtesy of www.imdb.com

English professor Dr. Larabee, played by Laurence Fishburne, mentors 11-year-old Akeelah Anderson, portrayed by Keke Palmer, in a movie that details the success of an insecure girl with a bad home life.

education.

"I think that there are just so many things to learn from the film. I think every student in the teacher education program going through this campus should see the film at least once because there are so many themes," she said.

Preston has already improved the School of Education in many ways. During her time as dean of the school, from 1991 to 2000, she strived to expand the program.

"They [in the School of Education] were facing some major problems," Preston said about her beginnings here.

These problems included having no scholarships for graduate students and having extremely limited external funding. Through Preston's hard work and persistence, conditions improved. Seventeen scholarships were awarded to graduate students in the school last year and exter-

nal funding has reached the multi-million dollar range, aiding the development of new programs and techniques.

Preston received her own education at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, receiving a degree in English with a minor in Drama. Before coming to Saint Mary's, she worked at San Francisco State University. She has a husband, two children and six grandchildren.

She feels everyone, not just education students, should see the movie.

"It is about the triumph of the human spirit, and that is a message that can serve all human beings," she said.

The movie will take place today, January 30, at 7:00 p.m. in the Soda Center. Popcorn and soda will be provided. A panel discussion hosted by KTVU anchor Mark Curtis will follow.

News Briefs

Organic food advocates come to Saint Mary's

About two weeks ago, Rick Peyser from Green Mountain Coffee Roasters and Nell Newman, the founder of Newman's Own Organics: The Second Generation, came to speak to Saint Mary's to discuss why selling Fair Trade Coffee is beneficial for Third World countries. Fair Trade Certified coffee has a fixed price, regardless of how the market does. In 2005, Newman's Own Organic partnered with McDonald's with hopes to promote Green Mountain Coffee. McDonald's coffee sales tripled in the stores that served the organic coffee and the word spread about organic coffee. Saint Mary's also started serving fair trade coffee several years ago.

Jan Term class performs children's play *Song of the Swallows*

Saint Mary's Jan Term course, Children's Theatre, is presenting their production of a children's story that follows a young girl's life in the 1920s. Juanita, the protagonist of the play, moves to San Juan Capistrano with her mother and aunt and has to learn to deal with the changes of a new town, school, and surroundings. As she learns about the history of her new town and the mission that San Juan Capistrano is famous for, she meets new people

and adjusts to her new environment. The students of the Jan Term class produced the entire play, which will be performed in LeFevre Theatre. Class instructor, storywriter, and adapter, Michael Cook, helped the class to design and build the set, create costumes, and perform. The performance will be Thursday, February 1 at 4 p.m. All tickers are \$6 and the play is designed for kindergarteners through third graders. Call x4670 for reservations.

The Collegian's next issue will come out on Wednesday, February 21

Campus Calendar

Valentine-Making Party
Wednesday, January 31
6:30 - 8:30
Art Studio 1

Song of the Swallows Performance
Thursday, February 1
4:00 p.m.
Lefevre Theater
Contact: x4670
Tickets: \$6

Jan Term Speaker: Minnie Jean Brown-Trickey
Wednesday, January 31
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Contact: x4771

Midweek movie: *Jackass II*
Wednesday, January 31
9:00 p.m.
Dryden

Game Social
Saturday, February 3
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Contact: x4256

Jan Term Break
Monday, February 5 -
Friday, February 9

Gilbert and Sullivan a la Carte Performance
Saturday, February 10
8:00 p.m.
LeFevre Theatre
Tickets: \$25 for public, \$12 for SMC students and staff
Contact: x4670

Graduate Liberal Studies Program Speakers Bureau
Tuesday, February 13
5:30 p.m.
Soda Center
Contact: x8265

An Intergenerational look at the struggles & triumphs of black women
Saturday, February 17
5:30 p.m.
Delphine Intercultural Center
Contact: Sharon Sobotta x4193

V-Day Until the Violence Ends
Wednesday, February 14
12:40 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.
LeFevre Theater
Contact: x4193

Panel Discussion with Mater Artist Carlos Villa
Wednesday, February 14
12:40 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.
Soda Center
Contact: x4069

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.



MORIMOTO: Presidential advisor on cyber security talks to students about business, succeeding in a competitive market

continued from page 1

ing contracts with eBay, Yahoo, Ross Stores, and even the state of California. Among his employees are 27 published authors and industry experts, and his company was named Microsoft's Consulting Firm of the Year for 2006. Morimoto attributes his success to his philosophy of providing the best product by simply being better than the competition, and reminded the audience that skills combined with hard work will outpace either one alone. "There's a better way of running a business. If you take care of your employees, they're happy employees. If they're happy employees, they work [hard], and if they work [hard], you should make money."

Morimoto is also a Board Member of the Fulbright Scholarship and of the Chabot Space and Science Center; the Head Judge for the Imagine Cup, a technology competition; a diplomat for the State Department trying to reach an international consensus on anti-spam laws; and an advocate of initiatives related to climate change, the origin of humans, equality through education, and tribal herbal medicines. He also introduces others to new experiences, and while his company does not offer internships, he mentors and connects students and interns with opportunities.

Morimoto retains perspective about his accomplishments, win-

ning an audience easily to his philosophies of success. He emphasized that getting through school was difficult. He never expected to be an advisor to the President, but because he knew he had to work hard to excel, he worked harder than average students. As a result, he now has rivaled political and technological connections, is a regent for Saint Mary's, where he received his MBA, and is able to share his knowledge and experience locally and globally. He concluded by saying that "in the end, we're only as good as the differences we make, rather than the things we accumulate," and "hopefully today it might make a difference in the world."

AAC&U: Gaels display social justice values

continued from page 1

the poor.

"A really good college education is more than about books," Holtz said. "It's what you learn and take out of the classroom to apply in your life that makes a difference."

Vice Provost of Academic Affairs, Francis Sweeney, believes that the mission of the College places great emphasis on fostering not only the minds of students, but the heart and spirit as well.

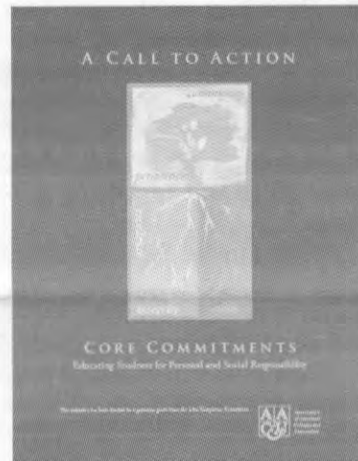
"It is important that our students graduate and have experiences with faculty and staff that exemplify our mission," Sweeney said.

Being selected for the project disproves the general consensus that students at the College are apathetic towards school activities or community service. According to Holtz, students are becoming increasingly involved in community service activities, both on and off-campus.

"Those who are involved are doing a lot," Holtz said.

Holtz cited the recognition the College received from the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll of 2006 for its efforts in New Orleans as evidence of rising student involvement. Further indication that Saint Mary's is on the right track is the student-led effort to initiate the Academic Honor Roll, a good example of personal responsibility and one that is unique to the Saint Mary's campus.

But despite being on the right track, there is still much to be achieved in the Saint Mary's community. As part of the project, Saint Mary's will receive a \$25,000 award, which it will match with an additional \$25,000. For the next two years, the award will go toward several projects, including continuing campus-wide dialogues through the integration of the chat room discussions, encouraging social justice



Courtesy of www.aacu.org

in the classroom by creating more courses that foster awareness of social justice, developing the new minor of justice in the community, providing stipends for faculty and students in the Jan Term Fellows program, and improving student and resident life.

"There is always more work to be done," Holtz said, and "this enables us to do more."

BUTLER: Speech and film inspire discussion

continued from page 3

are faced with everyday.

Such problems make people uncomfortable with the idea of being a privileged class. According to one woman in the film, people are "threatened by the notion of being privileged" because "it makes them feel guilty." Yet despite this, a man in the video said white people find it "difficult to understand" the problem with racism because they never had to think of their life as a "racialized space."

Butler explained that racism is more than just a system of discrimination. "Racism is about power," she said, and explained that it could let people enact "cultural and institutional codes" at multiple levels. But these things only happen when people sit back and do nothing.

"Without communication there is no trust," Butler said, and encouraged students to have conversations about the film with people sitting next to them. Many students were curious about the issues of guilt in the film and how many white people simply accepted the system unconsciously. Many pointed out a scene in the film where a white teacher neglects to teach her students about black literature because she didn't know any black authors.

As they pointed out parts of the film that interested them, students became more aware of the problems in eliminating racism. But the goal of the film was not to simply raise awareness of racism but to serve as a "bridge between whites and people of color interested in attempting to build a more

equitable and democratic society," said the World Trust website.

To build this society, people must accept that they are "not dualistic, but paradoxical beings," capable of committing "the highest and most foul" deeds, said Butler. People should understand that anyone could be the perpetrator of "the very thing we stand against," Butler said.

"But by learning to understand the system, we become more human as a result," Butler said. She expressed her hope that students would continue the conversations they had to strengthen the community and build an understanding of the challenges to come.

"You are inheriting the mess and the beauty that my generation continues to create," Butler said.

The Collegian

Next Story Board Meeting:
Monday, February 12
6:00 p.m.
Dante 116

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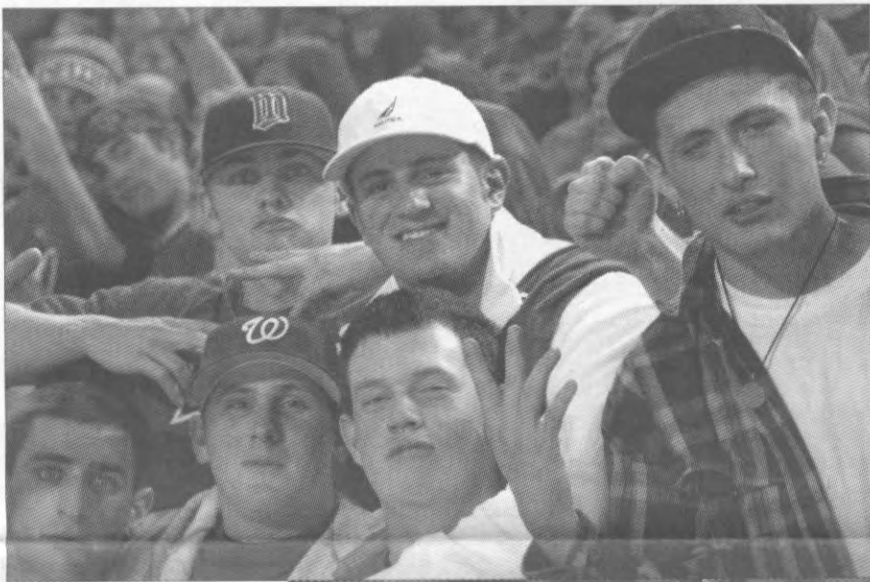
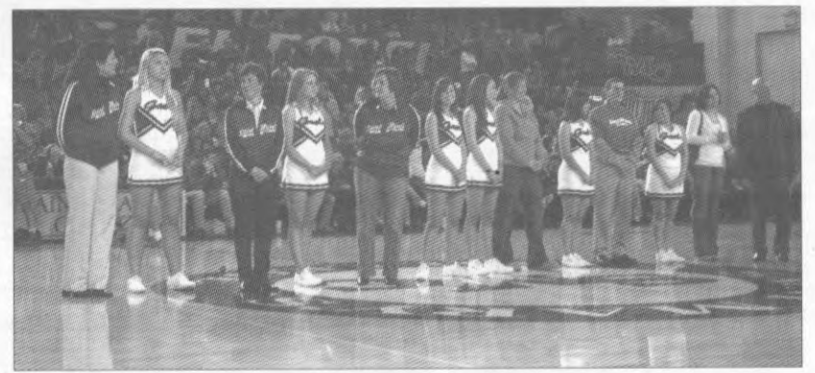
Spring meetings:
Mondays, 6 p.m., Dante 116

The Collegian
FEATURE



Saint Mary's Homecoming

GaelFest 2007



*A week
in
photos*



Photography by Annie Douglass



The Collegian
OPINION



SCOTT CULLINANE

Iraq economy going strong

Most in America have the wrong impression that all of Iraq is exploding in unmitigated violence.

An IED explosion here and a militia attack there is the extent to which the media covers the war in Iraq. This, "if it bleeds, it leads" philosophy only fosters ignorance of the events in Iraq and undermines America's efforts to win the war on terror. For example, Corporal Ignacio Garza, when home on leave from Iraq, reported that soldiers in Iraq do not watch the news because it is so out of touch.

Some of Iraq, especially around Baghdad, is facing a serious problem of terrorism, but the majority of Iraq's provinces are peaceful, particularly the Kurdish regions. Iraqi and American troops are fighting a tough battle, but they are winning.

Um Qasr, before the war described as a ghost town, is a busy economic center. Holy cities like Najaf and Karbala are now welcoming pilgrims, something which did not happen several years ago. Al Qaim, at one time nick named the wild west of Iraq, is now a model of successful anti-insurgent tactics.

The number of registered companies has more than quadrupled over the past three years. One example is Iraqna, a mobile phone company in Iraq that earns hundreds of millions of dollars a year. In 2004, there were only about 1.4 million mobile phone users; today that number is more like 7.1 million. The Iraqis are indulging their desire for consumer goods denied to them under Saddam.

A general rise in salaries and cut in taxes have given the Iraqis increased spending power. This can be seen in how the number of private cars in Baghdad has increased by over five times what it was in 2002. Cheap goods, television, and satellite dishes stock the shelves of retail stores. Other signs of progress include the rebuilding, or first-time building of the water and power infrastructure. For the first time Iraq's entire power grid can be centrally monitored. Dozens of hospitals and health facilities are currently being built or renovated. Thousands of such projects have been successfully completed and hundreds more are coming along.

High unemployment remains at about 25 percent, but that is down from a post-war high of 70 percent. A banking system is needed, but money-transfer companies like Nipal have stepped in to fill the void.

The biased media is giving you the wrong ideas about Iraq, the terrorists can never defeat us on the battlefield; we can only defeat ourselves here at home.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

We're writing this letter in response to the article that was published in your last issue, "The truth behind another lame Saint Mary's event." We'd first like to convey my displeasure with the Collegian staff for publishing this article. Not only was this article extremely biased and unprofessional, it also contained facts that were inaccurate. It was written by an individual who is not on staff with the paper; in fact she's the sister of the members of HardNox.

We understand there are going to be some hard feelings on the author's part because her brother's group was not chosen. But that is no reason to belittle Gael Force and its leadership for putting on a "lame event." Numbers don't lie. It was one of the most highly attended student sponsored events of the year!

As suggested by the author, "we didn't have the luxury of leaving the basketball activities to our team, like Duke or Stanford," because the men's basketball is not allowed to participate in a dunk contest due to the risk of injury, which is completely understandable.

The cost figures listed in the article were not correct, nor was the promise of cases of Monster Energy Drink, or the suggestion that friends of HardNox would accompany them at the event. Slick D was the only additional musical talent mentioned.

When selecting talent for this event, the decision was made by the Gael Force Leadership Team. We had candid discussions about each group. Ultimately, it was decided that the Drumline and Dunk Team would better suit an event like MidKnight Madness.

HardNox was asked about the possibility of coming back to campus for another event, but declined, due in large part because they were not selected for MidKnight Madness.

Gael Force's goal is to enliven the campus community by bringing together students, creating the best possible atmosphere for every event, as proven by this year's record attendance of over 1,000 students at MidKnight Madness '06.

Writing an opinion story with accurate facts is one thing, but that's not what occurred, which is why we felt so compelled to set the record straight regarding MidKnight Madness '06.

Sincerely,
 Gael Force Leadership

Dear Collegian,

This letter is in response to Mr. Zepeda's article about police brutality. I found his article rather offensive. His article made it look as though all police were overly violent and unnecessarily aggressive. Police brutality is not as large an issue as the media makes it out to be. There are good police officers out there, and there are more good officers than there are bad ones. Even if it was the case that police officers are to aggressive it's only because of the types of things which they have to deal with on a daily basis. For example my father was a former police officer for Santa Monica PD and some of the stories he has told me would chill any man to the bone. Further, Mr. Zepeda's opinion on racial profiling is incomplete. Though racial profiling is wrong, the fact of the matter is that it works! Why does it work? It's because we (Blacks and Hispanics) act in a way which enforces negative stereotypes, their by contributing to the effectiveness of racial profiling. "There Ain't No Such Thing as a Free Lunch" (Heinlein). What I mean by this is that we (Blacks and Hispanics) cannot demand an end to racial profiling while still acting in a way which enforces its effectiveness. For example the person would not have had the snot beat out of him had he not been evading arrest. We must first act in a way which opposes negative stereotypes before we can demand an end to racial profiling. And finally if you don't think that police help us, then the next time you are in trouble try calling a crack head. See how much help they are.

Daniel Armas '09

To send letters to the editor, e-mail them to collegia@stmarys-ca.edu.

Please try to keep your letters concise.

Please sign with full name, and if applicable, year in school and/or title.

The Collegian has the right to edit any submitted material.

2008 Presidential race takes new, historic shape

Candidates and outlook provide interesting political climate

by Nathan Garcia
 Staff Writer

The presidential race of 2008 is heralded as one of the most unique in history. It is the first time in 80 years that neither an incumbent president nor vice president is running, and the race and gender of the candidates is equally historic.

The Democratic frontrunners are Senator Hilary Clinton (NY) and Senator Barack Obama (IL). Never has there been a female or black candidate that attracted mass audiences. Governor Bill Richardson (NM) is the first Latino candidate to announce his plans to win his party's nomination who has a legitimate chance. Other anticipated candidates are John Edwards, former senator, Senator Joe Biden (DE), Senator Chris Dodd (CT), General Wesley Clark, Governor Tom

Vilsack (IA), and Representative Dennis Kucinich (OH).

Among Republican contenders, Senator John McCain (AZ) is ahead of former NYC Mayor Guiliani. Former Governor Mitt Romney (MA), Senator Sam Brownback (KS), Representative Duncan Hunter (CA), Representative Tom Tancredo (CO), and former Governor Tommy Thompson (WI) have formed their exploratory committees. Mitt Romney is interesting in that he is a Mormon Republican in one of America's most Democratic states. Others are former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, Senator Chuck Hagel (NE), and former Governors Mike Huckabee (AR) and George Pataki (NY).

A senator hasn't been elected president since Kennedy, probably because they defend every vote made during their tenure,

while governors have been popular because they have executive experience. With this array of candidates, it will be interesting to see if tradition continues.

It is evident that Romney will have a difficult time securing the nomination because of his religion and being more liberal. Guiliani will find it difficult for similar reasons, while Tancredo is a one-issue candidate. Brownback doesn't have much recognition and might be too conservative for an increasingly moderate electorate. The Republicans need more than a fighting chance to stay alive.

On the other aisle, Clinton has the name and fame but effectively alienates moderates, whereas Obama is inexperienced and new to Congress, but has the appeal of a rock star. Richardson has an incredible amount of political experience but is dealing with state

business. John Edwards is a legitimate candidate with experience and name power, but some feel that he is too liberal. General Wesley Clarke could be a great candidate if he competes with the forerunners because he is experienced militarily with a long list of credentials.

A recent poll showed that the top three issues that Americans care most about are health care, the economy, and the war in Iraq. The former is a dead issue and the second will be better commented on later. The third will likely decide the presidency but will also define an entire decade. This is shaping up to be the most expensive election ever, with estimates of a billion dollars.

With so much at stake for so much money, we can at least pay attention and cast our votes when the time comes.

The Collegian will return on
 February 21.

Saint Mary's number one source for
 controversy. The Opinion Section.

THE COLLEGIAN

Saint Mary's College of California

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The Collegian
OPINION

State of the Union leaves domestic issues Democratic
President Bush fails to focus on health care, energy dependence

President Bush's recent speech lacked—like his time in office—focus.

On Tuesday, January 23, Bush delivered his State of the Union address. Nearly half of the speech was devoted to the Middle East, counterterrorism, and gaining a consensus on the war in Iraq. In contrast, the beginning focused on two controversial and domestic topics that will be highlighted in the 2008 presidential campaigns.

With a Democratic Congress, Bush should have focused more attention on the nation's broken health care system and the reduction of energy dependence.

The President will have to face these topics of partisan rivalry through the remainder of his term. Given his administration's past agenda, he should have focused on getting his party more support in a divided government.

However, in his speech, President Bush moved for a tax cut that would allot enough money for individuals and families to pay for health insurance, along with petitions to redirect federal funds to the reduction of uninsured people, which is roughly 46 to 48



DARWYNN DEYO
million per year.

Hospitals are upset because the money may cut their funds for Medicare, but it will be a tax break for those purchasing their own insurance. Furthermore, the \$7,500 tax cut for individuals and \$15,000 for families is enough to cover insurance in most areas, either rural or urban.

In contrast, nationalizing health care has been central to the Democratic platform, especially as Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama begin their campaigns.

However, the fact that either candidate would be a first for a minority in political representation, the first woman president or the first black president is no reason to embrace a dangerous national health care plan without examining alternatives.

Bush's suggestion would even help the Democratic Congress because nationalizing health in-

surance would force them to cut back on other programs according to the Democratic Congress, the "pay as you go" pledge, unless they simultaneously increased taxes.

With a slowing economy, at this point they cannot afford to alienate constituents or campaign-funders, though some candidates do have the necessary one-track mentality.

President Bush also focused on the necessity of endorsing energy development domestically in order to reduce dependence on foreign oil and include farmers.

The production of ethanol, "using everything from wood chips to grasses, to agricultural wastes" is one plan; another is opening new lands for oil drilling.

There, however, he treads on the tender environmentalists' toes not only by drilling in Alaska, but by not funding geothermal energy and fish-friendly hydroelectric dams.

Bush is reluctant to institute mandatory cuts in carbon dioxide, while taxing oil companies to create funding for research into alternative energies indicates a mo-

tivation of national politics rather than a general scheme to develop clean alternatives.

Regardless, Bush should prove his enemies wrong and devote time and funding to alternatives such as ethanol, and solar, wind, and water energy. He himself needs a record demonstrating commitment or his taxes on selective industries will bear poor fruit.

Bush is not known for his foresight or his adaptive abilities, particularly in light of the recent changes in the Department of Defense.

Gaining the middle ground, however, is more important for this country and party than beating a dead horse in the Middle East.

The Democrats will not be easily persuaded to stay in Iraq through his presidency, and unless he would like to see a complete reversal of his administration with a Democratic executive and legislative grip, he should reopen discussions on domestic issues, especially if he hopes to win support in turn for programs internationally.



GEOFFREY A. MEADOWS

Ban The Vagina Monologues

What do the brothers have to say for themselves?

Will there be a clear discernment between what is right in Catholic learning as compared to the doomed mentality of secular learning? In the case of Saint Mary's College of California producing *The Vagina Monologues*, it seems that we have been cheated out of that discernment.

This play glorifies masturbation and contains graphic lesbian pornography. These two scalding blasphemies alone should be reason enough to ban it from our campus. Yet a performance is scheduled *on campus*.

Why is it that Catholic colleges are rushing to imitate secular institutions and not the other way around?

To further illustrate the inanity of this production, let us briefly evaluate its intellectual (I hesitate to even use the word) merit.

In *The Vagina Monologues*, a young girl tells of her being raped by a man at age ten. The scene goes on to tell of the same girl's (a mere thirteen at this point) "seduction" by a 24-year-old woman. This so-called "seduction" involves the older woman essentially kidnapping the young girl, coercing her into drinking alcohol, and then performing various sexual acts with the minor. When the man does the raping, it is rightly placed in a negative light, but the second instance is relished as though it is a good and even essential experience!

Apparently, rape is only wrong when a man commits it.

Throughout the play women express either a desire to become their vagina or imagine they have already been transformed. If women are to be synonymous with their vaginas, are we to believe that they will be more respected? I imagine men should follow suit and identify themselves as penises (although, this actually seems to be what rapists and promiscuous fellows do). It would be a shame if every time I spoke to a woman I were really just speaking to her vagina. I always thought a woman to be far more than talking genitalia.

Despite the obvious degradation of women that this play exhibits, many feminists have championed it as a triumph over patriarchal oppression. This is just another shock-based diatribe disguised as awareness that preys upon morbid curiosity and people who long for an identity. The international success of this play, then, is no surprise; in the words of Elliott Smith, "The devil's script sells." But in the end, all one receives is a patently absurd and morally bankrupt ideology.

We must prevent this play from polluting our campus.

Black or female: pick your Democratic candidate
Is the presidential race about politics or prejudices?

"I'm in," were the blunt words used by Hillary Clinton, letting the political world know she is a contender for the 2008 presidential race. Barack Obama, the other Democrat waiting to wage war against the Republicans, threw his hat in the race last week.

The stage is set for one of the most interesting presidential elections in American history.

Who would you vote for: a black guy with a funny last name or a woman with a controversial last name?

The pundits have noted for some time the obstacles a black or female Democratic candidate will face. If Obama ends up being the party's candidate, racism, bigotry, traditional roles, and racial tension will be in his way.

If Hillary obtains the party label, her last name will be as much of an issue as her gender and her reputation of being a "career-oriented" woman.

Both face uphill battles in the South, and considerable chal-



JAIME ZEPEDA

lenges in the other Red States.

Like *Borat*, this race will reveal the prejudices our country loves to dismiss as nonexistent.

Besides the eminent obstacles these two candidates will face by the bigots in our country, are they worth voting for?

Obama is a Senator with only three years under his political belt, a novice in comparison to other Congressmen. The Senator from Illinois has a record that makes labels stick very easily.

Hillary is a politician that has a Bush complex—you either love her or hate her. She is guilty by association because of former President Clinton and has never fully recovered. Many see her as a femi-nazi, a calculating wife that manipulated the presidency to her

whims.

Of course, these are the same people who will have an issue with Obama's "color."

The lack of a record in Congress can serve as an advantage for Obama. John Kerry, being the lifetime member of Congress that he is, saw how his voting record was a liability over Bush's blunt positions.

Hillary is on similar ground. Her years in Congress have not been too many, and she has been able to maintain a steady record to avoid a "flip-flop" label.

Although they are both considered liberal and to vote liberal, that is not a sufficient characterization of them.

Barack Obama is Pro-Israel; Hillary Clinton is gaining reputation as a bit of a war hawk. Her stance on national security is stern; his stance on Israel is not a typically liberal one.

Although many will want to deny it, Hillary has been moving to the right, becoming more of a Republican than a Democrat.

She is reconsidering her position on abortion and she has calmed down on universal health care.

Obama, on the other hand, has made himself to be a consistent lefty. He is stern on gun control, against the death penalty, and a committed pro-choicer.

Who is the biggest boogey monster for the Republican? Is it a notorious liberal, who is shedding her ideological scales, or a young liberal who has little record to pin him as such?

The battle will not be focused on voting records. The battle will be over what bugs the bigoted American the most, a black or a woman president?

If Democrats win the White House with Obama and Clinton on the ticket, the greatest dilemma for a redneck/sexist will be presented: taking out a black/woman president will bring the black/woman vice-president to power.

Racist and sexist: to be or not to be?

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WE ARE HERE. ARE YOU? WRITE US.



The Collegian
DETOUR

Give the dance a try and you just might enjoy it

Swing dancing: an art more fun than one would expect

by Whitney Medved
Staff Writer

I don't go to the clubs. Aside from not being all that stoked on the typical club music genre, I frankly don't feel comfortable grinding all up on some stranger's business—plus I lack the rhythm to make partner dancing a reality. Don't get me wrong; in the right social context I am a regular dance-party animal and more than once have been known to shake my groove-thang. I just lack the creativity and overall skill to do it like Jessica Alba.

That is why swing dancing is so awesome. Should I be deprived of the joys of dance simply on account of my inability to break it down like Pulses? I recently attended a swing dance, complete with a lesson. It was here that I was taught the foundation of all my swing to come—the rock step. This most basic swing movement consists of stepping back on the

right foot, forward on the left, then a quick transfer of weight from the right foot to the left again. After this, I'm golden. All I need is that default step; like in *Hitch*, this is where I live. Elaboration is possible and maybe even probable, but it's good to know that if all else fails I can revert back to square one. A move would be taught, practiced, and then the follower would proceed on down the line to the next eager leader.

Those initial meetings were great; they were just as awkward as bygone junior high dances, if not moreso, because I didn't know the guy and chances are he was a good two and a half times my age. The meeting would begin with introductions, maybe an uncomfortable joke or two, and then the dancing would commence.

Such an eclectic array of people are present at these little shindigs. I went with about five girls from my team, but a lot of people fly

solo. There was an academic-looking fellow, complete with long silver hair, glasses of course, and a scarf draped around his shoulders. Another guy, "James," had just come up from Santa Cruz, which was apparent in his garb; the man loved color and natural fibers. There was even a severe looking older man with piercing blue eyes that diligently scanned the floor for capable potential partners; attired completely in black from his heavy-heeled leather shoes all the way up to his boat-neck top, the man meant business.

In fact, I think many of the leaders rather relished in the authority their position afforded. It was not uncommon for my partner to immediately physically move my forearm down (I had a propensity to leave it sort of propped up) or to critique my slow step or poor hand placement. Boat-neck guy remarked, "I'll lead, you follow." Wonderful! I am simply not at an

advanced enough stage in my dancing to focus on moving with someone while planning what we are going to do next.

Once the real dance began, I had a blast. The awkwardness evaporated as various partners offered their hand to dance, and all were eager to help me learn and/or were learning themselves. Sometimes I would apologize in advance for my rookie-status with the whole affair, to which most would reply, "It doesn't matter! Just go with it." And went with it I did. I left that rock step in the dust as I took a hint from various partners and experimented with kicking, swiveling, and definitely some quality spinning. There was even a live band. In the span of just a few short hours I went from uptight to carefree and had a genuinely good time. I may not be ready for the sensual dialogue of the Tango or Salsa, but you gotta start somewhere, and swing seems like a good place to me.

100 Word Reviews

Think of the pandas, people

by Stefanie Ordoveza
Sports Editor

Imagine being taken from your home to be trapped in a cage, or if you're lucky enough to be a cute panda, a fake "outdoor setting," where humans pay \$10 for permission to gawk at and torture you all day. Not fun, huh? And the poor tiger can't even run around without worrying about hitting a stone wall or falling into a three-foot pool of water. What's worse is that we get mad at the rhino for sleeping the whole day. Silly people. Can we really be that selfish? And you wonder why the apes throw their feces at us.

The Holiday a good watch any season

by Amber Lister
Staff Writer

A winning romantic comedy...with Jack Black? It's true. The film begins paralleling the depressing lives of Iris (Kate Winslet), a successful editor from England in love with an engaged man, and Amanda (Cameron Diaz), a prominent Hollywood film trailer director who has recently discovered her boyfriend's cheating habits and kicked him to the curb. The women meet and temporarily trade houses, each falling in love with a man from across the world. Amanda falls for Graham (Jude Law), Iris' brother, while Miles (Black) captures the attention of Iris, changing the lives of all four. This one is definitely worth buying.

Cherish your free time

by Alex Branch
Staff Writer

This month, many students finished the books they had casually been trying to read since September. An increasing number of students found the joy of taking naps at least four times a week. Some students have had three-day weekends...every weekend. For many students, the biggest challenge of Jan Term is figuring out what to do with all the spare time. "Should I sit on the couch and read all afternoon, or should I go see a movie? Maybe I should just stay in bed." Enjoy it while it lasts, I say, because spare time is running out.

Club Thermal is better than nothing

Traveling DJ brings a good time down the road from Saint Mary's

by Emily Esquerro
Staff Writer

I'll be honest. When I first heard of Club Thermal I really didn't know what to think. I mean, Club Thermal? What was I supposed to think (besides what a funky name it had)? But then I pondered...what is Club Thermal? Some promotion to endorse the new thermals at the bookstore? Maybe. Some starting charity that collected thermals during the winter months? Possibly. A new Facebook group dedicated to people who only wore thermals? Even more feasible. But a dance club in Moraga? Get out.

I've only been in Moraga and at Saint Mary's a few months now, but between the elderly people scattered up and down the grocery stores of Moraga Road and the middle school hipsters smoking outside of Taco Bell, I couldn't really pinpoint exactly where a trendy new dance club for college students would go. Then I heard it would be held at the old Rheem Theatre located a mere three minutes from campus. Though the idea of placing a dance club at a run down theatre like Rheem was odd to me at first, the logistics of it all seemed to pull together when friends and I attended the grand opening of Club Thermal on Thursday, January 18.

After seeing only a handful of bodies walk aimlessly in front of the club, deliberating about whether to go in or not, I became a little more skeptical about this ambiguous "Club Thermal."

However, as soon as I entered the theatre I was welcomed by event organizer Jonathan and others who were just as uncertain about this new club's success. People mingled in the lobby, dispelling little tid-bits here and there about what the club was like inside, and as a result casting even more doubts onto the audience of expecting clubbers. Finally we entered the doors to the theatre and walked down an aisle to the dance floor (located between the front row and the screen of the theatre), to see for ourselves what the scene was about.

There were maybe 20 people out on the dance floor, however,

everyone was dancing and having a good time, trying to make the best of the small turnout. Granted, there were probably a few kids from the surrounding high schools out there and maybe another handful from DVC, but the majority were all Saint Mary's students. At around 11:30 p.m., more people began to trickle in and by the time I left there were probably 50 altogether. The music was average, no crazy spinning and mixing by the DJ, but he was definitely willing to play anything requested right away (including our multiple Justin Timberlake requests). Though the grand opening of the club wasn't as success-

ful as owners, planners, and promoters hoped it would be, it did stir things up in Moraga for a change. Rheem Theatre may not be the hottest spot in town, but it's close to campus, and definitely beats driving to some of the other clubs in Berkeley and San Francisco. It's probably not going to be the next Studio 54 or anything, but Club Thermal definitely has some potential for Saint Mary's kids with few options for some fun around here.

The next Club Thermal event will be February 15. More information can be found at www.myspace.com/clubthermal.

THE COLLEGIAN

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NEXT ISSUE WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21



The Collegian
DETOUR

Perfume mixes too many smells
Chilling protagonist not enough to save thriller

by **Danny Acosta**
Opinion Editor

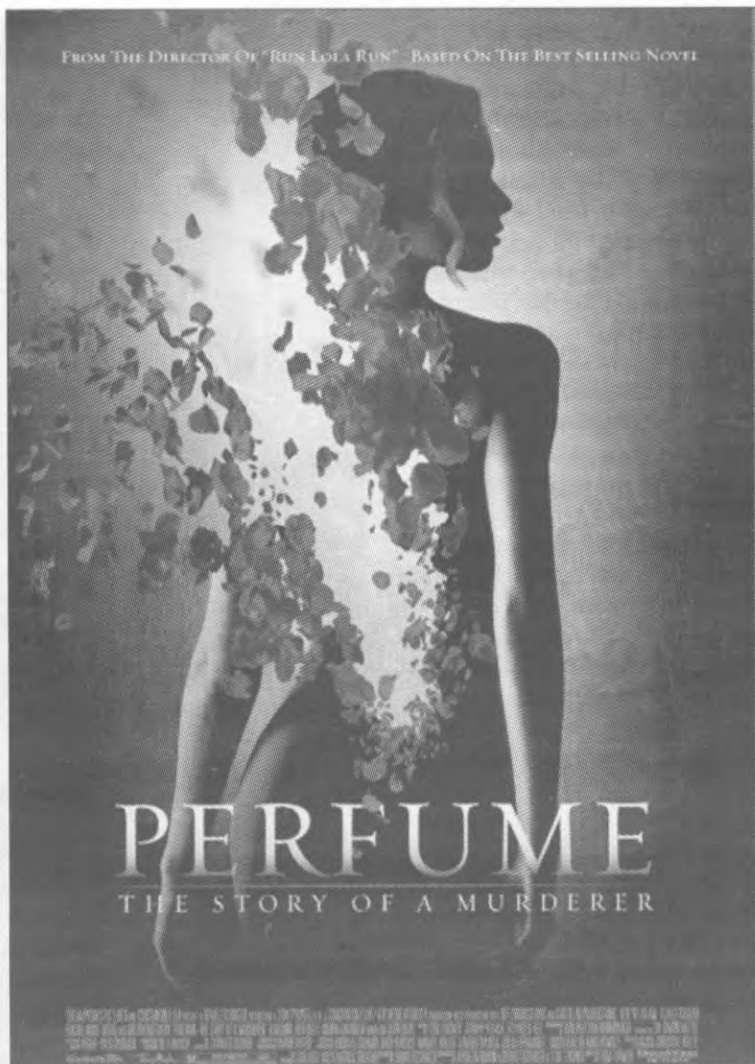
Buying perfume will never be the same. Is that the smell of roses or a Parisian socialite? The smell of *Perfume: The Story of a Murderer* is morbidly alluring until it lingers too long; leaving a rank memory in what was once a pleasantry.

Perfume follows Jean-Baptiste Grenouille (Ben Whishaw) whose hyper-sensitive appreciation for smell advances his status in life from a peasant-child to a perfume apprentice. While Paris' upper echelon spritzes itself with pleasant smells, Grenouille frantically searches for a way to preserve a smell unknown to perfume enthusiasts—human flesh. A brushing encounter with a redheaded beauty propels him into the zealous mindset that wants to capture such paradisiacal smells. He devotes himself to his new craft under the guidance of a fledgling perfumer, Giuseppe Baldini (Dustin Hoffman). Baldini teaches Grenouille the master formula; there are 12 different scents in a great perfume, 13 in a masterful perfume. Thirteen murders will occur.

Whishaw portrays Grenouille's obsession cautiously. His constricted movements and ability to accelerate into rage in an otherwise quiet character convey a Frankenstein's Monster quality. The performance aptly depicts the paralyzing effect of a blessing turned to a curse. When the Parisian lovelies begin to disappear, director Tom Tykwer (*Run Lola Run*) ensures the visuals in the barren story match Grenouille's elated nostrils. The contrast of Jack the Ripper-like streets and Paris' picturesque landscapes demonstrates Tykwer's abilities.

The lush settings cleverly highlight Grenouille's struggle: his art is internal. It cannot be painted like a landscape. No one can experience it as he can, but he wants to share his gift with the world, so he prowls stark streets.

Despite the menacing yet infantile performance from Whishaw and Tykwer's high-concept di-



Courtesy of www.imdb.com

recting, the film offers little else to enjoy. Screenwriters Andrew Birkin and Bernd Eichinger include an unnecessary amount of exposition. This pushes the running time to a grueling 147 minutes. It includes a dwindling narration that pushes Grenouille's humanity, which Whishaw incorporates in his sociopathic performance. Dustin Hoffman uncharacteristically bypasses his own performance. He comes off as Dustin Hoffman playing dress-up rather than his character. His legendary status undoubtedly was exploited as a ploy to sell more tickets for a film that the MPAA deemed R-rated due to "aberrant behavior." Alan Rickman chimes in as an over-protective father looking to save his physically and nasally beautiful daughter, but barely grazes the drama of the content. However, *Perfume* is relatively solid until the final stanzas.

The shortcomings of the film become fetid at the climax. The climax of the film is a sex-laden twist so implausible it belongs in a C-rate horror movie directed by Russ Meyer. A plethora of nudity—from toothless servants to Rubenesque bachelorettes—breaches the suspension of disbelief and discredits the dark maniacal tones of the rest of the film.

It is no wonder *Perfume: The Story of a Murderer* was declared "unfilmable." Some novels are never meant for the big screen. Tykwer and Whishaw try to prove that notion wrong, while the climax bolsters that argument.

Punishment Level:



3 out of 5 Skulls

Aquariums aren't just for toddlers anymore!
Now you, too, can experience what they have to offer

by **Amber Lister**
Staff Writer

When you are five and your parents are into educational opportunities and days away from cleaning up your Cheerios off the floor or listening to Barney songs for hours on end, the aquarium is the place to be. I will admit, the last time I went to an aquarium, I was rolling in a stroller and latching onto my sippy-cup. Those were the days.

I recently made the two or so hour road trip to the Monterey Bay Aquarium, and it made me rethink the whole "learning about

animals is for little kids" mode of thought. I loved it! It was fascinating looking at all the different ocean and freshwater animals and plants of all shapes and sizes. Did you know that sunfish can weigh up to two tons and their strategy for avoiding large predators is growing too large to be eaten? Or that it takes a 40-pound pull to release the grip of a three-pound octopus? The Monterey Bay Aquarium is full of these interesting tidbits, but I don't like wasting time reading the placards next to the tanks. For those of us that suffer from a short attention span, there are hands-on exhibits

where we can feel the slimy creatures of the ocean. At 28 feet, the kelp forest was quite a site as well. It almost felt like I was actually in the water. And who would want to miss out on the sharks? There are seven shark species on display. The aquarium also has the largest collection of jellyfish species in the United States, so make sure to check out the "Jellies: Living Art" exhibit if you make the trip down the coast. I definitely recommend going to the Monterey Bay Aquarium during the upcoming lazy Jan Term break.

best shot ever:
Buttery Nipple



Please remember to drink responsibly.

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Questions? x4279 or collegia@stmarys-ca.edu

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Sheridan Arredondo



Courtesy of smcgaels.com

Senior Sheridan Arredondo led the Gaels in scoring twice with 13 points against LMU and a game-high 22 points against Pepperdine. She also went 8-10 from the line and chipped in eight rebounds against the Waves.

Diamon Simpson



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

Sophomore scored 21 points against San Diego and he recorded 24 points, 10 rebounds, and eight blocks against Pepperdine. He also won the WCC Player of the Week award for the second consecutive week.

Homecoming washed away by Waves
Simpson's near triple-double not enough against upstart Pepperdine

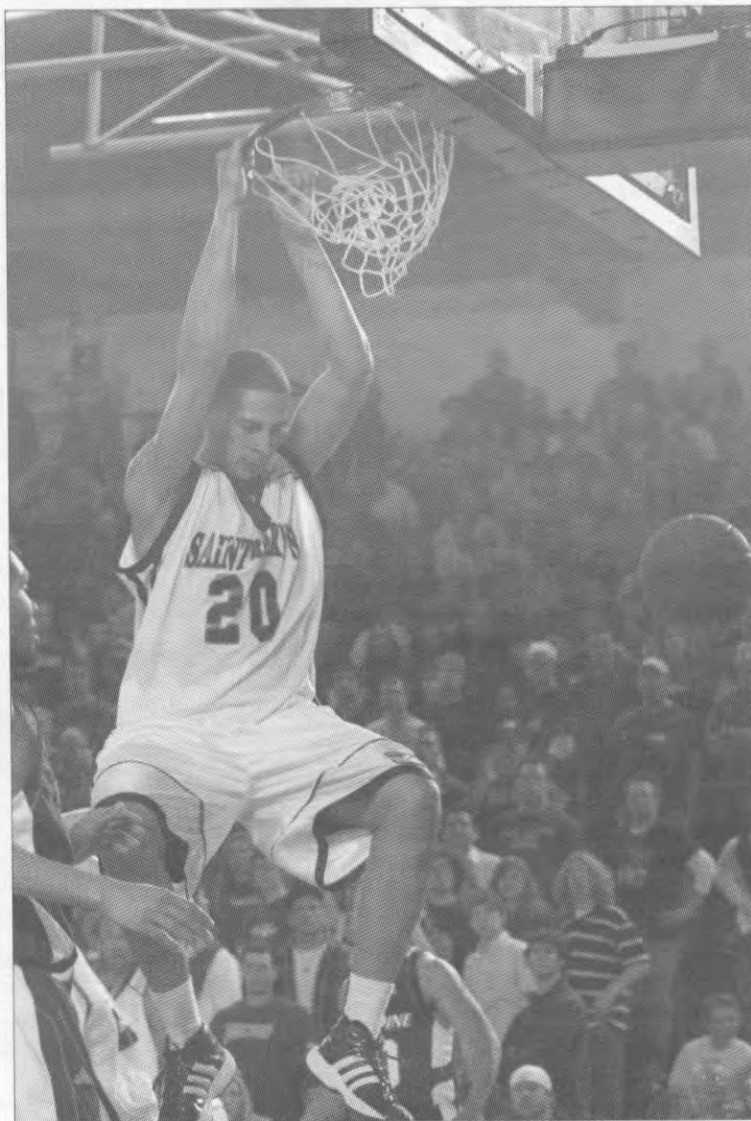
by Megan Manley
Staff Writer

The Gaels split their games this week with a win at San Diego on Monday night and a loss to Pepperdine at home on Saturday.

The men's basketball team started off the week with a hard fought battle against the University of San Diego Toreros. Diamon Simpson and Ian O'Leary carried the Gaels to their second road win of the season tallying 21 and 18 points respectively in the 85-78 win. With the win, the Gaels improved to 4-1 in WCC and 12-9 overall, while the Toreros fell to 2-3 in conference play and 12-8 on the season. Already number one in the nation in free throw attempts, the Gaels went 32-46 from the line, compared to San Diego's 16-27 from the charity stripe. Brandon Johnson scored a career-high 26 points for San Diego going 10-for-13 from the field, while Gyno Pomare added 18 points for the Toreros.

The Gaels were in action again on Saturday against the Pepperdine Waves. The contest was back and forth nearly the entire second half with the Waves ending up victorious, defeating the Gaels 68-66. The loss snapped the Gaels four game winning streak and left the Gaels in a tie with Santa Clara for second place in the WCC. Diamon Simpson continued his scoring

showcase recording a double-double with game-highs of 24 points and 10 rebounds and nearly garnered a triple-double with a career-high eight blocked shots. Sophomore Wayne Hunter was the only other Gael with double figures earning 10 points in just 23 minutes of action, while John Winston grabbed eight points and dished out four assists on the night for the Gaels. Gael Force showed little class with chants of "Walberg sucks" and "traitor" directed towards former Gael turned Wave Jason Walberg who didn't play due to injury. The Gaels had a chance to tie the game after a Diamon Simpson rebound, but a shot by Winston and a tip by Simpson both fell short, giving the Waves their sixth win of the season. Pepperdine led by as many as 15 in the first half before the Gaels fought their way back, trailing by two (38-36) at the half. The Gaels came out fighting in the second half and took a 40-41 lead at the 17:45 mark after a Todd Golden 3-pointer. Golden came in to the game holding the top 3-point shooting percentage in WCC play at 71 percent and went 2 for 3 from long range on the night. Kingsley Costain led the Waves with 22 points, 18 coming in the first half. The Gaels shot 46.4 percent from the field and out rebounded the Waves 35-30 in the contest. The loss marks the Gaels third loss at home this season. The Gaels will be back in



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

Despite this dunk by Diamon Simpson, the Gaels fell by two to Pepperdine. action on Saturday night when they host rival Santa Clara at 4:05 p.m. For coverage of the game against Loyola Marymount, go to www.smccollegian.com/sports.

**Sports
Calendar**

Tuesday, Jan. 30
Baseball vs. Fresno Pacific
2 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 2
Baseball vs. San Jose State
3-game series
1 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 3
Women's Tennis vs. Pacific
1 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Santa Clara
4:05 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 5
Men's Basketball vs. San Diego
7:05 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 8
Women's Basketball vs. Gonzaga
7:05 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 10
Softball vs. UC Davis
12 & 2 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. Portland
7:05 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 11
Men's Tennis vs. Loyola Marymount
11 a.m.

Home Games Only

Gaels roar past Lions, slip against the Waves
Arredondo, Smith lead Gaels on Southern California trip

by Zack Farmer
Managing Editor

The women's basketball team split a tough So Cal road trip with a win against Loyola Marymount and a loss against Pepperdine.

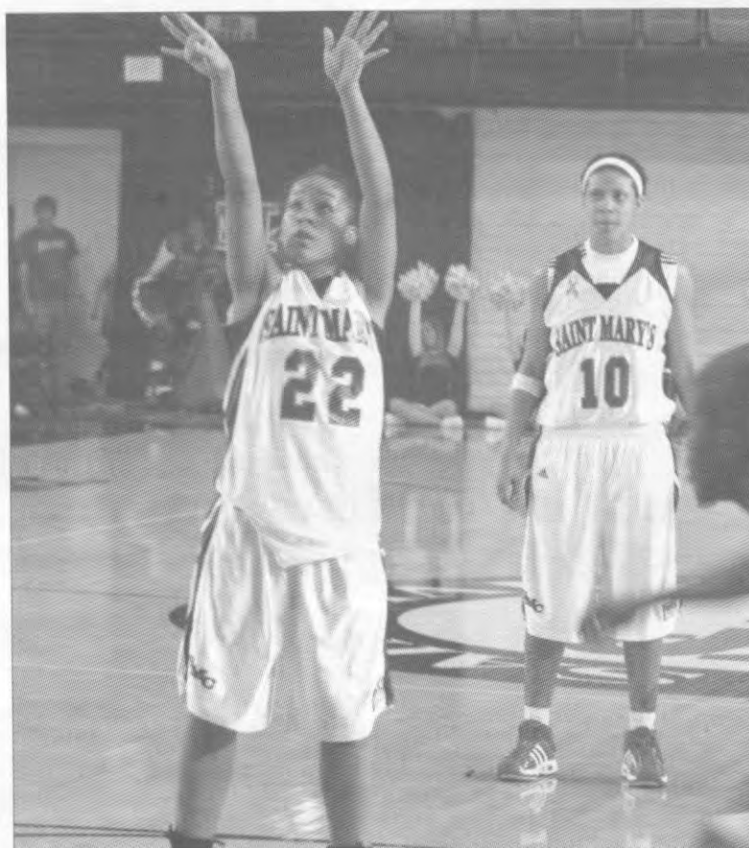
Four Gaels scored in double-figures against Loyola Marymount for the 64-59 win. Serena Benavente '08 and Sheridan Arredondo '07 both scored 13 points to lead the Gaels to the win. The Gaels took the lead three minutes into the game and would not relinquish the lead, pushing the gap to as much as 15 points.

Saint Mary's led 39-29 at the half.

Lauren Shaughnessy '08 contributed six points, game-highs nine rebounds and eight assists. Jontelle Smith '09 hit three consecutive three pointers toward the end of the first half and finished the game with 10 points.

The Lions made a small comeback to get within three points but Smith would hit a clutch free throw with 21 seconds left to put Loyola Marymount away.

Pepperdine snuck by the Gaels on Saturday 76-73 in Malibu. The Waves made a second half comeback from a 39-33 first half deficit and took the lead 74-72 with 1:19 left in regulation when Wave



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

Jontelle Smith (22) scored 20 points in the loss to Pepperdine on Saturday.

forward Teena Wickett made a fast break lay-up.

Arredondo led all scorers with 22 points and eight rebounds. Smith recorded 20 points on 6-9 shooting including 4-6 from three-point range.

Senior Eghosa Obaiza recorded

a double-double with 17 points and 11 rebounds.

Despite outshooting Pepperdine from the line by nine, the Gaels allowed the Waves to shoot 51.7 percent from the field.

With the split over the weekend, the Gaels are now 9-10 over-

**This Week's
Sports Trivia**

1. What award did head baseball coach Jedd Soto earn during his athletic career at the College of Southern Idaho?

- a. All-Region 18 Pitcher
- b. Gold Glove
- c. Lowest ERA
- d. All-American

2. After graduating from USC, which grand slam(s) did head men's tennis coach Michael Wayman compete in during his professional career?

- a. French Open
- b. Wimbledon
- c. U.S. Open
- d. Australian Open

3. Head women's soccer coach Kelley Lindsey played for the CyberRays and won what team award in 2002?

- a. Most Inspirational
- b. Scoring Leader
- c. Most Valuable Player
- d. Most Valuable Defender

Answers: 1. a, 2. b & c, 3. d

all and 3-4 in WCC play. Saint Mary's will take on Santa Clara (12-10, 4-3 WCC) at the Levey Center on Saturday.

The Collegian
SPORTS

Desmond Brooks realizes dream of going pro

Saint Mary's senior soccer star chosen second in MLS Supplemental Draft

by Megan Manley
Staff Writer

He knew being drafted was a possibility, but it wasn't until he received an ecstatic phone call from his mom that senior soccer player Desmond Brooks knew his dream had come true.

"My mom called me right after I got drafted. She was going crazy, and then I looked online and saw my name," said Brooks. "The coach called me right after that and told me they just drafted me."

Chosen second overall in the Major League Soccer Supplemental Draft by Chivas USA, Desmond Brooks becomes the first Saint Mary's College soccer player to make it to the "big leagues."

"I am very thankful. I have always dreamed of playing professionally. A lot of people put me in this position and gave me a lot of help," said Brooks. "I am honored because there are a lot of good players that have come out of [Saint Mary's] that haven't had

a shot to go pro."

The six-foot defender from Fresno played in 71 games in his career as a Gael, starting in all 20 during his senior year. Brooks says he will miss "Joga" time, a well-known phrase in the soccer world, meaning "Play Beautiful" in Portuguese.

"I am going to miss all my freshmen children," Brooks said jokingly. "Everybody I have played with has made me a better player in some way. I have learned something from every person I have stepped on the field with."

With training camp starting on February 5, Brooks will have to forego his final semester of his senior year.

"I am hoping I can figure out something," said Brooks. "I don't want to make it this far and not graduate."

When looking back on Saint Mary's, a humble Brooks only has positive reflections. "It is a great environment that really

helped me grow into a mature young man."

For Brooks, 12 years of playing soccer has paid off.



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

Senior Desmond Brooks becomes the first Saint Mary's soccer player to be drafted by the MLS. He played in 71 games for the Gaels and started all 20 games his senior season.

Danger arrives at UFC 67 with two new faces

Crocop, Rampage debut in UFC for blood and gold

by Danny Acosta
Opinion Editor

Chuck "The Iceman" Liddell is the most feared striker in the world. There are two men who disagree: Mirko Crocop and Quinton "Rampage" Jackson. Both men will debut in the Octagon at UFC 67: *All or Nothing* on February 3, 2006.

In 2003, Rampage scored a technical knockout over Liddell in PrideFC. Liddell returned to the Octagon, where he simultaneously won the light heavyweight title and avenged all of his previous losses except Rampage.

Rampage did not have the same success: he dropped three fights before leaving for the now-defunct World Fighting Alliance (WFA), where he defeated former Olympic silver medalist wrestler Matt "The Law" Lindland. "They sold me like a runaway slave!" was Rampage's response when the UFC purchased his WFA contract.

Liddell hopes to finish his trek of revenge by defeating Rampage. However, the Team Oyama stand-out dominated their previous meeting. Rampage must first confront his own past demon: Marvin "The Beastman" Eastman, who won a decision over the Memphis native seven years ago. UFC 67 will be Rampage's first step toward the light heavyweight title, but more importantly in his mind, it will propel him into the spotlight so he can "make that cheddar!" because fans must "support the black man!"

Mirko Filipovi, known as Crocop (a named earned working on an anti-terrorist squad in his home country of Croatia, where he is also a senator), is a K-1 kickboxer turned professional mixed martial artist.

Crocop is a human highlight reel.

The Best Damn Sports Show Period voted his left high kick—his favored weapon—knockout over Igor Vovchanchyn number

one on its "100 Greatest Knockouts" countdown. However, the knockout power he possesses in his hands and feet were not enough to dethrone Pride heavyweight champion Fedor Emelianenko, keeping Crocop from title gold.

Crocop made his name as a counter-striker, but he grimly conveyed the consequences of his new-found aggressiveness: "Right leg: hospital, left leg: cemetery."

Crocop's left high kick battered PrideFC middleweight champion Wanderlei "The Axe Murderer" Silva in the open-weight grand prix—a one night, four-man tournament. He faced off with former UFC heavyweight champion Josh "The Babyface Assassin" Barnett in the finals. Prior to the night, Crocop decided if he lost, he would retire. He won.

Crocop transitioned from the brink of championship glory to celebrating one of

the most grueling nights in MMA history with tears in his eyes and a belt around his waist. He was set to rematch Fedor—his ultimate goal and the most anticipated fight in PrideFC—then, the most shocking announcement in MMA history was made: Crocop signed a six-fight contract with UFC. Crocop will fight Eddie Sanchez at UFC 67.

Chuck Liddell frequently expresses an interest in fighting at heavyweight—a possibility that may pit him across from the world's most dangerous striker.

Before looking to title fights, the PrideFC standouts must realize the severity of a UFC debut. Former Pride fighter, Heath "the Texas Crazy Horse" Herring recently debuted and lost a decision. Will Rampage's cement-grinder slams and



Courtesy of www.free-zg.t-com.hr

Crocop's murderous left high kick live up to their expectations? UFC 67 will provide the answer, but lead to many more questions.

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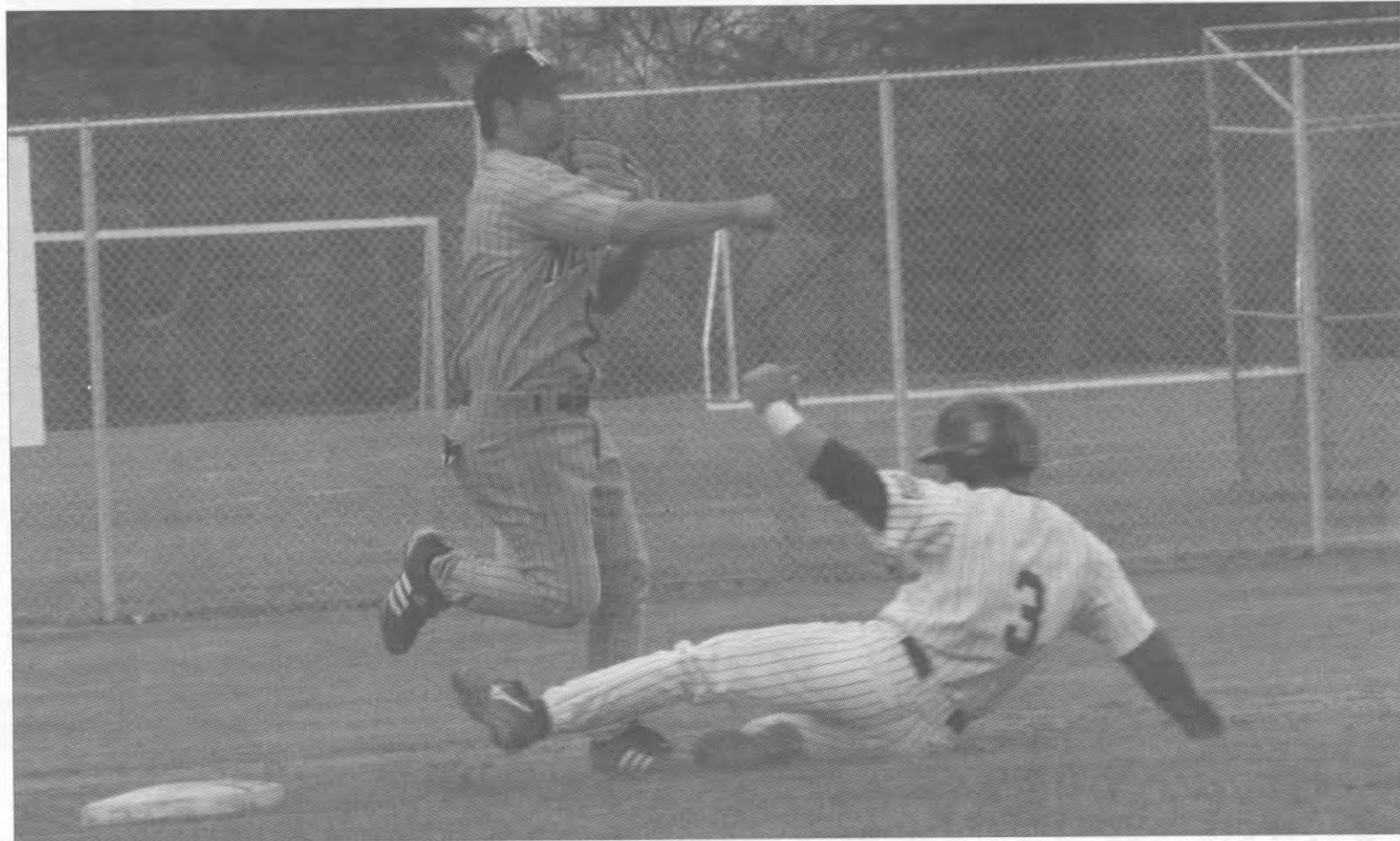
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Baseball opens with win, drops series versus Nevada

Lineup littered with new faces reflects young, inexperienced team



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

Senior Eric Cattoni (3) tries to break up a double play in the series finale on Sunday. Cattoni ended the weekend three for 11 with two RBIs.

by Sean Kent
 Staff Writer

The Gaels' baseball team kicked off the 2007 season this past weekend with a three-game series against the University of Nevada-Reno Wolf Pack. The late January rain couldn't dampen opening day at Louis Guisto Field as Saint Mary's pulled off a come-

from-behind victory over Nevada 5-4. The opening day lineup reflected the large amount of new faces the Gaels have this year as transfer Sean Gleason took the mound in Saint Mary's debut.

The junior pitched well, giving up three earned runs on five hits, while striking out three. Continuing with new players, freshman Scott Schneider relieved Gleason

and allowed only four hits and an unearned run in three strong innings of work. Freshman Taylor Stanton closed out the game in the ninth with a groundout and two strikeouts to earn his first save of the season.

After falling behind 3-0 into the seventh inning, junior catcher Ian Gordon legged out and infield single to start a four-run rally that

was kept alive by timely hits from freshman Kyle Jensen and senior Eric Cattoni. The big blow was provided by freshman Randy Wells whose base hit down the right field line scored Cattoni and pinch-runner Cory Miller '09. The Wolf Pack tied the score at four on a two-base error by Cattoni in left field. The Gaels answered back with a sac-fly off the

bat of Gordon to score junior Brian Hawkins in the eighth. Stanton's save sealed the opening day victory for the Gaels, 5-4.

The second game of the series looked more promising from the start as the Gaels grabbed a 1-0 lead in the first on an RBI single by Wells. However, after pitching five scoreless innings freshman Brandon Berl tired in the sixth as he allowed two runs. The biggest blast of the inning for Nevada came off the bat of Shaun Kort who hit a three-run homer to right off freshman Jimmy Munhill's second pitch. The Gaels' came clawing back with three runs in the seventh sparked by RBI singles from Cattoni and sophomore Joel Staples. With the score tied at five in the ninth, Nevada took the lead on a bloop hit down the left field line that scored the winning run.

The tone for the rubber match Sunday was set in the very first inning as Nevada right fielder Matt Bowman hit solo home run to left. That was just the beginning as Nevada scored a run in the second, three runs in the fifth (two of which came on Bowman's second homer of the day), and one run in the sixth to take the deciding game easily, 6-1. The Gaels' lone run was scored by Gordon who was awarded second on an error, reached third on a balk, and scored on junior Kenny Fuglerud's RBI single.

The Gaels' next game will be at home today at 2 p.m. against Fresno Pacific.

Men's tennis defeats #48 Arizona but falls to Cal

Wins this week could result in national ranking for tennis team

by Stefanie Ordoveza
 Sports Editor

The Saint Mary's men's tennis team traveled to Arizona two weeks ago to compete against

Northern Arizona University (NAU) and #48 University of Arizona (UA). The matches ended in victory for the Gaels, with a 4-0 win over NAU and a 4-1 win over Arizona.

On that Monday, against the Arizona Wildcats, Saint Mary's #1 Joel Kusnierz led the Gaels with a tough win. After quickly dropping the first set, Kusnierz came back to win the match with a final score of 2-6, 7-5, 6-2.

Senior Andre Sion then won his match to bring the Gaels to a 2-0 advantage over the Wildcats, winning his match 6-1, 6-4. Soon after, junior Yury Platanov and senior Adam Fauvre both won their matches in three-set victories, thus securing the win over the #48 Wildcats.

The only loss that day came from the Gaels' #4 spot, freshman Andrea

Zannoni, who lost in a close one, 7-5, 6-1.

Just this Saturday, the men's tennis team took on the UC Berkeley Golden Bears at Cal. The day began with singles matches, and unfortunately, the Gaels could not continue their 2-0 streak, losing to the Bears convincingly, 5-1.

Kusnierz, who had won his previous two matches, lost to Cal's #1 singles player Pierre Mouillon 6-4, 6-2. Gael sophomore Achim Christner was also defeated (at the #3 spot) 6-3, 6-2. Zannoni, Platanov, and Fauvre all had tight matches, coming close to taking sets away from the Bears, but could not turn things around for a win.

The Gaels' only win came from Saint Mary's #2 singles player Andre Sion, who continues his undefeated season with a close win over Cal's Tyler Browne. Their match ended with a final score of 7-5, 1-6, 6-1.

The Gaels finished the week with a record of 2-1. Sunday's match against UC Davis was cancelled due to rain.

Men's rugby cashes in big at Reno

Gaels post 65-10 win against Nevada-Reno

by Alex Branch
 Staff Writer

Men's rugby traveled to Reno, Nevada on Saturday to play their second league match of the season. The Gaels went into the match just off a loss in their first bout of league play against Cal 33-12.

Nobody should think the Gaels' season is marked too heavily by losing to Cal, though. The Gaels posted a 65-10 win against UNR and are now 6-1 for the season. Before playing Cal they were #6 in the nation.

Despite a number of injuries left over from the Cal game, the Gaels went into the UNR game just like they would any other, expectant of a win. Before the game, Captain Kevin Swiryn said, "We go into every game expecting to win, and nothing's different for this game. We're expecting a big win. We need a big win for our team, to get us back on track." UNR is always a tough game for the Gaels, mostly due to travel. "We've got to travel over three hours to get there, play in

the freezing cold, we just want to get there, hit hard and win, and get out. It put's a bad taste in guys' mouths already," said Swiryn.

The Gaels go against Stanford on February 3 and always make a point of taking their season "one week at a time," a strategy that seems to be working pretty well for them so far. The Gaels expect to have most of their injured players back on the field for the Stanford game and will be going strong for the win. Now that the Pat Vincent Memorial Field renovations are complete, Gaels' Rugby will host its first home game February 17 against UC Davis.

Men's Rugby Schedule

Feb. 3 at Stanford

Feb. 17 vs. UC Davis

Feb. 24 vs. Chico

Feb. 25 at Sacramento State



Courtesy of www.smcgaels.com

Joel Kusnierz '08 split his matches this week against Cal and Arizona.