



THE COLLEGIAN

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA
www.smccollegian.com

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Is SMC earthquake proof?
- **SPORTS:**
Softball scores 17 runs in two games

Moraga, California

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

Volume 104, Number 20

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

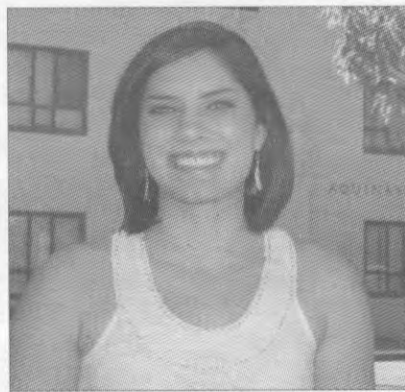


EXECUTIVE TEAM ELECTIONS 2007

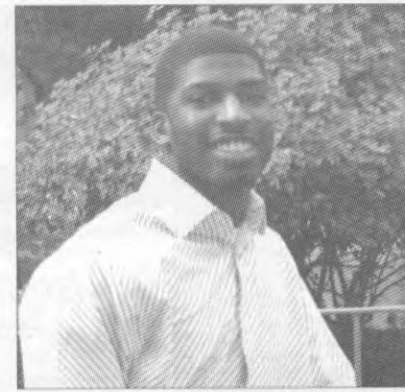
Only presidential position contested, Coloma, Iaccino, Weeks running unopposed



Connor McNeill '08



Lauren Vandam '08



Arthur Curley '08

by Zack Farmer
Managing Editor

The Associated Students of Saint Mary's College (ASSMC) Executive Team elections begin tomorrow and there are three in the running for the student body presidency. The candidates are former two-time class president Connor McNeill '08, Speaker of the Senate Lauren Vandam '08, and current ASSMC Vice President for Student Affairs Arthur Curley '08.

"I passionately believe we are in need of a stronger student voice on campus. I hear so much of what students would like to see changed and would like to be their rep-

resentative to act on these ideas," said Vandam.

Other than being speaker of the senate, Vandam is the director of finances and operations for GaelVision, Dryden Hall programming intern, student supervisor, and an orientation leader.

"All too often we forget how lucky we are to go to a school like Saint Mary's," said Vandam. "Our school is by no means perfect, there is a lot that we can still improve, and by becoming involved we have the opportunity to change what we, as students, are unhappy with. My goal is to get more students involved, and thereby give them voices towards improving Saint Mary's."

Vandam came up short last year in the election for ASSMC vice president for finance to Alia Bana '07 but

did not let that deter her from running this year. "My outlook for the election did not change because over the years I have learned that when you fail, the best thing you can do is try again. This has been a philosophy that I have carried with me over the years," said Vandam.

Curley has been heavily involved in a number of different clubs and organizations, including the Black Student Union, Pulses, Asian Culture Night, CILSA, and *The Collegian*. He has also worked in the Admissions Office and Delphine Intercultural Center.

"There are so many reasons why [I'm running]. I want to take it to the next level, personally, and also for the

see ELECTIONS, p4

Br. Mel Roast supports scholarship fund

SMC community makes fun of Brother Mel for scholarship

by Brian Kuenning
Staff Writer

Harold Fabian, also known as Brother T. Mel Anderson, was the topic of comedy at a special occasion which took place in the Soda Center last Saturday. The event included dinner, an auction, the roast, and a speech from Anderson himself. Proceeds from the event went to the Brother Mel Endowed Scholarship Fund.

For the auction portion, Anderson went for a whopping \$10,000. The person who won the bid got to do whatever he wanted with Anderson for a day, within reason, of course.

Father Patrick LaBelle '61, the first roaster, gave a few anecdotes in honor of Anderson with a tinge of light-hearted humor. He told the story of how, on one occasion, Anderson found about 60 students in the parking lot who had all been drinking. When LaBelle came outside to see what the racket was, he found Anderson negotiating with each individual student what he should do about their lack of judgment.

The second roaster, Tom Brown '92, said Anderson understood that to raise money you just have to get a bunch of Italian guys and name buildings after them. In addition, he quoted a report about Anderson which said, "Brother Mel doesn't have



Brother Mel Anderson and Tyler Chastain '07 celebrate during the Roast last Saturday that raised money for the Brother Mel Endowed Scholarship Fund.

ulcers but he is a carrier." Lastly, he went on to honor Anderson for his "unlimited capacity for goodness" which was especially exemplified when Anderson waived the tuition for a few students who had come to Saint Mary's College from Iran when the government collapsed and they were in need.

Valerie Gomez, the third roaster, said to

Anderson, "I have no doubt you'll go straight to Heaven when you die because you've already been through Purgatory." Purgatory was meant in reference to the many trying committees and trials Anderson had overcome in his many years at Saint Mary's College.

see ROAST, p4

Sally Stamp to step down as Provost

by Melissa Vlach
Staff Writer

Sara "Sally" Stamp has announced her decision to leave the position of Provost at Saint Mary's. She will continue to fill the role until December of this year.

The Provost has roles in academic affairs, student affairs and enrollment. Stamp took the job in 2003.

After becoming Provost, Stamp found the role to be very demanding and time-consuming. At the beginning of 2005, she considered leaving the position. "I had very limited time to pursue personal interests," she said in a message to faculty, staff and students last week.

Additionally, Stamp missed working directly with students as she did when she was a professor of psychology. "I missed teaching and regularly interacting with students and faculty," she said.

As a result of these factors, she spoke with President Brother Ronald Gallagher about leaving the position. Talking with Gallagher, however, changed her mind. "Over that spring and summer [of 2005], I found myself becoming reenergized by

see PROVOST, p5

OPINION

Danny Acosta discusses Terrorists in America

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DETOUR

Do you have junk in your trunk?

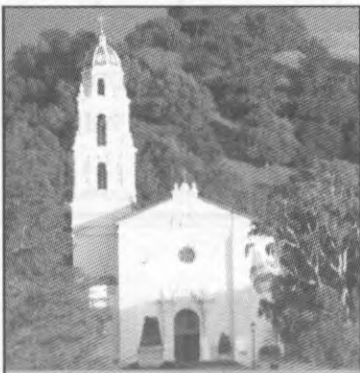
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The Collegian



THE COLLEGIAN

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S.M.C.

SnapShot



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

This year's organizers of Pi Day pose for a moment in front of the chapel where the annual event celebrating 3/14 was held.



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

The participating professors either wait for their turn or sit in their spoils after being pied by students.



ZACK FARMER

Pirate Appreciation Day

Saint Patrick's Day, in my mind, was ruined by a drunk driver who massaced three cars in the Sabatte parking lot. All the parties seemed to die and the attitude was no longer a party mood.

Either that, or everyone partied the night before and were still too hung over to drink on the, what has become a, drinking holiday. Because of this, I am petitioning for a Pirate Appreciation Day.

This day is for all those swash-bucklers and scalawags who did not get an opportunity to live it up on Saint Patty's Day and because pirates deserve a day of their own too, don't they?

The day will be in honor of Jack Sparrow, Blackbeard, Captain Morgan, and Jack Daniels (even though he isn't a pirate). Halloween is an excuse for pirate-esque but there needs to be a day where all you hear is "Yo ho, yo ho, a pirates life for me."

There would have to be activities like sword fighting, walking the plank, and possibly finding the buried treasure. No putting an "X" on the ground; that would be too easy. Make people look for the treasure. Maybe use metal detectors or a basset hound. They're good at finding things.

The treasure could be anything. It could be iPods, magazines, tater tots, or even the random left sock that you lost last week. Believe me, you would be shocked to find it. It can be one enormous party of finding the treasure and possibly starting a mutiny. Who the mutiny is against is up to you. Do not let me stop you.

I know there was "Talk like a Pirate Day" promoted on Facebook, but that isn't enough. You just can't talk like a pirate, you must act like one. I'm not condoning stealing, plundering, or rape but I am supporting a jolly good time.

I would say it should be the day of Gaelstock, but that day is already taken for two reasons. 1. People will already be wasted on Gaelstock day and 2. It's Cinco de Mayo so people will be twice as drunk. So there needs to be a day for it.

I think we have to go with May. First weekend is Gaelstock, second weekend is Mother's Day, the third is finals weekend, so let's go with the fourth weekend.

May 25 should be Pirate Appreciation Day. It is the last day of finals, graduation is the next day, and *Pirates of the Caribbean 3* opens that day as well. With that in mind, get out your pirate shot glasses (the really big one) and bust out the rum, because Pirate Appreciation Day is coming.

Crime Beat

3/10/07 1:36 a.m.

Incident: Informational.
Synopsis: Volleyball court, referred to Student Conduct, noise complaint.

3/10/07 4:00 a.m.

Incident: Disturbance of peace, failure to comply, and lying to a college official.
Synopsis: Guerrieri East, referred to Student Conduct, brandishing a weapon and minor under the influence.

3/11/07 12:00 p.m.

Incident: Hit and run.
Synopsis: Parking lot near North

Claeys, suspended, transfer marks and small dent on the left rear quarter panel.

3/11/07 7:45 p.m.

Incident: Intoxicated visitor.
Synopsis: Justin Quad, referred to Student Conduct, open container of alcohol.

3/11/07 11:48 p.m.

Incident: Activated burglar alarm.
Synopsis: Hearst Art Gallery, referred to Art Gallery, no forced entry or problems to the exterior and interior.

3/13/07 4:00 p.m.

Incident: Missing property.
Synopsis: Brousseau Hall Lobby, suspended, Collegian newsstand.

3/13/07 6:25 p.m.

Incident: Possession of a controlled substance/marijuana.
Synopsis: South Claeys, referred to Student Conduct, possession of drug paraphernalia.

3/15/07 2:00 p.m.

Incident: Hit and run (unoccupied car parked in legal space).
Synopsis: Soda Center, suspended, damage to front right fender and side panel-no injuries.

Beyond the Bubble

NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS BITES

SYDNEY, Australia - Over 50 reptiles were stolen from Steve Irwin's Wildlife Wonderland. Missing animals included a crocodile, two pythons, and three bearded dragons. The animals were discovered missing Sunday morning. The center was opened just days after the death of Steve Irwin as a children's education center.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah - Glenn Eurick has been told he can no longer have his vanity license plate which reads "merlot" by the Utah Tax Commission. An anonymous caller told the state about the alcoholic beverage called Merlot, the state has a law that doesn't allow words associated with an intoxicant to be used.

TACOMA, Washington - A football being thrown at a high school car wash has caused the Tacoma School District to be sued by motorcyclist Ronald Adjunct. The Harley Davidson rider claims the football bounced in front of the motorcycle causing him to crash into the pavement. The lawsuit seeks damages for both physical and mental injuries.

Weekly Featured Profile

Student Organization Spotlight

Project Green

by Casey O'Brien
Staff Writer

Saint Mary's College has become a "greener" campus, due to the vast influence of Project Green. Project Green focuses on making Saint Mary's College a more sustainable campus by influencing students and faculty to be more environmentally friendly.

President Kaitlin Caruso '10 said, "Project Green is an interactive group on campus that raises awareness of how our actions can harm the environment. The framework for our group is comprised of three subgroups: recycling, composting, and emphasizing the use of organic foods on campus." Since March 3, all freshmen have recycling bins in their rooms thanks to Project Green. The group hopes to change the habits of freshman so that they are considerate of their actions throughout their four years here. Members in Project Green "adopt a dorm" in which they monitor the progress of recycling. Possibly by 2008, all dorms on campus will become "green," meaning that there will be recycling bins in every room, suite, or townhouse.

"Changing the ethics of Oliver Hall is a huge focus for Project Green. By collaborating with Sodexo, we are using more organic and nutritious foods," said Kyle Bonderud '09. On April 25, Project Green is hosting an event called "The Eat Locally Challenge!" in which all the food served at lunch will be from local organic farmers.

Raising awareness about how our daily consumption affects our environment is essential to Project Green. Trash Day was an exhibition on February 28, produced by Project Green that showcased the trash produced by Oliver Hall. "As people walked by Dante Quad, they were surprised to see the half-ton of garbage on the lawn. We produce about two tons of garbage a day, garbage which includes stuff that can be composted or recycled. If we composted and recycled everything that could be out of that garbage, it would reduce the amount we throw away by two-thirds," said Caruso. Since Project Green is a relatively new group on campus, the members are still of brainstorming.

"By 2008, Project Green hopes to create organic, permaculture gardens on campus. Organic permaculture gardening is a seemingly-unstructured garden, with a tree sprouting as the center point, and other vegetation surrounding the tree. This creates more fruit in less space and quite a lovely sight as well," said Caruso.

Project Green meets every Tuesday night at 6:30 p.m. in Dante 118.

New Gael logo to be released in July

Outside design firm used to produce new Saint Mary's logo

by Zack Farmer
Managing Editor

Saint Mary's College has near completed the 10-month project of redesigning the Gael logo and the designed one will be introduced to the public the weekend of July 21, which is during Reunion Week.

"It's a new identifying system," said Katie Davis, director of external relations. "It'll be a new mark."

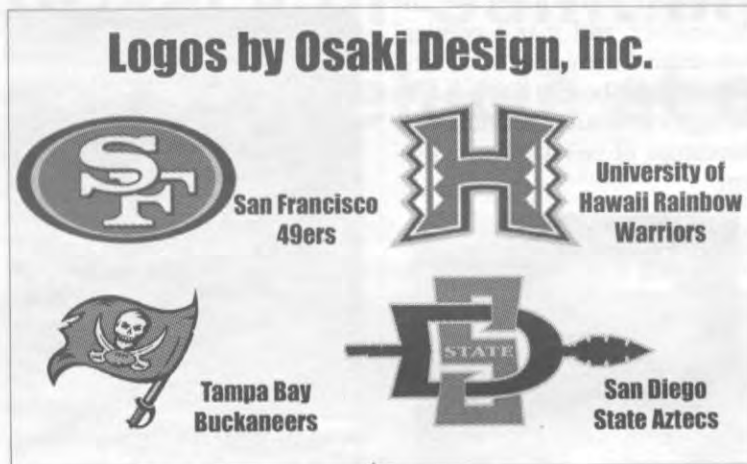
The Design Review Committee, which was comprised of 20 members, chose the final design. Students, faculty, staff, and alumni served on the committee. The head coaches, administrative staff, and the Presidents' cabinet also approved the finished design.

Students seem to be satisfied that the logo is being changed. "I think the logo was plain. The logo should represent what a Gael really is," said Erik Coloma '09. "At least we're not a banana slug."

Osaki Design, Inc., an Oakland based group who has designed the logos for San Diego State University, the San Francisco 49ers, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, and the University of Hawaii, designed the new Saint Mary's logo.

The recurring question to help determine the logo was "What is a Gael?" Osaki Design spend months asking students and faculty what their definition of a Gael is.

"A Gael is a Celtic knight, with-



Osaki Design, Inc. is a design and marketing communication business that has designed logos for the San Francisco 49ers, University of Hawaii, Tampa Bay Buccaneers, and San Diego State. They were also the group that redesigned the Gaels' logo, which will be released in July at Reunion Week.

out the horse," said Mark Gilson '07, a member of the design committee.

"The new logo stands out more than the old logo," Gilson said. "Compared with the other logos in the [West Coast Conference], you can say 'Oh, that's Saint Mary's.'"

The logo is finished but the mascot procedure has not been completed and may not be completed before next year. Gael Force One, the current mascot, will be used until a new one is designed and completed. "We've gone through the process several times and it's really hard to redo the mascot," said Davis, who was also a co-chair of the design committee.

The Athletics Department will

be replacing all the designs around campus with either an "SMC" or a Gael logo. This also includes the hardwood floor in McKeon Pavilion. By the fall, all the NCAA sports teams will have the new logo on their jerseys.

Reunion Week is a new event to bring alumni back to campus and will be the site of the logo release. The event is expecting about 10 graduating classes and 800 alumni to return to Moraga. There will also be invites to the outside community.

The whole process of redesigning the logo took a long time since the designers had to show around 50 total designs to the committee before the final decision was made. "It was a really great committee to be on," Gilson said.

MTV correspondent visits Saint Mary's
SuChin Pak discusses life as a Korean immigrant

by Alex Branch
Staff Writer

SuChin Pak, host of MTV news, visited Saint Mary's College on Tuesday, March 13, to speak to students. The event began with a clip from a documentary series by Pak called "My Life (Translated)." The clip set the tone for her to go on stage and talk about her personal background; life as a Korean immigrant to the United States. After her short autobiography, Pak fielded questions from the audience, and the rest of her presentation was entirely audience driven.

Pak came to the United States from Korea when she was five years old and grew up in the Bay Area. She says she grew up very self-conscious, and speaks of worrying about how she looked. "One thing that really made me feel vulnerable was the shape of my eyes," she said. "I didn't feel pretty anywhere." Pak said she felt pressured to have a particular crease in her eyelid typical of Europeans but not of Asians.

As a teenager, she would use tape and heavy eyeliner to create the illusion of the fold. Now Pak is trying to relieve some of these pressures. "If an Asian kid in Middle America gets a little less crap because a Korean chick is on MTV, then I've done much more

than I set out to."

She first got a taste of television when she was a junior in high school. Far from having hooked her on TV, though, Pak said she



Courtesy of www.netaid.org

SuChin Pak, visited Saint Mary's last week to speak with students about her career in television and answer questions.

"hated it." "It was the worst experience of my life," she said. Despite this, she did more television work in high school and hosted a PBS science show while in college at UC Berkeley. "I never thought TV would be something I could make a living at," she said.

Pak's big break came after college when she was hired to host a two hour daily live talk show on

the Oxygen Channel. "That's when my career really began. It was the first time I did producing and writing and had control over my own work," she said. With some serious experience under her belt, Pak said "it was a cinch to get into MTV."

After sharing her history with the Saint Mary's audience, Pak opened the floor to questions and faced topics as mild as inquiry about her current projects, as fiery as challenges to her ability to be an honest journalist while working for the corporate giant Viacom, and as broad as what she thinks is the most pressing social issue affecting the planet. Pak gave all questions credence and offered answers she said were "100 percent honest."

Speaking about getting youth interested in the news, Pak pointed to MySpace and YouTube, and said, "You can't compete with the stupidity on the Internet." She said the best thing to do is offer the audience a credible alternative, someplace to get real information.

"As the audience gets more fragmented, choices have to be more specialized," Pak said. In response to questions, Pak also spoke about her relations with public relations managers, bias in the news, and her views about New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

Campus Calendar

Asian Culture Night
Tuesday, March 20
5:30 p.m.
Soda Center

Coffeehouse: Rock out with your smock out
Tuesday, March 20
9:00 p.m.
Dryden Hall

Summer Vendor Fair
Wednesday, March 21
Ferroggiaro Quad

Remembrance and Resistance
Wednesday, March 21
12:40 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.
De La Salle, Hagerty Lounge
Contact Bob Mallon x4075

Project Censored
Wednesday, March 21
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Soda Center, Orinda Room
Contact John Ely x4206

Graduate Student Reading Series
Wednesday, March 21
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
De La Salle, Hagerty Lounge
Contact Chris Sindt x4088

Midweek Movie Night
Pursuit of Happiness
Wednesday, March 21
9:00 p.m.
Dryden Hall

Pedal for the Planet
Thursday, March 22
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Dante 120
Contact Bill Sullivan x4322

School of Science
Brousseau Lecture
Friday, March 23
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Le Fevre Theatre

Friday Night Hot Spot:
Make your own pizza
Friday, March 23
9:00 p.m.
Dryden Hall

Women Sing Choral Concert
Sunday, March 25
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Chapel main
Contact Joanne Angerame x4366

Professor of the Year
Lawrence Cory
Tuesday, March 27
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Soda Center, Claeys Room

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.

Fiction author visits campus to read from short stories

by Alex Lavaroni
Staff Writer

Author Lorrie Moore spoke to Saint Mary's students and faculty about a career in writing and read excerpts from her writings last Wednesday, March 14, 2007, in the Soda Center. Moore graduated from Saint Lawrence University and then received a Masters in Fine Arts from Cornell University. Currently, Moore is a professor of English at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

In 1985, Moore's first book, *Self Help*, was published. This book is a collection of stories about love, family, pleasure, pain and desire. She has since published five other books including: *Anagrams* (1986) *The Forgotten Helper* (1987), *Who Will Run the Frog Hospital?* (1994), and *Birds of America* (1998). Through her short stories and novels, Moore explores the love and companionship in the lives of modern men and women. She has become a famous American fiction writer mainly for her humorous and emotional short stories. "You're Ugly Too" was her first short story ever to be published in *The New Yorker*. Other short stories have also been included in *The Best American Short Stories of the Century* edited by John Updike.

As a result of her literary achievements, Moore is the recipient of awards from Lannan Foundation, Foundation Fellowship, Irish Time International Prize for Fiction, National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship, Rockefeller Foundation, Guggenheim Foundation, O. Henry Award and a literature award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Moore began by reading from her short story entitled *Paper Loses*. This short story made an

appearance in *The New Yorker* last November, and it is a comical tale about the struggles of divorce. The passage she read discussed the struggles of divorce, including the hardships of being a single parent.



Courtesy of www.pen-ne.org
Lorrie Moore, an accomplished author, visited campus last week through Saint Mary's Creative Writing Reading Series.

The second excerpt that Moore read was from her story, *The Juniper Tree*. In January 2005, this story also made an appearance in an issue of *The New Yorker*. The story was dedicated to one of her close friends who passed away just two years ago; it deals with friendship and learning to cope with death.

After reading, Moore had a question-and-answer session to discuss her work. When asked where she draws her inspiration from, she said, "It's hard to know where inspiration comes from. Preservation will only prevail with the heart."

Moore also discussed the relationship between writers and musicians. She said, "Every writer should love books and music... After all, the sound and feeling is what writers are trying to get into sentences."

ROAST: Alumni, staff gather to jest Brother Mel to raise funds

continued from page 1

Dan Whitehurst '69, the honorable former mayor of Fresno, had a few things to say about Anderson as well. Former Mayor Whitehurst gave the crowd a story of Anderson when he was involved in redecorating the chapel. He expressed his suspicion towards Anderson when it came to how a certain ugly statue in the chapel area was "accidentally" knocked down by Anderson. It just happened to break into so many pieces that they simply could not get the statue fixed. He ended his roast by saying that he thought Anderson was responsible for the continual improvement of Saint Mary's.

The fifth roaster, Fred Weil, called everyone's attention to Anderson's seemingly unsurpassed loquaciousness. Weil joked that Anderson uses approximately eight to ten words for every one word someone else uses. Then, still in the spirit of roasting, Weil proceeded to say in 26 words what amounted to "Thank

you."

Dan Cawthon '89 and Penny Washbourn '89 were the last roasters. They addressed many things that Anderson had been involved in with Saint Mary's over the years and of note was his time in the *Inherit the Wind* play. They honored him with the prestigious "Break a Leg" award in remembrance of when he had a stage accident and fell.

The ceremony was concluded with remarks from Anderson. He extended gratitude to everyone who had roasted him or otherwise contributed to the event. Then he reviewed many different things which had been said about him, both praises and criticisms, by quoting an evaluation report of him which was done years ago. When asked to comment, Anderson said it was a "very joyous event" and that the comments towards him were "kind and gentle and felicitous." Further, he joked that "a few things weren't accurate of course."

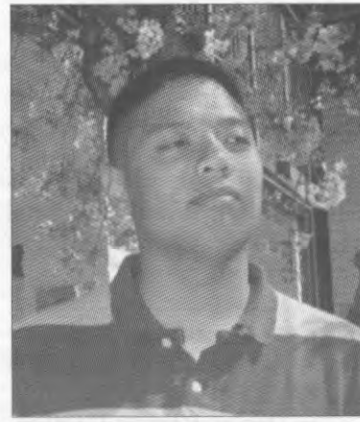
ELECTIONS: ASSMC to vote in new leaders

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Danny Wecks '08

Candidate for VP for Administration



Erik Coloma '09

Candidate for VP for Student Affairs



Merria Iaccino '08

Candidate for VP for Finance

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS



EXECUTIVE TEAM ELECTIONS

school. I can also bring in something that has never been brought to the school before," said Curley. "My opponents have experience in certain areas. I have reached beyond [in other areas]. I'm someone who really puts themselves out there."

McNeill had been the president of the class of 2008 for two years and stepped down to focus on other aspects of the community. "Joining Residence Life has been the focus for me this year. I truly love being an RA [residence advisor] and all the guys in Justin Hall keep life interesting," McNeill said. "I feel I bring the most passion, enthusiasm, and proven experience out of the three candidates."

McNeill also works for Recreational Sports as a coordinator and supervisor, and is the president of the club men's tennis team. "I will improve the quality of student life by continuing to do what I have done for almost three years; listen and be nice to people. If elected, I will have a greater ability to voice opinions of students," said McNeill.

The presidency is the only position with more than one candidate. The vice president for finance, vice president for student affairs, and the vice president for administration have one candi-

date apiece.

The current Vice President for Administration Danny Wecks '08 is running alone as the incumbent. The Asian Pacific American Student Association Vice President for Student Affairs Erik Coloma '09 is running unopposed for ASSMC's vice president for student affairs. Merria Iaccino '08 is the lone candidate for vice president for finance.

All three unopposed candidates are a little disappointed with the lack of competition, however, being unopposed does not guarantee them the win. The candidates must get a majority of the votes cast in order to take the positions. According to the ASSMC Constitution, if enough votes for write-in candidates were cast to take the majority, there would be a run-off between the original candidate and the leading write-in candidate. However, the candidates are eager to start.

"My goals are to strengthen organizations from the inside out to ensure that they are successful," said Coloma. "I want to serve, not only the [Asian Pacific American] community, but all the diversity on campus. Also to have a close connection with every club on campus, promote clubs to hold events, to give the students something to do."

"I enjoyed my experience as a senator, class VP, and school VP for admin. I hope to finish off some of the goals I have set for myself over the past few years and that I can maintain some consistency among the exec team," Wecks said. "I feel it is important to help students gain an understanding of who senators are and how much influence they have over the school."

Iaccino, president of the Spirit Team and vice president of the Accounting Association, wants to build on the Lasallian value of inclusive community. "There are many clubs on campus but I hope to aid in revitalizing them so that next year we will see many fresh faces as active members of these clubs," Iaccino said. "One of Saint Mary's core Lasallian principles is living in an inclusive community, I want to work towards establishing a day on campus for the different cultural clubs to all come together and celebrate what each one has to offer and hopefully learn from each other."

Voting begins tomorrow at 8 a.m. and ends on Thursday at 5 p.m. on www.smcnet.stmarys-ca.edu.

All photos for this article were taken by Annie Douglass, and are property of *The Collegian*.

We Need Your Feedback!

National College Health Survey (NCHA)

Share your observations and concerns about the health of your campus

It's confidential!

Check your SMC e-mail for this invitation link:
[SMC Students-NCHA Survey](#)

Last day to complete the survey is:
Friday March 30th

Win an iPod shuffle!

You will be entered into a drawing to win 1 of 5 iPod shuffles
Don't miss this chance to voice your opinion

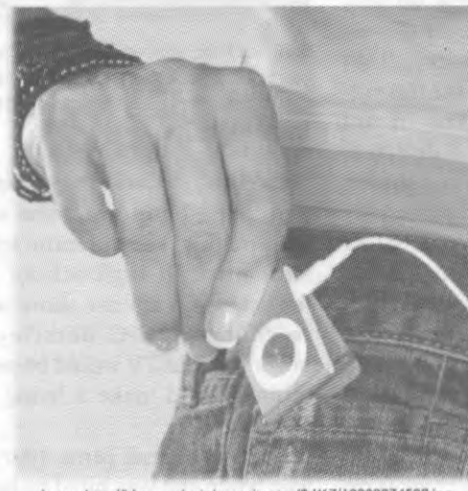


Image: http://blog.ameba.jp/user_images/0d/67/10009874598.jpg

The Collegian
FEATURE

Is Saint Mary's prepared for an earthquake? A big one?

Dispelling the myths about Saint Mary's campus

by **Stephanie Wang**
 Assistant News Editor

Rumor has it that Saint Mary's is built on a swamp.

Rumor has it that we are on unstable ground so that we aren't allowed to build any underground or multilevel parking lots.

Rumor has it that Saint Mary's is not earthquake proof. The library is merely supported by wires.

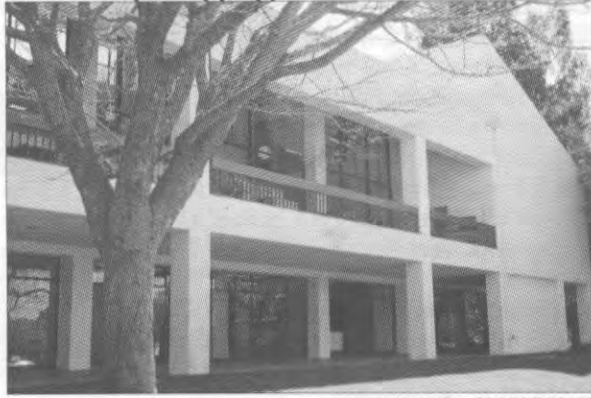
Rumor has it that Saint Mary's is built on a fault line.

Surely, there are other rumors floating around campus about the safety of Saint Mary's. How many are formulated from substantial evidence?

So...is Saint Mary's built on a swamp?

"The main campus 'footprint' lies on an antediluvian silt deposit as runoff from its surrounding hills. That's why our buildings, at least new construction, have many piers supporting their foundations," said Ron Olowin, the chair of physics and astronomy and member of the on-campus building committee. For example, Brousseau Hall has piers under its foundation; the largest one is 100 feet tall. "The swamp," said Olowin, "may be related to the residue of Lake LaSalle."

As for rumor number two, an underground or multilevel parking lot is actually allowed. There is a design for a multilevel park-



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

ing lot in the campus master plan. However, due to limited building space, location is a big issue. Though Saint Mary's owns the hills surrounding the main campus, nothing can be built there because it is "unconsolidated bedrock." There are also city ordinances to comply with. Saint Mary's technically is not allowed to build on a hillside. The observatory by the cross was an exception because it is for educational purposes and there are no human inhabitants.

Along with cost efficiency and location, need-assessment is another factor to consider. Currently, the education department needs offices for professors. There is a greater need for an educational building than a parking lot.

Rumor number three: is the library safe? There are probably wires somewhere in or around the building, but after suffering a great deal of damage in the Loma

Prieta earthquake of 1989, many renovations were made. As opposed to mere posts on the periphery for support, the library is supported by sheets of concrete. After Loma Prieta, the library actually twisted on its foundation and looked something like a mushroom.

Though older buildings aren't required to have a foundation renovation, they are all up to date, according to Olowin. All the new buildings "are up to the highest code," he said.

In case of an emergency, you should look behind your door. Why? There should be an emergency procedures packet tacked onto the door that tells you what to do in case of an "you guessed it" emergency. One of the emergencies addressed in the packet is earthquakes.

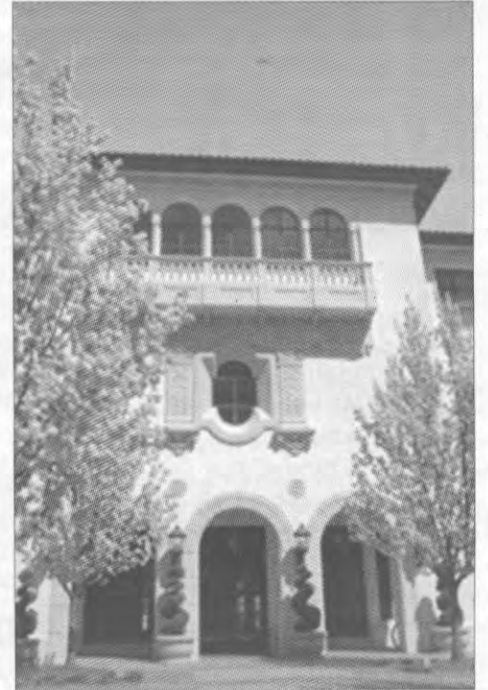
All staff and faculty received the same emergency procedures packet in August of 2005. Staff,

faculty, and resident advisors are also trained for emergencies. Resident advisors are given training at the beginning of the fall semester covering topics including earthquake and fire safety. The Safety, Emergency Preparedness and Environmental Compliance Seminar is held in April and October of each year for staff and faculty members. Each member is required to go to at least one of these hour and a half seminars during their career.

Karen Lauricella, the Health and Safety Manager on campus, said that Brousseau Hall is probably best place to be during an emergency.

Brousseau has an emergency generator that runs off of diesel fuel. A large diesel tank and drinking water is stored underground. Should there be an emergency, there will still be power and water in Brousseau, though Brousseau is not the only place with a water source on campus.

The emergency plan for the entire school is currently being rewritten. Lauricella was unable to disclose any definite information about the new plan, only that the first draft will be done by



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

summer. The current plan is outdated, and according to Lauricella, it's a good idea to rewrite or update the plan every so often.

To address the fourth rumor, the answer is yes. Saint Mary's is in the zone of the Hayward Fault and the Concord fault, but Saint Mary's lies on a fault that runs perpendicular to the Hayward and Concord faults. This is the fault that erupted several weeks ago, resulting in a 4.3 earthquake on the Richter scale. This fault is unnamed and not much is known about it.

PROVOST: Stamp to step down

continued from page 1

Gallagher's ideas for Saint Mary's and my role in helping to see them implemented," she said.

Over that time, she and Gallagher made a number of plans regarding changes for the school. "In fall 2005, we agreed that I would remain as provost, focusing on three particular initiatives: conducting a rigorous review of our traditional undergraduate core curriculum; determining how to enhance and better support our graduate programs; and continuing to reshape and reform student conduct policies," she said.

Stamp thus continued in her role as provost. Yet she still missed free time as well as time with students. "Alas, due to time demands, I was far too often unable to enjoy my San Francisco Giants season tickets," she gave as an example of her dissatisfaction. In addition, she wanted time to conduct her own research.

After considering these factors, she decided that the time had come for her to leave the position of provost. "I realized I was ready to relinquish the administrative challenges that demand a provost's time and attention," she said. Several months ago she again approached Gallagher about leaving the position. "We agreed that I would serve as provost through this December, be on sabbatical through August 2008, and then return to faculty service," she said.

Stamp is very pleased to have some time off from work. "A sabbatical is a precious benefit, and I'm grateful to Saint Mary's for the opportunity to be physically refreshed and intellectually and emotionally recharged," she said. During this time she plans to travel extensively and spend time on various hobbies.

After this time off, Stamp hopes to return to Saint Mary's as a professor. "I'm looking forward to discovering if I can still teach," she said. She hopes to implement some changes in the psychology curriculum as well. "I hope to develop a curriculum for an undergraduate course in forensic psychology, my ongoing academic research focus," she said.

Now that Stamp has decided to vacate the role, a successor must be found. Stamp said that the school will work with a "competent external partner" in order to find a replacement by January 2008.

Before coming to Saint Mary's, Stamp attended University of California, Berkeley. She earned a B.A. in psychology and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in educational psychology. She came to Saint Mary's in 1974 and taught psychology. From 1983 to 1990 she served as chair of the Department of Psychology at Saint Mary's. She became vice president for academic affairs in 2000. She is the first provost at Saint Mary's.

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The Collegian

OPINION

Letters to the Editor



SCOTT CULLINANE

Al Gore is wrong again

The left's golden boy, Al Gore, has been riding high ever since his "documentary," won an Oscar. Since then, two major events have occurred that should take him down a peg.

Liberals have taken Gore's movie as a message from above, shining a light of salvation for the world to follow. *An Inconvenient Truth* supposedly shows how humans are causing global warming, that it will be disastrous to our world, and that we must act drastically now. However, his "documentary" might be more of a "fakumentary" and that Gore himself is a hypocrite and not following his own advice.

Just last week, the left leaning *New York Times* newspaper published an article questioning "whether Mr. Gore has gone beyond the scientific evidence" in the claims his movie makes.

The article quotes even ardent Gore supporters as conceding that there are "technical flaws" the case presented in the movie. Skeptical scientists go further and attack *An Inconvenient Truth* as "scaremongering."

The *New York Times* article directly quotes scientists from Europe and Australia as saying that Gore is overplaying some aspects of global warming. If even the liberal *New York Times* is questioning Gore and willing to print that "part of [the] scientific audience is uneasy" with *An Inconvenient Truth* one cannot help but question the credibility of Al Gore.

Gore's standing on global warming is again tarnished by a report that reads in part that his house in Tennessee "consumes more electricity every month than the average American household uses in an entire year." Gore has lectured America on how we all must act by changing out lifestyle to avoid global warming, yet this shows that he himself is unwilling to act. Furthermore, Gores massive electricity usage at his home in Tennessee is only one of several houses he owns.

After the story broke about Gores hypocrisy, Ann Coulter said, "I kind of respect him more, it shows he is not stupid enough to believe all this global warming nonsense he's trying to get us to believe."

America has ample reason to scrutinize Al Gore, his movie, and what he is advocating. Just because something is in a movie and a fad to talk about in Hollywood does not make it right.

Americans need to educate themselves not only about global warming and its possible consequences, but also about the consequences of what happens if we do what Al Gore advocates; even if he is not willing to do it.

I believe that Brian Kuenning's article on free speech here at SMC is astonishingly true. Political correctness has hidden our true motives and actually promotes a sort of dishonesty amongst us. Political correctness blocks free speech, which is a fundamental right to any democracy. While we all strive not to offend everyone (and I'm not saying we should offend everyone), we should be honest even though it offends people, because even if we tried to be politically correct, we would still offend someone. Take in case the recent controversy surrounding Geoffrey Meadows. Although some of you may deem it offensive, he does have the freedom to say it, and it does have some truth to it. You really can't avoid offending anyone with what you say, since we all have differing points of view that have a very high chance of conflicting with another's point of view. In order to remove this disastrous "political correctness" policy, we need to toughen up and not be so hypersensitive to what someone else says because they said something we didn't like. I believe that we live in an age of half-truths, views that were filtered by the ridiculous policy of "political correctness", which gets in the way of the advancement of human knowledge.

Sincerely,
Jose Alvarez '10

Don't turn it in: SMC students should not be subjected to this

Why do colleges mistrust their students so much?

The issue with TurnItIn.com, which we will call TII, is mostly about trust. The leading arguments for it might focus on protecting a student's work, or making the school safer against "intellectual crime," but they are not enough. Whatever the purpose of TII costs outweigh its benefits and abandons Catholic principles.

Protecting the work a student produces, is well intended, but naive. In order to deal with plagiarism, the College should not play an overbearing role and disbelieve the students.

TII has not thought about the law of probability. As TII adds thousands of essay, papers, and thesis to its archives, the probability of an act accidental act of plagiarism rises. It only takes four



JAIME ZEPEDA

words in the correct arrangement to raise the possibility of using someone else's four words, without even knowing it. A red flag would cometh. How many different papers can someone write about Marx's *Communist Manifesto* or The Gospel of Mark? An accident is more likely than one might think.

The distrust the College has toward its own students by aligning with the service goes against some of the core Catholic, and Lasallian, principles it lives by. As a Catholic college, shouldn't Saint Mary's believe in an inher-

Thanks to Scodd [sic] Cullinane for his eloquent testimonial to the power of Steven Colbert [sic]. Colbert combines the arrogant sliminess of a True Liberal (that cocky grin), the slimy arrogance of a True Conservative (like Rush Limbaugh's "Talent on loan from God"), and the rapier wit of a True Comic ("Truthiness"). He can degenerate into facts while wallowing in truth while making fun of pundits and himself at the same time. We can laugh AT him and WITH him at the same time. Cullinane's editorial is perhaps—no, certainly!—the best tribute to Colbert's genius I've ever seen. And look! Their initials are both S. C.! Genius!

Carl Thelen, Information Architect, CaTs



Illustration by Karen Juan/COLLEGIAN

ently human nature? As a Lasallian college, Saint Mary's should focus on promoting service, rather than finding ways to nail one of their own. A community constituted by fear and suspicion does not a community make.

Colleges going the TII way are missing the point. Plagiarism hurts no one more than the student who practices it, not the college or the plagiarized student. Those who plagiarize are setting themselves up for a rude awakening when they exit college and enter a world with no "Honor

Code." This sort of hand-holding is not justified in an educational institution that assumes its residents to be mature adults. In order to act like adults, one should be treated like one, as well.

TII has a noble intention. But the ends does not justify the means. It is essentially an ever-expanding archive that with each entry raises the probability of an unfortunate, uncalled-for accusation. It bets on our worst inclinations. TII is not Catholic, and not smart. Maybe we should check the sources of Saint Mary's College mission statement.

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The Collegian
OPINION

Technological corruption of the human spirit in our times
Where is the value in our society? Where is the value on the self?

Do you all remember in the movie *Back to the Future* where 1955 Doc Brown gets a glimpse into the future via Marty's camcorder?

He finds it fascinating and makes the peculiar remark "No wonder your president [Ronald Reagan] has to be an actor; he's gotta look good on TV." This is incredibly insightful insofar that I think technology has replaced for many of us our own analytical capability to judge character and see past the white smile and kissing of babies.

Nowadays, there is a litmus test that a president must be "viewable" and therefore must be great in front of large audiences and make good speeches and be charismatic.

Look out our past presidents: Reagan, Bush I, Clinton, and even George W. Bush.

With such pressure on the candidates to perform perfectly at all events in the public eye, one must wonder whether other great presidents could have survived. Lincoln was a horrible orator and had a high-pitched voice. Could some-



NATHAN GARCIA

body of his brilliance and leadership get elected in today's world? Never. With such emphasis on TV and viewing the candidates superficially at various functions it is no wonder why we haven't seen better presidents.

I turn on the TV and see nothing but stupid reality shows and comedies where the more vulgar and sexually-euphemistic it sounds the better. Is this what we're doing in our spare time? It has been theorized that leisure is the basis of society because it is with leisure time given that people can most be creative and paint pictures, compose symphonies, write books and thereby contribute to the society and give it definition and vitality.

But because of our abuse of technology on a daily basis like the iPod, reality T.V., and just bad

substantively-lacking music we've degraded ourselves into becoming a society that is being defined by media and what is popular.

I'd like to see less human dependence on technology and more human spirit in creativity and brilliance.

I can scarcely imagine what it might have been like to live at Saint Mary's fifty years ago. AIM, cell phones, text messages, and e-mails didn't exist. And so it must have been that a dormitory with students in an academic environment would have talked closely and personally to one another. Face-to-face and genuine discussion must have been prevalent.

But now we heavily rely on these modern advancements that put a barrier between ourselves and create a very impersonal method of communication. I think this largely and inherently breaks down the substance of the conversation.

When was the last time you had an in-depth, truly meaningful conversation via e-mail or AIM or text messaging? Even though

we can keep in touch with friends and family from far away rarely do we use this technology for good reasons. We abuse it.

Ultimately, I miss the days I'd have to walk down the street to go visit a friend because his parents were using the Internet. But now many of us would be utterly lost and panicked if we lost our cell phones or the internet didn't work.

We're too dependent on technology, and abuse it as such, that essentially we are dehumanizing ourselves.

By that I mean what is intrinsically creative and beautiful within us is being replaced by our absorption of trash media, our dependence on impersonal communication devices. Spending our time doing these things unwisely that we have defined our generation as reality shows and YouTube.

Communication and creativity come to a person when he or she decides to tap into the power inside them that has the capacity to intellectualize, imagine, create, and act boldly. But this is being forgotten more and more.



DARWYN DEYO

Global warming a clever disguise

Just about everybody agrees that the world is getting warmer. The controversy comes with the responses to it.

Scientists have teamed up with politicians and actors to persuade Americans that global warming is dangerous and should be counteracted by controlling the greenhouse gases that the world emits. To this effect the Kyoto Protocol went into force in 2005. To this effect, states such as California have begun legislation to regulate the amount of industrial carbon emissions.

But who benefits?

The Kyoto Protocol first benefits those places which can most easily transition away from industries which emit greenhouse gases. Those countries would be America, Europe, Canada. The losers would be those developing countries which, until they actually can transition away from polluting industries, will be reliant on developed countries for funding and outsourcing. While we fret about the pollution over Los Angeles, developing countries at least see their pollution as a sign that, in years to come, they will be more economically independent.

If states sign legislation controlling carbon emissions, this will probably cause some industries to invest in environmental technology. The tax revenues it will generate, in addition, would fund the development of new energy sources. However, this is merely a redistribution of wealth and those receiving funding for new projects would already have capital, making them eligible.

Energy is an expensive business, so while ripping off carbon-based industries, we fund solar, wind, and water. Who would own the beach-front housing that would be at risk with rising water levels anyway? The working class guy—or the tax-revenue benefited guy?

Before the costs and benefits have been redistributed, we should examine legislation is necessary. Industries have sprung up without the tax-funded aid and there is money to be made in them. Even worse for global-warming-is-bad is evidence that it is not only natural, but...good. The most recent incident of global warming was in Europe from 800 to 1300, with a mini-Ice Age from 1300 to 1850. Strange that that first period corresponds with cultural and political growth, while the early part of the second period is characterized by pestilence and feudalism.

If the natural state of the earth is, in fact, a colder climate, global warming would be the first line of defense. This, however, doesn't receive attention because it doesn't redistribute wealth.

America's war on terror: An exercise in political rhetoric
Luis Posada Carriles is living proof of American double standard in vacuous war

As political rhetoric attempts to oversimplify terrorism, America finds itself in a complex situation.

The "tough on terrorism" philosophy that post-9/11 America covets is being discreetly gutted by those who introduced it—the government. The man that challenges America's terrorist stance is not one of the familiar faces of Al-Qaeda; he is a virtual unknown to the general American public.

Luis Posada Carriles is an international terrorist. He is a known drug dealer, a large-scale cocaine smuggler. Posada has attempted to assassinate foreign leaders on many separate occasions. Posada has been linked to Operation Condor and is believed to be responsible for the car-bombing assassination of Chilean diplomat Orlando Letelier and his assistant Ronni Moffit. America is not actively pursuing his capture because he is a Cuban exile.

His criminal and terrorist ways span four decades. Posada gained fame in 1976 when he bombed a Cuban plane killing all 73 passengers on board. He bragged of this act to many press outlets across the globe.

Posada was trained under the



DANNY ACOSTA

CIA beginning in 1963 until 1974, at which point he resigned from the CIA. The CIA, however, remained in contact with Posada until 1976 when it suddenly severed communication. In 1998, he admitted to be planning more Cuban attacks. He said he had \$200,000 in U.S. government funding. The U.S. had prior knowledge of the 1976 bombings, but chose to ignore informing the Cuban government. This failure to stop terrorism, albeit pre-9/11, is indicative of the political pollution that prevents the foiling of terrorism. Furthermore, the funding and training provided by the government has sprouted terrorism. Posada's anti-Castro ways are convenient for the feuding governments. Thus, America never informed Cuba and 73 lost lives was the outcome.

Posada, who participated in the failed Bay of Pigs, has been in the U.S. for over two years now. The government refuses Venezuela

and Cuba's call for extradition on the grounds of "possible torture." This blatantly manifests a terrorist double standard. As Bush famously stated in 2001, nations harboring terrorists "will be held accountable for inactivity." Venezuela and Cuba have been threats to fighting the war on terrorism, according to the current administration; however, America is harboring a terrorist itself. Terrorism, as communicated by the Bush administration, is unacceptable in any form. Thus, it should adhere to its own standards. The U.S. can fight the war on terror first and foremost by ceasing aid to terrorists. The grudges involved in not turning over Posada are historically damaging. Cuba offered over 1,500 doctors in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. The U.S. declined.

It is both hypocritical and tragic

that the lives of Letelier, Moffit, and 73 passengers will not be done justice because government hypocritically harbors a terrorist for political reasons. He is currently being tried in the U.S. on charges of unlawfully applying for citizenship. Needless to say, this is a lesser charge than terrorism.

The erosion of democracy, unfortunately, is taking place on American soil just as much as it supposedly is taking place in every corner of the world. The post-9/11 "tough on terrorism" world that ushered in the PATRIOT Act, the National Security Agency, and other limitations on liberty is hypocritical. It is sadly indicative of what Benjamin Franklin commented on when he helped establish this country: "those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

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DETOUR

Neon Bible: A truly religious experience

by Taylor Warner
Staff Writer

In the beginning was the word, and the word was the *Neon Bible*: a darkly fantastic album full of bombastic instrumentals and intelligent energy. Hailed as the band that put Canadian music on the map, the Montréal sextet Arcade Fire has produced another sinister yet energetic album.

Funeral, the group's revolutionary first debut full-length album, released in 2004, quickly garnered positive acclaim. So, when frontman Win Butler announced in June 2006 that the band had a new album in the works, it was as if the clan, like most promising newcomers, had set themselves up for a sophomore failure.

Three years after *Funeral*, Arcade Fire has ascended heavenward, combining the quirky compilation of *Funeral* with gothic undercurrents and an advanced melancholy melody into *Neon Bible*. The group has polished its unique sound using a wide variety of new instruments (pipe organ anyone?), which lend to its blatant evangelical suggestion. Butler and his wife Regina lead Arcade Fire crew in creating a concisely layered, urgent melody that could only be accomplished by an army of musicians like Arcade Fire.

Neon Bible is very much a concept album—a political lullaby, an Orwellian ode. The album's



Courtesy of
thelplummetonions.wordpress.com

first track, "Black Mirror," launches the whole album's thematic menacing: "Mirror Mirror on the wall/show me where the bombs will fall." Songs like "Keep the Car Running" and "No Cars Go" (a new rendition of the song from their self-titled EP) remind listeners of the jovial Arcade Fire of albums past. *Neon Bible* climaxes with the "(Antichrist Television Blues)," a tale of a minimum-wage worker speaking to God and realizing his blasphemy. Finally, *Neon Bible* slowly draws back to a mournful ending with "My Body Is a Cage."

Neon Bible shows that Arcade Fire has continued pushing the indie rock envelope. The same chemistry that ushered in *Funeral* is present in *Neon Bible*, but the group has obviously matured. *Neon Bible* has the capacity to aid in self-loathing or act as an accompaniment to a beautiful Saturday morning. This transportability is a characteristic that Arcade Fire's music has possessed from the start.

Rarities and hilarities

Five underrated films you would do well to see

by Danny Acosta
Opinion Editor

The King of Comedy (1983)—Martin Scorsese's most underappreciated work is a biting satire on celebrity and fandom. Small-time, never-was comedian Rupert Pupkin (Robert DeNiro) hatches a plan to be the featured comedian on Jerry Langford's (Jerry Lewis) national show. Despite getting in Langford's good graces, Pupkin delusions are overpowering. A new plan ensues when Pupkin pairs with Masha (Sandra Bernhard) to force their way into Jerry's life. Much like *Taxi Driver*, the film showcases DeNiro's grasp on nonexistent realities and Scorsese's talent for social commentary. The story is unique and chilling; the drama builds to a memorable climax. Don't expect laughs, just Scorsese's wizardry.

Loaded Weapon 1 (1993)—This Lethal Weapon spoof pairs Sgt. Jack Colt (Emilio Estevez) and Sgt. Wes Luger (Samuel L. Jackson) as the dysfunctional duo of cops as they look to take down a crime syndicate that transports cocaine through Girl Scout Cookies. "No wonder I couldn't eat just one," says Luger. Model Kathy Ireland provides the eye candy next to Colt's moon-lit butt stroll.

The array of physical gags and idiotic word play resembles the *Naked Gun* trilogy. Jon Lovitz delivers great lines in his role as an informant. *Loaded Weapon 1* proves stupid jokes that know they are stupid are really funny.

The Fan (1996)—Director Tony Scott (*Top Gun*, *True Romance*) knows fast-paced action, but his baseball-based thriller is plodding and psychological. The movie follows Gil Renard (Rob-

psychosis with delightfully disturbing results.

Manic (2001)—*One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* meets *Better Luck Tomorrow* in this hand-held, digital film. The film explores Lyle Jensen's (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) teenage angst, better known as manic depression or bipolar disorder, as he struggles with other troubled adolescents in a mental institution that resembles a gloomy Boys and Girls Club. Don Cheadle plays the authority figure and fleshes out the characters. Joseph Gordon-Levitt is no Jack Nicholson, but this role placed him on the path from child star and awkward *Third Rock from the Sun* teen to the serious actor that stuns in *Mysterious Skin* and *Brick*.

Grandma's Boy (2006)—The usual Adam Sandler disciples step into major roles in this stoner/video gamer comedy. Alex (Allen Covert) tests video games for a living and is forced to stay with his grandmother. All the while, he must juggle intense pot smoking, the development of his own video game, and a lie that he is in a sex stupor. Add in the comedic chops of Nick Swardson and *Grandma's Boy* is non-stop laughs. A line like "Whoa, chill bro... You know you can't raise your voice like that when the lion's here," ensure the movie has potential to be a cult classic.

“
The King of Comedy showcases Robert DeNiro's grasp on nonexistent realities and Martin Scorsese's talent for social commentary.
”

ert DeNiro), a has-been San Francisco Giants fan that becomes obsessed with Barry Bonds...er, I mean Bobby Rayburn (Wesley Snipes). Renard is divorced and a knife salesman that becomes increasingly lonely. In a supporting role, Benicio Del Toro prevents the nearly two-hour film from turning stale as if Robert DeNiro playing with knives can be boring. While the film has been relegated to \$5.99 bins at Wal-Mart, Scott pushes for DeNiro's classic

What is left of Saint Patrick's Day?

Misconceptions of popular holiday have tarnished its sacredness

by Casey O'Brien
Staff Writer

The meaning of St. Patrick's Day has undergone an ambiguous change since it was first celebrated in Ireland. Historically, St. Patrick's Day was celebrated as a holiday for St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland.

As the Irish migrated to America in the 1700s, their culture flourished and their customs were another ingredient in America's "melting pot." Along with dance, food, drink, and other aspects of Irish culture, St. Patrick's Day became a national holiday in America. Although the meaning of St. Patrick's Day can be identified by most Irish people, in contemporary society, it's held as a great day to get terribly drunk.

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March 17th because it is believed that this was the day of St. Patrick's death. St. Patrick is most commonly known for driving snakes out of Ireland, which probably never happened. Rather, the "snakes" that were driven out of Ireland are probably metaphorical for driving Pagan worship out of the country and spreading Christianity. There are too many misconceptions about St. Patrick's Day that distort its true meaning. For example, the belief that the color green is a true theme of St. Patrick's Day is upheld contemporaneously, but

originally the color blue was associated with the holiday. Another misconception is that the three-leaf clover is a symbol of good luck; however, St. Patrick originally used the clover as an analogy to explain the Holy Trinity.

Kelly Scuder '09 said of the holiday, "St. Patty's Day was amazing this year. I chose to be the designated driver and watch my friends get hammered all day. People start drinking so early it's [an] all day event."

Drinking alcohol by the fifth or the keg is usually what defines St.

Patrick's Day in America, but apparently more specifically at Saint Mary's College.

As the common expression goes, "Everyone is Irish on Saint Patrick's Day!" But does being Irish mean drinking "Irish Car Bombs" in the morning or slamming Irish whiskey shots at night? Perhaps, but hopefully not. In Ireland, most people attend mass and have a celebratory feast. St. Patrick's Day is regarded as more of a religious holiday, not as a time to get piss-drunk and pass out before sundown. Not that I don't also indulge in this guilty pleasure.

March 20 CD Releases:

Modest Mouse ~
We Were Dead
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Even Sank

Musiq Soulchild ~
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LCD Soundsystem
~ Sound of Silver

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100 Word Review

Meatballs are
good

by Mark Freeman
Staff Writer

I didn't always like meatballs. For years, my spaghetti was a lonely pile of noodles—no tender, juicy chunks of meat enriched my pasta. But I've realized that meatballs have added a new dimension of flavor to my palette. What would I do without meatballs in my pasta, or mankind's supreme innovation, the meatball sandwich? The other day, my mom told me that she removed some meatballs from a meal because she thought there were too many. I thought this was crazy. Removing meatballs? I say, bring them on—even if I have no idea exactly what's inside a meatball.

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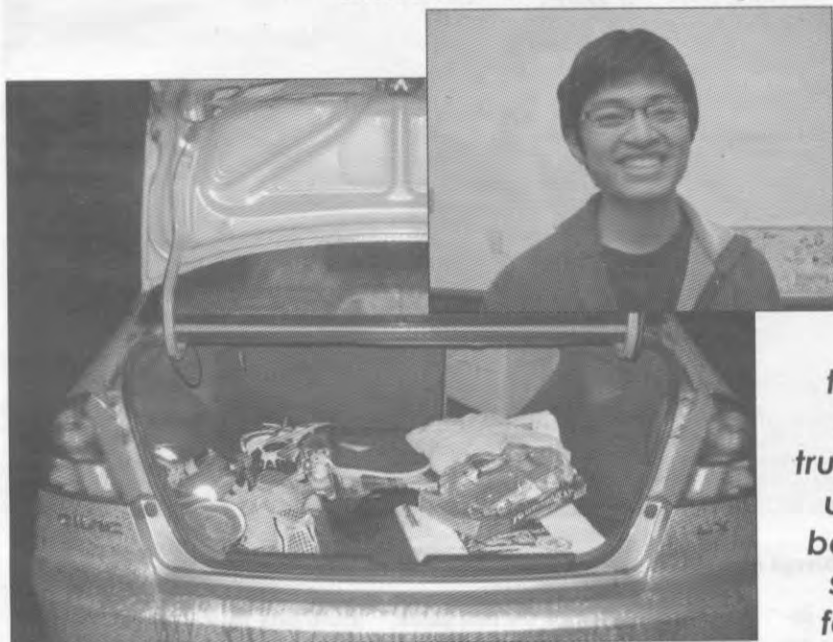
The Collegian
DETOUR

Junk in the trunk

Invading the privacy of Saint Mary's students, one messy vehicle at a time

by Irene Nino
Staff Writer

It's no secret, checking out someone's trunk is fun. I mean, with their permission of course. Not only is inspecting someone's trunk amusing; it also reveals a lot about the person's personality.



Jonathan Reyes '07 exposes the junk in his rather voluminous trunk. It comfortably fits a fairly large cardboard box, a heap of sweet shoes, an art notepad, a snow glove, and an empty bottled water container. Reyes might seem like a simple Kinesiology major, but after looking through his stuff, I realized he has a passion for not only shoes, art, and snowboarding, but also hydration.

I'm always interested in discovering more about students at my school, and what better way to figure them out than by examining their trunks? As I set out to uncover what lies beneath and below students' studious faces, I found that they've got a lot of junk in their trunks.

All photographs by
Irene Nino/COLLEGIAN



Nicole Abadir '10 was somewhat self-conscious about *her* trunk. I would be, too, if my rear end was bursting. Although Abadir worries she has too much junk in her trunk, the excess might come in handy. From a badminton set in a grey container to curlers in a gold box; from bags upon bags of clothes to her sister's car seat, I completely understand how she utilizes her equipment.

Gas, break, dip, huh?

Hyphy trend leaves this white guy confused

by Adrian Garro
Staff Writer

I was almost a victim of the Hyphy Movement. Last weekend, I narrowly avoided death as a car driven by four white dudes swerved around a parking lot, while they yelled, "BAY AREA!" with Vallejo's (or "Valley Joe's") very own E-40 blasting out of the speakers. This got me thinking, what exactly is going on that this has now developed into its own subculture of Northern Californian silliness?

There is a video circulating online called "Ghost Ride the Volvo," which I'm sure many people have seen. In it, two white kids decide to "ghost ride" their Volvo in effort to keep the Oakland A's from moving to Fremont. This video has ended up on Wild 94.9's website, indicating its popularity among Hyphyists everywhere. What exactly is "ghost riding?" Well, it seems to involve getting out of your car while it coasts at around 10 mph, and dancing around the front of the car, or depending on your level of boldness (or idiocy), dancing on the hood. This technique can be seen in Mistah F.A.B.'s "Ghost Ride It" video, in which a bunch of dudes dance around, on and in a short bus while cruising the streets of Oakland. I have also seen many copycat videos of people attempting to ghost ride who really have no business try-

" I fail to understand the point or appeal. "

ing. One such video featured a truck going about 30 mph and crashing into a light post. After viewing these strange videos, I fail to really understand the point or the appeal. In Mistah F.A.B.'s video, he says something to the effect of "hyphy" being the West Coast's version of "crunk," which reigns supreme in the "Dirty

South," with Kings of Crunk such as Lil Jon himself the most visible participant in that movement. "Ghost riding" and its associated activities seem to be pretty dangerous and pointless, as far as I am concerned. This is not a knock on the culture that eats this all up, but from an outsider's perspective, it all seems rather odd and, well, devoid of any rational purpose. People are entitled to whatever they like, but as for me, the Hyphy Movement seems rather silly and strange, as a white dude on the outside looking in.

Brousseau Lecture Series
Dr. Joan Roughgarden
Department of Biological Science
Stanford University

"Evolution's Rainbow: Alternative Evolutionary Systems of Sex, Gender and Sexuality"

March 23, Friday, 4 pm
Le Fevre Theatre
Saint Mary's College of California

- abstract -

The evolution of sex roles in biology is presently explained by a theory called "sexual selection" that originates with Darwin's writings. This theory now faces abundant contrary facts and internal flaws of logic. An alternative theory called "social selection" will be sketched.

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The Collegian
SPORTS

**Players
of the Week**

Mike McRae



Courtesy of www.smcgaels.com

Mike McRae '08 won first place at the USF Triumph last week with a final round score of 69 (-2), which helped capture the team title as well.

Randy Wells



Stefanie Ordoveza/COLLEGIAN

Against Southern Utah, Randy Wells '10 had seven hits and knocked in five, including the game-winning run on Sunday.

Gael softball cages Bears

32 hits recorded in two-game win

by Zack Farmer
Managing Editor

The Gaels had another successful weekend, going 3-2 over the weekend, including wins against Georgia Southern and Northern Colorado.

Saint Mary's started their week last Tuesday against Eastern Illinois and dropped the game 3-1. The Gaels out hit the Panthers six to five but could not push enough runs across the plate.

Sophomore Marlena Green took the loss as she pitched two innings and allowed two runs in the second inning. Senior Kate Albaugh pitched the rest of the way, allowing one run in five innings.

Junior Bronwyn Russell led the Gaels going 2-3 with an RBI in the game.

In the game against Georgia Southern last Wednesday, junior Megan Galloway went the distance, allowing one run in a 7-1 win.

The offense was led by junior Molly Bergeson as she went 2-3 with two RBIs. Freshman catcher Jenna Smith chipped in going 2-2 with an RBI.

Saint Mary's went for two three run rallies in the second and again in the fifth inning.

Senior Chelsea Loftis was lit up



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

Junior first baseman Sandra Ruezga recorded two of the Gaels' 32 hits against the Northern Colorado Bears.

for seven runs in the first two innings in a 10-3 loss to Purdue on Thursday. Bergeson was also tagged for six runs, three earned, in three innings. She also had three hits in the game.

The only offense was a three-run double in the fifth inning by sophomore pinch hitter Sadie Dolcini.

The last two games of the weekend was a double-header against the Northern Colorado Bears.

Saint Mary's took the first game 8-1 on the power of 16 hits. Russell, Smith, and Bergeson all had three hits in the win.

Senior Lauren Gardner pitched a complete game allowing one unearned run.

The Gaels led 2-1 going into the fifth inning and put the game away with back-to-back three run innings.

In their final game of the weekend, the Gaels punched out 16

more hits in a 9-2 win, solidifying their two-game sweep over the Bears.

The Gaels jumped out to a 6-0 lead by the third inning and Galloway put the game away pitching seven innings, allowing two runs while striking out five.

After the weekend, Saint Mary's is now 13-14 overall and they will return to action on Thursday when they play University of Pacific.

Sports Calendar

Tuesday, March 20
Baseball
@ Nevada
2 p.m.

Men's Tennis
vs. Northern Colorado
3 p.m.

Men's Golf
@ Western Intercollegiate
Santa Cruz, CA
All Day

Wednesday, March 21
Women's Tennis
vs. Northern Texas
3 p.m.

Thursday, March 22
Softball
vs. Pacific
Cottrell Field
1 & 3 p.m.

Friday, March 23
Women's Tennis
vs. Portland
3 p.m.

Saturday, March 24
Softball
@ Cal Poly
12 & 2 p.m.

Women's Lacrosse
@ Brown
2 p.m.

Men's Tennis
@ Fresno State
3 p.m.

Sunday, March 25
Women's Tennis
vs. Santa Clara
11 a.m.

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The Collegian
SPORTS

Women's lacrosse loses 21-11 to Tribe

Kapusta leads Gaels with season-high four goals

by James Vega
Staff Writer

The Saint Mary's women's lacrosse team dropped the final game of their seven-game home stand to the visiting Tribe of William & Mary, 21-11.

In the first meeting between Saint Mary's and William & Mary, the Gaels fell behind early and were never able to catch up.

The Tribe got on the board with two quick goals by sophomore Julia Martin at the 28:30 and 27:40 marks.

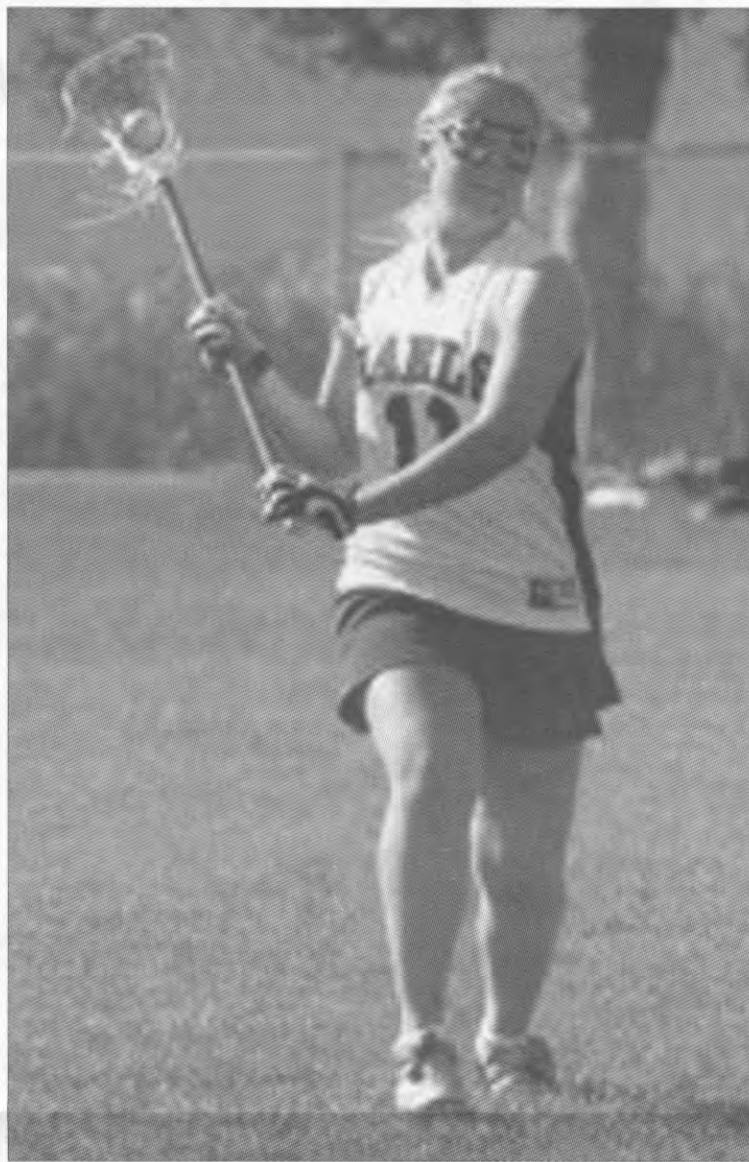
Saint Mary's cut the lead to 2-1 when senior Jackie Spencer found freshman Abbie Coleman cutting from behind the net for her first of three goals for the day.

However, William & Mary won the draw, and sophomore Dolly Williams cashed in with her first of a game-high six goals on the day at the 25:55 mark to put the Tribe up 3-1.

William & Mary's offensive onslaught continued when sophomore Clare Dennis added her first of two goals at the 23:46 mark to put the Tribe up 4-1.

The Gaels showed their fighting spirit when sophomore P.J. Hainley responded with a goal off of a rebound at the 19:34 mark to cut the William & Mary lead down to 4-2.

At that point, the Tribe raced out to an 8-2 lead after polishing off four consecutive goals at the 14:35 mark on Williams' third goal of the day.



Courtesy of www.smcgaels.com

Sophomore Sonja Kapusta scored a season-high four goals last Saturday against the William & Mary Tribe.

Saint Mary's cut the lead down to 8-3 when freshman Abbie Coleman scored her second goal of the day at the 14:30 mark.

At the 12:38 mark, the Gaels cut the Tribe lead in half when freshman Alana Burrough found sophomore Lauren Frei streaking toward the net for Frei's first of two goals on the day.

The Tribe added two more goals, and Saint Mary's sophomore Sonja Kapusta added her first of four goals on the day at the 7:58 mark after being hit in the face on the previous play.

The story of the first half was William & Mary's ability to take control of the draw, as the Tribe held a 12-4 advantage on draws in the first half.

After a very physical first half, the Tribe took a 10-5 cushion into halftime.

The Gaels came out strong in the second half with Kapusta adding her second goal of the day at the 28:38 mark to cut the lead to 10-6.

William & Mary's freshman Mary Zulty added her second goal of the day to make the lead 11-6.

Kapusta answered right back with her third goal of the day with 24:59 remaining to cut the lead 11-7.

Williams then jump-started a six goal burst by the Tribe in which they took an 17-7 lead. But the Gaels continued to fight back.

Saint Mary's cut the lead down to 17-8 when Coleman added her third goal of the day. The goal gave Coleman her second hat trick of the season.

The Tribe's Williams added her career-high sixth goal of the day at the 16:46 mark on a free-

position shot to push the lead up to 18-8.

After William & Mary added another goal at the 14:04 mark, Kapusta added her team-high fourth goal to cut the lead 19-9.

Both teams added two more goals, including goals from the Gaels' senior Jackie Spencer and sophomore Lauren Frei.

The Gaels' comeback effort fell short, as the Tribe used two separate streaks of four consecutive goals in the first half and six in the second half to beat Saint Mary's 21-11.

With defense being the story, the Gaels were outdone on draws, forfeiting a 22-12 advantage to William & Mary.

Commenting on the highs and lows of the game, Saint Mary's head coach Lauren Uhr said, "I think we definitely lost the game between the thirties. We didn't step up aggressively on the draw. I think that really hurt us. I also thought we played solidly on team attack and team defense at times, but we definitely got a little lapse in the second half again. But hopefully we can pick our midfield transition, ride the ball out, and pick up those fast break defensive plays."

The Gaels fall to 2-5 on the season. The Tribe improve to 2-4.

Saint Mary's looks to return to form when they venture out on their first road trip of the season as they visit the Bears of Brown University next Saturday, March 24. First draw is scheduled for 2 p.m.

Sports Journal: Kyla Tom '08

The life of a Saint Mary's crew member



Courtesy of www.facebook.com

11:00 PM: Make sure that everything is out for tomorrow. Must get to bed. Good thing I am so tired because the party downstairs is loud.

4:20 AM: Beep...Beep...turn off the alarm. I have 10 minutes until my teammate Linzey's alarm goes off. Back to sleep.

4:30 AM: I really need to get up. Get dressed and cleaned up. Go make a Nutella sandwich (breakfast of champions). Hop in the car and drive to meet the rest

of the team at the SMC vans.

5:00 AM: Leaving campus seated in the most uncomfortable position. Put on the iPod and go to sleep for the next two hours.

7:00 AM: Wake up. We arrived at Lake Natoma in Sacramento. Time to unload all the boats and get them ready to race.

7:35 AM: Waiting in line to go to the bathroom! Stretching as I am waiting because we are on the water in 10 minutes.

7:45 AM: We are on the water. Only 30 minutes to warm-up!

8:20 AM: Our race was suppose to start five minutes ago, but the men's race before us was slow to start.

8:25 AM: All the boats are lined up at the start. Everyone is sitting ready. Attention, Row! And we are off. Only 2,000 meters left.

8:26:49 AM: 500 meters down. We are way out in front of Santa Clara and are close to Sac State. Keep the rhythm and keep breathing!

8:28:42 AM: 1000 meters in the race. Legs burn! Sac State is pulling away. We need to make a

move. Only half way done. 2,000 meters is a long ways. Why do I torture my self like this?

8:30:36 AM: Just rowed 1,500 meters. Only 500 left. Sit up and get ready for the sprint. 300 meters left. Take the stroke rate up. The legs and arms are killing me. Almost to the finish line. I didn't row 1,700 meter to give up now. Take the stroke rate up one more time. The crowd is cheering. Pull!

8:32:26 AM: Crossing the finish line. Can't breathe, need water! Coughing up my lungs. Oh, how they sting! One! Two! Three! "Good job all crews!"

8:37 AM: Back on the dock. We came in third, but we killed Santa Clara (we lost to them last year).

8:40-10:15 AM: Watching races and help sending boats out to race.

10:15 AM: Hop into the four-man oat as another four rowers are getting out. Thirty minutes to get to the start.

10:45 AM: Another race.

10:53:14 AM: Came in second out of seven behind Stanford. I

really can't move now! Throat on fire!

11:00 AM: Load the trailer and eat.

1:00 PM: My turn to drive the van. Quiet van ride with everyone sleeping.

2:45 PM: Arrive at the boat-house and unload all the boats.

3:45 PM: Pull into campus. Long, hard day and ready to take a shower and go to bed.

Two weeks ago, the women's crew team opened their 2007 season strong at the Sacramento Invitational.

In the varsity eight competition, the Gaels came in second place behind host Sacramento State, defeating Stanford's Lightweight and rival Santa Clara, who fell behind the Gaels by 10.3 seconds.

This Week's Sports Trivia

-SWEEPS-

1. Softball swept the doubleheader against Northern Colorado last weekend. How many Gael runs were scored?

- a. 12
- b. 5
- c. 17
- d. 9

2. Baseball had a four-game sweep over Southern Utah. How many total hits did the Gaels record over the weekend?

- a. 30
- b. 42
- c. 53
- d. 10

3. Men's golf swept the USF Triumph last Tuesday. What was their final team score?

- a. 850 (-2)
- b. 834 (-18)
- c. 853 (+1)
- d. 856 (+4)

Answers: 1. c, 2. b, 3. c

Baseball sweeps Southern Utah Gaels jump to third place in WCC preseason

by Sean Kent
Staff Writer

The baseball team continued their streak this weekend sweeping another four-game series at the hands of the Southern Utah University (SUU) Thunderbirds. The current string of unbeaten games is the best in the program's recent history.

The streak has reached 14 games in a row and has catapulted Saint Mary's into third place in the West Coast Conference preseason standings.

Much like their past few weekend series, Saint Mary's set the tone in the Friday opener with a convincing 10-0 win.

Junior Sean Gleason earned his fourth straight win, striking out 11, while only allowing seven hits in eight and two thirds innings. Over this four game stretch, Gleason has struck out 35 while compiling a 0.30 ERA. Matt McCormick '10 retired the final batter to secure the shutout.

Offensively, the squad batted around in the first inning and knocked in five runs in the inning to coast to an early advantage.

Freshman Randy Wells led the attack, going 3-5 with three RBIs, while fellow freshman Anthony Allioti tacked on another two RBIs with a hit.

Saturday brought yet another double-header.

The first game was another comfortable win for the Gaels,



Stefanie Ordoveza/COLLEGIAN

Joel Staples '09 recorded three home runs, seven hits, and nine RBIs in the four-game sweep over Southern Utah.

beating the Thunderbirds 9-4.

Four runs in the first three innings, coupled with two in the sixth and another three in the eighth gave Brandon Berl '10 all the support he needed. He recorded his second win while fanning 10 and allowing only one walk in seven full innings.

Senior J.P. Musgrove went 4-5 with a career high five RBIs, fol-

lowed by junior Ian Gordon who added three hits and three RBIs of his own. Junior Alex Jensen pitched the final two innings of the games allowing only one run. Saturday's second game was a much tighter affair, but the Gaels still escaped with a 4-3 win.

Joel Staples '09 hit his third homer of the season, a two run shot to left-center, in the first in-

ning to give Saint Mary's the early advantage.

Senior Eric Cattoni and sophomore Cory Miller completed a double steal to ignite another two-run rally in the fifth.

Allioti pitched solidly, striking out the sides in the first two innings as part of nine total for the game in five and two thirds innings of work.

Freshman Scott Schneider and senior Michael Nisco, who recorded the save, combined to hold the Thunderbirds in the final innings of the second game of the double-header.

In the final game on Sunday, the Gaels were forced to play catch-up in a game they eventually won 9-8 in 10 innings.

Southern Utah scored three earned runs in the first three innings, off of freshman starter Kevin Brahney, putting the Gaels in an early 3-0 hole.

After striking back for two in the bottom of the fourth on a Staples' home run and a Musgrove RBI double, SUU tacked on another run on a Bucky Aona homer to left off of Jimmy Munill '10 to extend the lead to 4-2. The teams traded runs in the bottom of the fifth and top of the sixth, only to be followed by a Gael five-run outburst in the bottom of the sixth.

A solo homer by freshman Ryan Mulligan '10, an Allioti RBI single, and a three homer by Staples to left field gave Saint Mary's an 8-5 advantage.

After the Thunderbirds tied the score with two runs in the ninth, the Gaels won the game in the tenth on a bases-loaded single by Wells to knock in pinch-runner Brian Hawkins.

With the win, the Gaels improve to 16-8-1. They return to action today against Nevada.

Golf champions at USF Triumph McRae earns first career medal, shooting four under

by Adam Vasser
Staff Writer

The Saint Mary's men's golf team shot a total of 280 in the final round to edge out Notre Dame for first place in the USF Triumph at Pauma Valley Country Club last Tuesday.

The Gaels' final round score was the lowest round for any team during the whole tournament, which saw them finish at one over par, 10 strokes ahead of Notre Dame and 13 strokes in front of #29 ranked Wisconsin.

Saint Mary's shot 283 and 290 on the first day, one stroke ahead of Wisconsin. However, they were able to pull away in their last round, thanks to strong performances by Daniel Cone '10 and Mike McRae '08.

Cone shot a team low score of five under par in his final round and McRae shot two under par to assure the Gaels a first place finish at the par 71 Pauma Valley Country Club.

McRae also took top individual honors by posting rounds of 70,

and 69, ending the tournament at four under par.

Consistency was key for McRae who did not have a single round above par.

With this performance, McRae edged out Pat Duffy of Wisconsin and Jason D'Amore of Loyola Marymount who were both six under going into the final round.

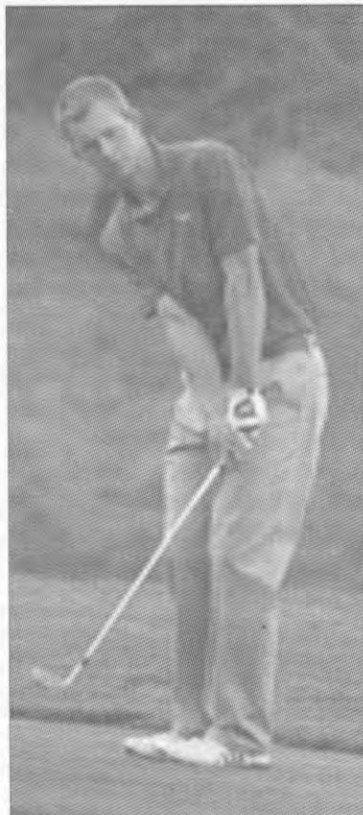
D'Amore posted a final score of nine over 80 and Duffy shot four over 75 to end up in second place.

The top finish for McRae marks the first of his career.

Robert McRae '10 was the next best finisher for Saint Mary's, finishing in seventh place at two over par. Robert shot rounds of 69, 71, and 75.

Josh Kelley '08 finished the USF Triumph in a three-way tie for 14th place with rounds of 70, 74, and 73 for a total of four over 217.

Cone was close behind Kelley also finishing in a three-way tie for 17th place. It was Cone's final round of 66 that helped the Gaels retain the lead and take home the



Courtesy of www.smcgaels.com

title. This round also served as a career-low for Cone.

Brett Mormann was the last



Courtesy of www.smcgaels.com

golfer for Saint Mary's to finish the USF Triumph at eight over par.

Left: Junior Mike McRae shot a final round score of 69 (-2) to take the first place medal.

Right: Freshman Daniel Cone scored a final round 66 to help the Gaels take the team title.

West Coast Conference foes San Diego, Loyola Marymount, Santa Clara, and San Francisco did not place in the top three at the USF Triumph.

San Diego finished in fourth place at 20 over par. Loyola Marymount finished in ninth place at 41 over. Santa Clara found themselves in the familiar position of 11th place at 48 over. San Francisco finished in a tie for 12th at 51 over and San Francisco (B) finished the tournament in 15th overall.

After a successful tournament at Pauma Valley, the Gaels returned to action yesterday at the Western Intercollegiate Tournament hosted by San Jose State at the Pasatiempo Golf Club in Santa Cruz.

The final rounds take place today.