

- **FEATURE:**  
School Supplies  
Gone Wild
- **SPORTS:**  
Volleyball  
sweeps in AZ

## New flyer policy enhances look of hallways

*Environmentally conscious program changes public forum*

by **Olivia Talavan**  
Staff Writer

Walking to Oliver Hall will now be a nature walk for students. Flyers have been banned from the walkway that connects Ferroggiaro to Oliver Hall.

There has been talk for years about doing something with the explosion of flyers that clutter the beautiful Saint Mary's campus.

This summer the Campus Deans and Directors Committee (CDDC) put forward an idea to the President's Cabinet. The posting policy has four main objectives: "to comply with established fire codes, to reduce visual clutter on campus, to reduce paper waste, and to cut overall costs of event promotion for groups and organizations." The policy was approved and was put into action. To inform all of the students, staff, and faculty of this new plan, an e-mail was sent out with the details of the Posting Policy.

Eté Anderson, member of the CDDC and assistant dean of Student Life, said, "For three years, since I have been here, people have been talking about doing something [about] the way we post things on campus."

Prior to this plan, clubs were the only groups mandated to visit the Office of Student In-



Flyers will no longer be allowed on all areas of campus. The new flyer policy will designate about 25 areas where flyers can be placed.

volvement and Leadership (SIL) for approval of their advertisements. Now, every group, person, or department that wants to put up or pass out a flier must abide by the new rule and visit SIL for approval.

However, one thing remains the same. The flyers can be advertised for 2 weeks or until the event, then the advertiser must remove their personal flyers. If a flyer is not removed after the

event there will be consequences such as: a fine or loss of posting rights.

Flyers that are not approved by SIL will be removed along with flyers that are posted on non-designated areas, especially areas that break the fire code such as: windows, glass doorways, floor surfaces, and any other areas that could operate as a fire escape.

Members of the CDDC see FLYERS, p4

strolled through campus last week selecting the high traffic areas. These 25 to 27 chosen areas will be painted with a khaki square and clearly marked as posting areas for the approved flyers. To prevent from ruining the freshly painted posting areas, SIL, in addition to approving the flyer, will be handing out painters tape.

## Big Changes to come for Oliver Hall, Dryden

by **Irene Nino**  
Staff Writer

Students throughout Saint Mary's campus have a stigma for Sodexo food, compelling them to complain of its disappointment continuously. Attempting to relinquish this distaste for the campus dining, the Saint Mary's administration decided to make some serious changes. Although the renovations will be transforming the atmosphere and the quality of the food, the process will not be complete for another two years.

In an interview last semester, Sodexo Manager Matt Carroll said touch computer screens and a kitchen renovation will be implemented over the next two years. The long-term plan is to completely renovate the entire area behind the new partition. The servery will be expanded by removing the wall behind the dessert station to include the current kitchen.

The director of the Physical Plant, Joseph Kehoe, said this new area will provide "space for better kitchen equipment to be able to serve the students better food faster." These renovations will open up room to offer sev-

“The construction doesn't seem like it's going to go anywhere.”

Gorby Lingad '10

## Inaccuracies lead Saint Mary's to alternate rankings

*Brother Ron pulls the school from U.S. News peer assessment evaluations*

by **Darwyn Deyo**  
Opinion Editor

Saint Mary's College will no longer participate in the peer assessment survey portion of the *U.S. News World Report*. The decision came from President Brother Ron Gallagher and was supported by Michael Beseda, Vice Provost for Enrollment.

The decision is part of a wider movement called "Beyond Ranking," which encourages schools to withdraw from the peer survey. As of this publication, it has grown to include 64 schools. Saint Mary's joined this August. Universities, divided up by region, are asked to rank each other based on criteria the *Report* sees as relevant to prospective students: graduation rates, acceptance rates, average SAT scores, etc., but these institutions think the survey is

lacking.

The problem with the survey, which makes up one quarter of a school's ranking, is that it relies on an institution's knowledge of another's intricate workings and often, one institution has limited knowledge of another. The categorical region including Saint Mary's, the West's Best Universities for up to a Master's, stretches from California to Texas and includes about 200 schools. While administrators might be educated enough to respond to some questions on some schools, it stretches research credibility to assume that an evaluation of all the colleges in the region is accurate.

In addition, according to Beseda, the peer survey does not capture what is really important in a college. "They collect data...that are worth look-

ing at...but what they do is they take that information and they give it a numerical score... For me, that's the part that's the most misleading because it gives a sense of precision that first of all doesn't exist to the rankings, but more importantly it suggests to...students and their families that selecting a college is like

buying a car or buying a toaster when in reality there's a dynamic interaction between a student and the educational institution that determines whether or not Saint Mary's or some other school is a better place for that particular student to learn."

see RANKING, p4



Courtesy of usnews.com

**OPINION**

Italians paid for pounds

pg. 6

**DETOUR**

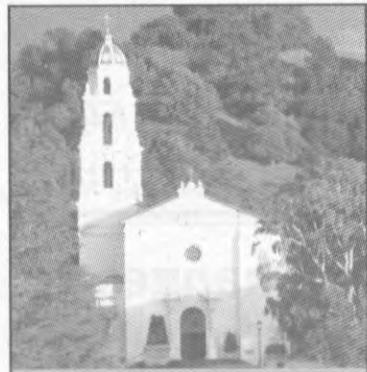
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## THE COLLEGIAN

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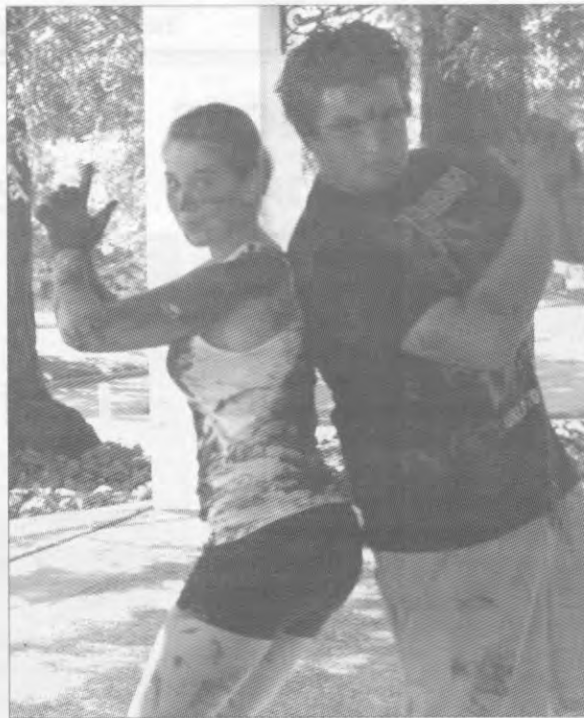
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The Collegian is the official newspaper of the Associated Students of Saint Mary's College. The Collegian is published weekly, except during examination periods and academic recesses. The Collegian reserves the right to hold and edit all submitted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

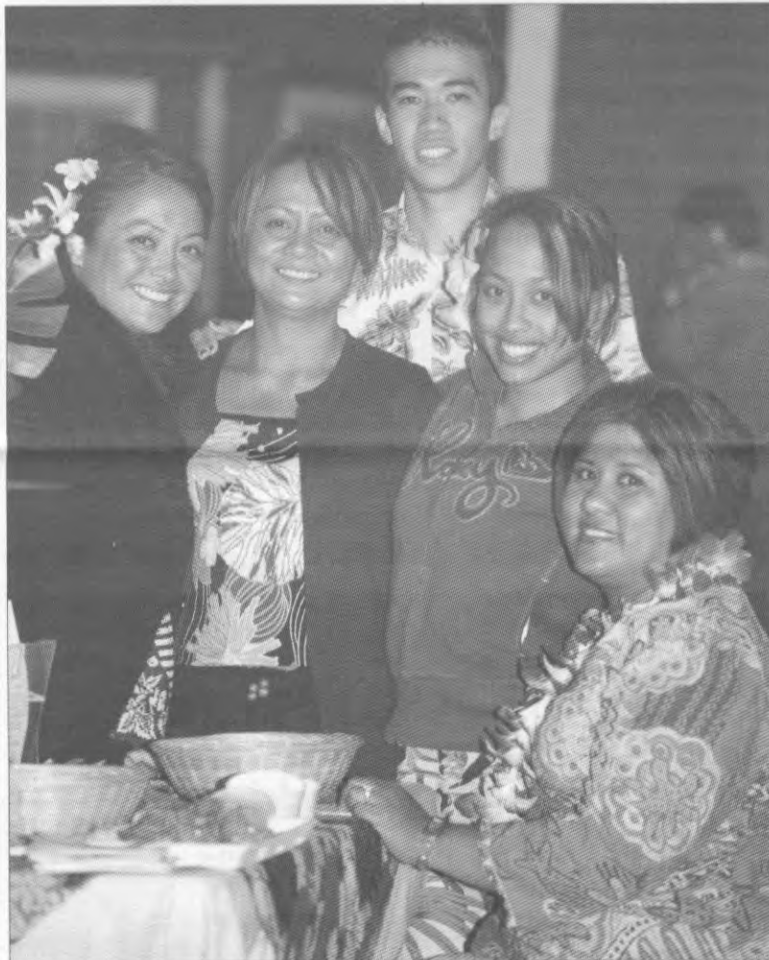


## SnapShot

Freshmen pose after participating in "Paint the SMC" during Weekend of Welcome. Students used their hands and bodies to paint the letters red and blue with the help of WoW Leaders.



Linda Hua/COLLEGIAN



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

HAPA President Brandon Elefante '08, alumnus Ashley McShane, and others from the Kaua'i Abreu Ohana catering company joined the Moraga community to celebrate a lu'au at the Moraga Ranch last weekend. The event was organized by the Moraga Chamber of Commerce with the help of HAPA and other Saint Mary's students.

## Crime Beat

**6/6/07**  
Incident: Battery.  
Synopsis: More Hall, referred to Student Conduct and Human Resources.

**6/7/07 12:45 p.m.**  
Incident: Vehicle engine fire.  
Synopsis: Personal vehicle, no major damage.

**6/7/07**  
Incident: Possession of marijuana and interfering with college official.  
Synopsis: More Hall, referred to Student Conduct, lied to college official.

**7/2/07 12:45 p.m.**  
Incident: Vandalism and theft.  
Synopsis: Filippi and Brother Jerome women's restrooms,

referred to Physical Plant, items taken from feminine hygiene dispensers.

**7/9/07 10:45 p.m.**  
Incident: Petty theft.  
Synopsis: Mitty Hall, model room used for campus tours was trashed.

**7/10/07 1:05 p.m.**  
Incident: Fire alarm activation.  
Synopsis: De La Salle Hall, referred to Physical Plant, possibly caused by dust from construction.

**8/2/07 2:19 a.m.**  
Incident: Possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.  
Synopsis: Beckett Hall, referred to Student Conduct,

possession of weapons and ammunition.

**8/10/07 5:36 a.m.**  
Incident: Vandalism.  
Synopsis: Galileo Hall, glass of fire extinguisher box broken.

**8/13/07 3:30 a.m.**  
Incident: Fire alarm activation.  
Synopsis: Guerrieri East, referred to Physical Plant and Student Conduct; spray painting set off alarm.

**8/13/07 3:00 p.m.**  
Incident: Property damage.  
Synopsis: Ageno C, referred to Student Conduct, broken window.



LINDA HUA

## The Collegian is your voice

Hello there friendly reader, my name is Linda Hua and welcome to the first issue of the 105th volume of *The Collegian*. This is my second year as the editor-in-chief of *The Collegian*, I am a senior experimental psychology major and I love grammar and editing, thus, I love my job.

*The Collegian* may have been around for over 104 years, but for those who are new to the Saint Mary's community, or are unfamiliar to how we run things, let's take a tour of the newspaper.

*The Collegian* was founded in 1903, making us one of the oldest undergraduate newspapers in the west. We are a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and follow their ethical guidelines as we have also begun to compete in their annual "...of the Year" contests. We thus strive for excellence and our purpose is to serve campus-oriented news to the Saint Mary's community while providing entertainment as well.

In the news section, we cover news-worthy on-campus events and topics concerning Saint Mary's in a timely manner. There, we are open to press releases and story ideas sent in from the community; yet do not be disappointed if your submitted idea does not pass our storyboard selection.

Within the news sections, we also have news features, which focus on specific, timeless, and sometimes abstract topics in depth.

Our opinion section serves as a forum for the student voice, where opinions of students are expressed. Here we invite members of the community to give their input also—in the form of letters to the editor. In past years, we have had readers blur the lines between our writers' opinions and *The Collegian's* opinion. "*Collegian View*" aside, the newspaper as a whole is impartial; the opinions expressed are those of their respective writers and do not reflect the opinions of the remainder of the staff nor that of *The Collegian's* advertisers.

The detour section, is as the name implies, a detour from the rest of the paper. There, you will find topics in arts and entertainment that may or may not have anything to do with Saint Mary's College. Often times, movie, music, and video game reviews fill those two pages. Every once in a while, you will also find reader activities such as crosswords, puzzles, and sudoku.

For those who are interested in joining our staff, we are always welcoming new writers, copy editors, layout designers, and photographers, so we invite anyone interested in great journalistic experience, to join us at our next meeting (Tuesday, September 4 at 6 p.m. in Dante 115).



# The Collegian NEWS



## Weekly Featured Profile

Club/Organization

# Students Reaching Consciousness

by Wallace Stewart  
Staff Writer

Feeling lost or overwhelmed with the idea of graduating and planning your future?

Robert Unzueta '08 and Elizabeth Cruz '09 can relate to this feeling that plagues most college students. This feeling is what inspired the two to join forces and create Saint Mary's newest club Students Reaching Consciousness (SRC).

"It was a combination of seeing students struggle to navigate their way through the college process and also seeing them unable to find their niche," said Cruz.

Both Unzueta and Cruz are first generation college students who understand the difficulty in knowing where to go on campus when faced with questions regarding their future.

The mission of SRC is to help students reach their full potential. The mentors leading the club will help students by pointing them in the right direction regarding career goals and financial aid decisions, encouraging them to become more involved on campus, and helping them to decide what steps to take to ensure academic success. The goal of the club is to create a sense of community among Saint Mary's students who will work together to help each other.

"This is the perfect place to institute something like this. The size of the campus and its core principles, such as an inclusive community, make Saint Mary's a good starting point for a club like the SRC," said Unzueta.

The SRC is looking for students who are interested in helping their peers and think they would be a good mentor. The club invites all who wish to become more "college culture savvy" to join.

"It is a 'get through college' club," said Cruz. "There is a culture here to be learned and we are here to help students do just that."

For the club's first semester in action, the officers plan to focus on the continual retention issue at Saint Mary's. Approximately 55 students from the freshman class transferred out of Saint Mary's last year.

"Fifty-five is just too many. We want students to come to Saint Mary's, stay, and graduate," said Cruz.

The SRC looks forward to a challenging, but successful year. The members hope to provide guidance and act as a referral service for students. The SRC will utilize the help of other clubs as well as 15 faculty members.

"We are hoping to bridge the gap between the students and the school and the best way to do this is with the help of your peers," said Unzueta.

## Saint Mary's to be red, blue, and green?

Students, staff push for environmental sustainability

by J. Harry Painter  
Detour Editor

New students have had an early taste of what looks to become a well-promoted initiative throughout the year. Various administrators, college officials, and students are working together to push for environmental sustainability and awareness at Saint Mary's.

As part of this action, incoming freshman were asked to read two documents related to global climate change over the summer, which could be found online at [sustainsmc.stmarys-ca.edu](http://sustainsmc.stmarys-ca.edu). One document was a summer report of findings by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; the other was a statement by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

According to the Dean for the School of Liberal Arts Stephen Woolpert, it is important for people to understand environmental issues from not only a scientific perspective, but a moral one. In his presentation to new students on Saturday, he quoted Pope John Paul II to encourage this understanding: "Christians and all other believers have a specific role to play in educating people in ecological awareness."

Returning students and college employees have also undoubtedly noticed the measures taken in promoting campus sustainability.

The number of recycling containers across campus have increased since last term.

Senior Spencer Dohm was relieved to hear about the initiative for environmental sustainability. "There was kind of a lack of knowledge of that my freshman year," he said. "I don't think they

“ The College has a strategic plan....for good stewardship of our facilities and our campus.

Stephen Woolpert  
Dean for the School of Liberal Arts

” really pushed for it at all.”

However, according to Woolpert, who has been helping to coordinate and publicize the movement, it has been in the works since the '04-'05 academic year. In the spring of 2005, he said, more than 40 faculty and staff members met in reading/study groups to discuss the issue. "Things have been happening in this area for several years," he said. "There were already energy conservation measures going on; there were already courses being taught." Now, he said, the college is entering the next phase of this ongoing plan.

It doesn't appear that the College is letting up anytime soon. "The College has a strategic plan for the next five years that has two very specific tasks," said Woolpert. "One is to do a report on how to promote environmental awareness and education. The second is a plan for good stewardship of our facilities and our campus."

The students are becoming heavily involved as well. Project Green, an affiliated student organization that promotes environmental consciousness on campus, works directly with Woolpert's Associate Dean Shawny Anderson.

Dohm, who is not a member of Project Green, was in favor of increasing undergraduate tuition, "If it helps clean up the campus, if it helps make it a more enjoyable experience....It would probably be one of the best reasons to raise [tuition]."

Woolpert said that there will be events in late January related to climate change policies, including the arrival of Focus the Nation, a "nationwide series of campus symposia." These events will coincide with the national primary elections.

"There are so many students who don't know what energy conservation is about," said Dohm. Woolpert and many others in the Saint Mary's community are hoping to change that this year.

## Campus Calendar

### L & CS Student Orientation

Tuesday, August 28  
7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.  
De La Salle:  
Hagerty Lounge  
Contact: Susan Parr  
x4420

### Student Involvement Fair

Wednesday, August 29  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Ferroggiaro Quad  
Contact: Ete Martinez  
Anderson x8318

### Jan Term Travel Workshop

Wednesday, August 29  
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
De La Salle:  
Hagerty Lounge  
Contact: Christ O'Steen  
x4771

### Integral Freshmen Social

Wednesday, August 29  
9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.  
De La Salle:  
Hagerty Lounge  
Contact: Ann Thatcher  
x4467

### CERT Team Training

Thursday, August 30  
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Brothers' Residence, 114  
Contact: Bill Foley  
x4052

### Student Dances

Friday, August 31  
10:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m.  
Soda Center  
Contact: Dan Rott  
x8167

### Lasallian Community 2007 - 2008

Saturday, September 1st  
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
De La Salle:  
Hagerty Lounge  
Contact: Brother Michael Sanderl x8154

### Final Vow Ceremony/Caretti/Kir

Saturday, September 1  
10:30 a.m. - 2:10 p.m.  
Chapel Main  
Contact: Joanne Angerame x4366

Planning an event?

Want it in *The Collegian*?

E-mail us with the details of your event at:

[collegia@stmarys-ca.edu](mailto:collegia@stmarys-ca.edu)

or call for more information:  
(925) 631-4279

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

## Random SMC Facts



Photo courtesy of earth.google.com

One of the original Saint Mary's bells resides in San Francisco in the form of Justin Drive. The street is shaped like a bell.

Three original dormitories of the Saint Mary's Moraga Campus:

Aquinas Hall

Augustine Hall

De La Salle Hall

**Bonus:** What were their original names? Go online to [www.smccollegian.com](http://www.smccollegian.com) for the answers!



## RANKING: SMC joins 'Beyond Ranking' group

continued from page 1

If the peer survey does not capture these elements, then it may not be a reliable tool for prospective students looking beyond quantitative details. Furthermore, the *U.S. News World Report* is not the only resource available to students—others, such as *The Princeton Review* and *Collegeboard.com* exist, and new ones are becoming available. Curious as to what Saint Mary's freshmen used to choose this school, *The Collegian* randomly surveyed 30 students on two questions: what, if any, ranking did you use when picking a school, and what three criteria were most important when picking a school? The results supported the idea that the *Report* is not the first resource on which prospectives rely.

Only two out of 30 students reported using the *Report*, while six out of 30 reported using the *Review* and five out of 30 reported using *Collegeboard.com*. Surprisingly, 16 out of 30 respondents used something else or nothing at all. As to the criteria, the most important factors were the location of the college, the majors offered, and the size of the school and/or classes.

These results suggest that students really are interested in the basics when looking at a college more than its particular culture and values. However, the *World Report* was still only a first-step resource, and most reported not

using it at all.

Instead of only participating in externally generated sources, Saint Mary's is now part of a project put together by the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU) which, according to Lisa Douglass, Vice President of Public Affairs, "represents 75 WASC accredited, degree-granting, non-profit, independent colleges and universities serving California... [founded] so that the independent sector could speak in one voice in matters of public policy." The organization, in conjunction with colleges all over the country, is putting together what Brother Ron called "a Wikipedia university." Formally known as U-CAN, Douglass said it will be a "user-friendly, consumer-friendly form which is designed to give...prospective students and their families concise, Web-based, consumer friendly information on individual colleges and universities. U-CAN will include significant information identified by policymakers as being important for accountability and evaluating colleges."

The U-CAN project may soon be an alternative to ranking systems like the *Report*, allowing colleges to provide important data and at the same time, stress their uniqueness. Regardless, Saint Mary's appears in this year's *World Report*, and will probably continue to do so.

## FLYER: New policy determines where ads can be placed on campus

continued from page 1

Shawny Anderson, member of the Committee and associate dean of the School of Liberal Arts said, "I do think that having designated spaces for campus announcements will not only help the campus look better, but also will help the event planners to reach the audiences they are trying to reach."

Many have said that with so much paper clutter all around

campus, students begin to ignore the ads and don't know what events are occurring on campus. It is said that this new policy will help clubs and others reach their audiences in a more effective way.

Students seem to agree as well. Jen Morrison '09 said, "I think it's good because people will always know exactly where to find out what's going on. Also, it's

good because it limits the amount of excess trash around campus."

ASSMC Vice President for Administration Danny Weeks '08, believes that Saint Mary's could even expand this policy. He said, "I think it's a good idea. It will help to further beautify our campus. I think they should take it a step further and have centralized electronic advertising."

## SAGA: Small changes welcome students

continued from page 1

could have brought packed lunches."

Also, the tray accumulator was moved next door to Dryden Hall. Finally, the smaller partition within Dryden was constructed to cover up the tray machine. Dryden has been re-floored and refurbished with round tables to "offer students different eating styles and options," said Kehoe.

Since Dryden Hall has been turned into another dining area, the Student Center has been moved to Hagerty Lounge in De La Salle Hall. This is one of many relocations happening on campus.

Although it is currently hard to see the vision of an attractive-looking dining hall now, Kehoe said, "we just need to look at the bigger picture."



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

Students enjoy slight changes to Oliver Hall dining, which include increased seating areas and the incorporation of Dryden Hall.

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OF CALIFORNIA

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The Collegian  
**FEATURE**

# Students spice up dorms with personal touch

*Students push dorm limit with wardrobes, gadgets, even lockers*

by Mark Freeman  
Staff Writer

Bed linens, check. Toiletries, check. Fifty-inch plasma TV, check.

Dorm room furnishings are more sophisticated than ever as students personalize their home away from home with everything from fancy gadgets to lawn chairs. But are they going overboard?

In a packet distributed to freshman students, the Office of Residence Life advises people to bring basic amenities like ironing boards, alarm clocks, and televisions, but notes that space is limited so students shouldn't bring their "entire wardrobe" to school.

However, space limitations aren't stopping Ali Gonzales '10 from making sure she looks good while on campus. "My wardrobe and shoe collection followed me back to [school] this year," Gonzales said. She explained that her "fashion and style [are] definitely a way for [her] to express [herself]." In college, "it's important for me to give off the right impression to people, whether it be professors, classmates, or friends," she said.

Gonzales' desire for individual expression is shared by many college students, a fact that retailers have capitalized on. In a recent press release by the National Retail Federation (NRF), CEO Tracy Mullin explained that "because the college years are an important time for young adults to express their individuality, retailers will pull out all the stops to catch students' attention."

Spending on dorm furnishings is expected to exceed \$47 billion this year according to an NRF re-



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

**Above:** Lisa Bachtold '09 is only one among many students who have gathered a tremendous amount of "school supplies" over the years. Here she moves a large locker into her townhouse suite.

**Bottom left:** Guillermo Trujilo '09 (left) and Vincent Rodrigez '09 (right) haul their school supplies, consisting of a television and video game console, into their townhouse.

port, as students snap up the latest gadgets and deal with rising textbook costs. "For today's students, spending on college-related merchandise is as much of a necessity as wearing a business suit for a job interview," said Phil Rist, vice president of strategy at BIGresearch, the group who con-

ducted surveys for the NRF. Devices like laptops, digital cameras, and cellphones should be "big sellers again this year," the NRF reported, with students and their parents expected to spend "a total of \$12.8 billion on electronics."

Gonzales agrees that technology is an important part of the college experience. "My laptop is definitely something I consider a 'must-have' item because it holds all of my music and media files and it also keeps me connected everywhere on campus to the Internet," she said.

To some students, technology is essential to making their room the coolest on campus. According to a report by the *Daily Trojan*, USC's student newspaper, some upperclassmen had equipped their room with "five speakers and a subwoofer," as well as a TV, DVD player, and video game system with "full surround sound capabilities." The result was a room that could shake hallways when music was played at full blast.

Kevin Schmitt, a sophomore at Santa Clara University, explained that it's not uncommon for students to upgrade their

rooms with heavy-duty gadgets. "Last year my suitemates brought in a 50-inch plasma TV which took up most of the wall space," Schmitt said.

While a big screen TV and video game system may look impressive, they might only serve as a distraction. Gonzales thinks that students should prioritize their

freshmen suggests that students bring "removable decorations to personalize your space."

Many students follow this advice. Kristen Akhbari '11 explained that moving away from home to live on campus "no matter how far away is always rough" because "your room . . . was your own personal space, your comfort zone." In order to deal with homesickness, Akhbari "brought the pictures that hung on [her] bedroom walls."

Gonzales feels that photos bring a personal touch to the dorm room.

"Pictures of my summer and of memories with old friends are greatly valued to me because when I look around my room, I enjoy reminiscing or sharing stories about pictures taken in a memorable moment," she said.

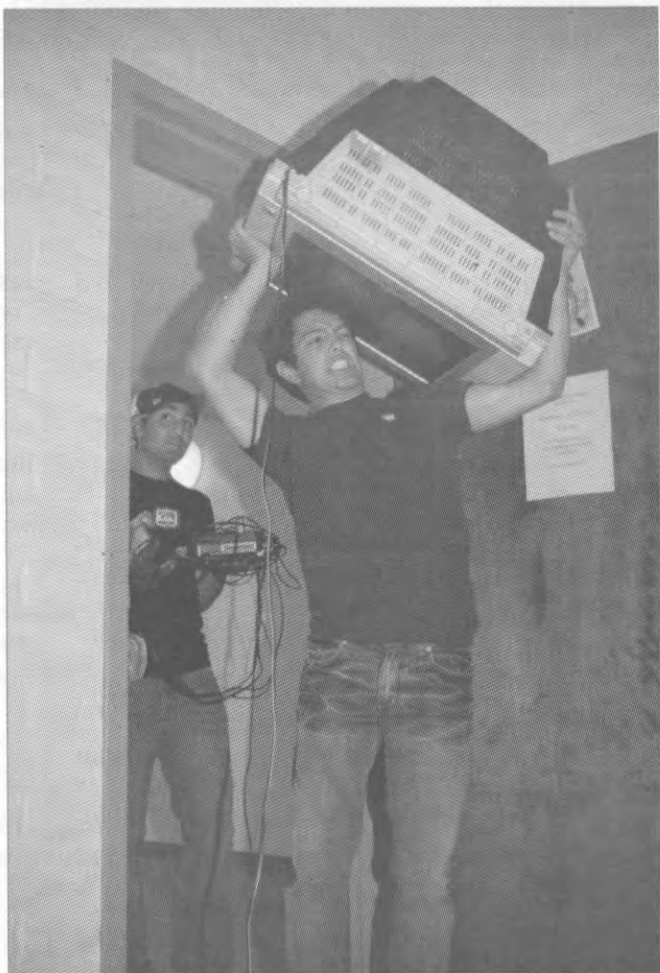
Akhbari's pictures aren't just of friends and family. "I have this framed photograph of Paris that I simply love," she said. "I've never been to France or anything, but it always had a special spot on my wall. Now it has a special spot in my dorm room. It just makes me feel more at home," she said.

supplies by bringing "whatever it is you need in order to get your work done." Students are at Saint Mary's "to study and to earn a higher degree of education," she said. "I'm not saying leave the Wii at home or forget about the big screen television, but honestly, just know that the combination of both of these items without moderation can lead to a severe lack of studying time."

Ultimately, a low tech approach might be the best way to bring life into a sterile dorm room. The Residence Life pamphlet for



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

The Collegian  
**OPINION**



SCOTT CULLINANE

## Looks can't run the White House

The race for the White House is on.

It has been said that politicians today cannot compare to the great thinkers of the past. Though I have never subscribed to such ideas, having seen the Democratic candidates put forward, I am indeed shocked by their shallowness; shallow in every way but their greed.

Taken on merit, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama have very little qualifying them for the presidency. The only reason they are where they are is because of their looks. Does anyone think Hillary would be where she is today if she were a man? Does anyone think Obama would be where he is if he had white skin?

Hillary is only as prominent as she is because of who she married. Though she has played her hand well, that is not the mark of a good president. Hillary's greatest, and perhaps only, contribution to American politics is screwing up her national health care idea in the '90s, allowing the Republicans to take Congress in 1994.

If you want Hillary to win, then be honest about why you are voting for her. If you want a woman for the sake of having a woman, then Hillary is your gal. If you want experience or leadership on the Democratic side, vote Dodd or Biden.

Obama, like Hillary, has a few qualities that have gotten him to where he is—he is black and has a nice smile. He spent some time doing state politics and then went to Washington, D.C., but he has yet to leave a mark. His legislative highlights include sponsoring bills like the one to make July 12, 2007 "National Summer Learning Day."

At first I had a hard time figuring out how Obama was giving Hillary a real race. Then a friend hit upon a great thought: it's all the spontaneous media attention. Chris Matthews and Wolf Blitzer needed someone to talk about for nine months and created the Obama candidacy. The media pumped up a freshman senator to seem larger than life to run against Hillary so they have a story. I know many on our campus have become Obama supporters, won over by his flashy smile and good looks, but when it comes down to voting time the media will ditch Obama like an ugly blind date. When it comes down to it, the media elite is in Hillary's pocket.

These two leading candidates, Hillary and Obama, represent the lessening of politics. We have reached a point where looks matter more than everything else. I hope neither of these candidates win and America sees them for what they really are.

## Collegian View

It's only the second day of classes and we all have waterfalls of homework. What ever happened to summer? Ah well, no point in moping now. However, we might as well start the school year in fashion with the top 14 things to do during the first few weeks of school:

1. Attend the Involvement Fair tomorrow during Community Time and join some clubs
2. Enjoy the Wednesday barbeques (thanks to Matt Carrol and Sodexo)
3. Have a picnic with friends while the weather is still nice and the workload is light
4. Attend a bunch of the welcome back dances.
5. Go home for the last time before Thanksgiving during Labor Day weekend
6. Get boba from Sweetheart in Berkeley in the "Asian

Ghetto".

7. Get campus fever and take road trips to Monterey and San Jose.

8. Explore the Korean restaurants on MLK in Oakland. Seriously. But take a friend.

9. Go window shopping in Walnut Creek and get addicted to Target.

10. Watch videos of drunken cats on YouTube.

11. Find cheap hangouts in Orinda.

12. Ghosthunt in the Redwood Forest and look for the hidden crypts.

13. Send care packages to yourself.

14. Avoid the ghetto in Walnut Creek. There's a reason its hard to find.

Above all, have fun while participating in all of the above and try not to burn out too quickly.

The Collegian's letter policy:

Letters to the editor may be submitted online for the print version of *The Collegian*. Letters to the editor should be no more than 200 words. Please sign your letter with your full name and if applicable, your year in school and/or title.

Anonymous letters are not often published. Opinions expressed are not necessarily endorsed by *The Collegian*, its contributors, its advertisers, or the College's affiliates.

## Quirky Quotables

**August 14:** *U.S. News & World Report* questions whether kids should be warned about the dangers of obesity

**August 21:** *The Canadian* reports on the negative implications of a NAU and references credible sources who claim that it is a real threat

**August 8:** *411mania.com* tackles the relevance of Obama's superficiality and his qualifications

## Italian town pays citizens to shed pounds Americans should increase efforts to fight obesity

If a goldfish is presented with an abundance of food, it will overeat until it cannot swim and it will lie at the bottom of the tank in a food coma until it digests enough food to move again.

Today, humans are doing much the same thing. Improved manufacturing and processing have increased the food supply in most westernized parts of the world. Also, the food we consume is so extremely high in fat, sugar, preservatives, and salt that we are eating our way to obesity.

Much attention has been focused on Americans' increasingly sedentary lifestyles and growing portions of junk foods. The Center of Disease Control and Prevention found that 65 percent of U.S. adults and 15 percent of chil-



JULIE MCAVOY

dren are overweight. However, the United States is not the only country that is experiencing problems with expanding waistlines.

The World Health Organization reported that in the past 20 years obesity rates have tripled in parts of North America, Europe, Australia, the Middle East and Pacific Islands.

Increased weight means amplified health care costs. Almost a quarter of U.S. health care spending is used on health problems

related to obesity. Being overweight is linked with heart disease, high cholesterol, diabetes, cancer, and lowered life expectancy.

One European city is taking proactive steps to reverse the tipping scales. Varallo, Italy is now offering its citizens 50 euros for men to lose nine pounds and women to lose seven pounds. Maintaining the weight loss for five months is rewarded with another 200 Euros. The mayor said that the town is going on a "group diet."

The European Union estimates that 35 percent of Italians are overweight or obese whereas Americans account for almost double that amount. If one of the weakest economies in the European

Union can pay its citizens to lose weight, why can't America do the same?

Tax cuts, monetary compensation, or better health care benefits may be just the extra motivation Americans need to shed a few pounds. If that doesn't help, a revamped educational campaign on the benefits of an active lifestyle and healthy eating habits could encourage Americans to get off the couch and cut back on fast food.

Either way, America needs to do something to improve the health of its citizens.

Humans do have ten times the brain size of a goldfish. You would think that we would be smart enough to not eat ourselves into a state of worldwide obesity.

## The U.S. doesn't need an invasive North American Union Mexico and Canada should fix their countries, not loot America

The European Union has so much going for it, who wouldn't want to be them?

High unemployment, low productivity, government debt, high taxes, civil protests, immigration disputes, civil liberties destruction. What's not to love?

If you pay attention to more than mainstream media, President George Bush, along with his peers in Mexico and Canada, shares that sentiment as he moves with them to establish a North American Union (NAU).

The first move is for a super-highway connecting the three countries, requiring open internal NAU borders, and necessitating common trade and security measures for the region. This is not a conspiracy theory and its not being denied; its just not talked about.

Legislation and special reports like those issued by the Council on Foreign Relations reduce border security while meetings between presidents and prime min-



DARWYNN DEYO

isters are conducted, meetings to which the press is often not admitted. There is even talk of a common omega currency.

The United States is dealing with economic problems that are rooted in decades of micromanagement, inflation, and unsustainable borrowing from other nations. The solution is not to lose control of our currency to the whims of the majority, encompassed by nations with which we really share only proximity.

Merging our dollar with the peso and Canadian dollar, both weaker than ours, into an omega currency will cripple the U.S. with a weaker currency. If the countries within the NAU undergo asymmetric shocks, one nation's

prosperity will be traded for another's. That is unfair regardless if it is the United States, Mexico, or Canada that is the sacrificial lamb of regional stability.

Proponents of a NAU claim that it is part of globalization and free trade, but free trade does not involve Mexico and Canada benefiting from the U.S. for free, and us trading away our wealth. Mexico and Canada will gain less than the U.S. will lose because we generate and create more than they do.

We don't need handouts, and we shouldn't trade our system just for a larger labor force, which is no guarantee of productivity, efficiency, and particularly not transparency.

Taxes and regulations will be symmetrical, so its likely that Mexico and Canada will lose their comparative advantages or that we will lose our comparative wealth.

Even if you trade our dollar for the omega, you shouldn't give

up the Constitution, which does not grant rights and freedoms, it protects them. Canada and Mexico share no such heritage, instead ruling by utilitarian collectivism. If American leaders abuse their powers now, what will happen if the Constitution is bargained away? Nothing good, that's what.

Keep in mind these are the actions of presidents, not informed legislatures; a mark of totalitarian societies mandated from the top down.

From the EU to the United Kingdom to the USSR, history shows that the majority always votes away the freedoms and property that the productive minority create. Why should a North American Union be different?

If all else fails, buy gold and move to the Cayman Islands. Hey, gold is only \$677.50 per Troy ounce right now.

We still have options, right?

The Collegian  
**OPINION**

**Spirit and fight songs, who needs 'em?**

**We have songs, might as well sing them**

**J. Harry Painter**

I don't know the Saint Mary's alma mater. I don't know the fight song. Am I supposed to?

The lyrics to both anthems are sitting right here in front of me as I write this. It's not that I haven't a clue about them. But I don't know them.

Being a senior at Saint Mary's, I feel just a trifle of shame at this. Not that I'm worthless, but I would be a greater Gael if I were able to belt out every last somewhat-sacred, quasi-medieval syllable of "Hail, Saint Mary's."

However, just because I was admittedly ignorant of and indifferent to our songs of spirit before now should not suggest that I was proud of the fact.

To the contrary, every time "On to Victory" came up in conversation, my reaction was both of shock and regret. Shock because I had completely forgotten we had a fight song and regret at having neither remembered nor cared to find out in the first place.

But I see now that, like it or not, these four or six years are going to be a part of us for the rest of our godforsaken lives. Who wants to look back at approximately five percent of one's life and shudder? Those of us that are here to stay might as well be gratuitously proud of every intricate, insignificant aspect of the college possible.

This is why I shall memorize every word of both the alma mater and the fight song even if it means using my brain.

Why not?

They're each exactly eight lines long, and one line—"From Moraga's hills"—is common to both songs, so I'm really only learning 15 lines. Adjusted for projected sloth and oscillating apathy, I should be involuntarily singing them in my sleep just in time for basketball season.

We can all do this. I am a B-minus student and I'm doing it. Anyone academically or socially superior to me, about 90 percent of the undergraduate student body, has no excuse.

Just think; if we can get everyone who doesn't wear Ugg boots with a skirt to learn "On to Victory," how much more fun will it be when we own Gonzaga again?

Loads, that's how much more.

Instead of chanting un-called-for obscenities at the referees, we ought to be showing our love for the school that makes it possible for the referees to come to Moraga and blow so hard.

Being at Saint Mary's is about more than academics.

It is about the experience outside, too—interpersonal relationships, extracurricular activities, spiritual growth, and best of all, pride.

Pride in a major choice we have made in life, which we should celebrate whenever an opportunity comes to do so, even if that means communally singing outside of Mass.

**Zack Farmer**

**From Moraga's hills, traditions must change**

Freshmen are annually herded into McKeon Pavilion during Weekend of Welcome (WoW) in an futile attempt to learn the Saint Mary's fight song, "On to Victory."

Recently the members of the WoW program have expressed extreme interest in teaching the alma mater "Hail Saint Mary's" to the new students this year.

Now, I am all for school spirit but to teach the lyrics of the alma mater and fight song is essentially cruel and ununusua punishment for the incoming students.

There are a few reasons why these songs should either be banned or reworked.

1) No current student cares enough about either song to learn it.

The only students who know the fight song off the top of their heads are the Student Ambassadors and WoW Leaders.

I remember when the WoW leaders attempted to teach my class the fight song...yeah, that was a roaring success. It sounded like 150 dying sheep after being

dragged for a mile down a gravel road.

Even as a senior I cannot recite the fight song or alma mater to save my diploma. My fault? Not necessarily.

2) There are two different versions of the fight song, the instrumental version and vocal version. The two versions do not match note-to-word. The instrumental version is much faster and has more notes than the vocal version allows.

I have also never heard just one version of the instrumental version. Its hard to tell which is the correct version to sing because of the different, inconsistent versions of these songs.

At basketball games in McKeon Pavilion, the SMC Sports Band, of which I am the president, plays the fight song two or three times per game. Do you ever hear anyone singing the lyrics with the band? No, of course not. That's because nobody really knows the lyrics.

3) With a new generation of students, a new generation of traditions must take form. The alma mater and fight song are part of the old generation of Saint Mary's students.

This generation is very quick to judge music and outdated traditions; because of this, the students must create their own if they're going to like it. Remember, its 2007 not 1928; let's act like it.

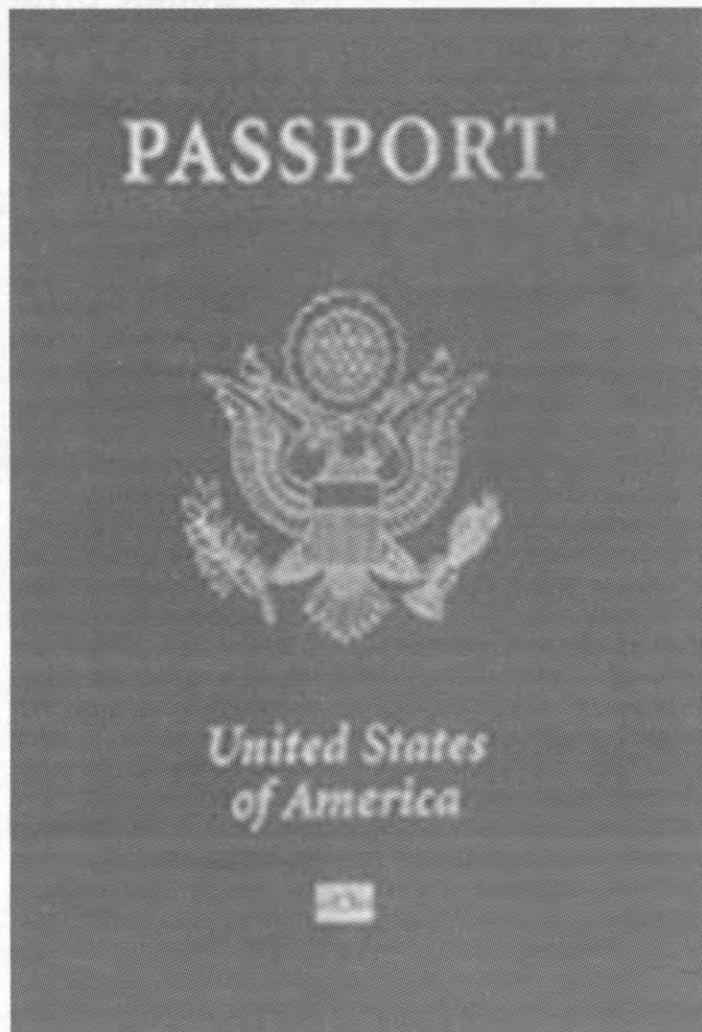
A revamping of the alma mater and fight song would go right along with the new logo and mascot, which is coming soon. Considering we are changing these traditions, it makes sense to change others along with it.

Is pride for your college important? Of course, but not at the cost of force-feeding antique traditions to new students. Right now, that's killing school spirit.

**Fight Song: On to Victory**  
On to victory  
The red and blue will win today  
From Moraga's hills  
Our team is ready for the fray  
And when we've won the game  
Throughout the land we'll spread our fame  
And with all our might  
The red and blue will FIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT

**Alma Mater: Hail, Saint Mary's**  
Hail, Saint Mary's, Hail!  
Alma Mater, Hail!  
We will give our all for thee,  
Red and the Blue!  
From Moraga's hills  
Sounds the call afar  
In defeat or victory, it's  
Hail, Saint Mary's, Hail!

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The Collegian  
**DETOUR**



**Bay Area rides together?**

by **Oliva Talavan**  
Staff Writer

I've had enough of BART. Yes, the same transit system that conveniently hauls the new freshmen on their first escapades into The City. The same one that thankfully spares people from the traffic to and from the Coliseum.

I spent more than half of my summer riding BART, walking to BART, or planning my BART rides.

During the day I rode the packed trains with thousands of businessmen and women on their way to the financial districts of various cities in the Bay Area. As crowds moved, I followed beside as I trotted off to my internships with a backpack in tow. At night, it was different, eerie almost, and I would step into the BART train practically entering a completely different world.

I would catch the 10:50 p.m. BART train out of Walnut Creek to South San Francisco. Finding the safest, most isolated seat, I would pull out my book and keep to myself. However, this didn't seem to help keep people away.

The BART operator's voice came over the intercom, "Rockridge. Rockridge Station." One man walked in and sat perpendicular to me and would not stop talking. I engaged solely to humor him; however, his conversation was about how his eye sight was so bad that he could barely read. He pulled out a comic book and began flipping through the pages, backwards! It was a façade; the man had no idea how to read. But he continued to tell me how he drew for comic books and also wrote the stories.

"MacArthur. MacArthur Station." Another man carrying two backpacks and a duffle bag joined our conversation by asking to see the notepad in which I had written. He began continuously asking, in his thick Irish brogue, if I wanted to make out with him—then I was just fearful.

"Powell Street. Powell Street Station." The best quote of the night was from a homeless person that saw that the Irish man was visiting. He said, "You should either get off at Van Ness or Civic Center, you can get anything for \$30." Remember, it's 11:30 p.m. now; he was not talking about shopping.

The next night I was distracted from my book when I noticed a redheaded woman chugging the familiar college drink. She guzzled a Natty Light in less than two minutes. My guess was that she was trying to prepare herself for the long night she had ahead of her. "Civic Center, Civic Center Station." After she applied her gaudy make-up, she stood tall with her four inch heels and pink dress that was about 12 inches shorter than my middle school uniform. I wondered if she was the \$30 lady.

Whether she was or not, I know one thing now: Next time, I'm bringing a friend.

**PlayStation 3 comes 'Home'**

*Saving grace for Sony?*

by **Jose Alvarez**  
Staff Writer

This time, we will really be "playing b3yond" what the PlayStation 3 promised us, but not with its high definition 1080p graphics and cutting-edge Cell processor, during its American debut on November 17, 2006. In fact, we will be playing beyond those two aspects for a different reason.

Phil Harrison, a top-ranking executive at Sony, spearheaded a project called Home. Home, Sony's second attempt at an online gaming service, is scheduled for release in October 2007. The network combines aspects of the social networking site *Second Life* and the popular PC series *The Sims* in order to create a virtual self and a virtual Home. Similar to Xbox Live's Achievements, users are able to display trophies as accomplishments in individual games.

Sony has had a very firm grip on the American video game console market for the past decade. In recent years, Sony began to cede some of its market power slowly to its two closest competitors, Microsoft and Nintendo. In 2005, the Xbox 360 debuted and put a huge dent in Sony's sales. The very next year, it seemed like Sony waved the white flag when the Nintendo Wii arrived on American shores.

Sony's problems included an



Courtesy of gaygamer.net

awkward launch in which both hardware and software were low in supply and the price for the hardware was an arm and a leg. Well, not really. Five hundred ninety-nine dollars is the third-highest retail price for a new console, trailing only the Neo-Geo at \$649 and the 3DO at \$699, both of which ultimately flopped in the console market at the time when the Sega Genesis and Super Nintendo competed for video game market supremacy.

Nintendo quickly appealed to the casual gamer with its wireless motion controllers in the aftermath of the ugly PlayStation 3 fiasco. Sony CEO Ken Kutaragi resigned the following spring. All this happened while their other competitor Microsoft had Xbox Live at its peak and Halo 3 was right around the corner.

While Home is slated to come out this October, don't expect the project to kick into full gear until

next spring at the earliest. Like any online gaming network, users must download updates that are issued by Sony in order to optimize the experience of Home. Other ideas fielded by Sony were a significant increase in downloadable content and even an auction service to take on the popular auction site eBay.

The previous service, PlayStation Network, was popularized only by the third-person shooter video game *SOCOM: US Navy Seals*, which has sold over a million copies, and other games in the series. Lack of consumer interest outside of the *SOCOM* series drove the network into an early grave.

Sony has gone through a journey of growing pains and learned its lesson from its awkward PlayStation 3 launch. Hopefully for those who spent their life savings on the system, Home will be where the heart is.



**CDs**

August 28

**Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals - Lifeline**

**Atreyu - Lead Sails Paper Anchor**

**Aesop Rock - None Shall Pass**

**DVDs**

August 28

**Blades of Glory (Will Ferrell, Jon Heder)**

**Heroes - Season One (Hayden Panettiere, Masi Oka)**

**Year of the Dog (Molly Shannon, Laura Dern)**

**Friday Night Lights - The First Season (Kyle Chandler, Connie Britton)**

**The Collegian**

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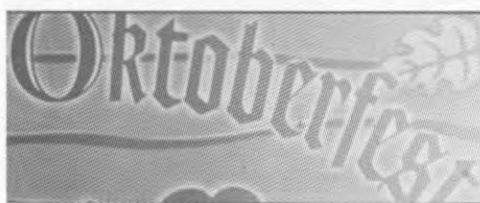
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Courtesy of websudoku.com

Difficulty: Evil (Good luck, chump)

Attention Disorder Corner  
**Sudoku**





The Collegian  
**REVIEWS**

# Rock the Bells comes to San Francisco

Annual hip-hop festival leaves lasting impression on The Bay

by Nick Gionfriddo  
Staff Writer

We all remember our very first concert, right?

I was unfortunately tied to the undeniable tunes of the great Amy Grant: House of Love tour. No questions please.

Rock the Bells, held two Saturdays ago in AT&T Park's McCovey Cove parking lot, would have been preferable to that. My friend Sabu, who came from Guam to the small college of Saint Mary's, found himself in the middle of what could be described as the greatest hip-hop lineup put together in decades. The show featured two stages, between which time was split among artists such as Blackalicious, Jedi Mind Tricks, Immortal Technique, Talib Kweli, Mos Def, The Roots, and old school artists Public Enemy, Cypress Hill, and Wu-Tang Clan. It was finished strongly with Rage Against the Machine (RATM).

Needless to say, it was quite a first experience for Sabu.

The crowds were intimately involved in the performances and stank of the Bay Area's own herby, personal air freshener. Surprisingly, hosts Supernatural and Rahzel threw down ridiculous freestyling and beat boxing skills in between acts to keep the intense crowd lively.

Talib Kweli and Mos Def began the lineup midday, when the performers just got better and better. Public Enemy and The Roots gave less-than-stellar performances but still were able to maintain the fans' attention. Imagine this scene: the last rants from Mr. Flavor Flav himself, gold-clocked piece hanging from his neck, screaming obscenities at the audience ("Yaaaaa, Boiiiiii") are the introduction to a soulful Blackalicious set.

Frontman The Gift of Gab gave a great rendition of his uniquely witty lyrics to the jams of his backup vocalists and band. His fading baseline collided with the famous beats of Cypress Hill, who still has it in terms of performing.

Their beats join the beginning of Hieroglyphics, and then it was over. Hieroglyphics, being an urban hip-hop favorite, were back home in the Bay Area where their roots grew into the following that they have today. Set on the smaller Paid Dues stage, Hieroglyphics tore up the show, hitting every lyrical beat and matching the baselines with consistent flow from members Del Tha Funkee Homosapien, Casual, Pep Love, and the rest of the crew.

Nonetheless, Hieroglyphics had to give way to the great hip-hop inventors the Wu-Tang Clan. Missing only the deceased Ol' Dirty Bastard, the other original eight members gave a tribute to the late ODB, and then proceeded



Courtesy of www.myspace.com/rockthebells  
Wu-Tang Clan made sure to get the whole crowd involved.

to give a show of epic proportions. Method Man, quite possibly one of the greatest hip-hop performers of all time, didn't hesitate when he hit the stage. Ripping intense, gritty rhymes, Meth crowd-dove his way into the mainstay of the performance. With help from Ghostface Killah, Rakwon, RZA, and GZA, Wu-Tang showed the crowd where the course of hip-hop is heading.

With an album due within the next two months, Wu-Tang seems poised for another massive breakthrough with their raw lyrics and minimalist beats.

What was already a great night became greater still. After the final words from Wu-Tang, RATM decided to join the party. Hoping to make this a true night to remember, RATM put aside their bombardment of governmental attacks and genuinely rocked an inspired performance for those in attendance.

RATM frontman Zack de la Rocha decided to groom himself for one of the few times he's made a recent public appearance, and guitarist Tom Morello was his usual chord-ripping self. Drummer Brad Wilk and bassist Tim Commerford each gave their take on what it is to rock when given center-stage. Regardless, RATM, thumbs up.

With the catch slogan "Represent + Respect + Recognize: A World Class Hip-Hop Platform," the artists that joined the cause to have their voices heard wanted to know that their rhymes have meaning for the masses—to spread the word. In a growing world of freethinkers, these artists have grabbed and understood best the parts of their fans. Now, they perform for their fans to unite and drive home one important meaning: to be recognized.

I wish this had been my first concert.

# Superbad: super good

by Nick Gionfriddo  
Staff Writer

When writer/actor Seth Rogen and co-writer Evan Goldberg began writing *Superbad* they didn't know that it would be quite the success it has panned out to be.

When they wrote the film at age 13, the two knew that their teen comedy would be different than those that came before it. In an interview with Newsday.com, Rogen said, "*American Pie* came out after we started writing *Superbad*. And we thought, 'Oh nuts, they made the same movie.' But while that movie's great, and there are a lot of very funny parts, it really does not fully capture our experience, especially the way characters talk to each other."

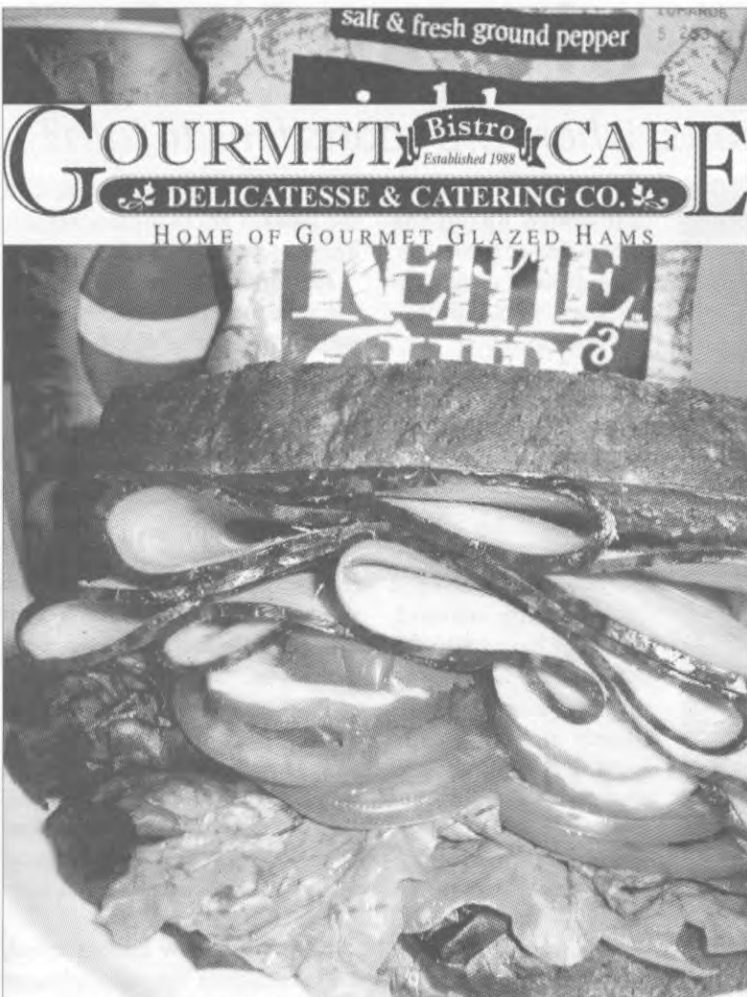
Boy, did they nail it. With Jonah Hill playing Seth and Michael Cera playing the awkwardly funny Evan, every small quirk of the individual characters shows believable high-school interaction.

Playing his usual awkward self, Cera gives a believably classic performance when thrown into a terribly uncomfortable situation with hidden crush/superfreak Martha MacIsaac. On the other hand, Jonah Hill's persona and knack for saying whatever he pleases complements Cera perfectly.

The gist of the movie follows the trendy all-in-one-day storyline, but has enough funny circumstances and extremely familiar situations for entertainment throughout. The real deal breaker though comes in the form of Fogell, better known as McLovin, the 25-year-old Hawaiian organ donor (Christopher Mintz-Plasse). His baby-face makes it especially hard not to laugh when he spits out rap catchphrases, and almost single-handedly steals the show.

Following on the one-day theme, the characters find themselves in a flurry of possibilities when Seth's comical demeanor lands him and Evan an invite to Jules' party, played by Emma Stone. From there the chronicled adventures of Seth, Evan, and McLovin intertwine into a crazy mess of trying to find alcohol for the party with Fogell's fake ID and trying to actually making it to the party alive, that will have you asking, "Did they really just say/do what I thought they did?" With cameo performances from Rogen and fellow actor Bill Hader (as Officer Slater), the cast throughout the movie is loaded with talent.

Already working off the success of *Knocked Up* and *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, Rogen is slowly showing that he is building a comical empire full of comedians not hindered by political correctness, and writers who are highly capable storytellers. With a cast that fits as well as this one does, Rogen really got it this time. If *Knocked Up* and *Superbad* aren't clear examples of what the comedy world is in for, then I don't know what is. Rogen is taking the nation by storm.



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## 100 Word Review: A Cluttered Facebook? Yuck!

by Mark Freeman  
Staff Writer

Facebook applications are the worst idea ever. These additions to the social networking site can list one's top friends, throw sheep and turn people into vampires, but they add unnecessary clutter to a site that once looked clean and professional.

Sure, some possess a charming quirkiness—who doesn't want to become a pirate?—but their novelty quickly wears thin. Do you really need three different walls and a purity test?

Excessive applications can make a profile extend for pages, forcing people to scroll down until their eyes scroll out of their sockets. Keep your messy profile—I'll stick to poking.

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The Collegian  
**SPORTS**



**PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**

**Gaels fall to Aggies in shutout**

*Men's soccer loses last exhibition game against UC Davis*

**Megan York**



Freshman Megan York won MVP honors at the Four Points by Sheraton University Plaza Wildcat Classic as

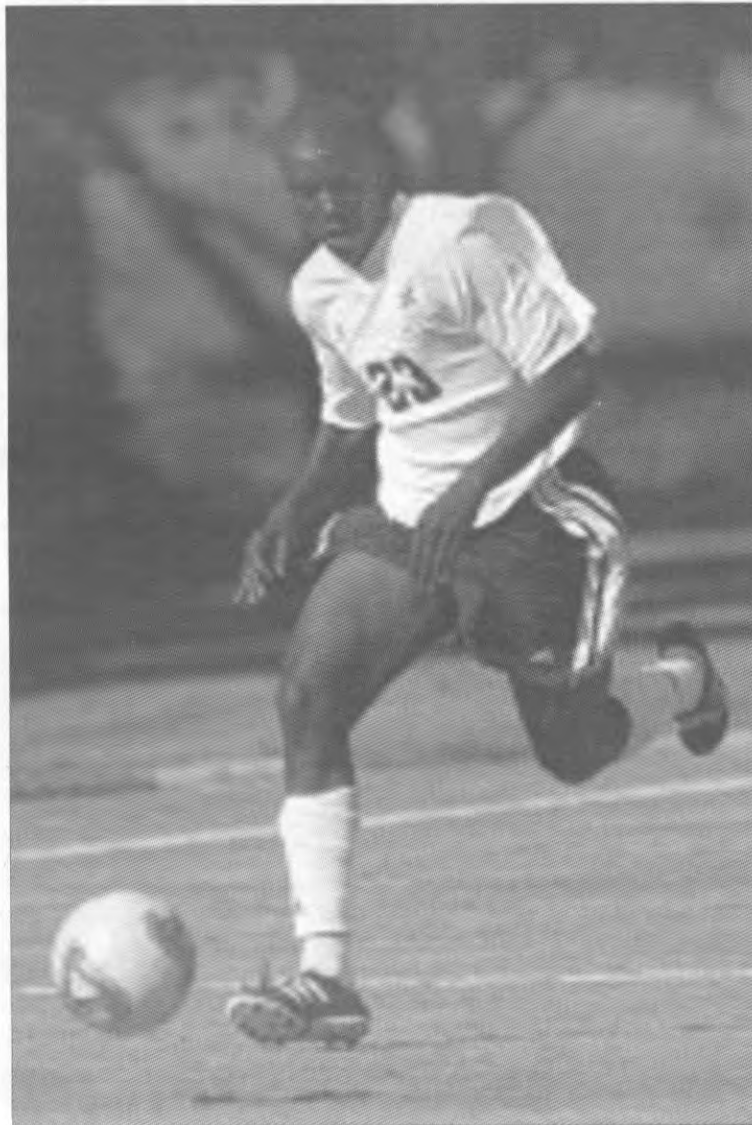
the Gaels walked away with the championship. The Texas native led the Gaels in kills with 48. She also put together a 21 kill, 22 dig game against Arizona.

**Kapua Kamana'o**

Freshman Kapua Kamana'o came in to replace Mandy Bible at setter this season and has immediately contributed. She picked up 112 assists over the weekend in her first intercollegiate tournament.



Courtesy of smcgaels.com



Courtesy of www.smcgaels.com

David Vedder played on Saturday for the first time since 2004.

by Zack Farmer  
Managing Editor

The men's soccer team lost their last tune-up game to the UC Davis Aggies 3-0 on Saturday afternoon.

The Aggies shared the ball and three different people scored. The first goal was scored 11:35 into the game unassisted by midfielder Nicholas Lind from about 20 yards out.

Davis led 1-0 at the half and the Gaels had the opportunity to get back into the game but less than two minutes into the second half, Davis' Miles Hadley hit the second unassisted goal of the game.

Quincy Amarikwa also added a goal in the 72nd minute of play.

Freshman midfielder Michael Lawler took four shots, two on goal but was unsuccessful to put one in the net.

Senior Brian Mason allowed two goals and made three saves on the day.

Despite out shooting Davis 15-13, the Gaels were only able to put four on goal.

The Gaels come into the 2007 season with an extremely young team, fielding 13 freshmen and only three seniors. Making his return on Saturday was graduate defender David Vedder.

It marked the first time since 2004 that Vedder has played in an

intercollegiate game.

Two of the biggest returners are West Coast Conference (WCC) Second Team selections sophomore Dylan Leslie and Mason.

Mason was third in the WCC in saves per game at 3.87. Leslie finished seventh in the WCC in shots per game with 2.50.

The Gaels suffer the loss of graduated senior Matthew Fitzgerald, the team's leader in points and goals.

Saint Mary's also lost rising star Carlos Diaz as he has left the College. No other information is available at this time.

Diaz led the WCC in total shots taken. He also led the WCC in assists in the 2005 season.

With the 0-1-1 exhibition record, the Gaels look to improve on their 4-10-6 record in 2006. Seven of the Gaels' 10 losses were by one goal.

One of the toughest games for the Gaels will be #6 Santa Clara, who finished ranked seventh in the nation with a 8-2-2 record. Additionally, the Broncos are the WCC preseason poll favorites.

Saint Mary's was picked to finish last in the Conference.

Saint Mary's will officially open their season in the Davidson Tournament on Friday, August 31 against Davidson. They will also face UNC Charlotte this weekend.

**Weekly Schedule**

Friday, August 31

Women's Soccer @ Colorado College

Men's Soccer @ Davidson

Saturday, Sept. 1

Volleyball @ CS Bakersfield

Sunday, Sept. 2

Men's Soccer vs. Charlotte @ Davidson

Women's Soccer @ Columbia

Volleyball @ Fresno State

**Transactions**

**Men's Golf**  
Head Coach Scott Hardy signs contract extension

**Women's Rowing**  
Nicole Younts hired as assistant coach

**Women's Soccer**  
Nikki Schrey (F) transfers to Cal

**Tennis**  
Men's coach Michael Wayman and women's coach Lisa Alipaz sign contract extensions

**Volleyball**  
Missie Stidham (OH) transfers to Sacramento State

**State of the general sports fan**

*With controversy surrounding major sports, where are sports fans to turn?*

by Nick Gionfriddo  
Staff Writer

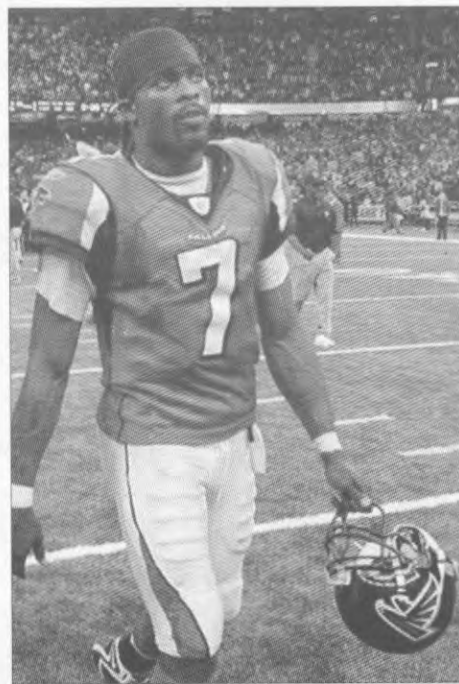
From game-fixing in the NBA, the all encompassing debate of steroids in the pursuit of Barry Bonds' 756, to the horrific fall from grace that public icon Michael Vick has experienced, the everyday fan has been bombarded with a litany of negative entertainment.

Long has the day passed when people of authority and players in high profile professional positions were given the public's trust and admiration, rather it has been replaced with skeptical critics and an affected fan base. The ongoing drama, controversial allegations, and convictions that have transpired over the course of the summer have shocked many in and around professional sports.

Most of the skepticism was due to the steroid debacle, and continues to plague the validity of scores that should remain historical.

Bonds, a proud local athlete, has been shamed and mocked by allegations of steroid abuse in the early 2000s.

Chronologically, next came the allegations in late April 2007 that Virginia-bred Michael Vick had reportedly owned property that



Courtesy of www.msn.com

Michael Vick is just part of the cloud that hangs over professional sports.

had been used in illegal dogfighting. This development ends with his three other co-defendants making guilty pleas, thus forcing our hallowed super icon into a guilty plea.

Now, Vick faces between 10 months and five years in prison, and most now deal with questions from fans as to why the need to engage in such shameful acts. Still, fans accept the fact that he's

just another role model that ended up on the wrong side of the tracks. Regardless of certain individuals, fans still flock to the sport.

Then on June 20, a mere six days after San Antonio dispersed of Cleveland in five games, FBI-backed information confirmed NBA referee Tim Donaghy had been involved in an alleged game-betting scandal. Donaghy later admits to betting on games, and pleads guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud and conspiracy to engage in wagering over state lines.

Enough is enough!

Basketball was already looked at with skepticism due to lackadaisical effort defensively and exponentially large scoring numbers, so when this was uncovered, all bets were off (literally). Historically we should already be immune to this type of behavior, right? No, if you can't trust the people who keep the game in order, then who can the fans trust?

Deceit, terrible idols, and poor managing in this sad series of events have continuously manipu-

lated the fan. Yet we still fork over the inflated prices for a ticket and beer.

However, we must start realizing that sports are exactly where we learn a lot of life's lessons. Pacman Jones hit a girl, was mysteriously near gunfire, got suspended for a season and is still screwing up. Donaghy royally messed up the honesty of the game.

The fans should appreciate their sport as a grain of salt now, until the trust can be established again. Idols for kids have been destroyed.

I am and will remain an avid, typical sports fan. Because regardless of how many times a black sheep is removed from the herd, there is always a good one there. In the new era of the professional athlete, those good role models are just a little hard to find.

No matter how controversial, and conflicting the state a league is in, the good individuals will always attract the masses and pick up the game. That is the state of the current American sports fan. This affair is a love-hate relationship. With all the power in the world, the fan is given the decision whether to love or hate its sport and athletes.

By the way, did anyone know there's a betting scandal in tennis?



The Collegian  
**SPORTS**

# Volleyball starts with sweep in desert

Freshmen fuel charge against Eastern Washington, Utah State, Arizona

by Sean Kent  
Staff Writer

Preseason games often make it hard to gauge how well a team will perform throughout a long season. However, even the most skeptic of observers would agree that the volleyball team's undefeated performance this weekend at the Four Points by Sheraton University Plaza Wildcat Classic was a major accomplishment for a very young team.

In the Gaels' first two matches of the season, they made quick work of Eastern Washington and Utah State, defeating both teams in three straight sets. Lopsided wins of 30-11 and 30-15 in the first game of both matches set the tone early against both the Eagles and Aggies, respectively. The final two games of each match were much more competitive, but Saint Mary's was able to cruise to the victories.

The Gaels' youth was evident immediately as the starting lineup was comprised of four freshmen and three sophomores. Despite their inexperience, it was the freshmen who took charge. Megan York '11 tallied 27 kills in the first two games, on her way to becoming tournament MVP, while fellow freshmen starters Shannon Lowell and Kapua Kamana'o came up big offensively in the second match against Utah State. However it was freshman Kelly

Huston's nine straight serves for points, including one ace, against EWU that asserted the Gaels and forced the Eagles to use their first timeout.

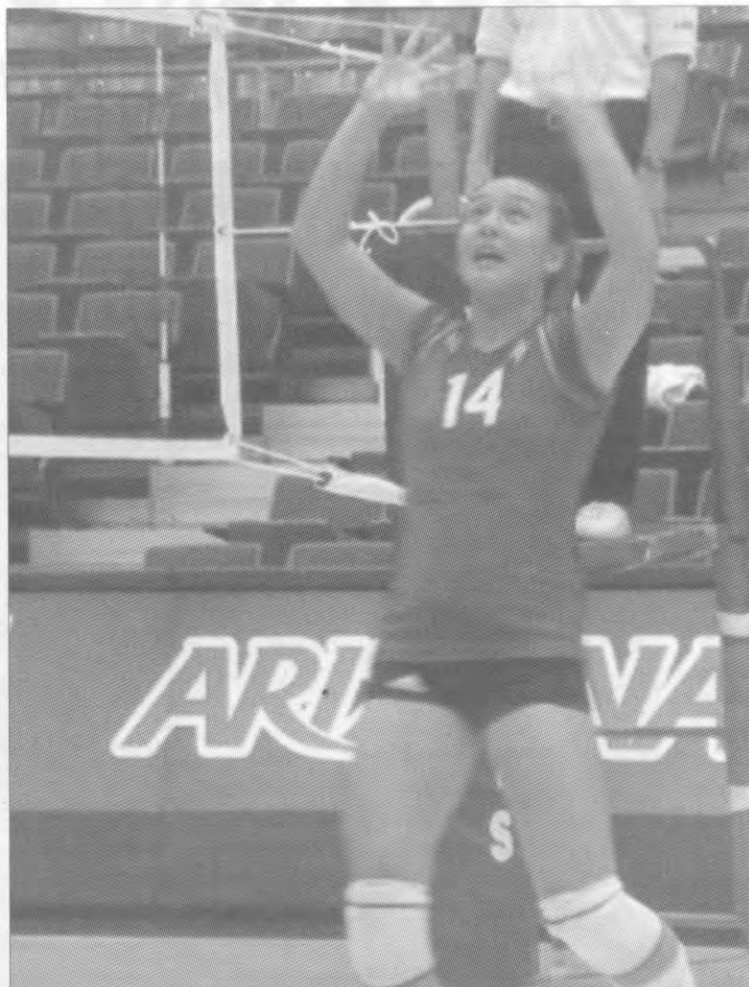
"All five of our freshman saw significant time this weekend and they all played major roles," said Head Coach Rob Browning. "We're a very tight cohesive team and sometimes we can play a little too fast to compensate for our lack of size. We fight well together."

The Gaels needed all the fight they could muster as their tournament finale pitted them against host and Pac-10 powerhouse Arizona. After securing the first game 30-26, the Wildcats won the next two games 27-30 and 20-30, respectively. Down two games to one, the Gaels fought back, spurred by Taylor Groess '09 and her nine kills and Huston's eight digs. York would also run off a nine point serving run with two aces, while Kamana'o kept the streak alive with two overpass kills.

Key kills by Groess and Lowell kept the score close at 13-12, Arizona. Successive kills by York, Lowell, and Groess sealed the nail biter for Saint Mary's.

"We went in knowing it was going to be a five-game match," said Browning. "We knew it was going to be hard, there were going to be a lot of long rallies, and we were just going to have to stick it out."

Along with York, sophomore



Courtesy of www.smcgaels.com

Kapua Kamana'o '11 led the Gaels with 112 assists at the Four Points University Plaza Wildcats Classic.

Megan Burton also garnered All-Tournament team honors with her .421 hitting percentage against Utah State and stellar defense throughout the weekend. The

Gaels will put their undefeated preseason record on the line next weekend as they play on consecutive days against CSU Bakersfield and Fresno State September 1-2.

## FARMER: Just part of histroy

continued from page 12

ready had medicinal help? Alex Rodriguez is the quickest man to 500 home runs. If he stays on this pace and for all intents and purposes Bonds stops at 775, he will get to Bonds in about six or seven years. In seven years, A-Rod will reach the age of 39. Neither Bonds, Aaron, nor Ruth reached 700 before the age of 40—don't rule this out.

Many writers, not including myself, have also devalued the home run because in this age the number of players reaching 500 home runs, previously an automatic number for induction to the Hall of Fame, has near equaled the total 500 home run hitters before the 1990s.

Here are the real facts. In the "steroid" era, seven players to date have reached the 500 home run plateau. Three more are very close to reaching the number as well. When Aaron broke into the league, there were only three members of the 500 home run club. During Aaron's 23 seasons in MLB, eight players including Aaron passed 500 home runs. Three other players that played with Aaron passed 500 home runs after "The Hammer" called it quits. Why was the home run not devalued then? After Aaron was finished in baseball, the number of 500 home run hitters jumped from three to 11.

Bonds is the new home run king and the record, legitimate or not, stands. Check the home run numbers again. They do not lie.

## LOGO: New identity forms

continued from page 12

"In the end, we wanted a timeless piece, something that could represent the school for decades," said Mark Chiarucci, director of athletic development. "We didn't want anything cartoonish."

The new logo incorporates a design system known as Celtic knotwork, which according to the official press release, "may best be described as a series of endless lines, interwoven into an endless pattern used for decoration and ornamentation of Christian monuments and manuscripts."

"For me, the intertwining of the letters really helps convey the school's sense of community," said Orr.

While the primary logo is already being implemented around campus, most notably McKeon Pavilion, the school has also adopted a custom-designed Celtic font family. In most cases, the use of this font will be the most practical change in many of the teams' uniforms.

"Almost all the teams will at least adopt the new font by the end of next season," said Orr. He also explained the progress the creation of a new, three-dimensional mascot, "Right now, it's still in the development phase with Osaki, but we hope to have that done by January."

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## Media drops ball on 756

by Zack Farmer  
Managing Editor

Barry Bonds, Mike Bacsik, and Duane Kuiper will forever be linked to that August 7 night when Bonds placed home run number 756 in the centerfield seats at AT&T Park. In what should have been one of the greatest moments in baseball history quickly turned nasty, not by the fans or Major League Baseball, but by the media.

The coverage on ESPN by multiple shows focused not on the accomplishment itself but focused on the controversy surrounding the new home run record. Lance Williams, co-author of *Game of Shadows*, was interviewed on ESPNNews, among other shows, about the illegitimacy of the new home run record. Atlanta Braves great Dale Murphy, an avid Bonds dissenter, was also interviewed.

The problem with much of the media is the overlooking of the entire era. They treat Bonds as if he is the only potential criminal in this era of baseball.

One of the questions posed to Bonds in the postgame press conference was, "Is the record tainted?" I am not saying that the record is or is not tainted. What I will say is that the "steroid era" has affected every player in some way.

The majority of the players who have failed MLB drug tests have been pitchers. Clay Hensley, who surrendered home run number 755 to Bonds, had failed a minor league test for steroids.

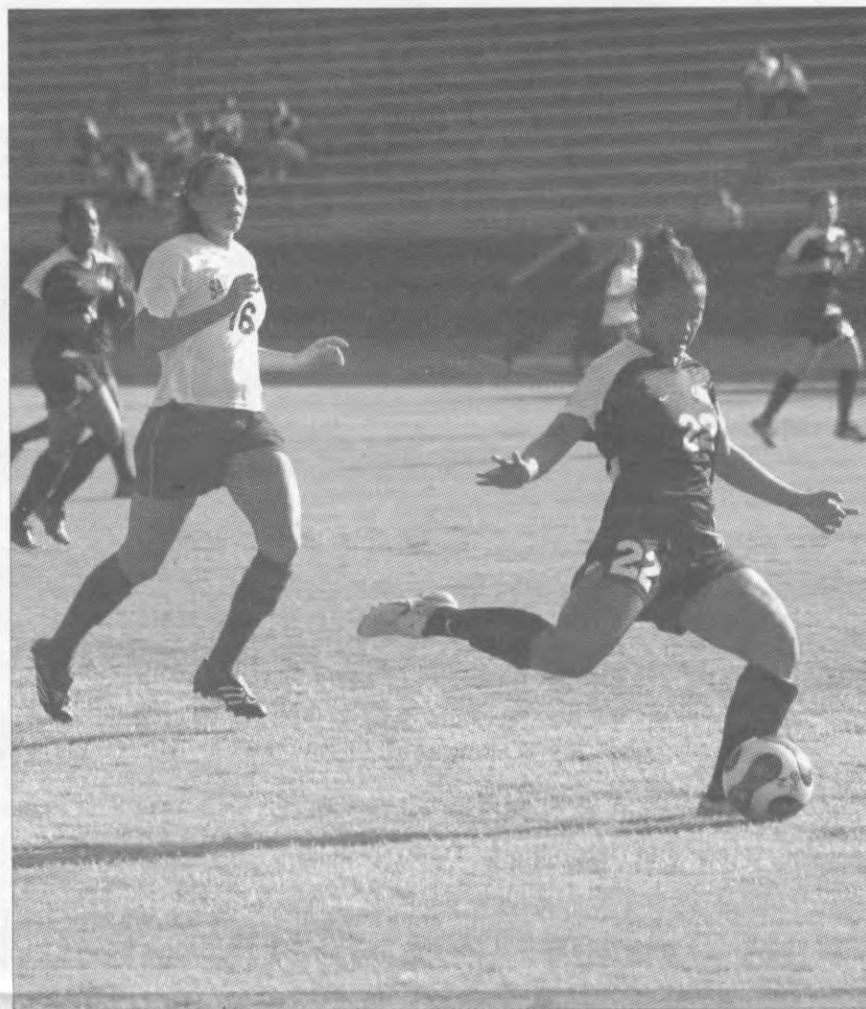
How many of Bonds' home runs came off of juiced pitchers?

Moreover, how do we know others in this era that might pass Bonds have not al-

see FARMER, p11

## Tigers take bite out of Gaels

Exhibition opener ends with late rally by Pacific



Annie Douglass/COLLEGIAN

Jessica Menzhuber (16) is beat to the ball by Pacific's Chyanne Alejado. Menzhuber scored the Gaels' only goal of the contest.

by Zack Farmer  
Managing Editor

The Gaels played a very physical exhibition game against the University of Pacific Tigers but fell short 2-1.

Saint Mary's was pinned into their half of the field for the better part of

the first half. Pacific was given many opportunities but was not able to capitalize due to self-inflicted penalties. The Tigers took five shots and only two shots on goal in the half.

The Gaels, despite being physically dominated by Pacific, was able to punch a goal in with 32:17 remaining

in the half. Red shirt sophomore Allie Weiner led sophomore Jessica Menzhuber for the goal on Pacific goalie Jaime Souza.

Gael freshman goalie Cari Makino had two saves in the half.

Despite their gritty performance in the first half, Saint Mary's fell apart in the second. Being dominated again in the second half, the Gaels allowed two goals within five minutes during the second half. This prompted head coach Kelly Lindsey to pull Makino for sophomore Tara Larson.

Both goals were unassisted as Makino was crossed up twice. The first goal was by defender Carla Vellutini and the second by forward Alysse Valenzuela.

The Tigers outshot the Gaels 13-5, 7-2 on goal.

Going into the 2007 season, the women's soccer team has only 11 players returning from a roster of 20. The biggest loss is the transfer of leading scorer Nikki Schrey to Cal especially after a dismal 3-13-4 2006 season. Losing the leadership of seniors Sarah Churchill and McKenna Belzer was an enormous blow to the team but it has not deterred them.

"[The players] have definitely stepped up," said Lindsey. "Our kids have been very resilient. We're going to work to get better than we were before." Lindsey is going to look heavily on the leadership of juniors Mallory Lee and Stefani Rocco to lead this young group.

Of the nine newcomers, eight are freshmen and Lindsey said to keep an eye on freshmen Makino, Alex Ciliento and Mercede Koning. "It's a process of teaching them the game," said Lindsey. "The game is played so much faster [than high school]."

Lindsey has not let the losses phase her ongoing process. "The great thing about last year, regardless of record, [was] we always played for pride and respect," Lindsey said. "I think we did earn a lot of respect." Of the Gaels' 13 losses last season, nine of them were by one goal.

The Gaels will play their first official game will be against Colorado College in the California Tournament at Berkeley on Friday, August 31.

## New Celtic logo hopes to convey pride, tradition

Redesign utilizes Gael tradition of 'family, unity, brotherhood, and pride'

by Sean Kent  
Staff Writer

Saint Mary's pride in its history and tradition can be seen all over campus, from the banners outside of Oliver Hall celebrating past presidents to the newspaper clippings inside McKeon Pavilion honoring the dominant football teams of the past. It was in this vein of thought that the College decided to shed its primary logo of the past six years in favor of the new design that was unveiled this July during Reunion Week-end.

To essentially re-establish, or for some, define what a Gael truly is for the first time was no easy task. After the school's first effort at a redesign failed in 2003, the athletic department decided to start from scratch in June of 2006. "We assembled a broad committee to encompass all opin-

ions," said Athletic Director Mark Orr. "We didn't want to make this an athletic department decision."

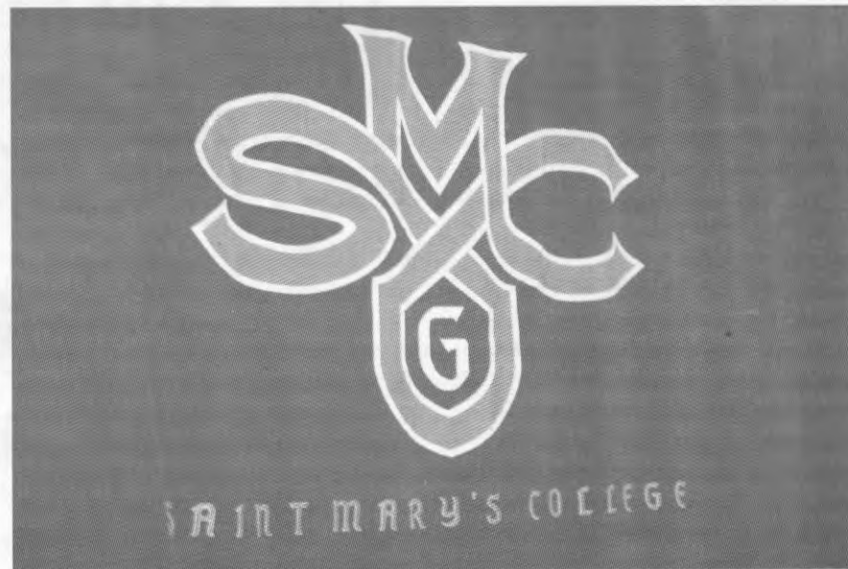
"At first I thought, 'oh ok, whatever it's probably just a bunch of student leaders,'" said Gael Force President Whitney Lopez '08 on being chosen as a representative. "But then when I got there it was only two students and I was very honored that my opinion to represent the student body was taken so highly."

While the committee was being formed, representatives from Osaki Creative canvassed the campus, asking what students, faculty, staff thought a Gael was. Between nearly 100 of these individual interviews and the guiding themes of "family, unity, brotherhood, and pride" decided upon by the design committee, Osaki had more than enough to build on.

"Osaki initially came back to with close to 50 different designs, ranging from humanoid Gaels to monograms," said Mike Samuels, director of marketing and advertising.

From that point, input from the committee narrowed the choices down to similar variations of the current monogram. "The committee liked the 'G' in the logo. There was a similar option with a cross in the place of the 'G' and while that might have worked to represent the school in general, it wasn't a good choice for athletics," said Samuels.

The most profound change was the addition of the shield, a nod



Zack Farmer/COLLEGIAN

All fixtures inside McKeon Pavilion have been updated with the new emblem.

to the warrior qualities of a Gael. The few images of the namesake that were present around campus were ambiguous and unofficial

renderings, ranging from detailed noblemen to humanoid knights.

see LOGO, p11