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Men's basketball preview

## Historian talks about politics

by **Nora Garcia**  
Staff Writer

An amazing change may be coming to America: a female president. Doctor Karen Offen, author and Senior Scholar with the Michelle R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research at Stanford University, spoke at a lecture co-sponsored by the History and Women's Studies Departments on October 23. The lecture *Who's Afraid of Women in Politics? and Why?* focused on the history of women leaders and the stigma associated with a woman in power. Offen, a pioneer in women's history, began her graduate studies at Stanford in a time when there were no tenured female professors. Times have changed, but, as Offen revealed, progress still has a ways to go.

The presentation, first given at Casa de Mateus in Portugal, covered significant women in history from before Queen Elizabeth I to Hilary Clinton. Val Renosto '08 attended the lecture due to a teacher's recommendation and left with a fuller sense of women's history. She said, "[Offen] brought up historical and international issues and examples, outside of simple suffrage, that I was not aware of."

The lecture also informed those present about the impairment done to women's progress by outdated societal views and the lasting damage done to women's advancement by those same views. The message given during this journey through time was clear: the glass ceiling, while cracking, still exists for women in politics.

In addition to being good politicians, women must also have personality, composure and good appearances to succeed. Women are not judged as politicians, but as women, a biological status that has nothing to do with how well they can do the job. This may be why there has been no American female president to date, a fact that may change in 2008. However, many countries have embraced female leader-

“  
The message given during this journey through time was clear: the glass ceiling, while cracking, still exists for women in politics.  
”

ship. England, Ireland, Germany, Chile and India have all had women in the highest office.

For America to be behind the times is not a new fad. In America women were not given the right to vote until 1920, while in New Zealand that right was granted in 1893. However, America is ahead of Switzerland, whose female citizens weren't given the vote until 1971. As Offen ex-

see OFFEN, p4

## Madness kickstarts season



Brianna Merihue/GAEL

The men's basketball team performed Michael Jackson's *Thriller* for fans. For more information on Midnight Madness, see page 6 of Detour.

## Halloween-Party-4-Kids a success for visitors, volunteers

by **Julie McAvoy**  
News Editor

A fairy godmother, Goofy, Peter Pan, and Jedi star fighters all congregated in front of the chapel last Friday to help celebrate Saint Mary's 10th-annual Halloween-Party-4-Kids. Young trick-or-treaters from after-school programs and a transitional residence in Oakland arrived on campus around 4:45 p.m. "Gael Guides" led the children around campus to collect candy, proceed through a haunted house in Assumption Hall, and convene at the Harvest Festival in Madigan Gym. "It was a great success. There were about 150 kids," said Carolyn Morisson '08, one of the students who helped organize the event. They came from about three schools in the inner-city of Oakland. She described the event as a collaboration between "Rec Sports and Mission and Ministry."

Recreational Sports contributed to the event by helping organize volunteers. "I've always offered my services to help Mission and Ministry with the event," said Director of Intramural Sports Kori Hayden. Hayden said that between 80 and 100 volunteers from Rec Sports, as well as Jumpstart, women's lacrosse, women's basketball, and the cheer and dance team, served as "Gael Guides." Also, other students who were not affiliated with any group volunteered their time to prepare for the event, hand out candy, work at one of the booths in Madigan Gym, or design the haunted house in Assumption Hall.



Peter Hunter/COLLEGIAN

Women's basketball player Mikaela Cowles '08 led two first-graders through some of the freshmen dorms to trick-or-treat. "I think it's a really good opportunity to help the community," she said.

Sara Jo Kendrick '08 helped organize how the Gael Guides would be assigned to children as they came onto campus. Each child met with their Gael Guide in front of the chapel and received a homemade trick-or-treat bag, a coloring book, some crayons, and a costume if they did not have one. "The Gael Guides seem really enthusiastic and are good with the kids," she said.

Father Salvatore Ragusa, who was dressed up as Goofy, helped represent the Office of

Mission and Ministry. He thought that it was a great opportunity to live out the Lasallian Mission by providing a safe and constructive environment for trick-or-treaters. "First of all, it is a good, safe place for them to experience a fun Halloween. And also it is a way to start planting the seed of studying and taking advantage of what they can do to help college be in their future," he said. "These kids have all the potential of other kids to succeed, but have more challenges."

Kendrick added, "This and Carnival-4-Kids are obviously fun, but also a way for underprivileged kids to realize that everyone can come to college and this is what you could do after high school."

### OPINION

Are there ghosts among us?

pg. 9

### DETOUR

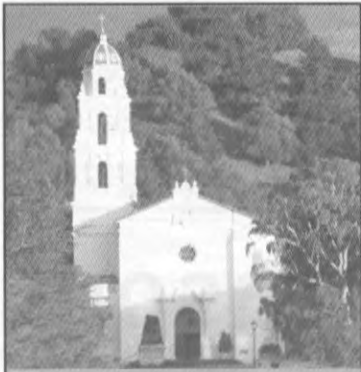
Ghost stories galore!

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## THE COLLEGIAN

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## SnapShot



Mel Olson/COLLEGIAN

*Alumni Bettina Limaco and Marco Pietschmann enjoy a game of checkers in the library on Sunday afternoon.*



ZACK FARMER

## Basketball is finally here

Oh, it is basketball season finally.

The baseball season is officially over with the demise of the Colorado Rockies. There went my bet...I mean, I don't gamble. I have no idea what you are talking about.

But in any case, tonight I can finally watch my Golden State Warriors start playing for real.

Baron Davis is still taking the lead and this tight knit group that rolled in the last few weeks of the regular season and through the Dallas Mavericks.

*Sports Illustrated* even chose the Warriors as the seventh seed in the Western Conference. This is where the conversation can begin. Who will be in the playoffs for the West because, as we know, the East does not matter (outside of maybe the rejuvenated Boston Celtics).

Let's see, the obvious are San Antonio, Dallas, and Phoenix. The next five spots can be debated. Jerry Sloan and the Jazz with a decent team is in and with a team that he has, he is in.

Now I will go by process of elimination. Seattle is staying home in May and then moving to Oklahoma City in August...don't act surprised. Minnesota without Kevin Garnett is not worth the rings around Kevin McHale's fingers.

Memphis is in disarray with Pau Gasol wanting out of Tennessee. Portland without Greg Oden has talent but is about two years away from being good enough to compete for the playoffs in the West. Sacramento is sinking quickly and no amount of Kevin Martin is going to save them.

Denver has enough talent to get in and Allen Iverson and Carmelo Anthony will not let them miss the playoffs. The Rockets should be ready to go with Tracy McGrady and Yao Ming even though the offense on that team is very sketchy.

The Warrior offense and swarming defense of midgets will have them back into the playoffs barring a serious injury to Baron.

This leaves the Lakers, Clippers, and Hornets. The Hornets did not make enough moves in the off-season to make the playoffs. The Lakers, unfortunately for them, did not make many moves either. The other LA team is injury plagued. For space sake, I will give the nod to the Hornets and Lakers because no Shaun Livingston and Elton Brand will be devastating for the Clippers.

Unless there is an enormous surprise, this should be the play-off picture.

## Crime Beat

**10/18/07 4:10 p.m.**  
Incident: Suspicious circumstances.

Synopsis: Dead cat remains found outside of Galileo Hall.

**10/18/07 5:25 p.m.**  
Incident: Fire alarm activation.  
Synopsis: Burnt food set off alarm in Aquinas Hall; referred to Student Conduct and Physical Plant.

**10/18/07 9:30 p.m.**  
Incident: Suspicious circumstances.  
Synopsis: Unauthorized student and possible sanction violations in upper De La Salle parking lot; referred to Student Conduct.

**10/19/07 6:00 p.m.**  
Incident: Traffic accident.  
Synopsis: Property damage to vehicles in Filippi parking lot.

**10/19/07 6:09 p.m.**  
Incident: Fire alarm activation.  
Synopsis: False alarm in Ageno C; referred to Student Conduct and Physical Plant.

**10/19/07 11:19 p.m.**  
Incident: Student handbook violation.  
Synopsis: Possession of marijuana and paraphernalia in Ageno A; referred to Student Conduct.

**10/20/07 1:20 a.m.**  
Incident: Student handbook violation.  
Synopsis: Misuse of college property (residence hall roof) in

Augustine; referred to Student Conduct.

**10/20/07 1:20 a.m.**  
Incident: Student handbook violation.

Synopsis: Students present where illegal drugs are being used and possession of paraphernalia in Mitty Hall; referred to Student Conduct.

**10/20/07 2:06 a.m.**  
Incident: Student handbook violation.  
Synopsis: Possession of marijuana in Aquinas Hall; referred to Student Conduct.

**10/21/07 3:55 p.m.**  
Incident: Fire alarm activation.  
Synopsis: Steam or heat from hair straightener or blow dryer may have set off the alarm in Freitas; referred to Student Conduct and Physical Plant.

**10/22/07 9:15 a.m.**  
Incident: Theft of College property.  
Synopsis: Canon video camera missing from Audiovisual Services Office in St. Albert Hall Library; referred to CaTS and Business Office.

**10/23/07 12:20 p.m.**  
Incident: Medical assist.  
Synopsis: Staff injury outside of west entrance to Dryden Hall, transported to Kaiser Walnut Creek; referred to Human Resources.

**10/23/07 2:30 p.m.**  
Incident: Medical assist.

Synopsis: Sick student in Galileo Hall transported to John Muir Hospital; referred to Student Conduct and Health and Wellness Center.

**10/23/07 7:15 p.m.**  
Incident: Suspicious circumstances.  
Synopsis: Verbal dispute in Claeys South parking lot; referred to Student Conduct.

**10/23/07 7:20 p.m.**  
Incident: Verbal threats.  
Synopsis: Student challenging another person to a fight in Justin Hall; referred to Student Conduct.

**10/23/07 7:30 p.m.**  
Incident: Vehicle collision.  
Synopsis: Non-injury with minor damage to vehicle in upper De La Salle parking lot.

**10/24/07 11:15 p.m.**  
Incident: Medical assist.  
Synopsis: Intoxicated student in McKeon Gym, no transport; referred to Student Conduct and Health and Wellness Center.

**10/25/07 3:00 p.m.**  
Incident: Grand theft.  
Synopsis: Three iPods stolen from Assumption Hall; referred to Student Conduct.

**10/25/07 9:52 p.m.**  
Incident: Fire alarm activation.  
Synopsis: Cigarette smoke set off alarm in More Hall; referred to Student Conduct and Physical Plant.



# The Collegian NEWS



## Featured Halloween Advice

### Beer



## Don't get too wasted

by Patrick Buelna  
Contributing Writer

From Santa Barbara to Chico, college students will prepare for Halloween, and their preparations will mostly involve the alcohol aisle. Alcohol is the customary life of the party for college Halloween events, but it also causes the most trouble for students and authorities alike. This brings about the common topic of alcohol awareness that besieges students before every fun event or holiday. Some may wonder what Saint Mary's has to offer for alcohol awareness?

The school provides resources for the problems that result from drinking. This is why the Counseling Center has alcohol fun facts in their pamphlets with the most important and tired information that can fit on a folded piece of paper. The pamphlets distinguish each the effects alcohol causes: blackouts, health problems, reduced inhibitions, slow reflexes, high blood pressure, kidney failure, poor judgement, unwanted sex, drunk driving, etc. In the Counseling Center, these pamphlets are always available.

Saint Mary's also provides helpful services for the students who have suffered the consequences of a bad drunk night or a whole lot of them. Students can go to the Counseling Center for a personal counselor or for an Alcohol Anonymous meeting.

There is also the Women's Resource Center for women to receive counseling or to report an assault. Public Safety can help students who have been assaulted or harassed, and they even have a lost and found. The Health and Wellness Center provides sexually transmitted disease (STD) check-ups and might provide a can of chicken soup to someone who is hungover. For off campus resources, Bianca's Delicatessen in Moraga or Noah's in Lafayette caters many students after a long night of drinking.

The other topic it seems prudent to discuss is drunk driving. With reliable word that Public Safety has procured a breathalyzer, everyone should find a designated driver ahead of time. As a back-up plan, storing money for cab fare on your body is always a good plan. For those who are staying on campus for the Halloween fun, it is best to be discrete to avoid write ups. Furthermore, freshmen should remember that Public Safety is three times more worried about them than any other class according to recently published statistics.

## Changes with curriculum possible Committee reexamining policies for class of 2012

by Jose Alvarez  
Staff Writer

Saint Mary's Core Curriculum Task Force (CCTF), founded in the 2006-07 school year, is a committee investigating the general education requirements. They explore how the requirements... can be changed to spark student interest in the classroom and to help students meet the general education goals while, at the same time, fulfilling the mission of the school.

Chair of the Communication Department and CCTF Ellen Rigsby said a general problem is that "the current requirements were instituted before the mission and the current learning goals. Educational theory has made it clear that 'excellent institutions' always make those three documents related directly to each other," and that "the learning goals and the general education requirements could be reshaped to fit the mission more directly."

Rigsby noted the decline of the SAT/ACT scores of incoming freshmen. "If we look at their SAT/ACT scores, they are often less prepared to do college-level work than those coming to Saint Mary's five years before."

The goal of the CCTF is "to meaningfully assess the current general education requirements

to see what's working and what isn't, and to make adjustments as necessary."

Rigsby also said the current problem with the general education requirements is that students are taking classes in the respective areas of humanities, math/science and social sciences solely to fulfill a requirement.

Physics Professor Roy Wensley, another member of the committee, explained that "the committee wants to be sure that our core curriculum does not have students just check off courses from a list, but rather students take a locus of courses that encourage critical thinking, integration of theory and practice, a commitment to the common good and life-long learning," and that "the Saint Mary's education will be seen as a whole rather than as parts to be gathered."

When asked whether any area would be emphasized over the other when the general education requirements will be changed in the near future, Wensley said that "the committee does not want to emphasize any discipline over another."

He added in concurrence with Rigsby that "we are looking for a curriculum that teaches students to carefully think and ask questions about any subject area. It is not our intent that all students experience courses in

every discipline."

Another problem that needs to be addressed by the CCTF is the retention rate of current Saint Mary's students. Although some leave for personal reasons, some also leave for academic reasons and these academic issues affect retention. Educational theory suggests that they will, because schools that have aligned their mission, goals and general education requirements, tend to perform at higher than expected levels. One factor in that "excellence is student satisfaction," said Rigsby.

Wensley said, "The task force to date has been working on a set of learning goals for the core curriculum that represents what we believe our graduates should take with them upon graduation. When it comes to the implementation of the core curriculum, the committee might take up such questions." Wensley ultimately hopes that the current requirements will change into "an engaging, meaningful curriculum" so that what Saint Mary's has to offer will "attract and retain students."

Big changes in the general education requirements are coming in the direction of the next wave of incoming freshmen, the class of 2012, as the CCTF wraps up their investigation into changing the general education requirements in the 2008-2009 school year.

## Campus Calendar

**Brousseau Lecture**  
**Dr. Sally Ozonoff on Autism**  
Tuesday, October 30, 2007  
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Soda Center  
Contact Cheryl Kelly  
x4409

**Sabbatical Presentation**  
**Carol Lashoff with Reid Davis**  
"GAP, a play about 'doing school'"  
Wednesday, October 31, 2007  
12:40 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.  
Contact Nancy Clark  
x4111

**All Saints Day Mass**  
Thursday, November 1, 2007  
12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Chapel

**All Souls Day Mass**  
Friday, November 2, 2007  
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Chapel

**Hearst Art Gallery Reception**  
Friday, November 2, 2007  
5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Soda Center  
Contact Heidi Donner  
x4069

**Meditation Workshops**  
Saturday, November 3, 2007  
9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Delphine Lounge  
Contact Br. Camillus Chavez  
x4344

**Alumni Awards Dinner**  
Saturday, November 3, 2007  
4:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.  
Soda Center  
Contact Lloyd Schine  
x4200

**Sabbatical Presentation**  
**Norm Bedford "Estonia's Challenge"**  
Monday, November 5, 2007  
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Hagerty Lounge  
Contact Nancy Clark  
x4111

**Pygmalion Reading**  
Monday, November 5, 2007  
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Soda Center  
Contact Barry Horwitz

**"Facing the Abusing God"**  
**Lecture by Carleen Mandolfo**  
Monday, November 5, 2007  
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Soda Center  
Contact Tom Poundstone  
x4696

Planning an event?

Want it in *The Collegian*?

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

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## Author returns from Iraq, shares experience

by Emily Esguerra  
Staff Writer

Rajiv Chandrasekaran, author of *Imperial Life in the Emerald City* and managing editor of the *Washington Post*, spoke to a sold-out crowd Monday night in the Soda Center about his book, his time reporting in Baghdad's Green Zone and the American occupation of Iraq.

In a time where much debate surrounds the American involvement in Iraq, especially with the upcoming election, Chandrasekaran explained to Saint Mary's students and Lamorinda residents the current administration's lack of understanding of the country. He also emphasized the unqualified personnel whom the administration sent to Iraq.

Chandrasekaran said, "We didn't send people with experience to the Middle East, people who spoke Arabic, people who had experience with post-war reconstruction... Instead, we sent the loyal and the willing."

"Though hundreds of more competent and experienced people were available to assist in the post-war reconstruction, Chandrasekaran pointed out that the reason the Bush administration didn't send them was based solely on the individuals' politics and level of commitment to the Republican Party. "They had to have the right political credentials," Chandrasekaran said. "The White House wanted a loyalist."

While reporting for over two years in Baghdad's Green Zone, which he described as a "posh seven-square mile American enclave," Chandrasekaran learned more about not just Iraq as a country, but the policies American administrators attempted to enact as well.

In his talk, Chandrasekaran also dispelled some of the notions that many Americans still believe in today, concerning whether our troops should remain in Baghdad or be brought home immediately.

When discussing the different viewpoints that people tend to take concerning the war, as well as the protection and rebuilding of Iraq, Chandrasekaran said, "It wasn't a problem of not having enough troops on the ground like many have suggested... All that was needed was one Humvee and four soldiers."

However, the lack of direction that the Bush administration seems to have, he explained, is based primarily on a misunderstanding of what Iraq is like, what the Iraqis are like, and what their nation was built upon.

Chandrasekaran told the audience that Americans tried to use a "one-size-fits-all" approach in a nation that is separated both politically and religiously, from Sunnis to Shiites to Kurds. For us to implement our American-version of democracy, he said, is simply a task that can only work in theory. American politics, history, religion, education, laws, values and culture are different, and it would be ludicrous to force our template of American democracy on a nation that differs so dramatically.

While in Baghdad, Chandrasekaran had the opportunity to talk to many Iraqis about their views on Americans and American policy. Chandrasekaran told the audience about one discussion with a senior Shiite politician, who he asked what the biggest mistake made by the American administration's transitional government in Iraq was. The man did not hesitate, he said, "The biggest mistake of the occupation... was the occupation itself."

Audience members, many of whom have read Chandrasekaran's *Imperial Life*, found the author and reporter's talk both interesting and revealing. James Vega '08 said, "It was extremely informational. I think his presentation opened a lot of people's eyes to what's going on behind the scenes in Iraq."

## OFFEN: Women in politics

continued from page 1

plained, it's not just the male stigmas placed around positions of authority, but how women use the tools they already have.

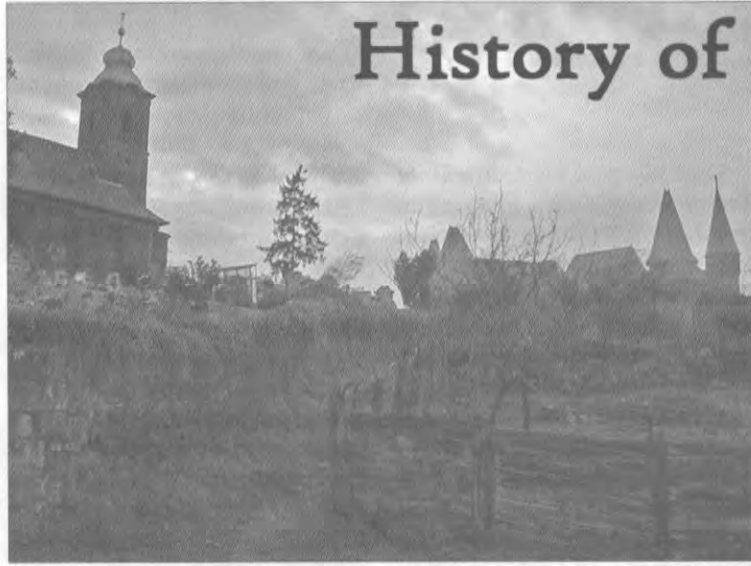
Offen hoped that students would come away from the lecture with a greater desire for political involvement. She said, "Vote. Get involved in political life. Young men should pay attention to women's issues, because [women's issues] are everyone's issues." A strong advocate for women in power, Offen showed how women, despite their numbers and rights, still fail to have their voices heard due to a lack of voting. She further stated the difficulties women face when trying to jumpstart a political career. Finances, time and critics seem to be the primary obstacles. Action

is being taken to solve these issues. California's collection of female politicians, though an exception to the rule, has reached positions of power and authority, proving that women can be not only capable, but successful in politics.

The stereotypes held for centuries regarding physical, mental and emotional weaknesses of women, reinforced even by women themselves, are being broken. In the 21st century, a new era appears to be emerging with the rise of Nancy Pelosi and Hilary Clinton, and it's a change that has been coming for sometime. At the end of the lecture Brother Charles Hilken said, "I wish everyone could have heard this lecture, it was a clear expression of the damage done by social constraints."

## Cultural Corner:

# History of Halloween



Courtesy of www.treearth.com

### Facts

The name "Halloween" originates from a contraction of All Hallows Eve. All Hallows Eve is a holiday observed by the Catholic Church in honor of saints. It is sometimes called "All Saints Day." It's technically celebrated on November 1, but the end of summer in Celtic Ireland in the fifth century BC was October 31. The Celtic New Year was called Samhain (pronounced sow-in), which means "end of summer."

Some places that celebrate Halloween are England, Mexico, Latin America, Spain, Ireland, Canada, Japan and the United States. Each country celebrates Halloween with their own special customs.

### Customs

Trick or treating has rather ambiguous beginnings. In one account, Druids during Samhain would go from door to door in the countryside asking for food because they believed that the dead would play tricks on humans unless appeased by food.

Another story is that on All Souls Day, Christians would go from village to village begging for "soul cakes," the more cakes they received, the more prayers they would say for the souls of the donors' relatives. This custom was called "souling."

The tradition of wearing masks on Halloweens emerged from early periods of disaster. When droughts, disease, or other devas-

tations occurred, people thought that if they wore frightening masks, the demons who caused disasters would stay away. People also wore masks so as not to be recognized by ghosts.

Though jack-o-lanterns have become customary pieces in Halloween decorations, they have a devilish beginning. Legend has it that Jack, a cunning Irish villain outwitted the Devil twice. The second time Jack tricked the Devil, he made the Devil promise never to go after his soul and the Devil agreed.

When Jack died, he was not admitted into Heaven because of his base lifestyle and was also rejected by Hell because of the pact he made with the Devil. Jack was doomed to wander the earth, carrying a half eaten turnip with a candle inside to light his way. When the Irish immigrated to America during the Potato Famine, they found that pumpkins were more numerous than turnips.

### Famous fictional monsters:

**Dracula** - first introduced in Bram Stoker's novel *Dracula* in 1897. This famous vampire with a taste for young women as victims was inspired by the real Count Vlad Dracul, or better known as Vlad the Impaler for his monstrous habits. Vlad, a Wallachian prince in the 15th century, was ruthless and blood thirsty, but is seen still as a national hero in the area in Romania that was formerly Wallachia.

**Frankenstein** - *Frankenstein* a novel by Mary Shelley described the life and times of a mismatched man created by the mad scientist Victor Frankenstein. The novel was published in 1818.

**Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde** - Robert Louis Stevenson's novel *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* investigates psychopathology of a split personality



Courtesy of www.danijones.com

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The Collegian  
**FEATURE**

The buildings of Saint Mary's Moraga campus  
**Historic Feature**

by D. Bowen III & S. Carlsen  
Staff Writers

Riding along the electric-powered train gave a certain tingle to the senses. The smell of burning coal burned the lungs, but it was a welcome realization of society after traveling through the middle of nowhere. Then suddenly, the smoke stack that was emitting that burning coal rose up in this haven, seemingly miles from civilization. Paired with the smoke stack was a church tower equipped with working bells that rang on the hour. A gleaming lake even graced the western extremities of campus. Where was this place of mystery that sat in between Oakland and Sacramento in the windy flats east of the Bay Area? None other than the Saint Mary's College of long ago.

What began as a simple, informative pamphlet created in 1971 by Brother Raphael Patton became a yearning for deeper knowledge. As the campus destroys old buildings, and adds new ones, the history of the College is pushed deeper and deeper into the past. The annals of Saint Mary's College are filled with splendor and adventure, yet few remember the glory days of 1928, few remember the College as it first was here in Moraga.

Saint Mary's started as a small college in San Francisco in 1863. It moved to Oakland in 1889 before settling in Moraga in 1928.

The heart of Saint Mary's lies in the 1928 layer of buildings—the first buildings on the campus. The chapel physically remains in the very center of the campus as the fundamental symbol behind the College's Catholic tradition. To one side of the chapel is the Saint Mary's College Community, the residence of the College's Christian Brothers. On the other side, Oliver Hall attracts students three to four times a day as it has since 1928.

Also among the 1928 layer of buildings were the essential part of any college: academic classrooms. Dante Hall was built in front of Oliver Hall, and directly across from it, in front of the Saint Mary's College Community, Galileo Hall was erected. In these two buildings were the only classrooms on the campus when the college was first stationed here in Moraga.

The three main dormitories on campus were also an essential part of the 1928 opening of the Moraga campus. Augustine Hall, De La Salle Hall, and Aquinas Hall were built in what is now called "central campus," behind Dante Hall. These dormitories still serve as three of the six main housing units for freshmen.

The heat for the dorms was provided by the Power Plant, located across campus. It provided



Left: Saint Mary's look during naval occupation. Where Justin Hall is now used to be the world's largest swimming pool. The drill hall was large enough to play a football game in.

Below: Lake La Salle once flowed behind Assumption Hall and the Power Plant.

all of the steam and heat for the entire campus. The heat and steam traveled to the dorms on the other side of campus in pipes below ground.

The last of the original 1928 buildings was the railroad station, which was located approximately where the post office is now. The railroad station is the only building from the original 1928 layer that is no longer a part of the Saint Mary's College campus. The railroad track once ran back where the stadium is now located, near the Redwood Grove.

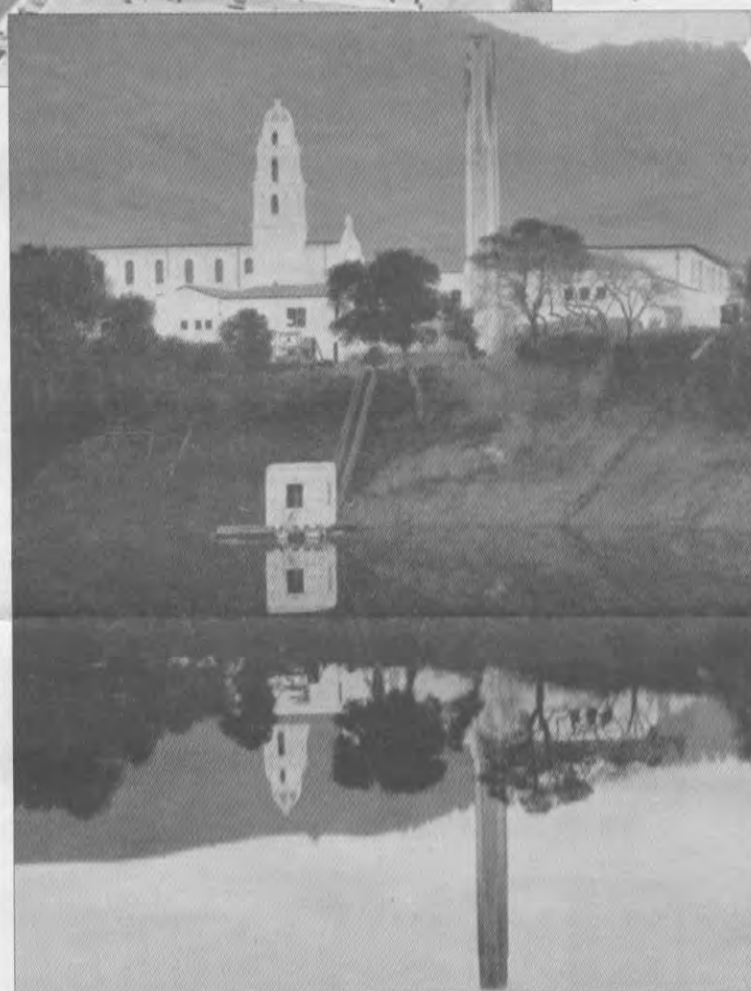
During the second year of Saint Mary's residence in Moraga, the College initiated the building of a gym. Madigan Gym and the connected outdoor pool were the result of their efforts. All of the basketball games and activities took place in Madigan. Due to the lack of seating capacity in Madigan, "the birdcage" was built coming down from the ceiling and held the timers and scorekeepers who used it as a vantage point to complete their tasks during the games.

In 1936, the Saint Mary's hill-sides were graced with the addi-

tion of "La Cruz de la Victoria," the Cross of Victory. The cross has become a familiar landmark among Saint Mary's students, alumni, professors and staff. Hiking up to the cross is a popular activity.

which at that time encompassed all four branches of nation's military, essentially inhabited Saint Mary's College until the end of World War II and the College's dynamic would never be the same. With the Navy came a sense of simplistic order. Imagine a general from the Navy entering the campus from the train station and walking into the side of the campus. So, instead of walking along a worn path in the grass as all people who exited the train did, the Navy made the executive decision to move the entrance to its current placement. The Navy could now enter the campus and see the chapel steeple lined up with the road to the entrance and the cross on the distant hill in a perfect, aesthetically symmetric line. Despite this major change, the Navy also affected Saint Mary's in many ways that didn't stick as well as this one.

The most notable Navy addition that didn't last until today was the largest indoor pool in the world. It lied in a space that



stands near the dumpster and is affectionately known as "The Shop." When the war finished and the Navy left Saint Mary's, more boys were able to go to college, so the school expanded its enrollment. In the 1950s and 1960s, Mitty Hall was built to accommodate the throngs of new students. St. Albert Hall Library was built around the same time, as a place where the boys could gather together and study.

In examining the history of the buildings at Saint Mary's College, one can walk through Assumption Hall and feel the past existence of the select students that lasted through the Navy days, one can drive over the holes in the ground caused by past train tracks, one can enter Galileo and Dante Halls which have stood in the same place for nearly 80 years, and one can hear the chapel bells ring and realize that every student who has ever attended the College has heard the same bells. The sensation is fulfilling, encompassing and gratifying.

Justin Hall now occupies and was used for training purposes. A huge, wooden drill hall resided in the current Mitty and Aquinas Halls parking lots, but was quickly torn down after the Navy left because it had no direct use for the College. Medical buildings existed in place of current Becket and More Halls. Instead of the Claey's, the Navy had a hall where their band practiced. The place where the Soda Center lies today, once boasted three large barracks where the soldiers lived. These were built off the ground on stilts to prevent flooding and gave the bar-

racks a sort of temporary feel. The final construction by the Navy was a set of wooden buildings that lasted until they recently gave way to Brousseau Hall.

The two other remnants from the Navy days, besides the entrance, are Assumption Hall and a little-known four-room annex behind the hall. Assumption Hall was the dorm for the students, teachers and Brothers. It was the only hall built during the days of the Navy, accounting for its abnormalities not seen in any other dormitories on campus. The shack behind Assumption still

stands near the dumpster and is affectionately known as "The Shop." When the war finished and the Navy left Saint Mary's, more boys were able to go to college, so the school expanded its enrollment. In the 1950s and 1960s, Mitty Hall was built to accommodate the throngs of new students. St. Albert Hall Library was built around the same time, as a place where the boys could gather together and study.

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The Collegian  
**DETOUR**



**CONCERT  
WATCH**



**Tuesday, 10/30**

**Hot Hot Heat - 8:00 p.m. @  
Fillmore**

**Wednesday, 10/31**

**Polyphonic Spree, Rooney  
and Redwalls - 8:00 p.m. @  
Fillmore**

**STS9 (Sound Tribe Sector 9 -  
8:00 p.m. @ The Warfield**

**Thursday, 11/01**

**Yo La Tengo - 8:00 p.m. @  
Palace of Fine Arts**

**Friday, 11/02**

**Gwen Stefani - 7:30 p.m. @  
ORACLE Arena**

**Danzig - 8:00 p.m. @ The  
Warfield**

**Dilated Peoples - 9:00 p.m.  
@ Independent**

**Saturday, 11/03**

**Dropkick Murphys - 8:00  
p.m. @ The Warfield**



**Books**

**Tuesday, 10/30**

**Vince Flynn - *Protect and  
Defend: A Thriller***

**Jan Karon - *Home to Holly  
Springs (Father Tim, Book 1)***

**Michael Chabon - *Gentlemen  
of the Road: A Tale of Adventure***

**Andrea J. Buchanan - *The  
Daring Book for Girls***

**Joseph Staten - *Contact  
Harvest (Halo)***

**Sherrilyn Kenyon - *Upon the  
Midnight Clear (A Dream-  
Hunter Novel, Book 2)***

## Over 1,400 students attend MidKnight Madness

*Keak Da Sneak, basketball teams, others hype students for season*

by Emily Esquerro  
Staff Writer

As if MidKnight Madness wasn't fun enough with talented and comical performances by the men's and women's basketball teams, Pulses, and the Spirit Team, this year Saint Mary's thought throwing in a nationally-idolized rapper would really seal the deal. Other schools may show their school spirit by spending Saturday afternoons tailgating and cheering for their big football teams, but few other schools get to spend their Wednesday night getting hyped with one of the Bay Area's most popular rappers, Keak Da Sneak.

The night of entertainment started out with a cheer by the Gael Spirit Team, followed by a variation on musical chairs in which contestants walked and awkwardly danced in a circle surrounding a pile of Saint Mary's T-shirts, then ruthlessly dove into the center in a cutthroat battle for a shirt whenever the music stopped. Junior Marco Cerda, one of the final participants of the game, said, "It was sick, and a hella fun way to get everyone involved right from the start."

Following the competition was



Above photos by Peter Hunter/COLLEGIAN

a slideshow of the highlights from last year's basketball season, including clips from when students rushed the court (twice!) after the legendary win over Gonzaga.

The rest of the rally consisted of a dance by the talented Pulses team, which seems to grow in creativity and skill with each new performance, as well as a shoot-out contest, slam dunk displays, and performances by the Spirit Team. One of the most humorous and entertaining moments of

Madness was the performances by the basketball teams, one of which consisted of the players dancing in a synchronized routine to a compilation of songs, including popular hip-hop song "Crank That (Soulja Boy)." After the skits, dances and competitions, students grew increasingly eager to see headliner Keak, a fitting choice considering his origin of nearby Oakland.

After about 10 minutes setting up for Keak's performance, in-

cluding laying down mats, building a stage, fencing off the area, and setting up the security (Public Safety), students joined in a ris-

ing mantra of, "Keak...Keak...Keak...Keak!" Although not all of the student body knew who Keak was, many of his loyalists rushed the floor to dance and got as close as they could to his performance, which lasted approximately 25 minutes. It may have been Keak's smallest crowd in a while, and the sound quality was not nearly as good as a standard concert,

but the contagious energy and irrepressible enthusiasm from his dedicated fans made up for these factors.

Granted, Saint Mary's may not be the biggest school, and we may not have a nationally acclaimed football team like some other colleges, but we definitely know how to make good use out of an otherwise ordinary Wednesday night with our impressive school spirit and a performance by one of the Bay Area's best rappers.

## Discovering forgotten beauty around Saint Mary's

*Trails, hills covering 420 acres vastly underappreciated by students*

by Peter Hunter  
Photographer

How long does it take you to walk to class every morning? Five minutes, 10, maybe even 15? How far do you think your walk is? Maybe a quarter of a mile at the most. Perhaps you are one of the more adventurous of those on campus who have struggled up to the cross or along to the Redwood Grove, but did you know there is much further to go on campus? According to the admissions office, the Saint Mary's campus stands on about 420 acres. To me, that suggests there is a lot more to see, considering central campus only covers 40.

As a student with no car and not enough money to head to Berkeley every weekend, I decided this year to make the most of the on-campus entertainment. I exhausted my interest in just about everything on campus within two weeks, so I began to look into some alternative local options. Having grown up in a city, I was very impressed with the general "greenness" of the Saint Mary's campus and the area, and, being an avid walker, I decided to see where my feet could take me.

Initially, I heeded the age-old adage "keep to the paths" and followed the obvious trails I could find. I walked into Moraga and I



Peter Hunter/COLLEGIAN

followed the Reservoir Trail, but it was not until I walked to the observatory, past the cross, that I realized just how much unpopulated back country there is to our campus. I spoke with a few like-minded friends and we decided to climb to the top of the tallest hill surrounding campus with what seemed to be a very round tree, directly above the SMC logo.

We discovered a whole world of trails and paths that stretch for miles beyond the surrounding hills, and we vowed to discover just how far and where these

trails go.

As an aside, I really must praise California and its fantastic weather. Coming from Ireland



Peter Hunter/COLLEGIAN

and a reasonably cold and wet climate, it is a very rare occasion when you can sleep outside with

only a sleeping bag, a warm sweater and a hat. I mention this because it truly is wondrous to sleep outside under the stars. Once you get into the hills, the light pollution quickly fades, giving you an unarguably gorgeous view of every star in the sky.

I have returned to these trails a number of times since with a few buddies, and we have discovered that, with some careful planning and the appropriate equipment, you can walk the hills for days on end as there are trails that stretch the whole way to the 680. You can examine the trails for yourself first-hand, but I recommend plotting a route path using the satellite function of Google Earth from the comfort of your own room first. Be forewarned, there are plenty of hidden dips and hills that a satellite picture does not show very well.

There is truly some amazing countryside and, if you are careful, you can be on a hilltop miles from another human, yet still be able to watch the sun set across the ships in the San Francisco Bay. Not only is it an idyllic place to take a walk but a great way to get some exercise, chill out in peace and quiet, and see the world outside your dorm room window!



# The Collegian HALLOWEEN



## Ghost stories from halls of Saint Mary's

*Had an experience? You're not alone*



There have been ghost sightings all around campus. The library is one of the many buildings reported to have been home to spooky occurrences.

Mel Olson/COLLEGIAN

### Lilly the Theatre Ghost

It was raining on the night she ran behind me.

It was my freshman year and I was working backstage for a production in LeFevre Theatre. I was rarely alone.

Several decades ago, Saint Mary's had a play involving children. One version says that a girl, Lilly, died in a car crash on opening night while another says she disappeared during intermission. Whatever the case, she haunts the theatre and has made herself known to former stage managers, actors and techies.

At one point that night three years ago, I was alone and sat on a large wooden box. All of a sudden I thought to myself, "Why am I sitting with my back exposed in a haunted theatre?" and I quickly hopped off. Suddenly, the cords behind me began swinging wildly, the wooden box rattled, and the fridge began shaking. Just as suddenly, it stopped. A few moments later, an actor came through the door but nothing moved in response. Understandably rattled, later that night I forced myself to repeat my actions. Nothing happened, and nothing happened again during the rest of the productions. Lilly had simply decided it was time for us meet.

- Darwyn Deyo

### Next time, call Father Tom

In the summer of 2006, I found out just how haunted the College really is. The televisions in my suite would turn off and on. Our remotes didn't work, no matter how many times the batteries were changed. Neatly stacked plates would rattle and spin. We started seeing her...we started feeling her every day. The last straw was when a friend came to visit and left our suite in a hurry—she had witnessed our see-through roomie. Later that night closets and drawers opened and closed at will. We called Brother Camillus first thing in the morning. Camillus came to our suite armed with rosaries and holy oil. We walked the rooms praying and anointing walls.

We stood in a circle, held hands, and tried to pray the spirit out of our room. I felt a hand trying to grasp my right forearm. My eyes shot up at my roommate's and together we acknowledged the same sensation in the same location. I prayed harder as our suitemate let my roommate know she also felt the grasp of the spirit. After prayer, Camillus advised us to call Father Tom—he could do nothing more. We never called Fr. Tom, and I will never set foot in Becket Hall again.

- Nora Garcia

### High-tech horrors

This story comes from a freshman year and a building that is more haunted than it is given credit for by campus lore.

We had been experiencing several "events" in De La Salle Hall during the '04-'05 year. One evening, a group of us was sitting in the hallway when a friend came out of her room. She was rooming with an exchange student and had just returned to her room for the evening when her roommate told her this story.

The exchange student, who if I recall correctly was from Hong Kong, was on her webcam talking to her boyfriend back at home. Her boyfriend suddenly asked who was in the room with her. She was alone, and stated so to her boyfriend. He then asked who the guy standing behind her was. The boyfriend had never been told that the hall was haunted. Being sufficiently freaked out by the conversation, the girl immediately told her roommate when she returned.

Personally, I have experienced a room that had a faucet that would start running full-force in the middle of the night and a door that would often "pop" open even after we were sure we had locked it closed.

- Mel Olson

## Halloween one day away

*Time to put together last-minute costume*

by Stephanie Carlsen  
Staff Writer

You've been putting it off, and now here it is...the day before Halloween and you still don't have a costume. You can go search costume stores to find something that might work, or you can search your closet and piece together a simple yet creative costume.

A pirate is one of the easiest last-minute costume ideas. Simply pair a white shirt with black pants (gauchos work well for girls), and black boots or shoes. Tie a strip of red fabric around your waist and another around your head. Now, you just need a patch over one eye, and you're ready to show off your best Jack Sparrow impression.

Another easy costume idea is a ninja. Simply dress in all black: black pants, a long-sleeved black shirt, a black ski mask, black gloves, and black shoes. Get ready to show off those martial arts skills!

Have a bed sheet lying around? Wrap it around yourself into a

together and whisk yourself through time; be a character from one of the plays in Greek Thought. Become a Greek god or goddess. Add some gold jewelry and ivy

### Are you a pirate or a ninja?



Left photo courtesy of www.funwarehouse.co.uk  
Right photo courtesy of www.abfab.co.uk

and you are Athena or Bacchus.

Are you God's gift to women (or men)? Dress up as Doctor Love. Get a set of scrubs or a solid colored T-shirt with matching pants and decorate with red hearts. Don't forget to put that bright red kiss on your cheek.

Looking for something a little different? If you have a clear plastic garbage bag and multicolored balloons, a bag of jelly beans is just the costume you want. Cut

two holes in the bottom of the bag for your legs, and two near the top for your arms. Step inside, and fill with balloons about twice the size of your fist. Tie the top of the bag with a ribbon around your neck (not too tight!).

In need of something a bit more creative? Want to light up the party? Dress completely in black or dark blue and stick glow-in-the-dark stars all over...you are a starry night! Sprinkle yourself with glitter to complete the look.

For a cute twist on the typical Hershey's Kiss, be a French Kiss. All you need is aluminum foil and a beret. Wrap yourself in aluminum foil, wide near

your knees and narrowing up to your neck. Place the beret atop your head with a slip of paper slipping out reading, "Le Hershey."

For the less creative, a Secret Service man or woman is perfect. Dress in a somber colored suit, put on your shades, and don't crack a smile!

And maybe next year, you'll get your costume earlier... Then again, maybe not.

## You Make: Pumpkin Cake

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.



Courtesy of www.poco-cocoa.com

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 1/4 cups Wesson Oil
- 4 eggs, beat one at a time
- 2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 tsp. nutmeg
- 1 tsp. ground cloves
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 cup chopped walnuts (optional)

Mix all ingredients together, pour in an ungreased 10-inch tube pan, and bake for 1 hour.

-Stephanie Carlsen, Staff Writer

## What's wrong with this sentence?

I don't know, because I'm not a copy editor. But you can help us illiterate staffers by coming in Thursday or Sunday.

x4279  
collegia@stmarys-ca.edu



Go to [www.smccollegian.com](http://www.smccollegian.com) for more content:

Review of Serj Tankian's *Elect the Dead*  
Artist Awareness: Alice Smith

The Collegian  
**OPINION**



JENNIFER KENNEDY

## Ads in magazines make smoking chic for women

It's suddenly the cool thing for women to smoke, according to Camel.

Camel No. 9 has begun an advertising campaign by selling their cigarettes as a fashion statement to women in magazines such as *Glamour*, *InStyle*, *Cosmopolitan* and *Vogue*. Their product comes in black packages with pink or turquoise accenting. The advertisements are filled with pink, flowers, and the caption "light and luscious." Camel's new cigarette is even named after a women's shoe: the Stiletto.

By using the caption "light and luscious," Camel is playing on society's hegemonic notions of what a woman should be. Fashion magazines tell women that skinny equals beautiful and Camel's tagline continues this ideal. This may be a great marketing ploy for Camel to make a buck, but ultimately this ad campaign harms women's image of self and their health. In addition, Camel gives away free stuff with a purchase, such as cell phone jewelry, lip gloss, bracelets, "the fashion emergency kit" or a purse. Camel is presenting a life of glamour with their new product and free gifts. Yet how can this be true with the health risks and the addictive nature of cigarettes?

Women's magazines, which should be endorsing women's health, are supporting the cigarette companies in luring women into buying a medically harmful product. *Glamour* had two entire pages dedicated to these cigarettes. One was the ad for the "stiletto." On the adjacent page there was a woman's outfit so you can be "dressed to the 9s." This includes a little black dress with black and pink stilettos, and could be mistaken for a typical page in the magazine. Fashion magazines have taken the image of the woman as a Barbie doll and added a cigarette to her hand.

Lois Capps of California's 23rd District in the House of Representatives, along with 40 colleagues, wrote to women's magazines and told them "to stop accepting misleading advertisements for deadly cigarettes." Many didn't respond and those that did are not planning to remove the ads. In order for cigarette companies to increase their revenue they must increase their market base, which they have hoped to do by targeting women. The fashion magazines have come on board with the cigarette companies reaping the monetary benefits. Yet they fail to see the future. Who are they going to market to when everyone is dying young from smoking?

There is nothing sexy or fashionable about having black lungs, a scratchy voice, a tube in your throat, or cancer.

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Thank you for publishing the article, "First sexual assault case of year" (October 9, 2007) and especially for the list of important resources available to the St. Mary's community. These are excellent resources following a sexual assault. An important resource to include on this list is the "Self-Defense for Women" 0.25 credit course offered by the Department of Kinesiology and cross-listed with the Women's Studies Department. Available since Fall 2005, this hands-on activity course not only offers students techniques to use during an assault, but, more importantly, provides students with strategies on how to \*avoid\* situations that can lead to sexual assault. All students are welcome to register for this class. For more information, contact the Kinesiology Department at x4377.

Chuck Buhs  
Self-Defense/Yongmudo/Taekwondo  
Kinesiology

Dear Editor,

I believe that Al Gore deserves the Nobel Peace Prize more than most of the nominees. The nine scientific errors cannot be taken as Gore skewing facts, but are either the fault of a few minor incidences of misinformation or that the earth proved him wrong. Also, Gore used so much more electricity traveling, creating the movie, etc...I think it was a good idea on his part because he basically is the one person that brought the environmental movement to households. Using the word "fraud" takes it a little far...Your other argument that Gore does not stand as an equal among Mother Theresa, MLK Jr., and Mandela is a bit odd, too. If we ignore global warming, where will be all be in 100 years? This is something that can change the world more than anything else ever and Gore is the front-runner. Apparently changing the world so that humans can actually survive more than 100 years isn't worthy of the prize.

Kaitlin Caruso '10

THE COLLEGIAN  
online

Go to [www.smcollegian.com](http://www.smcollegian.com) for more articles:

Patrick Buelna, "Fighting obesity in the home"  
Stephanie Carlsen, "Christmas comes early: meaning of holiday is lost"

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.

## Bush asks Congress for billions to fund war in the Middle East Money would go to Iraq, Afghanistan, national security concerns

Congress has caved in to Bush before and it is posed to do so again.

On October 22, Bush appealed to Congress for \$46 billion more to continue to fund campaigns in Iraq, Afghanistan and miscellaneous national security measures. He said, "we must provide our troops with the help and support they need to get the job done."

The war's budget was originally \$141.7 billion for the Pentagon to undertake the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. That sum was boosted by a \$5.3 billion request in July. The latest request includes \$42.3 billion more for the Pentagon's war efforts and about \$3.7 billion more for the State Department. This brings the



NORA GARCIA

total amount requested by the Pentagon to \$189.3 billion, \$6.9 billion for the State Department and \$200 million for other agencies.

This brings the grand monetary budget of the Middle East conflict to \$455 billion with the toll on human lives also still on the rise. Official estimates say 3,830 American troops and 73,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed. Hoping to get the funds by the holi-

days, Bush has met strong opposition from Congress. Given its track record though, Congress will probably give in, Republicans and Democrats alike.

Intentions are good on both sides of the fence, but it's doubtful that obscene amounts of money are going to help end the war. Bush said anyone wishing to see troops come home should support his call for further funding, although that is seen as more support for a continuing war which has lost the favor of a great number of U.S. citizens.

Forgetting the pro-war and anti-war movements, however, there is a strong need in the nation to fix America's own infrastructure. Education systems are failing children. Social Security is due to go bankrupt before this generation sees 65, and health care is still a major issue. So why is the U.S., with so much to handle domestically, trying to help another country rebuild itself? The focus should be on the home front.

The war is costing America hundreds of billions of dollars, it's damaging our international

reputation, and it has killed almost 4,000 of our troops. So why are we still in Iraq? The case to stay the course is to finish what the U.S. began, to make America safe by ridding the Middle East of terrorist cells, and to help a country develop into a free democratic state. Yet assisting another country's development is hindering America's own progress. Is the war making the U.S. safe? Probably. Is it taking much



Courtesy of reuters.com  
An Iraqi boy watches U.S. soldiers as they arrive to a patrol in Zafraniya.

needed funding away from programs that need it such as education? Definitely.

For President Bush to ask for more money to fight an unending war, which is not fully supported by the American people, at the cost of important programs, is an unthinkable political blunder. However, we can't leave our troops high and dry in life threatening situations. And the nation can't continue to support Iraq in any way, shape or form without causing harm to itself.

Whichever way you slice it, Bush's recent multi-billion-dollar request is going to cost America much more than just money.

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The Collegian  
**OPINION**

## Do ghosts exist or do you need your eyes checked?

Ghosts: They're merely a form of amusement **Jennifer Tang**

**Jennifer Tang**

Skeptics of the paranormal are often stereotyped as cynical, faithless, and worst of all—boring. However, a good ghost story is, after all, nothing more than a fabrication of someone's overly active imagination. They provide entertainment, inspire awe, and make an otherwise mundane place exciting. Belief in ghosts is a childhood delusion acceptable to hold into adulthood, despite the fact that we let go of the closet monster and the tooth fairy long before puberty hits.

Ghost sightings have been occurring since ancient times in a variety of cultures. The explanation behind this is not that ghosts really exist, but that people, even if they are from different parts of the world and time periods, are all the same in having human reactions to their surroundings. The setting of a place, whether it involves dim lights, compressed air, or chilly temperatures, plays a significant role in creating "ghosts."

British scientist Doctor Richard Wiseman explains, "people do have consistent experiences in consistent places but I think that is driven by visual factors mainly, and perhaps some other environmental cues." In other words, humans make up ghosts as a way to explain sensations brought on by such environments.

There are several reasons why people see ghosts, and none of these reasons support their existence. For instance, the limitations on human perception cause us to not notice subtle air pressure changes that may move windows or doors. And how many ghost sightings were seen out of the corner of people's eyes, late at night? Our peripheral vision, though highly sensitive, is also highly misleading, especially when we need sleep and our brains are weary. I, for one, saw a UFO above my house, out of the corner of my eye late one night. Does that mean the Mar-

tians are out to get me? No doubt I saw it and no doubt it was a figment of my imagination.

In addition, numerous psychological studies have shown that once the idea of a haunting is placed in people's minds, "there gets to be a dynamic in a place where the idea that it's haunted takes on a life of its own. One-of-a-kind quirks... all become further evidence of haunting," according to Joe Nickell, an investigator.

Then how do we explain ghostly orbs or that undeniable "presence?" Orbs are often found in photographs taken by ghost hunters who get paid to carry around little beeping boxes and take pictures of humid air and dust particles. It's too bad someone doesn't write me a check each time I take a fuzzy picture of clustered pollen, because I'm perfectly capable of doing just that.

Furthermore, ghostly presence should be called "when-our-bodies-trick-us" instead. According to Wiseman, sounds at low frequencies called infrasound, can cause us to feel that "presence" we all hear so much about.

Therefore, "ghostly presences" are actually internal occurrences rather than external.

Certainly, believing in ghosts makes life a little more colorful, if not frightening. They are, however, no more than a form of entertainment and that is something we must keep in mind next time we get bored and go ghost hunting in Saga.

**Linda Hua**

Ghosts are real, my grandmother tells no lies

Those who do not believe in ghosts only say so because they have yet to be proven otherwise.

My grandmother is from the old country...of Vietnam. She's not one to tell fictional stories and is certainly not one to tell ghost stories. So when I learned of her ghost experience, I was compelled to believe in the existence of spirits.

When my mother, oldest of seven, was very young, her family moved into a different home in the country. Over time, her younger sister progressively grew sick. One night, when passing by her bed-ridden daughter's room,

ghost, "Are you causing my daughter to be sick?" In short, she said yes. When my grandmother asked her why, the little girl's ghost replied, "Because she is sleeping on my head."

The next morning, my grandmother paid a visit to the previous owners of the house and asked them if they once had a daughter. They said that yes, they did, but she had passed away in childhood. My grandmother asked them where they buried their child and they beat around the bush, so she outright asked them if they had buried the girl under the house, under my aunt's bedroom.

The previous owners were shocked by my grandmother's sudden knowledge of their deepest secret. Thus, they asked her how she came across this information. When my grandmother recounted the ghost encounter, the previous owners were astonished and apologized repeatedly. The couple admitted that when their daughter had passed, the couple was too poor to properly bury their child and so they quietly buried her under the house—under that particular bedroom.

In the end, my grandmother moved the family quickly away and my aunt very rapidly regained her health. While one may argue that serious illness comes and goes in childhood, it is difficult to refute the affirmation of the key points in my grandmother's conversation with the ghost. As there was factual evidence to support the ghostly conversation, it shows that my grandmother was neither delusional nor suffering from a tired brain's neuronal misfires. To have heard such a story from such an austere, no-nonsense grandmother who does not tell stories for entertainment, I would be foolish not to take her word.

How else would she have been able to point out exactly where a little girl was buried when no one but the grieving parents knew? They certainly did not have nearby neighbors to tell a tale.



Mel Olson/ COLLEGIAN

my grandmother saw someone sitting atop my aunt's bed—a girl, yet not quite.

My grandmother recognized this figure as a ghost and addressed the little girl's spirit. My grandmother asked the spirit what she was doing sitting on her daughter's bed. The spirit responded, saying something along the lines of "causing mischief."

So my grandmother asked the



JOSE ALVAREZ

## Something Comcastic this way comes

Comcast hasn't just been serving its customers; it's been helping the government spy on them.

Good old Comcast. They offer you an awesome deal for a limited time, then end up bumping up your rates to something preposterous after the "limited time" period expires. I assumed that the rate increase would go to the usual upgrading of their services. Since then, I have learned to read the fine print of practically any contract I get myself into.

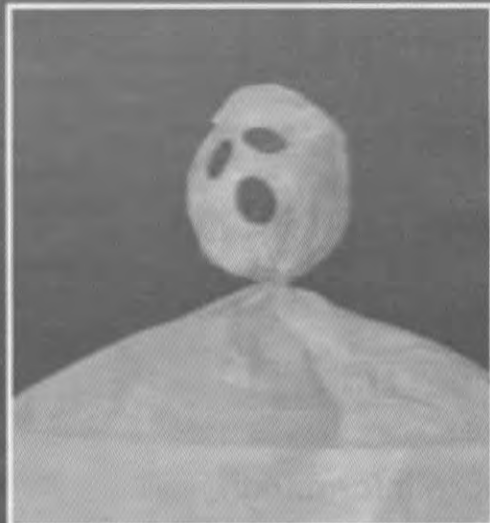
This time, reading the fine print doesn't get you anywhere because what you need to know isn't even in the fine print. Why? Comcast and the federal government have set up an arrangement to spy on Comcast customers whom the federal government considers to be suspects. It sounds like a conspiracy theory, but it's actually true. Comcast charges the government \$1,000 in the first month to install a wiretap on a suspect's phone line, then another \$750 each subsequent month after that. Of course, we're in the post-9/11 world now, so the federal government would want the services of a leading communications company like Comcast to catch any suspicious activity within American borders. Comcast is also one of the leading Internet service providers (ISPs) and communications companies across the globe.

In a country where freedom and privacy are highly valued, the government is breaching our right to privacy by wiretapping us and finding out private information about citizens that use Comcast. Of course, the practice of wiretapping us without warrants isn't new to Americans in the post-9/11 era of the Bush Administration.

The result of this fine little detail? Comcast will lose customers knowing that the true "fine print" has leaked—not the fine print that bumps up the amount of money you give them each month to watch TV, surf the Internet and make phone calls—but the fine print that's not even in the agreement you sign up for when you first acquire Comcast. It's about time Comcast tells the truth to the customers, even if it hurts national security. Besides, a very important American, Benjamin Franklin, said that "those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

The government is purchasing temporary safety via wiretapping Comcast customers at the cost of our essential liberty. I'm not surprised at all—considering our government's paranoia, thinly veiled as the "in favor of national security" excuse.

## What is the Scariest Thing on Campus?



Is it the Ghosts in the Theatre?



Or the Spiders in the Catacombs?



Or the Food in the Canteen?

Peter Hunter/ COLLEGIAN



The Collegian  
**SPORTS**

**PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**

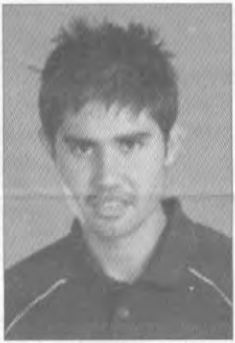
**Nikki Gonzalez**  
Volleyball



Courtesy of smcgaels.com

Junior Nikki Gonzalez posted a career-high seven service aces against Portland on Thursday and continued her production with two more aces and 15 digs against Gonzaga on Saturday.

**Mario Mendoza**  
Cross Country



Courtesy of smcgaels.com

Junior Mario Mendoza carried the men's cross country team to a sixth-place finish in the WCC Championships on Saturday.

**ATHLETIC SCHEDULE**

Thursday, November 1  
**Volleyball v. #12 San Diego**  
7 p.m.

Friday, November 2  
**Women's Soccer v. San Diego**  
3 p.m.

Men's Soccer @ Portland

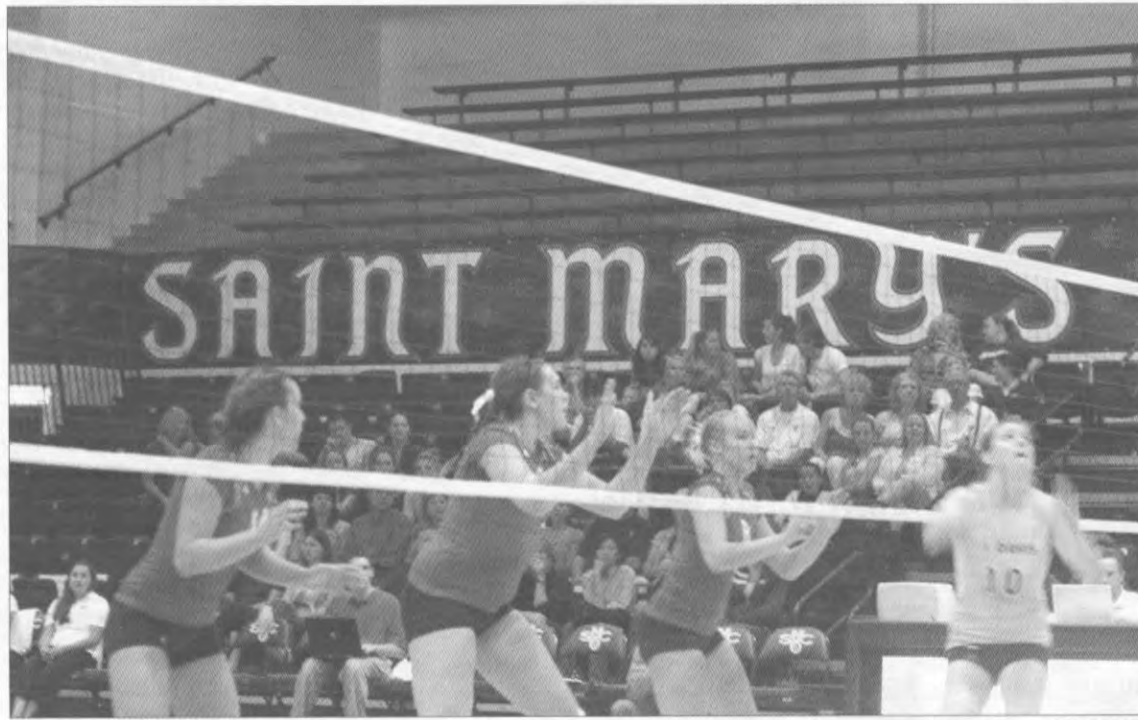
Men's Tennis @ Pacific Invitational  
Friday-Sunday  
Stockton, CA

Saturday, November 3  
**Women's Basketball v. Loyola University of New Orleans**  
2 p.m.

**Volleyball v. San Francisco**  
7 p.m.

Sunday, November 4  
Men's Soccer @ Gonzaga

**Volleyball splits trip to Northwest**  
*Gonzalez, York take lead against Pilots; Bulldogs roll*



Peter Hunter/COLLEGIAN

Freshmen Kapua Kamana'o (left), Shannon Lowell (center), and Megan York (right) could not overcome the Bulldogs on Saturday.

by Zack Farmer  
Managing Editor

The volleyball team split the weekend trip to Oregon and Washington with a win at Portland and a loss at Gonzaga.

Thursday's match at the Chiles Center saw the Gaels drop the first game but rally to dominate the next three winning 26-30, 30-17, 30-23, 30-20. Saint Mary's held the Pilots to a .168 hit percentage, while compiling 16 service aces on the night.

Junior Nikki Gonzalez led the Gaels in that department with seven service aces and nine digs on the night.

Sophomore Alita Fisher chipped in as well, with five service aces of her own. She led the team with 27 digs for the match.

Freshman Megan York recorded another double-double by

recording a game-high 19 kills with 18 digs.

The Gaels faltered early, only hitting at a .081 clip before turning the heat up on Portland.

In the second game, Saint Mary's held Portland to a .050 hit

percentage.

The Pilots have yet to win a

match in conference play (0-8).

Saint Mary's played right with Gonzaga until the fourth game, when the Bulldogs finished off the Gaels 30-23, 25-30, 30-27, 30-14.

The Gaels came out with a balanced attack, seeing four players record double-figure kills. York led the Gaels again with 18 kills. The defense had four players in double-figure digs as well.

Unfortunately, the Bulldogs had even better defensive execution.

Gonzaga had five players record double-figure digs including 21 by Alecia Douglas. The Bulldogs' 89 digs helped force the Gaels into 25 errors. Gonzaga only committed 16 errors.

The fourth game saw the Gaels held to a .091 hit percentage, while the Bulldogs hit a game-high .439 percent. Gonzalez recorded 15 digs and two more service aces on the afternoon.

Freshman Kapua Kamana'o recorded a less traditional double-double of her own with 58 assists and 12 digs.

Fisher came back and had a game-high 22 digs for the match.

The Gaels are nearing the end of conference play and find themselves in a tie with Gonzaga for fifth place in the West Coast Conference at 4-5.

Their next task will be #12 San Diego on Thursday and San Francisco on Saturday in McKeon Pavilion.

<b>GAELS</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>CU</b>	<b>3</b>

**TRANSACTIONS AND STANDINGS**

Men's Soccer				Women's Soccer			
Team	WCC	PTS	Overall	Team	WCC	PTS	Overall
SCU(3)	4-0-2	14	9-1-4	POR(6)	5-0-0	15	13-3-0
USD	4-1-1	13	7-6-1	USD(11)	3-1-1	10	12-2-3
GON(27)	3-1-3	12	8-3-3	LMU	3-2-0	9	11-5-1
POR	2-1-4	10	5-4-5	PEP	2-2-1	7	5-6-6
<b>SMC</b>	<b>2-4-1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6-6-1</b>	SCU(11)	2-3-0	6	10-5-3
USF	2-4-1	7	6-7-1	GON	2-3-0	6	10-6-1
LMU	0-6-0	0	2-10-1	USF	2-3-0	6	2-11-3
				<b>SMC</b>	<b>0-5-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6-9-2</b>

Team	WCC	PTS	Overall
Saint Mary's	1		1
San Francisco	0		2
San Francisco	2		1
Saint Mary's	1		5

Cross Country			
WCC Championships			
Men's			
1. Portland			
2. Loyola Marymount			
3. Santa Clara			
4. San Francisco			
5. Pepperdine			
<b>6. Saint Mary's</b>			
7. Gonzaga			
8. San Diego			

Women's			
1. Portland			
2. San Francisco			
3. Loyola Marymount			
4. Santa Clara			
5. Pepperdine			
6. Gonzaga			
7. San Diego			
<b>8. Saint Mary's</b>			

Volleyball			
Team	WCC	PCT	Overall
SCU	8-1	.889	16-9
USD(12)	6-2	.750	16-6
PEP	5-3	.625	13-7
USF	4-4	.500	15-9
GON	4-5	.444	16-9
<b>SMC</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>.444</b>	<b>12-9</b>
LMU	3-5	.375	11-10
POR	0-9	.000	7-16

Men's Golf			
Del Walker Intercollegiate			
1. Colorado State			-11
2. Pacific			-10
<b>3. Saint Mary's</b>			<b>-8</b>
4. Houston			-7
UC Irvine			-7

**SOCCER: Gaels cannot close out at home against Dons**

continued from page 12

game but freshman Eric Rivas' shot sailed wide right as he had a clear shot on the open goal.

USF tied the game in the 25th minute on a goal by San Francisco's Ben Dessard. The assist came from Daniel DeGeer. and left the game tied at half. The game remained tied until the final minutes of the game.

The Dons broke the tie with less than five minutes remaining on a header by Brandon

McDonald. The assist came from DeGeer.

Flynn was unable to continue his success against the Dons, allowing two goals while collecting five saves.

The Dons out shot the Gaels 10 to seven and recorded more corner kicks, five to two.

The split took the Gaels to 6-6-1 and 2-4-1 in the WCC. They will take to the road and visit Gonzaga and Portland this week.

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The Collegian  
**SPORTS**

Season Preview

**WCC gap closes as Gaels place two points behind Zags**  
*Youth and talent to carry Saint Mary's through tough schedule*

by Sean Kent  
Staff Writer

As this year's high profile MidKnight Madness proved early last week, the 2007-2008 men's basketball season won't be like the last few. While last season's upset of Gonzaga at home on ESPN was arguably the highlight of the year, this year's team looks to make that a preview of what will happen or "toexpect" this year.

Firstly, the Gaels are going into this season ranked second in the WCC coaches' preseason poll. While we would all have expected them to be near the top of that list, what makes it even more exciting is that they finished behind eight-time conference champion Gonzaga by only two votes.

Anytime you can contest a team that has won eight of the last nine conference championships, you're in good company. Saint Mary's even garnered three of the eight first place votes. While the coaches within the WCC recognize the Gaels as being on the rise, they also acknowledge that the Toreros of San Diego will also make some noise.

Both USD and Saint Mary's have four returning starters, in contrast to Gonzaga's three. However, Josh Heytvelt, Jeremy Pargo and David Pendergraft have proven they're quite the dynamic trio. In fact, the most recent USA Today/ESPN Poll has the Bulldogs ranked 14th in the nation. So on that account, by comparison the Gaels are within striking distance of a top-25 team.

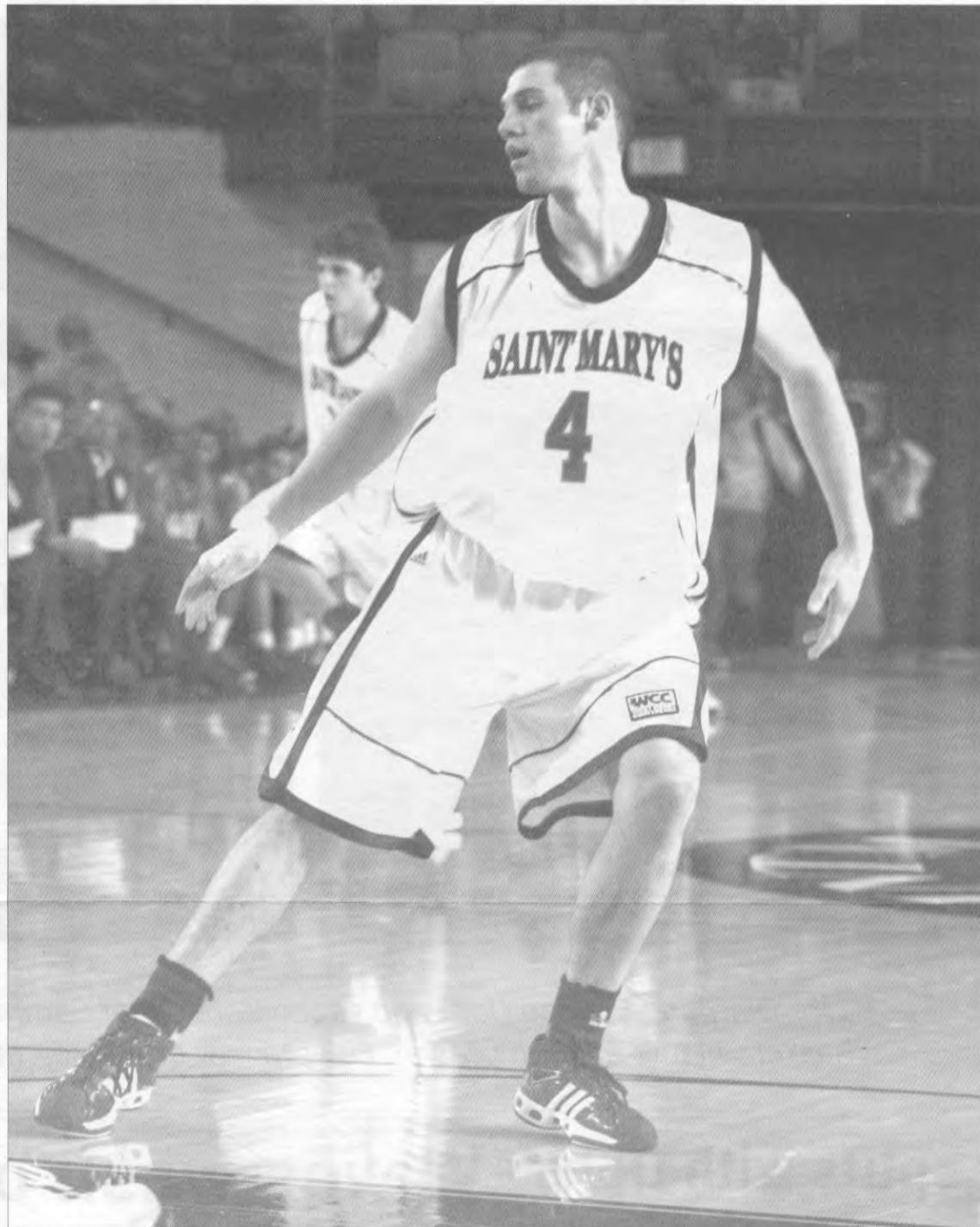
This year there's also the addition of the four Australians. For Carlin Hughes '09 and Lucas Walker '09, their chance has come after a year of waiting, sitting on the bench for an entire season. Now they, along with Patrick Mills '11, considered one of Australia's top amateur basketball prospects, and Ben Allen '09, who transferred from Indiana University and will red shirt this year.

Perhaps Coach Randy Bennett is returning to Australia in hopes of catching the same lightning in a bottle he found with Daniel Kickert in 2002. Kickert went on to become the Saint Mary's all-time career-scoring leader with 1,863 points.

More importantly though, Bennett will be trying for a return to NCAA Tournament, something that last happened during Kickert's tenure.

Not only does Saint Mary's have high expectations lumped on it this season, but it will also be on national television more than it was last year. In the WCC's premiere national television game, the Gaels' biggest non-conference match-up against Oregon at McKeon Pavilion will be broadcast on the ESPNU network.

Later in the season, Saint Mary's will be on ESPN in



Collegian Archives

Junior Ian O'Leary will try to rebound from a sophomore slump. He is part of a much deeper bench this season.

consecutive weeks as they take on rival Gonzaga at home on February 4, then travel to Santa Clara for a February 11 matchup. Both games will be part of ESPN's Big Monday broadcast package.

The 2007-2008 season also marks the 100th year of Saint Mary's basketball.

While records were not kept in some of the initial seasons, Saint Mary's would join the Intercollegiate Basketball Conference of California and Nevada in 1913. Beating Stanford, University of

the Pacific, Cal, Nevada and Saint Ignatius, Saint Mary's won the dual-state championship four times in seven years.

Slip Madigan, the legendary football coach, would take on double duty acting as the football and basketball coach between 1920 and 1926-1927.

After posting a successful 176-105 record from 1933-1946, the Gaels would join the California Basketball Association in 1952 which would evolve into the West Coast Athletic Conference and

eventually take its current moniker, the West Coast Conference. Throughout this season, a list of the top 25 players of the last century will be released. The first eight players will be revealed in the days leading up to the Gaels' first home game against Sonoma State, while the final 16 will be unveiled at halftime of every home game.

The best player of the last 100 years will be announced at the final home game against the Toreros February 25.

**Season Predictions**

From the Sports Writers	Sean Kent	Zack Farmer	Nick Gionfriddo	Stef Ordoveza	Frankie Mangini
Record (Overall, WCC)	20-9, 9-5	22-11, 11-3	22-8, 10-4	19-13, 9-5	20-11, 10-4
WCC Season Champ	Gonzaga	Gonzaga	Gonzaga	Gonzaga	Gonzaga
WCC Tourney Champ	Saint Mary's	Gonzaga	Gonzaga	Gonzaga	Gonzaga
WCC POY	Jeremy Pargo, GON	Josh Heytvelt, GON	Diamon Simpson	Brandon Johnson, USD	Josh Heytvelt, GON
SMC POY	Diamon Simpson	Omar Samhan	Diamon Simpson	Diamon Simpson	Diamon Simpson
Postseason	NCAA First round	NCAA First round	NCAA Second round	None	None

**2006-2007 Season Statistics**

Record: 17-15  
WCC Record: 8-6 (3rd place)  
Home: 12-5  
Away: 5-9  
Neutral: 0-1

WCC First Team:  
Diamon Simpson\*

WCC All-Freshman First Team:  
Omar Samhan\*

**Leading Scorers (Points/game)**

1. Diamon Simpson\* 14.1
2. Brett Collins 12.4
3. Omar Samhan\* 9.2
4. Wayne Hunter\* 8.8
5. Tron Smith\* 7.9

**Leading Rebounders (Rebounds/game)**

1. Diamon Simpson\* 7.7
2. Omar Samhan\* 5.6
3. Ian O'Leary\* 4.8
4. Brett Collins 4.1
5. John Winston 3.3

**Assist Leaders (Assists/game)**

1. Todd Golden\* 3.2
2. John Winston 2.9
3. Brett Collins 1.6
4. Tron Smith\* 1.4
5. Wayne Hunter\* 1.1

**Field Goal Percentage**

1. Omar Samhan\* .532
2. Diamon Simpson\* .483
3. Blake Sholberg .483
4. Yusef Smith\* .474
5. Brett Collins .428

**3-Point FG Percentage**

1. Brett Collins .451
2. Tron Smith\* .378
3. Todd Golden\* .338
4. Ian O'Leary\* .253
5. Wayne Hunter\* .226

\* - Returning

## Saint Mary's concludes season

*Mendoza finishes 12th pushing cross country to sixth*

by Zack Farmer  
Managing Editor

The men's and women's cross country teams finished their season on Saturday, coming in sixth and eighth place respectively at the West Coast Conference (WCC) Championships.

Junior Mario Mendoza led the Gaels, finishing in 12th place overall and pushing the men's team to a sixth-place finish, just in front of Gonzaga.

Mendoza's time of 25:44 was the third fastest time in Saint Mary's history.

His time was also a personal best by 56 seconds. His improvement at the WCC Championships earned him a slot in the NCAA Regionals.

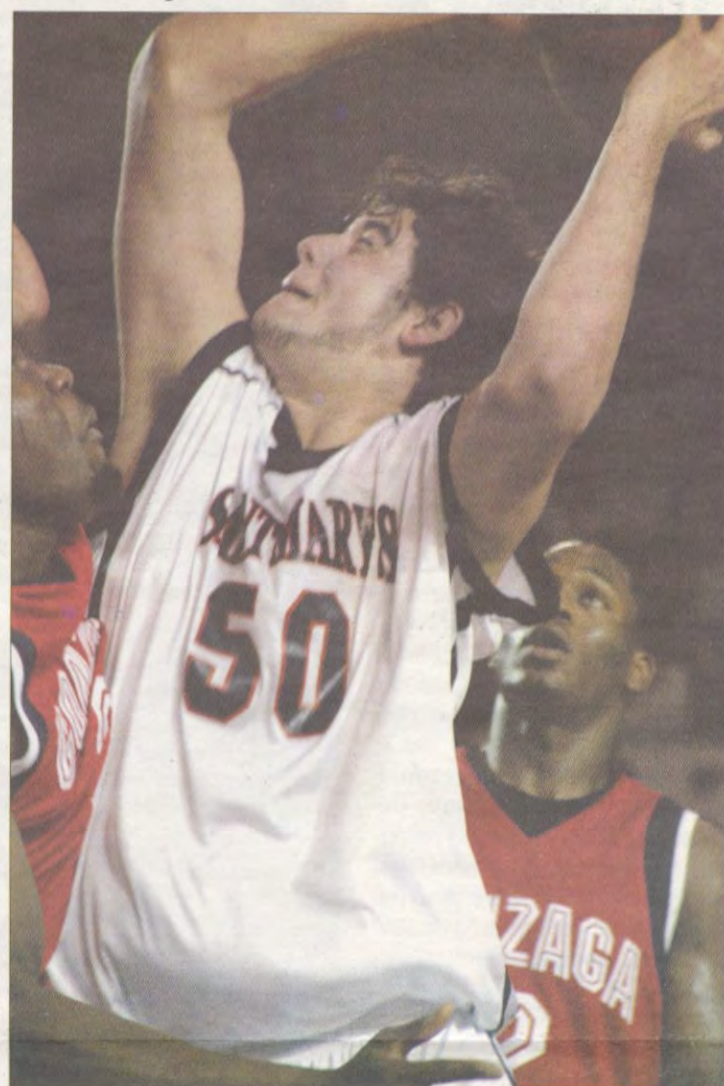
Senior Karrie Hagedorn led the women's team with a time of 22:42, which was a season-best for the graduating senior. She finished in 23rd place.

The women's team finished only three points behind San Diego for seventh place and 15 behind Gonzaga for sixth.

Both cross country teams have promising futures as they will return seven of their top eight runners from this season. The lone loss will be Hagedorn from the women's team.

## Gaels get ready for tough season

*Schedule, youth provide many tasks for Gaels*



Collegian Archives

Junior Diamon Simpson (left) and sophomore Omar Samhan lead the men's basketball into a tough season. Full preview and predictions on page 11.

## Men's soccer splits with Dons

*Leslie, Heldreth score goals for Gaels on weekend*



Zack Farmer/COLLEGIAN

Sophomore Dylan Leslie (4) scored his first goal of the season in the 80th minute on Friday.

by Zack Farmer  
Managing Editor

The Gaels took the first game of the road-home set with San Francisco 1-0 and dropped the second 2-1.

Saint Mary's played a scoreless game against the Dons on Friday until sophomore Dylan Leslie broke the tie with a free kick goal in the 80th minute. The goal was the first of the season for Leslie. He took three shots on the day, all on goal.

Sophomore goalkeeper Kennan Flynn recorded five saves on the match to get his

third shutout of the season.

After taking the first match 1-0 at The Hilltop, the Sunday match became very heated.

Three yellow cards were handed out on Sunday, two to San Francisco. The Gaels also doubled their foul total from the previous game.

Through all of this, the Gaels scored in the first minute of play off a header by junior Corey Heldreth. The assist came from junior Justin Kim.

The Gaels had a chance to make it a 2-0 see SOCCER, p10

## Waves wash out Gaels

*Women's soccer falls to LMU, slammed by Pepperdine*

by Zack Farmer  
Managing Editor

The women's soccer team suffered two defeats over the weekend, first falling to Loyola Marymount 2-1 and then getting slammed by Pepperdine 5-1.

The Gaels fought hard against the Lions but fell in overtime after a shot by Lily Sorentino from 35 yards out. Saint Mary's was out-shot 22 to six in the match.

Saint Mary's took the early lead in the 19th minute as sophomore Allie Weiner took a pass from junior Stefani Rocco and punched in the pass from 19 yards out. The goal was Weiner's sixth of the season.

The 1-0 Saint Mary's lead was the first goal allowed by the Lions in over 300 minutes of play and the first time LMU had trailed at home all season.

The lead did not last long and, in the 27th minute, LMU struck back on a strike by Jaime Bell.

The second half was controlled by the Lion offense, taking 13 shots to the Gaels' one. LMU also took nine corner kicks. Saint Mary's was unable to come up with one.

Sophomore Tara Larson totaled seven saves on the game and allowed two goals.



Peter Hunter/COLLEGIAN

The travel to Pepperdine was not much better for Saint Mary's, as they were man-handled by the Waves 5-1.

The lone goal for the Gaels was scored by junior Jessica Menzhuber when the score was already 4-0.

Saint Mary's remains winless in conference play at 0-5-0 and in eighth place. They will play San Diego on Friday at Saint Mary's Stadium.