

Saint Martin’s welcomes trick-or-treaters for community Halloween

Mia Rollins
Staff Writer

Dressed in costumes and face paint, parents and kids lined up outside the doors of residence buildings bright and early to begin trick-or-treating on the Saint Martin’s University campus. Community Halloween took place on Oct. 28 right in the Saint Martin’s residence halls. The festivities began at 10 a.m. and lasted until 12 p.m. Students opened up their dorms to pass out candy to the miniature super heroes, princesses, monsters, and storm troopers that knocked on their doors. Saint Martin’s has always strived to show hospitality, and the school did just that at Community Halloween as a reflection of the Benedictine value of community, their theme for this academic year. “Community Halloween is an event where Saint Martin’s hosts hundreds of families around the area and allows them to trick-or-treat in the residence halls and the recreation center. Saint Martin’s students are a vital part to the equation along with residence life and campus life. At the end of the day, it’s the students who literally open their doors to the trick-or-treaters and give out little pieces of joy. This event would not be successful without the generosity of the student



Photo courtesy of Mia Rollins

Parson’s second floor bridge student volunteers volunteers,” said Jase Kugiya, a Parsons Hall resident assistant. The university donated all the candy that was passed out, allowing residents to focus their time and attention on the spirited visitors. “In our hall nearly all the doors were open because so many people signed up to hand out candy. So all the volunteers were talking and joking while passing out candy to the kids and talking with the parents” said Kennedy Birley, a first-year student and volunteer. Parents all over Lacey and Olympia shared that the younger ones had fun too.

“The trick-or-treating has been my favorite so far, the kids loved it,” said Niki Covert, a guest and mom of three. With students away from home for the holiday, many chose to hand out candy to keep the tradition alive right from their own door. “I think a lot of the people chose to handout candy because it is our first year away from home and we all have family traditions so it’s a little weird to not be at home. I guess for me it was an attempt to start a new Halloween tradition for myself because at home I always pass out candy to the neighborhood kids,” explained Birley. First-year students weren’t the only ones experiencing Community Halloween for the first time. Parents and guests were surprised by the school’s involvement in the neighborhood. “I’ve never heard of anybody doing this at a school, this is amazing, having young adults here running everything is just great for the kids to see...I think it’s role modeling, it’s mentoring, its positive reinforcement of just good things to do” said Heather Sarin, a participant of the event. The school not only practiced the Benedictine values of hospitality and community, but the other values as well. Saint Martin’s has also shown that connecting with the outside community is essential.

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Andrea Kunder encourages students to reach for the stars

Amanda Chappell
Staff Writer

In the last issue of The Belltower, we introduced three new faculty here at Saint Martin’s University. However, there were other additions to the staff that will contribute just as much to the campus community during their time. Over the summer, the physics department expanded by hiring Andrea Kunder, Ph.D., to their team. Kunder found herself at our beautiful campus this summer, as she was eagerly searching for job positions in the Pacific Northwest. So far, Kunder has loved being a part of Saint Martin’s. The campus dynamic and class sizes give her the opportunity to get to know each of her students. “You lose interaction with professors on a big campus,” Kunder said, “I was looking for

something a little more close-knit, and Saint Martin’s is just that.” Kunder attended Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., where she earned her doctorate in physics and astronomy. After graduating from Dartmouth, Kunder took her studies to La Serena, Chile, where she had the opportunity to further her research at the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory. After spending four years in South America, Kunder then ventured to Germany. While in Potsdam, Germany, Kunder furthered her research at the Leibniz Institute für Astropysik (AIP) where she continued to study the motion of stars and how they act as clues to determine how the galaxy was formed. She began this research before landing in Chile, and has continued working on it. Kunder took her first astronomy class as an undergrad at Willamette University in Salem, Ore., and it was then that she discovered her love for the subject. “I was amazed at how big the universe was and how much exploring still needs to be done,” Kunder said, “I have always loved to travel and explore, and the universe is the ultimate place to explore.” Kunder was a chemistry major before she switched to physics. This semester, Kunder is teaching an introduction to astronomy course, where she has the opportunity to share her passion with curious students. When asked if any students have approached her wanting to dive into the subject more, she replied, “no, but a student from my upper level astronomy course will be presenting work they have been doing at the Murdock Conference.” “I think most of the students in our



Photo retrieved from smartin.edu

Andrea Kunder, Ph.D. assistant professor of physics intro class are just taking it to fulfill their science credit. I don’t think they were anticipating how hard it would be, but we can’t make a star in the lab so we have to first gain a basic concept of physics to interpret

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The adviser is a journalist, educator and manager who is, above all, a role model. The adviser’s ultimate goal is to mold, preserve and protect an ethical and educational environment, not to monitor the final content of the student newspaper.



To our valued readers,

With midterms finally over, and the holidays fast approaching, I’d like to take the time to thank all of you for your continued support. Without all of our wonderful writers, staff, readers, and supporters we would not be where we are now. November is the month of giving thanks, so I encourage all of you to give thanks to those who support you, who give you the push to try something new, or help you when things get tough. We don’t always remember to thank those who make our lives special, and taking a few seconds to say those two simple words can change someone’s day for the better.

In this issue, you’ll find articles featuring the record breaking players on our sports teams, and highlights of the Business Career Fair, the Study Abroad Fair, and the Halloween in the dorms event. There is also an abundant amount of news stories from around the globe, concentrating on world issues and local elections.

As always, we appreciate feedback from our readers, and encourage you to stop by the office, HH 113, write us a letter, or send us an e-mail. Feedback helps us strengthen our paper and tailor content to our reader base, so that we can continue to cover topics that all of our readers can enjoy and produce content that we at The Belltower can be proud of.

I hope you are all enjoying the break between finals and midterms, and hope that the semester continues to be a stress-free one.

Yours truly,

Sabrina White, Editor-in-Chief

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Sacred Music Concert showcases student choral group

Kianna Garmanian
Staff Writer

On Oct. 21 and Oct. 22, St. Martin's University Chorale partnered with William Campbell, Ph.D., professor of music and chair of the music department at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa to present the beautiful Sacred Music Concert. For years, this event has been hosted in the Abbey Church and is open to the public.

The Sacred Music Concert incorporates a variety of musical styles and arts--sacred music, contemporary, gospel, poetry, and readings. The diversity of song structures, texts, and reflective music all wonderfully complement one another. The music department and Campus Ministry at St. Martin's collaborated to put on this concert, which brought together students, faculty, professors, monks, and the general public.

Darrell Born, Chair of the fine arts department and music, began the concert by explaining how the event would be centered around prayer, since in today's world we all search for moments of peace in our lives. His hope was that this concert would provide those moments of sacred space, stillness, and opportunities to connect with the Lord through prayer.

The concert opened with prayer, followed by

various musical pieces, and then incorporated a poem and scripture reading, finally concluding with more music. Campbell worked with St. Martin's Chorale for two of the pieces, and even performed an original composition on the piano, entitled "Finding Peace." Campbell stated, "They're all amazing- Darrell and the students. I talked with them about a few pieces and they did a great job with them. They are just wonderful people and very welcoming!"

Three students performed solo pieces, one being junior Tyler Williams, who sang "How Long Wilt Thou Forget Me" by Oley Speaks. As a music major, Williams commented, "Performing in the Abbey is the best I have ever heard this choir sound- we were all in sync and had a home field advantage!"

Similarly, freshman Sara Zepeda expressed her happiness with their performance, and said, "It took a lot of work and preparation, but was also really fun. Choir was the first thing I branched out in and got involved with at St. Martin's." She also notes how many positive comments the public gave her and her peers, and was glad to warm the hearts of many.

With a great turnout on both days, Born was very pleased and exclaimed, "I am so thrilled at the students and all their hard work- we made



Photo courtesy of Kianna Garmanian

The Saint Martin's Chorale performed a variety of musical styles in the Abbey Church.

true music artistry!" He also noted how great a privilege it was to work with Campbell, as he provided special insight about the music as a composer himself.

The vibrant smiles on the faces of all who attended the concert confirmed the talent and hard work of the St. Martin's Chorale. In this year of Community at St. Martin's, the Sacred Music Concert served as a beautiful space for individuals to come together, pray, and find peace within their hearts. Both the music department and Campus Ministry joined together to put on a phenomenal event that will surely be remembered.

Standing Room Only thrills Yelm with Young Frankenstein the musical

Jessica Varvil
Staff Writer

Standing Room Only (SRO), a community theater group based in Yelm, Wash. has produced a delightful musical rendition of "Young Frankenstein" that runs through Nov. 12 at the Triad Theater.

The cozy Triad Theater features an amalgamation of seating; couches and chairs mingle together, rarely matching. The audience sits close to the stage, feeling a kinship with the actors who dance and sing down the aisles and on the stage.

Mel Brook's iconic movie "Young Frankenstein" was released in 1974 and became a cult classic with a 93 percent from popular review site Rotten Tomatoes. The musical

version amplifies the goofy parody of the original movie with expansive musical numbers.

The cast displayed extraordinary talent in their comedic timing, vocal performance, and physical acting. Ian Montgomery, who also performs with the Olympia Choral Society, forged his own take on the iconic Frederick Frankenstein that was distinctly different from Gene Wilder's classic portrayal.

Hannah Longshore and Dahlia Young, playing Elizabeth Benning and Inga, respectively, kept the audience in stitches with their over-the-top romantic antics. Longshore illustrates the accessibility of community theater as an actor who also works as an office manager and licensed insurance agent in Puyallup.

Both Longshore and Young have been performing on the stage since their toddler years.

Jesse Geray created a lovable Igor that stole the show on many occasions with his endearing hijinks. Geray credits his mother and "frequent, sugar-induced deliriums" for inspiring his sixth role with Standing Room Only. Kurt Loertscher's monster was so perfectly uncommunicative that his newfound ability for speech at the end of the play was delightfully disconcerting.

Nancy Tribush Hillman's rendition of "My Boyfriend" perfectly captured the tone of the iconic quote, and Kevin McManus's physical acting was spot on for the role of Inspector Kemp. According to the playbill, Hillman "is the founder of the Drew Harvey Theater and StageStruck Productions — the progenitors of SRO." Her energy and passion on stage illustrated her immense value to the company.

As a diverse group of actors, featuring thespians as young as 13, the entire cast and ensemble pulled together to provide a thoroughly enjoyable theater experience. The raucous and lovable performance is well worth the student ticket price of 20 dollars, and is only a 20-minute drive from Saint Martin University.

Standing Room Only will be holding auditions for their next play in



Photo courtesy of Jessica Varvil

The sign outside of the Triad Theater in Yelm, Wash.

November and offering Shakespeare classes over the winter. Next summer, the company will perform Shakespeare in the park, though the exact play choice is yet to be determined.

Each month, Standing Room Only produces radio shows at the Triad Theater that bring back the nostalgia of classic voice acting in an intimate stage setting. In honor of Halloween, the October show was "Tales of Terror."

The Triad Theater aims to promote the arts in the Yelm area by providing a platform for artists and hosting workshops for those who would like to learn. On the second Thursday of every month, the theater hosts an open mic night for poets and songwriters with a 5 dollar cover fee.



Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org

Gene Wilder portrayed "Young Frankenstein" in the Mel Brooks' classic.

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Catholic Relief Services ambassadors at SMU tackle global issues

Kianna Garmanian
Staff Writer

In 1943, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) was formed by the Roman Catholic Bishops of the United States to help refugees during World War II. Over time, CRS expanded to other parts of the globe and began offering assistance and support to individuals worldwide. Recognizing the great reality of poverty and suffering that many countries face, CRS works to not only provide aid, but also works on developing programs to help ensure sustainability and prosperity within societies. For example, instead of only bringing food to malnourished communities, CRS also teaches about agricultural initiatives and strategies for growing crops. In addition to agriculture, CRS also helps in other ways, including assistance with healthcare, education, and clean water projects.

Today, individuals all around the world have devoted their lives to CRS and are working to help others everywhere. Rooted in Catholic social teaching, CRS promotes and lives by the concept of Integral Human Development (IHD). As stated on the Catholic Relief Services website, “IHD is the sustained growth that everyone has the right to enjoy and represents an individual’s cultural, physical, natural, economic, political, social and spiritual wholeness.” The importance of respect for all persons is highlighted, and CRS works to strengthen the lives of all, especially those who are the most neglected in society.

Inspired by the works of Catholic Relief Services, students at St. Martin’s have decided to



Saint Martin’s CRS Ambassadors on a retreat

get involved in this worldwide movement. Campus Minister Angela Carlin comments, “Catholic Relief Services is the global relief and development outreach of the US Catholic Church. By establishing a vibrant CRS Ambassador program here at St. Martin’s, students will be able to join with people of faith from across the country in responding to human suffering and advocating for justice. In doing so, we can be prophetic witnesses in our community here on campus about the responsibility to love our neighbor – no matter how far away they live – by standing in solidarity with them and upholding their dignity as human beings.”

This November, global hunger is highlighted, as nearly 800 million people are malnourished across the world. CRS is currently serving in

poor regions to help farmers grow food and create more sustainable environments. CRS Ambassadors at St. Martin’s are also working to assist on campus, by teaching others about poverty and taking action (hosting fund-raisers, organizing food drives, etc.). Student CRS Ambassador Astrid Serrano states, “When I think of my role as a CRS Ambassador I think about advocacy and prayer. CRS has allowed me to see that as a college student, I can make a difference. I can advocate on my college campus and help spread awareness. My vision for SMU’s CRS chapter includes higher retention and wider campus exposure. With such a small campus, I feel as though we have an advantage that other schools don’t. Many students aren’t even aware of the issues that CRS works with. However, if our chapter continues to host events, our hopes are for others to join us in educating and advocating.”

St. Teresa of Avila beautifully reminds us that “Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.” If you are interested in joining the worldwide movement to help serve others in many ways, come to Campus Ministry in Old Main Room 316 to learn more about the role of a student CRS Ambassador.

Photo courtesy of Kianna Garmanian



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Psychology Club brings together students under common field of study

Breanna Brink
Staff Writer

Community is an important value for most colleges; one way to achieve that within Saint Martin’s University is through the easy-to-join club life. Club activities and opportunities are important to highlight on campus so that students can form social groups and potentially make new friends. Clubs are also an excellent way to network, help the community around you, and educate others about your field of study. With this in mind, the psychology club has started for the year and is a great opportunity for psychology majors or minors to meet others within their field. However, this club is not exclusive to just members of the psychology program--anyone with an interest in the field is welcome to join or pay a visit.

Hosted the first Thursday of every month, Psychology Club meets in Harned Hall, Room 115 at 12 p.m. Here students can meet and begin planning the organization of study groups, as well as make friends within their own major. Students can learn about the potential of adding a psychology minor to their college plans, or spice up a resume while taking interesting and relevant courses about our rapidly changing world.

As Psychology Club President Dana Henry stated in an interview, “Psych Club’s goal is to bring together the psych majors and minors at Saint Martin’s and help improve communication between students. We hope to give valuable information about things such as grad school, internships, or CV’s and have it readily available for all students

who need it. We want all students to have the tools and information to be successful as a SMU psych student!” This solid goal will help the club dispel discrepancies about their field, as well as encourage others to engage in self-help methods.

When asked about any important upcoming events, Henry stated “for this semester we plan to host the Grad School Forum on Wednesday, Nov. 15 at noon and Thursday, November 16 at 6pm.” This program is designed to help psychology students figure out how to apply for graduate school and to ask any questions they have about college recommendations, how to write an application, and of course what potential fields there are beyond these four years.

Henry also discussed a few of the club’s other plans for its current and future members, “Other than the Grad School Forum, we are planning on showing the movie “Split” near the beginning of December.” This film is a psychological thriller, revolving around the ideas of Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID), a widely popular discussion topic among those in the psychology field. While the film is dramatized, it may raise interesting questions about how to survive assault, as well as the validity of DID as a struggle people may face in their daily lives.

Currently, the Psychology Club is figuring out how best to organize its future study groups and work with professors and fellow students in order to strengthen bonds and increase productivity. Students should soon look forward to seeing more of the club, with potential fund-raisers, events, and more movies to come in the near future.

Study abroad fair offers students exciting adventures

Breanna Brink
Staff Writer

College offers us countless opportunities to expand our knowledge, but not all of those opportunities take place inside the classroom. Study abroad is one of many ways students can learn about other cultures, grow as a person and further their major while experiencing the wonders of another country. Many questions like how to study abroad, where to study abroad and who is leading these trips were addressed at the study abroad fair, hosted on Oct 18 in the Trautman Student Union Building.

According to the Saint Martin's website, the college has study abroad programs in hundreds of locations around the world. Students are able to pick from universities located in Argentina, Australia, Chile, China, Costa Rica, England, Finland, France, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Ireland, Korea, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Scotland, Spain, Wales, and more.

Before discussing which trips are being offered, here are some important things you should know about the study abroad programs themselves.

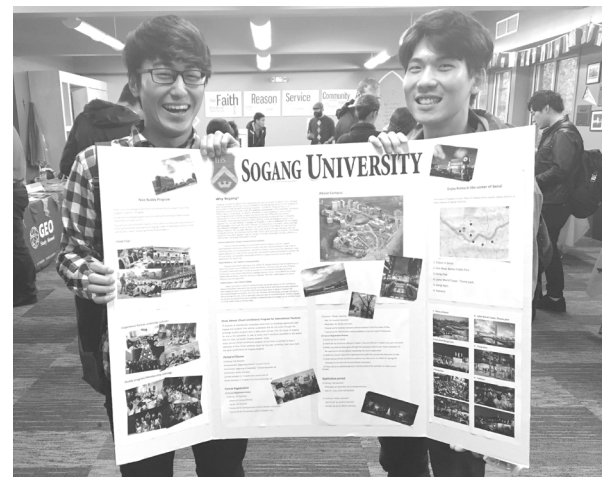
According to the school's website and study abroad fair, the cost of a semester abroad can be approximately the same as a semester at Saint Martin's and financial aid may transfer depending on the program. Students can also earn credits toward your major, minor, or general education requirements! This makes study abroad a great opportunity to do two things at once, knock off some requirements, and see another country. Although students should be

aware that they already need to have 12 credits before applying (transfer credits do apply). To help you on your journey to another country, there are several scholarships offered through SMU. Two of the most popular scholarships discussed at the fair were the SMU International Experience Scholarship and the CEA Diversity and Other Scholarship. The International Experience Scholarship offers all programs the opportunity to receive 1,000 dollars for semester programs and 500 dollars for summer programs. The CEA Diversity and Other Scholarship offers scholarships ranging from 400 dollars to 2,000 dollars to students from diverse backgrounds or with personal experiences with diversity. There are several more programs offered, so students are encouraged to check with the SMU Study Abroad Office for details.

After deciding on a location to study abroad, students will need to get a passport. The office of International Programs and Development offers further information about filing for a passport and applying for programs that are being offered during the school year. The minimum GPA required for study abroad is a 2.7, but some programs do demand higher. Students should also be aware that they can not be on behavioral probation or have been on probation the preceding semester. Students can study abroad for a year, a semester, a summer, or take a short-term trip that may only last two-three weeks. The best part is that they don't have to know any foreign languages before traveling.

Two of the most inexpensive and shortest trips were featured prominently during the fair. Both short term study abroad programs are conjoined with courses available to take spring semester of 2018, with tentative dates featured down below. Gender Studies and Psychology in Germany and Austria will span from May 16-29. According to the pamphlet "students will travel to Berlin, Germany and Vienna, Austria to complement studies of gender studies and psychology. They will look at the Berlin wall in depth, learn about the "pink" victims of the holocaust and explore where some of the most notable psychologists shaped their field." This trip is being led by Professors Keri Graham and Jeremy Newton. This trip's prerequisite courses either history of sexuality (HIS 395) with Graham or alternatively social psychology (PSY 395) with Newton.

The other study abroad trip-taking place from



Photos courtesy of Breanna Brink

Exchange students from Sogang University in South Korea

May 16-26 is the England and Scotland: History and Mystery trip led by Professors Stephen Mead and Julia Chavez. The pamphlet also offers this enticing description of the upcoming trip: "Travel to London, Oxford, and Edinburgh to complement studies of Shakespeare, Stevenson, Tolkien, Rowling, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and Robert Burns. See plays in London! Walk highlands in Scotland! and Visit libraries in Oxford. Students will even see a play at the Globe theatre!" There are three corresponding classes for this course, including Literary Studies (ENG 210), Literary Foundations (ENG 220) and Directed study (ENG 397), all taught by Mead.



Exchange students from Mukogawa Women's University in Japan



Exchange students from Reitaku University in Japan

John Hopkins discusses native educational programs at faculty lunch series

Amanda Chappell
Staff Writer

On Oct. 20, the second installment of this year's Friday Faculty Lunch Series took place. Each Friday at noon, the Center for Scholarship and Teaching hosts a time for Saint Martin's University faculty and staff members to come together and enjoy a lunch prepared by Bon Appetit Management Company and to hear a presentation from one of their fellow colleagues. These weekly presentations provide a great way for new and returning faculty to get to know their fellow colleagues and learn about their research. On this particular date, the presentation was done by John Hopkins, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Diversity and Service Initiatives. Hopkins presented what he called "the 30-minute condensed version" of his dissertation.

Hopkins studied philosophy at the University of Washington in 1996, where he wrote his dissertation. He entitled it "Conversations That Matter: Decolonizing the Inclusive Discourse of American Indian Education Reform." His goal was

simple: to "bring together western and indigenous people using philosophical approaches," however, Hopkins soon realized that this was easier said than done.

In 1999, Montana released the Indian Education for All Act (IEFA), in which the state of Montana was to recognize the unique heritage of American Indians and commit to preserving their cultures. The IEFA stated that, "every Montanan, whether in Indian or not, is encouraged to learn about American Indians in a culturally responsive manner and every educational agency and education; all school personnel should have an understanding and awareness of Indian tribes and work effectively with Native students, parents, and tribal." The IEFA is an important landmark in Native American education, because it had the opportunity to break down barriers between diverse groups. However, just like any other act, there were problems that arose.

The philosophical problem that Hopkins came upon in his research was broken down into three major points: "1) inclusive conversations sidestep the issue of distrust that

exists between native and non-native groups, 2) if trust already exists, then it can be promoted. But if trust doesn't, then it can't be promoted without addressing the reasons why it doesn't exist, and 3) Native and non-Native groups need to turn to history."

Hopkins came up with the term "survivance" in which he combined the words survival and resistance. This word appears several times throughout his presentation, as he believes it's the most accurate term to describe the attitude that Native students need to get through attending a white school.

The process that Hopkins came up with in order to settle this issue was this: break up a classroom into two groups, settlers and indigenous people. The job of the settlers is to be quiet and listen, while the indigenous talk about what it's like to attend a white school. With the indigenous students speaking about their experiences, and the settlers having to just listen, it shifts the perspective on those who don't understand the thoughts and feelings of Native American students.

Essentially, that was his goal all



Photo retrieved from smartin.edu

John Hopkins is the Associate Dean of Students and Director of Diversity and Service Initiatives.

along, for both Native and non-Native student—to be on the same level of understanding, and with that exercise, hopefully, the settlers can understand how tough it can be for the indigenous students.

Women's volleyball senior Becky Mitchell records 700th career kill

Vanessa Kuffner
Staff Writer

Rebecca Mitchell, the starting senior and outside hitter on the women's volleyball team, recorded the 700th kill of her career this season, with two more weeks of the season left.

Mitchell started playing Volleyball for Sam Barlow High School in Gresham, Ore. In 2013, she was named first team all-conference and captain of her squad. Mitchell helped lead her squad to back-to-back trips to the 6A state playoffs. Mitchell played club for Portland Volleyball Club, where they were ranked in the top eight for the Columbia Empire Volleyball Association region. While in high school, she recorded 100 kills; now in her senior season of her college career she has already hit a career high record of 700 kills.

Mitchell put on her first jersey for SMU in 2014 against California State University where the Saints took the win, 3-1. This year against the Cougars, Mitchell had a career high of 21 kills, helping the Saints

take the match, 3-0. During the tournament Mitchell was one of 3 Saints to be honored to the 2017 California State University San Marcos All-Tournament team with 57 kills, 64 points, and 4.07 kills per set. The girls who were named all received honors for their achievements over the duration of the tournament.

In 2015, Mitchell started seven matches out of the 28 she played. This year, so far she started in all 22 of her matches for the season. Mitchell started her first year as a Saint with 100 kills her first season. She has already reached 283 kills this season. Mitchell is now a top hitter for SMU in her senior year. Overall this season, Mitchell has a total of 313.5 points. In a recent match against Montana State University Billings (MSUB), Mitchell was one of the top hitters for the match. She had 20 of SMU's 60 kills, one ace, four blocks and 18 digs. This was her fourth 20-kill performance of the season.

Mitchell has helped lead SMU to victory against the University of Alaska in four sets to tie the school record in wins for the NCAA DII.

Statistics	Value
Sets Played	85
Matches Played	23
Matches Started	23
Points	336
Points/Set	3.95
Kill	302
Kills/Set	3.55
Error	147
Total Attempts	964
Percentage	0.161
Assist	18
Assist/Set	0.21
Serves Attempted	14
Serves Attempted Set	0.16
Service Error	20

Rebecca Mitchell's statistics this season

Mitchell had 15 kills with a .389 hitting percentage, plus four blocks and aces and ten digs against Alaska Fairbanks. After a loss against MSUB, the Saints played Northwest Nazarene University (NNU) on Nov. 2 on the road. In the last match that SMU played against them, Mitchell had a 14-kill performance to help force the fourth set. In the third set, Mitchell had delivered



Photo courtesy of Ron Smith

Senior Rebecca Mitchell (4) has broken her PR this season with 700 kills and is looking to break 1,000 before season ends.

five kills, but the NNU Crusaders proved worthy opponents and took the set 25-16. In the end the Saints fell, after fighting back to 16-15 against the Crusaders, who won the set 25-19 and taking the match 3-1. Mitchell however, hit her 200th kill of the season to tie with Megan Vernoy. Mitchell has had a great season so far and is close to breaking the school record in kills (1,129). The women will end their season on the road Sat., Nov. 18 at Western Oregon University.

Brandon Madsen breaks school record in first season as a Saint

Lauren Allison
Staff Writer

Forward Brandon Madsen broke Saint Martin's University record for most goals scored in a single season against the nationally ranked Simon Fraser University on Oct. 21 at home. This past week, he earned GNAC (Great Northwest Athletic Conference) offensive player of the week, currently leading the GNAC in goals with 15. When asked how he's felt the season has gone so far he replied, "I feel like I have had an alright first season here at SMU. Recently I broke the record for most goals in a season with 12 goals and there are still three games left. However, I am not completely satisfied with how I have played because of our record." The Saints currently sit with a record of 2-8-1 in conference play. Madsen has had a total of 39 shots this season with 25 on goal. He has started and played in all 15 games and leads the team in points, goals, shots on goal, and game winning goals. According to head coach Rob Walker, "Brandon has the ability to run in tight spaces as if he's on a tight rope. He

changes direction well, good in the air and has great balance. His partnership with Kyle Witzel has really helped us compete in a very tough GNAC."

Being a transfer can be difficult for some but Madsen says, "It has been good. I think my teammates and my coaches had a lot of respect for me because I came from a really good D1 program." Coming in as a new player this year and leading the GNAC in goals while breaking the school record is impressive. Madsen has been a key player in the offense this season. He has been able to score some critical goals throughout the season that have helped keep the Saints in games. "My favorite goal this season was the goal I scored against Simon Fraser last game. It was really memorable because I broke the school record with that goal and it tied the game against a nationally ranked team," says Madsen.

The Saints have suffered some tough losses this season. In a few games, SMU took the lead early on but the opponents were able to come back and finish the game on top. Although it has been a rough

Statistics	Value
Games Played	16
Games Started	16
Minutes	1291
Goals	15
Assist	1
Points	31
Shots	39
Shot %	0.385
Shots on Goal	25
Shots on Goal %	0.641
Yellow Cards	2
Red Cards	0
Game Winners	1
Penalty Kicks	2
Penalty Kick Attempts	3

Brandon Madsen's statistics this season

season, Madsen has been able to shine through and get the job done offensively. He says, "The toughest part about this season is not being able to finish out games and win. There have been numerous games this year where we have had the lead and ended up losing the game. I believe that our team has a lot of talent and that we can compete with any team in our league, but our



Photo retrieved from SMU Athletics

Transfer student from Seattle University, Brandon Madsen has broken the record for most goals in a season with 12, breaking teammate Kyle Witzel's record of 11.

record hasn't reflected that and it's heartbreaking." Walker commented about the season by saying, "As we finish the season in our final two games at home, we really feel we have the players in the form to bring us two more victories." The Saints played their last two home games vs Montana State Billings University (MSUB) on Nov. 2 and Northwest Nazarene University (NNU) on Nov. 4 at 2 p.m. for senior day.

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Strong performances by men's golf allude to bright future

Vanessa Kuffner
Staff Writer

Tyler Fitchett, a freshman from Yakima, Wash., started out playing baseball and basketball, but in his freshman year of high school, he found his passion for golf. Fitchett discovered a love for the sport after he and his friend joined their high school team for fun. Now, Fitchett is helping to lead the Saints men's golf team. Fitchett started off his season with a bang; during his first tournament with the Saints, he closed with two-over par 73, landing him the final spot on the All-Tournament team. He continued to lead the Saints, ending the SMU invite with the second highest score of the tournament. In a recent tournament, Fitchett landed a team low of 71 to help the Saints place eighth at the Concordia Invitational. Fitchett has great potential to help lead the Saints to regionals next season, an achievable goal he has set for himself.

Andrew Raab, a senior captain, is also from Yakima, Wash. As a



Photo retrieved from SMU Athletics

Men's golf finished fourth overall at the Dennis Rose Invite in Walkoloa, Hawaii

senior this year, Raab says he is going to miss the friendships he has made through the team and all the team trips. He does not plan on competing after college but will continue to play. As a captain, Raab says he learned leadership, how to keep his team together and keep them prepared for tournaments.

Raab adds about the team, "We have a young team this year, but they have a lot of potential to go far in the years to come." In a recent tournament Raab led the Saints in

all three rounds (74-69-77-220), tying for 11th overall. Raab had nine birdies through the 54 holes, tied for seventh among all golfers and had the second-best score on par -4 holes at two-over par. Raab hopes to end the season by winning a tournament as a team and making it to regionals.

The SMU men's golf team was propelled forward this season by strong performances all around. Despite facing tough opponents at Western Washington University

(Bellingham, Wash.) and Simon Fraser University (Burnaby, B.C.), with the two-time MVP Cris Crisologo, and having one of the smaller squads in the league, the Saints strung together some solid rounds. The Saints are currently ranked 12th among the teams in Western Regionals. One highlight from the Saints' season was the team effort to score a three under par, 285 stroke second-round at Western Washington University. The men hold two wins over Concordia University, Northwest Nazarene University, and Montana State Billings University, only conceding two losses.

Coach Kevin Bishop acknowledged the team having such great success because they are "close knit and coach-able," and is sure they will only get better with the work they are putting in. Bishop admitted that the loss of three key seniors from last year was acute, but is happy that he has verbal commitments from freshman to play for the Saints next season.

Another "slow start" for impressive Seahawks season

Eric Parks
Staff Writer

After a 1-2 start, many analysts throughout the NFL began to write off the Seahawks as a top team. After winning the next three games, it became clear that the hiccups Seattle was facing over the first three weeks were normal growing pains en route to another dominating season. For the 2017 hawks, the recipe for success has not changed significantly from previous seasons. The defense has been playing lights out, and while the offense has been frustrating to watch at times, Russell Wilson has been able to create just enough magic to make up for a horrendous offensive line and average run game.

Seattle is home to the top scoring defense through the first seven weeks, averaging 15.7 points per game. Last year, they fell to number three after being the top scoring defense the previous four seasons. At the beginning of the year, Seattle

boasted eight defensive starters that had made the Pro Bowl at some point in their career. Even after losing Cliff Avril for the season and possibly retirement, the defense has been incredible in nearly every category. If any group on this defense could stand to improve, it would be the pass rushers. Seattle is averaging only two sacks per game, and their season total is tied for 27th in the league.

The offense is starting to find their identity as well. The Seahawks have utilized a five-person running back committee of Eddie Lacy, C.J. Prosise, Thomas Rawls, Chris Carson and J.D. McKissic that has been able to produce the NFL's 18th ranked rushing attack. Injuries hit this group early, but the week six bye has helped the backs recover. Wilson has had a handful of terrible plays but has been able to make up for them with magic only he can conjure, including an incredible touchdown pass to Paul Richardson after escaping several

San Francisco defensive linemen in week two to win the game.

The weak link of this Seahawks team is the offensive line. Many fans were upset when Seattle largely neglected the position group in the offseason. The biggest move they made was adding LT Luke Joeckel, a first round draft bust from Jacksonville. Many fans were hoping that offensive line coach Tom Cable was going to help the group exceed expectations, but that has not yet been the case. Luckily, Wilson is widely considered to be one of the best quarterbacks in the NFL while under pressure, but the current trend in football is that the offensive line is the key to success. Oakland, Dallas, Pittsburgh and Kansas City are four examples of how having a strong line can significantly bolster offensive production, leaving many Seattle fans to dream how effective Wilson could be if he had a decent line.

Looking ahead, the Seahawks control their own destiny to the



Russell Wilson of the Seattle Seahawks continues to be one of the top quarterbacks in the league.

playoffs. At present, they are neck and neck with a surprising Los Angeles Rams team for the division and not far behind Philadelphia for control of the NFC. Following the injury to Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, the Seahawks are now the undisputed best proven team in the conference. At this point, the NFC is wide open for anyone to take, but no other team has the combination of an experienced quarterback and defense that Seattle does.

Mediocrity and injuries plagued Mariners season

Eric Parks
Staff Writer

The Mariners 2017 season was a roller coaster ride of a few highs and many lows. Having not seen their beloved team make it to the playoffs since 2001, many fans were hoping for a surprise season that ended in a playoff berth, but the team was not able to pull through. At times, Mariners fans had hope that the team could string together enough wins to steal a wild card spot in a weak American League (AL). After winning two straight in Oakland August 8-9, the team was 59-56 and had a season-high 31 percent chance of making the playoffs. Seattle was then promptly swept by the Los Angeles Angels in a four-game series which put their playoff push in serious jeopardy. Injuries also piled up through August, and the team was not able to keep pace with the Twins for the final playoff spot, finishing 78-84 and seven games behind Minnesota (85-77).

At the beginning of the season, many baseball analysts were hopeful the Mariners bullpen

would be somewhat viable. Unfortunately, injuries and disappointing play prevented that from happening. James Paxton was one of the brightest lights of this group, but the often injured lefty had a pair of stints on the disabled list. The second injury came at a time when Seattle needed Big Maple the most: during their mid-August push for an AL wild card spot. Many were expecting Felix Hernandez to have a good season, but instead his season was defined by injuries and poor play. Other starters that spent significant time on the injured reserve list through August were Hisashi Iwakuma, David Phelps, and Drew Smyly.

While the Mariners' batters could have been more productive, many of them looked good throughout the 2017 season. While rookie Mitch Haniger found his way to the injured reserve twice, he looked impressive when healthy. Kyle Seager and aging Nelson Cruz were also productive at times. In August, the team acquired All-Star Yonder Alonso from the Oakland A's. Alonso was able to produce immediately at first

base. Unfortunately, Alonso is a free agent this offseason and may demand more money than Seattle can offer. The Mariners' offense could be impressive if their batters learned how to play more consistently.

Looking ahead to 2018, the Mariners might be able to build on the few bright spots of this season. The pitching will likely improve if the team isn't ravaged with injuries like it was in 2017, but acquiring talent from elsewhere is probably the best way to avoid a repeat of last season. Seattle may lose Jarrod Dyson, Danny Valencia, Yonder Alonso and Carlos Ruiz in free agency. Since those four players combined for 16.8 million dollars in 2017, Seattle has a lot of options with the direction they wish to go, but have glaring needs at pitching and first base that need to be addressed prior to the start of next season. If the Mariners could come together as a team next season, there's no reason that they can't compete for Minnesota's wild card spot, especially considering that the Twins made the playoffs after a 59-103 campaign in 2016.

Amazon to open second headquarters, incites bidding war between cities

Mariah Partin
Staff Writer

Seattle is home to the headquarters of the world's largest internet-based retailer, Amazon. What began as an online bookstore, started by Jeff Bezos in 1994, has grown to sell almost anything you can think of. Amazon is constantly exceeding expectations and surprising its customers with innovative ways to take over the market. Along with that, Amazon has brought thousands of jobs to the Pacific Northwest. Recently, they began a grocery delivery service in select cities. In 2016, Amazon recorded 136 billion dollars in sales. Now the company is seeking another location to build its second headquarters, colloquially referred to as "HQ2".

According to the New York Times, many cities jumped at the chance. 238 cities across North America have proposed a bid to Amazon. The only states that did not submit a bid were Hawaii, Wyoming, Montana, Vermont, Arkansas, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Applications

came from Canada and Mexico as well. Since Amazon announced they were taking bids for HQ2, cities have pulled off outrageous moves to lure in the company. The new campus has reportedly been projected to bring in five billion dollars in investments and 50,000 jobs over the next two decades. Wherever they decide to go, Amazon will bring huge economic development to the winning city. Amusingly, Tucson, Ariz. sent a 21-foot tall Saguaro cactus to Seattle on a flatbed truck to accompany their offer, while the Canadian province of Calgary has put out an ad offering to fight a bear for Amazon.

While this bidding has given plenty of publicity to Amazon, there is controversy to Amazon's request for tax breaks and other incentives to help the proposals. Newark, New Jersey is offering 7 billion dollars in tax breaks to Amazon's new headquarters. According to Forbes, Amazon requires a large metro area, with a business-friendly environment, and a place attractive enough to retain strong technical



Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org

Amazon founder and CEO Jeff Bezos

talent. Amazon has asked their suitors to get creative and think big. According to the Seattle Business magazine, building a second headquarters is admission that Amazon cannot hire as fast as they need to in Seattle. Seattle has housing and transportation limits related to its limited space. Amazon needs to begin "scaling out" over "scaling up." Kevin Schofield, writer for Seattle

Business magazine, pointed out that there are people Amazon would hire that refuse to move to Seattle. The question now is whether the new HQ2 will mean a lot for Seattle. The company employs over 24,000 people in Washington State. According to Geekwire, many in Seattle blame Amazon for bad traffic, rising housing costs and income inequality. Politico magazine said that while Amazon has brought great prosperity, they have turned Seattle into a "stressed-out, two-tier town with a thin layer of wealthy young techies atop a base of anxious wage workers." They also commented that a city council member said HQ2 might allow Seattle a little breathing room. However, to Amazon's suitors, any downsides pale in comparison to the upsides, as HQ2 would bring a lot of power to any city, and make it a "knowledge capital." Amazon plans on revealing the location of their second headquarters sometime next year.

New tax plan offers breaks for businesses and individuals

Julia Lucas
Staff Writer

President Donald Trump's new nine-page tax plan has received mixed reviews from Republicans and Democrats alike. Trump has gone on record saying that his plan, which primarily involves cutting taxes, will increase economic growth. The new plan features several major changes in tax brackets and cuts in funding and has been said to benefit individual earners, small businesses, law firms, hedge funds, manufacturers, and multinational corporations.

One of these changes involves income tax brackets. Currently, there are seven tax brackets that split an individual's income. Under the new plan, the seven brackets will be reduced to three. The percentage rates of the new brackets would be 35 percent, 25 percent, and 12 percent respectively. The dollar amounts that would put people into these categories has yet to be specified, but the proposed plan is an attempt to split taxpayers into three brackets. Some Americans for many years have argued that the rich pay much less in taxes than the poor, which has sparked constant debates, including new ones under the plans proposed by President Trump. These kinds of debates have long been a staple in economic arguments in the U.S., as well as in other countries across the world with similar taxation methods.

Another one of the plan's major changes is eliminating the alternative minimum tax. The alternative minimum tax takes away many deductions under the regular tax system and is essentially a safety net that was made to prevent the rich from avoiding taxes or greatly decreasing their

taxes. While the plan would eliminate personal exemption and ensure only a person's income and a little more is subject to being taxed, the standard deduction would be doubled. The standard deduction is the status of filers, such as a person filing as single with no children, married with no children, married with two children, and more. The standard deduction would be higher for all filers, except those with multiple children. The people without multiple children would almost have double the standard deduction than under the current system, but filers with several children will receive less of a deduction.

Beyond individual taxpayers, Trump's new tax plan makes several changes to corporate taxes and "pass through" business taxes. The corporate tax rate would go from 35 percent to 20 percent and "pass through" businesses will have a rate of 25 percent. "Pass through" businesses are individually owned companies that pay taxes on their business' income through their owner's personal tax returns. This is said to greatly help the economy to keep small businesses on the same level as major corporations. There would also be a one-time repatriation tax for overseas businesses. This means that corporations that do a lot of their work overseas will only be taxed once for the profits they make and bring back over to the United States.

Most of the changes proposed in the new tax plan seem to be beneficial for the economy, individuals, and businesses. There are some major concerns brought up by economists though that have sparked some controversy over the plan in general. Economists have questioned how the White House would be able to make these tax

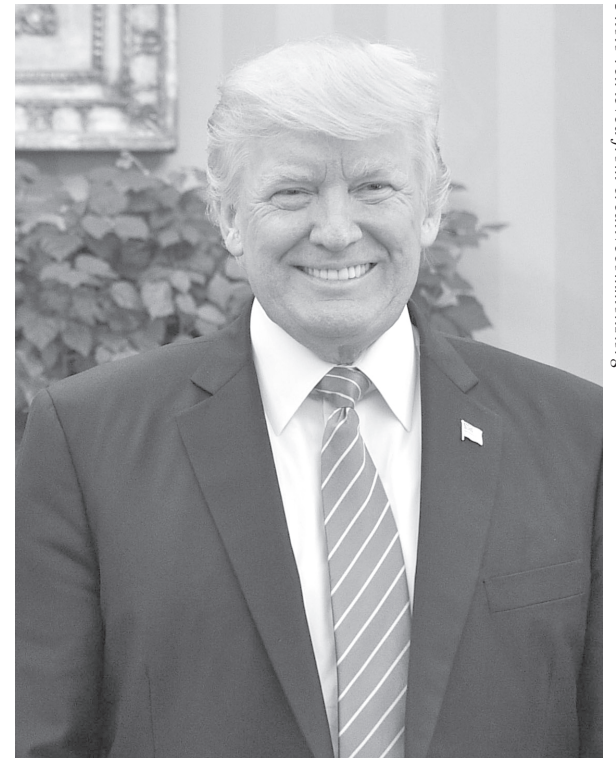


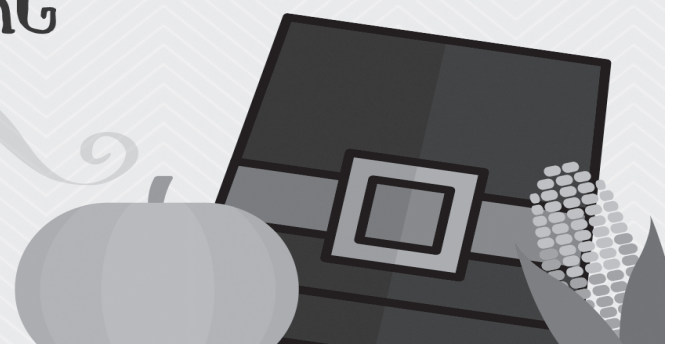
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President Donald Trump in the oval office.

cuts without going further in debt. The tax plan is estimated to add \$1.5 trillion to the national debt before economic growth is taken into account. There are both benefits and risks to the proposed tax plan that could either boost the United States economy or harm it. The plan has yet to be passed and all tax payers are eager to find out what changes the plan could mean for them.

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Seattle to elect first female mayor since 1926

Zara Kulish
Staff Writer

Seattle is preparing for its upcoming mayoral election. The candidates for the election are former U.S. Attorney Jenny Durkan and urban planner and activist Cary Moon, both Democrats. While both candidates received advanced degrees from top universities, some have disputed Moon's qualifications, saying she doesn't have enough concrete achievements in her career to be mayor. On the other side of the coin, Durkan's affluence and connections to power-brokers cause some to speculate that she doesn't have enough hands-on experience with the community to be effective on local issues.

Some of the main issues in this race include what to do about the homeless population, police reform, taxes and infrastructure. The number of homeless in Seattle grew to 11,643 from 10,688 last year. A whopping 47 percent of those are unsheltered, meaning they live on the streets, in cars, or tents. Seattle

has numerous unauthorized homeless encampments and several that are government-sanctioned. Durkan believes that most of the unsanctioned encampments are dangerous, and people should be moved out of them. Before they are shut down, however, Durkan believes the city should build more shelters and give people better places to go. She also supports short-term rental vouchers, but thinks there should be other methods to combat homelessness. Moon thinks evictions from unauthorized encampments should be stopped, because people's lives are disrupted, but the city should build more shelters, and if an encampment is truly unsafe, help them relocate. She believes short-term rental vouchers are more of a band-aid than a solution.

As far as police reform goes, Durkan thinks the federal consent decree is working to decrease force and increase transparency, so reform should continue in the same vein, and she supports keeping Kathleen O'Toole as police chief. Moon is unsure about O'Toole and believes that more progress would occur if power were to give the Citizen Community Police Commission direct oversight, rather than by issuing top-down decrees.

Infrastructure-wise, Moon is in favor of a public broadband network, and putting city money toward a new Sound Transit light rail, but against a campaign for Amazon's second headquarters. Durkan supports a campaign for the new headquarters, is unsure about the public broadband network, and against giving money to the light rail, because she believes it's red tape, not funding, that is holding the project back.

Both of the candidates are in favor of new, more progressive taxes. Moon is willing to raise property



Seattle Mayoral candidates Jenny Durkan (left) and Cary Moon (right).

taxes, but thinks they should be a last resort to progressive taxes. Durkan wants to lower property taxes for elderly and low-income homeowners, but admits there may need to be a levy to pay for addiction and behavioral services.

In this election, the circumstances are just as interesting as the issues. Not only will this be the first time that Seattle has had a female mayor since 1926, but it is the first time that a woman has been in the general election for mayor since then. The last one was Mayor Bertha Knight Landes, who was the first woman to lead a major city in the United States. She ran on a platform of "municipal housecleaning." There had been growing veins of corruption in the government at the time, and Landes had a scandal-free, honest tenure in the mayor's office. She also did a lot for the infrastructure of the city, advocating municipal utilities and public transportation. She dedicated the building now known as the Seattle Opera House when it was originally built as the Civic Auditorium. She served only



Photos retrieved from creativecommons.org

one two-year term, being defeated for re-election because of the popular belief that Seattle should have a man in charge, which seems to have held strong until the present.

Now, with a woman poised to take the executive office for the second time in history, Seattle might get some of the "municipal housecleaning" it so badly needs. The city's last elected mayor, Ed Murray, dropped his campaign for reelection in May, after he was accused of sexually abusing minors. There were four allegations of sexual abuse against teenage boys dating back to the 1970s. In his statement dropping out of the race, he claimed he was innocent, but "didn't want the scandal to overtake the election." Mayor Murray resisted calls to resign until September, when another alleged victim came forward. Despite leaving office because of the scandal, Murray maintains that the allegations are false. The interim mayor appointed by the Seattle City Council, Tim Burgess, will step down on Jan. 1, 2018, when the new mayor-elect is sworn in.



Seattle's first female mayor, Bertha Knight Landes 1926-1928

Trump backpedals on Iran nuclear deal

Mariah Partin
Staff Writer

In the summer of 2015, President Barack Obama and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani announced the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, more commonly known as the "Iran nuclear deal," after two years of negotiations. The basics of this deal left Iran with a nuclear program, but impeded and limited production. Iran confirmed they would not develop any nuclear weapons as long as they were able to peacefully continue their atomic program.



A map of the regions of Iran

According to BBC news, Iran had a large stockpile of rich uranium and nearly 20,000 centrifuges, enough to create eight to ten atomic bombs. This deal also lifted UN sanctions on Iran, which were in place to halt the country's uranium enrichment. The sanctions had a negative impact on Iran's economy. At the time, the Iran nuclear deal stated that Iran could not build any more water-heavy nuclear reactors, or accumulate any excess heavy water for 15 years.

In early October, President Trump announced his refusal to sign and re-certify the Iran deal, which the president is required to do every 90 days if Iran is in accordance with the stipulations of the deal. So far, Iran does not seem to have broken any part of the deal. Although last month, according to BBC, Iranian officials said they had tested a new medium range missile with a 1,200 mile range, though the missile tests had not been internationally verified.

President Trump wants to end the Iran Nuclear deal's "sunset clauses" which would lift the restrictions on Iran's nuclear enrichment program after 2025. He also called for

restrictions on Iran's ballistic missile program, which is not covered by the deal. Other U.N. countries that had signed this deal warned that changes to the agreement could result in a return to a nuclear stand-off. Despite sharing concerns of the ballistic missile program, the U.K., Germany and France all said they remained committed to the deal.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu contrastingly congratulated President Trump for confronting "Iran's terrorist regime." During an interview with NBC, the US ambassador to the U.N., Nikki Haley, said that the administration's hope is to stay in the deal if congress can keep it together. She commented that it was their goal to improve the situation, so the American people would feel better. Haley also stated the United States needs to hold Iran accountable in adhering to the agreement.

In a CNN interview with Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, he echoed the statement that the U.S. is planning to stay in the agreement. However, he commented that the issue with the deal is that it does not achieve the objective of ending nuclear weapon production



Countries negotiate the Iran Nuclear Deal

in Iran, it simply postpones it. He also stated the U.S. will work with its European allies to address their shared concerns.

Tillerson addressed President Trump's comment about Iran violating terms. Iran had indeed committed technical violations, but they were remedied. The agreement allowed for such remedies. Haley also used the example of North Korea as something we do not want to get into with Iran. Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster, National Security Advisor, said on Fox News Sunday that the administration would stay in the deal, while demanding modifications from congress and potentially forging an additional agreement with Iran.

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Upcoming reforms to the Affordable Care Act

Hannah Gabel
Staff Writer

There are many upcoming changes to the Affordable Care Act, commonly known as Obamacare, all of which are taking place in the next two years. With the signing of a new executive order on Oct. 12 by President Donald Trump, there are five main alterations that will change the current healthcare system.

Kimberly Amadeo, writer for The Balance, highlighted the five main changes to health care. Health insurance companies will expand access to insurance plans, allowing companies to run across state lines, as well as make policies available to small businesses and trade groups. This could lower the cost of insurance, as companies will be competing for the business of a wider population. However, this could also risk raising insurance costs, since it will

be harder to moderate prices.

The next change is elongating short-term healthcare plans. Under Obamacare, short-term plans only last about three months. Under the new plan, President Trump is planning to extend them to at least 12 months.

The third change would allow employers to use their money before taxes to help pay medical expenses for their workers, with fewer restrictions than what Obamacare placed on employers previously.

Amadeo says that the last two changes allow studies to be done to limit consolidations in insurance agencies and hospitals and increase the competition between the various healthcare plans of insurance agencies.

It appears that Trump's upcoming changes will help lower the costs of insurance for individuals that are healthy. These healthy individuals

will be able to find more affordable plans that will cover their basic needs and most of the other things that insurance currently covers. Fortunately, if the individual does become sick, they can upgrade their plan for further, more extensive coverage. However, for individuals with chronic illnesses, insurance becomes more expensive. As we have seen over the last few years, health insurance prices have risen by at least 5 percent. This rise is expected to continue throughout next year.

Amadeo noticed that with the help of Seema Verma, one of the newer leaders for Medicare and Medicaid, the prices for Medicaid could decrease, only costing users a small monthly fee which could also help to lower the cost of insurance across the board.

These upcoming changes are predicted to take effect in late 2018

or early 2019. Interestingly, these five changes will not affect all insurance programs. Mainly, they will affect the five main companies that are tied to Obamacare. Other agencies will definitely be affected in the competitive aspects, but this does not mean that every health insurance plan will change what they offer or how much it will cost. There have been many efforts made to help health insurance become affordable to everyone in a more sufficient manner. Trump's efforts are an attempt to ease some of the constraints that Obamacare had on existing agencies. These new regulations and rules are being put into place to help the agencies act within the law to provide prompt, affordable health insurance to all individuals.

Catalonia struggles following referendum and ensuing political crisis

Julia Lucas
Staff Writer

"Do you want Catalonia to become an independent state in the form of a republic?" This question was posed in the form of a referendum by Catalonia's president, Carles Puigdemont. The referendum was meant to determine whether the citizenry wanted to secede from Spain, but has also sparked the worst political and constitutional crisis the country has seen in four decades.

Catalonia's independence movement, headed by Puigdemont, grew larger and stronger after Spain's economic crisis from 2008 to 2012. The financial crisis left Catalonia with a 19 percent unemployment rate and with significantly less money due to increased taxes Catalans paid to Spain. The taxes were required to help rebuild Spain's economy after the crisis, but left Catalans angry that their money was being taken away from improving Catalonia itself. Overall,

the people of Catalonia believe that Spain takes more from their 7.5 million citizens than it gives back. The independence movement has been working towards a referendum ever since the crisis started in 2008.

Held on Oct. 1, the vote drew 2,286,217 voters with 90 percent of those voters backing independence. Under the laws of a referendum, independence must be declared 48 hours after a 50 percent or higher vote.

Finally, after several weeks, the Catalan parliament voted to declare independence from Spain. One reason for the delayed declaration stemmed from only 43 percent of all eligible voters participating in the referendum. Had turnout been higher, the numbers would have been significantly different. Prior to the vote in July, the same question was asked in a public forum and only 41 percent of votes were in favor of seceding from Spain. Some chose not to vote for personal reasons, but many people who were against the

independence movement boycotted the vote in support of the Spanish government and Spain's Prime Minister, Mariano Rajoy.

Rajoy vowed to stop the vote, declaring it unconstitutional and illegal on the basis that Spain's 1978 constitution does not give the right to hold referendums on self-determination. Because of Spain's vow to cancel the vote, a portion of the people who attempted to vote were attacked and injured by the police force and military dispatched to Catalonia.

The Spanish government, led by Rajoy, brought in 4,000 officers to stop the voters, giving those officers permission to use force. The police and military tried to stop the vote by seizing ballot forms, shooting rubber bullets into crowds, and arresting pro-independence officials. This disruption caused 770,000 votes to be lost, 10 million ballot papers to be seized, and 900 people to be injured.

Rajoy continued with his

aggressive stance on the matter by proposing that Catalan leaders, including Puigdemont, be replaced by members of the Spanish government. He invoked Article 155 of Spain's constitution that allowed the Spanish government to take over running the region. This has been viewed as an extreme attack on Catalonia's self-government as Article 155 has not been invoked since the end of Francisco Franco's dictatorship in 1975. The intensity of the Spanish military to stop the vote along with Rajoy's aggressive stance has sparked numerous protests in Catalonia's four provinces: Barcelona, Girona, Lleida, and Tarragona. Most of the protests have taken place in Barcelona and have consisted of 450,000 people wearing their Catalan flags proudly and carrying signs that demand freedom. Freedom may or may not be won by Catalans, but they will not be silent in the fight.

Japan re-elects Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

Hannah Gabel
Staff Writer

On Oct. 22, Japan re-elected its Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe. Samuel Osborne, a writer for The Independent, took note of Abe's promises to his country, detailing his plans on how he hopes to improve the safety of the Japanese people.

Abe won the election in a landslide, predicting many future victories to come. With this largely successful victory, Abe can work toward the ideas he is passionate about. Abe can focus his efforts on defending Japanese citizens from outside threats, as well as help secure funding towards important programs throughout the country.

With the nuclear threat of North Korea felt around the world, Abe has taken a stance in defending Japanese citizens. As Osborne states in his article, "Mr. Abe said he is committed to protecting the Japanese people's prosperity and peace under all circumstances, and specifically referred to individual Japanese citizens who are believed to have been abducted and held by North Korea." Abe certainly seems to strive toward obtaining the best for his country and the residents within, standing up against threats from combative countries.

Abe intends to invest money in various

Japanese government programs such as education. Osborne notes that "Abe also promised a comprehensive package by the end of the year to deal with Japan's demographic challenges, including investments in education, productivity improvements and pension system reform."

One dream Abe has is to amend a clause of Japan's constitution. Shortly after World War II, a clause was added to the Japanese constitution to keep Japanese military forces to a minimum and only to be used when absolutely necessary. However, the argument is cropping up that it might be necessary for Japan to change this as the rule is now seen as unrealistic.

"The charter renounces the use of force in international conflicts and limits Japan's troops to self-defense, despite the fact Japan has a well-equipped modern military that works closely with the U.S.," Osborne says.

While Abe has large dreams for how he'll be able to shape his country's future, there will be no immediate changes. The goals he is striving toward would be a long process to be able to achieve. Rewriting parts of Japan's constitution is not an overnight process, and would take repeated votes to pass, and even longer to implement. With such a controversial, debatable topic such as changes to the armed forces, it would take a long time for people to see a need



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

for change, if they even have a reason to do so. However, when it comes to Abe's other goals of funding and helping to improve education programs, is predicted to be far easier to achieve, as it is a universally agreeable necessity. The outlook of Abe's continued position in office appears positive as citizens look forward to the changes he will make and influence he will have on Japanese society.

Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org

Halloween, from cover

“Being that two of our University’s core values are “service” and “community” it is important that Saint Martin’s hosts events that exemplify those values. Saint Martin’s does an excellent job of engaging the community and demonstrating to its students that our core values aren’t just rhetoric. Instead, these values are applied to everything we do as a Benedictine institution” said Kugiya.

Dr. Kunder, from cover

the subject.” Kunder commented on the introduction to astronomy class.

In the near future, Kunder hopes to build a research group with students, so she can incorporate them into her own research. This may also increase the chances of getting more students involved in the physics and astronomy programs at Saint Martin’s.

Students interested in taking a science class other than biology or chemistry should consider taking a physics class with Kunder. You never know where your passions may lie.



Photo courtesy of Mia Rollins

Trick-or-treaters participating in the community Halloween.

Etiquette dinner guides students in professional hosting skills

Zara Kulish
Staff Writer

Every year, the Career Center hosts many events to aid students in the development of networking and business skills. One of those events is the semi-annual etiquette dinner. Once a semester, etiquette expert Arden Clise comes to Saint Martin’s to present a lesson on business etiquette over dinner to students and faculty. Clise started down the path to etiquette consulting when she noticed that people got very uncomfortable in professional situations when they weren’t sure how to act. She started by advising her colleagues, as well as executives and board members on things like what to wear for a certain dress code, or how to execute a proper handshake. Soon after, she decided she wanted to start her own business

but was unsure of what she wanted that business to be. Because of the enjoyment Clise experienced from helping her colleagues, she settled on etiquette consulting. Clise has a bachelor’s degree in English Literature from the University of Washington, and in addition to her consulting business, Clise is also a celebrated author. She writes an award-winning newsletter, and her new book, “Spinach in Your Boss’s Teeth: Essential Etiquette for Professional Success,” was released in 2016.

This year’s etiquette dinner was, for the first time, not preceded by President Heynderickx’s usual introductory address, as he was called away at the last minute. The evening started with an introduction by Ann Adams, director of the Career Center. The introduction was followed with a presentation by Clise

on professional etiquette, especially for situations involving food, and was given during a three-course meal provided by Bon Appetit management company. The food consisted of a simple salad, followed by roasted chicken with potatoes and squash for the main course, chocolate mousse for dessert, with the option of water or iced tea to drink.

Some of the topics covered in Clise’s presentation included-how to hold utensils properly, what to do with your napkin, and how to act when you are the host of a professional meal. Some of the lessons were universal, for instance-the bread plate is always on your left, meal in the middle, and water (and other drinks) always on your right. For this, Clise used the acronym “BMW.” Other lessons, such as how to hold the utensils, would

vary depending whether one was dining in the United States (American Style) or in Europe (Continental Style); Clise taught both. Guests should not eat until the host does, and the host should wait for others to be served before starting his/her food. When in a mingling situation like a reception, only hold food and drinks in your left hand, always keeping your right free to shake hands. If you arrive late, order the course everyone else is already on, and never take home your leftovers. There was also time to practice engaging those at your table in meaningful conversation.

The etiquette dinner is a valuable and educational experience, highly recommended to students of any major, but especially those in fields that rely heavily on people skills.

National and local businesses highlighted at fall Business Career Fair

Mia Rollins
Staff Writer

For anyone walking into the Business Career Fair, the neatly organized tables filled with bright pamphlets and smiling business men and women all eager to talk about their professions immediately catch the eye. The fall Business Career Fair on Oct. 18 was packed with Saint Martin’s students networking with organizations from all over the county, state, and country. Undergraduate students were not only able to ask company representatives questions, but many were also able to leave emails and phone numbers with professional companies that would hopefully lead to career opportunities in the near future. With 22 associations attending the fair in the Norman Worthington Conference Center, students had an opportunity to explore careers that they previously had not heard of nor had pictured themselves being a part of.

Ann Adams, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Career Development, coordinates all the career fairs and notes that individuals who may be undecided in their major or career path should take the time to participate in all the job exhibitions she hosts, saying “I really want

students who are undecided about their career path to attend; this is for them to come and talk to our alumni, and for them to explore by talking to people about how they got their own jobs.”

Adams later goes on to explain why asking questions about jobs is a key step in securing a profession when you graduate. “You should always get as much information you can before you commit to a job or internship, know what you are going to be doing, know who you are going to be working with, let people give you advice.”

The fair also allows businesses like Buckeye International to give helpful information such as listing specific skills and requirements that they search for in a potential employee. “We’re looking for someone who can talk to people, someone who is outgoing, we do a lot of phone conversations a lot of person to person conversations with complete strangers... someone who’s very personable with a good personality is really the main thing we are looking for,” said Kase Aufesser, Buckeye International sales representative.

Buckeye is a green cleaning industry based in Kansas City, Mo., looking to add more sales representatives at their branch in Seattle. Aufesser notes that Buckeye only hires newly graduated students, so it’s important for their company to attend job fairs to reach out to potential employees.

“We have a local office here in Seattle and we are always looking to add to our team over here... We only hire recent college graduates so our main focus is going to career fairs like this at Saint Martin’s and finding some talent and people who would be a good fit for our team,” said Aufesser.

Adams also believes that the events she offers give scholars the chance to start the beginning stages to their livelihood. “There are several steps and connections involved into getting a job. If you come here as a sophomore you’re not looking for a job so you may have met one



Photos courtesy of Mia Rollins

Office of Career Development and Internship Coordinator Assistant Director, Alyssa Nastasi (left) and Associate Dean of Students and Director of Career Development, Ann Adams (right) coordinate the annual business career fair.

of the representatives here and then you might see them again in the spring, and then the following year you’re going to get an internship,” explained Adams.

While 187 students attended the STEM career fair, only an approximate 60 students attended the business fair, leading to the question: Why don’t more Saint Martin’s students use this opportunity to make connections?

“We can’t always say getting a job is a direct path from attending the career fair... I would like to say that because you get hired by making connections” said Adams.

For more information on job opportunities though Buckeye International visit buckeyeinternational.com/careers



The business career fair hosted 22 associations



Buckeye Sales Management Program

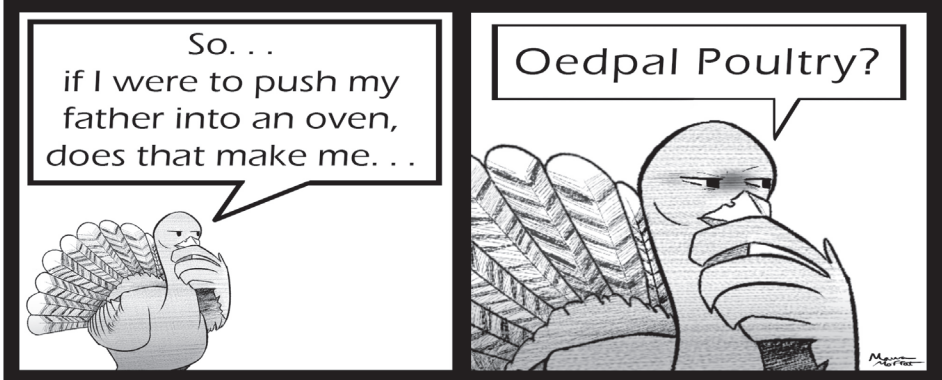
Maura Moffat
Illustrator

The Belltower recently hired Maura Moffat as our illustrator! Keep your eye out for cool illustrations in the coming issues.

To request a comic or illustration, email us at belltower@stmartin.edu



Institutional Aviary: Existential Turkey



Election Season Mad Lib

Brian Messing
Section Editor

Today was an exciting day in the nation of _____ (Country). The people of _____ (Same Country) gathered to elect their new _____ (Political Title). The election featured many _____ (Adjective) candidates, however one candidate _____ (Name #1) clearly stood out from the rest. _____ (Name #1) had worked for _____ (Number) decades in the _____ (Noun) industry, producing _____ (Noun) products. _____ (Name #1) transitioned to politics in _____ (Year) after being elected _____ (Another Political Title). After being elected to office, _____ (Name #1) developed a reputation in _____ (Country Capital) for being very _____ (Adjective). This reputation helped move _____ (Name #1-Plural) legislation on _____ (Political Issue). There is another candidate in the race, _____ (Name #2) who is widely considered to be _____ (Adjective). _____ (Name #2) is known for work on the _____ (Political Issue), that is widely considered to be a _____ (Adjective) piece of legislation. _____ (Name #2) was polling ahead of _____ (Name #1) until a controversy erupted about _____ (Name #2). The media leaked that _____ (Name #2) _____ (Verb) _____ (Noun). This caused _____ (Name #2) a huge _____ (Noun) and has put _____ (Name #1) in the lead, according to _____ (News Organization). _____ (Name #1) has accused _____ (Name #2) of _____ (Verb) the _____ (Government Department) Department while in office. This has further elevated _____ (Name #1) in the polls, who is now up _____ (number) points. We will know the results of the election at _____ (Time) when the networks call the election.

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