

# THE BELLTOWER

SAINT MARTIN'S UNIVERSITY MONTHLY STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume X

Issue 3

October 31, 2016

## A guide to unionization efforts at Saint Martin's

**Roslyn Buff**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

### What is a union?

A union, as defined by the Merriam-Webster online dictionary, is "an organization of workers formed to protect the rights and interests of its members."

ballots were cast. 63 of those ballots were cast in favor of union representation and 34 were against representation. One vote was challenged and not counted.

Another e-mail sent to staff and faculty by

### What is the argument IN FAVOR of a union?

The Belltower interviewed Kyle Smith, mathematics professor, in order to gain knowledge of the arguments in favor of having a union on campus. Smith is a contingent faculty member, and as such is eligible to unionize.

Smith has been teaching at Saint Martin's since 2014. He began as an adjunct faculty member, but was then offered a full-time contract, meaning that he became a contingent faculty member.

Smith also explained the difference between adjunct and a contingent faculty. According to him, adjunct faculty teach one to three courses, and are hired on a semester basis based on department need. Contingent faculty are on a year contract, but it is the choice of the department and administration whether their contract is renewed each year.

According to Smith, one of the main reasons that contingent faculty desire a union is because in the past, the administration has promised things to the faculty which it did not follow through on.

Smith explains, "...what the union would do is it would cause [the administration] to have to set things into a contract form that says, 'Okay, we're going to have this kind of a pay increase, we're going to make sure that if you work this amount of classes we have these kinds of benefits.'"

Smith also described his belief that other adjuncts at different colleges receive better work compensation. According to Smith, they receive nearly \$2,000 more than SMU adjuncts, and also begin to get benefits if they teach consecutive classes.

As Smith explains, because he is a contingent faculty member who works full time, he has

continued on C4



Saint Martin's contingent faculty advocates union involvement

### Who is SEIU?

SEIU is the Service Employees International Union. SEIU Local 925, the specific union that is seeking to represent Saint Martin's faculty, "unites 17,000 members in Washington who work in education from early learning through higher education, as well as members who work in local government and non-profits," according to their website.

### What has happened at Saint Martin's University so far?

In the spring semester of 2016, union representatives for SEIU Local 925 approached adjunct and contingent faculty at Saint Martin's University (SMU). At this point, SEIU Local 925 representatives began requesting that adjunct and contingent faculty sign a union authorization card. Union authorization cards, "legally authorize a union to represent an employee for the purposes of collective bargaining with an employer," according to the "U.S. Legal" website. A union must get 30 percent of the intended faculty to sign these cards in order to petition the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) for an election. SEIU Local 925 was successful in receiving the signatures and on May 16, the NLRB ruled that an election was to be held for contingent faculty at SMU. The voting took place between May 27 and June 17 of 2016.

According to an e-mail sent to faculty and staff by SMU President Roy Heynderickx, the NLRB announced on June 17 that a majority of the votes had been in favor of union representation. Of the 125 eligible contingent faculty voters, 98

President Heynderickx on June 24 announced that a motion had been filed on behalf of SMU to "stay the order certifying that SEIU has been elected as the collective bargaining representative for our contingent faculty." The letter further explained the intent of the administration to petition the regional director of the NLRB to see if SMU could receive religious exemption.

The regional director of the NLRB in Washington state ruled that SMU did not qualify as religious enough to meet the stature of religious exemption. At that point, SMU's administration decided to petition the NLRB's national office headquartered in Washington, D.C.

Currently, the school is still waiting to hear whether or not their case will be heard by the NLRB, or whether it will be rejected and the original ruling of the regional office made official.

Heynderickx stated that over the summer, listening sessions were conducted that led to a "more robust communication program."

SMU has a university council, which is a representative group of the school's population and includes a range of members from students to trustees. The council also included faculty and monastic members. The group was enlarged over the summer and met once to share information. They scheduled four more meetings for the year. The meetings follow the administration meetings with the board of trustees, and allow the community to know what was reported to the board of trustees.

### Sister Gertrude



See Page E1

### Halloween Origins



See Page H1

### Business Fair



See Page G2

### What's in this issue?

Lifestyles. . . .B2

News. . . . .C1

Sports . . . . .D1

Features. . . . .E1

CCR. . . . .F1

Classroom. . .G1

A&E. . . . .H1

Op-Ed. . . . .I1

Activities. . .J1



Happy Halloween all!

We would like to dedicate this editor’s note to wish a happy birthday to Julie Yamamoto, advisor of The Belltower. Julie’s birthday was on Friday, Oct. 28.

The “role of the advisor” section does not do justice to all of Julie’s amazing efforts. Julie is a support system for all of us, and without her there would be no Belltower. Whenever we have a question, she is always quick to help find a solution and get us back on track. She cares about us not just as students and writers, but also as people.

Julie has always inspired us to grow as a paper, try new things and take chances. We would not be the paper we are today without her tireless efforts. On behalf of all of us at the Belltower, I would like to wish Julie a very happy birthday, and sincerely thank her for all she does for us.

Best wishes,

Roslyn Buff



# The Belltower

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## Role of the adviser

*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.*

## Our Mission

*As fellow students at Saint Martin’s Univeristy, our staff is constantly working to keep you up-to-date on what is going on around campus, our community and throughout the world. Our newspaper will provide information that is valuable to our campus and especially to students at SMU. We will never back down from taking on any issue at our school and promise to give our best efforts to keep the community informed.*

## Are you interested in writing for The Belltower?

**We are accepting articles from student freelance writers. If you see something newsworthy, turn it into a story. If we print it, you will be paid for it.**

**For questions, comments, applications, submissions, or suggestions, send an email to [belltower@stmartin.edu](mailto:belltower@stmartin.edu),**

**Or drop a note under the door of the newsroom, HH 200**

## Guest Submissions Policy

**Have an opinion about something you would like to write about? Consider sending an article to The Belltower. If you or someone you know would like to be a guest writer, submit articles to [belltower@stmartin.edu](mailto:belltower@stmartin.edu) for consideration.**

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## How Saint Martin's students celebrate Halloween

**Cleo Pineda**  
Staff Writer

Halloween is here, and Saint Martin's students have a variety of plans for their first major holiday since school started.

As college students, the first thing that generally comes to mind when debating what to do on Halloween is which party to attend. However, sophomore Amanda Grengs looks forward to winding down for the night.

"I might help out on campus for the Halloween community event, but honestly I just want to hang out with friends and watch movies all night. I would love to do a costume but I can't just think of something out the blue," she said.

Though she plans on spending the holiday with her friends, she admits to having enjoyed it more as a child.

"My favorite memories are from when I was little. Nowadays it's just all about partying and I think that's lame because you can do that whenever," she added. "I love how when you're younger, you can be something that you idolized. I idolized Bubbles (a character from the popular children's show "The Powerpuff Girls"), Grengs explained. "Everyone that year wanted to be Bubbles and my daycare ladies got me the costume. They surprised me with it because Bubbles was my superhero."

As for the spooky spirit of Halloween, Grengs prefers nostalgia to spending the holiday in

fear. "I'm not a huge scary movie person," she continued, "but I still love my 'Halloweentown' movies."

On the opposite end of the spectrum, sophomore Jonathan Dawes gets his thrills from partaking in horror movie marathons.

"That's what I would do for Halloween in high school. I would go to my friend Henry's house and it would be a little competition of who can last through a stack of horror films before passing out. We would go from six or seven in the evening to six in the morning. I won every time," he said.

Both Grengs and Dawes also spoke about their past trick-or-treating experiences. Grengs's favorite part was coming home and pouring out all the treats she had accumulated that night and trading candies with her family.

"I was all about sour candy and anything chocolate," she said.

Dawes explained, "I also liked trick-or-treating until I reached middle school. When I tried to do that, some of the adults looked at me and told me that I was too old to ask for candy. I don't know if it was the class of neighborhood that I lived in where they were upper middle-class or beyond that, but they were kind of snooty."

Dawes plans to opt out of giving away candy in the future.

"When I have my own home, I will give

children dictionaries because they need to learn to read. Literacy I feel is dropping. No candy, just dictionaries," Dawes expressed.

Grengs believes that Halloween can be more than just a chance to watch movies and eat candy. "Overall, I like Halloween because it gives you a chance to be goofy and get out of your comfort zone. When you dress up interestingly, it starts a conversation with people. If you're very introverted and you don't talk to a lot of people, on Halloween if you have a cool costume, it gets you out there. You make friends and you get to find out what people are passionate about because people usually dress up as someone or something they admire. It's a way to get people together," Grengs said.



Pumpkins are a staple of Halloween traditions

Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org

## Three ways to be an efficient college student

**Bethany Montgomery**  
Staff Writer

Although most students enter college with the intent of being an efficient student, they don't always have a clear plan to accomplish this goal. There are many ways to be efficient, but several key points really contribute to minimizing stress, staying happy and managing time well.

Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org



Staying organized can reduce stress and minimize chances of losing focus.

### Budget your money.

Saving money seems like a given, but it can often go ignored. Money spent outside of a meal plan may go to waste buying superfluous items. Debt can accumulate significantly in college, so eliminating needless costs is an important step in keeping the number to a minimum. The first step to saving money is having a written budget. Not every student has a job, but nearly everyone has some source of income. Based on this budget, students should determine a set amount of spending money per week to stay under and should avoid unnecessary expenses and impulse purchases like eating out often or buying a coffee every day. Although these may not cost much,

they can add up quickly. Instead, it is better to make coffee before class and plan meals that may not fit into a meal plan. Students should also set aside a fixed amount of money every week or month for emergencies, since unexpected fees and expenses are almost inevitable in college. Lastly, everyone is encouraged to take advantage of free events, both on campus and in the area. Not spending money does not have to mean not having fun.

### Be organized.

Staying organized is something that most students attempt at the beginning of the year, but often lose the motivation to keep up as the year goes on. However, beginning the year with a plan will make it easier to stay organized throughout the rest of the year. "Plan ahead" sounds like a cliché phrase, but it is the backbone to staying organized as the rest of the year gets busier. Keeping all assignments from the syllabi in both a written monthly calendar and an electronic calendar will make planning events throughout the year easier, and bigger projects are less likely to be forgotten. It's best to include reminders prior to the important assignments or events, so that all-nights and double-booking will be less common. Students should utilize free time in between classes to work on homework to avoid staying up late, since distractions and fatigue are likely to be greater in the evening. All graded assignments and notes should be kept in a binder or folder. This will eliminate stray papers and keep everything in one place for future reference. Students living in dorms or apartments should have specified jobs for each person who shares the living space. That way, the responsibility for particular chores will be on the individual rather than everyone hoping someone else will take care of it. Planning ahead can save time and

lower stress levels.

### Get involved and active on campus.

Universities offer their own unique experiences and opportunities that can be almost impossible to find outside. Students are encouraged to take full advantage of these chances while in school to both grow as a person and to find possible future job opportunities. Saint Martin's offers many free resources that exist for the benefit of the students. Campus Life arranges weekly activities for students to participate in and to volunteer for. These are posted all over campus and listed in the Trautman Student Union Building. They are constantly updated. Not every student wants to play for a sports team, so intermural sports are an excellent alternative to stay active. The career fairs in the fall are great opportunities for students to search for internships and possible job opportunities. The many campus jobs available also offer openings for students to earn money and gain work experience. Students struggling with difficult subjects are encouraged to request free tutor help in the lower level of the O'Grady Library, a place with countless research tools. On-campus clubs offer social activities and trips for students with similar interests. This is a great chance to make friends and to stay involved in other ways besides academics.

Getting the most out of the college experience has means more than just being studious. Wisely managing money, time and planning strategically will make the lives of both commuters and university residents more efficient.

For more information on involvement on campus, visit or contact Campus Life at (360)-486-8877, the Saints4Hire website, or the Career Center located in Old Main room 257.

## Corrections from last issue

The article, "Facility frustrations: A student's perspective" from our Oct. 10 issue had an incorrect number. In the article, the cost of a new science building was quoted at \$13 million. The actual estimation of the building cost is \$11 million. The \$13 million figure would include some renovations to Old Main as part of the move. This information was received from Ed Barton, CFO and Vice President of finance.

The article, "Is religion reasonable?" from our Oct. 10 issue neglected to mention Father David Pratt's participation in the debate proceedings. Father Pratt is the director and coach of the debate club, who put on the faith debate on Sep. 20. Father Pratt also presented during the faculty panel after the debate.



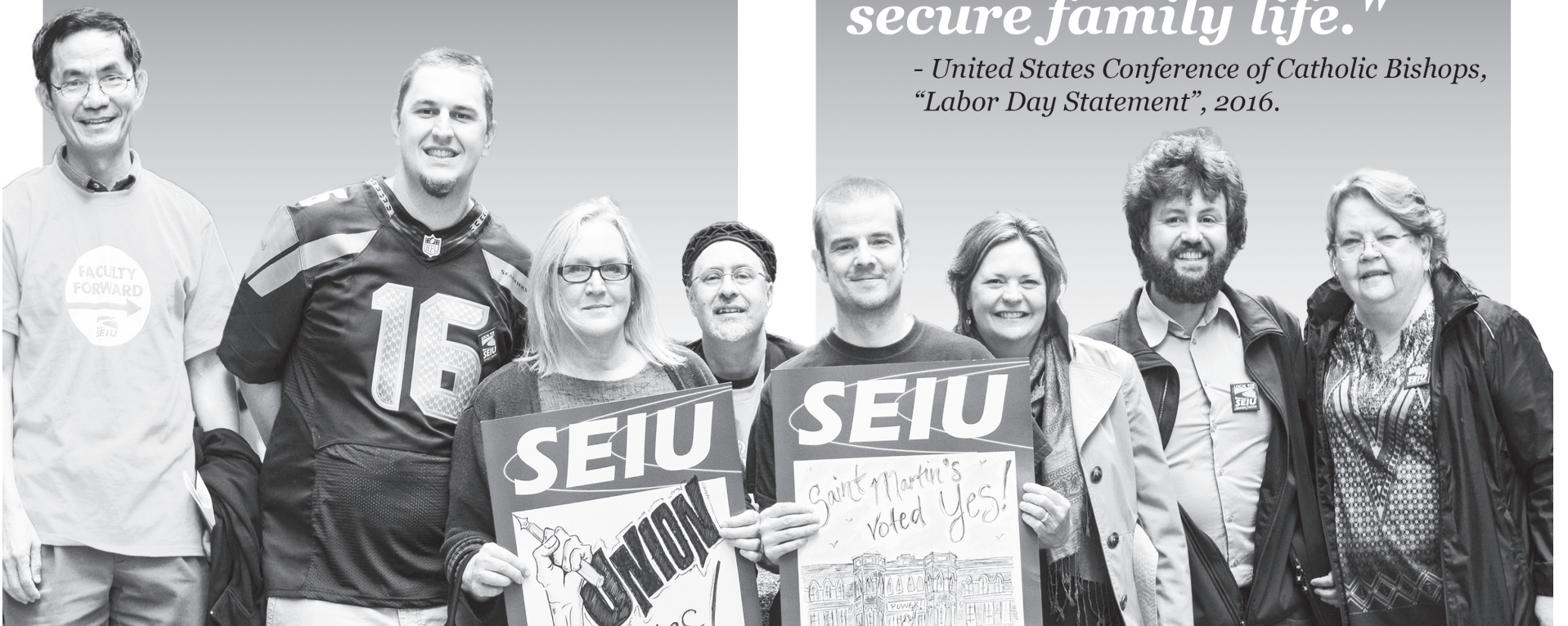
# SUPPORT SMU FACULTY

*"The Church fully supports the right of workers to form unions or other associations to secure their rights to fair wages and working conditions... No one may deny the right to organize without attacking human dignity itself."*

- Catholic Bishops of the United States, "Economic Justice for All: Pastoral Letter on Catholic Social Teaching and the U.S. Economy", 1986.

*"If you are an employer, you are called to respect the dignity of your workers through a just wage and working conditions that allow for a secure family life."*

- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "Labor Day Statement", 2016.



**"We believe the best way to support our students and attract more to the university is to provide fair wages, benefits, and job security to all faculty and staff who dedicate their lives to educating and supporting our future leaders."**

- Public Letter in Support of Unionization signed by SMU faculty (below), <http://wafacultyforward.org/our-campaigns/saint-martins-university>.

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Brian Barnes  
Todd Barosky  
Maile Bay  
Barlow Buescher  
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Rex Casillas  
Ernesto Chavez  
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## Alternative candidates may not be in debates, but they remain an option

**Breanna Brink**  
Staff Writer

America is about to get a new president, and to many people's horror that president could either be Republican nominee Donald Trump or Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. Yet there are still third-party candidates available. There are others running for president, and while they may not be in the debates and all over the media, they are options to be considered.

Two candidates who have not been mentioned as much in the media are former New Mexico governor and Libertarian party presidential nominee Gary Johnson, and



Libertarian nominee Gary Johnson

activist, politician and physician Jill Stein, the Green Party's nominee. It should be noted that these two were also both nominated in 2012, and have faced off against each other before. While neither of them are doing miraculously in the polls, they are also receiving little recognition as "real" candidates.

Former governor Johnson is a businessman, politician and author. He served as the 29th governor of New Mexico from 1995 to 2003, associating with the Republican Party until 2011.

His goals as president are to repeal President Obama's health care laws and he has stated that he favors reducing taxes, which is proven by his refusal to raise taxes, and by his 14 different tax cuts during his governorship. He publically endorsed same-sex marriage and has stated that he deeply agrees with the separation of church and state. He is also a long-term advocate for legalized marijuana.

Johnson has had his share of gaffes in this election cycle. His "What Is Aleppo?" moment, during which he blanked publically on television about the war-torn crisis area in Syria, led the media to paint him as someone with a lack of U.S. foreign policy knowledge. He is opinionated about his stance on the

Second Amendment, stating, "The Second Amendment was designed to protect us against a government that could be very intrusive. And in this country, we have a growing police state - if people can own assault rifles or automatic rifles, I think leads to a more civil government." According to an interview with RNN (Regional News Network) in 2013, his opinions since then have not changed. Stein is the second alternative option. She graduated magna cum laude from Harvard and has studied psychology, sociology and anthropology. She attended Harvard Medical School, where she graduated in 1979. She has practiced medicine for 25 years and has run for many political positions such as governor of Massachusetts and president of the United States. With a firmly stated distaste for student debt, she has pushed for free higher education for the U.S. Stein has intentions to ban fracking and has spoken against nuclear energy, in an On The Issue interview she stated "It is dirty, dangerous, and expensive, and should be precluded on all of those counts." Stein has proposed a series of "green" goals to move the U.S. to completely renewable energy by 2030. To do this, she intends to cut military spending by 50 percent and to pull out of



Green Party nominee Jill Stein overseas military bases. While she is pro-"Obamacare" and immigration, Stein has mixed feelings about both parties. She has made it very clear that in her eyes "it is heroic to resist the media and political elite's control of information." As stated in an interview on The Hill, featuring her thoughts in praise of WikiLeaks. With the two alternative options being drowned out by the media's oversaturation of Trump and Clinton, many have forgotten the other candidates available to them. Trump and Clinton will not be the only candidates on the ballot on Nov. 8. Perhaps Stein and Johnson can provide a suitable option for those still perplexed by the choice given more readily by the media.

Photos retrieved from creativecommons.org

## Hurricane Matthew causes \$5 billion in damage

**Brian Messing**  
Staff Writer

Hurricane Matthew finally dissipated on Oct. 10 after causing at least \$5 billion in property damage. Around half of the damage was concentrated in North Carolina, according to an article from the ABC news website. Hurricane Matthew brushed over the Caribbean, hitting Haiti and Cuba before making its way to the southeastern U.S. Estimates for the number of deaths caused by Hurricane Matthew vary from as low as 500 to as high as 1,300 with most of these deaths taking place in Haiti. This makes Hurricane Matthew the deadliest storm since Hurricane Stan in 2005. Hurricane Matthew was also the first category five hurricane in nearly a decade, with Hurricane Felix in 2007 being the last.

The country of Haiti was hit the hardest by Hurricane Matthew. It is estimated that 90 percent of the buildings in Les Cayes, a city in the southern part of Haiti, were destroyed by the hurricane. The damage to Haiti was so extensive that it could be seen when satellite pictures from before and after the storm were compared. The

pictures from before the storm show a lush and green portrait, whereas the pictures after show a brown, muddy area. Most crops in Haiti are grown on small plots of land. The changes in the satellite images indicates that many of these crops were washed away by the storm, according to an article from the United Press International website. Haiti will face additional challenges as it is one of the poorest countries in the world and has faced other natural disasters before, such as the 2010 earthquake that killed 200,000 people.

Hurricane Matthew also caused massive flooding in North Carolina, leading to 26 deaths in the state. There have been 46 reported deaths from Hurricane Matthew in the U.S. The flooding was massive, with over a foot of rain dropped as far as 100 miles inland. Many communities were decimated by the amount of water that came with the storm. Early reports suggest the total amount of property damage will exceed the current estimates that are already in the billions. Current estimates do not include damage to infrastructure like roads that are covered by insurance, so it is

likely that the final damage figures will be even higher, according to a NY Daily News article.

There have been efforts by charitable organizations to assist with the destruction caused by Hurricane Matthew. The American Red Cross operated shelters across the areas of the United States that had been affected. The Red Cross facilities gave shelter to over 23,000 people. In addition, volunteers from across the nation such as Sacramento, Calif., Wichita, Neb. and Indianapolis helped with disaster relief in areas affected by the hurricane. Haitian-Americans in Georgia have also operated a telephone hotline seeking to bring relief money into Haiti. The Haitian-Americans have already donated 100 pounds of medicine from Atlanta doctors that will be transported to Haiti, according to an article on the CNN website. Perhaps the silver lining of this storm is that it has brought out the good in us as we help people across our own nation and across the world to fight the aftereffects of Hurricane Matthew.

## Presidential debates' aftermath

**Alesha Garand**  
Staff Writer

The presidential election is drawing to a close as polls run tight throughout the debates. Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton held the lead in all three debates, with Republican nominee Donald Trump continually challenging the legitimacy of these polls.

Clinton's lead began in the first debate with 51 percent of voters believing that she had won, and only 40 percent believing Trump had won. Percentages rose and fell throughout the debates, with Clinton remaining in the lead.

The third debate ran smoothly for the majority of the time, a thematic shift from the two previous debates.

A major event spiking emotions among voters was the release of a recording of Trump from 2005, which he referred to as "locker room talk." Many republicans, such as Governor Gary Herbert of Utah, who had previously supported Trump as the Republican nominee, retracted their support. This three-minute video was enough to sway many Trump supporters away

from reluctant support, or at least make them hesitant before the debate.

Clinton's preparation paid off. She delivered statements for the third debate to contest Trump's dismissal of his own comments as "locker room talk."

"Donald thinks belittling women makes him bigger. He goes after their dignity, their self-worth, and I don't think there is a woman anywhere who doesn't know what that feels like. So we now know what Donald thinks and what he says and how he acts toward women. That's who Donald is," Clinton said.

By the time the third debate was finished, the spotlight moved from Trump's shocking comments to the fact that he would not confirm whether he would accept the election results on Nov. 8. Trump may have had a clear shot at winning this debate if not for his refusal to accept the results.

David Chalian, a reporter with CNN, encapsulated the third presidential debate in a single sentence.

"Donald Trump needed a major turn around, and that doesn't seem to have happened," he

stated.

On Oct. 20, the day after the third debate, Trump sprang into damage control for his comment concerning his conditional acceptance of the election results.

"I would like to promise and pledge to all of my voters and supporters and to all of the people of the United States that I will totally accept the results of this great and historic presidential election - if I win," Trump declared.

The polls between the candidates were evenly divided among all the issues, ranging from the economy, immigration policies and the Supreme Court selections.

CNN's map of electoral college votes showed Clinton leading Trump in the race for the presidency. Before the first debate, there were 272 electoral votes for Clinton and 196 for Trump. Before the third and final debate, there was a dramatic shift to 307 votes for Clinton and 179 for Trump.

The 2016 presidential race is an uncertain, yet historical time in American history. The world waits with bated breath to see the result of this year's election on Nov. 8.

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## World news at a glance

Brian Messing  
Staff Writer

### British cabinet split on Brexit



British Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Hammond

Tensions are breaking out in British Prime Minister Theresa May’s cabinet. After a successful party conference, in which May indicated that she would prioritize cutting immigration, many who would like to see Britain remain in the single market are upset. Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Hammond has stated that members of the cabinet who advocate for a so called “hard Brexit” are undermining Britain’s negotiating position with the European Union. Some have even speculated that Hammond may resign over the issue of hard Brexit, which could cause a major blow to May’s relatively stable government. Others speculate that Hammond’s contradictions of May’s agenda are fueled by treasury advisers who would prefer a soft Brexit if any Brexit is to happen, according to an article on the Business Insider website. All eyes are on May to see what will come next after she triggers Article 50 at some point next year before Mar. 31.

### Battle for Mosul is on



A Humvee that was destroyed during the fall of Mosul to ISIS forces in 2014

The fight to liberate Mosul from ISIS (the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) has begun. Iraqi security forces, along with Shia and Sunni militia fighters, have started their attacks on the terrorist-held city. Mosul is Iraq’s second largest city and is the largest city controlled by ISIS. Many have said that the city’s wealth has been instrumental in the success of ISIS, particularly from the banks that were raided after its capture. The Iraqi Army on the ground is being aided by a U.S. air coalition that includes the U.K., France, Italy and Canada. Mosul sits in one of the most ethnically and religiously diverse parts of Iraq. Western powers have attempted to limit the influence of Shia militia in the battle for Mosul and increase volunteer Sunni participation to prevent moderate Sunnis in Mosul from developing sectarian anger, according to an MSN (Microsoft Network) article. The liberation of Mosul could send ISIS into a downward spiral.

### STD’s at all time high



Photos retrieved from creativecommons.org

Logo for CDC

A report released on Oct. 19 showed that sexually transmitted diseases in the U.S. have hit an all-time high. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) report shows that syphilis cases have increased 19 percent and gonorrhea cases have increased 13 percent. The CDC estimates that there are over 110 million cases of sexually transmitted diseases within the United States. The rise of sexually transmitted disease cases has disproportionately affected young people between ages 15 and 24. This group is responsible for two-thirds of new chlamydia cases and half of all new gonorrhea cases. The CDC has noted that the increase of new cases of sexually transmitted diseases could be linked to budget cuts in individual states’ awareness programs for sexually transmitted diseases, according to a PBS article.

## Assault near Saint Martin’s Campus

Bethany Montgomery  
Staff Writer

In an attempt to combat sexual assault and raise awareness on our campus and within our community, Saint Martin’s University has annually sponsored both Sexual Assault Awareness Month and “Take Back the Night.”

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center published that one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted while in college. They also reported that more than 90 percent of sexual assault victims on college campuses do not report the assault. More shockingly, one in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their life, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention and the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.

Adjunct professor Keri Graham has a great passion for spreading awareness about sexual assault. She collaborated with a student to bring “Take Back the Night” to Saint Martin’s in 2009. For the last three years, she has also been actively involved in Sexual Assault Awareness Month and “Take Back the Night.”

“I think the general purpose [of Sexual Assault Awareness month and “Take Back the Night”]

is to provide a safe place for survivors, start a conversation about the prevalence of sexual assault on college campuses and hopefully work on preventing sexual assault in our community,” said Graham.

Sexual Assault Awareness month is a campaign in April involving activities like a “Sex Signals”



Photo courtesy of Lacey police department

Police sketch artist’s rendering of alleged attacker

discussion, “The Clothesline Project,” the “Take Back the Night” march and various campus lectures.

Graham’s goal this year for Sexual Assault Awareness month is to spread the word about sexual violence in the Saint Martin’s community and beyond.

“I want survivors to know they are supported and also educate allies on how they can help survivors,” she said.

Graham is also curious about what kinds of programs students are interested in during the month of April that can strengthen the impact of Sexual Assault Awareness month and bring the community together to take a stand against sexual violence inside and beyond our immediate community.

Another important program is called “Green Dot,” which encourages bystander engagement through intervention techniques. This type of intervention training equips people with the confidence to intervene as members of the community and ensure the safety of individuals in dangerous situations.

If you are interested in any of these programs, be sure to check your e-mail for upcoming dates and times in which these activities are taking place and how you can volunteer and help.

## This week’s weather

MON OCT 31	TUE NOV 1	WED NOV 2	THU NOV 3	FRI NOV 4	SAT NOV 5	SUN NOV 6
55°/47°	56°/46°	58°/51°	62°/49°	57°/47°	58°/45°	56°/44°
Cloudy with a touch of rain	Cloudy, a shower in the p.m.	Rain	Overcast	Cloudy, a couple of showers	Periods of rain	Mostly cloudy, rain possible
More	More	More	More	More	More	More

Forecast retrieved from accuweather.com



**Union, from cover**

health care benefits. However, adjunct faculty members currently do not receive any benefits.

Smith also believes that having union representation will allow the contingent and adjunct faculty more of a voice within the university.

"We're not just hiring union people to come in and fight with the administration," Smith said. "It's going to be us as faculty members sitting down finally and getting that voice at the table because currently, contingent faculty have no voice in any capacity at this school. We're paid very little, we work just as hard as the normal faculty members and our voice isn't necessarily heard."

He went on to explain that currently, the various committees at Saint Martin's, such as the Finance Committee and the Faculty Senate, do not include contingent faculty members.

Another one of Smith's complaints is that contingent and adjunct faculty both have to wait to know whether or not their contract will be renewed, and there is no way of knowing what the outcome will be each year or semester. For Smith, each year brings uncertainty as to his job status.

He explained that whether or not contingent faculty members are hired depends on class demand. Faculty are hired based on what classes need to be taught. Unlike tenure-track faculty who pick the classes they will teach each semester, adjuncts teach whatever is needed.

Smith believes the union efforts have made the community of teachers on campus stronger.

"We're all coming together as contingent faculty members to support each other in these difficult times, and that's where their argument of 'it's going to destroy community' is a little bit backwards. It's bringing all of us contingent closer together. It's just disrupting their idea of that community that there's going to be that...hurdle that they have to talk to a union person before they do anything," he said.

Smith's hope is that a union will be able to give contingent faculty the things that they feel they need in order to have fair treatment and an improved work life. He wants respect for all professors, whether contingent or full-time tenure track, and he hopes that a union will be able to achieve this. As an alumnus of Saint Martin's, Smith doesn't ever want to leave the campus, but feeling like he isn't being treated as well as he could be makes it difficult to want to stay.

He explained that in the same way that students leave, teachers leave as well in order to teach at a school that they believe will treat them better.

When asked if there was any misinformation that Smith wanted to clear up, he stated, "They [the administration] did use tuition money to pay for the union lawyers. They have since, I believe, switched to a board member that has funded it, but I'm not 100 percent sure of that, but they did use some of the tuition money to pay for lawyers and I don't think students were too

happy that that was happening. But I believe that they have received another source of funds so they're not dipping into tuition money anymore."

**What is the argument AGAINST the union?**

The Belltower interviewed SMU President Roy Heynderickx, Ph.D., and SMU Provost Molly Smith, Ph.D., in order to gain knowledge of the arguments against having a union on campus.

One main concern of the administration is that of religious freedom.

Heynderickx said, "That's where you really find a number of individuals concerned about this, because under the First Amendment of the United States, there is religious freedom. And if governmental agencies can decide on their own what is a religious institution or not, we're very concerned about what that means in the long run." This is the reason why the administration has decided to take the case to the National Office of the NLRB in order to challenge the ruling by the regional office that SMU is not religious enough to receive religious exemption. Heynderickx has also stated that there have been discussions on whether or not to take the case further than this.

"...That would be the next step: to consider taking it to the federal courts for resolution and possibly to the Supreme Court. And I have to tell you, the talk is quite serious, that a few of them would like to mount that challenge. Would they be successful, who can say?" said Heynderickx.

The other concern for the administration, as previously stated, is that a union will disrupt the sense of community of campus.

Provost Smith explained this believe when she stated that until now, faculty were able to speak to both herself and the president directly about plans or ideas they wanted to implement.

"So now, faculty can come to me or to the president and say, 'We have this new initiative we want to run.' We generally tend to support those sorts of things, but all such things would end up being part of the negotiating," Provost Smith explained.

Heynderickx added, "One of the great things that happens here at this small campus is when a faculty member comes in to my office or Molly's and says, 'Hey I've got this great idea and I would like to take a group of students to wherever,' and we say, 'Let's try to make it happen, let's get the money to make it happen.' If that's not spelled out [under the union contract], it can't happen. And right now it does."

Provost Smith also stated that she believes there have been improvements to contingent faculty life while she has been at SMU. According to her, "This last year, we actually attended to the welfare of contingent faculty...we took the first step in fall and spring—their salaries were increased. It's not ideal yet, but the faculty leaders and I sat around a table and prioritized all the things we need to do. One of those was improving contingent

faculty salaries. We feel that the best way to move forward on the issues that matter to us, is by working together, because necessarily the union and leadership is an oppositional relationship."

Heynderickx agreed with Provost Smith that the administration is in support of helping contingent faculty.

"We are supportive of increased salaries for our faculty across the board, increased access to professional development funds for our faculty if they wish it and some sort of a way that if they're signed up for classes and we don't hire them that some financial remuneration ought to be given to our contingent faculty... we all believe that we should be making progress and keep working toward that and you would find it prominent in our strategic plan and in our operational plan..." Heynderickx stated.

Provost Smith further explained that before union talks had started, she began to implement a strategy to raise the pay for contingent faculty. She completed step one of the strategy, but was unable to continue progress because of the union presence.

Before the union vote had been taken, the fact that a union was on campus and attempting to reach a vote meant that the administration had to cease any actions that would appear to be an attempt to either persuade or dissuade their faculty from voting in favor of a union, according to the NLRB's Notice of Petition for Election.

Now the vote has been taken. New election laws require that once the vote has been taken, the administration is required to start bargaining with the union. However, the administration has refused to do this because they do not believe that the vote is final until their appeal to the National Office of the NLRB has been heard.

"And so we're sort of sitting in limbo knowing that the union would like to begin negotiating. We're worried about a loss of our ability to argue against the union once we have started to negotiate with them. And that may not work toward our favor in the long term if we were to explore or consider taking this into the federal court system," said Heynderickx.

In terms of misinformation, Provost Smith shared an example of information that the union printed on a flyer that she felt was unfair.

"One of the flyers said, 'Increasingly, Saint Martin's is relying on contingent part time faculty and destroying tenure and tenure lines.' One of the things that the president and I have very consciously worked towards is making sure that we have full time tenure track faculty and our reliance on part time faculty has reduced over the years. They're taking the national statistics and printing flyers and then saying its true for us and actually it isn't true for us," said Provost Smith.

**What has happened at other religious universities?**

There have been two cases regarding religious universities and unions that are relevant to the case

happening at SMU. The first and most groundbreaking case occurred at Pacific Lutheran University (PLU) in Tacoma, Wash. The case, which largely dealt with full-time, non-tenure track faculty members, set forth a new standard for determining whether an institution could qualify as religious enough to receive religious exemption that allowed the contingent and adjunct faculty at PLU to unionize. In 2014, the NLRB ruled that the fact that a college is religious does not mean that its faculty cannot unionize. The NLRB stated that a religious institution would need to prove that it "holds out the petitioned-for faculty members as performing a religious function. This requires a showing by the college or university that it holds out those faculty as performing a specific role in creating or maintaining the university's religious educational environment," according to an Inside Higher Ed article.

This decision created a new standard for determining religious exemption, which is the standard that SMU did not meet as determined by the regional NLRB. The standard, according to the Jackson Lewis legal website, states that the university "must first demonstrate, as a threshold requirement, that First Amendment concerns are implicated by showing that it holds itself out as providing a religious educational environment. Once that threshold requirement is met, the university must then show that it holds out the petitioned-for faculty members themselves as performing a specific role in creating or maintaining the college or university's religious educational environment, as demonstrated by its representations to current or potential students and faculty members, and the community at large."

Another decision relevant to SMU was made for Carroll College in Montana. This decision stated that Carroll College was indeed religious enough to place it outside of the jurisdiction of the NLRB, according to another Inside Higher Ed article written in 2016. This was a change in the string of recent pro-union decisions by regional offices of the NLRB.

Heynderickx stated in an interview that Saint Martin's university is not much different than Carroll College when it comes to religious exemption.

**What can students with questions do?**

According to Heynderickx and Provost Smith, students who still have questions about unionization efforts can speak to university council student representatives Harrison Devine and Jessica Bever. Students can ask Devine and Bever to ask questions during these meetings in order to get the answers that they may have. Additionally, the SMU unionization efforts webpage is the most updated place to go for information. The page can be found at <https://www.stmartin.edu/faculty-and-staff/saint-martins-university-and-unionization-efforts>.



# Cassidy Apo named GNAC defensive player of the week

**Victor Ieronymides**  
Staff Writer

There is no doubt that our hard working volleyball team has been facing some difficulties on the court for the past four games. Nevertheless, the Saints are doing their best to improve, which showed during their game against Concordia on Oct. 22.

Given her displayed abilities during game time recently, the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) defensive player for the week of Oct. 3-9 was the lady Saints' own Cassidy Apo, a sophomore from Honolulu.

"Even though we have been in a slump recently, I think we do a great job at going into each game with the right mindset. We want to battle each team and make them work for their points just like we did against Concordia," stated Apo.

Lately, the team has been starting off sets with nice leads. Apo continued, "There are games where we start with a lead or get a good lead on a team, and then it starts to go the other direction. A lot of times, this happens due to consecutive mental breakdowns that we seem to take a while to snap out of," she said. "Whether we are down by one or five points, we always manage to fight back and make sure we stay disciplined enough so that we get that side out. Saturday's game against Concordia was one of those losses

that you are still proud of because of how hard you played."

"I must admit that it was a total team effort from point one. We were going after tough balls on defense, swinging hard on offense and had one of our best blocking games of the season so far. No one was letting down and you could see



Photo retrieved from the Saint Martin's athletics website

Cassidy Apo in action against Concordia University

it on everyone's face," Apo added. As for what motivates Apo and the team to play their hardest at game time, Apo said, "The inspirations came prior to the game, when coach Jon (Killingbeck) told us to play for each other, and that is exactly what we did. No matter what

happened in the play, we were looking for the next ball and making sure we did our best to get the next point. The fight and the type of passion we exhibited at the game against Concordia is something that cannot be taught. I think we were going back and forth with them since point 24 of that set, playing all the way to 31, and we were down by at least six points in the middle of the set. Our team possesses that inner fire that comes out every time when the going gets tough, and for that I believe we really proved to ourselves and the other team that we are capable of great things," said Apo.

Apo felt fortunate to be named GNAC defensive player of the week, emphasizing that "it is an extreme honor. I was actually really shocked when I found out about my nomination because I wasn't expecting it at all. I don't play the game because I may or may not receive an award like this one, but because I love my teammates and I play the game because I want to get every ball up for my team and help us be successful as a whole."

Apo outlined what she envisions for the rest of the season, adding, "I just want to finish strong. In order for this to happen, I have to make sure I fine-tune some technique stuff with passing and digging, and if I do that, I believe it will add another level of competitiveness to our game."

# World Series win probable for Chicago

**Brittany Orlosky**  
Section Editor

The 2016 Chicago Cubs entered this season as the favorite to win the World Series and have remained so as they clinched their postseason wins. They won 57 times at Wrigley Field this season, the most games won at the ballpark ever. The Cubs haven't won the World Series since 1908. Their opposition, the Cleveland Indians, haven't won the World Series since 1948. Both teams are looking to end a long championship drought, two of the longest in Major League Baseball (MLB) history. The Cubs are entering the World Series with 110 wins. They have shown their ability to win games all season, including their postseason run. The Cubs have been known for their late-inning ability because of their slow starts, showcasing their ability to come through and win great deficit games.

The Cubs are slotted as favorites in the World Series with a 64.5 percent chance over the Indians and they have all the ingredients needed to win. Although Cleveland's bullpen has shown to be better, the tremendous starting pitchers for the Cubs assure this will not be a problem. With Kyle Hendricks coming through to help the team clinch the pennant in Los Angeles, and the ability and championship experience between Jon

Lester, Jake Arrieta and John Lackey, the Cubs' pitching sensations cannot be ignored.

The Cubs have been one of the worst offenses in the majors in close and late games, and Cleveland has shown to have good late-inning relief. However, the Indians do not have the same balance as the Cubs showed this season. Chicago has been hot lately and even with Cleveland's consistent lineup, a hot team cannot always be beat.

Compared to last year, the Cubs have an outstanding defense and fielding team: Kris Bryant at third base, Jason Heyward in right field and Addison Russell at shortstop. Cubs Manager Jed Hoyer has increased the team's success rate as well, including the acquisition of top trade closer Aroldis Chapman.

Chapman has 14 saves this season, only allowing a total of 15 unearned runs and helping the Cubs stack up 103 wins before postseason. Great starting pitchers will help guide the Cubs out of a drought of World Series championships. All in all, the Chicago Cubs bring more experience and youthful players that have shown ability in the MLB to help them win the series.

The Cubs are long overdue to win a championship. They have never had more talent on the field and in the front office. If they don't win this year, it will be hard to foresee another time when



Photos courtesy of creativecommons.org

Cubs player Anthony Rizzo

they will get this far in the postseason. The last time the Cubs played in the World Series was in 1945; it's a hard bet to go against the Cubs bringing home a championship to a long-awaiting Chicago. Given the importance of pitching and defense, there is no reason why the Chicago Cubs won't make this happen.



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Cubs player Kris Bryant

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## Seattle Seahawks ranked first in the NFC west

**Lauren Allison**  
Staff Writer

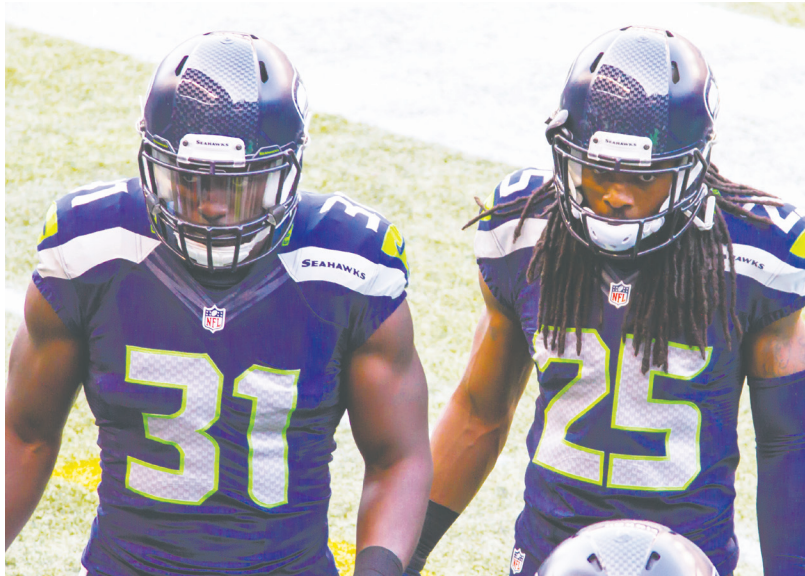
The Seattle Seahawks are currently sitting with a record of 4-1-1, putting them first in the NFC West. They are 3-0-0 at home and 1-1-1 away. The Hawks took the win during their season opener against the Miami Dolphins at Century Link field with a final score of 12-10.

In their first game on the road, the Hawks fell 3-9 to the Los Angeles Rams. There was great defensive effort from both teams, resulting in a low scoring game. The Hawks weren't able to capitalize on opportunities to come out on top by the end of the game. The low-scoring game left the Seahawks head coach Pete Carroll disappointed in his team's ability to score.

Carroll looked to get his team back on track after the loss at Los Angeles, and they did in their third game against the San Francisco 49ers with an 37-18 win. Scoring three touchdowns in the first half, the Hawks doubled their number of points scored in the first two games combined. They continued down a road of victory, beating both the New York Jets and the Atlanta Falcons.

Last Sunday, Oct. 23, for the first time in Seahawks history, the game ended in a 6-6 tie against the Arizona Cardinals at the Phoenix stadium. Both kickers missed game-winning field goal opportunities in close range during overtime. According to an article from the CBS

sports website, "Before Sunday (Oct. 23), a tie game that ended with no touchdowns being scored had never happened since the advent of



Seattle Seahawks players Kam Chancellor (left) and Richard Sherman (right)

sudden death overtime in 1974."

The Hawks started their season opener this year with 24 undrafted players on their 54-man roster. Seattle gives the opportunity to undrafted players to show their abilities against draft picks. This year, the Hawks added strong players to their roster and brought back key veteran players that will help lead the team.

Over the years, the Hawks have slowly become one of the top defensive teams in the league. They have led the NFL in points allowed for four straight years and don't look to slow down anytime soon. Quarterback Russell Wilson plans on playing against the New Orleans Saints this Sunday, despite a pectoral injury he suffered in the Hawks' game against Arizona.

Photos courtesy of creativecommons.org

Wilson, a main force in the Hawks' offensive line, has played through numerous injuries this season, including a high ankle sprain against the Miami Dolphins and an MCL sprain against the San Francisco 49ers. These injuries have kept Wilson from participating fully in practices, but they haven't stopped him from making an enormous impact on the field.

Carroll and the whole Hawks team look forward to making something special happen this season. The Hawks play the New Orleans Saints, one of the best offensive teams in the league, averaging 421.7 yards and 29.3 points per game on Sunday Oct. 30 at 10:00 a.m.

## Meet our new women's volleyball and soccer assistant coaches

**Victor Ieronymides**  
Staff Writer

The women's volleyball team added three assistant coaches to its coaching staff for the 2016 season. They are Concordia University alumni Kaihao Nahale-a, Western Washington University alumni Joe Holland and Central Washington University alumni Lauren Herseth. Herseth is very glad to be returning to Saint Martin's as a coach.

"I grew up watching the Saint Martin's women's basketball team and the fact that I'm back in the Pavilion—but on the coaching side—makes me feel like I am at home. When I was in middle school, the SMU women's basketball team at the time taught me what it meant to be a Saint and it's pretty cool to come to a full circle now that I am a coach. Although my memories refer to a different program, the main point is that I really enjoy giving players an experience they are proud to be a part of," Herseth said.

Herseth didn't hide her love of the game, saying, "I have always had a passion for competition, but my passion for volleyball started in high school and then grew during my time at Central Washington University. I have had awesome mentors along the way to guide and develop my

passion for coaching."

Herseth stated, "The coolest part about my job is shaping the players into awesome young women. They will be a person a lot longer than they will be a player, so coaching them through the sport and through life is the best part about being in my position at SMU as it allows me to teach in what I am most passionate about."

The Saint Martin's men's and women's soccer teams also added University of Birmingham alumni Matthew Dorman to the 2016 coaching staff. Dorman stated that "it is great to be part of the Saint Martin's community as I feel very fortunate to work with some incredible student-athletes who strive for success on and off the field. I am lucky to have a hobby as a career, allowing me to do what I enjoy every single day."

Dorman went on to explain what he appreciates most about coaching SMU's women's soccer team. "I enjoy the individual interaction and individual personalities that each player brings to form a collective team. Every player is different and therefore requires a different approach. Nonetheless, when each member's unique contributions are combined, we often witness the creation of a

special team and that to me is priceless," he said.

"I love how the school's core values align with my own, essentially helping student-athletes form a good character, develop as good students and thus create good and dedicated soccer players," Dorman added.

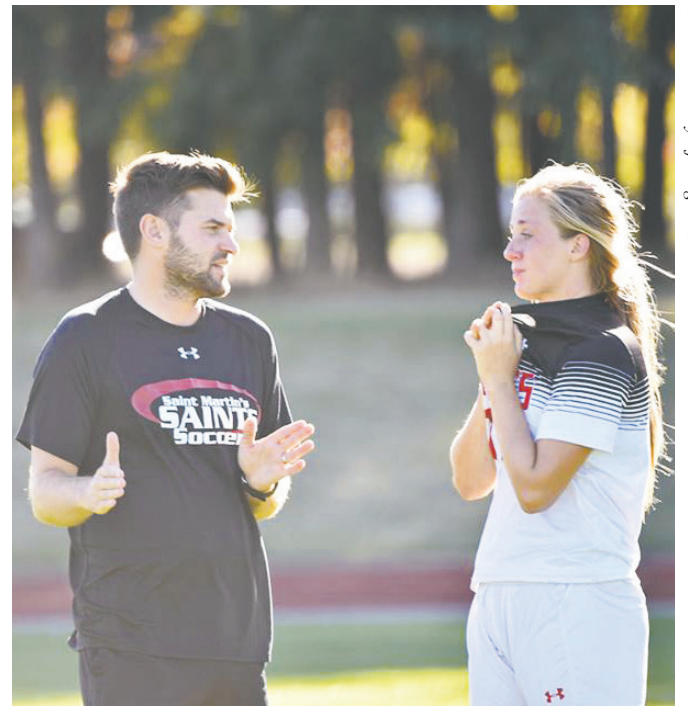


Photo courtesy of Megan Lobdell

Assistant soccer coach Matthew Dorman (left)

Inflatable jousting pit! (weather permitting)

Come talk to a recruiter!

Date: Wednesday, November 9th

Time: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Location: TUB

### Veteran's Day Tribute

# PARTY

**Come Party with  
the Veteran's!**



## New director of Benedictine Institute shares her journey to Saint Martin's

**Rebecca Robinson**  
*Staff Writer*

Three months ago, Sister Gertrude Feick, O.S.B., S.T.D. came to Saint Martin's as the executive director of the university's Benedictine Institute. Before finding and converting to the monastic life, she never imagined that she would be where she is today.

Born and raised into a Catholic family in Indiana, Sister Gertrude was always driven to excel, which she attributes to societal pressures and the way she grew up. She attended Indiana University where she studied physical education. Immediately afterward, she obtained a Master of Science in physical education in 1988 from Illinois University. During her undergraduate studies, she began to train for triathlons. After graduate school, she started competing and training seriously while working in the field of physical education.

"Many people wondered how I did it. Not everyone was working 40-50 hours a week, training 20 hours a week, racing on Saturday, winning and then training for the next race. I was like a machine. I don't know how I did it," Sister Gertrude said.

Sister Gertrude worked with various companies and hospitals, where she provided preventative care to patients and helped those with cardiac problems. While employed at a hospital in Indianapolis, she was asked to start a health program for 10,000 employees from scratch. After a decade of devoting her life to work, and training and competing in triathlons, Sister Gertrude came to a major turning point in her life. She was tired and burnt out, and felt that there had to be something more meaningful in life than what she was doing.

While working in a hospital in Lincoln, Neb. in 1997, she decided to apply to the Peace Corps. Upon returning from competing in the world triathlon championships in Australia, she found an invitation from the Peace Corps in her P.O. Box, asking her to volunteer in the republic of South Africa. She gave her two weeks' notice at the hospital, got rid of all her possessions and travelled to South Africa in January of 1998. It was an experience that graced her with valuable life lessons.

"The most important lesson I learned was to accept help from others, which I wasn't very good at before because I thought I could do everything by myself. I realized I was not the master of the universe, and that I actually needed help from other people," Sister Gertrude said.

After her service with the Peace Corps, Sister Gertrude came back to the U.S. toward the end of 1998. Her mindset had changed drastically. She decided that she didn't want to go back to working for corporate America, nor did she have the drive or energy to continue to train for triathlons.

She got a car, left Indiana and started driving across the U.S. without any specific destination in mind. All she had with her was a few belongings and a map. Without planning it, she eventually found herself in Portland, Ore. While there, she met a couple who gave her a brochure from the archdiocese, promoting a program of certification in ministry. After calling the number on the brochure, she was recommended to consider a seminary in Mount Angels, Ore. that offered a master's degree in theology.

"It sounded interesting and although I didn't know what it meant, I decided to drive there. When I arrived, the seminary was small. I still didn't know exactly what the subject of theology was, but I found it intriguing. It was totally different from anything I'd learned before," Sister Gertrude said.

While searching for somewhere to live in Portland, she found the Queen of Angels Monastery, full of Benedictine sisters. She offered to work in the monastery in exchange for a place to live while she was studying theology at the seminary.

"The study of theology was incredibly enlightening for me," she said. "I learned so much more about the Catholic faith than I ever had from growing up a Catholic and going to church every Sunday."

In 2000, Sister Gertrude entered officially into the monastery. After years of immersing herself into the ways of the Benedictine life, she knew it was what she had been looking for her whole life.

In 2007, Sister Gertrude was preparing for perpetual profession in the monastery. At the time, she still went by her birth name, Sara Elizabeth. In order to receive a new name, she was



Sister Gertrude at Saint Martin's Alumni event with Don Follet (left) and Katie Wojke (right).

Photo courtesy of Sister Gertrude

instructed to submit three names to the pious (the head monk or priest of the monastery), who would then pick which name she deemed to be most suitable. On Nov. 16, 2007, the feast day of Saint Gertrude the Great, Sister Gertrude was giving a teaching to a group of students about the life of Saint Gertrude. It was then that she decided she was going to ask for the name of Sister Gertrude. She submitted three names to the pious: all Gertrude. She was kindly given the name of the saint, who has been a role model for her ever since.

Sister Gertrude continued to live a life of devotion and service to the Catholic faith and community. She finished her Master of Arts in spiritual theology at Mount Angels Seminary in 2007. She furthered her studies and received three more degrees of theology while attending a school in Rome and finished her doctorate last October.

Although she has only been at Saint Martin's for a short time, it has given her the opportunity to learn about her vocation in a way that she hadn't been able to before. She is away from her community in the monastery and she is doing a particular type of work that she hasn't done before. Being here has reminded her of what her vocation means and how to better serve God and God's people.

"I've received an incredible amount of gracious hospitality here. I feel respected for who I am, what I'm able to do and not able to do. People are thankful for that fact that I'm here," Sister Gertrude said.

## The team behind the athletes

**Rebecca Robinson**  
*Staff Writer*



Saint Martin's head athletic trainer Alice Loeb sack

Saint Martin's University's (SMU) athletic training staff has the responsibility of ensuring that their student athletes are healthy and able to give 100 percent, whether it be on the court, the track or the field. An athletic trainer's job includes injury prevention, emergency care, and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions.

Coaches and athletes are often what comes to mind when one thinks about sports. Behind the scenes, the athletic trainers are working constantly and tirelessly to make sure that their athletes

are injury-free and ready for game day.

The athletic training staff of SMU, head athletic trainer Alice Loeb sack and assistant athletic trainer Ramzy Asaaf, are working year-round to provide preventative care and rehab for all student athletes. Athletes participating in every sport at the collegiate and professional levels rely on athletic trainers to care for many of their injuries and ailments. College athletes typically train year-round, even if their particular sport is not in season. This means Loeb sack and Assaf are working with student athletes in 10 different sports, regardless of the current season. Their days start with prep for practices, preparing the training room for the day, laundry and injury evaluations, among other tasks. Tracking progress in a chart comes in handy for the trainers in order to keep communication and accountability running as smoothly as possible between the trainers, athletes and coaches.

"It's an organized, manageable chaos," Asaaf said, "but there's never a boring day for us."

They are always preparing for curveballs. They never know exactly who they will be caring for

or what type of injuries they will tend to, which is why they come in early most mornings to get charting and prepping done. Oftentimes, the trainers don't get off until 10:30 p.m.

"There's very rarely a typical day, which is why we got into this field," Loeb sack added.

Loeb sack and Asaaf aim to break the stereotype that if an athlete does not belong to a sport like football or basketball, the athletic trainers won't like them.

"We will treat a golfer that couldn't make the travel squad the same as we would treat our starting basketball player. Everyone has equal access to accommodations and treatments for when they're here," Loeb sack said.

The trainers want to be approachable enough to their student athletes that they will come to them with any issue they may have, even if it is not a physical one. An open relationship between a trainer and athlete is essential to an athlete's success.

"Having that conversation is tough. It's hard to tell someone that they might not play again," Loeb sack said.

In the end, the trainers feel that the rewards that go along with their

work makes it worth it. Last year, Loeb sack dealt with an athlete at Saint Martin's that thought her season was over. The athlete started at a point where Loeb sack did not think they would be able to return her to play. The athletic trainers worked with her on mental as well as physical levels, and did all they could to avoid strain on the injury while it was still healing. By the time the athlete had to go to conference championships, she was more than ready.

"Watching it change from 'it's over', to 'there's a chance,' to being there and seeing her ready for it and motivated to play—there's no other feeling like that," Loeb sack said.

The major goal Loeb sack and Asaaf have for their student athletes is for them to take injury care and prevention seriously. They hope that if any potential problems for injury may arise, the athletes will come to them for help, treatment and guidance.

"Our services are always here for them. An essential part of being an athlete is taking care of yourself consistently, and doing it well," Asaaf said.



## The origins of Halloween

Alesha Garand  
Staff Writer

Halloween in America dates back to the Irish migration during the potato famine, but even further than that is Halloween's connection to the Celtic holiday of Samhain. This was the Celtic "day of the dead" celebration, the biggest landmark of the year. It had an early influence on the cultures of Britain and Ireland as well.

The belief of the Samhain holiday was that spirits were granted permission to cross through the world in order to reach the netherworld. In addition to dead souls, there were any manner of scary creatures free to walk about including fairies, witches and demons. Many traditions evolved from this into modern day Halloween. Most came from somber beginnings, which we do not consider today as we craft cupcakes with decorations of spider webs and pumpkins.

For example, masks were worn by the people so that the dead roaming the earth would not recognize them as living beings. The masks hid their identities from devilish spirits, while today masks and costumes are simply a fun way for people to dress up.

It is lucky for those of us who look forward to this holiday that it still exists. When Christians first encountered the Celts, they attempted to rid the culture of their religion and any pagan holidays. But due to the persistence of Celtic culture, the holiday only transformed, becoming closer

to the version of Halloween we celebrate today.

Christians tried to entirely replace the holiday with some of their own holidays, beginning with All Saints' Day, adding All Souls' Day later on. All Saints' Day was called All Hallows in the Celtic translation, thus creating All Hallows Eve and then All Souls' Day, both of which are still used as a secondary names for Halloween.

In Britain and Ireland, the night became called Hallowmas and the tradition of trick-or-treating emerged. In the middle ages, the poor knocked on doors and offered prayers for the occupant's dead ancestors in exchange for food or other materials.

The tradition of carving jack-o'-lanterns is an interesting one, dating back to the Irish roots of the holiday. In an Irish folk tale, a man called Jack trapped the devil and bargained for his own soul. The devil agreed not to come after Jack's soul. Jack then proceeded to live a sinful life, and when he died would not be received in heaven. But because of his deal with the devil he was not granted admittance to the underworld and was doomed to wander the world as a lost soul, forever stuck between life and death, heaven and hell. After being turned away from the underworld, the devil threw a hot coal at Jack, who just happened to have a turnip with him. He placed the coal inside the turnip and used it to

guide him as he roamed the earth. The turnip was eventually replaced by a pumpkin in our current traditions, as it is easier to carve. The renowned symbol of Halloween, the jack-o'-lantern, grew from this small tale to become a large part of the American Halloween tradition.

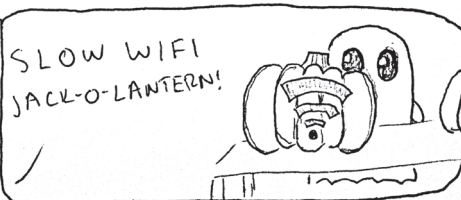
Many of the traditions of Samhain still exist, but with a different, less serious nature to them. They have stood the test of time, and Halloween lives on.



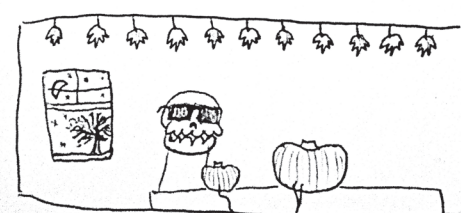
Trick-or-Treating is the modernized version of an old Celtic door-to-door ritual

## A Little Too Scary

Comics by Rebecca Robinson



## Festive AF



## Munday Morning Comics

Comics by Travis Munday



Submit your comics to [travis.munday@smartin.edu](mailto:travis.munday@smartin.edu) to see them in the next issue!

## Belltower Between the Lines

Every weekend before the paper comes out, the team gets together to finalize the issue...these are some goofy things said during this process.

"Learn your shapes, Blake!"-Sabrina

"I'm taking off my shoes, nobody panic!"-Roslyn

"Here, you can play Animal Crossing. This is my town and everything...DON'T RUN THROUGH MY FLOWERS."-Abby

"What's the word where there's like stuff in it?"-Brittany  
"Content..."-Katherine

"I know young people things. Didn't Pepe get eclipsed by dat boi?"-Travis

"Who are you guys voting for?"-Travis  
"I'm voting for a bullet in my brain."-Roslyn  
"Is he running?"-Travis

"I feel like I just ate a piece of toast with nothing on it."-Katherine

"Did you press ctrl+z?"-Travis  
"We are WAY beyond ctrl+z!"-Roslyn

"I'm wearing a diet cloak, it's a very slimming garment."-Travis



# Saint Martin's alumna speaks on the struggles of Olympia's homeless

Evan Lake  
Staff Writer



Jessica Flores speaks of her experience with the homeless in Olympia.

After interviewing criminal justice professor Robert Hauhart, Ph.D., on his recent book, "Seeking the American Dream: A Sociological Inquiry," the Belltower arranged a follow-up interview with Saint Martin's alumna Jessica Flores who, as an undergrad, collected several personal accounts from Olympia's homeless, some excerpts of which are featured in Hauhart's book.

Flores graduated in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice conducted the interviews in cooperation with Hauhart. The project eventually became the basis of her senior thesis and a Scholar's Day presentation in the same year.

Flores's project focused on the relationship between delinquency in homeless youth and the presence of the police in homeless communities. Acquiring social acceptance within Olympia's "street culture" required considerable tact and personal investment. Flores spent three months

acquainting herself with members of the community, only conducting interviews once she was considered familiar and approachable.

Emphasizing the importance of earning interpersonal trust rather than relying on social authority, Flores explained that the homeless generally "don't like conventional authority figures – moms and police officers."

"They need someone who can relate to them," she said.

Flores spoke with more than 60 members of Olympia's homeless and street youth while conducting her research. During this process, she made several discoveries about the homeless community and gained new perspectives on the needs of the economically disadvantaged.

"At the time, it was just a thesis for me," Flores explained. "I realized it was something that was new and not many people had explored."

Flores emphasized that conventional society has misconceptions about the homeless which can limit an understanding of their struggles.

"I have learned not to judge a book by its cover," she said.

Flores continued, saying that the homeless are "just ordinary people – they have goals and a story worth telling."

She also discovered that the homeless community is more socially complex than many might assume.

"When you think of a homeless community, you think it's a simple lifestyle," Flores said. "But it's a very intricate, structured community. They have a hierarchy—they even have a legal and justice system of a kind."

On the subject of the American dream, many of those Flores interviewed were skeptical or

pessimistic. She related the story of one interviewee whose remarks stood out to her:

"One person I interviewed called the American dream a carrot dangling in front of a horse," she said.

The image claims that capitalistic meritocracy is fruitless or elusive, a view which Flores agrees with.

"Having heard what the homeless and street youth had to say, I can honestly say that the American dream is a façade," Flores said.

Her project gave her considerable insight, but her plans changed after graduation.

"I wanted to pursue my research more," Flores explained, "but with student loans piling up, I needed a full-time job."

At that time, Hauhart connected Flores with an alumni working as a security and loss prevention supervisor at Target. Flores entered Target as an employee in loss prevention and worked there for three-and-a-half years before finding another position in security at the Amazon Fulfillment Center in Kent, Wash.

Reflecting back on her project, Flores remarked, "It was really enlightening, really fun and interesting."

Flores admits to learning more about herself while conducting the interviews, stating, "I learned that I have a fascination with people and a concern for their needs. With time, I would like to go back," she said. "I would like to work with small communities and give them a voice."

Flores appealed to community responsibility to the homeless, saying, "Anyone residing in Olympia is a member of the community and should be treated as such."

"We are one community and we have members whose needs are neglected," she contended.

"We're not all that different from each other."

## Faculty Spotlight: Keri Graham

Jessica Varvil  
Staff Writer

Adjunct women's studies Professor Keri Graham has a Master of Arts in women's and gender studies. Graham received the Dr. Charlotte Roberts Women in Leadership Grant for her work in queer theory. For this work, Graham studied the "riot grrrl" movement of the 1990s in Olympia as a "queering movement," focusing on how queerness was invisible and may have sustained the movement longer.

Graham's foci also includes transnational feminisms, nationalist struggles and gender, and women's studies pedagogy. Transnational feminism, as defined by Graham, is "typically an international approach to feminism."

Graham is currently working on a writing project titled, "Women's Studies Without Sisterhood: A New Generation of Theory and Pedagogy." This work will focus on shifts in the current feminist movement from the concept of sisterhood that pervaded second wave feminism.

"There was this idea in second wave feminism that we're all sisters and just need to band together," she explained.

Intersectional feminism has diminished the need for understanding another's

struggle, saying instead that one ought to help an oppressed person because it is the right thing to do.

Graham's favorite class to teach is "Women, Culture and Society," which is offered every spring. This class discusses women in armed conflict, human trafficking and immigration, among other topics. Though Saint Martin's doesn't offer queer theory or LGBTQ studies classes, Graham expressed her enthusiasm for queer feminism and her wish to incorporate these classes in the future. Queer theory relates to feminism in the realms of identity politics, sexuality, sexual orientation and gender, according to Graham.

Identifying herself as a feminist, Graham hopes that feminism has a large and positive impact on Saint Martin's. Women's studies, she said, is an integral part of a liberal arts education because it aids students in understanding themselves and the world around them.

Graham pays special attention to queer feminism and the education, safety and visibility of queer individuals. She predicts that SMU might eventually follow the trend that many other universities have set in transitioning their women's studies programs to gender studies that incorporate LGBT issues.

When asked about whether

she would like to see more men involved in Women's Studies courses and programs at SMU, Graham stressed that she wants anyone who wants to be in the class to be there. She acknowledges that there is a cultural taboo about gender discussion, especially for men, but holds that these conversations are important to a well-rounded education.

Graham continued, saying that gender impacts many areas of everyone's life, so students should be interested in learning more about gender and women's studies. Many students don't get enough education about women, specifically queer women and women of color, she said.

Graham believes that people of all political ideologies are welcome to participate in the women's studies classes and programs. Conversation on progressive topics are useful in an academic environment, she continued, and one can be both conservative and a feminist.

Saint Martin's women's studies program has been getting more attention lately with their on-campus events as well as their course offerings. The women's studies program is involved in the Take Back the Night event during April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness month, well as a screening of the documentary, "The Mask You Live In," on Nov. 2.

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## Women's studies program at Saint Martin's pushes for more support

**Breanna Brink**  
Staff Writer

### fem-i-nism

*noun*

The advocacy of women's rights on the grounds of political, social, and economic equality to men.

On Wednesday, Oct. 12, from noon to 1 p.m., room 110 in Harned Hall became an open education center for any who wanted to stop by to hear about women's studies classes at Saint Martin's University (SMU).

The information session was held to bolster support for the women's study minor and several other programs that are waiting in the wings for interest and approval from the board. A panel of students and a group of moderating professors were present to offer their personal experiences and to answer questions from the audience during the session. The room was nearly filled with staff and students alike, all of whom were actively interested and willing to politely participate with the panelists.

The panel included a variety of students who had their own individual reasons for being feminists. French

major Jessica Bever discussed her urges to incorporate women and their victories actively into museums and history lessons, while Shelby De-Mers Di, president of the LGBTQA club on campus, had the urge to help women who were



photo courtesy of Breanna Brink

Faculty and students gather to learn about the women's studies program at Saint Martin's.

victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault. Eun-Ju Livings, event leader for "Take Back the Night," incorporated her Catholic upbringing into her ideals, and was interested in adding more religious classes about the women of the Bible to SMU's roster.

Even a male representative for feminism was present. Said De

Leon Tellez, the only male student in the Gender and Political Studies class, admitted that the class was often an uncomfortable experience. After continuously being educated and gaining an understanding of both women in general and his own

younger sisters, De Leon Tellez said he was thankful for the class.

Several questions were asked of both the moderating professors and the students about the intrinsic value of taking a gender studies or women's studies course. The consensus was that a minor such as women's studies offers employers a chance to see that you value communication

and can market yourself to all groups of people.

Kael Moffat, SMU's information literacy librarian, was very passionate about the subject and in a comical moment of sincerity stated, "It will piss you off in a very productive way."

Moffat firmly believes in the value of taking a women's study course at least once, and he and many others encouraged the educational experience in order to enlighten oneself to the inequalities of the world.

At the end of the session, the professors passed around papers asking for signatures that would show student and staff interest in expanding the program and offering more classes and events. One such event is taking place on Nov. 2. A screening of the documentary "The Mask You Live In," about men and masculinity, will take place at 3:45 p.m. in the Trautman Student Union Building and pizza will be provided. Questions about the screening can be directed to Diana Falco at [dfalco@stmartin.edu](mailto:dfalco@stmartin.edu).

## SMU Business Fair connects students with career opportunities

**Evan Lake**  
Staff Writer

On Oct. 12, the Norman Worthington Conference Center held the 2016 Business Fair, a convention where representatives of graduate schools, banks, insurance companies, state offices, professional programs and local businesses attended to recruit students interested in potential career and educational opportunities.

More than 40 organizations were represented at the event, the majority of them associated with business opportunities in education and finance.

Ann Adams, director of the Career Center at Saint Martin's, spoke about the origins and purpose of the Business Fair in an interview with the Belltower.

"I started an accounting and engineering fair seven or eight years ago," she said. "The accounting part of it evolved into more of a separate business fair."

Adams explained that she "wanted to do something more major-specific" to reach out to different groups of students based on their educational and career interests.

Although the Business Fair primarily targets business and accounting majors, Adams emphasized that students of all majors are welcome to come and gain valuable knowledge and networking skills.

"If you're a philosophy major, if you're a history major, you should be here, too," she said,

stressing that "all employers want students in all majors, but the burden really falls on the student to be able to say, 'What I'm learning in these classes – these are the skills I'm developing.'"

When asked what she hoped students would gain from the events, Adams said, "I want them to gain confidence. I want them to have the confidence to know that their education is valuable—that what they're learning is valid."

Walther Hoffman, a junior of the Saint Martin's Business Club, illustrated the importance of the event with a single principle: "People hire people they know."

Hoffman explained that the Business Club and Business Fair offer opportunities to connect with potential employers and hear "from people who are in the business world and have relevant information for people who want to enter that field that you can't exactly get out of a textbook."

Thomas Quichocho, a junior undergraduate accounting major who attended the past three fairs, explained he was searching for potential career opportunities.

"I'm trying to get into finance," he said, "so I'm trying to see what jobs I can get, what internships are available, what companies are available, how to get more information about the field..."

When asked what new information he gained while attending the 2016 Business Fair, Quichocho explained, "I did learn that a lot of banks actually hire college students so that you can get your foot in the door."

Networking and personally meeting with employers was also a significant message of the fair. Sans Gilmore, owner of Olympia Business Development, emphasized the importance of interpersonal communication skills.

"When it comes to jobs," Gilmore stated, "what everybody should do in order to set themselves up for success is just become more familiar with



Thomas Quichocho (right) speaking to a recruiter

people, talk with people, learn how to interact so you have good situational awareness and people skills."

Gilmore also emphasized the importance of life goals before occupational interests.

"People need to be asked the right question," Gilmore explained, "which is, 'What do you want your life to look like?' not 'What do you want to do?'"

Overall, the 2016 Business Fair's collective message may be summarized as emphasizing networking, confidence and self-actualization. Those interested in related career and educational opportunities may consult Adams in the Career Center, Old Main 257.

A notice of gratitude to fellow staff writer Jessica Varvil for helping conduct these interviews.



Business fair attendees had opportunities to meet with many prospective employers.

Photos courtesy of Jessica Varvil



## “The Accountant” : A review

Naomi Gilmore  
Staff Writer

An action movie with some weighty themes, “The Accountant” came out Oct. 14. The movie is a fun two hours that successfully discusses societal perceptions of people with mental disabilities.

Ben Affleck stars as Christian Wolff, a brilliant and dangerous man who was diagnosed with autism as a child. As an adult, he struggles to connect with people, but has overwhelming skills in both math and physical strength. He runs a small Certified Public Accountant business as a cover, but makes his real money as an “accountant,” disentangling the finances of both legitimate companies concerned about secrecy and the world’s most powerful criminal organizations. Wanted for his connections to deadly criminals and for murder on his own account, Wolff is being pursued by the U.S. Treasury Department. A romantic interest is provided by Dana Cummings (played by Anna Kendrick), an actual accountant whose diligence uncovers discrepancies in the books at the up-and-coming firm Living Robotics. When Wolff is called in to investigate the problem, he discovers a clever scheme that puts both him and Cummings in danger.

The plot is surprisingly well-designed, with

numerous twists and subtle connections. The action jumps a lot between characters, Wolff’s childhood and the present, occasionally making the plot hard to follow. It is held together by clever literary devices like the Solomon Grundy poem that Wolff repeats at important stages of his life. No matter how confusing the storyline gets, everything is pulled together in the end, from the mysterious robotic voice that advises Wolff to the dented thermos. Developing the backstory through flashbacks deepens viewers’ experience of the characters, and certainly contributes to the surprises at the end.

The characters were excellent as well. Wolff is alternately sweet, infuriating and heroic, while Cummings represents a kind of “every-girl” that anyone can identify with. Affleck does a marvelous job, and the supporting cast is full of colorful characters and solid performances by J. K. Simmons, Jon Bernthal and Cynthia Addai-Robinson among others.

On the down side, there is a lot of violence in the film. Viewers sensitive to gory scenes should consider this before watching. By my count, Wolff kills approximately 25 people in the course of the movie, often graphically. Wolff acts to protect innocent, helpless people like Cummings from murderous villains, but the cool efficiency with which he dispatches his enemies

is somewhat disturbing. The behavior of the Treasury Department agents in their pursuit of Wolff is also questionable. Both sides of the storyline bring up the question of whether one should carry out or tolerate evil in order to prevent more evil and if so, to what extent? This issue is never resolved.

The movie challenges stereotypes of people with developmental disabilities, especially autism, implying they are not less than normal people, but rather different – or, like Wolff, perhaps even superior. If there is any moral to take away from the film, it is that we can’t judge people based on our definition of “normal,” but rather get to know and accept them as unique individuals. Although the film’s take on autism isn’t very nuanced, it deserves credit for being the first action film I’ve run across that discusses developmental disabilities. Hopefully, more will follow in the future.

“The Accountant” is not very realistic, as it is highly unlikely that Wolff – who goes through 15 years of convoluted company financial statements in a single night and singlehandedly takes out a task force of trained hit men – could really exist. Nonetheless, it is an entertaining movie, with a gripping, intricate plot, relatable characters and the capacity to raise important questions about our society.

## Rutledge Haunted Corn Maze spooks attendees with both clowns and long lines

Jessica Varvil  
Staff Writer

October: Pumpkin spice lattes, boots, scarves, and... haunted corn mazes?

There are several farms and pumpkin patches scattered across Thurston County, but Rutledge Corn Maze gets to boast not only huge, themed mazes, but zombie clowns as well.

The Rutledge Corn Maze is easy to find, located off exit 99 in Tumwater, Wash. Only 20 minutes away from Saint Martin’s campus, many students choose the maze as a fun and spooky weekend outing.

This year, the Rutledge general maze looks like two dogs when viewed from above. A previous year depicted Edward Cullen and Bella Swan from the popular Twilight Saga franchise to celebrate the “Breaking Dawn” movie premiere.

A family-friendly place to bring your children during the day time, the venue has activities such as story time with Spookley the Square Pumpkin, corn hole (a beanbag tossing game), swings and a cow

train.

Their website warns that “as the sun begins to set and darkness creeps in, the maze comes alive with creatures at every turn, and shadows hiding around each corner. You never know what you may find in the maze, or what will find you...”

While waiting in line, patrons can hear the revving of chainsaws and the screams of those in the maze. Occasionally, clowns with various weapons will rampage through the line, scattering people in all directions with their antics.

Inside the maze, visitors will face terrors that include zombie clowns, undead individuals, possessed contortionists and life-sized toys that act of their own accord.

Daytime prices range from \$5-\$7, but nocturnal activities cost \$15 once the clock strikes 6 p.m. Night tickets include a trip through the haunted maze and two regular mazes.

Frugal students can also bring down the price with a local promotion that offers \$1 off of general admission and \$2 off of the haunted maze if you pick up coupons at

TwinStar Credit Union locations in Thurston and Lewis counties.

Saint Martin’s Resident assistant Joanna Johnson has gone to the Rutledge Corn Maze three times, including this year.

“The wait was longer than usual, which made the experience more eerie,” Johnson explained. “You never know when somebody is going to pop out at you.”

Despite Johnson’s assertion, not everyone found the suspense to be thrilling. Elementary education major Haylee Ball said that “the long line was really disappointing.” Ball went on to comment that “the two-hour wait made it seem like it wasn’t worth the value of the ticket.”

Lewis County resident and former SMU student David Brown echoed her sentiments. “Fun, if you have the patience to wait in line for a couple hours,” he said.

The greatest cost, however, are the friendships that are tested to the breaking point when terror prompts friends, partners and family members to use each other as human shields in the face of their worst nightmares.



Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org

## The Gilmore girls are back in town

If you loved the TV show “Gilmore Girls,” prepare to be excited. Your favorite duo, Lorelai and Rory, are back for yet another season. It has been eight years since we saw the mother-daughter pair walk the streets of Stars Hollow and stop by Luke’s for a hot cup of coffee.

Each episode will be 90 minutes and will correspond with a certain season. Fans of “Gilmore Girls” get to watch one more “Winter,” “Spring,” “Summer” and “Fall” episode.

If you have not seen “Gilmore Girls,” you can binge-watch the first seven seasons on Netflix right now. Lauren Graham (Lorelai), Alexis Bledel (Rory), Scott Patterson (Luke), Kelly Bishop (Emily), Melissa McCarthy (Sookie), Sean Gunn (Kirk), Keiko Agena (Lane), Liza Weil (Paris) and Yanic Truesdale (Michel Gerard) will return as your favorite Stars Hollow residents in the eighth season.

The new season will delve into the love lives of Rory and Lorelai, paying extra attention to Rory’s three main boyfriends. Will she choose

Jess, Dean or Logan? All three characters will appear in the eighth season. As for Lorelai, Chris (Rory’s Father) and Luke will both appear, though Lorelai is married to neither.

Sadly, the death of Edward Herrmann (who played Richard Gilmore) may cast a dark shadow over the show. Herrmann, who was a regular character on the show for seven years, died in 2014. The show’s creator, Amy



Rory Gilmore will return to the screen on Nov. 25

Sherman-Palladino, spoke to the magazine “TV Line” about the death of Herrmann and its effect on the show.

“You couldn’t just say, ‘Oh, Richard died peacefully in his sleep and now we’re going to go to the cherry-picking festival,’” Sherman-Palladino said. “It’s painful. I still choke up when I talk about it because I wasn’t prepared for it.”

The eighth season will also feature many new faces. A Peruvian couple, Lane’s twins, the editor of a magazine named Jim and a man named Damon are new additions to the cast. As for fans of the show “Parenthood,” Lauren Graham’s on screen daughter, played by Mae Whitman, will make an appearance that is sure to warm the hearts of all “Parenthood” fans.

The new “Gilmore Girls” season will be taking many twists, so gear up for an interesting ride. “Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life” will be released on Netflix on Nov. 25 at 12:01 a.m. PT.

Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org



Making war crimes great again

Johnathan Carp  
Staff Writer

We have heard a great deal over the last 18 months about what is and is not acceptable in a presidential candidate. We have learned that candidates who use crude language are beyond the pale. We have learned that describing illegal immigrants as rapists and drug dealers is unacceptable. We have learned that objectifying women, characterizing them as “disgusting,” calling them “pigs,” and groping them are all entirely unacceptable. I agree with these lessons. These things are deplorable. I have two sons and would be mortified to learn that either of them had behaved like Donald Trump. But what has been equally interesting during this election is what we have learned is acceptable. Lawless, aggressive war is acceptable. Destroying entire countries is acceptable. Threatening to start World War III is acceptable—indeed not merely acceptable, but laudable; desiring positive relations with Russia is, we have learned, positively insane. Transparent corruption is acceptable. Conspiring to subvert the Catholic Church is acceptable. Inciting violence at political rallies is acceptable. All of these things and more are perfectly acceptable, just so long as you obey all the social mores of the day and don’t talk about grabbing anyone’s genitalia.

We are told that voting for a candidate who has done all of these things and more is not merely preferable but morally required when the alternative is a boor and a cad like Trump. 70 years ago, we hanged ten men for conspiring to commit aggressive war; today a woman who is proud of her role in plotting the unprovoked, lawless assault on Libya is on the verge of being elected president, and anyone who opposes her is castigated as a racist, a sexist, a bigot and whatever the other insults du jour are. “Hillary’s war,” as the Washington Post described it in a repulsively laudatory article (Oct. 30, 2011), left Libya in ruins, with ISIS and other virulent Islamist sects vying for power in a country that now serves as one of the main portals through which an unchecked human tide pours into Europe. Clinton’s push for war in Libya destroyed that country, destabilized Europe and led to untold death and suffering—but at least she never says rude words out loud. In Syria, Secretary Clinton pushed hard for the U.S. to help foment an insurrection that has led to a civil war seemingly without end. She was a key player in the policy of arming rebel groups—a policy which has led to the spectacle of CIA-backed rebels fighting Defense Department-backed rebels in a sort of bureaucratic proxy war. Russia has been unsurprisingly unwilling to let the U.S. depose a key Russian ally and has stiffened

the Syrian government’s resistance and aided its efforts. Rather than back away from a failed policy, Clinton now proposes to enforce a no-fly zone against Syrian and Russian aircrafts. In plain English, she threatened to start World War III by shooting down a Russian airplane over Syria rather than back off of a failed policy. But, it must be said, she has never made any racist remarks. Here at home, Clinton and her husband, former President Bill Clinton, have capitalized on their power and influence to the tune of several hundred million dollars, going from “dead broke” in 2000, according to Secretary Clinton, to a combined net worth of \$111,000,000 today. What, we must ask, were they selling? The answer, as Wikileaks has revealed to us, is access. Businesses and individuals paid the Clintons to give speeches, to serve in honorary roles at their institutions or simply to show up to an event. Secretary Clinton’s backers crow that despite all appearances, they did not actually break any laws. What an inspiring defense. They may have profited obscenely from trading on their status as current and former high officials, but they may not have technically violated any laws. Finally, we have seen how Secretary Clinton’s political machine operates. Leaked emails reveal her top aides conspiring to subvert the teachings of the Catholic Church and mocking Catholics who hold

to these teachings. Her team creates front organizations posing as grassroots Catholic activists and then search for leadership adequate to inspiring rebellion against the bishops—rebellion that is a grievous sin under Church teaching. Elsewhere, her campaign operatives boast on covertly recorded video of their success in disrupting the political rallies of her opponent by inciting violence and chaos. She has tried to undermine one of our country’s largest churches, the parent church of this university, and has used brownshirt tactics to suppress the free expression of American citizens—but at least it is her husband, not she, who bullies, gropes and exploits women. This election season has not been an edifying spectacle, but it has been both entertaining and educational. We have watched as reality television moved from pure entertainment to the core of our governing process. We have learned that many of our good liberal friends will happily go along with any sort of murder, war, rapine, conquest, corruption and general villainy, but only if the perpetrator is careful to use polite language and keeps her hands to herself. And on Nov. 9, we will all congratulate ourselves that, while we may have elected a warmongering criminal who will continue the abjectly failed policies of the last 16 years, we did not elect the mean guy with the bad haircut.

An ode to a soccer mom and soccer dad

Taylor Gersch  
Staff Writer

Right now, I am struggling to grasp the concept that my athletic career is coming to an end. As a senior women’s soccer player, I’ve started to look back on my four years playing at Saint Martin’s University, and then I look back even further at my ten years playing soccer from third to 12th grade. I remember the time I came to Saint Martin’s and toured the campus, eventually taking a seat in head soccer coach Rob Walker’s office to discuss my recruitment. My knees bounced and I fidgeted with my nails. Little did I know, in a year-and-a-half I would be a consistent starter and 90-minute player, and eventually a captain for my team. After being told by a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) school that I was not good enough to play for them, I was more than excited to tell my parents that I already received a great offer from an amazing division two school and a competitive soccer program at Saint Martin’s. Throughout this

process, my parents have always been by my side. Prior to college, I had never participated in a game where at least one of my parents was not present. I was never ever alone at my games—I always had a mother or father to cheer me on and take me home. That is extreme commitment. You might think that my parents were the ones that thought their daughter was a superstar and the best player on the field. But my parents were not super-fans. My dad was not hesitant to call me out after a game to tell me I played poorly, fouled too much or wasn’t focused enough. My mother also didn’t hesitate to remind me to do better next time. My parents were honest with me, had faith in me, but did not believe I would be recruited. About a year or two after committing to SMU, I played in my first season as a collegiate athlete and played quite a few minutes. During my sophomore year of high school, just after making the varsity team and playing wing (which is not anywhere near my current position as I play center defender) my father told my mother that there was

no way I would ever play college soccer. I am more than happy that I proved him wrong, and so is he. My parents are without a doubt my biggest fans. If my math is correct, during the fall season alone in the past four years I have played in 79 games and my parents have attended 57 of them. They have only missed 22 games during my college career. My fondest memory is when my father came to our game in Oakland, Calif. against Holy Names University. He was the only fan in the stands until our men’s team showed up and sat with him. My mother also made red headbands for all of my teammates and we wore them and all matched on the field. Senior Kelli Bannerman, who forgot her jersey at that game, managed to score three goals and we held them to a shutout. The men’s team and my father all cheered together. I knew after that game that I could count on my dad to be at every game he could make it to and would endlessly support my teammates and me. This year especially, my parents

have done more than an outstanding job attending my games. They have flown everywhere, from California to Utah, and have drove everywhere, from Portland, Ore. to Seattle and Ellensburg, Wash. (surprising me multiple times in the parking lot and hotel lobby). I have no idea how to recognize and thank my parents other than to write this and say thank you and I love you. Thank you for your everlasting commitment, honesty, support, and love. Not every visit has been perfect, and those games that we lost that we should’ve won hit my father and I hard. But no matter the outcome of the previous game, my parents continued to come with their chairs in tow, umbrellas for rain, blankets in hand and the “fat-head” of my face at every game, waving it as my name got called out and as I ran to center field. I cannot thank my parents enough for supporting me as they do. They go above and beyond a parent’s responsibility for supporting their child and I am forever thankful for their unconditional love and belief in my abilities.

Letters to the Editor policies

- Everyone is invited to submit Letters to the Editor in response to previously published material, or about things not in the paper. All Letters to the Editor (LTE) will be responded to either by personal response or in print in The Belltower as space allows.
1. All letters must be signed by the author to be published. Names can be withheld upon request of the author and at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief (EIC). They must have some credible contact information (email, telephone number and/or address) for notification and verification.
  2. The Belltower reserves the right to edit letters for length and grammar.
  3. Letters of questionable taste will be evaluated by the Editorial Team and in applicable situations will be voted on and handled as the Team sees fit.
  4. Letters of questionable origin will not be published until confirmation of the author has been made.
  5. As time permits, writers of letters will be contacted for confirmation.
  6. The Belltower reserves the right to not publish letters deemed libelous, obscene, in poor taste, or otherwise unfit to print. The EIC will make this final decision upon consultation with the Editorial Team and the Faculty Adviser.
  7. The Belltower reserves the right to print a selected number of LTEs. The EIC makes this decision on a case-by-case basis.



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## A black and white cartoon illustration of a witch flying on a broomstick. The witch has a large, pointed hat and a long, pointed nose. She is wearing a polka-dot dress and is holding the broomstick with both hands. The broomstick has a large, bushy head. The witch is flying towards the left.

