

The Belltower

SAINT MARTIN'S
STUDENT
NEWSPAPER

ISSUE 9

April 1, 2019

VOLUME XI

Students share the highs and lows of being a Saint

Prya Oliveira
Staff Writer

Finding the perfect college is difficult, especially because you never know what to expect. There are so many factors in choosing the right college, such the environment and the type of opportunities that would be offered. It is very helpful to hear current students talk about their experiences and what they like and dislike. Saint Martin's University has a variety of different people in attendance, ranging from commuters to veterans, to international students and Washington natives. Hearing what people have to say about Saint Martin's will give others better insight on how this institution really works.

I went around campus and interviewed different types of students at Saint Martin's and asked them, "What do you like about Saint Martin's University, and what would you like to see change?" Kaitlyn Slade, a nontraditional student responded, "I like that SMU provides different opportunities for all types of people. From traditional, nontraditional, veterans, active military, international, and more there's al-



Photo courtesy of Hasley Hladigado

One of the qualities that students say they like about SMU are the numerous student events such as the "Late Night Done Right" event hosted by NRHH on March 29.

ways some type of opportunity, whether it's a job or academic wise. Something I'd like to see change is to bridge the gap between traditional and nontraditional students, as not many even know how to define a nontraditional student. Through my campaign to be ASSMU Senator of Nontraditional Students, I plan to create events that bind the traditional and nontraditional students to come together, bond, and hear each other's stories." Slade has a very inspirational story. She recently gave birth, and through-

out her pregnancy, continued to go to school. She took the fall semester off, but is back to pursue her education and graduate next year with her civil engineering degree.

For the perspective of a student athlete, I interviewed Marissa Miller on the women's basketball team; "I like SMU because it is a small community. You get to meet and know a lot of different people and it's cool to see them around campus or class and in stands during basketball games, supporting you and your team. Maybe SMU could

promote women sporting events more to try to increase the number in attendance because it's always fun to play in front of a crowd. As athletes, we all feed off of the energy and environment." It is difficult for student athletes to balance both roles; therefore, it's important to get a little insight of what they have to say about the college too.

Drew Arnold, a Pacific Islander whose home is very different from Lacey, Wash., said, "I like the fact that there are a lot of islanders. As an islander, there is a sense of comfort when there are people of your kind. I also like the fact that there are certain clubs that can accommodate your needs. Lastly, I like the fact that the teacher and student relationships are better than other colleges, in my opinion. I want things to change on the financial level. I want them to understand and help to accommodate those who are in need of help on financial aid." With the growing number of islanders who attend Saint Martin's, and those who are coming to Saint Martin's next year, it seems as though this school has been doing a good job at making people feel comfortable away from home.

See *Thoughts on SMU*, page 4

Radio host Ira Glass visits SMU to share his years of broadcast experience

Bethany Montgomery
Editor-in-Chief
Sophia Lim
Section Editor

On Sunday, March 24, popular radio personality and host of the show "This American Life," Ira Glass, visited the Saint Martin's campus to discuss the art of conveying information, and engaging an audience. Born and raised in Baltimore, Glass was a very involved student, working on numerous stage productions for his high school, as well as serving as a prominent figure on his student government and yearbook. This, paired with his co-editorship of the student literary magazine, sparked his interest in journalism. In 1978, at the age of 19, Glass began his career in radio broadcasting. An intern at National Public Radio (NPR), Glass served as an assistant, writer, reporter, and host of many NPR's programs, including "Morning Addition" and "All Things Considered."

In 1989, Glass moved to Chicago, and spent the next five years co-hosting a local radio program. In 1995, he produced his own show "This American Life," which he hosts today. This weekly broadcast bends the rules of clas-



Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org

Ira Glass came to Saint Martin's on March 24, donating copies of his book to the students who attended.

sic journalism, focusing on stories and plots- all with the purpose of moving and entertaining the audience. On their website, they describe their ideal content; "Our favorite sorts of stories have compelling people at the center of them, funny moments, big feelings, surprising plot twists,

and interesting ideas. Like little movies for radio." The show also has several spinoffs and has explored a few experimental themes, including performing radio shows suggested by the hosts' parents, and putting together a band using ads from various musicians in the classifieds.

According to their site, "This American Life" draws in over 2.2 million listeners per week over their 500 public radio stations, and is also considered one of the top podcasts in the United States, drawing in another 2.5 million listeners.

Glass' appearance at Saint Martin's, although less formal, was a more intimate one. Regardless of being taken aback by the lack of journalism students that showed up, the presentation was informative. Although Glass came to the school prepared to talk to those interested in the field of journalism, his speech was relevant even for those outside of that field, by speaking on ways others could convey information and engage an audience. Political science professor Alexis Walker, Ph.D, shared, "Even though he had designed the talk for journalism students, I thought it was a wonderful and funny presentation. We all have to think of creative ways to convey information. As a professor, I found myself think-

See *Ira Glass*, page 3

What to look for in this issue

FEATURES

After years of administrative positions and a year's experience serving as interim Provost, Kathleen Boyle has taken on the full-time role of campus Provost here at Saint Martin's

See *Kate Boyle*, page 3

NEWS

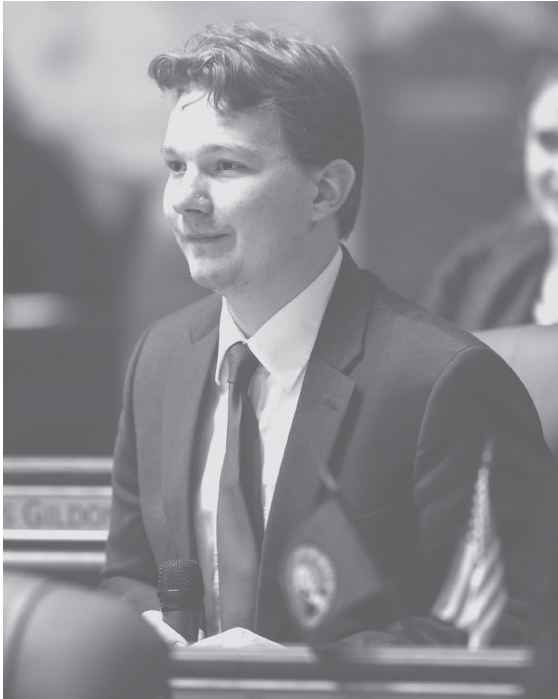
Saint Martin's is hosting a VITA site for a second year in a row. VITA is a volunteer tax assistance program that helps people file their tax returns for free. The Saint Martin's site is entirely student-run, and has prepared over 100 returns so far this tax season.

See *VITA*, page 4

OPINION AND EDITORIAL

The sisters at the St. Placid Proiry, only a few blocks away from Saint Martin's, wish to invite Saint Martin's students to attend their third annual "Images of Peace," art show, and sale on May 3-4.

See *Images of Peace*, page 12



Dear Belltower readers,

Thank you so much for picking up this wonderful issue of The Belltower, the voice of Saint Martin’s students. We are delighted that you have taken the time to read about what is happening on and off of the Saint Martin’s University campus on this beautiful April Fool’s Day.

In this issue, we cover a variety of interesting topics. In News, we break down the recent Boeing 737 MAX scandal, that has wide ranging implications for the entire Puget Sound area. In Features, we share the achievements and goals of Saint Martin’s new Provost, Kate Boyle. In sports, we discuss the current status of the Seahawks in free agency.

Thanks again for reading The Belltower. We hope that you will continue to use us as your source of news for the Saint Martin’s community.

Best Regards,

Brian Messing

Managing Editor

Editor-in-Chief
Bethany Montgomery

Managing Editor
Brian Messing

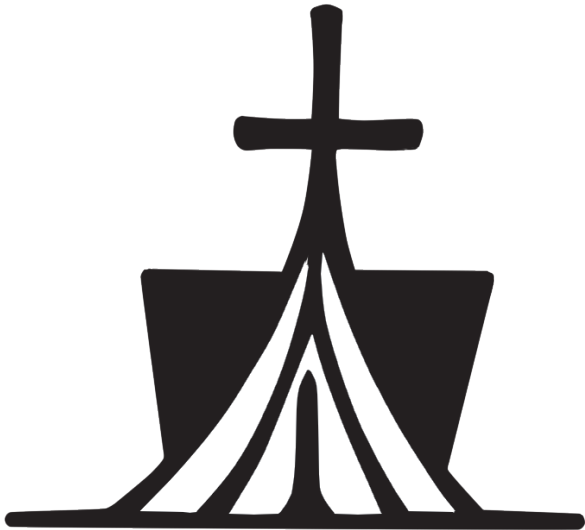
Section Editors
Emma Dobbs
Sophia Lim
Eric Parks

Layout Manager
Abigail Lowrie

Layout Assistant
Mikaela Hobson

Web Manager
Jillian Leonard

The Belltower



Photographers
Jenna Gerber
Hasley Villadelgado

Business Team
Sean Dempsey
Amanda Grengs
Astrid Serrano

Staff Writers
Olivia Alvord
Grace Crocker
Kianna Garmanian
Hannah Hartley
Luke Hare
Prya Oliveira
Ryne Oshiro
Katherine Pecora

Advisor
Julie Yamamoto

Role of the advisor

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

Advertising Policy

The Belltower has the right to reject advertising from any company, individual, organization, or advertising agency that discriminates on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, creed, disability, or ethnic origin, or directly conflicts with The Belltower policies or Benedictine values.

The Belltower will accept any advertising that does not conflict with Catholic ethics, Benedictine values, or the aims and goals of Saint Martin’s University.

The Belltower reserves the right to refuse any advertising it feels to be of questionable moral character, or which is not being presented in good faith by the advertiser.

The Belltower reserves the right to refuse any advertising deemed as being possibly libelous.

For events, the name of the sponsoring organization or group must be indicated, along with the nature of the event, the date and time, the location, cost (but not of alcohol), and a contact number for more information.

Our Mission

We strive to report any and all of our content factually and unbiased, and hold all content to the standards of journalistic integrity. The Belltower is an outlet for information, conversation, and community. We vow to be a publication worthy of our community and campus, providing to the best of our ability, the highest quality content possible without silencing student voices.

Keep in Touch!

Email: belltower@stmartin.edu
Web: belltowersmu.com
Twitter: [@belltoweratmu](https://twitter.com/belltoweratmu)
Facebook: SMU Belltower

Advertising Rates

Black and White Ads

1/8 Page: \$25
1/4 Page: \$45
1/2 Page: \$85
Full Page: \$160

Color Ads

1/8 Page: \$55
1/4 Page: \$100
1/2 Page: \$190
Full Page: \$365

Black and White Ads (with semester discount)

1/8 Page: \$22.50
1/4 Page: \$40.50
1/2 Page: \$76.50
Full Page: \$146

Ad Design

1/8 Page \$5, 1/4 Page \$10, 1/2 Page \$15, Full Page \$20.

*semester discount applies only if ads are purchased in a majority of issues published that semester.

For more information, e-mail belltower@stmartin.edu or visit our website, belltowersmu.com

Guest Submission Content Policy

Guest submissions are to be published upon approval by the Editor-in-Chief and editorial board.

The Belltower reserves the right to edit guest submissions for length, grammar, and content if necessary.

The Belltower will not accept guest submissions that violate our content policies, go against Benedictine values, or the goals and aims of Saint Martin’s University.

References to the promotion of drug use/paraphernalia are not allowed.

Any content that clearly discriminates on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, creed, age, disability, ethnic origin, or religion will not be considered for publication.

Any artwork submitted will be published at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and editorial board. Artwork must adhere to the same guidelines as written content.

Ira Glass, from cover

ing about utilizing his techniques in the classroom to engage students.” By referring to segments of his radio show, he provided pointers leading up to a series of events which is centered on the beats of a narrative. He claims that a good story raises questions as it progresses, then is answered at the end. In a way, all stories can be compared to that of a detective story. By sequencing anecdote, idea, anecdote, idea, and so on, this forms a narrative beat in journalism. Three principles in jour-

nalism that he highlights would be: “to be accurate, to be fair to all in the story, and if you have something nasty to say, say it to the person’s face and give them a chance to respond.” The end goal is to be able to connect with your audience. Glass’ message comes from years of experience and offers practical implementation for students and teachers alike.

Kate Boyle Ph.D. named Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Olivia Alvord
Staff Writer

As this year’s interim provost, Kathleen Boyle was a clear choice when naming Saint Martin’s University’s new Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. Her qualifications that made her an ideal candidate include her history in Catholic higher education, leadership skills, and one year of experience as interim provost. Boyle earned her doctorate in Higher Education Administration, with a concentration in educational leadership and policy studies from Indiana University. Before that, she received her Master’s in Counseling and Student Personnel from Minnesota State University, and her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from St. Norbert College. President Roy Heynderickx released a statement to media relations manager Kevin Hyde, about the Board of Trustees decision to add her to the administration permanently. “Dr. Boyle has made an excellent interim provost here at Saint Martin’s University,” he said. “We are all pleased to see her continue in this role with the support of the faculty and administration. She is eminently qualified and I look forward to working with her.” Boyle held the previous role as Dean of the College of Education and Counseling Psychology, which oversees the various undergraduate teaching certification programs, master’s programs, and post-master’s certification programs. Her additional experience includes various positions in academia, teaching, and research positions. Before working at Saint Martin’s University, Boyle worked at the University of St.



Photo retrieved from smartin.edu

Kate Boyle previously served as interim Provost and Dean of the College of Education and Counseling Psychology before being appointed to the permanent role of Provost.

Thomas in Minneapolis, Minn., where she also served as chair for the Department of Educational Leadership. This was a program that served around 600 students each year in 15 different major programs. She also taught in the leadership doctoral program and directed its Master of Arts in Leadership in Student Affairs Program at the University of St. Thomas before that. Prior to St. Thomas, she was a visiting assistant professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at

Indiana University, also serving as their Master’s Programs in Higher Education and Student Affairs coordinator. Boyle’s entrance into higher education began as a residence hall director at St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wisc., where she had previously earned her undergraduate degree. In addition to all of her previous job titles and qualifications, Boyle has completed numerous publications as well as presentations in her field, and has received many awards. She is overwhelmingly qualified and a great addition to the administration at Saint Martin’s University. As stated in the media release from Kevin Hyde, she stated, “I am humbled and honored to serve in this leadership role at Saint Martin’s University. I appreciate the trust and appreciation for what I bring to this vital role expressed through the support of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Heynderickx and the faculty.” As provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Boyle will be responsible for supporting and enhancing Saint Martin’s academic mission and vision, developing and maintaining open and collaborative relationships with faculty, ensuring faculty development and support, working with the president, vice presidents and Board of Trustees, and building internal and external partnerships. The Deans of the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Business, the Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering, the College of Education and Counseling and O’Grady Library report to Boyle, as well as offices including Saint Martin’s University, Joint Base Lewis-McChord Campuses, University Registrar, Institutional Research and the Office of International Programs and Development, as stated in the media release from Kevin Hyde.

Governor Jay Inslee announces presidential bid for the 2020 election

Olivia Alvord
Staff Writer

On March 1, one of Washington’s own announced his campaign for presidency in the 2020 election. Governor Jay Inslee made the announcement via a 2 minute and 20-second video posted on Twitter. Jay Inslee is running on a platform centered on combating climate change. “I’m running for president because I am the only candidate who will make defeating climate change our nation’s number one priority,” he stated in the video. An additional reason behind his decision to base his platform on such a topic is because “...we are the first generation to feel the sting of climate change. And we are the last that can do something about it. We can do this. Join our movement. This is our moment.” At the end of the announcement video, voters were seen showing their support by repeating, “Our moment.” Among those supporters was Bill Nye, popularly known as “Bill Nye the Science Guy” who became famous thanks to his science talks, which

heavily discuss climate change. Inslee’s decision to focus on this central rationale of climate change stems from his personal history of environmental activism. According to The Atlantic, Inslee believes that his focus on climate change will “solve two existential threats to American opportunities right now: one being natural systems, and the other, economic systems”. Solving these two problems, he says, will enviably create job opportunities, and will help combat climate change to better our world for future generations. Before his announcement of candidacy, Inslee has been a part of various political roles over the years. He started his political career in 1989, when he was elected into the Washington State House of Representatives. Just two years after, he was elected into the United States House of Representatives, but lost re-election because of the Republican Revolution at the time. In 1998, he ran for Congress, and held that position until he ran for Governor of Washington in 2012, which he has held since. He also served as the chairman for the Democratic



Photo retrieved from twitter.com

Governor Jay Inslee announced his presidential campaign forming his platform around environmental issues.

Governors Association in 2018. During his tenure as governor, Inslee has raised the minimum wage to \$12 statewide. He also passed paid family leave law, and enacted a temporary ban on the death penalty in the state. In addition, he has also aimed to make Washington a more carbon neutral state. One of these efforts is “investing in a statewide fund that looks to help business’ go

green in Washington,” said CNN Politics. Despite these efforts, Inslee failed to enact a statewide carbon tax in 2018, which was rejected by the voters, and would have made a tax of \$15 per each metric ton of carbon emissions possible. It also would have “made Washington the first state in the nation to raise the cost of fossil-fuel-intensive activities,” said CNN Politics. Will a focus on climate change be enough to win Inslee the presidency? If he were to be elected, Inslee told The Atlantic that his first priority is global warming. “I plan to focus on the threat that climate change poses to the environment and national security—the mega-storms and fires causing millions in damages, the weather changes that will cause mass migrations, the droughts that will devastate farmers in America and around the world.” We will have to see how this election turns out as the candidates keep racking up. Inslee is just one of 15 potential candidates, 12 of whom are fellow Democrats, and the list just keeps growing.



Correction to the article published in the March 4 issue titled “Sigma Tau Delta welcomes new members amid departmental changes”

The original article incorrectly states that “The English Department is changing its name to the Literary Studies Department” however, the English Department is not changing its name, just the name of the major.

Thoughts on SMU, from cover

I also talked to a traditional student, Faith McConnaughey. She says, “I like that SMU is a small school and a small community. Where you walk somewhere, you will always see a familiar friendly face. I also like that the class sizes are small, so you can get a more one on one experience with the professors and you can ask questions when you need to.” She then goes on to say, “I would change the menu in the cafeteria to make it more inclusive for people who have dietary restrictions such as gluten allergies, more healthy options, and a bigger variety of food at dinner.”

There are many commuter students here at SMU, and I chose to interview Andrew Garcia. He said that some changes he’d want to see implemented include, “a student union building where all student resources are conveniently

placed. This would include offices such as campus life, financial aid, career services, campus ministry, counseling and wellness services, and other resources. If they’re conveniently located, it will encourage more students to use these resources while simultaneously gaining exposure for the offices.”

Although this does not cover all of the opinions about Saint Martin’s and what needs to be changed, it’s always important to listen to people who have different roles on this campus. Many do agree that this is a great college, but there are changes that still need to be paid attention to, especially with the growing number of attendees.

Field notes from an unrepentant legal Don Quixote

Shawn Newman
Guest Writer

Note from Brian Messing: It was a tremendous honor to be able to take a class from Shawn Newman. Not only is he a brilliant attorney, with years of experience and many stories throughout that time, he is someone who goes the extra mile to help his students succeed. When I told Professor Newman that I wanted to go to law school, he instantly connected me with other attorneys, and helped walk me through the steps that I would need to take to become an attorney. I will be forever grateful for the help that he gave me, and I was pleased to find out that he recently celebrated his 35th anniversary of practicing law.

“Martindale Hubbell recently sent me a congratulatory email on 35 years of practicing law. It caused me to look back at my career in the law and how I got here.

I come from a family of lawyers. My grandfather did insurance defense in Chicago at the time of Al Capone. I have his framed certificate of admission to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in my office. My brother went with the ‘big law’ route, working for large firms and companies in the Midwest. To paraphrase poet Robert Frost, I chose a path ‘less traveled,’ working for government, solo, and teaching.



Shawn Newman reflects on his exciting 35 year long legal career.

My wife and I grew up in Northern Ohio where the land is as flat as a pancake. ‘Washington’ meant the District, not the state. While at Notre Dame Law School, we took a chance and flew ‘out West’ to check out possible opportunities. Olympia was one of those ‘faraway places with a strange sounding name you read about from books.’ We remember Mount Rainier was out in its full majestic glory. It looked like an illusion - so near, but so far.

It was Saint Patrick’s Day when I interviewed and was hired by the Attorney General’s Office. I felt it was destiny being a dual citizen of the U.S. and Ireland, and a No-

tre Dame graduate. I moved on to work as in-house counsel for local colleges and the State Senate. That lasted about a year before setting up my own practice above the old Cracker’s restaurant on 4th Avenue. My first office was a closet with a pillar in the middle. I begged my landlord for the space and opportunity to be housed on the same floor with other attorneys.

Over the years, I’ve represented institutions, businesses, presidential candidates (Ralph Nader and H. Ross Perot), rogues (‘The Hollywood Bandit’), judges, attorneys, employees, employers, non-profits, etc. I’ve worked with attorneys from around the country on animal welfare initiatives and foreclosure defense. I’ve argued and won cases before the State Supreme Court and the 9th Circuit. Although I am a solo, I currently have cases pending in superior court, Court of Appeals (Div. I and II), and the U.S. District Court.

One thing I’ve learned over the years is that the practice of law is not for wimps. Sometimes, it seems the legal profession thrives on schadenfreude. You have to be aware of the competing motives. What does your client hope to achieve? What are your motives for taking the client on? My standard mantra is “prepare for the worst, hope for the best.” Some clients don’t like to hear that and want some guarantees. Nope. I cannot guarantee anything other than my best efforts. As Nick

Pulovski said to Eugene Ackerman in the movie, ‘The Rookie,’ ‘If you want a guarantee, buy a toaster.’

My passion now is teaching. I teach various law-related courses at Saint Martin’s University and Pierce College. Some of these are online. I recall co-counseling with an attorney and law professor from the University of Utah. He would take time to do his work as a ‘cyber prof,’ with students via Skype. I now do the same via course management platforms.

‘Is it worth it?’ my colleague asks. We were commiserating over war stories and the challenges with doing civil rights cases. I noted how Jefferson wrote about the ‘pursuit of happiness’ and my belief that attorneys should dedicate themselves to the ‘pursuit of justice.’ I think about how Martin Luther King Jr. fought against injustice. In his last speech, he famously said: ‘I just want to do God’s will. And He’s allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I’ve looked over. And I’ve seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land.’

As President Obama loved to say, ‘the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.’ Perhaps ‘justice’ is just an illusion, a dream. Perhaps, but in the end, it is the ‘pursuit’ of justice that gives us meaning and purpose.”

Saint Martin’s hosts VITA site for second year in a row

Sean Dempsey
Financial Manager

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA), is a program created by the IRS and operated entirely by volunteers. VITA seeks to provide free tax preparation and tax assistance to community members with low income, disabilities, and limited English-speaking ability. Last year, Professor Diane Bingaman and a group of Saint Martin’s University students created a VITA site. Professor Bingaman took a hands-off approach to the program, allowing the students to run the entire operation. When a taxpayer walks in, they are greeted by a student who makes sure they have all the documents they need, and then helps them fill out a form to determine what level of certification is required to complete their tax return. After filling out the form, the taxpayer is led into the tax preparation room and a student prepares their return. Finally, another student reviews the work of the first to ensure everything was done properly, the return is sent to the IRS, and the taxpayer is sent on their way. In its first year, the program filed the tax returns of 36 community members.

This year, Professor Suzanne Chaille is overseeing the program, and an almost completely new group of students are volunteering. She has continued the hands-off approach, and stu-

dents still operate every step of the process. The program has grown significantly and has filed just over 100 tax returns this season. Jesus Quintero and I are the site coordinators of the program this year, and we have been very pleased with the work of all the volunteers. Jesus and I would like to give recognition to Aman Lidder, Cora Pope, Gary DePriest, Gina Domingo, Marie Dhanens, Ryan Patterson, and Lucas Linders for their continued efforts this year. Thank you all for your wonderful work.

This experience has been one of the most rewarding I have had at Saint Martin’s, and I urge anyone else who may be interested to talk to Professor Chaille about volunteering in the future. Preparing tax returns provides great experience, but more importantly, it is a great way to help the community. We have seen people from many different walks of life, including a special Olympian, a circus member, retirees, students, teachers, an EMT, a caregiver, salespeople, and many more. What they all had in common, however, was how grateful they were for the service we provided. The average refund is lower this year, and we have seen many people disappointed by this, but even when people received far less than they expected, they still thanked our volunteers and were very kind. There are some cases, however, in which people received larger refunds than expected, or in which we filed prior year returns and were able to get a lot more mon-

ey back than they were expecting. Seeing how happy these taxpayers were with their results was a very gratifying experience and has made volunteering each Saturday more than worth it.

We have not seen many students use this program thus far, and while we are happy to help the rest of the Lacey community, we would love to help more students, too. We are also able to help with the change in 1098-T format that has occurred this year at Saint Martin’s, and has caused a lot of confusion and trouble. In previous years, the school was able to report tuition in a different manner than it can this year, and as a result, many students are seeing very different results on their 1098-T and their tax returns. We have done our research on this topic and have been able to correctly file for several students, going as far as saving one over \$2,000 after discovering the correct way to report his information. The program is open to all members of the Saint Martin’s University community, so if you or anyone you know has not done their taxes yet, stop by Harned 110 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. on Saturday, April 6 or Saturday, April 13, to get your tax return filed for free by a certified tax preparer.

Ask Kianna: The greatest gift of all time



Kianna Garmanian
Staff Writer

Dear Kianna, can you explain the importance of the Catholic Mass? Why should I go to church? - Apprehensive attendee

Dear Apprehensive,
Please allow me to share parts

of my own faith journey with you. My life has been changed. Permanently changed. There is absolutely no going back. My soul has been claimed by Christ. Two years ago, my heart and mind were awakened to the beautiful treasure that remains hidden in the lives of many. This treasure is the source of our eternal nourishment and everlasting strength. This precious gift is none other than the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Two years ago, when I was 18 years old, Jesus led me to the most remarkable discovery of my entire life: Daily Mass.

Now, please hear me when I say this, for most of my life, I thought Mass was boring, long, and simply unnecessary. Whenever a Sunday rolled along, the thought of going to church instantly put me in a bad mood. Mass always seemed to interrupt the “more important” activities in my daily life...or at least, this is what I thought. I remember thinking that people who attend Daily Mass must be super crazy or extremely bored. Don’t they have anything else better to do with their time?

Shortly after I graduated high school, I very quickly became overwhelmed by the routines of my daily life. I was so immersed in my own activities that I failed to make time to pray and strengthen my relationship with Christ. As time went on, I became swamped in misery and unhappiness, as my soul was desperately searching for peace. So, one afternoon, I stopped by my church to spend some time with Jesus in adoration. I felt lost, afraid, and broken, so I went to Christ to seek guidance and answers.

Very clearly, as if someone was speaking into my ears, I heard these words as I was praying: “Kianna, I want you to come to Mass with me tomorrow morning.” Honestly, I was so confused when I first heard this... like what? Going to Mass on a weekday? Absurd. But, this message was so clear and I was curious to discover why Jesus was calling me in this way. So, by the grace of God, I set my alarm clock and attended Daily Mass the following morning (which was a huge deal since it was during the summer and I could have slept in).

I lack the words to describe this experience in its fullness. All I can say

is this: Something about the Mass completely captivated my heart, mind, and soul. There was a peace, a deep peace, that filled my being. I felt overtaken by a new sense of joy and life-giving strength. I had to keep coming back for more...for more grace...to discover more beauty. And that is exactly what I did.

As I began going to Daily Mass that summer, I more fully understood that it was the Eucharist, Jesus’ own body and blood, that was drawing me in and fueling my being. The Eucharist is our most sacred, precious, and prized treasure. The Eucharist is Jesus himself, and He longs to offer this gift to each one of us. I wish I could find the words to explain how transformational Daily Mass has been for me over the past two years. I cannot imagine my life without this gift or the eternal nourishment of the Eucharist. My dearest brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord is calling you. He desires to enter into communion with you...will you answer him?

In the stillness of silence, Christ speaks

Kianna Garmanian
Staff Writer

How refreshing has it been to get a taste of the beautiful Washington weather? It may rain a lot in this state, but there is nothing more gorgeous than when the sun decides to shine. Yet, as we all experienced last month, the snowy forecast caused a few school cancellations and delays. I now wish to share with you what I experienced during that winter snowstorm.

It was 9:00 a.m. and my alarm clock went off. Half-asleep, I rolled over in bed and hit the snooze button. Five minutes later, my alarm sounded once again. Did I have to get out of bed? I wasn’t quite ready, so I hit the snooze button for the second time. Finally, it was 9:15 a.m., and I forced myself to get up and pack my bags for the day. As I was heading out the door to go to my 10:00 a.m. class, I got a notification from my school. It read, “Due to the current weather conditions, classes and all school-related activities will be cancelled for today.” Immediately, I rushed to the window and opened my blinds. Behold...the world was white and covered with a beautiful layer of snow. Excited to have the day off from school, I grabbed

my laptop, put on a movie, and hopped back in bed. What could be better than this? A relaxing morning, breakfast in bed, and no school.

The following day, I got notified that classes were cancelled again. This continued to happen... day after day. By the third or fourth day, I started getting bored. Yes, I enjoyed sleeping in and having a little extra time to relax, but I wanted to get out and move around. I was tired of being “snowed in,” and not being able to go anywhere. Perhaps you can relate to these feelings as well.

Here’s the thing: too often, we are all in a rush to go about the activities in our daily lives. We have so much to get done, accomplish, and complete, that we forget to make time to rest. By being snowed in for a few days and having school cancelled, I had the opportunity to settle down and rest...whether I liked it or not. Yet, there is great beauty and goodness found in rest. In fact, it is through moments of quiet, silence, and stillness that our Lord speaks. During this time, I was able to spend more time with God in prayer, go home and be with my family, and disconnect from my normal routine. Through this, I discovered a great peace that I didn’t even know I needed. Remarkably, the snow days brought unexpected healing to my body and soul, as I was able to connect with



The Saint Martin’s Abbey holds mass for students and the community.

Jesus through the powerful silence of prayer.

My dearest brothers and sisters, Christ speaks to us in the silence of our hearts. Through prayer, Jesus brings deep peace, healing, and grace to our souls. He lifts up the spirit and transforms it through the depths of his everlasting love. My friends, make time for Jesus... take time to be still, to be silent, to sit in prayer with our Lord. Don’t wait for another snow day, when all activities are cancelled, to connect with Jesus in prayer. Make time for our Savior and for prayerful meditation every day, and may our Lord bless you abundantly.

OLYMPIA • WASHINGTON

CAFÉ ~ LOUNGE ~ VENUE

404 4th Avenue East ••• 360-943-5710

Menu w/many Vegan options, Beer List, Wine List, Cocktails, Show Calendar, Booking Info & more

◊ www.voyeurolympia.com ◊

Voted Best: Comedy, All Ages & Hip-Hop Venue & Vegan Fare

A two-tale tragedy: Boeing 737 MAX grounded worldwide

Prya Oliveira
Staff Writer

Recently, a Boeing 737 MAX 8 crashed on an Ethiopian Airlines flight from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, that resulted in the death of 157 people. All passengers and crew aboard died, making this the second Boeing aircraft tragedy in five months. According to CNN, the first crash under Lion Air led to the death of 189 people over the Java Sea on Oct. 29, 13 minutes after taking off, but the Ethiopian Airlines flight went down only six minutes into the flight. Although it cannot be concluded that both of the crashes were connected, commentators suggested that all Boeing 737 MAX's should be grounded. The Lion Air flight had a malfunction before going down, but the Ethiopian Airlines Flight didn't face any malfunctions before its crash. Many airlines, including Southwest, initially stated that they will not be grounding any Boeing planes. Chris Maniz, spokesperson for Southwest, commented, "We remain confident in the safety and airworthiness of our fleet of more than 750 Boeing aircraft." CEO Dennis Mullenberg commented further on why he refused to stop Boeing operations, "While difficult, I encourage everyone to stay focused on the important work we do. Our customers, business partners and stakeholders depend on us to deliver for



Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org

After two crashes, the fate of the Boeing 737 MAX will be determined by upcoming investigations.

them." Flight attendants were not required to work on Boeing planes if they do not feel comfortable to do so, and it is understandable why they wouldn't want to. The Trump administration decided on March 13 to ground all 737 MAX 8 jets. Boeing recently ran into an issue where they did not disclose new safety features on the Lion Air plane that crashed, which pulled down the plane's nose, making it hard for the pilots to control the aircraft. The FAA then required Boeing to update their flight manuals. Pilots in both these crashes tried to fly back to the airport within minutes of takeoff, but were unfortunately unable to. Again, it is unknown if the feature that resulted in the Lion Air crash also caused the Ethiopian Airlines crash, too. The 737 MAX is the newest model, and fastest selling plane in Boeing's history. Southwest has 31, American has 22, and United

has 12. However, airlines out of the country have come together to either increase training for these specific planes or have stopped the 737 MAX's from any further flights, until the investigation of the Ethiopian Airline tragedy is completed. The Washington Post published a list of companies that have the 737 MAX's and explained what the companies were now going to do with planes. Right after the Ethiopian Airline crash, China's Civil Aviation Administration commented that they have a zero tolerance for safety hazards, and they ordered all 737 MAX's to be grounded. India's Aviation Authority said that any crew on a 737 MAX 8 must undergo specific training, and only with pilots who hold 1,000 hours of flying experience may operate it. In Vietnam, the Civil Aviation Authority will refuse to license the use of the 737 MAX, until the investigation has been concluded. Morocco and

Mongolia have decided to stop all operations of the 737 MAX 8 planes. There was a heartfelt tweet from Antonio Guterres, U.N. Secretary-General in which he stated, "Deeply saddened by the news this morning of the plane crash in Ethiopia, claiming the lives of all on board. My heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of all the victims-including our own @UN Staff- who perished in this tragedy." The release of the passenger list showed that there were 21 U.N. staff members, with 35 nationalities aboard, including eight people from both China and the United States, and 18 passengers from Canada. It was a horrific day for the entire world, giving a sort of 'reality check' to aerospace companies like Boeing that, without proper safety procedures and checks, can result in the lives of many innocent people. The takeaway from this incident, if anything, is to be more cautious and aware of incidents that can occur and to note how transportation systems can be improved to make sure this never happens again. Another point to make is how interesting it is to see how different airlines around the world are handling this, news with implementing new regulations to ensure the safety of passengers on the 737 MAX's, and how other airlines are choosing to remain trusting towards the aircraft.

Scientists make recent discovery of marine fossils in China

Grace Crocker
Staff Writer

Just recently, a new abundance of marine fossils from the Cambrian explosion were found in China. When life started on Earth, organisms didn't range much from bacteria and multicelled algae. In the Precambrian era, about 600 million years ago, scientists estimate that evolution kicked in to create new life forms. Some of these life forms created all the way back in the Precambrian era can be linked to creatures we know today, though others are so far unlinked. It is probable that those unlinked creatures have seen extinction along the genetic line. About 550 million years ago, it is theorized that an explosion of diversification among creatures on Earth resulted in most of the lifeforms we see today, according to scientists. This explosion of evolution occurred during the Cambrian era, giving it the name the "Cambrian explosion." Despite being referred to as an explosion, it is speculated that this great amount of evolution happened over the span of 30 million years; some stages might have taken about 5 to ten million years. There is still some debate as to what sparked the Cambrian explosion in the first place. One theory is that life simply and coincidentally found the genetic tools to create other life forms. Another idea suggests that predation, naturally occurring environmental changes, and a new abundance of nutrients reaching the ocean prompted a snowball of evolution. For the past four years, fossils from this era in history have been discovered by researchers from Northwest University and Guizhou University. Around 700 miles southwest from Beijing, researchers Xingliang Zhang and Dongjing



Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org

The majority of species today can be traced to the Cambrian explosion taking place over 30 million years ago.

Fu from Northwest University lead the charge. "Its preservational quality is mind-blowing," said Martin Smith, a paleontologist at Durham University. Although he wasn't a part of the expedition, he claims that the new site is remarkable for "capturing a profoundly important time in evolutionary history in such incredible detail," according to The Guardian. "If you sent a time traveler back to the Cambrian period armed with a camera and an x-ray machine, the images they'd come back with would be nothing compared to these fossils, which preserve detail finer than a human hair," he adds. Research on the Cambrian period originally started back in 1909, when the Burgess Shale in British Columbia was discovered. The Burgess

Shale was the first place where brachiopod, trilobite, mollusk, and echinoderm fossils were discovered. The fossils found in this shale were so well preserved, internal organs, and eyes could still be seen after millions of years. All other sites since then containing Cambrian fossils have been shale beds. Now, a new site close to Danshui River (referred to as the Qingjiang biota) in Hubei Prefecture, China, is reported to contain the best fossils that have been found to this day. The fossils are better preserved than even the Burgess Shale fossils, and dozens of new, never-before seen creatures are being discovered. So far, 4,351 fossils have been dug up; out of the 101 species extracted, 53 of them are completely new, according to The Guardian. Some of the creatures that have been dug up include sea anemones, jellyfish, coral, sponge, comb jellies, arthropods, mud dragons, and microscopic fossils. Researchers infer that, in order to be this well-preserved, the fossils must have been very deep underwater. So deep, in fact, that a lack of oxygen wouldn't sustain anything that would decompose these creatures. The bodies would end up at the bottom of the sea and become covered by sediment, waiting years to be pushed up by naturally occurring environmental changes to become land. That land then became the shale bed, Qingjiang biota, to be dug up and rediscovered. "These fossils help us to piece together the steps that evolution took as animals evolved from whatever squishy blob represents their common ancestor to the rich diversity of lineages alive today," Smith goes on to say. "Because some of the preserved organisms are much simpler than their living relatives, they help us to tease apart how complex organs such as brains could be assembled through blind evolutionary processes."

Top universities under federal investigation following admissions scandal

Emma Dobbs
Section Editor

The University of Southern California (USC), University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), and Yale, are under investigation following a national admissions scandal impacting some of Hollywood’s wealthiest celebrities and their children. Prosecutors charged over 50 people with falsifying admissions information to get unqualified students admitted to top-tier schools. Of these people, 33 are parents, who worked with William Singer, a consultant and college counselor, to create fake college applications for their students. Actress Lori Loughlin and her husband Mossimo Giannulli, a fashion designer, and actress Felicity Huffman, were indicted in these charges. The U.S. Department of Education launched their investigation into the college admissions scandal on March 27. USC has announced they are conducting investigations against students involved in the college admissions scandal on a case by case basis. Consultant Singer offered wealthy parents the chance to get their students into top-tier universities across the nation. The 59-year-old bribed

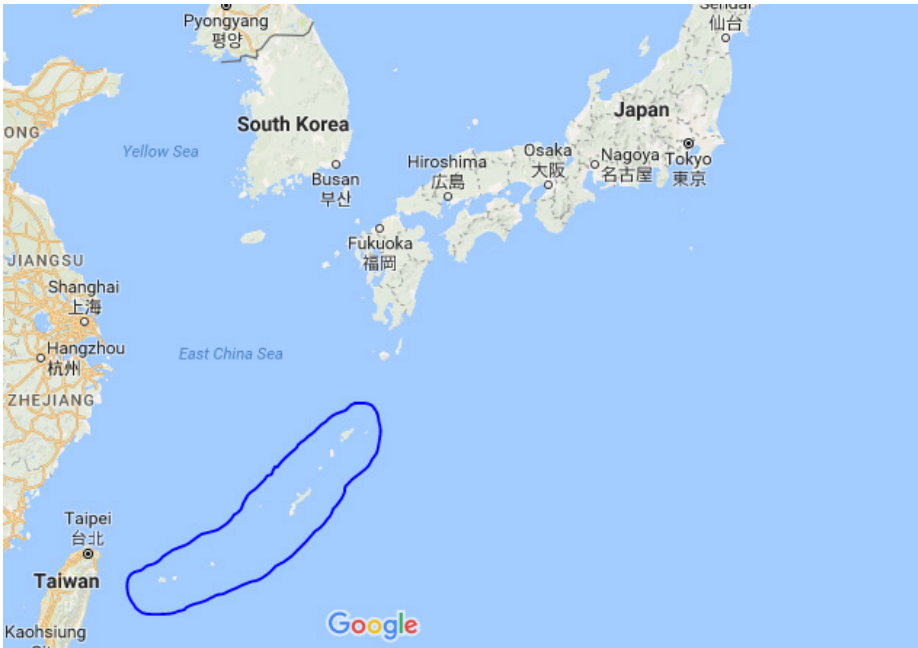
athletic coaches and test monitors to falsify records and test scores to make student applications look stronger to admissions workers at universities. Parents involved in the scheme paid upwards of \$75,000 for Singer to get their students higher test scores. Many parents were provided with falsified learning disability waivers, so their students could have more time to test or could test without supervision. In many situations, an individual other than the student would take exams in place of the students, a proctor would provide answers to the students during exams, or a student’s test would be reviewed, and wrong answers fixed before the test was turned in. Many students were unaware that their answers were changed after turning in their exam. Singer also worked with athletic coaches and parents to create images of students playing athletics they were not involved in, so they could be recruited or scouted as athletes. Coaches were paid for their part in the admissions scandal. Singer has since pled guilty, as well as Rudy Meredith, a former women’s soccer coach for Yale. Loughlin and Giannulli have been indicted in the admissions case. The actress, who for years has advocated for morals in life and television, is accused of working with Singer to get her two daughters, Isabella Rose Giannulli, 20, and

Olivia Jade Giannulli, 19, into USC. Neither Isabella or Olivia, a social media influencer, has commented on the allegations. Loughlin and Giannulli are accused of staging photos of their daughters on rowing machines to create an image and story that they were on their high school’s rowing team. Neither daughter was involved in high school athletics, and neither have competed for USC athletics. Loughlin and Giannulli paid a total of \$500,000 to USC to admit their daughters into the university. While Olivia Jade has not spoken out about the college admissions scandal, she has not been shy about her disdain for academics, posting that she goes to college for the “experience of game days” and “partying.” Her comments have sparked outrage amidst college students and continue to spark controversy. Actress Huffman has also been indicted in the scandal. Her husband, actor William H. Macy, has not been cited in the allegations. Huffman is accused of paying Singer \$15,000 to allow her daughter Sofia Grace Macy to take part in entrance-exam cheating. Huffman, Loughlin and Giannulli will stand trial on April 3 for their part in this national scandal.

The mysterious disappearane of Esambe Hanakita Kojima

Grace Crocker
Staff Writer

An entire Japanese island disappeared without a trace, and no one noticed it was missing until very recently. Esambe Hanakita Kojima was an islet set off the coast of Japan, said to be about one-third of a mile away from the village Sarufutsu, located on the northern tip of Hokkaido. One among 158 other uninhabited islets, it was officially named in 2014 by the Japanese government to keep track of their oceanic territory, namely their exclusive economic zone. Hiroshi Shimizu, author of “Hi-to-Zukan,” planned a trip to Sarufutsu village with the idea to write a sequel to his book about Japan’s hidden islands, but when he searched for Esambe Hanakita Kojima, he was unable to find it. Shimizu told local fisheries about his dilemma, and when they set out in search of the island, they were met with the same problem. Tomohiko Kihara assessed the situation using a sea chart, and confirmed that it could not be seen from land or passing boats. The island had originally been



Disappearance of Esambe Hanakita Kojima has prompted scientists to investigate the cause of this unusual occurence.

surveyed by the Japanese Coast Guard back in 1987. Identified as an undersea reef and only four-and-a-half feet above sea level, fisherman avoided the area for decades. “Around a decade from 1975, there was a small island around there, and we stayed clear of the area,” an elderly fisherman said, according to Asahi Shimbun. No one visited the island until recently; therefore,

no one noticed as it vanished over time. So what happened to it? Experts conclude that the islet was eroded by wind and ice every winter, leading to its disappearance. The Japanese coast guard will visit the area again to determine if the islet is indeed missing. If that is the case, Japan’s territorial reach will shrink. One coast guard official said that this shrinkage “may

affect Japan’s territorial waters a tiny bit...if you conduct precision surveys.” According to Asahi Shimbun, “The coast guard plans to investigate the area also to ensure safe navigation of vessels.” Japan’s islands have played a major part in territorial disputes between Japan, China, and Russia. Japan intends to claim more land to avoid territorial disputes on their part. In 2016, Japan reported it would invest \$107 million to rebuild the observatory tower on Okinotorishima, approximately 1000 miles south of Tokyo. At the time, according to The Guardian, Beijing had already claimed that the island was only made of rocks and attempted to prevent Japan from including Okinotorishima in its exclusive economic zone. A United Nations convention backed this claim, stating that “rocks which cannot sustain human habitation or economic life of their own” do not qualify to be included in the zone. We can only wait to see how the disappearance of Esambe Hanakita Kojima will affect Japan’s exclusive economic zone, and, further, the island country’s relations with China and Russia.

California town flooded, turns to island

Fiona Whitver
Guest Writer

On the morning of Wednesday, Feb. 27, the small river town of Guerneville, was unexpectedly transformed into its own island due to extreme flooding. Sonoma County officials released a statement expressing that the community had been completely inaccessible with an exception to traveling by watercraft. Sonoma County Sheriff’s Department describes this sudden crisis as “[Guerneville] is officially an island.” Due to such drastic circumstances, a required evacuation was enforced midday Tuesday, with the Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office anticipating high flooding levels, but failing to realize the magnitude of the dangerous weather that would transform the area. Not only did these extreme weather conditions place an immense impact on the city of Guerneville, but, the Russian, Sacramento, and Napa rivers also exceeded their

flood stages as well, causing 24 nearby towns to evacuate. Local news station KQED reported, “Napa River had risen about 18 feet by noon Wednesday, according to a bridge marking.” Residents struggling through these conditions have reportedly been using any means necessary to rescue those who were stranded. Locals were seen replacing cars with everything from canoes and rowboats to paddleboards, just to travel through the streets that became rivers overnight. Resident Darryl Cooper spoke to KQED and stated, “I’m on a mission. I’m gonna deliver two packs of smokes to my friend who’s on an island right now - in his house, and I’ve got canoes. We’re gonna canoe down River Boulevard.” The Russian River surrounding Guerneville has undoubtedly experienced flooding at high levels, but previous conditions do not compare to the dangerous record-breaking rising water levels that occurred this week. Wednesday morning, the department released a statement that said, “You cannot get into or out of town. All roads leading

to the community are flooded.” With these historic statistics, the current floods have officially been declared the worst in the past five years. With vineyards now completely submerged underwater, levees overflowing, and state highways being forced into closure, this is only the beginning for Northern Californians. The National Weather Service forecast heavy rainfall on Friday, Mar. 1, and continuous showers through Wednesday, Mar. 6. Residents of Guerneville and its surrounding communities are faced with only one option in this natural disaster: wait for the water to drain, and then proceed in a massive cleaning of the damage. Until then, residents will be striving to make it through these next few weeks, and crews will be working to ensure that the communities remain safe with the horrific weather being sent their way. Seemingly, California’s hands are tied and not much can be done until further notice.

International Women’s Day: History, unity and gender equality

Katherine Pecora
Staff Writer

On March 8, we celebrated International Women’s Day. This annually observed holiday marks women’s achievements and struggles throughout history. International Women’s Day particularly aims to celebrate the economic, cultural, political, and social achievements women have made in the last century. The early 20th century was a time in which women became more active in the political and public spheres. According to the official International Women’s Day website, “during the International Conference of Working Women in 1910, Clara Zetkin of Germany’s Social Democratic Party proposed that a day be set aside every year across the world to celebrate women and reinforce their demands. The proposal was ultimately accepted and put into practice, starting in Germany and Europe and spreading across the globe over the years.”

This year’s theme was #BalanceforBetter. This theme was meant to promote a future in which equality is achieved across the basis of gender, and looks at equality in a variety of different ways. For example, media representation, positions held in business, and positions held in government. The idea is for men to support their female coworkers and women to encourage each other to



International Women’s Day was celebrated on March 8 worldwide.

consider joining predominantly male fields, such as STEM fields. Everyone has a part in promoting equality. The value of International Women’s Day has been highlighted through women’s issues and their voices. The ideas surround representation in academia, media, literature, and just about every other part of society. On International Women’s Day this year, the U.S. Women’s

Photo courtesy of creativecommons.org

National Soccer Team announced their lawsuit against the U.S. Soccer Federation for equal pay. Many notable members of the team made public comments, or posted on social media highlighting the alleged inequality in soccer in the U.S.

When women succeed at higher levels, it translates to higher levels of success for all. In practical application, this has not held up in our world. According to CBS: 47 percent of the U.S. workforce is made up of women, and 1 in 6 women are active duty members in the U.S. military. Additionally, 9.7 percent of U.S. heterosexual couples were in a situation where the wife earned at least \$30,000 more than their husband.

Every country has its own unique ways of celebrating this day. Social media has become a necessary vehicle for inspiring change within younger generations. Since the inception of this day in 1910, women have come a long way. But, this does not mean that we have achieved perfect equality in 2019. Lower proportions of women hold government positions, and their opportunity for education is stifled due to their gender. Strides have been made, but we are far from equality. The beauty of International Women’s Day is that it spreads awareness about the specific issues that women face, and it addresses how men can aid in supporting women and understanding how women’s success benefits them quite a lot.

Kirsten Gillibrand 2020: New York senator launches presidential bid

Katherine Pecora
Staff Writer

Kirsten Gillibrand, a 52-year-old Senator from New York, has recently made her bid for the White House as a moratorium on the Trump presidency. During her past 10 years in office, the New York lawmaker is mainly known for her advocacy within the #MeToo movement. Gillibrand announced her presidential run with a video posted on Twitter on Sunday, March 17. The senator joins a crowded democratic field aiming to make Trump a one-term president.

In January, the New York Democrat launched an exploration campaign which she announced on “The Late Show with Stephen Colbert.” Since then, she has visited many pivotal states. In her video, Gillibrand highlights her record against

sexual assault in the military, and her economic wins with the Wall Street bailout. In her video, she states: “Brave doesn’t pit people against each other. Brave doesn’t put money over lives. Brave doesn’t spread hate. Cloud truth. Build a wall. That’s what fear does. We need to remember what it feels like to be brave.” In the background, images of President Trump and the National Rifle Association (NRA) play.

Gillibrand has positioned herself as an unapologetically liberal candidate, promoting policies such as universal healthcare, paid family leave, and support for the Green New Deal. She began making stops in some of the early primary states such as Iowa, New Hampshire, and South Carolina. In the upcoming weeks she is scheduled to meet voters from New Hampshire, Nevada, and Michigan.

Gillibrand has described herself as

a champion for women’s rights. In the Senate, she has become a strong advocate for women. She is known for introducing the FAMILY Act, aimed at providing 12 weeks paid leave for new parents. She was first elected to Congress in 2006, and her views have evolved during her time in Congress. She represented her district in New York, with more conservative leanings. As time went on, her ideas were deeply affected by her constituents that are directly affected by certain enacted policies. As a representative, Gillibrand was an advocate for gun rights, and had an “A” rating from the NRA. Since joining the Senate, she has changed her views, and is now in favor of stricter gun laws. Along the lines of campaign finance, she wishes to reverse Citizens United, and much like some others on the campaign trail, has pledged not to take money from corporate PAC’s.



Senator Kirsten Gillibrand announced her presidential run on Twitter on March 17.

Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org

GABE'S

OLYMPIC CARDS & COMICS

4230 PACIFIC AVENUE • LACEY, WA 98503 •

STORE HOURS: MON. 10AM-9PM • TUE.-SAT. 10AM-MIDNIGHT • SUN. 10AM-6PM

THE SOUTH SOUND'S PREMIER SOURCE FOR...

★ Comics

★ Graphic Novels

★ Boardgames

★ Sports Cards

★ Roleplaying Games

★ Collectible Card Games

★ Action Figures

...AND MUCH MORE!

Ask about our
LOYALTY PROGRAM!

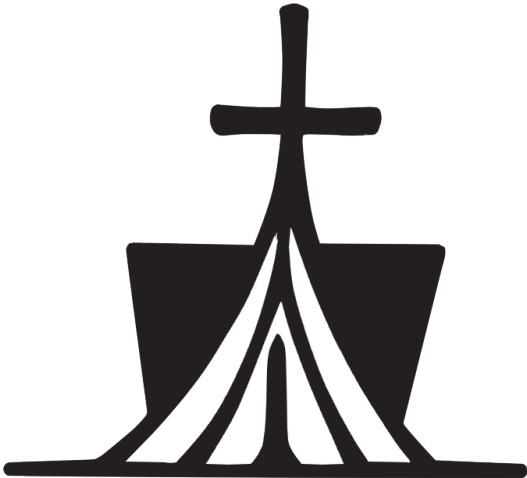
(360) 459-7721

WWW.OLYMPICCARDSANDCOMICS.COM

See an error?

Our goal as a staff is to provide you with a newspaper that is accurate and objective. If you notice any inaccuracies or details that need to be corrected anywhere in the issue, please feel free to let the Belltower know by emailing or contacting any of the staff. We want to be able to provide you all with information that is as concrete and credible as we can make it. In order for this to become possible, we are inviting feedback from the readers to be able to improve our upcoming issues.

Email us at [Belltower@stmartin.edu](mailto:belltower@stmartin.edu)



Softball looks to build off of strong performances as league play continues

Luke Hare
Staff Writer

As the Saint Martin's softball team is quickly approaching the mid-way point in league play, they look to keep the bats rolling in the second half of the season.

One area where the Saints are finding success is hitting. There are seven girls with a batting average (BA) over .285 with 12 home runs. A few of the standout players are seniors Sabrina Hicks and Lauren Diuco, as well as freshman Trinity Favela, and sophomore Emery Norwood. Hicks has a team best five home runs and 24 runs batted in (RBI). Diuco's BA is .338, and she has been very successful at putting the ball in play and forcing the defense to make a play. Of her team-leading 68 at-bats, she has only struck out four times. Another surprise has been freshman Favela, who is currently hitting .308, and has the third most hits on the team with 20. She is one of only four players who has started every game so far this year, with the other three being upperclassmen. And last, but definitely not least, has been the recent rise of Emery Norwood. With her first start of the year not coming until league play, she led the team with a .400 BA in those 10



Sabrina Hicks leads the team in home runs and runs batted in.

games. Norwood also plays the perfect role of a leadoff batter, where she has drawn 11 walks for an unheard of on-base percentage (OBP) of .625. In order to keep those wins coming in, the Saints must keep these numbers rolling and have everyone be ready to step up when their time is called.

A pleasant surprise on the mound has been transfer Brandi Schoessler, who has mostly been dominating her opponents. She currently leads

the team in earned run average (ERA), innings pitched, and wins. While most of Schoessler's appearances have not been starts, she has been able to keep the opponents from scoring enough runs to win in all but two appearances and currently has nine wins with only two losses.

Defensively, the Saints have found some success. This side of the ball will always have mistakes happen because of communication, weather conditions, or what some coaches do not believe in-- a "bad hop." Realistically, errors will happen, but it's how you react to those that determines what will happen in the future. The Saints are outranking their opponents by giving up eight less errors. Another huge aspect comes from the catchers, where they have given up 23 less stolen bases. Some of that credit goes to our offense as well, where Norwood, Diuco, and Hicks have a combined 27 of the 44 stolen bases for Saint Martin's.

With the Saints quickly approaching the halfway point of league play, the team will look to control what they can, and take things one game at a time. Keep your eyes open, because the Saints are looking to get the momentum back on their side as league play continues.

Women's basketball looks to continue to improve next season

Luke Hare
Staff Writer

While the Saint Martin's Women's Basketball season did not go as planned, there will be a lot of key returning players, meaning that hopes are high for next year.

One of the most important pieces returning is the Saints' post presence. They will be returning all but one listed forward, two of whom will be seniors, Megan Nilsson and Bria Thames. Both Nilsson and Thames had significantly improved performances through the second half of the season. Nilsson averaged 6.8 points per game (PPG) in league play, and collected four rebounds per game. Her standout performance came in the final game of the season against Western Oregon, where she dropped a season-high 23 points while only playing 19 minutes. She went nine for 11 from



The Saint Martin's Women's Basketball program has a bright future with many rising young stars.

the field and five of six from the free throw line. During the second half of league play, Thames was nearly unstoppable. It didn't matter who was guarding her- she shot a team high 51 percent from the field, averaged 8.8 PPG, and collected six rebounds per game as well. Thames' best performance came in

the final game of the season, where she dropped 18 points and collected an insane 18 rebounds.


The team will get back nearly all guards as well, including GNAC Honorable Mention Makenna Schultz. While Schultz's position was changed to point guard this year instead of shooting guard in previous years, she played very well. She still led the team in three pointers made, free-throw percentage, assists per game, and averaged 11.3 PPG. Schultz was the lone Saint to rack up more assists than turnovers on the year, which is quite impressive,

considering the position change.

Coming out with one of the most impressive season-long performances for the Saints was GNAC Freshman of the Year Claire Dingus. Dingus was the only Saint to start every game of the season and led the team in scoring with 13.5 PPG and rebounds per game with 7.4. She also racked up a team-leading 92 free throws, with 14 of those coming in a 20-point performance against Western Washington. In the last 14 games of the season, Dingus scored in double figures from the floor, including tying her career high with 22 from the floor and collecting nine rebounds in the season finale against Western Oregon.

This is a team that will be returning most of their top scorers and rebounders, and will hope to gain some momentum this offseason in order to replace those who are leaving.

The Saints will lose three seniors in Rebekah Baugh, Emma Kennedy, and Mallory Kessler, all of whom have been loyal to the Saints for all four years. They have shown great dedication and leadership and will truly be missed by the team.




Grow Friendships

O'Grady After Hours Game Night
Friday April 12th 5-8pm

Board Games • PS4 Games • Jackbox Games

There will be food and prizes
(Two \$25 gift cards to Gabi's Olympic Cards and Comics)



Men’s Track and Field on the rise

Ryne Oshiro
Staff Writer

Tyler Cronk, the freshman hailing from Kent, Wash. is having himself an impressive first season. Cronk earned 2019 U.S Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) Indoor Second Team All-American honors, along with a 2019 USTFCCCA Indoor All-Region Team, 2019 GNAC Indoor High Jump Champion, 2019 GNAC Indoor Performance of the Meet, a four-time GNAC Athlete of the Week, and a two-time Saint of the Month. Cronk even earned an invitation to the NCAA Indoor National Championship, where he placed 12th overall in the country, with a jump of 6-feet and 8.25-inches. The freshman has brought in so much attention that for a Saints fan, it would be hard to have not heard of him. With the outdoor season just starting, who knows what is in store for Cronk’s already historic year. An article written by GNAC Sports stated, “Cronk was named the Men’s Field Athlete of the Week, after he opened his outdoor



Photo courtesy of smusaints.com

Tyler Cronk has an impressive freshman resume at the midway point in the Track and Field season.

season with a winning jump of 7 feet, 0.5 inches. Just the second athlete in GNAC history to clear seven feet in the event, Cronk moved into No. 2 on the GNAC All-Time List and notched an automatic qualifying mark for the NCAA Championships, as he is now tied for the best mark in Division II this season.” Kauanoe Vanderpoel, a Hawaiian from the island of Maui, is also having a stellar year. Vanderpoel has also been adding to his resume, with an indoor weight throw win at

the GNAC championship. To go along with the award, the senior was named to the 2019 USTFCCCA All-Region Team. His sophomore year, he was named a 2017 USTFCCCA All-Region Team and a 2017 GNAC All-Conference selection. Vanderpoel also holds the outdoor hammer throw record at an astonishing 57.49m. Just like Cronk, with the outdoor season around the corner, who knows what is possible for the senior looking to end his college career with a bang.

Jackson Hand, the senior from Edmonds has also been a bright spot for the Saints with a 200m win in the GNAC championship. To go along with his amazing 200m sprint, the senior has also been racking up the awards, including a spot on the 2019 USTFCCCA All-Region Team. As a sophomore in 2017, he was named to the USTFCCCA All-Region Team. He is also a one-time Saint of the Month, and twice the GNAC Player of the Week. Hand also holds numerous indoor and outdoor records with indoor records of 200m, 300m, 400m, 500m, and 4x400m relay. He also holds outdoor records in the 200m, 4x100 relay, and 4x400 relay. According to SMU Athletics, Michael Russell earned his spot in the finals of the 200m sprint as well, and finished fourth overall with a time of 22.25 seconds. Josh Schulz finished the GNAC championship second in the heptathlon. After the 60m hurdles, pole vault, and 1,000m race, Schulz dropped to eighth in the crowded field with a total score of 4,527 points.

Seattle Seahawks free agency update

Hannah Hartley
Staff Writer

For Seattle Seahawks fans, the 2018 season came to a disappointing halt when the Hawks were defeated in the first round of the NFL playoffs. After the many readjustments to the 2018 roster during the last offseason, the Seahawks do not appear to be making major changes to their roster, but the 2019 season lineup will present some hard choices. OverTheCap.com stated that the Seahawks had \$60 million in cap space at the beginning of free agency, which is the total amount of money that teams can spend on player salaries. With this wiggle room, the team had a lot of freedom to bring back whomever they please. Arguably one of the best acquisitions the Seahawks have made so far this year has been Pro Bowl kicker Jason Myers from the New York Jets to replace Sebastian Janikowski. They have signed him for the next four years

for \$15.4 million. This expensive choice will hopefully pay off for the Hawks, as Myers has made 84.3 percent of his field goal tries throughout his career. During his 2018 season with the Jets, Myers hit 91.7 percent of his attempts, according to Pro Football Reference. KJ Wright, weakside linebacker and longtime favorite for Seattle, has been re-signed for the next two seasons. Due to a knee injury Wright suffered in 2018, and his veteran status with both the NFL and Seattle, the price was right to re-sign him at around \$7.5 million per year. Defensive End Dion Jordan was with Seattle in the previous year, but it is not clear if he will be brought back in 2019. Seattle must weigh the worth of signing Jordan back after his anti-climactic performance during the past couple years. DJ Fluker, Frank Clark, Mychal Kendricks, Branden Jackson, J.D. McKissic, Kalan Reed, Joey Hun, Quinton Jefferson, Tyler Ott, Akeem King, Shalom Luani, George Fant, David Moore, Austin Cailtro, Jordan Simmons, and Emmanuel



Photo retrieved from Wikimedia commons

KJ Wright has been re-signed by the Seahawks and looks to bounce back from a lingering knee injury he suffered in 2018.

Eberlee are all Seattle veteran free agents from 2018 that have been re-signed for the 2019 season.

Men’s basketball finishes historic season

Luke Hare
Staff Writer

In a season filled with multiple records broken, the Saint Martin’s Men’s Basketball team hold their heads high on what was one of the most memorable runs in school history. This was a season where you could tell something was special. A come-from-behind victory in the second half to knock off Point Loma on the road was a huge test for the Saints in the beginning of the season. They also took care of business against one of the most talented teams in Northwest Nazarene at home and on the road. At home, the Saints were almost unbeatable, only losing one game throughout the year. During the season, the Saints broke multiple records as a team. They set a school record for wins in a season since joining the NCAA with 26. The Saints also set a school record in national rankings, when



Photo courtesy of smusaints.com

The Saint Martin’s Men’s Basketball team enjoyed its best season since joining the NCAA.

they reached the eighth seed nationwide just before the GNAC tournament. Not only did they achieve those goals, but they also won their first ever GNAC regular season title in school history since joining the NCAA. And on top of all of those awards as a team, the Saints made the deepest run in school history by advancing to the NCAA Division II sweet sixteen. The awards were also racked up

this year by multiple Saints. Head Coach Alex Pribble was named GNAC Coach of the Year and currently has the highest winning percentage as a coach in school history. Senior Luke Chavez was a unanimous first team All-Conference selection, as well as an All-West Region selection. Senior Jordan Kitchen won his first Defensive Player of the Year award after having a huge impact in the

paint for the Saints. In his first year as a Saint, senior Chandler Redix played a huge role in the backcourt and earned a second team All-Conference selection. Senior EJ Boyce was also selected to second team All-Conference, after dropping 77 three pointers in regular season, 20 more than anyone else on the team. The Saints will lose eight players to graduation this spring, four of whom have been here for all four years. Those include guard Kazuma Lane, post Robert Little, post Kitchen, and guard Rhett Baerlocher. The Saints will also lose four transfer seniors, including guard Boyce, post Jared Mathews, guard Redix, and guard Chavez. After this year, the Saints will only be returning seven of the 15 players listed on the roster this year. However, two of those players, sophomores BJ Standley and Tavian Henderson, have been key players over the last two years and are ready to carry this team heading into next year.

Women’s golf looks to finish season strong

Ryne Oshiro
Staff Writer

The Saint Martin’s Women’s Golf team looks to build off the strong poise from freshman Katherine Swor, as they head to their final invitational. The Saints started off the spring season in California with a 19th overall finish in their first tournament in the Tim Tierney Pioneer Shootout. Led by a cast of veterans and newcomers, the golf team looks to build confidence heading into April. After a moderate finish out in California, the team shrugged off the nerves by finishing third overall as an unsung hero emerged for the Saints. In the first round of the invitational, Maddie Prigge led the field of golfers with her mark of 77, which eclipses her career best of 80, set in the 2017-18 season. Following closely behind her in score and on the leaderboard was Swor, at 78. The freshman nearly tied her career high of 77, and placed second in the field. TiAnna Ford was next at 84, which placed her at 11th overall, and rounding out the scorecard for the Saints was Michaela Morris and Ali Koehler. Morris



Photo retrieved from smusaints.com

With one tournament remaining, the Saint Martin’s women golfers will give their best effort in Arizona.

counted for an 89, and was 17th overall. “Weather conditions today were great, and the ladies took advantage of this and improved their scoring,” said Head Coach Bob Grisham. “I’m very proud of Maddison shooting a collegiate best 77.” Swor, who had a second-place finish in the UPS invitational, helped the Saints secure a third-place finish. She shot a 78 on round one, and an 80 on round two, which was good enough to stay in the pack. Ford also placed fifth and shot both an 84 and a 79, which also was

good enough for her second-best score on the day. Prigge shot a career-low of 77, but was unable to hold the score and placed 11th. Michaela Morris led the Saints to a strong start in the Augustana Spring Fling, shooting an 84, with Swor following close behind with an 86. Ford and Prigge were unable to find their groove, and both shot over 90, which placed the Saints at 10th overall. On the second day of the Spring Fling, according to SMU Athletics, “Morris finished first on the team with a total score of 169

after shooting 84 and 85 in the two rounds. She placed 34th overall in the field. Her teammate Ford shaved two strokes off her first-round score of 90 to finish 88 on round two. Ford’s 178 was tied with Swor for 48th overall. Swor was unable to repeat her 86 performance from round one, as the freshman went for 92 in the closing round. Prigge saw the largest improvement of any Saint, going from 96 in round one to 90 in round two. Ali Koehler closed out the Saints’ scorecard while improving her game by two strokes.” This proved to be vital for the Saints, who eventually went on to finish 10th overall in Augustana. The Saints may not be out to the hot start they had hoped for, but they are getting improvements from key components. Each tournament is an improvement from the next, seeing shooters boost their scores two or three strokes. The Saints will then head to Arizona for the final tournament of the season for the Mustang Intercollegiate on April 5 and 6.

Rory McIlroy delivers un”FORE” gettable performance at PGA Champ

Hannah Hartley
Staff Writer

St. Patrick’s Day weekend proved lucky for PGA golfer Rory McIlroy. He walked away from the Players Championship Tournament with a win, and a little over \$2 million. 29-year-old McIlroy, a native of Ireland, went pro in 2007, joined the PGA Tour in 2010, and has since been a big name in the golf world. The Players Championship was held at the TPC Sawgrass course in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. For this year’s golfing season, McIlroy has made seven appearances in PGA tournaments, six of which he came out in the top ten. Hailing from Holywood, Ireland, McIlroy was hitting 40-yard drives by age two. In 2007, when he went pro, he became the youngest person to rank in the world’s top 50 golfers. In 2011, he won the U.S. Open with a score of 268, replacing the record previously held by Tiger Woods, and Jack Nicklaus. McIlroy’s second major title was



Photo retrieved from Flickr

Rising star Rory McIlroy will look to build off his recent wins as he enters the FedEx Cup.

earned at the 2012 PGA Championship, making him the youngest player to win that tournament. By 2014, he became the third golfer to win three majors by age 25, joining

the likes of Woods and Nicklaus. This is McIlroy’s first time winning the Players Championship, as well as his first win since the Arnold Palmer Invitational that was held over St. Patrick’s Day weekend in 2018. He delivered a solid performance up until the fourteenth hole, where he performed a “careless bogey,” according to ESPN. “Some golf shot there,” said Harry Diamond, McIlroy’s caddy and best friend. After the sixteenth hole, McIlroy had a one-point lead over 48-year-old Jim Furyk, who played well during the back nine holes, and drove a tee shot off of the 18th hole that landed a mere three feet away from the hole. A dozen players were within the lead at different times, even coming within two shots of first place. McIlroy finished 16 under par with a final score of 272, just one shot ahead of Jim Furyk, according to the PGA Tour. His two birdie shots on the last two holes clinched him the lead position. He now ranks number one for the FedEx Cup and has amassed 600 FedEx Cup points.

These points are based on victories and high finishes in various pro tournaments. Golf Digest explains that a PGA Tour victory earns players 500 points, and the Players Championships, as well as the four majors, gain 600 points per golfer per win. According to ESPN, McIlroy is in an ideal position to use his momentum from the Players Championship in the Masters tournament in the upcoming weeks. “When you reflect on the week, you have to reflect on the 72 holes played, and every time I reflected on the 72 holes played, I’ve been pretty happy. I’ve done everything I want to do,” McIlroy said in a post-tournament interview with ESPN. His next tournament will be the Masters, played at the Augusta National Golf Club over the week of April 8 to April 14.

SECOND ANNUAL

Halfway There Fair

Tuesday April 9 from 2-5 p.m., 3rd floor Cebula

An opportunity for sophomores to explore majors, get information about programs and opportunities (internships, study abroad, financial aid, sports, clubs, counseling and wellness, and more!)

There will be food and prizes!

Images of peace in our world

Melissa Wright
Guest Writer

I remember about four years ago lying in my extra-long twin sized bed trying to fall asleep, roughly around 11:00 p.m. I was trying to get an early night in before a big test, but all I heard was noise. There was a group of very loud students who liked to congregate just outside my door in the Upper-Class wing of Parson’s Hall. I could hear sirens, traffic and people who were walking by. I could hear the shower going and the toilet flushing as my suite-mate readied herself for bed.

Lying there, listening to the noise of the world, it was difficult to find a space for rest.

The noise of the world isn’t just that which is immediately auditory. There is noise in our national and international politics. There is noise in the pollution of our environment, the abuse of our rainforests, the plastics in our oceans. There is noise in the discrimination of our neighbors, the trafficking of our children and the hunger in our homes. The noise around homelessness in Olympia has been



Photo retrieved from Facebook

In 2017, Saint Martin’s Norcia Leadership students completed a service project with St. Placid Priory.

very loud lately. But, there is also noise in our own hearts. The noise that screams when we aren’t doing what we are meant to be doing, that echoes when our bills are higher than our paychecks, that aches when someone we love is hurting.

All of this noise steals our attention away from the things in life that are quieter, and just because they are quieter does not mean they do not deserve our attention.

To hear the things that are quiet, we must quiet ourselves. We have to pause and take a moment to notice them and to appreciate their beauty and abundance.

The Sisters at St. Placid Priory want to facilitate this experience by hosting an art show. Images hold power to reveal, to remind, and to move people’s hearts. We at St. Placid Priory are aware that the world, always in need of more

peace, already provides many places, peoples, and situations that are at peace. Our vision for the art show is to bring forth images of this peace, revealing beauty and hope, and reminding us that there is peace right now in our world.

The Third Annual Images of Peace Art Show and Sale will be held on May 3-4, 2019. Friday night from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. we will have a Gala event. Those 21 and older are invited to view art, buy art, and enjoy hors d’oeuvres and refreshments. Tickets are \$15 per person. Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. will be a free open house for everyone. Proceeds will be shared with the Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center in Seattle, a collaboration of several Pacific Northwest religious communities.

So please, enjoy a break from the noise of the world to come and celebrate peace with us! St. Placid Priory is just a couple blocks down College Street.

St. Placid Priory
500 College Street NE
Lacey, WA 98516
360-438-1771
www.stplacid.org

TIPS TO SPRING CLEANING
IN YOUR DORM

- Start by decluttering!
- Put items away neatly
- Do your laundry (including bedding!)
- Wipe down surfaces
- Wash dishes
- Vacuum
- Clean out fridge
- Take out trash



Letters to the Editor

- Everyone is invited to submit Letters to the Editor (LTE) in response to previously published material, or about things not in the paper. All LTE’s will be responded to either by personal response or in print in the Belltower as space allows.
- 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.
- The Belltower reserves the right to edit the letters for length and grammar.
- 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.
- Letters of questionable origin will not be published until confirmation of the author has been made.
- As time permits, writers of letters will be contacted for confirmation.
- 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.
- The Belltower reserves the right to print a selected number of LTE’s. The EIC makes this decision on a case-by-case basis.