



SAINT MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

# KNIGHTLINE

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 1 JANUARY 2006

## 2005/2006 Facts About Saint Mary's As of the Opening Day

**Enrollment.** We have 811 students, with 396 boys and 415 girls, and with 233 freshmen, 208 sophomores, 176 juniors, and 194 seniors. Our freshman class has 113 boys and 120 girls.

**Class Sizes.** Average class sizes in each academic discipline: English 26.2, Mathematics 26.8, Science 26.3, Social Studies 23.0, Theology 27.9, and Foreign Language 23.3.

**Ethnicity.** Our student body continues to be culturally and ethnically diverse, with families declaring the following backgrounds: 1.5% Native American, 7.2% African American, 1.5% Asian/Pacific Islander, 43.1% Hispanic, 38.9% White, and 7.8% Multi-Racial.

**Catholicism.** Approximately 89% of our students are members of families who are active members of a Catholic parish. Forty-two parishes are represented in our student body.

**Family.** The family tradition remains strong: 13% of incoming freshmen are children of graduates and 26% have a brother or sister who has attended the school.

**Geography.** Our freshman class comes to us from 80 different schools, from every corner of the Valley.

**Athletics.** More than 60% of our students participate in a school athletic activity. Our teams compete at the 5A level. We field teams in ten sports for both boys and girls and at every grade level. Spirit lines are available at the varsity, junior varsity, and freshman levels.

**College.** In recent years, more than 60% of our graduates moved directly to a four-year university after graduation; 96% of our graduates continued their education at either a two-year or a four-year school.

**Tuition.** We have two tuition rates. The Catholic rate is \$6,295 and the Full Tuition rate is \$8,460. Payments may be made in full in advance, by semester in advance, and in installments over a ten-month period.

**Financial Aid.** Saint Mary's has an established tuition financial assistance program that seeks to help families make a Saint Mary's education possible for their children. All financial assistance is based on demonstrated need; no academic or athletic scholarships are awarded by the school. Applications for financial assistance are made available to both incoming freshmen and returning students in the spring of each school year and must be submitted on or before April 15. More than 46% of our students received some form of financial aid, and 40% received awards of \$1,000 or more. Overall, after taking into account funds from all sources, our students have been awarded over \$1,150,000 in financial aid this year.



### Mr. Mauro's Message

Our Capital Campaign continues with vigor. A floor plan of the new Education Center appears on page 6. The success of this campaign, and the benefits it will bring to scores of future Knights, will depend on the generosity of our loyal alumni and others who respect our mission of bringing the benefits of a Catholic education to families with widely different backgrounds. We hope you can help.

This issue presents a number of stories that illustrate the ways in which our community reaches out to help others, to fulfill that part of our mission that calls on us to give generously of our time and talent, as well as our bank accounts. Whether the cause is the battle against breast cancer as a part of national campaign or the battle against leukemia in a more personal campaign, our students and our alumni give witness to Christ's call to care for the sick. When the hurricanes devastated the Gulf States, Saint Mary's responded in a way that utilized one of our great assets, the popularity of our football teams and the generosity of our fans, giving witness to Christ's call to comfort the homeless. Also, we share the story of a junior at Saint Mary's that gives witness to Christ's call to assist those who suffer persecution. Finally, in the Christmas spirit, our students brought the spirit of Christmas to many children in a number of grade school visitations, witnessing Christ's love for the innocence of children. Other students participated in a project to send Christmas stockings to our troops overseas. I hasten to add that these stories are illustrations of the many ways in which Knights and Lady Knights, current and former, confront the world with the power of generosity of spirit and a commitment to a life based on the Gospels.

As always, we hope you find this publication an informative and enjoyable connection to Saint Mary's.

The *Knightline* is published in January and July. To notify the school of address changes or personal updates, write to the *Knightline* at the school address or via email at [treilly@smknights.org](mailto:treilly@smknights.org). **PARENTS OF GRADUATES BEFORE 2000:** please contact us with the names and addresses of your children. We have only the parent home address for many of our graduates.

## A Special Saint Mary's Story

Imagine that you are a young boy, not yet a teenager, living with your parents and two brothers. You live a life doing what young boys do, and you attend a Catholic school. Then life changes. Imagine that people, many people, want to kill you, and your family, and they have no reason other than who you are by reason of your birth. The government can't help you. Indeed, the government is actively encouraging people to kill you. You hear announcers on the radio and television urging citizens to kill you if they come across you in the streets. Imagine that this is happening simply because you were born into the Tutsi tribe in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (formerly Zaire).

Imagine that things become so frightening that your family takes refuge – where? – in a concentration camp set aside for people like you, a camp holding more than 5,000 people. Imagine, if you can, a situation in which a concentration camp is deemed safer than the streets. But are you safe? You are surrounded by starvation and disease. People are taken from the camp and never return, and the population of the camp dwindles downward right before your eyes. When the soldiers arrive your thoughts focus on whether you will be the next person taken from the camp and killed. Imagine living this life for more than eighteen months.

Patrick Kisomanga, now a junior at Saint Mary's, didn't have to use his imagination. Patrick lived this story. The horrors of genocide, so remote from Phoenix and so easily confined to our televisions and our newspapers as to make it nearly fictional, is all too much a reality to Patrick and his family. But if Patrick's life was once a horror, his arrival in Phoenix and his enrollment at Saint Mary's was surely a miracle. As swiftly as his life changed many years ago, his life has taken a new direction and his prospects are those of any teenage boy with a keen mind and hopes for his future.

Patrick's exit from a concentration camp came about through the efforts of priests and nuns who devoted their lives to bringing relief to the war-ravaged Congo. They searched for Patrick and his family, having learned about them from their Catholic school. Then, in a lull in the fighting, the authorities allowed the release of some Tutsis on condition that they leave the country. One day a bus arrived and took the family away. The three brothers feared they were headed to the "killing place" but instead they were taken to a refugee camp. Six months later, they were put on a plane with other families, still with no idea where they were going. On February 24, 2000, the family landed in Phoenix.

When they arrived in Phoenix, Patrick's family was given an apartment for two months and \$200. They began to attend Saint Gregory's Church. Patrick's mother had been reunited at Saint Gregory's with a teacher from her homeland, who recommended that Patrick look at Saint Mary's High School. In Patrick's words, "I visited Saint Mary's and I liked what I saw and how I felt at Saint Mary's, so I chose Saint Mary's."

How was this possible? What about tuition? By applying for financial assistance from the Catholic Tuition Organization of the Diocese of Phoenix ("CTODP") Patrick's family qualified for some help through the State of Arizona's tuition tax credit system. In addition, through the POSSE program, Patrick was teamed with a donor who would provide additional help. Without these two sources of help, Patrick's dream of attending a Catholic school would not have been possible. At the recent "Vision of Excellence" CTODP breakfast, Patrick was given the opportunity to share his story with the audience and to express his gratitude for the generosity of others: "My family is very grateful for the opportunity."

Patrick's story is a dramatic one, and unique in many respects. However, Saint Mary's is a sanctuary for a number of students who flee troubles of one kind or another and find stability in the school's family atmosphere. People who supervise our financial aid program recite countless stories of families in turmoil due to death, illness, chemical dependency, job loss, imprisonment, and a host of other events that threaten stability of any kind. Not all of these students are potential Rhodes scholars. Many are typical teenagers. They comprise one segment of our student body that gives life and vitality to the diversity of our community and fosters the learning that accompanies association with people from many different backgrounds and life experiences. Patrick is a striking example of a kind of education that is the hallmark of a Saint Mary's experience.

### **Partnership of Students, Sponsors & Educators ("POSSE") Helping Those With Most Need**

Started in 1995, this program recognized that students with the greatest need required special help to make the Saint Mary's experience a reality. Students like Patrick Kisomanga, featured above. POSSE sponsors help provide financial assistance to such a student for a three or four-year period and have the opportunity to provide encouragement and inspiration throughout the year. Recipients are selected as a part of the school's overall financial aid program. POSSE sponsors can choose from among a number of different annual gift levels, ranging from \$500 to full tuition amounts; several sponsors fund multiple POSSE students. Please help if you can. If interested, please contact Bridget Costello at 251-2508 or Jeanne Fisher at 251-2509.

## Knights Support Hurricane Relief Effort



When can a high school football game be all about something more than bragging rights on a Friday night? This happened on September 23, when the Knights hosted the highly ranked Westwood Warriors at Phoenix College. In response to the overwhelming needs of the victims of the hurricane disasters in the Gulf States, Saint Mary's committed to contribute its gate receipts from the game to the relief effort. On September 28, Mr. Mauro, Mrs. Fessler, and Mr. Sanford joined Student Body President Jonathan Ciani in presenting a check for \$4,600 to Mr. Jack Ahern (Class of 1968), representing the St. Vincent DePaul Society. The St. Vincent DePaul Society played a major role in providing essential support to the evacuees who were relocated to Phoenix. In addition, and on a more personal level, Saint Mary's provided \$600 to a 2005 graduate attending college in New Orleans who lost everything in the flooding and needed support to renew her education at a different Louisiana university.

## Alumnae Join the Walk for the Cure The 3-Day Walk



The Breast Cancer 3-Day is a 60-mile walk offering participants a way to express their commitment to eradicating breast cancer. Proceeds benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, which supports breast-cancer research, education, and outreach programs to fight a disease that claims 40,000 lives every year in the United States. On October 22-24, thousands participated in the first Phoenix 3-Day Walk.

Pictured above are some of the SM community who participated in (and completed) the recent 3-Day Walk. From left to right, Shirley (Lara) Rodriguez (Class of '78 and mother of freshman Nick Rodriguez), Mary (Fimbrez) Brafford (Class of '84 and mother of senior Victoria Brafford), Bridget Alcocer (mother of freshman Miguel Alcocer), and Leslie Sweeney (mother of senior Sean Sweeney).

## The "Santa for Soldiers" Project



For most of us, Christmas brings thoughts of family and friends, and gatherings close to home. Many Americans, however, find themselves miles from home and in unfriendly surroundings. To bring some Christmas spirit to soldiers in Iraq, our Student Council, helped by our art classes and other members of the Saint Mary's family, launched a project to create Christmas stockings for the troops. Stockings were sent to the units of J.J. Vales (Class of 2001) and Jonathan Alcocer (Class of 1998). Pictured to the left is a sample of some of the more than 185 custom-made stockings, stuffed with goodies.

Although Christmas is a special time for remembering those who serve our country, these men and women, and their families who share the burden of service, should be in our prayers on a daily basis.

## Pray for Peace

## A Story Worth Telling A Knight Does Battle, and Needs Our Help



Sal Martinez III is a proud member of the Class of 2005. His parents are graduates of Saint Mary's. Sal remembers going to football games when he was little and always wanted to be a Knight. He is, as we say, a member of "The Family." He needs our support and our prayers.

Sal was diagnosed with AML Leukemia on January 4, 2005. This is a type of cancer that affects blood cells. The doctors have told Sal this type of cancer is curable in most cases and would take approximately six to twelve months depending on how his body reacts to treatment. A year has passed since that diagnosis, a year in which Sal underwent an aggressive chemotherapy program that called for multiple treatments, each requiring a three week stay in the hospital in near complete isolation. At one point Sal was placed into a medically induced coma as a part of his treatment plan. Although his battle continues, Sal is now back home and is considered to be in remission. Our community rejoiced when Sal attended the pep assembly before the Brophy game, giving fresh life to the saying that marks the heart of every graduate: "*Once a Knight, Always a Knight.*"

Sal's course of treatment requires numerous blood transfusions and infusion of platelets and plasma. Platelets, which are the part of the blood that causes clotting, are hard to come by. Sal needs a lot of blood and platelets to keep his blood counts at an acceptable level. The Martinez family has mounted a tremendous effort to seek donations of blood to help Sal, and others like Sal, fight back against this form of cancer. A key part of this effort is the maintenance of an informative Sal Martinez website: <http://members.cox.net/christine00/index.htm> The website provides updates on Sal's progress and posts opportunities for people to give blood donations on Sal's behalf. [A great deal of this article is borrowed from that website.]

If you are unable to donate blood, but are willing to help with this young man's recovery, you may do so through the Bank of America. Please contact any Bank of America to contribute to the "Sal Martinez Fund" (Account Number: 0046-8206-1696)

### NHS Blood Drives For Sal Martinez III

For a number of years, the National Honor Society has sponsored a semi-annual Blood Drive on our campus. Since Sal's diagnosis, this drive has been a replenishment drive for Sal Martinez. Member of the Saint Mary's family, including parents, students over the age of 17, graduates, faculty and staff members, have participated in these drives. You can also donate blood at any United Blood Services Center. Just write in Saint Mary's High School under the organization column when you sign in. Your donation can save several lives.

### NHS Blood Drive Committee Honored

Members of the National Honor Society Blood Drive Committee attended a High School Awards Luncheon and Training Session sponsored by United Blood Services on Wednesday, September 14. They brought home the Platinum Award (levels are Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze) for the blood drives held in the 2004/2005 school year. Congratulations to the Blood Drive Committee and all the members of the St. Mary's Family who have generously supported this worthwhile cause.



## The Fall Play: "Absolutely Murder" A Comedy/Mystery Whodunnit

The Saint Mary's Fall production of *Absolutely Murder* was another big hit performed to sellout crowds at the Virginia G. Piper Performing Arts Center. As always, a cast and crew of more than thirty students, with help from several teachers, brought tremendous energy and enthusiasm to the stage, both in practices and performances.

The Drama Department has announced that the Spring play will be *The Crucible*, by Arthur Miller, considered one of America's greatest playwrights. First performed in 1953, the play is a spellbinding look at the Salem witch trials and the terror and chaos a group of young women create when they accuse others of witchcraft.

## “Smiles of Christmas” – Can You Build-A-Bear For Me?



Alumnus Tom Medrano (Class of 1982) introduced Saint Mary’s to the annual “Smiles of Christmas” event at Chandler Mall, an event designed to bring happiness and joy to young children who might otherwise enjoy a lean holiday season. Tom, manager of the Dairy Queen at Chandler Mall, and his aunt, an elementary school vice-principal, spearheaded the event three years ago, with four high schools and 200 children. This year, the event attracted 18 high schools and 600 children. On December 2, our Student Council traveled to the mall to play host to a group of inner-city grade school children. Each of our students was paired with a young child. The task: help the child build a teddy bear to suit the child’s wishes or whims, choosing from among a vast choice of clothes and accessories available at the mall’s Build-A-Bear store. The picture shows four children with their treasured bears. The smiles on the Saint Mary’s contingent were even broader.

## Letterman’s Club Visits Sierra Vista Elementary School

Coach Frank Denogean is moderator of the Letterman’s Club. His wife is a teacher at Sierra Vista Elementary School. This connection leads to an annual visit by our student/athletes, a visit designed to allow our students to help the children with their reading in an atmosphere of fun and laughter. Our students describe their goals in life and what is required to achieve them.



## Football Team Visits Wilson Elementary: A Long Tradition Maintained

Coach Pat Farrell’s sister is a second grade teacher at Wilson Elementary School. For more than fifteen years the Knight football team has adopted the second grade kids at Wilson as its Christmas project. Each Knight receives a picture of a child before the visit, along with a wish list of presents for Santa. The Knights then visit the school to share a day of fun and games, with one of the Knights arriving as Santa Claus. [This year the Knights were fortunate to have among the group a professional Santa, senior Jonathan Campbell, who has joined his grandfather in the work of North Pole Ministries, a nonprofit corporation that donates stuffed animals, candy and toys to sick children and adults. ] Gifts are distributed, games are played, and pizza is served.

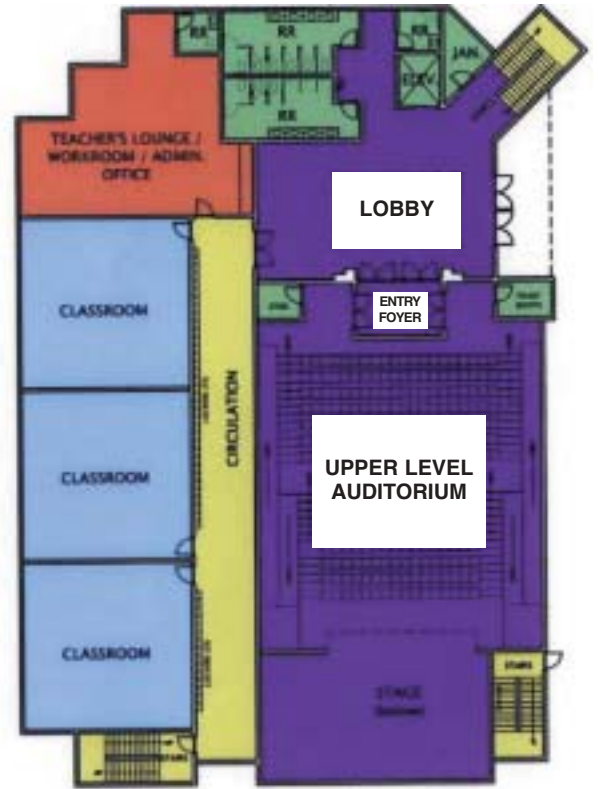


## New Education Center Approved – An Improved Campus on the Way

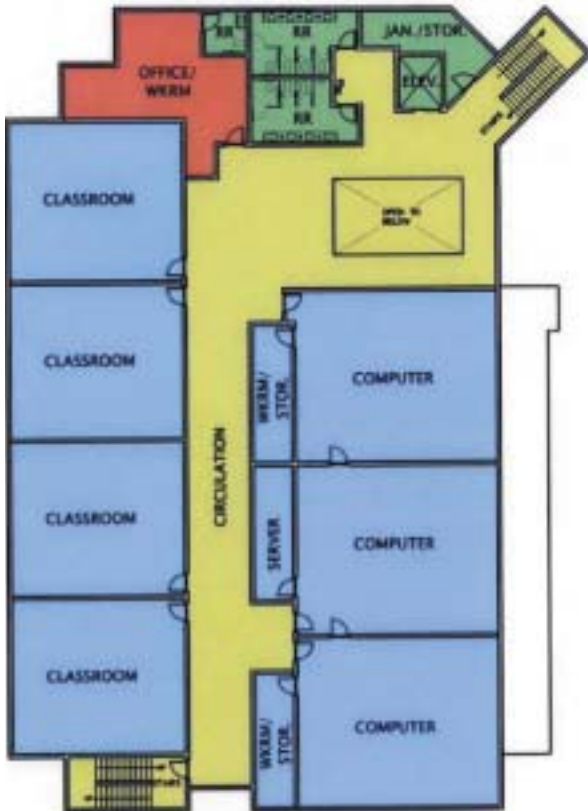
Saint Mary's has raised just over \$6 million of the \$8 million goal of the Capital Campaign. The Diocese has authorized us to proceed forward with the first, and largest, phase of the Capital Campaign Project, the construction of the three-story Education Center. At present, ground breaking is scheduled for the Spring of 2006, with completion of construction scheduled for the Spring of 2007.

The Education Center will have more than 35,000 square feet of space, divided among a basement level and two above-ground levels. The basement will be home to our fine arts department, with an art studio, an art classroom, a music studio, a band studio, and the stage level for a 250-person auditorium. The ground floor level will have a two-story entry foyer, three classrooms, a teacher's lounge and workroom, and seating ramping down to the auditorium stage. The second floor will house four classrooms and three computer classrooms.

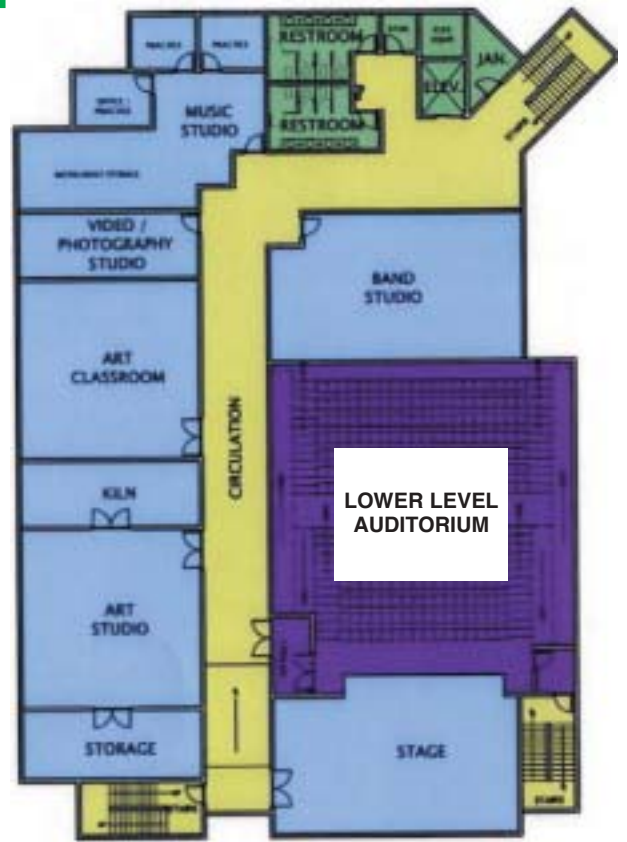
**The Capital Campaign continues and we welcome any help that you can offer to advance the success of this effort on behalf of Saint Mary's. Contact our Development Director, Pat Farrell, at 602-251-2507.**



■ first floor level



■ second floor level



■ basement level

## Capital Campaign Receives Largest Single Gift In School History

Saint Mary's has a long and rich history, extending over decades and touching the lives of thousands of people. Many people carry their memories of Saint Mary's in a special place, a place that remains special despite conflicting loyalties and interests that arise as life moves on after high school. Herb Bool (Class of '50) is one of those Knights who reserved a special place in his heart for Saint Mary's, despite a lifetime of personal and professional achievement and a generous commitment to many worthy causes. Importantly, Herb's wife Betty shared her husband's devotion to Saint Mary's, becoming a Knight-in-Law to the Saint Mary's family. Herb has mentioned that his years at Saint Mary's with the Franciscan Friars have been one of the most influential factors in his life and family. He feels that helping Saint Mary's have a positive influence on today's students is a responsibility that results in personal satisfaction.

In response to the school's Capital Campaign, Herb and Betty Bool have donated more than one million dollars to further the construction of the new Education Center. Exceeded in size only by the generous grant from the Virginia G. Piper Foundation, the generosity of the Bools serves as a striking example of the Franciscan ideal of sharing our gifts in order to bring God's grace to others in ways beyond measure.

In addition to a financial commitment to Saint Mary's, the Bools have been tireless in contributing their time and talent to the success of the Capital Campaign. Development Director Pat Farrell: "The Bools have been absolutely great; their generosity and willingness to go the extra mile has been invaluable."



**CARIBBEAN KNIGHTS**

**Spring Dinner Auction  
Friday, April 21, 2006  
Phoenix Mountain Preserve**

The Spring Dinner Auction committee has begun planning for the social and fundraising event of the year. We are currently seeking underwriting, table sponsors, and donations. The first \$40,000 of net proceeds goes to Saint Mary's High School and the next \$40,000 will go to the Saint Mary's Scholarship & Benefits Board, to provide tuition assistance for Saint Mary's students with a demonstrated financial need. Please contact the Development Office at 602-251-2508 to donate or assist with this very worthwhile event. We need the help of all SM families and alumni to make this evening a success!

## Information on Some Name Changes on Campus

One of the positive side effects of the Capital Campaign has been the opportunity it provides to give people the chance to attach the name of a loved one or friend to a location on our campus. For example, the Phoenix Firefighters sponsored the naming of our chapel in honor of Father Blaise Cronin, OFM. Bill and Sandi Reilly, who were generous supporters of the campaign, requested that Bill's brother, Tom, be honored in some way for his years of service to the school; in December, our library was named the Thomas J. Reilly Library and Resource Center.

Development Director Pat Farrell said: "Tom has worked tirelessly in the areas of academic and college counseling, financial assistance programs, curriculum planning, and school publications, assisting the overall mission of Saint Mary's. From the beginning, Tom has contributed his salary to our scholarship program, helping hundreds of students. Attaching his name to our Library is a fitting tribute to Tom's past and ongoing efforts on behalf of our students." Tom Reilly said: "I have been blessed with two satisfying careers. Saint Mary's has allowed me to share in the triumphs and tragedies of many teenagers, which has given my life a meaning and purpose that is an undeserved gift. I have taken much more from the school than I could ever give in return."

We will be announcing additional events of this kind as the Capital Campaign continues toward its \$8 million goal. If you have not yet given your support to this opportunity to enhance the future of Saint Mary's, please consider making a gift in any amount. Contact Pat Farrell at 602-251-2507 or at [pfarrell@smknights.org](mailto:pfarrell@smknights.org).



**Third Annual Fashion Show  
"A Family Affaire"  
February 11, 2006  
Phoenix Country Club**

Plans are well underway for the third annual Fashion Show, "A Family Affaire" that will be held at The Phoenix Country Club on February 11, 2006. The students and alumni will feature fashions from Dillard's, Azteca Bridal, Bebe and BCBG. This year we are featuring a "Legacy Line" featuring models by generations of Saint Mary's families, including the Artmstrongs, the Gonzales/Arvizus, the Servins, and the Durkees. We are currently accepting donations (both monetary and in kind items) for our silent and live auctions to help make the event a success. Donations can be dropped off at the Development Office. If you plan on attending, please make your reservations promptly as it was a SOLD OUT show for the past two years. Please call The Development Office at 602-251-2508 to make your reservation.

## Report on Fall Sports



**Football** The Knights finished the year with a 7-4 record, third in the Desert Valley Region and eleventh in the State in the final 5A power point rankings. The schedule was once again a challenging one, with all four losses coming against teams ranked first, second, sixth and seventh in the 5A power point rankings. The Knights qualified for the State playoffs and wore the gold pants for the second year in a row, losing in the final minutes to Salpointe Catholic in Tucson by a heartbreaking score of 17-10. The Knights offense averaged 29 points per game and the defense allowed only 15 points per game. Coach Farrell noted that the Knights played with heart and determination, keeping faith with the long line of Knights who, win or lose, left their best on the field.

**Volleyball** The Lady Knights faced a challenging task in the 2005/2006 season, with the Desert Valley region sending four teams to the State Tournament. Saint Mary's was seeded 14 in the 16-team tournament.

**Cross Country** This sport attracted eighteen boys and nine girls from every grade level, with six freshmen, ten sophomores, four juniors, and seven seniors. In a remarkable two-sport athletic achievement, freshman Julia Grose finished 15th in the regional cross country meet and was the highest finishing freshman, while in the same season she was the leading point gatherer for the Lady Knight swim team.

**Golf** The Lady Linksters qualified for the first time in school history to attend the State Tournament as a full team. Mark Newman and Patrick Kisomanga (featured on page 2) represented the Knights in the State Tournament.

**Swimming** Twenty-five swimmers qualified for the Desert Valley Regional Tournament and twenty of them reached the regional finals. Eighteen swimmers qualified for the State Meet, including three individual qualifiers.



## Lady Knight Basketball Players Commit

Four of this year's Lady Knight seniors have signed letters of intent to accept athletic scholarships at the college level. Dymond Simon and Kayli Murphy have committed to Arizona State University. Nicole Neals has committed to the University of Nebraska. Taylor Schneider has committed to the University of Texas-Panamerican. We are delighted that the efforts of these four young women have been recognized by their university of choice.

## Senior Snares Gymnastics Scholarship

It is a notable occasion when one of our athletes receives an athletic scholarship for efforts while playing an SM sport. It is a rare and wonderful thing when a student earns such a scholarship for efforts not related in any way to sport on our campus. Senior Ashlei Baker recently announced receipt of a gymnastics scholarship to California State University at Sacramento.

## Graduate Crowned State Golf Champion

In July, 2005, Jeff Berkshire, Class of 2002, won the 81st Arizona Amateur Championship, which is as good as it gets in Arizona amateur golf. Jeff, now a senior at Drake University, defeated Brain Prouty, a junior at the University of Arizona, 1-up, in a final round match that saw five lead changes. Jeff, who has qualified twice for the U.S. Amateur Championship, called it the biggest victory of his career. "I have felt for a long time that I was a good player, but when you win something like this against the best amateur players in the state, it really validates those feelings."

## Kristick Commits to Oregon State

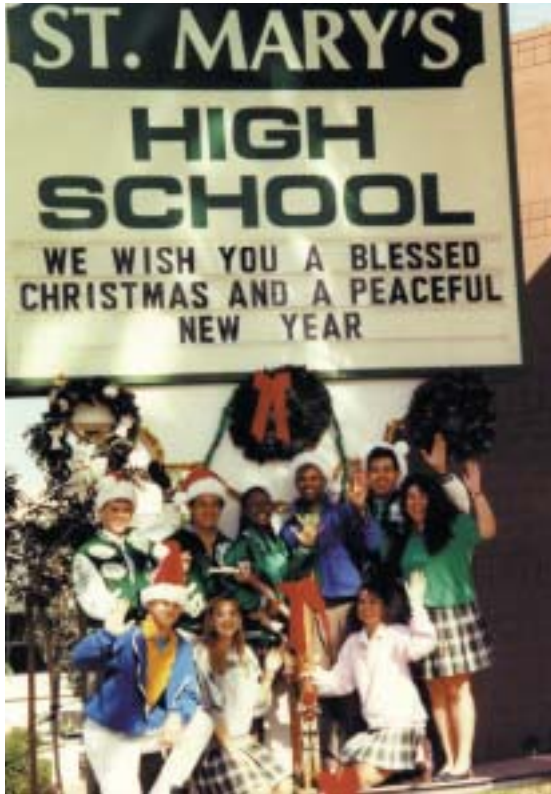
Keaton Kristick was named to the *Arizona Republic* All Arizona football team as a linebacker. Keaton has made a verbal commitment to attend Oregon State University on a football scholarship.

## Alumnus Is MVP in Texas League Baseball

Late this summer Andre Ethier (Class of 2000) was named the MVP of the AA Texas League. In addition to being named the league MVP, Andre was also selected as the MVP of the midseason Texas League All-Star Game. After leaving Saint Mary's, Andre was a two-time, First-Team All-Pac-10 selection for the ASU Sun Devils from 2002-03. He was selected by the Oakland A's in the second round of the 2003 MLB Draft. On December 14, he was traded from the Oakland A's to the Los Angeles Dodgers. Dodger General Manager Ned Colletti said he believes Ethier has a chance to be "a very good everyday player in the big leagues" as a corner outfielder, but not right away. The 23-year-old Ethier will probably begin next season in Triple-A, Colletti said, adding he could arrive at the big-league level sometime next season or in 2007.



## The Fifteenth Annual Saint Mary's Christmas Card



Merry Christmas  
From The  
Saint Mary's  
Family

In 1991, as part of our efforts to bring new faces to our campus, we sent a Christmas card to all eighth graders who had visited us in the fall. This year marks the fifteenth consecutive year that a group of our seniors have represented us in wishing a blessed Christmas to eighth graders and various friends of Saint Mary's. To the left are the nine pioneers in the first Christmas card: Standing: Sam Salts, Ben Deguire, Shakiera Lewis, Mark Buchanan, Hector Gamez, and Teresa McNeely; Kneeling: Sam Hartley, Tasha Marshall, and Shannon Roseberry.

Since its inception, more than 200 graduates have appeared on our Christmas card. The 2005 card pictures sixteen members of the Class of 2006.

## A Featured Alumnus – Tim Champlin, Class of 1955

Our graduates pursue many careers. Some are in the limelight, others are less well known. Some are well known in their field but relatively unknown amongst the wider Saint Mary's family. Tim Champlin is in this latter category. You may, in fact, have enjoyed his work without knowing of his connection to Saint Mary's. [Because there were six boys named 'John' in his first grade class, his mother nicknamed him 'Tim', and he later took this as a Confirmation name and still later used it as a pen name.]

After graduating from Saint Mary's in 1955, Tim's family relocated to Nashville, Tennessee, where he still resides. He was graduated from Middle Tennessee State College and earned a Masters Degree in English from Peabody College, Nashville. He retired in 1994 after 30 years in the federal Civil Service.

During his working career with four federal agencies, Tim pursued his first love of creative writing. Thirty of his articles and short stories have been published in various regional and national magazines, including a story in American Airlines in-flight magazine, *The American Way*. His most recent piece appeared in the April, 2005 issue of *SAIL* magazine, "Seeking Huckleberry Finn", a photo article about a trip with his son on the Mississippi River in a small sailboat.

His first historical novel, *Summer of the Sioux*, was published in 1981. His 25th novel, *The Blaze of Noon*, will appear in April, 2006. The American West is the main focus of his work, a subject that represents a "huge and ever-changing block of space and time in which an individual had more freedom than the average person today." In all of his stories, there are unconventional plot ingredients, striking historical details, and vivid characterizations of the many ethnic and cultural elements found on the frontier. His stories of the American West feature lumber schooners sailing the west coast, early-day wet plate photography, daredevils in gas balloons and the first parachutes, tong wars in San Francisco's Chinatown, Basque shepherders, Penitentes of the Southwest, the Civil War stockade at Andersonville, and the gold rushes to California and the Klondike. Most of his titles are available in libraries or through Amazon.com. They can also be ordered through any bookstore.

If you have a love for stories of the Old West, you might want to curl up with one of Tim Champlin's books.

## Fortieth Reunion – Class of 1965

More than 35 graduates and spouses from the Class of '65 reveled at their fortieth reunion on October 14. The initial reception took place at Hamburger Works, before the Saint Mary's homecoming game against Paradise Valley. Most then attended the game, won by Saint Mary's 42-26. Lannie Peyton took the prize for traveling the farthest to celebrate the event, coming from Berlin, Germany, where he conducts a personal counseling service. Janet Grayner won the distinction for the ladies, traveling from her home in the Greater Chicago area.

Other ladies who attended: Deanna Kircher, Claire Saillant, Cindy Matesic, Blaise Monday, Karen Busch, Frances Elias, Sharon McCormick, Kathy Abbott, Mary Tybur, Rosemary Rhyan, Judy Schott, Dottie Gravett, Marnel Payovich, Mary Ann Thrift, and Gina Pieri. Football players Paul Fedock, Vince Howard, and Phil Johnson reminisced about the '65 season; Paul's handoff to an opposing Prescott lineman for a touchdown and the ensuing trip back to Phoenix still remains as one of the most talked about trips in Saint Mary's annals. [Unfortunately the team finished the season at 1-9]. Other men in attendance were Bob Rawlins, Mike Otter, Abe Balderrama, Pete Figueroa, John "Jack" Livingston, Jim Gorman, Bill Kuemper, and Mike Vera. Those absent, but who sent notes, were Louis Malloque, Joe Wilmet, Art McDade, Tony Kokorich, and Gil Martinez.

A post-game gathering was held at the TeePee Restaurant. Vince Howard memorialized class members who had passed away: Joe Payovich, Paula Sanders, Billy Palmer, Sheila Hill, Jack Vales, Sano Leto, Fran Karaba, Roy Hay, and Bob Madrid. Principal Joel Scott, OFM, and coaches Dick Locke and Ray Lawson were also memorialized.

Several class members agreed to work on the next reunion, a three-day cruise. It will probably be held within the next five years. Anyone interested can call Phil Johnson at 480-425-8219 or via email at [pjohnson65@hotmail.com](mailto:pjohnson65@hotmail.com)

Special thanks to Vince Howard, Patsy Madrid (Bob's wife and adopted class member), Bridget Costello from Saint Mary's, and Phil Johnson for all their help with the reunion.

## Upcoming All Class Reunion/Brunch

On April 30, 2006, Mass will be held at Saint Mary's Basilica at 9:00am followed immediately by a brunch at the Downtown Hyatt. Cost is \$10. The event is being held for reflections and memories and a call to return to the Church. For further information, contact Nancy Shanahan Schmidt at 602-944-1523.

## Class of 1946 – Reunion Dates Finalized

The Sixtieth Reunion of the Class of 1946 will begin on Friday, April 21, with a social gathering at 6:30pm at the Wyndham Phoenix Hotel. On Saturday, April 22, a Mass at 5:00pm at Saint Mary's Basilica will be followed by cocktails and dinner at the Wyndham Phoenix Hotel. Please contact Beryl (Kilroy) Genovese (602-955-9739), Connie Newvauer (602-468-9038), or Gordon Pemberton (602-938-6868) to make your reservations.



## Tenth Reunion – Class of 1995

Homecoming weekend saw the gathering of the fabled Class of 1995. Fifty alumni and a host of significant others joined in the festivities. Friday's saw a return to Hamburger Works before and after the game, while on Saturday the crowd met at Aunt Chilada's and later at Nixon's at the Esplanade. Farthest traveled went to Alex Drayer (New York) with runners up being Carmel Iniguez (Kansas City) and Chad Childress (Austin). Most children went to Chris Fahrendorf (3). Recently married: Mary Brannan and Mike Nordstrom (Class of '91). A group hit Turf Paradise in the afternoon and the biggest winner was Tony Petelin. A moment of silence was recognized for Davin Cornelius. Above, from the left, Scott Jenkins, Scott Hallett, Tony Petelin (hidden), Sean Sanford, Alex Drayer, Javier Arambula, Danny Schmaltz, Jeremy Logan, and Chris Fahrendorf. Below, from the left, Amy Vasquez, Angus Brown, and Beth Guerra. In keeping with tradition, Saturday night (morning?) ended with a teepee raid on the home of Scott Jenkins. Some things never change.



## BIRTHS

Bill Carter ('82) proudly announced the birth of his twin son and daughter, future members of the Class of 2010.

Congratulations to Emily Perrin Kingston ('99) who gave birth to a baby girl, Kaitlyn Kingston, on September 28. Best wishes to the Kingston Trio, Emily, Dan, and Kaitlyn.

Junebug Trujillo and Molly Trujillo proudly announce the birth of their son, Cooper James Trujillo, born April 23, 2005.

## Class of 1960 – 45 Years Later



*Judy (Danda) and Ross Roberts*

The class of 1960 celebrated their 45th reunion on Homecoming weekend, October 14th & 15th. It was a very informal "on your own" type affair, but a great time was had by all. There was a small reception at The Hamburger Works before the Friday night, Homecoming game and after the game we traveled to the El Charro Lodge on Lincoln for conversation and reminiscing. On Saturday night a number of classmates met at the Rawhide Restaurant in Scottsdale for dinner and on Sunday we met at La Madeleine Restaurant on Camelback Road in Phoenix for a Brunch. Around 45 classmates attended the fun-filled weekend. A special thank you to the reunion committee for gathering the Knights of 1960 together, especially Pat Hanley, Buddy D'avola and Nancy (Bowers) Iacovacci, Al, Jack, Noel, Mike G, Margie R, Sue K, Sharon, Kathy S, and Rita. Get ready for the 50th!



*Jerry Nichols and Margaret (Shea) Gant*

## Class of 1985

The class of 1985 had a casual reunion gathering before and after the St. Mary's Homecoming game on October 14th. A great time was had by all. Special thanks to Christine (Scieska) Duguid for organizing the Class of 1985.

## Class of 1975 – Reunion Gathering



*The Ladies of the Class of 1975*

On October 22, 2005 the Class of 1975 celebrated their 30th Reunion at the Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak in Phoenix. Eighty of our fellow classmates attended the event that featured a fabulous view of the city, a great dinner, door prizes, and dancing. Jeff Tipton emceed the program that featured talks by former faculty members: Lou LaScala, Pat Lavin, Bill Farrell, and Bill Hermann. This was followed by a highly charged speech from the 1975 Knight of the Year: Brad Newman. Faith Mitchell opened the program with a prayer that included a reflection on the passing of several class and faculty members. Everyone who attended had a great time. This was evident by the constant chatter of catching up and the Pointe Hilton ushering us out after 1:00 a.m. A montage of pictures from our school days and past reunions were provided by Kathy Mendivil, Jeff Tipton, Christine Martinez and Cory Folz and were artistically displayed around the Ballroom. These were a great source of talk and laughter. Everyone attending received a commemorative coffee mug, T-shirt, and sweatshirt with the proud logo of SMHS Class of 1975 30 Year Reunion. Everyone left with a feeling of pride, happiness and looking forward to our 35th.



*The Boys of the Class of 1975*

## OBITUARIES

**Shirley Clare Kelly** ('53) passed away peacefully November 28, 2005. She is survived by her husband of 44 years, Howard Beland Kelly; daughter, Susan Colleen Ligia Kelly (Miguel Cimadavilla); sister, Margaret Ellen Champlin Tyndall; brothers, John



Michael Champlin (Ellen) and Patrick Joseph Champlin (Freda) and many nieces and nephews.

**Margaret Ellen McPeak Sweeney** passed away on February 3, 2005. Although not a graduate of Saint Mary's, Mrs. Sweeney surely has left her mark on the school. Seven of her children graduated from Saint Mary's (Kathy, Pat, Tim, Ellen, Mike, Bridget, and Peggy) and a number of her grandchildren as well.



**Anita Favela** passed away on June 9, 2005. She was the mother of eleven graduates from Saint Mary's, each of whom went on to receive a baccalaureate degree: Richard, Robert, Rosalie, Mary Magdalene, David, Anita, Regina, Michael, Daniel, Pauline, and John.

**Charles "Chuck" Joyce, Sr.** ('48) passed away on September 30, 2005. Married to his wife, Patricia, for 55 years, Chuck was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

## OBITUARIES

**Irma Johanna Linsenmeyer**, born October 24, 1908, passed away on November 19, 2005. A life-long friend of Saint Mary's, she was a generous spirit who loved life to the fullest. Survived by daughter Tiana Linsenmeyer Smith, granddaughters Vanessa Marie Smith, and Cassandra Leigh Smith, sister Bertha (Tiny) Lutfy, brother Robert Linsenmeyer, and numerous nieces and nephews, she requested that memorial gifts be made to Saint Mary's High School.



**Norman M. Jordan** ('52) passed away on August 4, 2005. He was a SSgt in the US Air Force and a long time resident of Massachusetts. He was a high school and youth hockey coach.

**Gordon P. Mason** ('43) died on August 18, 2005. Gordon joined the Navy shortly after graduation. He is survived by sons Gary Mason and William Mason, and by daughters Sharon Likos and Susan Crawford.

**Gina Watson Kevane** ('91) died on December 23, 2005. She is survived by her husband, Chris Kevane ('91), three sons (Remington, Jackson, and Colton), her mother, Judy Watson, and brothers John and Doug. Gina gave real meaning to the term "Student/Athlete", achieving both academic and athletic honors. She graduated cum laude from ASU in 1995. Despite these achievements, her love for her family is her crowning achievement.



## UPCOMING REUNIONS

**All Class Reunion/Brunch:** See page 10

**Class of 1946:** See page 10.

**Class of 1956:** Planned for April 29 at 5:00pm at Alexis Restaurant on Central Avenue just north of Osborn. Cost is \$56. Contact Nancy Shanahan Schmit at 602-944-1523.

**Class of 1966:** Time to get going. It's not too late to plan your reunion. The Big #40. Please contact Bridget Costello at 602-251-2508 if you are interested in serving on a committee to plan the shindig.

**Class of 1976:** Time for our 30th reunion!! If you want to help put the event together, please contact Gerylyn Wintering at [gtw40@hotmail.com](mailto:gtw40@hotmail.com) or call 602-595-4757.

**Class of 1986:** Our twentieth reunion is on the horizon. Please contact Cindy Essert O'Connor at 480-503-2065 or at [socon80273@aol.com](mailto:socon80273@aol.com) to help organize a fun event for everyone.

**Class of 1996:** Where does the time go? It's time for our tenth reunion. Who does it better than the Class of '96? If you want to volunteer, please contact Carin (Brock) Nguyen at 602-793-6135 or [soldby-carin@cox.net](mailto:soldby-carin@cox.net).

Saint Mary's is a non profit 501(c)(3) organization

## SAINT MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL "KNIGHTLINE" ALUMNI NEWS

2525 North 3rd Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA  
PERMIT NO. 679

