

# Maroon & White

For Alumni & Friends of



Saint Mary's University

December 2002



*Saint Mary's University  
200th Anniversary!*





**DEAR SANTAMARIANS AND FRIENDS:**

The holiday season offers a time for reflection on the events of the past year and what the future may hold. I am very pleased to report that this year has been marked again by the considerable achievements and successes of the University community. My sincere thanks to all of you for your continued support and commitment.

Our ongoing 200th Anniversary celebrations have provided an opportunity to look back and pay tribute to those who have left such an outstanding legacy – the Saint Mary's we

know today. While, we must not lose sight of the enduring values and traditions that form such an essential part of our community, an agenda of change is underway. The Academic Plan that has been developed will provide the roadmap for us to position ourselves to play a leadership role in the emerging knowledge based global economy. (Details of the plan can be found on the Saint Mary's website and will be outlined in the spring issue of the Maroon & White).

Our alumni have always played an important role at the University. You are Saint Mary's permanent stakeholders. You are the leaders of the past, present and future, and as such play a vital role in ensuring a prosperous future for the University. I have had the wonderful opportunity during our anniversary year to meet with many of you at the various events held to commemorate the occasion.

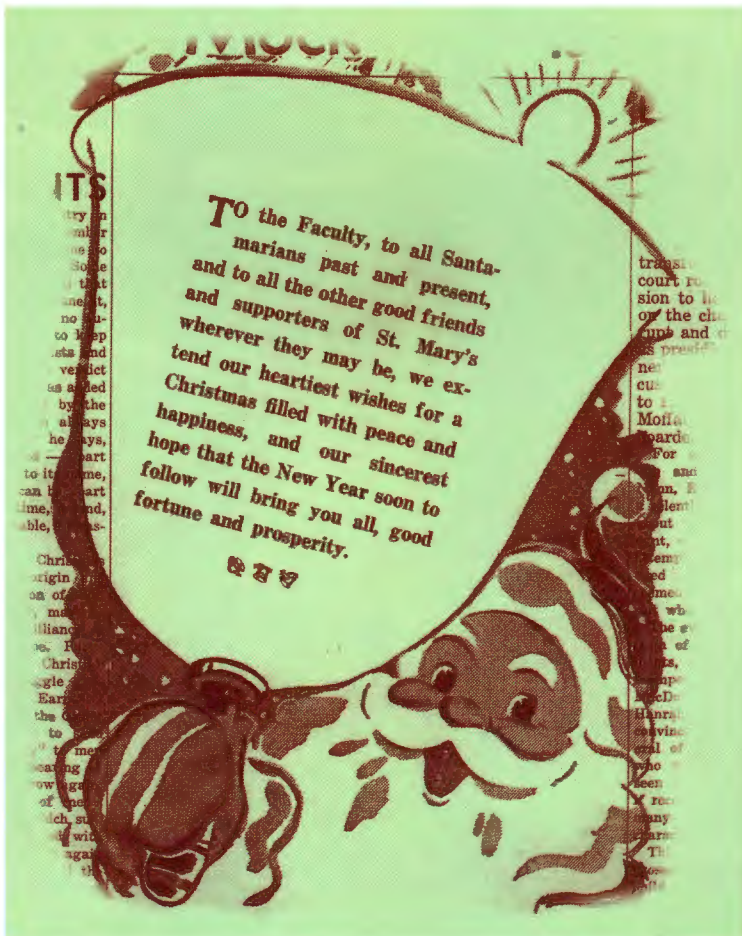
On behalf of myself, my wife Carol, and our family, as well as the entire University community, I wish each of you and your families all the very best now and throughout the new year.

Sincerely,

J. Colin Dodds, President, Saint Mary's University

Dear Santa,  
 I've been writing you for quite  
 some time,  
 And I know I can't complain;  
 But this year skip the blocks and  
 toys,  
 And keep the electric train.  
 I don't want the cap gun either,  
 And I'm sick of those Indian suits,  
 You can cancel my order of  
 crayons,  
 And forget those cowboy boots.  
 I'm tired of doing jig-saws,  
 Bored with those painting sets;  
 I never liked playing checkers,  
 Or getting those teddy bear pets.  
 I've had my fill of toboggans,  
 I'm through with the chalk and  
 slate,  
 I can't say I like the moulding  
 clay,  
 And those drums I've grown to  
 hate,  
 This year there'll be some  
 changes,  
 Now, Santa, lend an ear;  
 You keep the stuff I've told you  
 of,  
 And send a GIRL this year.  
 (R. W. Napier)

December 15, 1950 Journal



The Journal, December 14th, 1960



Christmas Message to the Students from Brother Michael Lannon (president of Saint Mary's, 1937 - 1940) St. Mary's Journal, December 15th, 1939



## Contents

**Campus News 4**

**1802 – 1903 6**

**The University of Halifax 8**

**1903 – 1940 10**

**Windsor Street Scrapbook 14**

**The 1940s 18**

**The Heenan Brothers 24**

**The 1950s 26**

**Women at Saint Mary's 30**

**The 1960s 32**

**SPORTS 36**

Some pioneers of the first century

A small Catholic College stands strong

The Windsor Street school

The Irish Christian Brothers

The Halifax Explosion

Snapshots of the Windsor Street era

The Jesuit era begins with sights on campus expansion

The World Wars and Saint Mary's, High School memories

A family affair

A new campus, a new beginning

Co-ed campus era begins

Expansion program launch, time for change

Memorable Moments In Sports at Saint Mary's

### ***The Anniversary Issue: Part 2 - Spring 2003***

- *The 1970s, 1980s, 1990s*
- *Memorable Moments in Saint Mary's Sports – The Later Years*
- *A New Century – find out about what the third century has in store for Saint Mary's including details of the University's new academic plan and the role of alumni at Saint Mary's. A one-on-one conversation with our president, Dr. J. Colin Dodds.*

**The Mission** of the Saint Mary's University Alumni Association magazine, *Maroon & White*, is to build and maintain relationships between alumni and the University community; to serve as an information arm of the Alumni Association; to promote the successes and achievements of our alumni; and to support the University in fulfilling its mission.

Editorial guidelines of the *Maroon & White* are based on the Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education English Style Guide and The Canadian Press Stylebook. <http://www.ccaecanada.org>

### Cover Photos

- 1) The Saint Mary's 200th anniversary Canada Post stamp unveiling: RCMP officers with J. Colin Dodds, president of Saint Mary's, Louise Edwards, astronomy student featured on the stamp, the Honourable John Manley, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada (kelly clark photography)
- 2) Children from the local schools who attended the ceremony (kelly clark photography) and
- 3) Vanier Victory Again!





**Editor**

*Penny Muslock, BA, BJ, BEd*

**Alumni Officer**

*Betty Jean Frenette, Ass'92*

**Alumni Secretary**

*Annelle Ozon*

**Vice President (Assoc.) External Affairs**

*Chuck Bridges, MBA'92*

**Contributors This Issue:**

*Penna Marshall, MA'02*

*Heather Karamian Keane, BA'02*

*Carole MacDonald*

*Grek Lyman, BA'02*

*Peter Heenan, BComm'54*

*Al Abraham, HS'44-'46*

*Lisa Legatito, BA, BL'74, MA*

*Betty Jean Frenette*

Advertising: (902) 420-5176

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Send address changes and Snippets to:

Alumni Office

Saint Mary's University,

Halifax, NS B3H 3C3

Call Toll-free: 1-800-SMU-ALUM

Tel: (902) 420-5420

Fax: (902) 420-5140

E-mail: [alumni@stmarys.ca](mailto:alumni@stmarys.ca)

Send editorial correspondence to:

The Editor of *Maroon&White* at the

Alumni Office

Saint Mary's University,

Halifax, NS B3H 3C3

Tel: (902) 420-5526

E-mail: [miweditor@stmarys.ca](mailto:miweditor@stmarys.ca)

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# Alumni President's Note



Can you feel it? As alumni president, I spend a lot of time on campus and I've noticed something different this year. Maybe everyone is just caught up in all of the 200th anniversary celebrations, but I don't really believe it will pass that quickly.

Saint Mary's has strong traditions in accessibility and community - important traditions, but traditions that seem to have

bred a certain amount of humility over the years. Now that humility is being replaced with pride. The pride is not only evident on campus - I am constantly meeting alumni outside of Halifax who are very quick to tell me that they are Saint Mary's alumni. A surprising number seem to ask me if I know their son or daughter who is either currently a student at Saint Mary's, or who recently graduated. The pride in their voice leaves no doubt that they were happy with the choice of Saint Mary's.

The pride is also evidenced by the number of times we have had to "interrupt" our 200th anniversary celebrations repeatedly to recognize our academic and research successes, and our athletic accomplishments. It's not that we never had anything to celebrate before, it just seems that we were more content to do it quietly.

Canadian Business Magazine asked Canada's business leaders to rank the top business schools in Canada according to region - they ranked Saint Mary's MBA program first in Atlantic Canada. At the same time, Saint Mary's recently placed 11th in the annual Maclean's magazine rankings of undergraduate universities in Canada, slipping out the top 10.

These are two very different results and given the potential impact of these surveys on student recruitment and the reputation of the institution, they should not be ignored. However, I think the pause to understand the surveys should be brief. The Academic Plan, which will be the foundation for the future of Saint Mary's, has been prepared. President Colin Dodds and his team are beginning to execute their vision. I believe in the vision, and I believe that if we stay focused on it, the surveys will take care of themselves.

2002 marks my tenth anniversary as a Saint Mary's alumnus and I have never been more proud of that fact. I encourage anyone who has not been back to the campus in a while to come take a look around and get reacquainted with Saint Mary's. Alumni are key stakeholders and we all can play a part in the future of Saint Mary's. Come take a look at the future...I think you will be pleasantly surprised by what you see.

Jamie O'Neil

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## We Welcome Letters

Write us at: [miweditor@stmarys.ca](mailto:miweditor@stmarys.ca)

or  
M&W Editor,  
Alumni Office,  
Saint Mary's University,  
Halifax, NS, B3H 3C3

Please note: When necessary, letters will be edited for length and style. Please type letters whenever possible to avoid any errors that may result from hand written letters.

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(925) 520.4202  
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## THE GAMBIA BRANCH

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Griffin Webster  
griff@beachtech.ai

## BARBADOS BRANCH

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Office: (809) 436-7000

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Tokyo-To, 202-0006,  
Japan

## KOREA

Kevin Laurence-Landry  
landry@catholic.ac.kr

# Editor's Homepage

## Happy birthday Saint Mary's!



When we began to think about how we might highlight the University's 200th anniversary in a special issue of the Maroon & White, we had no idea where that road would take us. We discussed a number of different approaches and finally decided that we would commemorate 200 years of history making at Saint Mary's by featuring a few highlights from each of the time periods.

Sounds simple but we could never have envisioned the magnitude of the task. We began collecting items for the issue over a year ago now, but the real work began six months ago and for the past six months it has literally consumed the bulk of my time – and with two young children at home, that has been a challenge. But I am thrilled with the outcome, and I hope you are too!

Fiona Marshall of the University Archives staff has been a tremendous help with this project. She and I spent weeks and months pouring over their impressive collection of materials pulling photos and information we thought would be useful. Then came the difficult, should I say impossible task of choosing just a handful of these items for each time period that would give the readers a feel for the particular eras. And then the even more difficult task of creating a design that would encompass as many of these themes as possible. For this, I must extend a huge thank-you to my faithful and talented designer, Ed MacDonmand.

I would also like to thank the following people for sharing with us memories of their time at Saint Mary's: Bob Kaplan, Wilfred Warner, Ed Coolen, Al Abraham, Peter Heenan, Father Gregory Heenan, Aileen Carroll, Louise Stringer Warren, Jim Pineo, Elmer MacGillivray, Roy Clements, Elizabeth Chard, Bob Bouchier, Bob Hayes, Al Keith, Kathy Mullane and Susan Dunbrack Beazley. As well as everyone else who shared memories with us.

Where appropriate we have identified the sources of information. Where not identified, the information has come from the Saint Mary's student Journal, the Collegian/ Santamarian, and in the later years, the Maroon & White. J. Brian Hanington's Every Popish Person – The story of Roman Catholicism in Nova Scotia and the Church of Halifax, proved to be an excellent read as well giving a context to the history of this great University.

The photographs in this issue were for the most part contained in publications from the Archives and in most instances the photographers were not supplied (many were student photographers). Where they are known, they have been identified. Some photographs came from the wonderful collection of the Archdiocese of Halifax and they have been identified in each instance. A few were found in Saint Mary's University, An Anniversary Portrait (edited by Anne West). And if you enjoy this issue, be sure to pick up your copy of this exciting new book (see the ad on the back inside cover of this issue for details).

Also we have done our best to provide accurate information, but because most of our information came from various University publications, we cannot guarantee that the dates and details are correct. We apologize in advance for any such inaccuracies.

Part 2 of the anniversary issue will highlight 1970 onwards, with an interview with Saint Mary's President Dr. Colin Dodds to highlight plans for the University and will arrive in the spring.

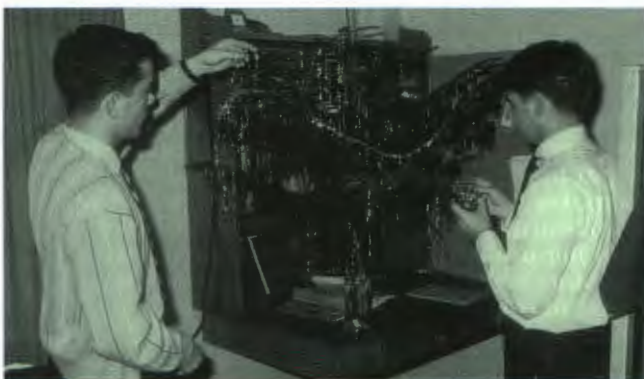
We hope you enjoy this issue as much as we did in its creation.

*Penny Mueckel*

The following donors were omitted from the alumni donor list in the spring issue Maroon & White.

*Thank you  
for your support.*

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Christmas in residence  
- 1950s.



# Campus News

## ON THE COVER

### 200th Anniversary Celebrated in Style

It's not every day that we celebrate a 200th anniversary. Saint Mary's impressive milestone was commemorated through a series of events that began in May of 2002 and conclude in May, 2003.

In the spring 2003 issue of the Maroon & White we will highlight some of the events through a series of photographs depicting the festive spirit of the anniversary year. You can also visit the Saint Mary's website for details about upcoming events and snapshots from events that have taken place: [www.stmarys.ca](http://www.stmarys.ca)

One of the highlights was the unveiling of a stamp that honors 200 years of history making at Saint Mary's. Canada Post issued a commemorative stamp in honour of Saint Mary's 200th anniversary. The Honourable John Manley, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada and Minister responsible for Canada Post, came to the Saint Mary's campus on May 15 to unveil the artwork for the stamp.

"For two hundred years, Saint Mary's University has contributed to educating students from around the world, giving them the desire to learn and the ability to do so," said the Deputy Prime Minister. "This stamp captures the spirit of this proud Canadian institution and the extraordinary contribution made by Saint Mary's University to strengthening, enriching and improving our society."

### Back to Back Vanier Cup Victories

The Saint Mary's Huskies' football team became the first team in 25 years to repeat as Vanier cup champions when they defeated the University of Saskatchewan Huskies 33 to 21 at Toronto's Skydome on November 23.

The Western Ontario Mustangs were the last team to win back to back national championships in 1976 and 1977 and the Manitoba Bisons are the only other team to do so when they made history in 1969 and 1970.

Saint Mary's advanced to the Vanier Cup after defeating MacMaster, 36 to 25, at the Churchill Bowl in Hamilton the week before. For more Vanier Cup highlights, visit the Huskies website at: [www.smuhuskies.ca](http://www.smuhuskies.ca) Post-victory celebrations will be featured in the sports section of the spring issue of the Maroon & White.



### Canadian Business Declares Saint Mary's MBA Tops in Atlantic Canada

A poll of 400 Canadian senior business executives and 100 human resource executives commissioned by Canadian Business Magazine and conducted by the Strategic Counsel has selected The Frank H. Sobey School of Business MBA program as the best in Atlantic Canada.

Saint Mary's was featured on the cover of the 11th annual issue that focuses on MBA programs across Canada. Charlene Hercules, a second year Sobey MBA student, is "dressed for success" on the front cover of the national magazine. Hercules, 28, hails from Toronto, Ontario and is a former account executive with Jones New York.

This is the first time the ranking was conducted by an outside national professional polling organization using representative samples from the business community. "The study is unique because it asks the end users, the senior executives and human resource professionals who hire and work with MBAs, to rank Canada's business schools," says Scott Steele, executive editor of Canadian Business.



### Asteroid Named for Saint Mary's

Saint Mary's has increased its sphere of influence to outer space. A minor planet, orbiting between Mars and Jupiter about 400 million kilometers away from the sun has officially been named after Saint Mary's University in honor of its 200th anniversary. The minor planet or asteroid formerly known as Asteroid 6898, now named Saint-Marys 6898 was discovered in 1988 by prolific astronomer, Carolyn Shoemaker at the Mount Palomar Observatory in California. It is one of almost 200 asteroids that she has discovered.

Dr. David Turner, a Saint Mary's astronomy and physics professor is responsible for the unique birthday gift to the University. He was working with Shoemaker as editor of The Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada when he asked if one of her unnamed asteroids could be named after Saint Mary's. Asteroids are named through a commission of astronomers belonging to the International Astronomical Union.



## Students and Administration Collaborate on Student Centre Renovation

The O'Donnell Henessey Student Centre is the latest Saint Mary's building to undergo extensive renovations. Over the summer, a million-dollar investment was made to the facility.

"The design of the renovation centered on creating an open congenial space for students coupled with the renewal of the food service facilities in the student centre," says Gabrielle Morrison, vice-president administration and chair of the Student Centre Renovation Steering Committee.

The improvements that were made to the first floor of the student centre include a bigger lobby, overall aesthetic improvements, a new staircase to the bookstore on the second floor, a bright and modernized Aramark food service and dining area complete with new furniture throughout. New windows, signage and landscaping have updated the building's exterior. The lobby and dining area will now be available for evening functions and receptions through Conference Services.

## New Dean of Arts Promotes Personalized Approach



Dr. Esther Enns sees teaching as much more than the work of a professor in a classroom. That's one of the reasons why she wanted to come to Saint Mary's University.

"Saint Mary's' reputation as a very human kind of place with a focus on people meshes very well with the way that I see teaching," she says. "I'm very much into teaching and learning as relationships. I would like to cultivate those kinds of relationships among students and professors."

Dr. Enns was a professor in the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Calgary. Holding an appointment in the department of Germanic, Slavic and East Asian Studies, she was involved in multiple disciplines. She taught German language and culture at all levels, as well as translation studies and foreign language teaching methodology at graduate levels. She was also an adjunct professor in the Faculty of Education.

At the University of Calgary, Dr. Enns completed wide-ranging curriculum development work in foreign languages, focussing on learning-centred approaches. In 1998, she was named a 3M Teaching Fellow for her educational leadership and commitment to teaching excellence.

"What I bring with me to Saint Mary's is the idea of personalized and relational types of learning environments, and creating structures and systems to support both instructors and students in realizing that kind of education," says Dr. Enns. She also sees Saint Mary's as a place where she can continue to learn. "As dean of arts I hope to expand my perspectives on teaching and learning, and the role of education in advancing social and human goals."

## New Dean of Commerce Wants to Build on National Profile

Dr. Alan Miciak, Saint Mary's new dean of commerce, sees a bright future for Atlantic Canada's leading school of business full of new opportunities and a higher national profile.

"The Sobey School of Business has a very good reputation, our high calibre faculty and students are a great foundation to build on," says Dr. Miciak. "I believe we need to broaden our view as a business school, we need to benchmark ourselves with leading business schools in Canada not just Atlantic Canada. How we further establish our reputation in the rest of Canada and carefully focus internationally will be one of our biggest challenges."

Dr. Miciak was the director of the Alberta executive MBA program, a program jointly sponsored by the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta. He was also an associate professor in the Faculty of Management at the University of Calgary where he taught marketing management, and marketing research for graduate and executive programs.

Alberta's EMBA introduced "new things in value added services for students, new courses, and new faculty and the market really responded," he says. "One of the things that I saw was the importance of program focus for a business school. Resources and expertise are best situated at the program level to make sure that student needs are being met, the market is being followed correctly and that you have maximum impact with limited resources."

Dr. Miciak's ideas about how the Faculty of Commerce may gain further recognition across the country involve research, students and the business community. "We need to connect faculty and their research with students and the downtown business community. Everything we do should have some element of each of those factors."





# The First Century

## Pioneers of Saint Mary's early days

### Father Edmund Burke

Father Edmund Burke arrived in Halifax from Quebec in 1801 with the task of reconciling the city's warring Catholics. In the absence of a Bishop (their Bishop was 700 miles away in Quebec), some of the Catholics attempted to claim authority based on social standing or long residence. Burke's goal was to find peace and unity amongst them, something several others had tried to do and failed.

Burke decided what he needed if he were to restore tranquillity to Halifax's Catholics was a distraction. That distraction would become what we now know as Saint Mary's University.

The Church of England had been the established church in Nova Scotia and had the exclusive right to control education in the province. In 1766, legislation had been passed forbidding Catholics to set up schools, but was later repealed in 1786. Undaunted by the unfavourable political climate and vehement opposition, Burke proceeded with his plans and in 1802 he had constructed a college at the north-west corner of Spring Garden Road and Barrington Street.

With the help of some powerful allies, in 1806 Burke finally obtained permission for his school but it applied to Catholics only. No Protestants could be admitted. But he still had no teachers. So he began to provide an informal Catholic education for a few young men in his house.

In 1817, Nova Scotia was separated from the diocese of Quebec, and in the following year Burke was consecrated Bishop. In 1818, Bishop Burke took four young men into his home in the college building to study theology. Two of Burke's students oversaw a school for boys in the college and another nearby site served as a school for girls. His first two graduates were ordained in June, 1819. By 1820, there were 193 girls and around 100 boys attending Burke's schools.

**Father Edmund Burke**

**Glebe House at the corner of Spring Garden Road and Barrington Street**



### Lawrence O'Connor Doyle

Lawrence O'Connor Doyle was born in Bishop Burke's College Building in 1804 as Burke had rented the lower floor of his college building to Doyle's father, a prominent Halifax merchant. Doyle got his early education in Burke's Glebe House College and then completed his education in England. He returned to Halifax in 1823 and studied law under the Hon. Richard John Uniacke, Attorney-General of Nova Scotia.



**Lawrence Doyle**

In 1827, he and Father John Carroll started a petition asking for the removal of Catholic civil disabilities. He was admitted an attorney in 1828 and was subsequently the first Catholic to practice law in British North America. In 1832, he was elected to the Legislative Assembly for Arichat.

Following Burke's death in 1820, the college went into another hiatus but in 1834, Doyle, as a warden of the Halifax Cathedral (which had only recently been renamed St. Mary's), convinced the trustees to petition Father William Fraser, Burke's successor, to re-establish Burke's college.

### Father Richard Baptist O'Brien

Father Richard Baptist O'Brien and Father Lawrence Dease were sent by the Archbishop of Dublin to re-establish the college in 1839. In 1840, St. Mary's College opened in a newly erected building on the east side of Grafton Street near Spring Garden Road with O'Brien as president. Within a year, O'Brien had the trustees apply to the Nova Scotia legislature for a charter enabling the college to offer degrees. Saint Mary's was granted its charter on March 29, 1841.

**Father O'Brien**





## Father Patrick Power



Father Patrick Power, one of the first students enrolled at Saint Mary's under Father O'Brien, became the director of the College in 1853 making him the first Nova Scotia-born to manage Saint Mary's. Father Power served as president from 1859 to 1862.

## Christian Brothers of Saint John the Baptist de la Salle

Christian Brothers of Saint John the Baptist de la Salle were brought to Halifax by Archbishop Thomas Connolly to teach at St. Mary's and in 1867 they took over the administration of the College. Under their direction the college moved to a new location on the corner of North and Agricola Streets. The 1941 Collegian notes that:

"The curriculum besides including most of the subjects previously taught, was extended to embrace a commercial course for young men who intended to make business their profession. This fact is interesting, in that it is the first indication of a deviation from the primary purpose of the college, which was to give proper education to young men who intended to study for the priesthood."

With the departure of the Brothers in 1876 following a dispute between the Brothers and the Archdiocese, the College moved to a site on Barrington Street near Tobin. The administration was assumed by the Archdiocese.

Interior of The Glebe House

# SMUBits!

## Saint Mary's First Grads?

Thomas Rice and Denis Geary, two of the original four young men that Burke took into his college home to study theology, were the first "graduates" of "Bishop Burke's College." Having completed their theological studies under Burke, they were ordained to the priesthood on June 5th, 1819.



## Power of the Pen

The 1941 Collegian pays homage to Bishop Burke's persuasive letter writing skills: "Bishop Burke's strong weapon was his pen and this he used with great force and skill until in 1820 he succeeded in breaking down the barrier of public opinion and was able to carry on his educational work in public."

## Burke's Letters Shed Light

In 1818, unable to secure the services of capable teachers for his school, Bishop Burke wrote to a friend "that he had for some time been surreptitiously conducting classes in philosophy and theology at the Glebe House." (1941 Collegian)

## 1841 Public Exams Bode Well for Saint Mary's "Seminary"

The same issue of the 1941 Collegian reports that in the spring of 1841 a public examination of the Seminary took place. "Several members of the House of assembly as well as civic authorities and members of the clergy attended and were highly gratified at the comprehensiveness and facility with which the pupils answered questions in all their subject."

## Catholic Education Offered by American Brothers

While Saint Mary's would remain closed from 1881 to 1903, the 1941 Collegian reports that:

"The cause of Catholic Education in Halifax between 1888 and 1898 was ably upheld by an American branch of the La Salle Christian Brothers. This order came to Halifax in 1888 and opened their La Salle Academy in a building on South St. just below Barrington Street and in the following year they moved to the building on Barrington Street which is now occupied by Saint Theresa's Retreat. Because these Christian Brothers did not avail themselves of the full powers of Saint Mary's charter, by conferring degrees, it is doubtful whether their educational activities form part of the History of Saint Mary's College."



South St. Location

## The Patrick Power Legacy

A large estate left by Patrick Power, a wealthy Halifax merchant and long-time senator, would be both a blessing and a thorn in the history of Saint Mary's University.

The 1941 Collegian reports that:

"On February 23, 1881, Halifax, by the death of Mr. Patrick Power, lost one of its best known and most influential business men. Mr. Power held a warm spot in his heart for the ideals of Catholic Education and for this purpose he left a most generous bequest for the founding of a Catholic Institution for Higher Education in Halifax under the direction of the Jesuit Fathers."

The stipulation that the Jesuits must run the college in order to access this sizeable bequest is where the trouble lies. No order of Jesuits was willing to come to Halifax so the bequest could not be accessed. So for the next 30 years the funds of this estate were unattainable until 1913 when the Irish Christian Brothers agreed to come to Halifax and manage the College.

Prior to their arrival, Archbishop Cornelius O'Brien had made several attempts to access the estate but the executors had refused to fund a College not run by Jesuits. So he began a civil suit. O'Brien won his case against the Patrick Power Estate before two courts in Nova Scotia, but just three months before Saint Mary's re-opened in 1903, the decision was overturned by the Supreme Court of Canada. The school barely managed to stay afloat for the next ten years.

O'Brien's successor, Rev. Edward McCarthy, managed to successfully bring a community of Irish Christian Brothers to Halifax and the executors of the estate finally agreed to grant the money from the bequest for the use of this new administration.





# Saint Mary's Standing Strong

By Bruce Nunn, BEd'86

"Give it the old college try!" It's a campus cliché to be sure. But it denotes an honourable never-give-up principle that Saint Mary's adhered to unrelentingly and courageously through some very trying times in its past. Talk about the school of hard knocks. This beloved school in Halifax's old south end has had its fair share over its 200 years. And yet has come through those survival struggles to look back on a venerable legacy of determination. Saint Mary's fought anti-Catholic sentiment just to be founded, and later suffered the complete loss of government funding which forced it to stop teaching for over twenty years. Rough seas rose and fell as Maritime colleges tried to sail through such storms. Saint Mary's showed considerable skill at self-navigation.

Two turbulent times in Saint Mary's history revolved around pressures to - as is so popular among embattled municipalities today - amalgamate. To become one with other universities in the region. Can you imagine, scrapping these many and diverse post secondary schools, to have but one called The University of Nova Scotia? Or, the University of the Maritime Provinces? Both scenarios almost happened. But Saint Mary's rode those waves to the secure port it enjoys today - respected, modern and still independent.

We have heard suggestions of university amalgamation over the years but it first raised its controversial head over a century ago. Saint Mary's' future was at stake. The eternal question, even in the mid-1800s, was about diverse, individual, colleges (with their own religious denominations) versus a big, centralized approach to university learning. On which side would Saint Mary's come down?

In the 1870s, the Liberal government of P.C. Hill legislated into being the University of Halifax. Saint Mary's and all other Nova Scotian colleges, and New Brunswick's Mount Allison, became a large mixed family to a single parent - a central curriculum setting, administrating body located in Halifax. But all the children colleges continued functioning individually where they were.



**Rev. Richard Kearns**

**Rev. Edward Francis Murphy**

Rev. Edward Francis Murphy (1876) and Rev. Richard Kearns (1877) were presidents of Saint Mary's during this experimental period. The assumed goal of this university federation plan was twofold: decrease costs and increase academic competitiveness and achievement between the college members. That was the hope, at any rate. Mount Allison was gung-ho. It co-operated the most of the six schools. Since its individual college identity was still insured at that point, Saint Mary's also saw some benefit in joining the movement as did other colleges.

The scheme lasted only a few years. Some worried it would have led to a larger University of Nova Scotia with all Maritime students eventually being transferred to one massive institution of education in Halifax. It was a sensitive and political issue. So, when the government changed, the controversial U of H was disbanded and funding was revoked. Saint Mary's was again a small Catholic college on its own. Alone and quite broke. It could withstand the loss of the unsure university union but not the loss of monetary backing.

"From that time onward," said Saint Mary's History Professor, Dr. John Reid, "the institutions had to get along without government grants."



"That was a very serious crisis," said Dr. Reid. "In 1881, Saint Mary's was forced to close its classrooms. But this little college-that-could would later make a remarkable comeback. Canada's oldest English speaking Roman Catholic university was down, but certainly not out.

There was a strong will to bring back the educational spirit of Saint Mary's among its Catholic supporters. Reborn in 1903 at a Windsor street site, Saint Mary's gained new, determined leadership from

the Irish Christian Brothers in 1913. But by the 1920s, Saint Mary's again saw the stormy issue of college federation approaching on the horizon.

This time, a large University of the Maritime Provinces was being seriously considered. The concept was much like the one that



caused worry and concern 50 years earlier. This second urge to merge was promoted by the wealthy and philanthropic Carnegie Corporation. Picture it: the campuses of St. F.X., Acadia, Mount Allison, King's, and perhaps, eventually Saint Mary's too, all surrounding Dalhousie in the city of Halifax!

"Many critics saw it as a sort of glorified Dalhousie University," said Dr. Reid. Some even wanted to call it "Dalhousie."

That would never do.

Debate ensued on a few fronts: the name, the possible loss of religious autonomy, and the bigger-is-better approach to education. Carnegie's cash was tempting. Up to \$3 million was on the table. King's College made the leap into partnership in Halifax because its old Windsor location had burned down. While the other Maritime colleges were considering the federation deal, this time, Saint Mary's remained clear of the fray. It never became part of the discussions.

"Had it displayed an active desire to participate," said Dr. Reid, "then this would have given the scheme a chance of success."

About this university federation plan, Dr. P.B. Waite (*The Lives of Dalhousie University*) writes, "Provided Mount Allison and the Halifax Roman Catholics accepted it, Acadia might be forced to come in."

But the Halifax Roman Catholics did not accept it. The Sacred Roman Congregation, of October 1924, discouraged the project. Saint Mary's stood clear while other colleges weighing the federation proposal, eventually backed away from the controversial plan. Most feared the loss of independence.

By 1929, Carnegie's promise of money to unify the colleges had lapsed. The deal was dead.

Saint Mary's continued to thrive alone - building its own identity, its own legacy. Confronted by religious intolerance, severe funding shortages, government indifference and restructuring plans that threatened its identity, Saint Mary's stood strong. And still does.

Congratulations Saint Mary's on two hundred years of succeeding by giving it "the old college try." Here's to two hundred more.

*\*Works consulted:*

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2. *Catholic Post Secondary Education in English-Speaking Canada*, by L.K. Shook
3. *The Lives of Dalhousie University, Vol. 1*, by P.B. Waite
4. *A History of Mount Allison University*, by Dr. John Reid.

Bruce Nunn, also known as Mr. Nova Scotia Know-It-All, can be heard weekly on CBC radio's Information Morning, as well, his stories of Nova Scotia history are featured on CBC television and in *The Chronicle Herald*. He is also the author of several books.

# TIMELINE 1800S

1801 - FATHER EDMUND BURKE ARRIVES IN HALIFAX

1802 - BURKE HAD A TWO-STOREY HOUSE ERECTED ON THE CORNER OF BARRINGTON STREET AND SPRING GARDEN ROAD WHICH WAS TO SERVE AS HIS COLLEGE. THIS DATE IS RECOGNIZED AS THE FOUNDING DATE OF SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY.

1806 - A LICENSE FOR BURKE'S SCHOOL WAS FINALLY GRANTED.

1818 - BURKE TOOK FOUR YOUNG MEN INTO HIS HOME IN THE COLLEGE BUILDING TO TRAIN FOR HOLY ORDERS.

1819 - BURKE'S FIRST TWO GRADUATES WERE ORDAINED.

1820 - REPORTS INDICATE THAT THERE WERE 193 GIRLS AND 100 BOYS ATTENDING BURKE'S SCHOOLS. BISHOP BURKE DIED THIS YEAR.

1839 - FATHER RICHARD BAPTIST O'BRIEN ARRIVES IN HALIFAX FROM IRELAND TO RUN THE COLLEGE.

1840 - SAINT MARY'S OPENS IN A NEW BUILDING ON GRAFTON STREET WITH 70 TO 80 PUPILS.

1841, MARCH 29 - SAINT MARY'S WAS GRANTED ITS CHARTER AND DEGREE GRANTING POWERS WITH A GRANT OF \$1,622 PER ANNUM FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

1852 - SAINT MARY'S WAS GIVEN PERMANENT DEGREE GRANTING POWERS.

1868 - CHRISTIAN BROTHERS OF THE CONGREGATION OF SAINT JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE TOOK CHARGE OF SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE. THE SITE OF THE COLLEGE TRANSFERRED TO BELLE AIR TERRACE AND AGRICOLA STREET.

1876 - THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS LEAVE HALIFAX.

1876 - THE "UNIVERSITY ACT" WAS PASSED, CREATING ONE UNIVERSITY OF HALIFAX WITH THE COLLEGES OF ACADIA, DALHOUSIE, KING'S, MOUNT ALLISON, ST. FRANCIS XAVIER AND SAINT MARY'S AND FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS, DEGREES WERE CONFERRED UNDER THE NAME OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HALIFAX.

1881 - THE UNIVERSITY OF HALIFAX CEASED TO EXIST AND GOVERNMENT GRANTS TO COLLEGES ENDED AND SAINT MARY'S WAS FORCED TO CLOSE.



# 1900 - 1940

## Early 20th Century



### One Man's Vision & Determination Re-opens Saint Mary's in 1903

"Many years previous to that date St. Mary's College flourished in Halifax, many men prominent in church and state having passed through it. For various reasons, however, in the early eighties, the College was forced to close its doors. For twenty years Halifax was without its Catholic College, the result being that there was a great dearth of vocations to the priesthood and Catholic young men, who were unable to go elsewhere to be educated, were denied the right and privilege of a college training." (St. Mary's Journal, May 25, 1940)

end it was only by draining his own bank account, that the Archbishop was able to make his dream a reality.

In 1903, Archbishop O'Brien was able to lay the corner stone of the new "collegiate school." On September 21, 1903, the doors to his college opened to students with two classes of 24 students in all, taught by two lay professors working for little if no money in support of Archbishop O'Brien's cause. For the next ten years, pre-college classes would be taught at the Windsor Street site.



Archbishop O'Brien

Archbishop O'Brien believed that without a dormitory the school would never grow so In November, 1905, a private residence adjoining the grounds was purchased and Archbishop O'Brien hired a few labourers and supervised the renovation work himself because he was unable to pay a general contractor. By January, three students were in residence.

But it was apparent that the Archdiocese could not support a College of the magnitude that the Archbishop had envisioned. Classes were small and revenues insufficient, Father McManus had to study commerce by night at Dalhousie in order to teach the same subject matter the next day at Saint Mary's. By 1912, there were only 53 students and it was recognized that without a major change the College would be forced to close again.

The College re-opened in 1903 in its new location on Windsor Street mostly due to the efforts of then Archbishop, Cornelius O'Brien. After becoming Archbishop in 1883, "he perceived the dire need of a Catholic College for the higher education of young men ... The old St. Mary's College, which owing to financial reasons had become extinct a few years before his advent as Archbishop, must be rebuilt."

"Not a few difficulties beset and perplexed him, in his task, yet with indomitable will he over and again declared: "In God's name, we will go on." (May 25/40 Journal)

"I may not see it, but mark my words, a fine college shall grow up there yet."

- Archbishop Cornelius O'Brien (1902)

In order to avail himself of the Patrick Power bequest, Archbishop O'Brien made several unsuccessful attempts to bring the Jesuits to Halifax. Undeterred from his goal, in 1902, a 15-acre lot of diocesan land on Windsor Street at Quinpool Road became the proposed site for the new college.

From the pulpit of St. Mary's Cathedral and the other city churches he appealed to the lay people for financial backing: "I may not see it, but mark my words, a fine college shall grow up there yet." A few generous responses were made to the appeal but in the



## SMUBITS!

**Notre Dame Gets Lesson in Hockey from Saint Mary's Alumnus**  
Saint Mary's alumnus Jim Lovett while doing post-grad work at Notre Dame visited the school's open air rink and watched the "boys" practice. His remarks were that the "brand of hockey played at Notre Dame does not match the football." So he donned skates and pads and gave them a lesson on how hockey should be played. He was immediately appointed coach.

### Filthy Periodicals

On March 5th, 1939, students of all Catholic high schools and colleges held a mass rally of which Saint Mary's alumnus John Dickie served as chair, to institute a drive against all "immoral reading." Dr. F. Sexton, President of the Nova Scotia Technical College was one of the rally's speakers and he stated that: "sixty percent of the unemployed youth in Nova Scotia seeks films and literature of romance and adventure that pander to the animal tastes of man." Mr. Harold Connolly, MLA, remarked: "If we refuse to read filthy periodicals, then there will no longer be published such literature."

### Greatest Alumni Assembly In The College History

"Practically every name that was ever recorded at St. Mary's was uttered again in the College Auditorium last Wednesday as some 250 former Santamarians made their annual trek back to their Alma Mater. Some of

those present were names that have made the athletic and scholastic history of the little Windsor Street College, others were names that will only be found scratched in the varnish of the study hall desks, but with the greatest display of loyalty ever shown by the "Old Boys" of St. Mary's, all were there.

### Neatest Homework

Symbolizing the Christian Brother's belief in academic, spiritual and physical commitment, a glove and two baseballs were presented to three students by Brother Cornelia for the neatest algebra homework book in 1935.

### American Football Introduced

1,200 fans gather at the Windsor Street field to watch Saint Mary's and Dalhousie play the first American style football game in Halifax.

### Good News, Bad News

On March 31, 1938, the "New Library" opens at Saint Mary's open daily from 9am to 9pm. "The greatly increased facilities for mass reading will mean the assignment of much more outside reading in each subject, especially in Philosophy, English and History."





# The Halifax Explosion, December 6, 1917

On December 6th, 1917, a ship bound for Europe with relief supplies collided with a munitions ship heading north to the Bedford Basin. The collision itself did not result in significant damage but the barrels of fuel aboard the munitions ship spilled and caught fire. The ship was carrying 2,500 tons of explosives. At 9:06 am the largest manmade explosion in history to date occurred. As a result of the blast, 1,500 people were killed instantly and 500 suffered fatal injuries. Halifax's north-end was devastated. With most of Halifax's able-bodied men

away at war, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts sent relief teams to Halifax to join the search for survivors, care for the injured, identify the dead, reunite families and help with clean-up. Saint Mary's - faculty, students, and the building - was spared of any major injury or damage. Classes were suspended and the College at the disposal of the United States Medical Corp. served as a hospital for the injured. Below is an account of the explosion that appeared in the June, 1931 Collegian - the author and date first published is unknown.

## "The Halifax Explosion and St. Mary's"

"It was nine o'clock on December 7th, 1917. Brothers and students had assembled in the class-rooms and morning prayers were being said. At about five minutes past nine there was a terrific shock, the earth trembled and the whole building seemed to shake, but for the moment there was nothing damaged. Then after an interval of a few seconds the building seemed to come toppling down, everything was flying round. In quick time all in the new section of the college were hurrying down the front stairs and in perfect order made their way to the campus. Those in the old building had a more trying experience. The class rooms in this section were separated by glass partitions, and not only was every pane of glass broken, and the pieces driven with force across the room, but the frame-work, too was smashed in pieces and whirled in every direction. Hence it is little short of a miracle that every boy of the 75 or 80 in that part of the college escaped without some serious injury. All the classes in this section except one made their escape from the building by the regular stairway. This class was cut off from the passage way by the falling partitions, but fortunately found a ready exit through the fire-proof stairway, the doors of which were blown out by the terrible explosion. In probably less than one minute every one was out of the building and all safe in the College grounds.

Some of the Brothers and boys were cut by the flying glass, and bled profusely, but the wounds except in the case of Rev. Br. McCarthy, were not of a serious nature. They were dressed and skilfully attended to by the staff, most of whom were now able to put into practice their knowledge of "First Aid to the Injured." Rev. Br. McCarthy got his eyeball cut with some of the broken glass. For two weeks it was feared he would lose the eye, but thanks to Providence the sight was but slightly injured.

Now that all were safe, thoughts were at once given to the cause of the accident. The first impression was that the College alone had suffered and that the accident was caused by the explosion of the College heating furnaces, but on examination it was found that the furnaces were intact. It was then generally surmised that a shell had exploded on or near the College. However, it was soon discovered that the neighboring buildings had fared no better than the College. Some of the students from the devastated district who had hurried to their homes after getting safely from the College, found their houses in ruins and members of their families dead or dying.

The College was now practically windowless and doorless. The outer walls and most of the partitions, as far as a cursory inspection was able to detect, were uninjured, so, too, was the roof of the building. The roof of the old building was on one side raised from three pillars about six inches, but instead of falling back into its usual place, rested on the collars or projections of the pillars and thus held the pillars in position and was supported by them. Had the pillars fallen when the roof got raised clear of them, it might have crashed through the building.

The day students and the city boarders soon joined their own families, but as the railway station was a total wreck, the out-of-town boarders could

not leave for some days, hence they had to be provided for at St. Mary's in the best way possible. All set to work to close the windows of the dormitory in the new building with blankets, etc. Before nightfall the dormitory and a few rooms were temporarily enclosed but nine-tenths of the building remained absolutely open to the weather. The task of closing was indeed difficult, as no timber was available, and in spite of the best efforts rain and snow got in. The day of the explosion was fine, but succeeding days for a long time were very severe - snow, rain and frost, all of which came in turn and in fiercest form. This extremely cold winter weather added greatly to the suffering of the homeless.

The many injured in the city had to be provided for and buildings such as St. Mary's were speedily requisitioned by the authorities. The College was readily given as a temporary hospital. Without delay the Boston Red Cross Unit which had come to the City to aid the injured were in possession and had a large number of workmen employed who closed the windows and doors in a proper way, removed the furniture of the class rooms to the rink, and soon had three large wards fitted up, one hundred patients well provided for and attended to by some of Boston's best doctors and nurses.

Of the seven Brothers who were then at the College, four were sent to join Communities of their Congregation elsewhere. Rev. Bros. Grangel and Sheriden went to St. John's and Rev. Bros. Birmingham and Sterling went to New York. Rev. bro. Culhane and Cornelia remained at the College and were able to make some remote preparations towards as early a re-opening of the College as possible. They kept some apartments for their own use, and as the sanctuary of the Oratory was untouched in the disaster, they had the consolation of daily Mass there as usual. Rev. Br. McCarthy was a patient in the new hospital.

Over two hundred resident patients were cared for in the College Hospital, and hundreds of injured called daily to have their wounds dressed. The College served its purpose admirably, and for nearly five weeks was the centre of

care and relief to many sufferers. As soon as the sick were able to leave, the Boston Red Cross Unit left for home and the College was free for its own proper use once more. The Chairman of the General Relief Committee sent tradesmen to put the classrooms in order and to re-equip the building. Before the end of January the boarders and the day students had returned, and College business was going on as usual.

To kind Providence our deepest gratitude is due for having saved all in St. Mary's College from so many actual dangers in this fearful tragedy. Brothers and students were engaged in the first act of the day's program, viz., begging Almighty God's blessing on the work of the day. They were thus saved from dangers that certainly must have happened to them if they had been otherwise engaged at the time of the disaster. Their very kneeling position at the time saved them from the glass that was flying over their heads and from the falling material. *Semper Deo Gratias.*"





# 1913-1940: The Irish Christian Brothers

The Irish Christian Brothers signed a contract with the Archdiocese in 1913 to take over the administration of St. Mary's College following a unanimous vote by the Knights of Columbus to petition Christian Brothers of Ireland for a community of Brothers for Halifax. With news that the Brothers were to arrive in Halifax, the Knights of Columbus began a fund-raising campaign to erect a new wing for the College. By week's end, \$47,000 had been raised exceeding their expectations. At this time, the Power Estate was settled and Saint Mary's began receiving a yearly sum for maintenance.

The new wing extended the library with kitchen and dining facilities housed in the basement. A chapel, library and reception area on the main floor as well as dining and common rooms for the faculty. The second floor included two classrooms, a science laboratory and six bedrooms. The top floor with dormer windows overlooking Windsor Street was set aside as a dormitory for boarding students.

Four Brothers, including Brother Joseph Cullane who was appointed president, took up residence in one of the cottages on the campus. Student enrolment when the school opened was 55 students, 13 of whom were boarders, but enrolment grew as did the popularity of the Brothers.

The growth of Saint Mary's was slow but constant during this period with the college suffering from its connection to the high school upon which it was largely dependent for its survival. Those attending the high school in those days greatly outnumbered those in the college.

While under the Brothers' management, Saint Mary's was very much a religious organization with many young men opting to enter the priesthood. The Brothers also believed that extra-curricular activities, such as sports, drama, debating and music, were an important part of a well-rounded education. During the 1930s, American style football was introduced to Halifax when Saint Mary's was defeated by a team of American Dalhousie students on the field at Saint Mary's. And also during the 30s the orchestra at Saint Mary's

was re-introduced to coincide with the Big Band and swing music era.

The Brothers continued to expand their course offerings and the College's reputation as a liberal arts institution thrived. In 1916, an affiliation with the Nova Scotia Technical College began and new science and engineering courses were added to the curriculum. The first commerce diploma was awarded in 1934 and Harold G. Beazley was the recipient of the first Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1936.

More and more young men received degrees each year and a number of improvements were made to the buildings. Classroom space increased and the science laboratories were improved and fully equipped to meet all college requirements in chemistry, physics and engineering. In 1938, a new library opened on the premises with a collection containing "some six thousand volumes for study and research as well as over three hundred volumes for reference."

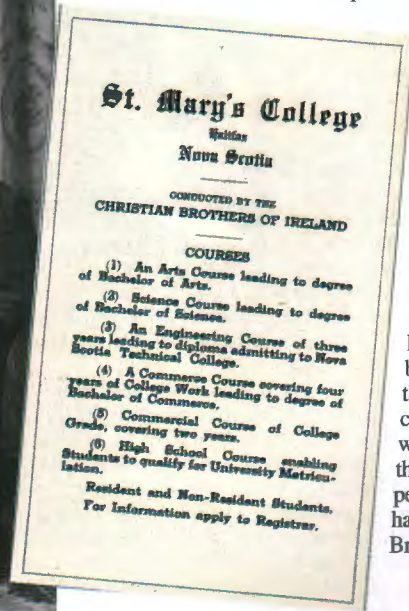
During the Brothers' tenure at the College they faced some difficult issues, including a failed attempt by the Carnegie Foundation for the Improvement of Higher Education, to promote a federation of all colleges in the Atlantic region with Dalhousie at the forefront. Saint Mary's and all other Catholic colleges took a united stand against the proposal and it was immediately dropped.

As well, the Archdiocese wanted to renegotiate the terms of its contract with the Brothers, which the Archdiocese felt had become a burden. The Brothers turned down the request, and the Vatican also ruled in favor of the Brothers. Consequently the Archdiocese instructed its priests not to have any dealings with the College.

But in 1939, with a newly elected Pope and Archbishop (John McNally), the Vatican agreed that the jurisdiction of the College should be turned over to the Archdiocese. The Brothers withdrew from Halifax, relocating to New Rochelle, New York where they founded Iona College. Amongst their alumni upon their departure were 43 priests, nine religious brothers and nine seminarians, 16 teachers, 23 medical doctors, 24 lawyers and 47 engineers.

The Brothers remained popular with local Catholics and the Halifax community in general. Their decision to suspend classes at Saint Mary's following the Halifax Explosion so that the facilities could be used as an infirmary won the Brothers the lasting admiration of many in the city, as did their concessions to poor students. While

they failed to develop the College as they had intended, they made vast improvements to the state and credibility of Saint Mary's from when they had arrived in 1914. And a large gala celebration during their final convocation exercises was evidence of the affection the people of Halifax had for the Brothers.





Excerpts from "A Parting Tribute" to the Irish Christian Brothers from the May 25, 1940 issue of St. Mary's Journal (Contributed)

"Thus we do span a period of years which for the 'Boys of St. Mary's' has been one of industry, progress and success. Thus we do span a period of years for which most of us has been one filled with many happy days and fond memories, Thus we do span a period of years during which St. Mary's has become known, far and wide as one of the foremost institutions of learning in the Maritimes. Thus we do span a period of years of great success in the field of sports. Thus we do span the period of the stay of the Irish Christian Brothers in Halifax."

"Memories of heart-to-heart talks of solid, sound advice, memories of complete and unselfish service, memories of justified criticism and hard earned praise. Farewell to the finest group of men, friends, and teachers that any man could ask."

## MEMORIES FROM THE IRISH CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' YEARS

Ed Coolen, BA'39, attended Saint Mary's High School and College where he studied engineering. In 1939, along with completing his studies, Coolen played on the Nova Scotia intercollegiate rugby championship team and on the intercollegiate hockey team. He was vice president of the Tau Gamma Sigma Arts Fraternity and won the COTC Debating Medal. He was also associate editor of The Journal. Coolen won the college's first ever Gold "M." He said his late wife wore it on a chain for years.

Coolen said that students studying engineering at Saint Mary's and headed for the Nova Scotia Technical College, were required to join the Canadian Officers Training Corps (COTC). When the second World War broke out soon after his graduation, Coolen began his military career. He served in Italy, France and in Holland. He said that many of his colleagues in COTC served with honour and distinction during the war and that, sadly, some did not return. Coolen retired from the military in 1968 and joined the Canadian Foreign Service as a Trade Commissioner.

Coolen has fond memories of his days both at High School and College. He says the Irish Christian Brothers were very well educated. "They could teach everything, from philosophy to chemistry. Brother Cornelius, the president, taught Greek and Latin but could take over a German class if necessary," he said.

The Irish Christian Brothers believed that a well-rounded education included sports. Coolen said the school, then located on Windsor Street, had an outside rink that the brothers flooded at night so that the school had ice from December until March. There was also a running track, two tennis courts and two handball courts. The priority placed on sports depended on the attitude of each College president. Coolen remembers that one year, Saint Mary's lost the opportunity to win the Maritime Intercollegiate Hockey Championship because the president at the time cancelled all team sports during Lent.

The brothers were strict disciplinarians and were not averse to "cuffing" students according to Coolen. He recounts a story in which Brother Connors looked out the window of a classroom one day and saw a student smoking outside. The student happened to be on the football team and athletes were not permitted to smoke. Brother Connors sent one of the students to bring the offender to the classroom and in front of the class, disciplined the student and ordered him to turn in his football uniform.

But as Coolen said, "None of us were the worse for the discipline. We all turned out pretty well."

- Carole MacDonald

# TIMELINE 1900-1940

**1903** - SAINT MARY'S RE-OPENS AFTER HAVING BEEN CLOSED SINCE THE 1880S. THE COLLEGE RE-OPENS IN ITS NEW WINDSOR STREET LOCATION.

**1913** - THE IRISH CHRISTIAN BROTHERS ASSUME ADMINISTRATION OF THE COLLEGE.

**1916** - SAINT MARY'S BECAME AFFILIATED WITH THE NOVA SCOTIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND A THREE YEAR ENGINEERING COURSE WAS ADDED TO THE CURRICULUM, WHICH PREPARED THE STUDENT TO PROCEED TO THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE TO COMPLETE HIS STUDIES FOR A BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING.

**1917** - SAINT MARY'S IS USED AS A HOSPITAL FOLLOWING THE HALIFAX EXPLOSION AND CLASSES ARE SUSPENDED FOR TWO MONTHS.

**1918** - IN RECOGNITION OF THE COLLEGE'S CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATION IN NOVA SCOTIA, "AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW RESPECTING ST. MARY'S COLLEGE, HALIFAX" WAS PASSED BY GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMING THE DEGREE GRANTING PRIVILEGES OF 1841.

**1921** - THE YEARBOOK IS PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME.

**1933** - FIRST AMERICAN STYLE FOOTBALL MATCH IN HALIFAX (SAINT MARY'S VERSUS DALHOUSIE ON THE WINDSOR STREET FIELD.)

**1936** - THE FIRST COMMERCE DEGREE IS AWARDED TO HAROLD BEAZLEY.



## IN HALIFAX

Lunches Ice Cream  
Cooling Drinks

The Green Lantern  
607 - 609 BARRINGTON STREET

**1936** - THE "ST. MARY'S JOURNAL" IS PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME.

**1937** - REV. JOHN THOMAS McNALLY SELECTED AS ARCHBISHOP OF HALIFAX.

**1940** - THE IRISH CHRISTIAN BROTHERS LEAVE HALIFAX AND THE ARCHDIOCESE ASSUMES ADMINISTRATION OF THE COLLEGE.





# windsor







# street scrapbook





# Baseball Bug Leads to a Team of Their Own

By Carole MacDonald

Bob Kaplan has good reason to remember his high school baseball team. Not only did he get to play every position on the team, but when the Saint Mary's team won the Halifax high school championship in 1935, he was invited to tryout with the Boston Braves (now the Atlanta Braves). He jokes that the reason he didn't make the team was that in the confusion of packing, he took his brother's baseball shoes - two sizes too big for him! Although the shoes certainly didn't help, he says he wouldn't have made the team anyway.

When Kaplan returned to Halifax he went back to Saint Mary's for a short time, and then opened a confectionery store on the corner of George and Water streets. With the exception of a brief period in Detroit, Kaplan's working years were in the retail clothing business, first in the family business and then on his own.

But the "baseball bug" had infected Kaplan and his brother, Herm. They established a professional baseball team to compete in the Halifax and District Baseball League, attracting players from around the Maritimes, Newfoundland and the US. When the team won the championship in 1947, the Kaplans were invited to move the team to Dartmouth. The Dartmouth Arrows was an outstanding ball team and for his efforts in building and managing the team, Kaplan was inducted into the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame in 1990. His Sports Hall of Fame biography reads: "Athletes played for fun and it was fun to play with and for the Kaplans who were quick to share their talents and limited resources."

While a talented athlete, Kaplan says that he wasn't a particularly strong student, academically speaking. Although he enjoyed math and French, he was most interested in playing handball, basketball and of course, baseball. Kaplan doesn't think he was the first Jewish student at Saint Mary's but he was the only one there at the time in the mid 1930s. The only difference in the way he was treated compared to the Catholic students, was that he was excused from religion classes. He joked that once during a spelling match, he lost out when he misspelled the word "phlegm." The Brother conducting the class consoled him by saying, "That's all right Bob, the prize was a rosary."

When the Arrows moved to Dartmouth in 1948, Wilfred Warner, another Saint Mary's boy, took over advertising duties for the team. Warner's father had a radio sales and repair shop as well as a sound truck. Warner remembers, "driving up and down the streets of Dartmouth with the mike,

yelling: 'Don't miss the big game tonight at six o'clock at the Dartmouth Arrows ball park up on Wyse Road. They'll be playing the Truro Bear Cats.'"

Warner's father had sent him to Saint Mary's because he wasn't doing well at his local Dartmouth school. His father believed he would benefit from the discipline at Saint Mary's. Warner said he feels he benefited both from the discipline and the all-male atmosphere at Saint Mary's but admits he also enjoyed the trips to Russell's Tea Room at the Willow Tree where local high school girls met after class.

Warner completed high school at Saint Mary's.

He says he wouldn't have graduated without the help of Father James Murphy who tutored him in the Latin required for matriculation. He was delighted to have met Father Murphy again at the recent alumni reunion. He was also happy to see Mike Merrigan who had been his sergeant in the Canadian Officers in Training Corps. Despite his father's hope that he would pursue higher education, Warner joined the family business and is still happy with the choice he made. He said that the mathematics, algebra and drafting courses he took at Saint Mary's helped him in the radio technicians' course he took at Nova Scotia Technical College and helped him in the family business of electrical contracting and radio and television sales. In fact, one of Kaplan's classmates, Jack Lynch, who was later principal of St. Patrick's High school, was the math teacher who inspired Warner.

When his father retired, Warner and his brother took over the business which they renamed Warner Brothers Furniture and Appliances. They operated the store in Dartmouth until 1992. Warner and Kaplan were business associates in Dartmouth for many years and still keep in touch, sharing memories of their days at Saint Mary's.



Photo from Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame

Dartmouth Arrows in the 50s

## Gifts That Keep Giving: Scholarships and Endowments

Saint Mary's has a strong tradition of providing a positive, supportive environment for students. In doing so Saint Mary's must also intensify its efforts to increase student success. For a variety of reasons - personal, financial, and academic - a minority of Saint Mary's students do not complete their academic programs. In the interests of both the university and the students, it is imperative to work toward an improvement in completion rates by strengthening academic support and enhancing student life.

### Academic Plan

To achieve that goal, we must use all available means to limit the financial burden which students bear, including increasing scholarships and bursaries available to our students. Saint Mary's University takes great pride in its efforts to provide financial assistance to students. Scholarship support allows us to recruit and retain the best students, offering both opportunity and accessibility. As scholarship and bursary support is important to the university's mission, we support academic excellence by providing \$1.8M in scholarships and bursaries annually to our students.

In July of this year, the Britten Family donated \$15,000 to The Margaret M. Britten and James E. Britten Bursary Endowment. This endowment was originally established in 1999 with a \$15,000 gift from Mrs. Britten's husband James E. Britten (class of '55); her sons, David, James and John; and her brother-in-law, John A. Britten. The basis of this award is financial need and satisfactory academic standing. It is awarded annually to a deserving student from any faculty, in any year, studying full-time. Preference is given to a resident of Atlantic Canada.

Jim Britten attended Saint Mary's while working full time and supporting a family. With the assistance of his brother John, a fellow railway mail clerk, and the support and understanding of his wife, Margaret, Jim graduated in 1955 with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint Mary's. During his Saint Mary's years he balanced his academics and family life with such distractions as producing and performing in several theatrical efforts such as the 1954 production of *Stalag 17* put on by the "Play Shop."

### Funding Scholarships

There are essentially two ways you can fund a scholarship at Saint Mary's University: creating an endowment (which will fund an award in perpetuity), or providing funds annually.

- **Endowment Funding** - a contribution is made that is large enough to generate enough income to offer the award annually, which becomes part of the University's endowment pool. The annual income accumulated on this portion of the endowment pool provides the award funding. The University never encroaches upon the principal. An endowment may be established over several years, and additional donations may be made at any time.

- **Annual Funding** - A named award at Saint Mary's University can also be created by submitting funds annually which are then used to fund the scholarship. (A minimum of \$500 is preferred for entrance and undergraduate awards.) In this case, the University receives the funds and disburses them directly to the student(s) selected for the award.

The University issues a charitable donation income tax receipt to the donor for both endowment and annual scholarship/bursary gifts.



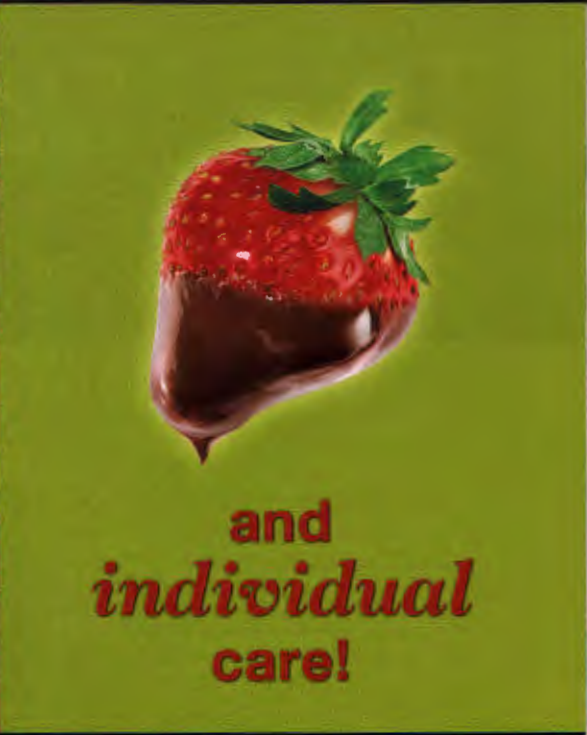
Over the summer, members of the Britten family, including James E. Britten, Sr. (BA '55) and his brother, John Britten (Saint Mary's High School '33) visited Saint Mary's. They and other members of their family met with Dr. Colin Dodds, president of Saint Mary's, and Brian Hudson, a student in the Faculty of Science who received the award in Nov. 2001.

The Margaret M. Britten and James E. Britten Bursary Endowment has been established in lasting recognition of the sacrifices of Margaret and Jim, and to assist others in taking full advantage of the opportunities and enrichment that can result from a university education.





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# The 1940s

## The Arrival of the Jesuits

### New Archbishop, New Administration

In 1937, when John T. McNally became Archbishop of Halifax, he also inherited the financial woes of Saint Mary's. In 1939, McNally went to Rome and successfully had the administration of Saint Mary's turned over to the Archdiocese. Upon his return home, he offered a new deal to the Irish Christian Brothers, who had been running the affairs of the College since their arrival in Halifax in 1913. The new deal allowed the Archbishop to name a priest as president of the college, assign faculty positions and even demote the Brothers to high school teaching positions. The Brothers immediately announced their departure.

McNally sent an invitation to the Jesuits of the Upper Canada Province to oversee the College and they accepted. The agreement was signed in April 1940 and gave the Jesuits control over how the high school and



college operated. The Archdiocese would finance the institution.

Overcrowding at the Windsor Street location, as well as facilities badly in need of repairs, kept enrolments down. In 1943, the Archbishop, determined to make Saint Mary's a force to be reckoned with in educational circles and secure its future, purchased approximately 30 acres of the Gorsebrook Golf Course (previously the estate of merchant, privateer and banker Enos Collins) with plans to construct a new campus.

In 1945, plans for the new campus were solidified and it was to include a massive granite structure that would accommodate over 1,000 high school and college students. The war delayed construction and it was 1949 before the first sods were turned on the new Robie Street site.

### The Journal Reports



Father C.J. Keating,  
S.J., president 1940-43

Saint Mary's Journal, October 1940:

#### **"JESUITS ASSUME DIRECTION OF ST. MARY'S"**

– Experienced Staff In Charge of  
Various Departments

...Under the direction of this very  
capable staff it augurs well for a suc-  
cessful future at Saint Mary's."

Saint Mary's Journal, September 28, 1943:  
**"MANY IMPROVEMENTS AT S.M.C.  
- CLASSROOMS PERK UP"**

Various improvements were made to the Windsor Street building during the summer of 1942 including a "much improved lighting system" and "redecorating" in some classrooms. As well as a "brighter and more suitable" engineer's drafting room and other overall improvements "in an effort to give better light and ventilation."



Saint Mary's halls crowded with capacity registration.

#### **"CAPACITY REGISTRATION"**

– Total Enrollment Expected to Exceed Last Year's  
"Reports from the Registrar's office indicate that there will be one of the highest registrations in the history of Saint Mary's this year."

(September 28, 1943 Journal)



## "POST-WAR TO SEE NEW SAINT MARY'S - OLD ESTATE HAS COLORFUL HISTORY"

"The new campus will give Saint Mary's College one of the finest sites in Canada." (Rt. Rev. Mgr. W.J. Burns, Vicar General of the Archdiocese) "Nor is this merely my personal opinion," he continued, "several distinguished members of the Canadian clergy have stated that they know of few sites in Canada and the United States or even in England where natural facilities and contours of the land lend themselves so suitably to the needs of a university."

The present College building is not large enough to accommodate ever increasing registrations and although over 400 hundred were enrolled last year, many others had to be refused admission.

When the day of peace finally dawns and when the dream of a new Saint Mary's begins to take shape, Halifax will witness the union of two of its most historic institutions - Saint Mary's College and the Collins Estate.

The hundred year history of S.M.C. is well known to all Santamarians; but the story of the Collins Estate is still a question mark to all except the old-timers of Halifax.

Originally the Tower Road property was part of the Uniacke Estate. Uniacke, it will be remembered, was one of the most colorful figures in all Nova Scotia history. ... Early in the nineteenth century the whole property came into the hands of Enos Collins, who during the War of 1812 was one of the greatest privateer operators in the world. Collins was a businessman of many interests. He ran a banking concern in Halifax known as the Halifax Banking Company and to this day there may be seen inscribed over an ancient door in an old part of Halifax Water Street to be exact - the name "Halifax Bank."

The extremely practical Enos Collins also did a thriving trading business with the West Indies whenever the lack of a suitable war made

privateering unprofitable. As the author of a recent best selling novel put it, "the business of one half of Halifax, in those days, was to sell rum and the other half to drink it." Enos traded Nova Scotia fish and lumber for West Indies rum and molasses.

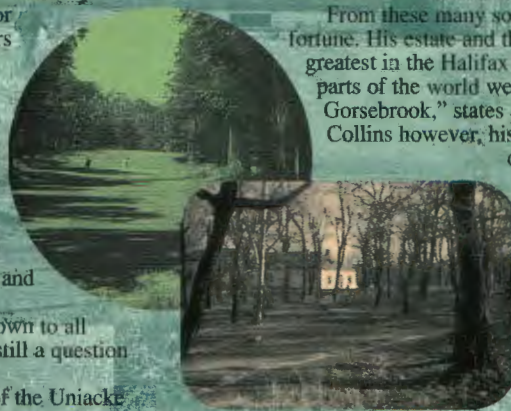
From these many sources of income Collins amassed a considerable fortune. His estate and the farm in connection with it was one of the greatest in the Halifax district. "Men of nobility and wealth from all parts of the world were entertained in the once lavish halls of Gorsebrook," states a recent narrator. After the death of Enos Collins however, his heirs moved to England although they kept ownership of the property.

This latter fact was fortunate for Saint Mary's for otherwise the Estate might have been broken up into building lots and sold just as many another beautiful section of Halifax has been forced to yield to the encroachments of the city's ever increasing population. In recent years the Collins Estate has been used as a golf club and as Gorsebrook Golf Club it is best known at the present time, though it never passed from the hands of Collins' heirs.

That part of the Estate south of Inglis Street on which the Club House is situated has now been purchased by the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation and will, Deo volente, become the new Saint Mary's Campus."

In the background is the home of Enos Collins. When it became the Gorsebrook Golf Club, the house served as the 19th hole. It was torn down in 1962 to make way for the Student Centre. In this photo, the McNally Building, completed in 1953, is visible in the background. The gate posts and stone wall of the estate still remain along Tower Road.

(September 28, 1943 Journal)



### 1943: First Saint Mary's Students' Union Formed

"Saint Mary's has seen many innovations this year; the coming of a new president, the promise of a new campus at the conclusion of the war, the retirement from the Senior Rugby field and now the formation of a Students' Union. This latter event is unique in the history of Saint Mary's College. Never before, although the need has long been felt, has there been a central organization, superior to but not replacing the various faculty societies, which could look after the interests of the student body as whole. Never before has there been an official intermediary between the student body and the faculty, which lack has often resulted in misunderstandings and unsatisfactory decisions...

"One of the main purposes behind the formation of the Students' Union was to overcome the prevalent tendency in the school to form faculty "cliques." The atmosphere in which an Artsman, a Commerceman or Engineer is first of all an Artsman, a Commerceman or Engineer and only secondly a Santamarian, is destructive to School Spirit. An example of the correct attitude has been shown by Ray Beck, new President of the Students' Union, who has resigned as President of the Engineering Society in order that he might more capably fulfill his duties...

"May this reflection of the Democratic spirit in the halls of Saint Mary's instill in her sons a greater understanding of that spirit. May this miniature Parliament be a training ground in co-operation, toleration and appreciation of the views of others."

(December 2, 1943, Saint Mary's Journal)

### Journalism Program Offered at Metro Universities Including Saint Mary's

In the fall of 1945, Saint Mary's added a journalism program to its course offerings after the city's newspapers and Saint Mary's, Mount Saint Vincent and King's College decided that there was a great need for such a program. The universities with the assurance that the "professional city newspapermen" would serve as instructors, created the "Halifax School of Journalism" with a Board of Directors consisting of representatives from each of the city's two newspapers and all three universities. The three-year course would lead to a Diploma in Journalism. First year courses for all students were taught at King's College by R. J. Rankin, Managing Editor of the Halifax Herald and the Halifax Mail.

The 1946 Collegian reports that the presence of these budding journalists took the other students some time to get used to: "the idea of 'journalists' and the pencil and pad men were the objects of considerable good natured ribbing until the novelty war off."



Journalists Oliver Blakeney, Arnold Patterson, Ninian Lockerby, Donald Merzetti. (May '49, The Journal)

### Journal Publishes Winners in Student Poll in 1941

Some of the favourites include:

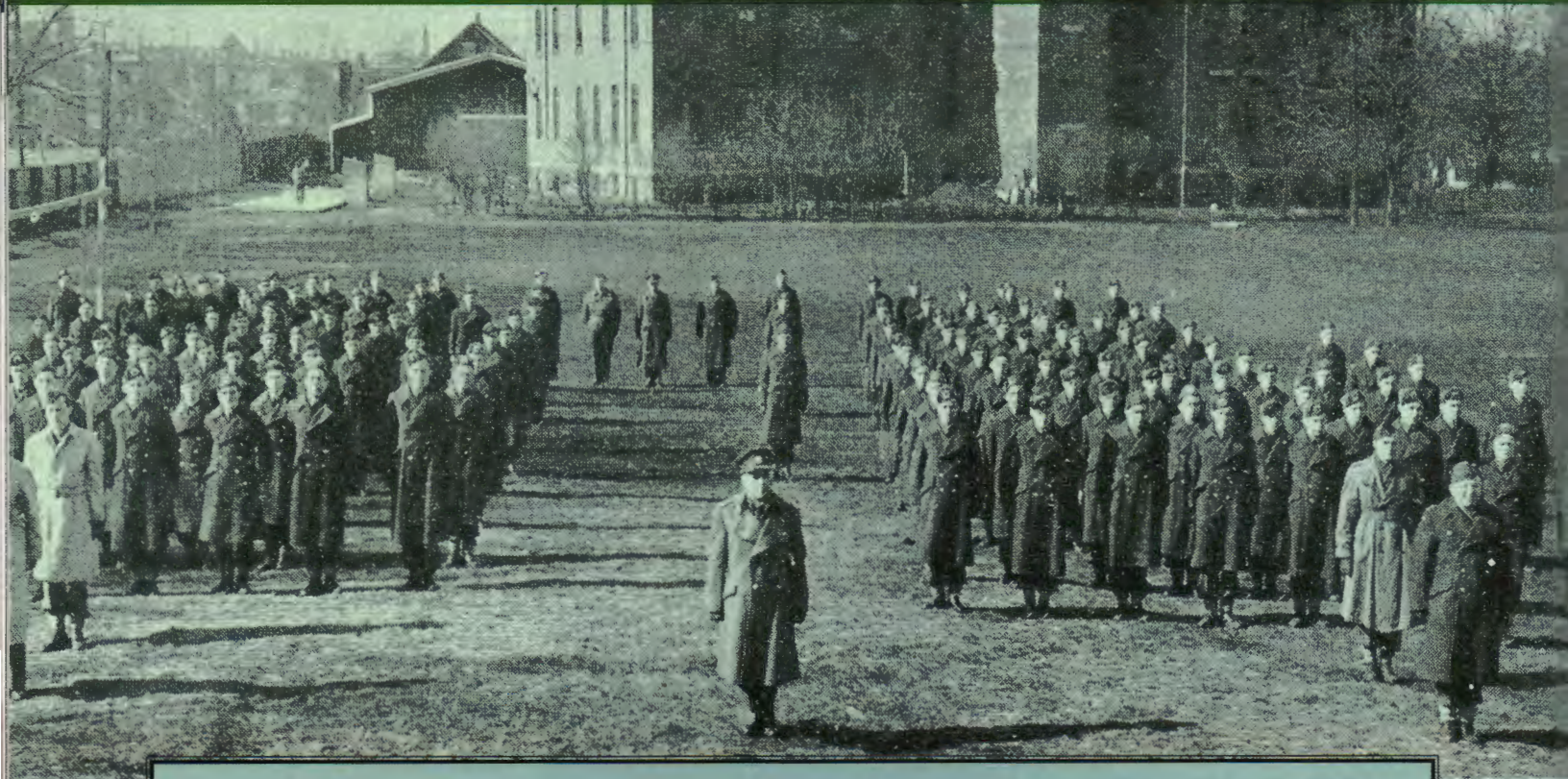
- Newspaper — New York Times
- Magazine — Reader's Digest
- Author — Charles Dickens & G.K. Chesterton
- Radio program (Cdn) — The Happy Gang
- Radio program (Amn) — Fibber McGee
- Orchestra — Glen Miller's
- Singer (popular) — Bing Crosby
- Singer (classical) — Nelson Eddy
- Popular song — San Antonio Rose
- Movie actor — Spencer Tracey
- Movie actress — Deanna Durbin
- Restaurant — Dook's (Quinpool Road)
- Cigarette — Player's
- Winter sport — hockey
- Summer sport — swimming
- Make of automobile — Buick
- School subject — English
- Hobby — photography
- Extra-curricular activity? C.D.T.C.
- Will the war end this year? No (93%)
- Do you prefer a pipe to cigarettes? No (54%)
- Do you prefer popular or classical music? Popular (67%)
- American football or Canadian rugby? A. Football (70%)



SMUBits! SMUBits! SMUBits!



# Saint Mary's and World War II



Not a lot is known about the contributions of Saint Mary's students, staff, faculty and alumni to World War I, as no College publications exist during that time period. However, the Collegian and Journals of the 1930s and 40s are full of war-related articles and photographs including details about those contributing to the war effort, personal stories from the war front, and lists of those either missing or killed in action.

On the wall of the corridor on the main floor of McNally Building is a tablet which contains a long list of Santamarians who served during the world wars. Considering enrolment at the school was never more than a few hundred students during these years, the numbers that did serve is impressive.

## The Canadian Officers Training Corps

The COTC according to The Collegian is

"a military body organized to train university students so that they may obtain commissions to serve as officers in His Majesty's Service in time of need. It cannot be too positively stated that this organization, despite its military form and name, is not altogether militaristic in spirit and purpose. Enlistment is absolutely voluntary, and is thus in harmony with the peaceful traditions of the English speaking peoples. ... It might also be added that enlistment is restricted to the university student, and that the majority of universities in Canada have a C.O.T.C."

The COTC was limited to students of sophomore year or higher and Canada maintained COTC units at colleges because it wanted "college-trained men" as officers. A 1938 Journal states that the COTC at "St. Mary's College" has grown from 25 members in its first year of existence to 55, which is about one third of the College enrolment.

There were times, during conflict or impending conflict, that participation in the COTC was mandatory. At the end of the second world war the October 4, 1945 Journal reports that the COTC is now voluntary:

"We are now able to report that military training, which for the duration has been compulsory, is now established on a voluntary basis at St. Mary's. This information comes to the College from the correct governmental sources, but as yet no official order has been issued from M.D.6. Such news will be met with approval by a large number of the student body. However, those seeking their discharge must do so in the correct manner, that is, they must attend parades until they have procured their official discharge. On the other hand no freshman is compelled to be present."

Peace



There is no crash from bomb or shell,  
Nor dust from the battle near,  
No whining of the siren,  
Nor shout of unseen fear.

There are no crying children,  
Nor hollow, sleepless eyes,  
Nor dying people everywhere,  
Nor mother's fearful cries.

But peace lies on the hillside,  
And all the angels sing,  
As the stars shine down upon the crib,  
At the birth of Christ the King.

— S. HAGARTY, H. S. '44

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CORNER  
SOUTH PARK STREET  
HALIFAX, N. S.



The following is a story of a first hand account of Lieutenant and Santamarian Harold Lawrence's heroic mission during World War II that appeared in the November 19, 1942 edition of the Saint Mary's Journal.

# Timeline 1940s

## LIEUTENANT HAROLD LAWRENCE "I Looked So Silly"

### Ex-Santamarian A Modest Hero

The newspapers were filled last week with the story of Saint Mary's latest war-hero—Sub. Lt. Harold Lawrence—who, by the simple expedient of boarding an enemy sub in the Carribean (along with Arthur Powell, of Fairview), shooting up three of its crew, capturing the rest, and then in leisurely fashion inspecting the craft for vital information as it was busy sinking, enrolled himself forever in that illustrious company of S. M. C. War-Great of which Reyno, Romans, Murphy, O'Connell, Fergusson, etc., etc., are charter members.

Already the Lawrence exploit has assumed the proportions of a navy legend, it has been told and re-told so often. But I'm going to re-tell it here again, largely in Hal's own words, because it is certainly one for the record—and because it does S. M. C. proud.

#### Sub Sighted

The U-boat was sighted about midnight as the H. M. S. Oakfield was on duty in the Carribean. Depth charges surfaced the enemy craft and then the little corvette rammed it savagely three times and with one round from a four inch gun blew the sub's deck gun into the sea.

Commander C. A. King, D. S. O., R. C. N. R., then brought the Oakfield alongside the now sinking German craft and ordered her boarded to assure her complete destruction.

#### "We Were Nearest"

When questioned as to why he and Stoker Petty Officer Powell were the ones to answer this order, Sub-Lieut. Lawrence, now Lieutenant, replied in his usual mild and modest manner. "We were the nearest to the narrowest gap."

When they jumped Lieut. Lawrence wore only a pair of shorts and a lifebelt. Powell wore a bathing suit and a pair of socks in addition to his lifebelt. "I kept thinking how silly I looked," Lawrence said, "What a thing to be thinking of when all that was going on!"

#### Looks Her Over.

Three of the German crew who resisted were shot, but the remainder submitted quietly enough. "I left Powell holding them at gun-point while I looked over the deck," the Lieutenant said. "Then I went below to search the submarine, hoping to find something that would be of value." After telling of his search



Lt. H. Lawrence

Lieut. Lawrence went on: "The submarine was going down by the stern and the water was rising. You could tell by the slant of the water in the chamber. She gave a bit of a lurch, began to settle and I went back on deck."

#### Down She Goes.

By this time the stern of the sub was awash and the German prisoners were getting panicky. When one of them was washed overboard "we could do nothing with them," Lawrence said.

The Germans were herded over the side and had to swim for the Oakfield. Powell followed them and Lieut. Lawrence was the last to leave the sinking craft. "When I was about fifty feet away" he said, "the submarine rose sharply by the bow and then went down." They then had to swim for a quarter of a mile to their own ship.

#### Nothing New.

This was not Lieut. Lawrence's first encounter with German underwater craft. He was a member of the Corvette "Moosejaw" when she disposed of a German U-boat and captured its commander some months ago.

"MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE ENLISTED"



- 1940 – The Jesuits assume direction of Saint Mary's.
- 1943 – The Gorsebrook Golf Club was purchased by the Archdiocese as the future site of Saint Mary's.
- 1943 – first Students' Union formed at Saint Mary's.
- 1944 – the High School began operating its own library.
- 1944, February - the campus was flooded and frozen in a sudden shift in the weather, turning the entire property into a massive skating rink. Even the Jesuit Fathers got out their skates!
- 1944, April - a roundtable radio discussion was broadcast on local CHNS. The topic was the role of the Catholic Youth Commission, "an independent, non-political, non-sectarian body supported by voluntary funds with the purpose of discovering, and, if possible, applying, the opinions of youth on the grave problems afflicting Canada." Mayor J.E. Lloyd Chaired the event, which featured Jim Hanrahan of Saint Mary's and speakers from Dalhousie, St. Patrick's High School and Queen Elizabeth High School.
- His Grace, Archbishop McNally, announced a 7-point expansion program for the Archdiocese in a pamphlet called "Post-War Projects of the Archbishop of Halifax." The first of those 7 points was "the reconstruction and extension of St. Mary's University in Halifax." [note the use of the word "university" here]
- 1944, September - Santamarian Jim Pineo was invited to try out with the Boston Bruins.
- 1945 – Saint Mary's introduces a journalism program in collaboration with Mount Saint Vincent and King's College.
- 1945, September - the College welcomed the safe return of 28 of its students who were serving in Canada's three armed forces during WW2.
- 1949 – Work begins on the construction of the new building on Robie Street.



## "STUDENTS AND THE WAR"

"The position of the student in wartime is not an enviable one. Armies meet like clashing whirlwinds and sow destruction in their wake. ...

Amid all this the student is doomed to inactivity. His heart is a battleground of conflicting emotions...

Here at Saint Mary's you can be strengthened if you will. Here, you are nourished with the food of immortality; here, you are being equipped in mind, body and soul for anything that may lie ahead.

Fear not, that, so equipped, you will fail in your hour of trial. For the spirit of Saint Mary's has been tried and tested and has been found not wanting. What is this spirit? Look for it in the classes, on the playing fields, in the chapel, particularly among the faculty. See it in the skies over Britain. Here are Santamarians.

Here in the clear blue skies in "blood, sweat and tears" is written forevermore their record. Search where you will, never in the annals of time will you find greater than these. Some of our greats are gone. Our Duggans, Burns, Kearns, Druhans, Fitzgeralds. On your hearts and on the very soul of Saint Mary's College their names are engraved forever.

There are others, our O'Connells and Reynos, who have dared and won. Their wings flash against the setting sun of time and their shadows fall as of some angel of deliverance across lands where men look up and pray for their safe return.

If you are disturbed, take thought. They were here, they sat in these very classrooms; and they did what they came here to do. And like the scores of Santamarians in the uniform of the armed forces, they fear not for the future; they are prepared for this world and beyond.

Take heed, time is running out.  
For now, the path of duty is clear. "Age quod agis."



# Saint Mary's High School

The Archdiocese operated a high school for boys intermittently throughout the 1800s. By September 1820, there were approximately 100 boys attending. When the Windsor Street campus opened in 1903, the high school and college shared the same building, and were known simply as St. Mary's College.

At Windsor Street, the high school students would attend classes on the third floor of the building. When the campus moved to Robie Street, the high school occupied three rooms on the second floor of McNally Building, not including boarding facilities. The high school students had similar sports and extracurricular activities as the college students.

Over the years, the high school educated some 2,000 young Catholics. The high school officially closed in 1963.

## "My High School Years"

By Al Abraham, High School 1944-46

"I attended Saint Mary's College High School from 1944 to 1946 for grades ten and eleven. This was at the end of World War II during the Jesuit era. At that time the fees were \$75 a year for a day student which included everything except textbooks. Now that seems a paltry sum today, but I assure you that in 1944 it was difficult to pay. My father couldn't afford to send my brother and me, so my aunt paid our way. She had more money than us and felt that the Catholic environment at Saint Mary's was more beneficial and advanced than Saint Patrick's, which was the other Catholic high school in Halifax at the time. My teacher in grade ten was Father Farrell, whom we called "Nails" because he was so tough. Father McCarthy was our Prefect and he ensured that we behaved properly. We were in school to learn and we paid attention. There was no tomfoolery!

There was a definite social distinction between the high school and college students. For instance, the high school students did not walk through the front doors of the building. When we arrived in the morning, we were directed to a little door on the north side of the building that led to what they called a basement. It was really a cellar! The college was heated by coal which was kept underground so it was dark and dank. There was a big room down there where all the high school students would assemble prior to classes. When the bell rang, we would go up three floors from the basement, past the first floor, past the second floor, to the third floor, which was not quite an attic, but it didn't have the same ambience as the first and second floors where the college students went.

The college area was sort of sanctimonious as far as the high school students were concerned. The only way to get to the college areas was to earn your way by graduating from high school.

I remember when we would arrive in the morning - I was about 14 or 15 at the time and I'd just taken up smoking. My father had a habit of smoking half a cigarette and putting the butt in his pocket,

and I would steal one or two of these. I would arrive in the basement, pull these butts out of my pocket and we would pass them around. Even the boarders would be down waiting for me to arrive and we would pass the butts and act "cool." Some things never change!

The Jesuits promoted the ideal of a well-rounded individual. They were a strict lot and we prided ourselves that we were not being babied. They expected a lot of us academically, religiously and athletically, and as a result I think that our students and teams did just a bit better than the other high schools in the area. Catholicism was very strong within the school, although we did have a number of Protestant fellows and at least one Jewish lad in my year. I felt at the time that they were given special attention in case someday they converted to Catholicism. I think that I was a bit more religious than the average student. I was very proud of being a Catholic, and the fact that I was going to a school taught by Jesuits was very comforting for me. As a matter of fact, when I was in grade 11, I thought that I might become a Jesuit. When I expressed this interest to Father Kehoe, he was delighted, and he gave me extra help in Latin to encourage me. I suspect that he was very disappointed when I didn't join the priesthood, but his help and guidance did not go to waste. I don't know if I can say the same for Latin!

Sports were very popular for us growing boys, especially hockey. There was a rink on campus called the "Rorum." It was a natural ice rink, with no refrigeration and a great big barn built over it. It would be flooded in the winter and we would hope that the weather would stay cold enough to keep the ice. It must have been colder in those days because I don't remember having any real problems during the winter or the ice ever melting before early spring. There was very little room for spectators but the teams were always being cheered on:

*Hikedy chike, hikedy chike,  
Solomon, solomon chee,  
Rigedy ragedy,  
rigedy ragedy,  
S.M.C.*

And so on. School spirit was always very important!

Outside and next to the Rorum was a handball court, which was very popular, and there were some tennis courts beyond that. Personally I was a member of the debating and football teams. In 1945 we had a strong football team and we won the city high school title that year. We challenged Montreal High School to a game in Halifax and they accepted the challenge. They were considered a good football team, and the Mayor of Halifax at the time, Gee Ahern, put up a trophy for the winner. The hoopla before the game was tremendous



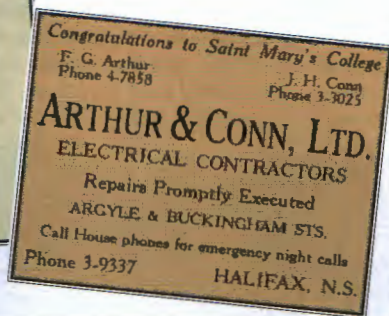
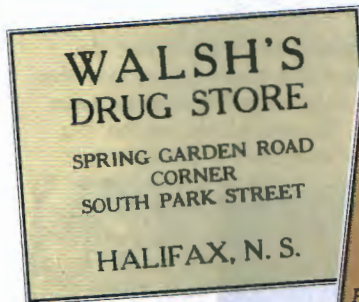
1945 high school football team



and Montreal was supposed to come down here and trounce us. Saint Mary's won that game 27 to 7 and Montreal never returned to challenge us. That game to me was bigger than VE-Day!

Although College would have been the natural next step for me, I didn't attend until many years later. My father had died and caring for our family took precedence. When I did return, the College had relocated to the McNally Building on Robie Street and had achieved university status. Like many of my peers, I eventually found a job, got married and raised children. I have maintained my connection with Saint Mary's, through my family and friends, and as a Board member for the past 13 years.

My years at Saint Mary's as a student were critical and formative years for me - a time when I was determining the direction I would take in my life. The Jesuits pointed me in the right direction and instilled in me a Catholic faith that has sustained me through the years. I am proud to be one of the old boys."



## College vs. High School

The feelings of superiority the College students at Saint Mary's felt towards their High School counterparts was nothing new as apparent by this article that appeared in the March 1, 1937 Journal:

### "Awards and Crests"

"It was with considerable dismay that we witnessed the increasing tendency of High School students to parade before their matured and advanced brothers wearing large crests bearing the inscription - S.M.C. '37. There are really only two criticisms we can make. First, the crests should not carry S.M.C., rather it should be S.M.H.S. Secondly, the date should not be that of the present year, but rather that of the Collegiate students' Matriculation year. Considerable indignation has been expressed by this year's graduating classes and justifiably so, we think. After all, to college students who will this year receive degrees, it must be rather irritating to see half the Collegiate department going about ornamentally declaring they too will complete courses in the College Department. ... Crests and letters are necessary to school life we grant, but let them be correct, of good and dignified appearance, and above all - significant."

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# The Heenan Family



The hangout for the boys of Saint Mary's during Peter Heenan's college years in the 1950s could have easily served as the set for the television series Happy Days. Heenan and his brothers could have easily been extras on the series as they knew the haunt intimately.

"Gussie's was right out of Happy Days," says Peter Heenan. The restaurant, located on the corner of Quinpool at Windsor at the Willow Tree Inn, was "basically a soda fountain complete with fixed stools, over-stuffed booths with remote record selection boxes, and of course, the very conspicuous and colourful jukebox against the back wall."

What made it an even more popular hangout among the boys of the Windsor Street College aside from being only a hop, skip and a jump from Saint Mary's, it was also on the way home for many girls attending Saint Patrick's Girls High School. In fact, it was a regular stop for a certain local girl, Alice Conrad, who later married Heenan.

Of course when the College site shifted to the current site on Robie Street so did the favourite hangout. "The Nelson," a tavern in the Lord Nelson Hotel,

became the place to be seen. "In those days, taverns were male only, so, unfortunately, not nearly as much fun!"

This past year, Heenan and his five siblings gathered in Halifax to celebrate the 50th anniversary of

his oldest brother Gregory's ordination to the priesthood. Four of the Heenan brothers: Terry, Gregory, Peter and Joe, are all graduates of Saint Mary's. Their sister Madeleine was one of the first female actors to perform with the University's drama club. A special mass and reception was held in honour of the occasion in Dartmouth with Fathers Lloyd Robertson and Terry O'Toole, who were also celebrating their 50th anniversary, in attendance.

**Winning Saint Mary's hockey team, with Peter Heenan, goaltender, seated.**



**Sodality 1952, Peter Heenan at right.**

A half century ago when Peter began his commerce degree at Saint Mary's, he remembers a three-storey Victorian style brick building which housed the College's entire administrative and teaching facilities on the first two floors, and "the sometimes 'infamous' boarders, on the third. There was also an indoor natural-ice hockey arena (the legendary Rorum), an outdoor handball court and a playing field where Saint Patrick's high school now stands, "large enough to house a baseball diamond or a football field in the fall, rounded out the campus."

The Jesuits were in charge of the College during this time and the College's teaching faculty was a mixture of Jesuits and lay professors. They "included such stalwarts as Fathers Burke-Gaffney, Buck O'Donnell, Hank McCarthy, Henry LaBelle, Paddy Malone, Bill Stewart and Salty Rourke to name a few. Lay professors Pinky Ryan and Al Sabine were central to the engineering department and Babe

Beazley headed the commerce faculty."

Interfaculty football and hockey comes to mind when Heenan thinks back to his Windsor Street days. The games were rough and tumble leaving lasting memories as well as bruises. And he says what they lacked in talent they made up for with enthusiasm. "A minority (who shall remain nameless), resorted to the usual bagful of 'dirty tricks' in the football pileups and in the corners of the rink." He says the engineering faculty had "more than their fair share of these types." A personal highlight for Heenan was winning the interfaculty hockey championship in 1951 where he was goaltender for the commerce team.

On the academic side of life, it was the close relationship between students and faculty that made a lasting impression on Heenan. He says enrolment and class sizes were small so professors got to know their students and their abilities well. "Of course at times, this proved to be a double-edged sword. One-on-one help was usually available when needed, but it also made it difficult to get away with anything."

He remembers two major rules: one formal, the other informal and both having to do with class attendance. If a student missed more than ten percent of class time then he was not permitted to write the exam, meaning the student failed the course. The second rule was that if a professor was more than five ("it might have been ten") minutes late

arriving for a class, then students were free to use the time as they wished. "It wasn't unknown that one or two students were sent to intercept a particular professor enroute to the classroom and engage him in conversation until the required time had lapsed," says Heenan.



**Peter, Terry, Greg, David and Joe Heenan in 2002 - 50 years has passed since their days at Saint Mary's. (Kelly Clark photography)**

Outside of class time, sodalities played an important role in university life at Catholic colleges of the era. Heenan describes sodalities as a religious brotherhood or fraternity. Heenan belonged to the Sodality of the Virgin Mary and he says members were encouraged to develop a special relationship with the Virgin Mary. Participation in these sodalities was voluntary.

He remembers the sense of anticipation amongst students when the move to the new Robie Street campus was imminent. Once on the new site, he recalls the "pleasure one felt in attending the 'posh' (comparatively speaking) surroundings." He says it was the boarders who most likely appreciated the new "digs" the most as he remembers touring the east wing of the McNally Building and being impressed by the facilities and layout of the accommodations.

A much-improved athletic field with portable bleachers was a popular feature of the new site, and a well furnished lounge for the cadets enrolled in the University's on-campus contingent of the Canadian Officer Training Corps (COTC) was an added "perk" of the new McNally Building. "A converted classroom, the lounge became a jealously guarded hideaway where hearts and bridge were played at all hours of the day."

Heenan explains that the COTC was part of a national defence pro-



gram on university campuses, designed to train officer cadets and commission them as second lieutenants in the army reserve at the end of two years (including two summers) of training. Cadets attended formal lectures in military matters during the academic year and underwent a minimum of three months full-time military training at a military camp during the summer. Cadets were paid during the summer months, so "the program was popular with those of us (including me) of limited means, as a way of earning tuition for the subsequent year." During Heenan's years with the COTC, "Pinky" Ryan, then dean of engineering, was the contingent commander and held the army rank of major.

Heenan enrolled in the Regular Officer Training Plan (ROTP), in his final year. "In essence, I was an army officer on campus with my books, tuition and other academic fees paid by the service, and this time, I drew the pay of a second lieutenant throughout the academic year." When he graduated, he was commissioned as lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Artillery and reported for full-time military service.

"Saint Mary's contribution to the lifetime achievements of my brothers and I goes without saying. Classic values, central to a Jesuit education, were made part of the overall curricula of all three faculties. These values reinforced a firm Christian ethic already entrenched by my hardworking parents," says Heenan. "And of course there were the many personal friendships which endure to this day."



## Holy Heart Seminary

When Saint Mary's closed its doors in 1881, local training for those entering the priesthood ceased to be. So in 1895, Archbishop Cornelius O'Brien established the Holy Heart Seminary located on Quinpool Road (currently the site of shopping plaza next door to Saint Patrick's High School). The seminary followed the Eudist

model where the young men led regimented lives according to strict rules and schedules developed in the 17th century.

Most priests ordained by the Archdiocese of Halifax passed through the Seminary until the 1960s when it was

replaced by an ecumenical theological institute – the Atlantic School of Theology (AST).

In 1952, five Saint Mary's alumni were ordained and they included Lloyd Robertson, Terence O'Toole and Gregory Heenan. The three Santamarians celebrated their 50th anniversary this past Spring at a special service and reception at St. Peter's Church in Dartmouth where Father Heenan is resident priest.



Rev. Lloyd Robertson



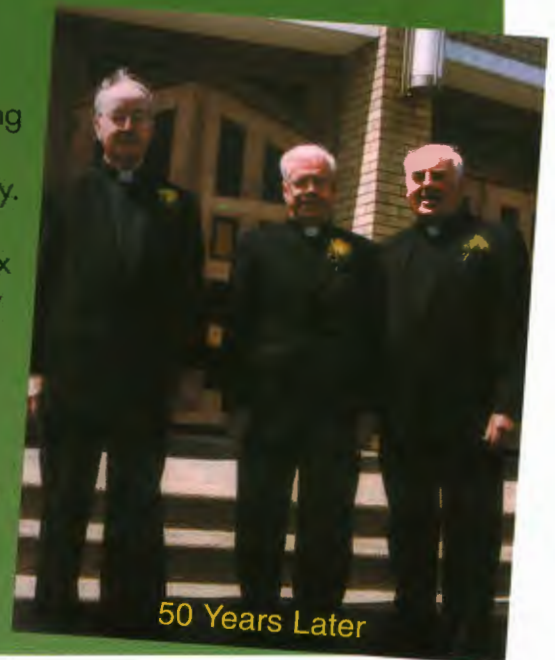
Rev. Gregory Heenan



Rev. Terence O'Toole

## Where are they now?

- Terry Heenan, Dip Eng'46, BSc'47, honorary degree from TUNS'85, was president of the Trans-Canada Telephone System, before retiring from BC Tel as president and chief operating officer in 1987. He now lives in Vancouver with his wife Bobbie.
- Greg Heenan, BA'48, was ordained to the priesthood on May 11, 1952. He served in eight different parishes before retiring from active duty in 1998. He is now priest in residence at Saint Peter's in Dartmouth.
- Peter Heenan, BComm'54, retired in 1981 in the rank of lieutenant colonel, after 28 years with the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery. He retired from the federal public service as senior manager in 1991. He lives in Ottawa with his wife Alice.
- Joe Heenan, BSc'57, served 35 years with the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and the Communications and Electronics Branch of the Canadian Armed Forces, retiring in the rank of colonel in 1990. He lives in Ottawa with his wife Jean.
- Their sister Madeline lives in Halifax and brother David lives on Vancouver Island.



50 Years Later



# The 1950s

## The Early Gorsebrook Years

The 1950s were a period of major change at Saint Mary's. The most significant change that marked the beginning of the transition from a small private college and high school, to a modern day university, was the relocation of the campus from its small cramped quarters on Windsor Street to its new much larger Robie Street site. While students, faculty and staff looked forward to the roomier more "posh" campus, they were sad to see the end of an era on Windsor Street.

### The new campus opens to students

Initially it was the war that delayed the construction of the new campus, and then a post-war steel shortage. When the first sods were turned in 1949, no cost estimates for the Gorsebrook campus project had been prepared. A construction firm had estimated that the new Saint Mary's could be built for \$2 million, however by 1951, construction debts rose to \$3 million and by the end of the project, \$5 million had been spent. A wealthy financier who sat on the Board of Governors managed to obtain access to a line of credit that allowed the Diocese to complete the project, but of course left the Diocese with a considerable debt.

The main building, named after Archbishop McNally, was thought to have been the largest and most expensive academic structure in Eastern Canada. The administration, Arts and Commerce faculties moved into the new location in 1951, but because of lack of

space, the Science and Engineering classes remained at the Windsor Street location until 1952. The new building housed both the high school and college which was about 1,000 students in all. It also contained residence rooms for boarders and quarters for the Jesuit fathers.

A new parish, the Canadian Martyrs' Parish, was established soon after the move to serve Catholics living in Halifax's South End and to support the College. The Church occupied the east wing at the rear of the Building (over the gymnasium), and also served as the College chapel.

Kevin Chary, an alumnus and retired member of staff remembers his first impressions of the new College: "I recall coming to the campus with my father who had stopped over on his way to Montreal. We looked at the incomplete building apparently held together by scaffolding and surrounded by a sea of mud. A most uninviting prospect."

On their departure from the Windsor Street campus, Oliver Blakeney, business manager of the Journal and Collegian for three years, shares his thoughts on the occasion in a poem published in the last issue of the Journal published from the "red school" in 1951. Here is a portion of the poem.



### The Little Red School House

By Oliver Blakeney

On Windsor Street a red school stands  
And though the world forgets it's there  
Its heart is pure — its strength commands  
The world within that tiny square.

It's nice to note that while this globe  
Is shaking on its axis  
Within these walls the rustling robes  
Teaches truth ... and what a fact is.

The University squats like a fat-bellied stove  
Made of red rusty bricks and strong walls.  
Yet this fat bellied stove is a treasure trove  
Of O'Malley's, O'Donnell's and Bills. ...

So here's a salute and I'm sure it will suit  
The new college as well as the old one.  
There is no finer place for men of all race  
To come to and one day go from ...

For Saint Mary's you see — you take it from me  
Gives you more than a full education  
For they never confuse it, but teaches you to use it  
As practical tools ... in a practical nation.

When you leave for your train for this place of fame  
I'm sure that wherever you roam,  
There'll be some regret, and you'll never forget  
That the little red-school house was ... HOME ...



"Most reverend John T. McNally, Archbishop of Halifax, Chancellor of St. Mary's University. His wise foresight and untiring zeal for Catholic education are realized in the new St. Mary's."





# The 1951 Journal outlines a few of the perks of the new campus:

**The Chapel:** "Instead of crowding into five-seat pews by the sixes, students will be moving into six-seat pews by the fours. The new chapel will seat 1200. And there are no pillars to obstruct the view."

**The Library:** "... will be much larger and much more complete than that in the present building. During this year, books were being received almost daily. They are quickly marked by the librarian and are stocked in the library shelves ready for removal to the new building."

**Students' Room:** "... completely modern living quarters. They are bright, semi-private rooms with double-decker beds, a wash basin, two desks and wardrobes. Blankets on student beds are stamped with a large S.M.U. monogram."



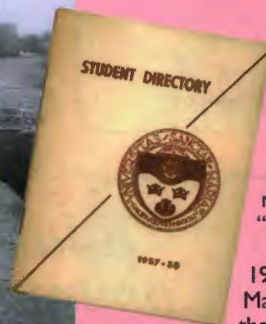
Accommodations can be made for 230 boarders, and still have plenty of elbow-room for each of them. High school and university students are in separate parts of the building, giving the older students a chance to appreciate college life more than ever before.

Another big change in the university is the dining room. Instead of going down to eat his meals, the boarder will go up to a long immaculate cafeteria where he will pick up his meals on trays."

**Gymnasium:** "The new university building will contain a splendid gymnasium with full gymnastic equipment and regulation-size basketball floor. A thousand spectators can be accommodated in the gym which will also be used for other extra-curricular activities. ... Apart from this will be lounge and reading rooms, billiard tables, and nine areas of level campus ground to be used as sports fields. The stage which is part of the gymnasium, is completely equipped for dramatics."



McNally Building under construction.



1957 – teacher training begins at Saint Mary's University with a new Faculty of Education.

1957 – the student directory (the handbook) is published for the first time.

1959 – the Saint Mary's "Saints" athletic teams are re-named the "Huskies"

1959 – Saint Mary's acquires the Royal Mc-Bee LGP-30 electronic digital computer valued at \$55,000 – the first electronic digital computer in Atlantic Canada.



1959 – the first annual fund organized by Santamarians is launched to support the Alumni Student Loan Program which provides financial assistance to students attending Saint Mary's. The goal of the fund was to raise \$7500 by asking each alumni to donate \$20 to \$25. The "objective" is "something from every alumni," (M&V, spring '59 issue)

# 50s TimeLine

1951 – classes begin at the Robie Street campus for the arts and commerce faculties.

1950-51 – The School of Journalism in Halifax (sponsored by Saint Mary's, Mount Saint Vincent, King's College, and four Halifax dailies) adds courses in public relations and advertising to its curriculum. At this time there had been 19 graduates of the program. "The hope of the School of Journalism is to send forth into the great arena of life young men and women well endowed by nature and education to carry high the banner of truth." (The Collegian, 1951)

1951 – non-credit courses for adults begin at the College.

1952 – science and engineering faculties begin classes at the Robie Street campus.

April 10, 1952 – Saint Mary's College became Saint Mary's University

September 1952 – credit and non-credit evening classes were being offered for part-time students, both men and women. The first one was taught by Father William Stewart, S.J..

November 19, 1952 – Archbishop McNally dies.

February 2, 1954 – Gerald Berry, a Montreal priest, installed as Archbishop. He was known for his fund-raising initiatives and this was welcomed by Saint Mary's who still carried a huge debt from the construction of the new campus.

1954 – enrolment had climbed from around 224 in 1952/53 to around 328 in 1954 reflecting a boost in the metro population post-war and the appeal of evening credit and non-credit courses for both men and women.

1957 – Mildred Harrington becomes the first woman ever appointed to the staff or faculty of a Jesuit school or university in Canada when she joins the faculty at Saint Mary's. She retired in 1972.

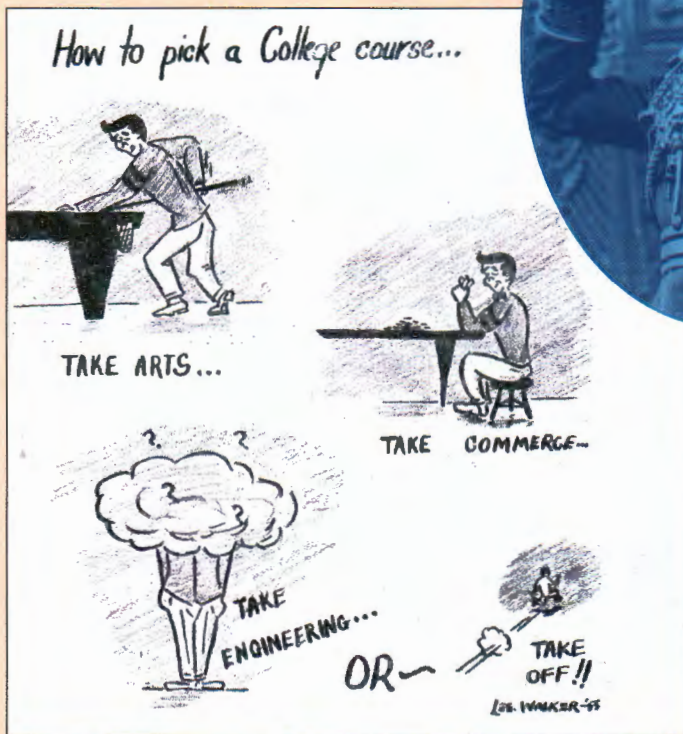
1957 – Saint Mary's was granted affiliation with Ignatius College in Guelph, and Regis College in Toronto and as such they inherited some of Saint Mary's debt.



## Times are Changing

The 1950s were a time of change. The pages of the student Journals reflect the change in attitude and social climate of the time. Students are expressing their opinions on almost anything and everything, and we are making way for women. Saint Mary's is not only becoming accessible to women, but to the community by offering non-credit and evening courses, as well as adding new subjects to the curriculum.

Increased enrolments in the 1950s reflect a positive response to the changes at Saint Mary's. This decade marks the beginning of a new era at the University that continues to evolve and reflect the needs of the community it serves to this day.



## Chapel Attendance Slipping?

In a small column in the November 1952 issue of The Journal, Bob O'Connell urges students to make better use of the chapel and fulfil their commitment to the Catholic aspects of their education.

**"CHAPEL** - This sign appears on the stairway of our new university. We, the students, see it every time we are obliged to attend a lecture on the second floor, and somehow or another we just seem to ignore it. This is a Catholic University and the purpose of a Catholic student attending such a university is to receive a good, Catholic education. ..."

## Day of Mourning at Saint Mary's

Friday, February 15, 1952 - the day of King George the VI's funeral - was officially recognized as a day of mourning at Saint Mary's and all classes were cancelled.

## 1955 - College Initiations Come Under Fire

In the October 11, 1955 Journal College initiations came under fire.

"Sophomores initiated in the ill-traditions of caste, sadism, and lack of respect for the human person will argue that new students have too much self esteem at entrance, and they take it upon themselves to knock this out of the freshmen, physically and by public humiliation," according to Jim Whelley, in his case against initiations. He urges sophomores to "mold its methods into harmony with the tenor of other university activity."

He adds that St. FX forbids the practice and at Dalhousie, "the spirit of hazing has disappeared."

## Saint Mary's Education Opens Up to the Community in 1952

### "ADULT STUDIES SERIES NOW UNDERWAY AT SAINT MARY'S - UNIVERSITY STEPS INTO ADULT EDUCATION FIELD"

"As a public service to the citizens of the locality Saint Mary's University has inaugurated a new Adult Studies Series. The President, Rev. Frederick J. Lynch, S.J., in announcing the series said: "It will set the university a long step forward as a public-spirited institution." Father Lynch also remarked that every educational institution must look upon adult education "as a duty to be fulfilled."

"All lectures are open to every one interested, and no specialized knowledge or previous credits are required for attendance. They will be presented on an academic level, but in an easily intelligible manner. ..."

"Topics for these lectures will range from practical Medicine, Canada's Immigration Problem, Psychology, Classical and Christian Culture, to modern Sociology, Poetry and Adult Education."



## 1956 - New territory in higher education for Saint Mary's "First Masters Degree from S.M.U."

"The first two graduates to receive the degree of Master of Social Work from this University since the recent affiliation with the Maritime School of Social Work are: Thomas Moore, B.A., and Thomas Smith, B.A., two former graduates of Saint Mary's. ... Their graduation will mark a milestone in the history of Saint Mary's as they are the first to receive the degree from this University." (May 1, 1956, Journal)

## First Woman Appointed to SMU Faculty

In 1957, Miss Mildred Harrington, became the first woman to be appointed to the staff or faculty of any Jesuit school or university in Canada. As a faculty member at Saint Mary's, she taught math, French and Latin, and "has always been most interested in assisting foreign students in mastery of the English language."  
When she retired from Saint Mary's in 1972, the Prince Edward Island native was looking forward to travelling, reading, bridge, painting and keeping "fit."



FRONT OFFICE: It was a busy time for Fr. Belair when exam results began to pour into his office to be recorded in 'the Big Book' following completion of the first term exams.

(Staff Photo by MacGillivray.)



# 1952 Student Poll Results

- Popular song.....Little White Cloud
- Classical song.....Ave Maria
- Popular male singer.....Bing Crosby
- Popular female singer.....Doris Day
- Big time orchestra.....Louis Armstrong
- Radio program.....Lux Radio Theatre
- Catholic program.....Ave Maria Theatre
- Favourite novel.....Keys of the Kingdom  
.....& Seven Storey Mountain
- Favourite novelist.....A.J. Cronin
- Movie of the year.....A Place in the Sun
- Favourite actor.....Alan Ladd & Kirk Douglas
- Favourite actress.....June Allyson
- Popular student.....Don Cable
- Favourite professor.....Father Rourke
- Athlete of the year.....Jim Warner
- Automobile.....Pontiac
- Cigarette.....Players
- Candy bar.....Coffee Crisp
- Form of recreation.....ping pong, dancing
- Academic subject.....philosophy
- Soft Drink.....Coca-cola
- Faculty to add.....Law



## Enrolment Rises During the 50s

During the 1959-60 academic year, there were 413 day students, 197 in the evening division and education, 51 completing their Masters of Education, and 136 enrolled in the adult studies program. When the Jesuits has assumed administration of the school in 1940, the numbers in high school and college combined were about 300.



Journalism Instructor Eric Dennis hands a bulletin hot off the teletype machine, recently installed for use of Journalism students, to Mary MacCormack and Don Merzetti, second year students, with instructions to write a suitable headline.



# Women Students Arrive at Saint Mary's

*It didn't take the administrators at Saint Mary's long to realize that there would be advantages to admitting women to the University as first part-time and then full-time students. The increased enrolments would mean an increase in revenues and in light of the massive debt the University had accumulated when the new campus had been built, that was an appealing argument for inviting women to their campus. Mount Saint Vincent University, which had been educating the city's Catholic girls for many years, did not welcome the news. And as it turns out the reaction to the news from the "boys of Saint Mary's" was mixed. The Journals are full of cartoons and articles reacting to the change. Here are a just a few.*

## Trailblazers

By Heather Kernahan-Kenney, BA'02

The history of women at Saint Mary's is complex, exciting, inspiring and a bit hazy. Records have been put away and after the first few years of intense scrutiny, the fact that woman attended the university became commonplace. Less than 40 years ago there were only a few women students allowed access to the, until then, exclusively male campus. The few women who did gain access were there attending night classes, masters programs, or taking courses as part of school exchanges.

But that was about to change. Women began attending evening classes in the 1950s but the university didn't officially become co-ed until 1968. The stories of two of the women who chartered previously uncharted territory when women began sharing classrooms with their male counterparts during day classes, are stories that inspire and remind us that this Saint Mary's was a very different place only a few years ago.

### In the Beginning

Aileen Carroll was the first woman to attend Saint Mary's University full-time in the fall of 1962 - the same year that the first black student, James H. Meredith, attended the all-white University of Mississippi. Halifax certainly didn't have the same political climate as the southern United States at that time but Carroll could identify with the images on TV every night.

"Being the first full-time woman at Saint Mary's wasn't easy but it was worth every minute," remembers Carroll. "I was the only women in all of my classes and had to deal with the feelings of the all-male population who were seeing their university open up and it was evident that not everyone was happy about it. I would come home from school at night and watch the news footage of James Meredith entering the Mississippi University and I felt a connection - we were both entering uncharted waters."

Aileen started at the University a full six years before it became co-ed and gained admittance by petitioning the Archbishop of Halifax. Her father had attended the University, her brother was a student,

and she wanted to take political science, a subject that was seen as un-lady like and not offered at her current school - Mount Saint Vincent. Gerald Berry, Archbishop of Halifax in 1962, made a bold decision to admit Carroll after a brief telephone call during which she pleaded her case - a desire to be educated in theology, philosophy and political science. And to receive her degree from the Jesuits.

The controversy surrounding Carroll that year was wide-spread as even The Journal featured the news on the front page of the paper and showed her standing between the front door of SMU and the front door of Mount Saint Vincent where she had been a student. The ensuing article debated the opening of the university to women and discussed her situation. "I had just turned 18 the summer before starting at Saint Mary's and wasn't really prepared for what I would be facing," she says. "I remember very vividly approaching a class room door and seeing a sea of short hair cuts and in some classes I would approach an empty chair and someone would put their feet up to block me - it wasn't always pleasant." There was however a group of supporters among the students and she was able to make friends and find a comfortable place.

### The University Officially Opens to Women

As the university officially opened its doors as a co-ed institution in 1968 it welcomed about 50 women to become full time students.

Louise Stringer Warren was finishing up at as a student at Sacred Heart Junior College at the same time and realizing that she was only seven courses short of a full undergraduate degree she applied and was accepted to Saint Mary's for her senior year. "I was so excited to be attending the university, taking psychology and working towards finishing my degree - I was very happy at SMU."

Stringer Warren also remembers her time at Saint Mary's as life altering. "There was a feeling of disappointment among the male students that the university was going to be a co-ed

institution, so some of them made it uncomfortable for the women. The experience really helped me gain confidence and stand up for myself though - I never would have gained those skills in any other situation."



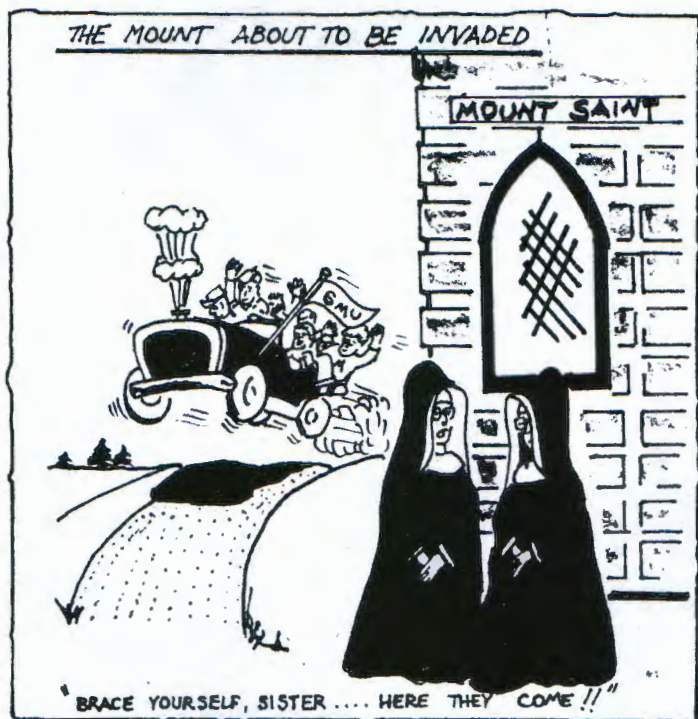


She recalls one character-building situation in which she was the only woman in an animal behaviour class and the professor asked her to be the first student to handle a rodent. "He offered me some gloves to do the dissection but I refused them and went ahead with the task. I felt a sense of pride well up inside me and I knew I could complete the class just like every other male student," says Stringer Warren.

Women graduates from Saint Mary's have gone on to great success and are inspiring ambassadors for the university. Aileen Carroll has been a Member of Parliament for the Barrie-Simcoe-Bradford area since 1997 and her family has continued their strong history at the university. Her son, Daniel Carroll, was the valedictorian for the Fall 2002 Convocation. Louise Stringer Warren went on from Saint Mary's to a 20-year career in psychology and now works as a part-

time lecturer at Mount Saint Vincent University and as a part-time psychology consultant.

When asked if the struggle of being among the first women at Saint Mary's was worth the effort, the women resoundingly proclaim, "of course!" They've paved the way for the current atmosphere where women students now equal registered male students at the university. "My time at Saint Mary's was a strengthening experience, not a defeating one," finishes Stringer Warren. "I hope that every student both male and female can say the same about their time at the University."



JOURNAL — APRIL 25, 1961.



## A Woman

**SYMBOL:** Thought to be a member of the human family.

**ATOMIC WEIGHT:** Accepted at 120 pounds though known isotopes vary from 90lbs. to 180lbs.

**PHYSICAL PROPERTIES:** Seldom found in pure state. All colours. Surface usually covered with a film of point or oxide. Boils at nothing and freezes without reason. Unpolished one tends to turn green in presence of polished one. All varieties melt with proper treatment. Very bitter if used incorrectly. Density is not as great as is generally supposed. Pure specimens usually assume a rosy tint when discovered in the natural state. Exhibits magnetic properties when in the presence of noble metals.

**CHEMICAL PROPERTIES:** Highly explosive and dangerous except in experienced hands. Extremely active in the presence of man and may explode spontaneously. Possesses great affinity for gold, silver and platinum. Undissolved by liquids but activity is greatly increased when saturated with a spirit solution. Sometimes yields to pressure. Fresh variety has great magnetic attraction. Ages rapidly. Polymerizes with age.

**USES:** Chiefly ornamental. Acts as a positive or negative catalyst in the production of fevers. Probably the most powerful reducing agent known when dealing with bank accounts. It is illegal in most countries to possess more than one specimen but a certain amount of exchange is permissible.

(Appeared in the March 18, 1966 Journal)



# The 1960s Radical Change!

The 1960s were a time of incredible change at Saint Mary's that included the end of the high school era, the introduction of co-education, new programs, an increasing international awareness and finally the secularization of the University in 1970. As well it was a time of radical social change on campus and beyond.



## Expansion Boom

In 1962, an architect was chosen and the administration launched its "expansion program." The Collins House, part of the original estate, was torn down in order to begin construction of the Student Centre, one of the 14 buildings to be erected in the next 20 years or so. The expansion program was to include a free-standing library, a science building, a student centre, a field house, the expansion of the several science and engineering labs, and the completion of existing buildings. Archbishop Gerald Berry and President C.J. Fischer made a national public appeal for funds. The proposed project would cost roughly \$1.6 million, and the University had still not recovered from its financial woes now a decade old.



The Burke Education Centre being built in 1965 – the first free-standing library at Saint Mary's.

So a university corporation was set up in 1962 that included a relatively autonomous Board of Governors and a university administration more in tune with contemporary practice. This was the first significant step away from religious affiliation. In

1965, the administrative responsibilities were given to the Board of Governors reflecting the growth of laity at the University. By this time, only 11 out of 57 faculty members and half of the administration were religiously affiliated.

By 1964, the university enrolment had climbed to 932 – a 40% increase since the beginning of the decade – and 149 degrees were conferred at the 1965 convocation. The high school was discontinued in 1963, freeing up several rooms in McNally Building for university students.

In 1965, the University was given a huge financial boost when they were granted a loan from the Nova Scotia government that would allow the expansion program to be completed. As well, contributions from business and alumni had raised over \$1,000,000 – almost two thirds of the total amount needed.

## Women Officially Arrive

In 1968, we have the formal introduction of co-education at the University even though women had been taking night courses since at least 1952. The debate between MSVU and Saint Mary's over the exclusive right to provide a Catholic education to girls in Halifax had been waged since 1959. This is when Sister Francis Assisi at the Mount discovered that two of her BA graduates had requested their transcripts be sent to Saint Mary's School of Education.



By the late 1950s, it was not uncommon for institutions in Halifax to share their facilities and allow students from other institutions to enrol in their courses. Dalhousie and MSVU had been doing this since 1914 but when Saint Mary's proposed a similar arrangement in the 1960s with MSVU, Sister Assisi turned down the idea. Saint Mary's knew co-education was an important step towards improving the University's financial situation and securing a solid academic standing amongst the province's universities.

Co-education and the secularization of Saint Mary's, as well as the growth of programs and increased international awareness of the late 1960s, would hopefully secure the University's future in a modern era.

## A New Secular Era

The final chapter of the 1960s was the departure of the Jesuits in 1970 when the ownership and administration of the University were officially turned over to a 30-member Board of Governors. The secularization of the Saint Mary's was viewed as the only way the University would be able to compete in a modern era. The departure of the Jesuits was met with mixed emotions. Some thought that to remove religion from the University was to destroy the spirit of Saint Mary's.

But others felt it meant freedom to foster new ways of thinking in keeping with the times. Relations with the Archdiocese remain on good terms and the University maintains its Catholic roots and traditions. The Archbishop continues to serve as Chancellor.

Enrolment for the 1969-79 academic year soared to 2,654 mainly as a result of a boon in part-time studies and the official arrival of women. In 1969, Huskies Stadium was constructed for the Canada Summer Games and the top two floors of the Science Building were added. Graduate programs in philosophy and history were added to the expanding program offerings.

By 1970, everything was in place for transformation from what had been a small Catholic school for boys, into a large and modern urban university that could compete in every field of academic life.

Stay tuned!

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Hey! This is Wednesday, not Tuesday. (N.B.—All Boarders are requested to attend Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays.)



# 60s SMUBits

## Saint Mary's in the Community Gets Its Start

According to the Maroon & White, during the 1960/61 academic year, Saint Mary's faculty offered courses at the Halifax Infirmary to the nursing students in psychology, ethics, theology and sociology. Courses were offered to the "industrial and business community" in the electronic digital computer.

## SMU Congratulated for Progress

At the 1960 fall convocation (the first fall convocation at Saint Mary's), Dr. W.J. Archibald, dean of arts and science at Dalhousie, told the graduating class: "The emergence of Saint Mary's University as a major institution of higher learning is one of the most striking recent developments in education in this part of Canada. ... As I am not one of your teachers I can tell you without seeming to boast that the degree you have received today is a real certificate of distinction in which you can take great and legitimate pride." There were 20 degrees awarded at this convocation.

## "Saint Mary's Modernizes Teaching"

This was the headline that appeared in the February 23, 1961 issue of The Journal when the University obtained a new piece of equipment that would revolutionize teaching. The Delineascope "weighs 36 lbs., has a flat writing surface 10 inches square. On a suspended arm above this writing surface, a 5 inch Fresnel lens reflects the written material which is flashed on a screen above the professor's head.

With the aid of this new machine the professor is able to face his class at all times and to explain better the material that he is going over."

## From the 1962/63 Student Handbook

Some of the regulations governing informal dances include:

- no pop or smoking except when refreshments are served (no smoking on the dance floor at any time).
- "The sponsors of a dance are restricted to one poster on campus" and posters may be placed at Mount St. Vincent, the Infirmary, and the Sacred Heart Convent. No other posters are allowed and no radio advertisement.
- "Apply oiled sawdust oil to gym floor. This should be prepared 24 hours before it is applied to the floor."



1960s Atlantic Bowl Parade

# 60s TimeLine

**Oct. 4, 1960** – first fall convocation at Saint Mary's – 20 degrees are conferred.

**1960** – the first faculty manual is created

**1960** – a business administration major is offered to commerce students for the first time.

**1960/61** – There are 47 full-time university staff (administration and teaching) – 20 of whom are Jesuits and 27 laymen, as well as 16 part-time teachers.

**May 14, 1962** – The Most Rev. J. Gerald Berry, Archbishop of Halifax and Chancellor of Saint Mary's, announces an expansion program at the University to include a new library, science building and student union building.

**1963** – Saint Mary's High School closes its doors with 25 in its graduating class.

**1965** – The Burke Education Centre, the first free-standing library, was completed.

**1965** – most of the administrative responsibilities that the Jesuits had assumed were given to the Board of Governors in response to the increasing numbers of non-Catholics that made up the student body and staff.

**1966** – The Saint Mary's University Students' Association is incorporated.

**1968** – Saint Mary's becomes officially co-educational.

**1968** – the Rice and Vanier residences open, offering modern accommodations for students. They had a grocery store, pool, barber shop, beauty salon and four floors for students with disabilities. Rice was originally a men's residence and Vanier was for women.

**1968** – the Arena with a seating capacity for 2000 was completed and the first three floors of the Science Building.

**1969** – Huskies Stadium is constructed in preparation for the Canada Summer games.

**1969** – there is a housing shortage being experienced by all universities in Metro Halifax. Saint Mary's has about 1,000 students who need housing with space in residence for only about 500. (Loyola Residence opened in 1971).

**1970** – the University becomes a public institution with the administration and ownership of Saint Mary's being handed down from the Jesuits to a 30 member Board of Governors.



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# The 1960s

## General Campus Rules From the Early 60s

- No ball playing on the grounds in front of the buildings.
- No gambling in any form or card playing on campus.
- Cars must be parked in the places assigned. Violation will carry a fine of \$2.00.
- All Day-Students must be out of the University by 11pm except on special occasions.
- Students are encouraged to attend frequent, even daily Mass. Confessions are heard each morning during all Masses and on Saturday and the Eve of a Holy Day in the afternoon or evening.
- Food will not be prepared or left lying around in rooms. Deliveries from outside food services may not be made to the Residence under any circumstances.
- Women are not permitted to enter the Residence.

## "Jesuit University Permits Liquor in Residence"

The November 10, 1966 Journal reports that Georgetown, a Jesuit university, has removed a ban prohibiting drinking alcohol in residences. "The new policy allowing all men to keep both beer and hard liquor in their rooms was 'designed to help students develop responsibility,' Georgetown officials said." Saint Mary's was not far behind!

## Time for Change

In an editorial from the March 4, 1968, Journal, one student near his graduation suggests that: "the University atmosphere at SMU has several aspects that should be eliminated – it's exclusively Male, Maritime, and Religious." He hopes that the introduction of co-education will improve the first matter. As for religion, he says the Jesuits have a role to play in the "forum of theology and a few administrative posts. ... It is clear today that university education is a matter for educators, not the church. This is the trend in the United States and Canada in the past few years since Vatican II. ... This university could go places in the near future if the right people remain at this institution and if the correct changes are implemented."

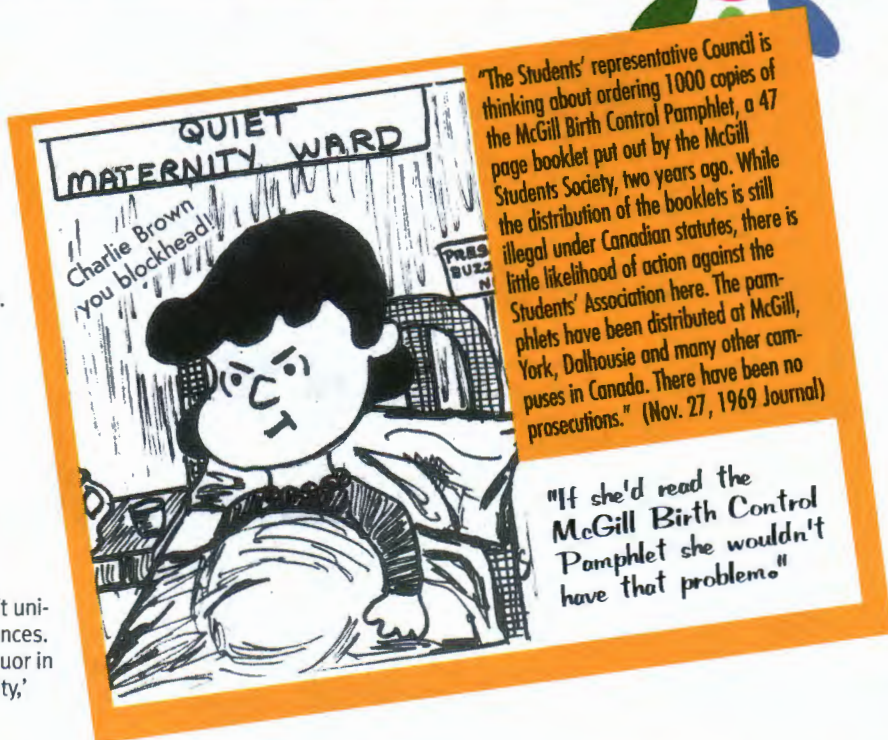
## "Council Passes Pro-pot Motion"

"The Students' Representative Council passed a motion supporting legalization of marijuana almost unanimously last week. ... The sole holdout on the motion was Secretary Sue Mader, who abstained." (Nov. 20, 1969 Journal)

## "Co-ed Closets Cramped"

The September 10, 1969 Journal reports that women ("co-eds") living in residence are less than satisfied with their rooms "designed with men in mind."

"One point in contention is the size of the closets, while a man may get by during the year with four pairs of pants and six shirts, with a suit for Saturday night, such is obviously not the case with women. One young lady reportedly arrived in residence for the six-week summer session with five pieces of hand luggage and a trunk to find that she no place to put it all."



"The Students' representative Council is thinking about ordering 1000 copies of the McGill Birth Control Pamphlet, a 47 page booklet put out by the McGill Students Society, two years ago. While the distribution of the booklets is still illegal under Canadian statutes, there is little likelihood of action against the Students' Association here. The pamphlets have been distributed at McGill, York, Dalhousie and many other campuses in Canada. There have been no prosecutions." (Nov. 27, 1969 Journal)

"If she'd read the McGill Birth Control Pamphlet she wouldn't have that problem!"

## "SMU Row Threatens Residence"

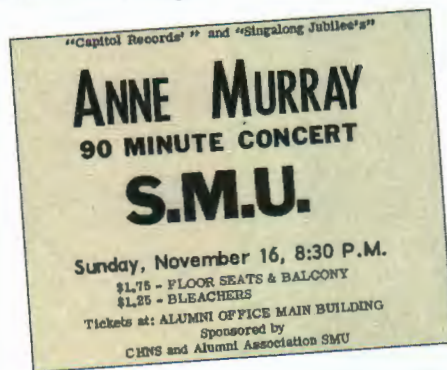
"Saint Mary's University students may be jeopardizing chances for a new residence with demands to make their own rules in existing campus housing, says Dr. Henry J. Labelle, SMU president." (Nov. 20, 1969 Journal) "If they are determined to run the residences like a hotel – and a bad hotel at that – then I see no further use for residences, per se, on campus," the university president said during an interview."

But residence students argue that they have the "moral right" to control their own environment – and that means visiting regulations between men's and women's residences.

"The situation reached a climax at about 3 am today when men and women resident students, after a mass meeting in the cafeteria, symbolically dissolved old regulations by visiting each other's quarters."

## "Students Vote for Complete Control"

Of the 600 resident students at Saint Mary's, including 107 females, 82 percent voted on the referendum and 97 percent voted in favor of "student control of the on campus residence buildings."





# Call for Nominations

## Distinguished Community Service Award

This award is presented by the Saint Mary's University Alumni Association to the individual who has made an outstanding achievement and/or contribution in one of the following areas:

- (a) his/her own community
- (b) to Saint Mary's University
- (c) his/her own discipline

Please submit a letter of recommendation and a biography for the nominee to the address at the bottom of the Award Nomination Form.

## Alumni Volunteer Awards

The Alumni Volunteer Award(s) is granted, when merited, to individuals who have provided outstanding service to the Saint Mary's University Alumni Association on a voluntary basis. The individuals recognized with the Alumni Association Award are inspirations to Saint Mary's University and its Alumni Association.

The Award(s) are presented annually at the Annual General Meeting, held in June.

Nominations and supporting documentation must be sent to the address at the bottom of the Award Nomination Form.

## Associate Membership

Associate Membership to the Saint Mary's University Alumni Association is given to those individuals who have rendered significant service to Saint Mary's University and are not alumni of the University.

All nominations must be approved by the Saint Mary's University Alumni Association Executive. Successful candidates shall be announced at the Annual General Meeting in June, 2003.

Nominations for Associate Membership along with supporting documentation must be sent to the address at the bottom of the Award Nomination Form.

## Father William A. Stewart Medal for Teaching

Reverend William A. Stewart, S.J., Medal for Excellence in Teaching was established in 1983 by the Alumni Association and the Saint Mary's University Faculty Union. A gold medal and monetary award is presented to the winner of this highly respected award.

Each Nomination Must:

1. be supported by the names of at least ten (10) people from among faculty, alumni or students
2. include a statement of 100 words in support of the nomination
3. include the names of two references which consists of a faculty member and a current or former student

The award is open to faculty members who have completed at least five (5) years of teaching service at Saint Mary's University.

Send nomination(s) to the address at the bottom of the Award Nomination Form.



## AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Select the award for which you wish to nominate this person:

- Distinguished Community Service Award
- Father William A. Stewart, S.J. Medal for Teaching
- Associate Membership
- Alumni Volunteer Award

### Nominee Information

Please complete and return with supporting documentation.

Nominee's

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Business Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

SMU Alumnus? \_\_\_\_\_

Year & Degree \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominator Information

Nomination Submitted

by \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. (Business) \_\_\_\_\_

(Home) \_\_\_\_\_

AWARDS COMMITTEE  
SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
867 ROBIE STREET  
HALIFAX, NS B3H 3C3  
TEL.: (902) 420-5420 OR FAX: (902) 420-5140

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS MARCH 28, 2003**



# Memorable Moments in Sports at Saint Mary's



**S**aint Mary's has a rich sports history. While we have little documentation of the sports played at Saint Mary's in the very early years, it is almost certain they would have been part of a well-rounded Catholic curriculum. In the early 1900s, there is widespread coverage of college and high school sports in the yearbooks and journals. Hockey has been a perennial favourite and other sports have come and gone. Over the years sports like tennis, baseball, basketball, handball, gymnastics, boxing, swimming, bowling, lacrosse, rugby, golf, ping pong, football, track and field have been popular with students.

We decided that the best way to feature sports in this anniversary issue of the Maroon & White, would be to let some of the coaches, players and fans tell us about their favourite moments over the years. If you have a memorable moment you would like to share with us, please send it along (contact information can be found on page 2) and we will publish it in the next issue.

In the spring issue, we will highlight the recent years in sports at Saint Mary's - the last 30 years.

Also visit the Saint Mary's website athletics pages - including the online Sport Hall of Fame for more sports history as well as current sports information at [www.smuhuskies.ca](http://www.smuhuskies.ca)

## Jim Pineo

"1942 was indeed a memorable time at St. Mary's college (Windsor Street). I was a goal tender the time we beat St. FX and won the championship. The previous year we went down to Antigonish and got physically beaten, due to the referee who was very prejudiced.

An odd thing I used to do before each game was I had to sing the 'magic baking powder song' - a popular radio commercial at the time. It was a superstition because the first time that I sang it we won. Babe Beazley used to wear a #9 sweater. It was part of the winning combination as well. The following year I was still singing the song before each game that we played:

*Here's a magic trick to do,  
To please the man who's dear to you  
When you bake, its nifty, thrifty too.  
Use Magic Baking Powder.*



**1942 Hockey Banquet**

When I was made captain of St. Mary's team, it was a distinct honour, but it also served a purpose. I was on the ice all the time - I played the entire game. If I interrupted the play, then the boys would get a little rest. We didn't have a

lot of depth, since enrolment at the college was approximately 65 students.

I was presented with the MVP award from Father Keating, which at the time was a very proud moment. And equally proud - and surprising one - was when I was inducted into Saint Mary's University's Sport Hall Of Fame in October 1998."

- Jim Pineo, 1940-44 hockey team, goal tender & captain

## Alan Abraham

"My greatest sport memory goes back to 1945 and it has to do with St. Mary's College High School on Windsor Street. I had very marginal ability but I did make the high school football team in the local High School League.

That year we won the league title and we were given the unusual opportunity to play against Montreal High School. This was for a new trophy - The J. E. Gee Ahern Trophy. Mr Ahern was the Mayor of Halifax at the time. We were firmly established as underdogs and so we were allowed to add five players from the other high schools. Since my jersey was relatively clean (from lack of use) I was asked to trade it with one of the talented imports; a chap named "Pistol Pete" Feron.

The printed program wasn't changed and Pete Feron ran circles around the Montreal team. Saint Mary's won that game 27 to 7; a tremendous upset! I think I was on the field for no more than three plays but a lot of people thought that I should have been named "most valuable player."

- Alan Abraham, high school, 1944-46

## Elmer MacGillivray

"In 1944, my initial year at Saint Mary's, the first juvenile hockey practice was announced. Friends suggested I was too small and besides the team was likely already chosen - but my desire was too strong, so I went.

At my first practice I was placed on left wing with Bert Hirschfeld, probably the greatest all-round athlete that Halifax ever produced, and a huge, strong, goal-seeking right-winger, Hughie Campbell. We played together for the next four years winning one juvenile and three Maritime junior championships - never losing a game at the Maritime level. The goals and assists kept coming equally to all of us. It was the greatest time in my life. We all went to NHL training camps, Bert to the Canadiens and Hughie and I to the Rangers.

That was all very, very exciting and satisfying for a little Cape Bretoner in his five years at SMU.

Another moment was in 1958 while teaching. I was privileged to coach the Saint Mary's University junior football team. We had just won our second straight Maritime Championship. Great guys. Father Malone S.J., the president of the University, said to me; "you got to find us an athletic director. We're getting too big. We can't bank on some scholastic like you coming along who can coach."

Shortly afterwards at a junior football league meeting, sitting next to me representing the Navy, was the outstanding Shearwater Flyer superstar, Mr. Bob Hayes. I never met him before, only admired his great play. We began to chat and I informed him we were looking for an athletic director. He jumped at the opportunity. I think I ran all the way to Fr. Malone's office to tell him of my great catch. We brought them together and the rest is history - 44 years of history!

Take a look at that fabulous Huskies program today. I love telling this story, especially since taking over the same roles as Bob, is my good friend Larry Uteck. I taught him at Brebuf High School when he was the toughest football player there and an outstanding leader. I am extremely proud of these two individuals.

- Elmer MacGillivray, 1944-49 student,  
1957 football coach





## Bob Boucher

"In my 13 years coaching hockey & other sports at SMU there are many vivid memories that will last a lifetime.

Naturally the hockey moments are the most remembered, particularly the great national final in Charlottetown against the powerhouse University of Toronto. It was when they scored with 30 seconds to go in the game and we mounted tremendous pressure in their goal crease in the final seconds only to come up short on the 3-2 score.

The amazing national championship of Al Keith's 1972 football Huskies and the equally impressive national championships of Brian Heaney's basketball Huskies are also unforgettable.

However in retrospect it is not the games that I coached or witnessed in that era that are most memorable, it is the student athletes of the University that stand out as I reflect on those wonderful years. I feel very fortunate to still have contact with so many of these fine athletes and equally fine human beings.

The athletic program, so brilliantly structured by the incomparable Bob Hayes, was built on unity, team spirit, and tradition. With Father Hennessey as our inspirational leader there was a feeling of family and friendship that is still there today.

Good luck to the current SMU athletes, I hope your experience is as enjoyable and memorable as those of my generation.

*- Bob Boucher, men's hockey coach,  
1966-1980 (led the Huskies to four national  
championships from 1970 to '73)*



## Roy Clements

"The moment that stands out most in my mind at Saint Mary's has to do with Mario Nogueira. He was a Brazilian kid who turned out to be an excellent athlete in soccer. He played for me for two years in the late seventies and was an all-star player. He was one of the most graceful athletes that I had ever seen. Unfortunately though, Mario was involved in a terrible car crash that ended his playing career in the summer of 1980.

Three players that summer, including Mario, stayed in Halifax to play for the Scotia Olympics. While those kids were driving one day, another car ran a stop sign and hit them square on. Two of the other players walked out of the wreck but Mario was severely hurt. He was in a coma for three to four weeks. I visited him every night at the hospital. As did a close friend of mine Nick Spiroupolous, a Saint Mary's booster who had been the owner of the team Mario had been playing for.

With the encouragement of the doctor, we both would yell at Mario like he was on the field in hopes of getting him to come to. We even brought a soccer ball into his room and would place it on his chest while we did this. How effective this was we don't know but at least we felt we were doing something to help. It was quite a help-less feeling.

Mario eventually came out of the coma but he was terribly limited. His athletic career was most certainly over and he had trouble even combing his hair and doing other day to day things that we all take for granted. Mario ended up going back to Brazil and I believe he took the settlement he won from the court case and started a business there.

I remember the first game that we held after the accident. It was played in honour of him. We won this game I recall. Even though we won, I can't help but remembering a terrible sense of loss. I remember how immensely sad I was after the game. He was such a good kid. Never once questioned my coaching. It was always "What do you want me to do coach?"

It's amazing how things like that can happen in a blink of an eye. I haven't spoken to Mario in years... but I'll never forget the contribution that he made while he was here. As an athlete, he was the only player that I ever contacted Manchester United for. He was that gifted. I guess this is the memory that affects me the most when I look back on it all.

*- Roy Clements, men's soccer coach, 1964-82*



Roy Clements standing at left (1965 Santamarian)

## SMU SPORTSBits

•1933 – First American Style Football Match in Halifax. Dalhousie defeated Saint Mary's 13-0 before 1200 fans. The game was played on the Saint Mary's Windsor Street rugby fields – the game of choice until some American students studying at Dal introduced the game to Halifax in this historical match.

•In 1959, Saint Mary's adopted Huskies as the name for men's teams. Previously they had been the Saints in keeping with the tradition of Catholic schools. The Siberian Husky became the official mascot. Other choices on the ballot were falcons, cardinals and 'schmoos' – 48% voted the Husky for mascot.

### Early school sports song

Hikedy chike, hikedy chike  
Solomon, solomon chee  
Rigedy ragedy, rigedy ragedy  
S-M-C

Gee hee, gee ho, gee ha ha ha  
St. Marys, St. Mary's, rah rah rah

### SMU Song

You're a great old school to cheer for,  
We will always fight for you.  
Saint Mary's University,  
Our Alma Mater True.

With Pride and high endeavour,  
We'll play the game with heart!  
As we go on to victory,  
We'll play our loyal part.

We'll take with strength unbaiting,  
What hate may choose to bring,  
With praising voice forever,  
To S-M-U we'll sing.



## Bob Hayes

"In 1958 I was appointed athletic director/football and hockey coach - 25 years young, and ambitious and naive enough to believe that our University with a total student body of 225 males could become a national power.

Forty-two years and several university presidents later, SMU's footprint as an athletic entity was established. It has occurred in lockstep with academic ambitions and the *raison d'être* for our existence, student higher education.

None of the athletic facilities we currently enjoy were present in 1958 and only one building (the McNally) housed our dining room, residence, library, classrooms, gym, labs etc. So much for the good old days!

I have been fortunate in participating directly in a number of championship contests. Regionally and nationally, some winners and some losers. I find it difficult to identify which ones were the most gratifying. The following is one of my most favourite sports moments that never made it to the headlines:

In the 1960s, Saint Mary's became co-educational and our first freshman class had 80 odd women or so. Athletic contests were often included as part of February's winter carnivals at the time. A committee of our new female freshman class came to me and said that they wanted to have a football game as part of the winter carnival. I replied, "fine, but the field is frozen." (We aren't talking artificial field in the 1960s). "Who is playing?" I asked.

They replied, "the Mount."

I said, "if you mean MSVU with over a thousand students, then I will get some of our players to officiate and the balls and flags will be available to you."

They replied, "Coach, we aren't talking touch football. We mean the kind that you guys play."

I said, "tackle football ... smash mouth football?"

They said, "Yes."

Having been fooled by women my whole life, I said ok and supplied the equipment, the refs, the field and the coaches. I told them to not lose the game. The game was a classic, on a cold frozen field temperature 38F degrees. MSVU had initiated the idea, probably thinking that their thousand students could defeat our 85. However, they underestimated our women. By the end of the first half the ladies from Bedford Highway were limping off, by the third quarter some were being carried off. At that point, the good Sisters at MSVU came and asked that the game be called off because of the apparent imbalance of the two teams, not to mention the lopsided score in SMU's favor.

Whether or not any of the women had played tackle football before that game I don't know. But a couple of them were natural hitters and runners.

That leads me to another memorable moment. On a week prior to our

game with Dalhousie (circa 1965), the Tigers were in the 5th year of a four-year rebuilding program, and the outcome was not in doubt in our team's mind. Having chastised and criticised the team for their (realistic) approach and having warned them about overconfidence I had a coach's brain movement.

One of the hitters from the infamous women's winter carnival game was dating a fellow on the men's team. Her name was Barb and I asked her if she would come out and go one on one in a hitting drill against her boyfriend without his knowledge. The plan worked perfectly. She lined up in a three-point stance against him - who I am yelling at to keep distracted - and she unloads on his face mask and knocks him on his posterior. He jumps up and says he wasn't ready and I immediately respond by yelling: "this whole damned team is not ready!"

I told him to take his helmet off. Then I told Barb to take her helmet off. I still can see the look on his face when he realized his girlfriend just put him down literally.

Then I had another idea - why don't we put in a play and utilize this woman to score a touchdown against our worthy opponents from College Street. We don't list her as a woman on the roster and put her inside the three-yard line to run for the automatic touchdown. I told my players, "if anyone touches her you guys will be stepping on your tongues from running at practice next Monday."

I told the press to have a photographer there for a once in a lifetime occurrence. But I left them no details. The faculty advisor and dean of men at SMU, a much admired, feared and loved Jesuit priest and friend of mine, who had access to a number of information services, questioned me thoroughly on Friday morning before the game. He said to me, "Coach, are you aware of the sanctity of women and motherhood and the delicacy of ladies? Are you planning to play one of our female students in the football game on Saturday?"

I knew where this conversation was going and so I replied, "No Father Hennessey, I am not planning to do that." And so the greatest non-athletic event in my experience at Saint Mary's never took place. Had Barb scored that touchdown, would she have been the first woman to do so in college football in North America? Dal might have been so infuriated they would have kept football just to get even with us. Without doubt we would have had a deluge of women trying to get into Saint Mary's to play football. That would be Blake Nill's problem now.

- Bob Hayes, football coach, 1958-69



## Elizabeth Chard

"Almost as soon as the decision was made to admit women as full-time students to Saint Mary's (1968), then Athletic Director Bob Hayes, announced that we would be entering teams in women's sports competition offered by the now defunct Atlantic Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Association. So Hayes and I (the newly appointed dean of women and faculty advisor to women's athletics) went to our first meeting in the Spring of 1969.

To say that we did not receive a royal welcome would be an understatement! At first the other voting delegates (who were all women) did not even want to admit Hayes to the meeting but were eventually forced by their own constitution (which he knew better than they did) to do so. When we applied for entrance into the field hockey competition, much debate and a significant amount of negativity ensued. When I questioned the latter, I was told that if SMU were voted into the conference, we would undoubtedly win (as our men's teams were already doing).

Being somewhat shocked and apparently naive in the ways of intercollegiate sport, I blurted out - "but is that not what an athletic team is supposed to do?" The dirty looks I received suggested that Saint Mary's was already becoming an athletic force with which to be reckoned because Hayes and his coaches believed in excellence - i.e., winning - not just playing for fun.

And over the years, the 1969 prophecy has in many instances and in several women's sports, come to fruition."

- Dr. Elizabeth Chard, registrar and former dean of women and faculty advisor to women's athletics



1965 Collegian



## Kathy Mullane



Kathy in 1987

My favourite moment as a field hockey coach was winning the AUAA field hockey championship in October 1977. We had gone undefeated in league play until the final league game of the year, when Dalhousie upset us, scoring two goals in the last five minutes of the game. That win meant that Dalhousie finished first and won the right to host the AUAA Championships and the right to take on all the organizational responsibilities that went hand in hand with hosting. All we had to do was show up and play.

And play we did, beating UNB 2 - 0 in the semi-final to set up the final against Dalhousie. We won that game and went on to represent the AUAA in the CIAU Field Hockey Championships at McGill. We finished third, and had the high stick rule been changed a year earlier we would have won the CIAU Championship. But that's another story.

My favourite moment as a basketball coach was our first league game against UNB in our gym in November 1979. It was one of the few games we won against UNB (the powerhouse in women's basketball at the time) in the 70s and 80s. We won the game by playing aggressive defence; thereby beating UNB at their own game.

This same team worked hard through the year carrying out numerous fund-raising events allowing them to travel to England. The team flew on a Freddie Laker flight to England, where we travelled for two weeks playing a series of games against university and club teams in England and Scotland.

— Kathy Mullane, women's field hockey coach, 1973-84 and basketball, 1973-80 First female coached hired at Saint Mary's

## Susan Dunbrack Beazley

"One of the best memories I have is my first year playing field hockey. We played Junior Varsity in 1973 and ended up in the play-offs in Truro. That season we went 13 wins and three ties - not bad for our first year. During league play it was a lot of fun.

Kim and I had played together on the Canada games team and also the senior Nova Scotia team. I was her wing, she always got the ball, sent it to me, and I would run the wing and pass back, and she would score. When you play with someone for a time you just know where they will be.

We went to Truro to play in the play-offs. We won our first game but we were to meet Dal in the final. It was a rainy day and the girls were ready. It was a great game and we won, it was a great feeling to beat Dal 1-0. The first banner for our school in female sports (a new venture at Saint Mary's at the time). The next year we were declared a varsity team. We proved we were able to compete in varsity sports. That year we finished third in field hockey and basketball. Kathy Mullane was a great coach and did a lot for the girls. Through her hard work and believing in us we did it.

Other memories were races against football players, and we all no who won! Basketball trips to Montreal. Great experience!

— Susan Dunbrack Beazley, 1973-76, basketball and field hockey

## Al Keith

Two milestones come to mind when I think of Saint Mary's football.

1) The first defeat of St. FX by a conference team in seven years. A one point win by the 1964 team and our first appearance in the Atlantic Bowl heralded the start of a competitive league in Atlantic Canada. Up until then it was St. FX and the rest of us.

2) While winning the 1973 Vanier Cup in the then College Bowl was a thrill, it was our victory over Laurier in the Atlantic Bowl that remains a highlight for me. We became the first Atlantic team to reach the College Bowl after it became the national championship. Laurier was the overwhelming favourite, having won the Ontario Championship by 40 points.

Discipline to assignments and grit by a great team were the keys to victory. That team was the only team ever to win the national championship using players with only four years eligibility. The rest of Canada had five and the AUAA went to that year later.

— Al Keith, football coach, 1969-77



## Father Hennessey - Saint Mary's Athletics Spiritual Leader





# Time for Wine

Saint Mary's University invites you to an evening of Wine and Cheese Tasting and a Silent Auction. This fundraising event, hosted by Costas Halavrezos from Maritime Noon, CBC Radio, will be held on Friday, February 7, 2003 from 7 pm to 9 pm in the Loyola Conference Hall.



A selection of international wines, ports and cheeses will be available. A silent auction will be held featuring unique items.

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