

# Lions' Pride

Of Saint Leo University

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## Employers coming to Saint Leo

Create those resumes, buy some professional attire, and prepare to be interviewed.



Photograph by Leigh Shaw (U-WIRE - U. Alabama)

BY MELANIE WEITZ  
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

SAINT LEO - You no longer have to travel all the way to Orlando to interview for a job!

This March, Saint Leo will offer a job fair exclusively for Saint Leo University students only. In the past, students who wanted to attend a job fair had to travel to Orlando, where twelve private universities, Saint Leo University included, got together for Career Expo.

However, students now have a choice. What you can expect from this job fair is a variety of different companies who have come together to give students information on jobs, internships, and other opportunities that students may have with their companies.

Between 30 - 40 employers will be looking for highly sophisticated, determined students to add to their corporations. Employers who will attend include: Sea World, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department, South Western Florida Water Management, and Geico. No matter what companies are present, there will be a job for every major on campus.

In order to make the perfect impression on these employers,

students should dress in professional attire. Therefore, men should wear: dress pants, a collared shirt, tie, and jacket. Women should wear: a dress or skirt, nice blouse, or a business suit. Wear something that will make an impression on the employers. Tank tops, jeans, and sneakers are not allowed! Make sure to bring at least 20 resumes to hand out to the employers.

Don't have a resume? Don't worry.

"Students can receive help with their resume through Career Services in DeChantal Hall, room 24 or 25," said Eric Vaughn. "Beverly Baehr, director of career services and [I], assistant director of career services, will be happy to help any student with writing or critiquing a resume."

This is Saint Leo University's first job fair, and it is open to every Saint Leo student and alumni. Some students who have gone to the career expo in Orlando are happy that one is coming to the Saint Leo University campus.

"It's good if you are looking for a job or an internship," said sophomore Christine Gore. "It's especially good for seniors looking for jobs after they graduate."

Senior Curtis Robinson thought "that the career expo in

Orlando was great. It helped me get to know what companies are looking for in their future employees. It was a great way to meet people from a company and find out what they are looking for and also to make a good first impression with someone in the company. I will be attending the job fair [here at Saint Leo]."

This job fair will be on Thursday, March 25 from 12:00pm - 3:00pm. It will be at the west end of the cafeteria in the Raleigh Greene Room. Make sure to bring your confidence, eye contact, and interest. Don't miss out on this opportunity.

### Saint Leo University Career Fair.

Thursday, March 25, 2004  
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Raleigh Greene Room and  
West End of Cafeteria

Open to Saint Leo University  
students and alumni only.

<http://www.saintleo.edu/SaintLeo/Templates/Inner.aspx?pid=3654>

# Opinions

EDITORIAL

## Bigger stall not just for convenience

BY DAVEEN RAE KURUTZ  
The Pitt News (U. Pittsburgh)

(U-WIRE) PITTSBURGH — Have you ever seen someone pop a wheelie on Fifth Avenue? I have.

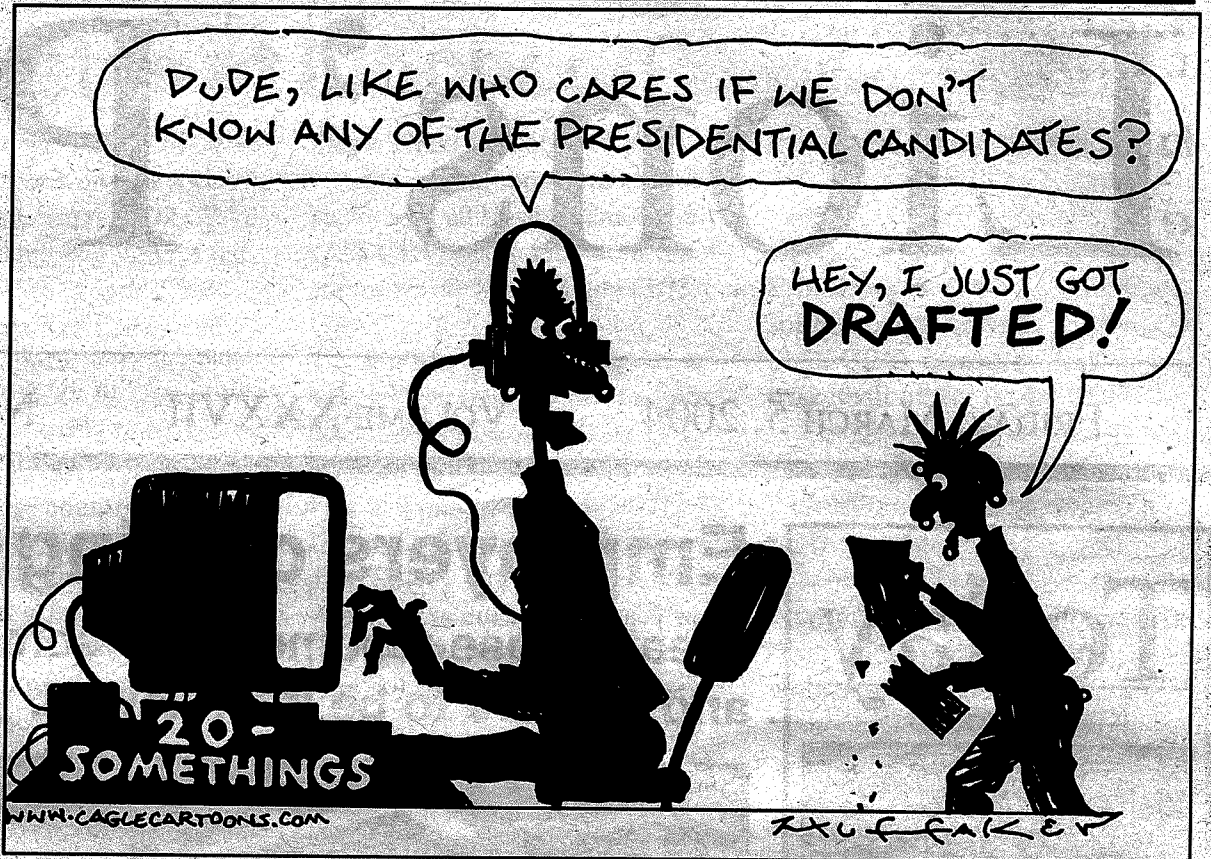
My mother has been wheelchair-bound since I was 10. Last semester, I had an appointment at Student Health, and I asked her to come with me. Imagine my surprise when she went to use the ramp after crossing Bouquet Street and all of the sudden, her front wheels were in the air for a second as she balanced precariously on her back wheels.

This is but one of the many difficulties a person in a wheelchair must face every day. Until you have been in their shoes, is difficult to believe how many facets of life are affected by a disability. Most department stores are inaccessible to the handicapped because of space constraints. With overflowing clothing racks, it is very easy for a jacket to catch on a chair, potentially causing injury. Another task made more difficult by a wheelchair is using a public restroom. Have you ever noticed that no one respects the handicapped stall anymore? Mothers with children or people needing to change clothes will use the stall, using the excuse that it's bigger. We're all guilty of that one.

According to the American Disability Association, in Florida, two handicapped patrons were refused service at a restaurant because they were in wheelchairs. Here in Pennsylvania, a handicapped individual was only seated at a restaurant once they were willing to abandon their wheelchair and get into a booth.

The discrimination doesn't end with people in wheelchairs. A person with leukemia was actually denied admittance to a New Jersey professional school based on their cancer. A restaurant in New York would not allow a person with a hearing dog to enter. The ADA receives thousands of complaints each week of discriminatory actions that occur throughout the United States.

Disabled people have enough difficulty with mobility. They do not need these additional inconveniences, or in some cases, harassments. Imagine if you had to rely on others for some of the most normal tasks. Giving up that kind of control is not easy.



Accommodations are made for a reason. I see able-bodied people parking in handicapped spaces all the time. Why not park just a little further from the door and let someone who really needs that spot have it? If people would just be a little nicer, a little more caring, perhaps this world would be a brighter place. There are some people who are so aggravated with the blatant discrimination out there that they don't even want to go out anymore.

So what can we do about it? Simple: think of others first. Don't use the handicapped stall because it's easier. If you work in a department

store, make sure your aisles are cleared so people in wheelchairs can get through. Don't park in the handicapped space outside the Cathedral when you need to run in to print out something. If you see someone struggling, help them out.

A few years ago, I came upon a man in a manual wheelchair trying to push himself up a steep hill. I offered to help him, and he happily accepted my offer. He told me how he rarely saw anyone who was willing to help out a disabled person. It's as simple as holding open a door. It's a random act of kindness. After all, that person might be someone's mother.

## Students need to find their votes

BY YVETTE OWO  
Lions' Pride Editor

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN, Texas — Last fall at a forum about the tuition increase, only 60 out of 51,426 enrolled students attended. I'm sure that more than 60 students had something to say about the hundreds of dollars that would come out of their pockets every semester.

On the University level, many students ignore the political process, including their right to vote, thinking that their opinion will make no difference.

The diversity curriculum, the tuition hike and the current bus driver controversy, are all situations in which we can stand up for our rights. Unfortunately, many valid opinions are being lost in the shuffle. I call these students the lost ones. The decision-makers never hear from them, because their opinions are lost in a sea of complaints.

On the national level, however, 81 percent of

college students feel that whom they vote for will make a difference in the presidential election. Yet, only 44 percent of undergraduate and graduate students voted in the 2000 presidential elections. The nonvoting 56 percent of college students are part of the lost ones.

Coming in March are the Texas presidential primaries, and in November, the presidential election. Our opinions should not be lost then either. Federal government legislation directly affects the lives of college students. Universities nationwide are increasing tuition. But the federal government hasn't increased funding for Pell Grants, which are supposed to keep us from going into debt. If the funding for Pell Grants stays constant while tuition increases, we end up paying more out of pocket costs for college. Recent tax-cut legislation allows some families with college students a minimal increase in tax refunds, but decreases how much the student receives in federal aid, a relatively higher amount.

Staring us in the face are examples of how the government influences our daily lives. How much we pay for tuition affects how many hours a week many students work, how much disposable income students have and whether or not some students even continue with their education. Why should we lay down and let ourselves be run over by bureaucracy? I am not calling for a revolution; I am calling students to stand up for themselves. Why should I be one of the lost ones, when I can express myself with a simple vote? I enjoy knowing that my vote can cancel out the vote of some 45-year-old executive with half a million dollars in the bank.

Voting is easy. For first-time voters, here is a quick summary of the procedure. You can

## WRITE HERE

The Lions' Pride newsroom is located in portable #4, which is on the west side of St. Edward's Hall. Our phone number is (352) 588-8195.

Send letters to the editor to lions.pride@saintleo.edu

Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department.

Please include a phone number (not for publication) so we can verify authorship. All letters are subject to editing.

The Lions' Pride reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

VOTING CON'T NEXT PAGE

# More apartments on the horizon

## Phase II has started, and by 2005, SLU will have another apartment complex.

**BY FRANCINE ROSARIO**  
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

**SAINT LEO** - Even with the opening of the new apartments last year, Saint Leo is still facing a bed shortage problem in fall of 2004.

Because retention rates and enrollment keep increasing, Saint Leo does not have enough dorm space. The administration projects an 89 bed shortage for the 2004-2005 school year; therefore, they have no choice but to put in action a Phase II apartment complex to be completed by fall of 2005.

"Instead of setting up beds in the bathroom or the gym like they did in Revenge of the Nerds, we need to build more," said Dr. Edward Dadez, vice president of student affairs. "We are getting

ready to build Phase II of the apartment complex."

The Phase II apartments will be located directly behind Phase I, keeping the courtyard and enabling students to look at the big tree by the picnic area. Phase II will be made up of two buildings, and both buildings will be four stories high, complete with 272 beds and equipped with elevators. Because many students want to have their own rooms by their junior and senior year, most of the new apartments are going to be single quads. There are also plans to build a conference room at the end of one of the apartment buildings with a patio looking out towards the lake.

"We also have in design a new boat pavilion," Dadez said. "There would be a place to store canoes

and kayaks and sailboats, restroom facilities, and a fire place and a barbecue pit."

Cray Croft Architects, in association with American Campus Communities, designed the Phase II apartments, as well as Phase I. With the new buildings, Marmion and Snyder will continue to house freshmen, Benoit and Henderson will continue to have a mixture of both freshmen and sophomores, Roderick will probably become all sophomore by next year, and Alumni will probably move toward housing sophomores also. So by fall of 2005, main campus might look like a sophomore world.

The campus expansion simply shows that Saint Leo University must be doing something right because expansion has not ended.

# How to plan for the best spring break

**BY ALEXANDRIA CRONIN**  
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

**SAINT LEO** - As most students do, I began the countdown to spring break as soon as I got back to school. The first plan of action is always how are we going to have the most amount of fun possible in a week's time. Then, the biggest question pops into my mind. How am I going to pay the least amount of money for the most amount of fun?

The first step is to start planning. The best idea is to go with a large group of friends. Businesses are more likely to make deals if there is a large group of people. Plus, a lot of friends sharing one room allows you to cut the cost of the room. After you have the number of people, then decide on the destination. The destination is usually the hardest

part of planning a spring break, especially with a large group. After you have picked a great vacation spot, then research the prices. This is key.

To enable you to pay the least amount of money, you should set a limit that you are willing and able to spend. Without a limit, you can very easily spend outside of your means. With a limit set, you only take that amount of money with you, with some form or another for any emergencies (i.e. credit card, debit card, or atm card). That way, the only cash you have on hand is what you mean to spend. Next you need to find the things to do for the amount of money you wish to spend.

Not every spring break is "Spring Break Cancun," but you can still have fun without going wild. Safety is not something that most people think about in reference to

spring break, but it is an issue. If you are safe, then you can still have a great time without the horrible after-effects that come from having an unsafe time, and there will be no need to worry about the consequences later.

After picking the destination, get in contact with the hotels and activities directors early. This way you can establish a base amount and possibly negotiate for a lesser amount. Hotels may lower your fee because of the amount of people or because you have established a repertoire. It never hurts to try.

Spring break is not about going wild, but about having fun with friends. Partying is a state of mind. It is not about getting smashed with a bunch of strangers who will never remember you the next day. If you want to actually remember spring break, then you will make it one worthwhile.

### VOTING CON'T

register to vote when you get a new driver's license or at various voter registration drives. A few weeks later you receive a voter's registration card in the mail. On election day, you take your registration card or your driver's license with you to your voting location and cast your ballot.

College students have influenced national policy since events such as the women's rights marches in the '20s, Civil rights sit-ins in the '60s and protests to free Nelson Mandela in the '90s. We need to keep showing our numbers.

Why are 56 percent of college students lost? If 81 percent of students think that their opinions are important, 81 percent of college students should vote. Why be one of the bunch when you can be one vote?

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I retired here 10 years ago from New Jersey and although I live in Pasco County, my wife and I have attended a number of your baseball and basketball games over the years. We are big Lions fans and are proud of the effort the men's basketball team gives. The students who sit nearby are always very kind to both of us.

Having said that, I do have a concern. A number of times I have seen our men's basketball players slam-dunking during the warm-up period. I understand that is against the rules. I'd hate to see us get penalized or worse, one of the fellows get hurt. Normally, they show good sportsmanship.

I realize that many people will think this a petty, irrelevant topic from an old man with nothing better to do than notice something minor like this. Maybe they are right, but I just wanted to voice my concern. I'm still a big fan though. Go Lions,  
Sincerely,  
Bill Diddle  
Hudson, Florida

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# Have a Safe and Happy Spring Break!

The Staff of The Lions' Pride

## Don't Forget To

# VOTE

**Did you know...**that you can register to vote at any time. However, to vote in an election, you must be registered in the county where you live by the closing date, which is 29 days before each election?

**Did you know...**that to vote in a Democratic or Republican Primary Election, you must be registered in that party? In addition, if you plan to switch parties, then it must be done 29 days or more prior to the election?

**Did you know...**that changes to your voter registration record must be submitted in writing and signed by you, the voter.

**Did you know...**that if you move to another Florida county (or out of state) and wish to be eligible to vote, you must register to vote in that county (or state) 29 days or more prior to the election?

**Did you know...**that if you live out of state and do not wish to register in this state that you need to apply for an absentee ballot?

**Did you know...**that when requesting an absentee ballot, whether by phone or by letter, you must provide the last four digits of your social security number, your name, residence address, date of birth, and voter identification number?

**Did you know...**that you need to sign your voter identification card and take it and your Florida Driver's License (or another form of picture identification showing your signature) to the polls, which on Election Day are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and are normally less busy during mid-morning and mid-afternoon.

### Dates To Remember

**Presidential Primary** **March 9**  
(last day to register to vote in this election is February 9)

**Primary Election** **August 31**  
(last day to register to vote in this election is August 2)

**General Election** **November 2**  
(last day to register to vote in this election is October 4)

# Bush declines endorsing job predictions

**Bush is distancing himself from the predictions of his top economic advisors and declines to endorse a 2.6 million job increase.**

BY VANESSA MALTIM  
U-WIRE (DC BUREAU)

(U-WIRE) WASHINGTON —

With fears that the Democratic presidential nominee could make an issue of his failure to meet projections, President Bush declined to endorse an estimate last Monday made by his economic advisers that the U.S. economy will add 2.6 million jobs this year.

In the past five months, the economy has produced only 366,000 new jobs-to make the 2.6 million mark would require an average of 266,000 per month for the remainder of the year.

The Presidents Economic Report, an annual report that has been put out for the past 20 years, is submitted to the president by the Council of Economic Advisors and is based on economic modeling and data that is available at that specific point in time-in this case December 2003.

"The report does not propose any new policy initiatives but, instead, uses the tools of economic analysis to shed light on recent developments in the economy, the challenges facing economic policymakers, and the intellectual

foundation for Administration policies," said Dr. N. Gregory Mankiw, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors.

Repeatedly asked why Bush is distancing himself from the predictions of his top economic advisors, White House Press Secretary, Scott McClellan said that the President is focused on acting on policies to create as robust an environment for job creation as possible in order to help those who are hurting because they are looking for work and cannot find a job.

"The President is encouraged by the direction the economy is moving. It is growing strong-or growing stronger, I should say," McClellan said in a White House press briefing. "There have been more than 366,000 new jobs created in the last five months. The unemployment rate continues to decline. It is now at the lowest point it has been in two years, and it is below the average of the '70s, '80s, and '90s."

But as the President focuses on enacting policies that will bring jobs to middle America, Democratic front-runner, Sen. John Kerry, kicked off a job tour to show the people in nine Super Tuesday

states that he is the best man to bring jobs back to Americans.

On his tour, Kerry said he would propose creating jobs through manufacturing job credits by investing in new energy industries, restoring technology and stopping layoffs in education.

"Under President Bush's watch, this country has lost 3 million jobs and our manufacturing workforce is at a more than fifty year low," Kerry said in a statement to the press. "We've gone from the biggest surpluses to the biggest deficits in our history."

Kerry said that Bush promised that his tax cuts would create 3.9 million new jobs.

"So far he's lost 3 million," Kerry said.

Kerry also said that four years ago Democrats fought for a provision that would protect American jobs from Chinese companies that tried to dump imports in America.

"But when a company in New Jersey saw American jobs disappearing to China and asked George Bush to enforce that provision and provide the relief we were promised, he said 'no,'" Kerry said.

But while the candidates

battle out the job situation, college students are watching from the sidelines — often confused by the political and numerical jargon.

"When candidates debate about the economy and jobs they are just spouting off numbers, percentages and stock market values," said Lee Edwards, a freshman at Olin College of Engineering. "The numbers let them float over the top of their audience's heads because hardly anyone really understands what they are talking about."

Edwards said that while working to get students to register to vote on his campus he has learned that young people are concerned about jobs and the economy because the issues greatly affect their families-but that most of his friends are holding out for a candidate with personality that will blow them away.

"If we have another Al Gore like candidate we can count on another four years with Bush," Edwards said. "Young people are looking for someone with charisma and the brains to get our country back on track."

## A University with a View



Photograph by Rachel Blackwood

*From the new apartments, students can look out across the green grass and onto Lake Jovita to enjoy the breathtaking view of a beautiful spring day.*

# Arts & Entertainment

## MUSIC REVIEW

### *Feels Like Home*

BY JENNIFER REILLY

Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Jazz vocalist Norah Jones released her sophomore album, *Feels Like Home*, on February 10, 2004. Her first album, *Come Away With Me*, brought her success in the form of eight Grammys, including album of the year. At first listen, *Feels Like Home* felt way too much like home, warm and familiar, but at the same time too basic. After releasing a successful album, I assumed Jones would expand upon her already mature musical talent. After further listening, I discovered she has in some ways, but in others she has played it safe.

Jones names Billie Holiday as one of her major influences, and this is evident through her blues styling. However, with this style, she mixes folk and country influences and creates a smooth southern sound. Her first album established her as a talented piano pop musician, and her second reinforces this while adding a bit of a bluegrass sound.

To increase the southern style even more, guest Dolly Parton pairs up with Jones on the song, "Creepin' In." Both artists' low-key voices combine to form a song fit for line dancing. In typical country style, the song depicts images of ordinary occurrences that can put a damper on the day. The lyrics describe a hole in a shoe that requires the wearer to "creep on in." The lyrics may be simple, but it is the effortless style of Jones' music that makes it enjoyable, easy listening.

Unfortunately, as Jones varies the style of her songs, she does not alter the tempo. She has fallen into a habit of using moderate beats to guide her already easy-going songs. True musical talent displays diversity among rhythm and mood of songs. Jones' album fails to deliver this range.

Fans of Jones will enjoy the second album because it shows remnants of the first. Her voice is naturally mellow and logically leads the listener to a state of relaxation. Jones' boyfriend and bassist, Lee Alexander, is an obvious influence on the song writer's lyrics. The lyrics are sweet and caring, and it is apparent that the couple is entirely smitten with each other. "What Am I to You?" lyrics include, "When I look in your eyes / I can feel the butterflies / I love you when you're blue / Tell me darlin' true / What am I to you?" Although the lyrics are quite sappy, the romance may be appreciated by fans of adult contemporary music.

I, unfortunately, after much consideration, have decided that *Feels Like Home* is filled with a lot of talent but feels too much like a rerun. Some things you can listen to repeatedly. Certain songs evoke emotions no matter how many times they hit your ear. *Feels Like Home* does not contain this power.

## MOVIE REVIEW

### *'Havana Nights' missteps*

BY LAURIE LO

Daily Bruin (U. California-Los Angeles)

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES - I am sad to say I didn't have the time of my life ... again with "Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights."

While the film slavishly follows the formula of the original "Dirty Dancing," all of the familiarity that hooked audiences in the original rendition is rushed through without a second thought in the remake. First there is the overriding story of Katey Miller (Romola Garai), and her entrance into the decadent life of Havana, at least from the standpoint of white affluence. Dismayed by the snooty attitudes of her fellow rich socialites, Katey finds comfort in the hotel waiter, Javier (Diego Luna), who also happens to grind and shake with the best of them.

After getting caught associating with Katey, Javier is laid off. Ridden with guilt, Katey enlists Javier's skills in a dance competition that, if they perform well, their winnings could financially benefit his family. Katey's stiff ballroom number routines encounter undiscovered territory against Javier's impassioned body rhythms.

Also interlaced with this story is the subplot of the Cuban revolution. The revolution is brushed up and sanitized to the point where it seems unnecessary. The film's short interjections of political strife do not do justice to the real events. The political references to romanticize the events.

"Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights" seemed to be two movies rolled into one, as director Guy Ferland didn't really pick between a love story about dancing or a movie about the revolution. The chemistry between Katey and Javier is continuously interrupted for the sake of political commentary.

## Academy should take comedies more seriously

COMMENTARY BY JAKE TRACER

Daily Bruin (U. California-Los Angeles)

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES - So it seems this year's Oscar race is primed to become the Academy's personal tribute to "The Lord of the Rings" — and deservedly so. Considering neither of the trilogy's first two installments won Oscars for Best Picture or Best Director, "The Return of the King" should take both.

But, ironically enough, as the Academy works to honor arguably the most successful trilogy in the history of film, it will miss out in honoring the best in filmmaking this year.

Recently, The New York Times film critic A.O. Scott wrote, "We are living in an extraordinary period, one we will eventually look back upon as a golden age of screen acting."

He's partially right, but in singling out intense, dramatic performances such as Charlize Theron's in "Monster" and Sean Penn's in "Mystic River," he's partially right for entirely the wrong reasons.

What made 2003 a promising year for the future of film acting was not the work of actors in typical Oscar-material roles but their work in comedies.

This year, both Johnny Depp ("Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl") and Bill Murray ("Lost in Translation") are nominated for Best Actor for comic roles. In another comedic performance, Diane Keaton ("Something's Gotta Give") is nominated for Best Actress. And a lot of people wanted Ellen DeGeneres to get an Oscar nomination for her role in "Finding Nemo." Their performances, along with others like Jack Black's in "School of Rock," Jamie Lee Curtis' in "Freaky Friday," and even Will Ferrell's in "Elf" form a talented core that deserves to be considered come Oscar time.

If anyone nominated for a comedy this year wins, it may open the door for similar nominations in the immediate future. With the epic "The Lord of the Rings" finally concluded and the country's mind increasingly having to think about larger political issues, Hollywood may do what Hollywood does best in troubling times: Provide entertainment. On top of all that, many consider "Lost in Translation" deserving of the Best Picture Oscar, were "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" not in the race. Sofia Coppola's tale of isolation may not be a comedy in the same way as "Something's Gotta Give," but its smart subtlety continues to resonate with audiences.

The best comedy is comedy with drama within it, and Murray's performance is both touching and painfully funny. It all stems from Coppola's trust in her actor to know when to be funny and when not to be, allowing him the room to enhance his performance by finding the human anguish hidden within his punch lines and physical routines. That's also the sign of a good screenplay, for which Coppola deserves more credit.

In general, both the Academy and the public view comedy as a lesser art than drama, and it's really a shame. The last person to win either Best Actor or Best Actress for a comedy performance was Roberto Benigni in 1998 for "Life is Beautiful," which is really even less of a comedy than "Lost in Translation."

Yet with an unheard-of three top acting nominations going to comedic performances, everyone's talking about Theron and Penn. Hopefully, though, if one of those three can win, there might be four or five comedy performances nominated next year, creating an even playing field between comedy and drama. It's never been that way before, but that's the way it should be.

Regardless, both storylines are weak and half-heartedly undertaken.

Normally, a film involving romance and a revolution would be fine in a drama. But since this is a "Dirty Dancing" movie, there automatically exists a sense of frivolousness that comes with the territory. After all, the dancing is supposed to be the film's main focus. Disappointingly, the famous final dance, known for the moment when the protagonist sheds her uptight persona, is cut short for political reasons.

If the decision was made to separate "Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights" from the original, the choice could be excusable. But apparently, they aren't separate movies because Patrick Swayze shows up playing his character from the original "Dirty Dancing," Johnny Castle.

Here's the odd thing: "Dirty Dancing" is set in the 1960s and was filmed in 1987, wherein Swayze was in his mid-30s playing a guy in his 20s. "Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights" is set in 1958 and was filmed in 2003; thus Swayze is in his 50s playing a guy in his teens.

And it shows.

# Sports

## Senior basketball players honored

**BY WALT RIDDLE**  
SLU Sports Information Director

**SAINT LEO** - As senior Javier Veloso's career draws to a close as a collegiate basketball player at Saint Leo University certain games will never be forgotten by the Miami, FL native.

One such game took place in Melbourne, FL where the Lions were attempting to hold on and win their first Sunshine State Conference game of the season against Florida Tech.

The Panthers picked Veloso to foul with 44 seconds remaining in regulation and Saint Leo leading 78-73. Veloso responded, hitting both charity tosses. Again, with 18 ticks of the clock left and the Lions clinging to an 80-76 lead, the Panthers again fouled Veloso, who made his first toss. He did miss the second, but the damage had been done by his initial three free throws made as the Lions

came away with an 83-79 win.

It completed a week where the Lions began play Wednesday by losing 86-68 but the win over Florida Tech moved the team into a tie for seventh place in the league with the Panthers at 1-11. The Lions stand 4-20 overall.

Veloso was the lone senior honored on the men's team when the Lions met league rival Lynn University. The business management major, who carries a 3.50 grade point average, is the son of Frank and Ana Veloso. He is the team's co-captain.

The Saint Leo University women's basketball team and guard Shannon Cummings of Weare, NH and guard/forward September Harrison of Tampa, FL were honored prior to the Sunshine State Conference game with Lynn University.

Harrison has been a starter all

three years she has been with the Lions and heads into this week as the leading scorer in the league (21.8) and second leading rebounds (9.5). She holds the school record for most points in one season with 523 points and has a minimum of three games remaining in her collegiate career.

The Tampa, FL resident has scored 1,165 points and has grabbed 566 rebounds during her career. Harrison has a 3.30 grade point average and will graduate with a degree in English.

Cummings started her sophomore and senior year for Saint Leo and has been a key member of the team all four years. She is averaging 6.6 points and leads the team in assists with 65.

Cummings has a 3.57 GPA and her major is elementary education. She is serving her teaching internship at Wesley Chapel Elementary School and just recently was hired to be a full time teacher in the fourth grade there, beginning in the fall. She has been a two time member of the President's Club at Saint Leo.

## First ever victory

**BY WALT RIDDLE**  
SLU Sports Information Director

**SAINT LEO** - It was celebration time for Coach Tom FitzSimons and the Saint Leo University men's club lacrosse team.

The Lions, in their second year fielding a club team, defeated Ocala 15-12 and in the process kept the Marion County team from gaining a spot in the post-season playoffs. It was sweat revenge for Saint Leo, who lost 7-6 to Ocala in overtime earlier in the year. The Ocala team is made up of former collegiate players.

Saint Leo was led by John Hathaway with five goals and two assists, Lew Farwell with four goals, Jesse Thibodaux and Cohn Fiore with two goals each, Chris LaPorte with three assists, Louis Curry with three assists, Louis Curry with two assists and Justen Bednarz and Jake Johnson with one goal apiece. Andrew Lee was all over ground balls with 12 gained, while Curry and Fiore had eight each, Garrett Temple six and Chris Olsen four. Adam Wittenberg was a rock in goal once again with 22 saves.

"We continually moved the ball up field to create the advantages we needed in the transition game," said FitzSimons. "Clearly the speed and youth of our team made the difference."

like Lenny Cooke, D' Angelo Collins — nobody talks about them. They become basketball vagabonds, bouncing to one place after another.

**Kernel:** In the past week we've seen Christian Dreijer (Florida) and Maris Laksa (Providence) leave college to play professionally overseas. What impact will that have on the sport?

**Vitale:** It's really sad that guys quit their teams in the middle of the year. I hope that doesn't become a trend in college basketball. It certainly would be a sad commentary on the game that kids would quit on their team.

**Kernel:** Do you think something should be done to stop it?

**Vitale:** Yeah, I do.

**Kernel:** How do you feel about the criticism student sections are getting for abusive language and inappropriate behavior after games?

**Vitale:** There's no place for it. Cheering and having a good time and being passionate — there's nothing wrong with that. But to go out there and use profanities and say a team sucks and all that — there's no place for that.

## Women's Tennis Team Beats Florida Tech, Men Bow To Panthers

**BY WALT RIDDLE**  
SLU Sports Information Director

**SAINT LEO** - The Saint Leo women's tennis team posted its initial victory of the season and first win in Sunshine State Conference play in two years, turning back Florida Tech 6-3 on the road. The Lions are now 1-1 in league play and 1-5 overall. They fell 6-3 to Webber International University on the road.

The Lion men dropped a 9-0 decision to Eckerd College at home and took Florida Tech to the final match of the day before falling 5-4. They lost 9-0 to Rollins College on the road and now stand 0-6 on the year.

Against Webber, those posting

victories in singles included No. 1 player junior Iskra Nikolovska of Skopje, Macedonia by scores of 6-2, 6-0, and sophomore Nikki Prack of Hudson, FL at No. 5 singles by scores of 6-3, 6-0. Nikolovska and freshman Ashley Johansen of Huntington, NY won at No. 1 doubles, 8-4.

The Lions won at No. 1 doubles and No. 2 doubles against Florida Tech. Nikolovska and Johansen won 8-4, while Prack and freshman Katie Kiernan of Seminole, FL combined to take the No. 2 doubles by 8-2.

Florida Tech won singles matches at No. 1 and No. 6, but the Lions swept two through five. Johansen won at No. 2, 6-1, 6-0; Kiernan at No. 3, 6-0, 6-1; Prack at No. 4, 6-0, 6-0; and sophomore Stephanie Sonntag of Whiteland, IN at No. 6, 6-2, 7-5.

In the men's match against Florida Tech, junior Adrian Nakayama of Bradenton, FL teamed with junior B.J. Grant of



Iskra Nikolovska

Parrish, FL to win at No. 3 doubles by an 8-2 score. Freshman Anas Aldahoud of Ajloun, Jordan won at No. 3 singles by scores of 6-3, 2-6, 6-3; sophomore All Elnaamani of Saida, Lebanon won at No. 4 singles by scores of 7-5, 6-1, and freshman Mohamad Elnaamani of Saida, Lebanon won at No. 5 singles by scores of 6-7 (3-7), 6-4, 10-7 (super tiebreaker).

## INTERVIEW: 'Dickie V' talks NCAA basketball

**BY BEN ROBERTS**  
Kentucky Kernel (U. Kentucky)

(U-WIRE) LEXINGTON, Ky. — College basketball announcer Dick Vitale will visit Lexington, Ky., to sign copies of his new book, "Living a Dream: Reflections on 25 Years Sitting in the Best Seat in the House."

He recently talked with the Kernel NCAA hoops.

**Kernel:** How did you start your broadcast career?

**Vitale:** I met Scott Connal, who was later named head of ESPN. He

called me when I got fired by the Pistons and said he'd love to take my enthusiasm and put me into a television situation. I did my very first game in 1979. Little did I know it was going to take off and become a situation where for 25 years I'd be having the time of my life making a living doing something I love — talking about basketball.

**Kernel:** If you could change one thing about college basketball, what would it be?

**Vitale:** I'd like to see something that could keep kids from jumping to the

NBA so early when they're not ready. For every LeBron James, there are loads of other kids that just aren't ready, and I write about that in my new book.

**Kernel:** When players leave early, how does that affect the sport?

**Vitale:** A lot of players aren't ready to make that transition. They can score, but they don't have that winning mentality yet. Obviously, LeBron James and Carmelo Anthony are unique. But there are a lot of other kids out there like James Lang, who got cut this year. Guys

# Sports

## SLU honors athletes at luncheon

**BY WALT RIDDLE**  
SLU Sports Information Director

**SAINT LEO** - Twenty eight Saint Leo University student-athletes were honored February 26 at the President's Club Luncheon.

University President Dr. Arthur F. Kirk, Jr., presented awards to each of the student-athletes who excelled in their studies and were in the top 15 percent of all student-athletes in the 2003 fall semester.

Three student-athletes were being honored for the fourth time. They included senior baseball player Cameron O'Connell (3.75 grade point average), junior men's

soccer player Niel Laxdal (4.00 GPA) and junior women's soccer player Caron Lumbra (3.92 GPA).

Those being honored for the third time included men's cross country runner Ken Corigliano (3.76 GPA), junior softball player Heather Gamlin (3.82 GPA), senior softball player Gina McKeon (3.67 GPA), junior women's cross country runner Amber Getz (4.00 GPA), senior women's golfer Heather Pacana (3.63 GPA), senior women's soccer player Angie DeAngelis (3.67 GPA), senior volleyball player Toniann Kelly (4.00 GPA) and sophomore volleyball and women's tennis

player Nikki Prack (3.81 GPA).

Second time honorees included senior softball player Alena Gerrell (3.96 GPA), and senior women's soccer player Helen Brady (3.73 GPA).

Student-athletes being honored for the first time included sophomore baseball player Jeff Germano (3.64 GPA), sophomore baseball player Richie Hittel (3.73 GPA), freshman baseball player Josh Spivey (3.87 GPA), freshman men's cross country runner Tony Dirth (4.00 GPA), sophomore men's soccer player Giancarlo Conte (3.67 GPA), sophomore men's soccer player Danny Rissanen (3.72 GPA), sophomore

men's soccer player Brent Stanze (3.87 GPA); Sophomore men's tennis player Ali el Naamani (3.71 GPA), freshman softball player Erin Brunt (3.77 GPA), sophomore softball player Colleen Sanders (3.58 GPA), freshman women's basketball player Andrea Baluarte (3.71 GPA), senior women's cross country runner Melanie Ladenheim, freshman women's soccer player Casie Poysick (3.69 GPA); Freshman women's soccer player Katie Stephenson (3.67 GPA), and freshman women's tennis player Dacey Mahoney (3.64 GPA).

## Villegas takes over women's golf program

**BY WALT RIDDLE**  
SLU Sports Information Director

**SAINT LEO** - Rebecca Villegas has been selected as head golf coach at Saint Leo University.

Villegas, a 2001 graduate of the University of South Florida with a Bachelor of Science degree in Wellness Leadership and a 3.40 grade point average, also will be a fitness instructor and personal trainer at the Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club in Dade City, FL.

Six months after graduation, the 25-year-old native of West Warwick, RI qualified for the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Futures Tour. She played on the tour for two years and her best finish was tied for 15th at the Denver Futures Classic where she shot 74-74-72-220. She gained full exempt status in her second year.

"After driving over 26,000 miles and finishing in the top third of the field, I still didn't have the results I expected," said Villegas. "When the opportunity came to

coach at Saint Leo and work at Lake Jovita, I felt the time was right to settle into something that would provide me the opportunity to coach at the collegiate level and also put my degree to good use by working at Lake Jovita."

Reidy said he was delighted to have Villegas join the staff at Saint Leo.

"She was a successful collegiate player, has spent time on the Futures Tour and has a strong desire to be a teacher of the game," said Reidy. "With her employment at Lake Jovita, in addition to being involved with our program, it's a great fit for both entities. I am very pleased we were able to find someone of her quality and enthusiasm at such a late date (the spring golf season begins next week)."

Villegas attended Longwood College her first two years before transferring to South Florida where she played at No. 3 on the golf team and helped the Bulls win the Conference USA championship twice and



Photograph courtesy of the SLU Athletic Department.

Rebecca Villegas has been selected as head golf coach.

reach the NCAA Tournament her junior and senior years. She won medalist honors in the Longwood Invitational as a freshman.

Villegas was the Rhode Island women's amateur champion from 1996 to 2000, finished second in the Massachusetts Open in 2001 and came back in 2003 to capture the championship. She was female

athlete-of-the-year in Rhode Island in 2002.

Her academic accomplishments at USF included winning the Outstanding Academic Recognition Award in 2000 with a GPA of 3.50. She was a member the Wellness Committee at USF for three years.

## The curse strikes again

**BY MATTHEW MCGOWAN**  
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Since what seems like the beginning of time, the New York Yankees and the Boston Red Sox have been bitter, bitter rivals with much history between them. Another chapter has been written.

On Monday, February 16 of 2004, the New York Yankees traded for Alex Rodriguez, arguably the best player in baseball. All of this only after the Boston Red Sox made several attempts to bring him to their club. The Sox

could not get the deal done because of the massive amount of money involved in Rodriguez's contract.

This again looked to Sox fans like the curse of "the Bambino." The Bambino is a nickname for legendary Babe Ruth, who after being traded from the Red Sox to the Yankees became the Home Run King. Since that trade, the Yankees have won 26 World Series rings while the Red Sox have none. The curse does not end there. Since 1918, the entire Boston area has blamed their problems on the dreaded "curse." The Alex

Rodriguez trade just adds more fuel to the fire.

Of course, the Yankee fans love it. Josh Wethington, a Yankees fan, says that the trade is "one of the most monumental in baseball history."

On the other hand, the Boston Fans are not as supporting of the trade. One Red Sox supporter says the trade is, "Horrible. It sucks!!! Steinbrenner is just mad because the Marlins beat them last year."

Lou Rituchi, a neutral baseball fan, thinks that "this trade is not the best thing for baseball." He adds, "Baseball should have a salary cap so that teams cannot try to buy a

World Series."

Nothing has been decided yet, as the season has not started. This year the American League East battle should be a very interesting one as the Yankees try to prove that their big money signing will be useful and provide a World Championship. Boston is looking for this to be the year they finally end "the curse" and win a much eluded World Series. Overall, this year in baseball looks to be an exciting race to the finish with old rivalries taking on new meanings.