

## Top of the PAC: Women's Basketball

Luke Mich, Sports Editor



The team holds the championship banner after beating W&J 65-61 in the PAC Championship final. (SOURCE: ATHLETICS.STVINCENT.EDU)

On Saturday, March 20, Nr. 1 seed Saint Vincent looked to win the women's basketball PAC Championship once again. They hosted Nr. 2 seed Washington & Jefferson and ended up winning 65-61. Starting guard Jenna Lafko and starting center Ella Marconi discussed how the championship game went.

"It was a battle every minute of the game. It was a game of runs, of heart, and passion," Lafko, a senior psychology major, said.

"The game was hard fought the entire 40-minute duration. Neither team let up for a single second, and

that's very evident by the score," Marconi, a sophomore nursing major, stated.

In addition to winning the conference, their second in three seasons, the team ended the season with a perfect 10-0 record. Volunteer assistant coach Joel Trentin detailed how the team accomplished this.

"It's hard to go undefeated in this conference with a lot of great talent and great coaching. The hard work, the dedication, the leadership the seniors showed helped the team remain consistent and were key to achieving this record," Trentin said.

*Continued on page 6*

## Prefect visitation policy change

Samantha Hilyer, News Editor

Saint Vincent prefects who live in the same building are now allowed to visit each other, despite not living in the same "neighborhoods."

Campus residents have been split into neighborhoods—groups of students who can visit with each other if they so choose in their dorms—since arriving back on campus for in-person classes in the fall semester of 2020. However, prefects are not permitted to visit students in other neighborhoods, and due to their administrative role, are discouraged from visiting within their own neighborhoods as well, leaving them arguably more isolated than other students who can visit within their neighborhoods.

Dr. John Smetanka, vice president of Academic Affairs, academic dean and a member of the Forward Together Advisory Committee, reported that Student Affairs approached the committee regarding the housing mitigation plan and how it impacted prefects at the end of the fall semester.

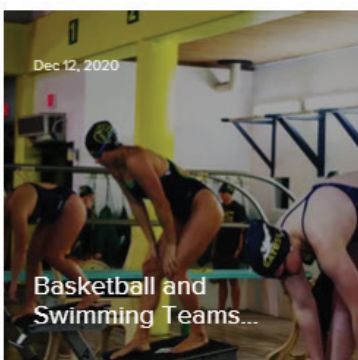
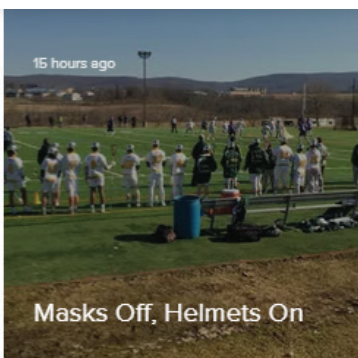
"What [Student Affairs] was seeing was that prefects, due to their job responsibilities, were especially hard hit by the neighborhood structures," Smetanka said. "There was a lot of concern about their well-being and happiness."

*Continued on page 2*



# NEWS

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## Mitigation still critical, Smetanka says

*continued from page 1*

Some non-prefect students, like Matthew Byrne, sophomore engineering major, were not aware that this policy change had occurred.

"I had no idea," Byrne said.

The Forward Together Advisory Committee is a group of Saint Vincent faculty and staff who examine recommendations from a variety of people involved in campus life that may impact the COVID-19 miti-

change to be a low risk in terms of hindering the mitigation measures because prefects already cross neighborhood boundaries to accomplish their work. While visiting one another, prefects are still expected to follow safety guidelines, such as mask wearing and social distancing.

However, this change in visitation policy for prefects does not mean that COVID-19 restrictions are be-

**"What [Student Affairs] was seeing was that prefects, due to their job responsibilities, were especially hard hit by the neighborhood structures."**

**– Dr. John Smetanka**

gation efforts. They can then move those recommendations to the President's Cabinet for either approval or disapproval. After review, the proposed change in prefect visitation policy was accepted just before the spring 2021 semester.

Bob Baum, dean of students, called the decision "a small accommodation to help with morale," since prefects do not have the liberty of choosing their housing arrangements and cannot live around friends like other students.

The Forward Together Advisory Committee deemed the policy

ing lifted.

"If we were to allow all students to cross [neighborhood boundaries] there would be more risk," Smetanka said. "The trouble is that we are seeing an increase, not a decrease, in cases."

Despite the continuation of strict mitigation efforts, the Forward Together Advisory Committee does allow as many low-risk activities as they can, such as allowing parents to attend athletic events outside.

"Eventually, we will allow visitation, and this will end soon," Smetanka said.



# Alpha Program: A new conversation with faith

Anthony Caporale, Staff Writer



The Alpha program aims to create unity among people of many different faith backgrounds.  
(SOURCE: SVC FLICKR)

Last spring, Campus Ministry started to implement a new program called “Alpha” here at Saint Vincent. The program aims to develop and enrich the community of faith on campus. It attempts to do so by guiding students in discussion.

“Alpha is a series of weekly sessions exploring the Christian Faith,” said Bridget DiVittis, assistant director of Campus Ministry and one of the many people who have worked to implement the program.

DiVittis added that the weekly sessions begin with an Alpha leader who will lead the discussion-based meetings. Every week different topics and questions will be discussed to generate a unique conversation each time.

According to DiVittis, the idea of the Alpha program came from other colleges and churches that had already implemented similar programs. Colleges, like the University of Kansas, have seen some success after implementing the program several years ago.

The process to implement a program is long, and Campus Ministry has been working on it since spring of 2020.

“We started by finding Alpha leaders by reaching out into the SVC community and finding students that were good leaders on the SVC campus,” DiVittis said. She explained that the leaders have a variety of different backgrounds. “More importantly,” DiVittis emphasized, “they all have different beliefs and faith

backgrounds.”

Campus Ministry is making this new program with a diverse range of faith backgrounds on purpose.

“In the beginning of this program, we were looking to create unity in community and faith,” DiVittis said. “Alpha is about inclusion, diversity and discovery. It is an opportunity to talk about hows, whys, and whats, as well as address some of the burning questions about God, faith and how it all works together.”

The conversations aim to create a judgment-free zone, and the issues discussed by participants stay within the group.

DiVittis encourages anyone to join. The meetings take place on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Fred Rodgers Center Banquet Room (AB). Anyone interested in becoming one of the Alpha leaders or wanting to learn more the program may email Bridget DiVittis.

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# ARTS & CULTURE

## Way of the Cross Exhibition closing soon

Sean Callahan, Arts & Culture Editor



Mark Lancelot Symons' *Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?* (1929–1930)  
(SOURCE: SAINT VINCENT ART & HERITAGE COLLECTIONS)

“Were you there when they crucified my Lord?” This is the refrain of an African American spiritual, published just before the turn of the 20th century, which serves as the inspiration for the new Saint Vincent gallery exhibition, “Were You There? Artists Interpret the Way of the Cross.” Much of the artwork on display shows different perspectives of Jesus before, during and after his crucifixion. Several paintings show Jesus falling the first or second time, while

carrying his cross, while another depicts an immense crowd observing his crucifixion.

According to Andrew Julo, curator of the Saint Vincent Art and Heritage Collection, the exhibition was planned to coincide with Holy Week, the final week of Lent. *Were You There?* is open for viewing from March 22 to April 2, in the Verostko Center for the Arts, at the Dale P. Latimer Library.

Julo explained that the spiritual—which provided inspiration for

the exhibition’s title—challenges the audience to recall the sufferings of Christ, as manifested in the sufferings of humanity.

“The work featured in this exhibit demonstrates that the moments leading up to and following the public execution of Christ have been and continue to be a source of tremendous inspiration for artists,” Julo said.

In addition to the general exhibits, Julo highlighted the new Rare Book Reading Room, which includes manuscripts and texts related to the Benedictine order. Books included in the *Were You There?* exhibit were culled from both the library’s general collection and Saint Vincent’s special collections.

Notably, several of the works in the exhibition were created by the artist Roman Verostko, from whom the gallery takes its name. Julo said Verostko has “deep roots” at Saint Vincent, due to his experience as a former member of the campus’ monastic community from 1953 to 1968 and his willingness to present his art as a gift to Saint Vincent, even now, at 91 years old.

Verostko is known for co-founding a movement of digital artists who create algorithmic art, termed ‘Algorists,’ alongside Jean-Pierre Herbert, in 1995. Julo provided several examples of the artist’s accomplishments, which he said were

*Continued on page 5*

# Were you there?

*continued from page 4*

a product of Verostko's diverse experiences as a monk, author, educator and humanities scholar.

"In 1982, Verostko created a sequence of animated, non-repeating visual routines known as the Magic Hand of Chance, making it one of the first examples of generative art programmed using a PC," Julo said.

Additionally, Julo noted that

ica used to wipe the face of Jesus. Julo said that Verostko offered it as a gift in honor of the election of Archabbot Martin de Porres Bartel, O.S.B., who was elected in June of 2020.

Despite the exhibition—which ends just before Easter—having a limited run, Julo hopes the many pieces of artwork in *Were You There?* will show perspectives of

**"The work featured in this exhibit demonstrates that the moments leading up to and following the public execution of Christ have been and continue to be a source of tremendous inspiration for artists."**

**- Andrew Julo**

Verostko was one of the first to write code for creative purposes.

"Unlike many of his contemporaries who also worked with creative coding and who came from computer science backgrounds, Verostko was formally trained as an artist before learning to code," Julo said.

The most recent of Verostko's works on display is a mixed media image of George Floyd combined with a depiction of the veil Veron-

society through Christ's suffering.

"Artists' representations of the Way of the Cross invite us to contemplate the treatment of Christ as having resonance with how others are treated today," Julo said.



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# SPORTS

## Top of the PAC: Women's basketball

*continued from page 1*



Ella Marconi attempts a layup in the team's PAC Quarterfinal game against Waynesburg, a 87-59 win. Marconi had 20 points in that game. (SOURCE: ATHLETICS.STVINCENT.EDU)

Trentin said there wasn't one specific event that helped define the whole season, but rather small things along the way.

"What really defined our team were the little things. The leadership our seniors showed, the love that the players had for one another, the moments at practice players showed care for one another, encouraging each other, those were the moments that really defined our team," Trentin said.

During a challenging season due to the abbreviated and delayed schedule, the obstacle of COVID-19

helped keep the team accountable and overcome additional adversity.

"Every player held each other accountable in following the COVID-19 protocols in order to ensure we did not get shut down. Holding each other accountable this season played a key role in our success," Marconi explained.

"It is so important for a team, especially in this COVID season, to be united. We are a tight-knit group that supported each other endlessly," Lafko added.

Even with a perfect 10-0 record and a conference title, the season

was not without its fair share of challenges. Injuries, as well as contract tracing for COVID-19, were some obstacles along the way.

"I suffered a foot injury that kept me out the first three games. I had to adjust my mindset and keep things in perspective because at first we did not know if it was season ending," Lafko mentioned.

Then, after their February 13 game against Waynesburg, the team was temporarily shut down due to contract tracing. Because of this, a number of games were delayed and rescheduled, with the next game that the team played coming exactly two weeks after the Waynesburg game.

"Our team did not have a case at all this season. After playing against Waynesburg and finding out that they had at least one COVID case on their team, we were then shut down for 10 days," Trentin said.

Marconi believes that that time spent in quarantine with the season on hold was important to the team and its success this season.

"When we got shut down due to contract tracing, it really showed us that any day could be our last and that tomorrow is never promised. I personally believe it drove us to play so much harder and really cherish every moment we got to step out on the court," Marconi said.

Though the season has now come to an end, the team is *Continued on page 7*

# Women's basketball goes undefeated, wins PAC championship

*continued from page 6*

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understandably proud of the job they did in not just winning the conference title, but completing the whole season with not a single loss. Trentin, Marconi and Lafko all had nothing but praise for their team.

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**"It was a battle every minute of the game. It was a game of runs, of heart, and passion."  
— Jenna Lafko**

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"This team was very coachable. They responded well to the coaching and each other, and that's why I wanted to coach. It was great," Trentin said.

"Overall, I'm really proud of this team. I am so thankful to be a part of a team that feels so much like a family," Marconi said.

"It really means a lot to add another PAC title to our program. We are so excited to go out on top!" Lafko said.

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# Team Standings

## Baseball

Team	W	L	Streak
W&J	10	0	W10
Franciscan	6	4	L1
Saint Vincent	6	4	W1
Grove City	5	5	L1
Thiel	4	5	W1
Geneva	5	6	W1
Bethany	5	7	L1
Westminster	4	6	L2
Chatham	2	6	W1
Waynesburg	2	6	L2

**Schedule:** Franciscan 3/31 1 PM, @ Thiel 4/10 1 PM

## Softball

Team	W	L	Streak
Westminster	14	0	W14
Geneva	15	3	W11
W&J	8	5	W1
Waynesburg	8	8	L1
Chatham	5	7	L1
Grove City	5	7	W1
Bethany	6	10	L2
Saint Vincent	4	7	W2
Franciscan	4	8	L2
Thiel	0	12	L12

**Schedule:** Grove City 4/1 3:30 & 5:30 PM, @Franciscan 4/7 3:30 PM

## Men's Soccer

Team	W	L	Streak
W&J	3	0	W3
Grove City	2	0	W2
Geneva	2	0	W1
Saint Vincent	2	2	W1
Waynesburg	1	1	T1
Bethany	1	1	T1
Franciscan	1	2	L2
Westminster	1	2	W1
Thiel	0	3	L3
Chatham	0	3	L3

**Schedule:** @Bethany 3/31 5 PM, Geneva 4/7 1 PM

## Women's Soccer

Team	W	L	Streak
Chatham	3	0	W3
Westminster	3	0	W3
Grove City	3	0	W1
Saint Vincent	1	1	W1
Geneva	1	1	L1
Franciscan	1	2	L1
Waynesburg	1	2	W1
W&J	0	2	L1
Thiel	0	3	L3
Bethany	0	3	L3

**Schedule:** @Bethany 3/31 2 PM, Geneva 4/7

## Men's Lacrosse

Team	W	L	Streak
Saint Vincent	5	1	W3
Westminster	5	1	W5
Grove City	3	1	W2
Thiel	2	2	L2
Chatham	2	3	L3
Bethany	2	4	W1
W&J	1	2	W1
Franciscan	0	6	L6

**Schedule:** Grove City 3/31 4 PM, @ Bethany 4/10 1 PM, @Westminster 4/14 7:30 PM

## Women's Lacrosse

Team	W	L	Streak
W&J	2	0	W2
Chatham	2	0	W2
Thiel	2	0	W2
Franciscan	1	0	W1
Saint Vincent	2	2	W1
Westminster	0	2	L2
Bethany	0	2	L2
Waynesburg	0	3	L3

**Schedule:** Waynesburg 4/1 4 PM, @Franciscan 4/8 4 PM, @Bethany 4/10 4 PM

## Men's Volleyball

Team	W	L	Streak
Hiram	5	1	W4
Geneva	9	5	W7
Medaille	4	3	W3
PSU Behrend	3	5	L3
PSU Altoona	2	4	L1
Saint Vincent	2	5	W1
Thiel	1	6	W1
Hilbert	0	3	L3

**Schedule:** @Altoona 3/31 7 PM

## Women's Volleyball

Team	W	L	Streak
Geneva	9	1	W6
Westminster	7	1	W4
Grove City	5	3	L1
W&J	5	4	L3
Bethany	4	3	W3
Chatham	3	3	W1
Franciscan	2	5	L3
Thiel	2	6	L6
Waynesburg	2	8	W1
Saint Vincent	0	6	L6

**Schedule:** @Franciscan 4/6 7 PM

## Men's Track & Field

**Schedule:** @Thiel 4/10 TBA, @Grove City 4/17 TBA, @Bethany 4/21 TBA

## Women's Track and Field

**Schedule:** @Thiel 4/10 TBA, @Grove City 4/17 TBA, @Bethany 4/21 TBA

## Football (South)

Team	W	L	Streak
W&J	2	0	W2
Saint Vincent	1	1	W1
Waynesburg	0	1	L1
Bethany	0	2	L2

**Schedule:** W&J 4/10 1 PM, Waynesburg 4/17 1 PM, PAC Opponent TBD 4/23 TBA

## Men's Tennis

Team	W	L	Streak
Saint Vincent	1	0	W1
Geneva	2	1	W2
Westminster	1	1	L1
Waynesburg	0	0	-
Franciscan	0	1	L1
Grove City	0	2	L2
W&J	0	2	L2

**Schedule:** @Westminster 4/1 4:30 PM, @Grove City 4/6 3:30 PM, Franciscan 4/9 5 PM

## Women's Tennis

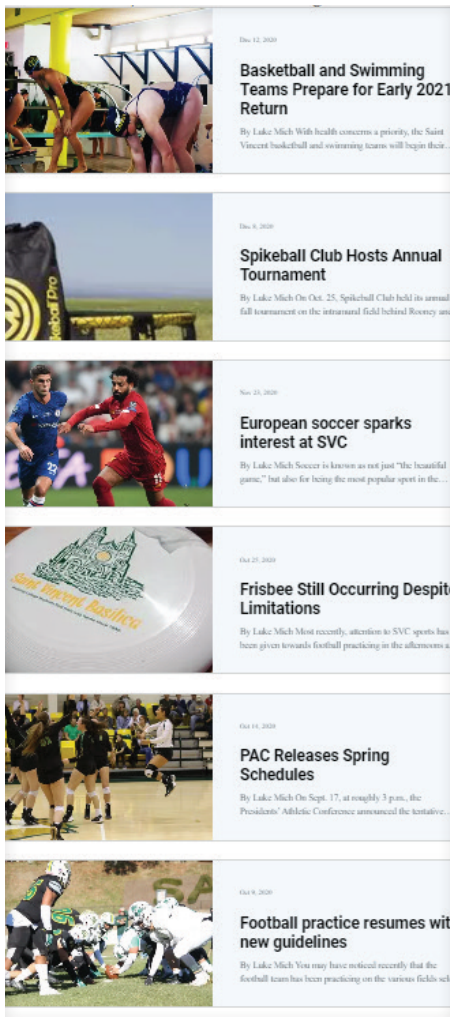
Team	W	L	Streak
Westminster	3	0	W3
Franciscan	3	1	W3
Grove City	2	1	W2
W&J	2	1	W2
Geneva	2	2	L2
Saint Vincent	0	1	L1
Waynesburg	0	1	L1
Bethany	0	3	L3
Thiel	0	4	L4

**Schedule:** @Grove City 4/6 2:30 PM, Franciscan 4/7 5 PM, Bethany 4/10 Noon



# OPINION

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## Compassionate border policy?

Kevin Martin, *Opinion Editor*

Prior to the 2020 Presidential Election, many of my Catholic friends implored potential voters, including myself, to consider Biden's immigration policies when deciding whom to vote for. They argued that his policies were more in line with Catholic Social Teaching, and more compassionate overall, compared to Trump's proposed policies and actions. They contended that the policies Biden proposed would solve the numerous shameful and disheartening ethical issues that have been visible on our Southern border for decades now. In their eyes, Biden's victory signified the end to this long era of troublesome border crises. Today, sadly, America is on pace to experience the most illegal border crossings in twenty years, according to Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, and another crisis has erupted on the border.

There are a lot of factors causing this surge on the U.S.-Mexican border. In part, the economic effects of COVID-19 shutdowns have increased poverty in the developing countries south of the border. Past and current famines in Honduras have meant that many in that country face severe hunger. Gang violence has also increased in Central American nations in the past few years, causing many innocent people to fear for their lives. All of these circumstances have surely

propelled the increased illegal border crossing attempts.

But those are all foreign causes, largely out of the control of the American people or government. The largest domestic reason for this surge has been the rhetoric and actions of Joe Biden. During his campaign, he promised to ease immigration restrictions by putting a moratorium on deportations, ending the last administration's "wait in Mexico" asylum policy and ceasing construction of the wall on the border. This rhetoric gave potential migrants a reasonable belief that entering the U.S. could be easier once Biden was inaugurated. And when he won the election and was subsequently inaugurated, he made good on his policy promises, and went further by putting forth a legislative proposal to create a pathway to citizenship for many of America's 11 million illegal immigrants.

The results of these decisions have been nothing but disastrous. Just in February, nearly 100,000 migrants were arrested while attempting to cross the border; many others likely circumvented interceptions by ICE. And reports from Secretary Mayorkas do not suggest these border crossings will slow. The administration has begun sending back lone adults and even some families, according to the Wall Street Journal. *Continued on page 10*



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# A crisis on the border

*continued from page 9*

The trouble with this policy, however, is that Mexico has been unable, or perhaps unwilling, to work to prevent the flow of migrants in the way they did over the past few years. This has meant that many of these migrants who were turned away may attempt to cross the border illegally again. And crossing the border is always a dangerous affair. Another serious concern is the situation of unaccompanied migrant children. According to the Washington Post, an estimated 14,000 unaccompanied children are in U.S. custody on the border. Many of them have been kept in detention facilities longer than the legal 72-hour limit, due to the massive overflow. Worse yet, the Biden administration has denied media attempts to access pictures of the living conditions or of the migrants themselves, according to NBC News. And an unofficial “gag order” has been put upon border officials, according to NBC sources.

These friends of mine were mistaken. Biden’s policies have not made our southern border any safer or more ethical; in fact, these policies appear to have aided the growth of a crisis. Again, there are 14,000 children in holding facilities that are becoming increasingly cramped. This would be bad at any time, but it is especially concerning during a global pandemic. I cannot help but believe that under the previous administration, these conditions on the border would be protested, the hyperbolic phrase “kids in cages” would

make a return, and serious action to rectify the situation would have been called for. Today, however, this cannot truly be witnessed. The Biden administration has not experienced enough political heat for mishandling this crisis. They have attempted to smile their way through the chaos as well as blame the previous administration for the situation, though it is unclear exactly how that would be the case. The discouraging status quo cannot continue to stand. Sooner or later a humane solution must be found and administered to quell this crisis. Part of that solution? A return to stricter rules and more cautious rhetoric. If not, the number of people attempting to cross the border will continue to climb, and this crisis may turn into a true humanitarian nightmare. I fear serious tragedies will follow. So it turns out that a less open border policy may be the more compassionate choice.

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# Note from the editor

Jonathan Meilaender, *Editor-in-Chief*

I would like to extend to you all my sincerest wishes for a joyful Easter. Last year's Easter was, for many, a time of sorrow rather than rebirth: an extended Lent. And this year we certainly remain mindful of the many lives that have been lost over the past year. But remember: the hope of Easter comes from suffering. Without Good Friday, there is no Easter, no rebirth. This Easter is an Easter of hope because the strife is almost over, the victory at hand, for we are closer than ever to a kind of normal life (whatever that looks like).

I was volunteering at the vaccine clinic down at the Fred Rogers Center last Friday, and it was wonderful to see how many other students, professors, and community members gave up their time to help end this plague. I think many of those scheduled to receive the vaccine were amazed as well: amazed at the sheer scale of the clinic, the number of volunteers, the speed and efficiency. It was an example of America at its best: ordinary people coming together of their own free will in order to help those who need assistance.

But I think that Covid should teach us two lessons. The first is one of pride in human ingenuity: we found a way to conquer a deadly disease, and we did it in record time. That was very much on display at the clinic. But the second lesson? Humility. This most recent "conquest" of nature resulted from a terrible setback, one we never deemed possible (or relegated to third-world countries). Our science and our achievements are amazing, but we are not invincible. We are still just tiny creatures on a tiny planet in a vast world of otherness.

Anyway, enough of the reflections. You will not see a new issue on April 14th. Don't worry, we haven't vanished. The Review's writers will simply be taking an Easter break, as we do in years with a standard academic calendar. (They deserve it—we are on pace to publish more issues

than any year of which I have a record!)

The same is not true, though, for many others on campus. Given that Saint Vincent has no real Easter break this year, many people will need to remain on campus to keep things running, among them Dining Services workers and (some) residence life staff. When you see them, tell them thank you. It isn't fun to stay on campus over Easter, but it is even less fun to work over Easter. That's all for now. Happy Easter!

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### Editorial Policy

The Review always welcomes input from its readers, including all students, faculty, administrators, Benedictines and any other members of the SVC community. With regards to contributed, non-solicited works, The Review reserves the right to choose to accept or reject any submitted stories or letters to the editor for publication as well as the right to edit said pieces.

### Mission

The mission of Saint Vincent College's student-run newspaper, The Review, is to accurately and responsibly report campus, national and international news with integrity, fairness and objectivity. As a college newspaper, we assert that we will report on topics that interest our community, such as sports, popular culture, art & entertainment, politics and campus news. We affirm that each issue of The Review will reflect the diversity of the Saint Vincent College campus with respect for cultures, ethnicities, traditions, beliefs and views.



# Arts & Culture: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Poetry Contest Winners

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## Baptism by Fire

Isabel Sicree  
First Place

*My sister's hand held in mine  
Years ago,  
Long forgotten by all except me,  
Validates my family  
Even under stone-eyed stares  
And off-hand comments,  
Made by friends more often than not.*

*All that is negligible  
For it holds no substance of its own  
But relies on the existence  
Of souls.*

*One cannot be judged for existing  
Without having existed.*

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## Heart Matters

Nicole Fratrach  
Second Place

*Heartbeats thumping morse code,  
Drowning out brain's mindless chatter,  
Pump signals of healthy emotional reasoning:  
Heart truths and  
Frontal lobe discipline,  
Limbic logics overrun.*

*Mind over matter  
Is no simple matter  
As a heart pulses to be heard  
Above mind's distortions.*

*A heart's S.O.S.  
Pierces the web of thoughts,  
Shooting through the synapses  
To bring forth the truth of the matter,  
The heart matter.*

*Alone, a mind cold-calculates and overanalyzes,  
Stemming a misinterpretation of fact.  
Alone, a heart bleeds too heavily  
And floods judgment with emotion.  
Bound as one, balance and harmony emerge,  
A unified message,  
A unified purpose,  
A unified truth.*

## Be Bold and Believe

Elizabeth Elin  
Third Place

*The seeds of salvation take root in a quivering heart that dares to beat.  
To be alive is to feel,  
to feel the irresistible yearning of adrenaline that courses through veins,  
bursts through walls of vulnerability, through  
inertia, static stubbornly clinging to the status quo.*

*Hope is a person swimming upstream against  
the current of oppression, surging and swelling against the tides of  
time.*

*Beauty is an angelic beam of light piercing the storm-clouds...  
penetrating the rainfall,  
bearing the flutter of life to the cracks that split parched soil.*

*Imagination is the soft cry of a young girl,  
As she sees a face like her own and calls it "Madam Vice President."*

*Tears, never voluntary, the marinade of emotion stewed in time,  
Reveal how unrest mixes with fatigue, discouragement with awe,  
For humans are always paradoxical, and  
when existing is resisting, the joys of everyday life are an active uprising  
both personal and poignant.*

*The brush of an unsuspecting hand, the intensity of a whisper,  
the laughter of children, the hug of a grandmother...  
The future is foretold in conversations that spark memories,  
in cries of anguish,  
and though love remains more contagious than hate,  
the struggles of a carved-out survival fight daily against the violence of  
privilege.  
Stand back, watch the glint of sunlight, the gleam of hope that arises  
in the glass ceiling as it shatters,  
reflecting the steel in the eyes of all who fought and fight.  
Only disruption fragments the normal, only change makes new pos-  
sible,  
reconstructing a dream brought into being through pain.*

*Small moments are beautiful, too,  
the echoes of giant steps that both trudge and leap.  
Representation is possibility saturated in the visions of real and unreal,  
for when scars collide with stars, dreams of a future begin to flourish.  
Listening to the unheard creates nourishment and nourishes creativity,  
creativity that expresses what it is to bleed, to hunger, to thirst, to heal.*

*Daring is belief in the unrealized hopes of ancestors,  
linked eternally by all who breathe,  
by all who have felt the pain of love.*