

THE GADFLY



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<< **Cover:** Senior Prank surprised seminars Monday night, and led to a day of revelry and relaxation on back campus.

>> **Croquet:** You may have seen these flyers floating around the coffee shop. Are we the Spartans or the Athenians?

The student newspaper
of St. John's College

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Founded in 1980, *The Gadfly* is the student newspaper distributed to over 600 students, faculty, and staff of the Annapolis campus.

Opinions expressed within are the sole responsibility of the author(s). *The Gadfly* reserves the right to accept, reject, and edit submissions in any way necessary to publish the most professional, informative, and thought-provoking newspaper which circumstances at St. John's College permit.

Articles submitted will be edited for grammar, punctuation, spelling, and length in most cases. *The Gadfly* is not obligated to publish all submissions except under special circumstances.

The Gadfly meets every Sunday at 7 PM in the lower level of the Barr-Buchanan Center. Articles should be submitted by Friday at 11:59 PM to gadfly@sjca.edu.

Croquet 2012

30 YEARS OF CROQUET



SJC vs USNA

60 College Avenue • Annapolis, Maryland
Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 1 p.m.

Rain Date: Sunday, April 29

What would your SEMINAR CHARACTER DO?

FRESHMAN

Metaphysics

Aristotle prime moves the shit out of them.

> Charles Zug

SOPHOMORE

Calvin

Calvin knows the policies were predestined anyway.

> Sebastian Abella

JUNIOR

Kant

It is his duty to go along with them.

> Reza Djalal

SENIOR

Lincoln

The Inebriation Proclamation...wluylzk.

> Reza Djalal

NEXT WEEK

If your seminar character were stranded on a desert island, what three things would he or she bring?

ON POETS & POETRY

Ms. Connolly submitted this piece for publication on March 31, with the hope that it would be published in our previous issue. Due to space constraints, we were unable to publish it at the time. Ms. Connolly writes in honor of poet Adrienne Rich, who passed away on Tuesday, March 27.



> Stephanie Connolly, A'12

Last Tuesday, Adrienne Rich passed away, at the age of 82. When I heard the news of her death, two days after she had passed, I was surprised, not because it was particularly unexpected, but because, to me, she was one of those poets whose work was enduring; she seemed as if she had always been alive and always would be. Because her career spanned the second half of the 20th century, her poetry had a voice that seemed especially suited to the present day; though Rich was born about sixty years before I was, when I read her poems I felt as though I was being addressed by a contemporary, or even a friend.

As much as I admired her, however, I have to confess that I know very little about Adrienne Rich's life. In fact, this is the case with many of the writers and artists whom I admire. While biographies can be useful in understanding the many factors that shape a poet's work, I often feel that using the details of a writer's life to interpret his or her work limits our understanding of the work as a whole and presumes an intimacy with the writer which does not exist. After all, poets do not publish their lives, but their poems.

Instead, I prefer to gain insight into the lives of the artists I respect by studying their works and trying to find the techniques and subjects that seem to define their work as a whole. And what did reading Adrienne Rich's poetry teach me about the woman herself?

I learned that she was honest and sometimes frustrated,

especially with regard to social issues. I learned that details, images, were important to her; the details of her poems are exquisite and overwhelmingly sensual. I learned that she thought often about her role as a woman in a modern and masculine world, that she thought often about women in general. Indeed, I learned that she was an extremely thoughtful person, given more to contemplation than to passion, less burdened than other writers of her generation with the troubles that lead to self-destruction and despair. Indeed, while Adrienne Rich's poetry makes it clear that she often struggled

against a political and social climate that often oppressed her, it also affirms her confidence in her own skill and ability. Indeed, in "Planetarium," a poem about another woman also marginalized by the conditions of her day, Rich seems to be speaking about herself:

*I have been standing all my life in the direct path of a battery of signals
the most accurately transmitted most
untranslatable language in the universe
... I am an instrument in the shape
of a woman trying to translate pulsations
into images for the relief of the body
and the reconstruction of the mind. ♦*

“

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 2/14

SJC Orchestra Rehearsal
Great Hall, 4-5:30 PM

Kunai Soccer
Back Campus, 4-6 PM

Dance Lessons
Great Hall, 8-9 PM

Open Mic Night
Chasement, 8 PM

Wednesday 2/15

CSL Forum on Gender Relations
Hodson Room, 2:30-3:30 PM

Handball
D v G, 4 PM

Handball
W v H, 5:15 PM

St. John's Chorus
Great Hall, 7 PM

Friday 2/17

Kunai Soccer
Back Campus, 4-6 PM

Lecture
Lucretius' On the Nature of Things, Ms. Margaret Kirby,
Tutor, FSK Auditorium, 8:15 PM

Saturday 2/18

Mental Health Support Group
McDowell 32, 2-3 PM

Soccer
Popov v Schmid, 2 PM
Moore v Kraft, 3:30 PM

Sunday 2/19

Soccer
TBD, 2 PM
TBD, 3:30 PM

If you would like to see your event on the weekly schedule, please email gadfly@sjca.edu.

A Sports Round-Up, Indeed!

> Jonathan Barone, A'13

Well folks, we're approaching the end of another wonderful year of intramurals. The overall title is still up for grabs, and there's still a spring handball season and marathon to decide the victor. The Greenwaves are leading the pack by a nose, but the Guardians are not far behind. The Spartans are edging the Druids for third, and despite an excellent start to the handball season, the Hustlers look like they'll get first pick in the draft next year.

But these mere statistics tell us nothing of the virtue and valor displayed in the venerable temple. Let's start with the greatest of all intramural sports: Volleyball. From the start, it looked like the Greenwaves were going to three-peat; their team showed poise and prowess, going undefeated in qualifying and leading the winner's bracket of the tournament. Nevertheless, the Druids, with their indomitable freshmen, fought through the losers' bracket to face the Greenwaves in a best of five series. Even with a strong presence at the net by newcomer GI Jason Poarch and sophomore Chang Liu, the Greenwaves lost to the maroon men and women, who were able to serve with impeccable consistency and composure. Surprising as well was the Hustlers' upset for third place, holding strong with three men against the heavily populated Guardians.

The Basketball season was a captivating one; the Druids started it off with a surprise 42-40 victory over the Waves. The freshmen and GIs came out in full force and soon became the stars of the show. Needless to say, this meant the season was truly up for grabs. This was manifest most clearly in the Spartans, who after a 0-8 season last year, fought tooth and nail for a victorious season. With a fully-stocked A-team led by freshmen Sebastian Abella and "Pancakes" Denci, the Spartans edged the Guardians out of basketball championship glory, despite the return of Phil "The One Man" Army. The Hustlers, despite hav-

ing an average season, emerged an absolutely dominant B-team. Primarily due to the tenacious defense of Joe Hamd and the massive inside presence of Sam Hemmenway, the Hustler B-team was able to rip apart defenses and stop most attacks. Of course, though the Hustler B-team might have been the most dominant, the Druid B-team arguably showed the most heart. Though largely inexperienced, the Druids fought together as a team and eventually became an army, each player a potential scorer. Shout-outs go to Jack "Slim" Whitman and Kip "Bandana Man" Waite for their never-say-die attitudes.

All in all, the basketball season was marked with a great deal of grit and determination. All teams showed great improvement and participated in force. The intensity of the season was only matched by the cheers and excitement from the team benches.

The March Madness tournament had some intensity of its own. Though many

“ Let's start with the greatest of all intramural sports: Volleyball.

teams gave valiant efforts (such as Emily Ezell's ace shooting and Alex Schmid's 12-point minute), the championship came down to the two favorites, Red and Gold. Though crushing Red

in the first game, Gold was not able to overcome Red in the second, losing 60-56. Despite Lucy Ferrier's clutch 6-pointers, the Red team, thanks to clutch shots by Emily Sebell, was able to claim the victory.

Handball—though only a half season so far—has held its own share of excitement. Thanks to a buzzer-beater by Eric Shlifer, the Greenwaves stand undefeated, but the Hustlers, anchored by goalie Luke Wakeen, trail close behind. The Guardians and the Spartans are on equal terms as well, trading games and goals. However, who's to say how the intramural season will pan out. Ultimately, it may all come down to the marathon. So stay tuned and get excited as another chapter in the Thumocracy comes to a close! ♦