



# BELLES BULLETIN

A quarterly review of all things Saint Mary's  
May 2017: Volume 1, Issue 4



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### FROM THE DIRECTOR

I hope this note finds you well. If you're like me, you're in shock that the school year is just about over. Hopefully you're about to embark upon at least a few weeks of rest and relaxation. You've earned it!



No rest for the weary here at Saint Mary's. We're about to graduate the Class of 2017 on Saturday – many of your former students will be walking across the stage ready to conquer the world. And we look forward to welcoming a new batch of students to Saint Mary's in August. We're really excited about the Class of 2021 – they come from all over the country and are one of the most academically talented classes we've seen at Saint Mary's.

For any of you with students either making last minute decisions or maybe experiencing a change of heart, please let them know that we're still accepting applications and deposits for the fall. We'll continue to accept new students as space is available. As is always the case, please encourage them to call our office with questions!

In this edition of our e-newsletter, check out our new Angela Health and Wellness Complex (your students will LOVE it!), updates on our Dance Marathon and our 24 Hour Donor Challenge, and some great statistics on what our students are doing after graduation.

On behalf of our entire admission team, thank you for all you've done to help us this year and for all you do for your students. The work you do is invaluable, and please know how much you're appreciated. Have an amazing summer with your friends and family!

-Sarah Gallagher Dvorak, SMC '99

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Still have students trying to find their perfect fit for the next four years?  
We are still accepting applications and deposits on a space by space basis.

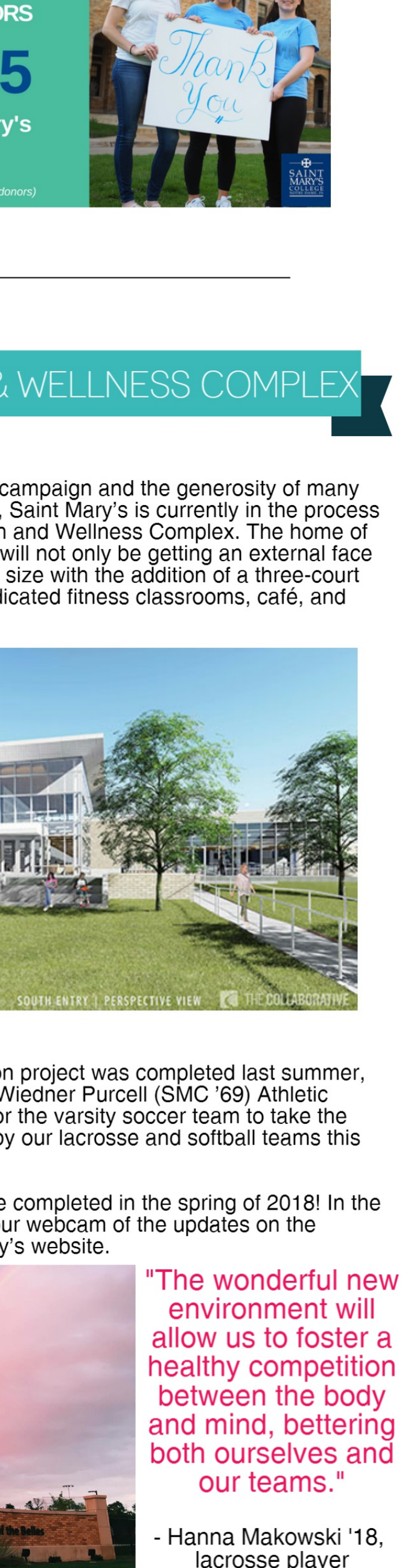
### 2017 COMMENCEMENT

On Saturday, May 20th, Saint Mary's College will celebrate our 170th commencement ceremony on Le Mans Green.

Two seniors from the Class of 2017 will share the honor of valedictorian and address their class together. Brianna Kozemzak (Minnesota) is a computing and applied mathematics major with a minor in chemistry. At Saint Mary's she has found a passion for research, examining the movement of copper through bacterial cells and developing a mathematical model for mumps outbreaks in small communities. She was recently awarded the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship and will be pursuing her PhD in Biomedical Informatics at Stanford University this fall.

Elise deSomer (Indiana) is a studio art and English double major with a minor in English writing. She credits her time at Saint Mary's with gaining confidence in herself to fearlessly venture to Ireland to study for a semester at Maynooth University and to express herself in the studio and on the page. "A Saint Mary's education means realizing that my intellect and my ideas are worth something. There's nothing more powerful than realizing that." With plans to one day pursue her PhD in English Literature, Elise plans to pursue opportunities to develop her professional skills in a traditional job environment following graduation.

Every year at the Senior Alumnae Branch to kick off Senior Week, the Alumnae Association announces the recipient of their Outstanding Senior Award. Alex Winegar (Michigan), an aspiring audiologist, was honored due to her "forward-thinking, helpful, kind, and genuine," nature. Though her resume is filled with leadership roles and service towards others and her community, perhaps what made her the most outstanding among her peers, is the selflessness she displayed last year in donating her own bone marrow to a child suffering from Leukemia at Riley Children's Hospital. Thank you, Alex, for truly personifying the heart of the Saint Mary's student body.



This year's commencement speaker is Justice Anne M. Burke of the Illinois Supreme Court. Justice Burke founded the Special Olympics and is a tireless advocate for children and the disabled. We look forward to hearing the advice she has for our graduates as they prepare to take the world by storm!

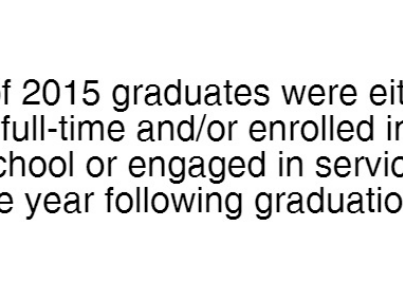
### CHECK OUT THE 24 HOUR DONOR CHALLENGE

Check out the Saint Mary's 24 Hour Donor Challenge – set with a goal of rallying 3,500 donors in one day, Saint Mary's students, alumnae, faculty, staff, and friends went above and beyond!

Search #bellesgiveback on Facebook or Instagram to see how Saint Mary's has made a difference in the lives of those who chose to give back to our beloved institution.

**4,086** DONORS  
**\$833,535**  
raised for Saint Mary's

(includes \$150,000 from our two challenge donors)



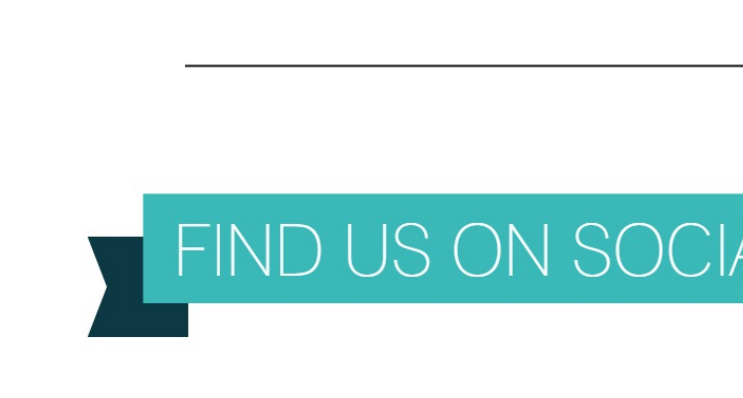
### ANGELA HEALTH & WELLNESS COMPLEX

Thanks to a successful capital campaign and the generosity of many donors raising over \$25 million, Saint Mary's is currently in the process of renovating the Angela Health and Wellness Complex. The home of 8 varsity Belles teams, Angela will not only be getting an external face lift, but the facility will double in size with the addition of a three-court field house, elevated track, dedicated fitness classrooms, café, and health center.



The first phase of the renovation project was completed last summer, with the update of the Patricia Wiedner Purcell (SMC '69) Athletic Fields. The fields were ready for the varsity soccer team to take the field last fall and also enjoyed by our lacrosse and softball teams this spring.

We are excited for Angela to be completed in the springs of 2018! In the meantime, check out our 24 hour webcam on the updates on the Athletics page of the Saint Mary's website.

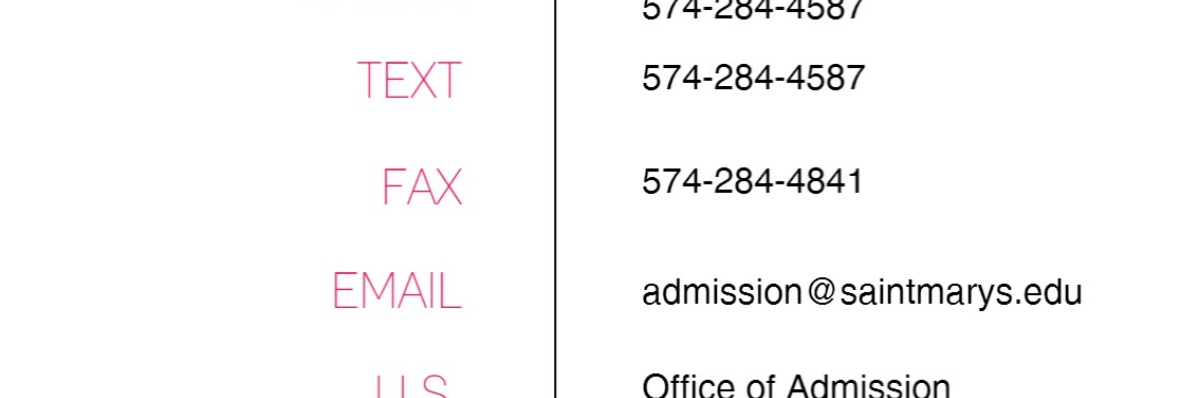


**"The wonderful new environment will allow us to foster a healthy competition between the body and mind, bettering both ourselves and our teams."**

- Hanna Makowski '18, lacrosse player

### POST GRADUATION PLANS

Though we're sad to see them go, we're excited for where our graduating seniors are headed!



**94%**

of the class of 2015 graduates were either employed full-time and/or enrolled in graduate school or engaged in service groups, one year following graduation



We are so proud of our Saint Mary's Dance Marathon, for exceeding their goal and raising \$133,363.12 for Riley Children's Hospital! Their hard work and dedication, continues to make a difference in the lives of every Riley family.

Thank you to all who donated to provide a better tomorrow, FOR THE KIDS!

### FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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