



SAINT MICHAEL'S COLLEGE FOUNDED 1904

February 2023 eNews

Staying busy on the SMC campus



Dear Saint Michael's community,

As President of the Student Government Association (SGA), I wanted to take this opportunity to share some of the exciting events that make St. Mike's unique and fun, with something for every Purple Knight.

Recently, our snowboarding and skiing club, ShredMC, hosted the popular [Jibfest](#) event – a night of friendly competition on a student-made course of rails and ramps. With a firepit, music, hot chocolate and a food truck, hundreds gathered at the 300s field to cheer on their friends as they executed their best flips and tricks in some crazy outfits. It's an annual favorite!

We recently hosted Skate Knight at Cairns Arena. Some students looked like professional figure skaters, gliding gracefully and effortlessly on the ice. Others, like me, flailed helplessly, fell constantly, and desperately searched for handrails. Personally, I'm glad my lack of coordination made my friends laugh. We have another Skate Knight coming up on February 24th, and skates are available in the library for students to rent for free. It's also great to see students play pick up hockey games on the rink in the 300s field.

We're excited to attend Senior Night for our men's and women's hockey teams at 4 p.m. this Saturday, February 11th at [Cairns Arena](#). We'll bring serious school spirit to support our teams and congratulate our seniors. If you live in the area, please join us, and wear your purple and gold! If you can't make it in person, [watch the women's game here](#), or the [men's game here](#). Many SMC

sporting events are available to watch live online – visit our [Athletics page](#) to learn more.

The SGA continues to promote fun events and build campus spirit, like generations of Purple Knights before us. Stay up to date with the [SGA](#) to see what else we have in store!

Cheers,

KC Onuoha '23
President, Student Government Association

President Sterritt announces her retirement

Saint Michael's President Lorraine Sterritt announced her retirement to the campus community via an email sent on Tuesday, Feb. 7th. President Sterritt cited her desire to devote more time to family and friends as a deciding factor in her decision. Her five-year tenure will come to an end on June 30th. A national search for a new president will get underway immediately.



You can read President Sterritt's announcement along with Board of Trustee Chair Pat Casey's message [on our website](#).



On eve of Black History Month, Sutherland speaker Burnham relates historical cases of racial violence to troubling present-day events

On Tuesday, January 31, the judge, civil rights activist and author Margaret Burnham delivered the Sutherland Lecture at Saint Michael's College, both capping off a slate of January programming honoring the life and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. and setting the stage for the February celebration of Black History Month at the College. *By Hands Now Known: Jim Crow's Legal Executioners*, Burnham's acclaimed 2022 book that focused her late afternoon Tuesday talk, documents mid-20th-century violence against African Americans in the Jim Crow era. She told nearly 100 gathered in the McCarthy Recital Hall that sadly, such violence is "an ongoing crisis and defining feature of our

country today.” During the question and answer portion, student Jason Li '23 asked what the student body at Saint Michael’s could do that would be meaningful. Burnham said, “What you can do is be responsible for your own political literacy — and then engage in what it is you learned at whatever level in whatever struggle you participate – it will make a difference, and it will enrich your life too and give you a path.”

[Read the full SMC article about Burnham's keynote address.](#)
[See MyNBC5 coverage of the Sutherland Lecture at SMC.](#)

Alumni Spotlight: Todd Roberts '01, first student-athlete from Saint Michael's enshrined in NE10 Hall of Fame



A ceremony recognizing the Purple Knight legend Todd Roberts '01 took place Saturday, Feb. 4, at halftime of the 3:30 p.m. men's basketball game in Ross Sports Center. NE10 Commissioner Julie Ruppert and Saint Michael's Director of Athletics Chris Kenny '86 led an on-court celebration honoring Roberts, who became the second College representative enshrined in the NE10 Hall of Fame. In joining Ed Markey '51, who was recognized as an AD and administrator at the College, Roberts becomes the first Purple Knight inducted due to their credentials as a student-athlete. The Fair Haven, Vt., native brought a versatile skill set to the forward position, as the 6-foot-8 Roberts is still second in program annals in career three-pointers (301), third in points (1,816), eighth in blocks (85), ninth in steals (158) and 10th in rebounds (815). He is also tied for eighth in three-point shooting (40.2%) and first in games (123), while standing 14th in NE10 history with those 301 career three-pointers. Congratulations on this amazing accomplishment, Todd!



Historic Performances by Alpine and Nordic Ski Teams at Saint Michael's Carnival

Saint Michael's Winter Carnival took place on the weekends of January 20-21 and February 3-4 for the second straight year and for the fourth time in nine seasons. In January in Ripton, VT, women's Nordic skiers Izzy Quam '25 and Astrid Bakke '26 both qualified for freestyle

sprint heats on Friday. Only two Purple Knight women had ever qualified for sprint heats - necessitating a top-30 showing during the qualifier race - in the modern history of the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association (EISA), since 1993-94, and never in the same event. In February in Jeffersonville, VT, Alpine skiers Helene Kristoffersen '25, Eirik Kveno '25, and Simen Strand '24 took top 10 in the slalom. After Friday's giant slalom was canceled, the slalom was the lone event run during the Alpine segment of the Saint Michael's Carnival. Between Alpine and Nordic, Saint Michael's placed eighth among 14 schools at its own carnival, totaling 399 points. We can't wait to see what these talented ski teams have in store for the rest of the season!

[Learn more about Saint Michael's Alpine and Nordic ski teams.](#)

Nominate a Future Knight Week is here!

From February 12-18, the College is celebrating our Nominate a Future Knight program. While some of us found the SMC community by a stroke of luck, and others because it was already a part of their family legacy, many Saint Michael's graduates found their way here because another Purple Knight told them that this community is the place where they should be. If you're an alum who's looking for a way to give back to Saint Michael's, this is your opportunity to grow our community and show a high school student what it means to have Purple Knight pride. Not only will the students you nominate qualify for a \$1,000 annual alumni referral grant should they enroll, but we'll also send them a St. Mike's notebook to help them plan ahead and find their purpose! If you want to nominate a current senior who hasn't applied yet, you have until February 18th to submit their name and contact info. The Admission and Alumni Engagement Offices thank you for your support in the next generation of Purple Knights!



[Nominate a Future Knight today!](#)



Media Creation Studio opening featured notable alumni panelists Caron '86, Kessel '06, and Wool '88

Several distinguished alumni returned to campus on February 2, to celebrate the grand opening of the Media Creation Studio (MCS). The three SMC grads - NESN Red Sox broadcaster Tom Caron '86, New York Times Deputy Director of Opinion

Video Jonah Kessel '06, and former MTV Networks event producer Clare Wool '88 - have had high-profile careers in media and participated in a panel discussion at the open house-style event. "It's so exciting that this studio is used daily by our students, faculty, and staff," said MCS Director Patrick Bohan. "Anyone can create videos, interviews, talk shows, voice-overs, podcasts, green-screen elements, and much more. The creativity and skill-building that I've witnessed in the studio is extremely impressive - and it's just the beginning." To see some of the MCS work, click on the image, top left.

[Read the full SMC article on the official opening of the Media Creation Studio.](#)
[See MyNBC5 coverage of SMC Media Creation Studio opening.](#)

Paul Olsen publishes cases, two with students

Paul Olsen of the Business Administration and Accounting Department faculty recently had the following three cases and teaching notes published, with the last in this listing of citations scheduled to be out this month: Olsen, P. (2022). Good Samaritan or poor performer? *Journal of Critical Incidents*. Winter 2022, Volume 15 Issue 1, p. 58-60; Olsen, P., & Mitchell, B. (2022). That's so gay: Kellogg's faces backlash to its "Together With Pride" cereal. *Journal of Critical Incidents*, Winter 2022 Volume 15 Issue 1, p. 73-75; and, Olsen, P. & Mitchell, B. (2022); and, Land O'Lakes abandons Native American logo: Brand authenticity or virtue signaling? *Business Case Journal* (In press). Paul notes that the last two of these cases are coauthored with Brandon Mitchell '22 and they are the eleventh and twelfth published with Saint Michael's undergraduates.



[Read more about Olsen's published works.](#)



It's the Wearing of the Green - and Purple!

Every March, Institutional Advancement staff members joins dozens of alumni in the SMC in Naples, Florida, for its famous St. Patrick's Day parade. Join alumni, parents and friends at 10:30 am on Friday, March 11th at the SMC staging area before the

parade kicks off at 11. Register before February 23 and receive a festive SMC t-shirt!

[RSVP for the Naples Parade with SMC today!](#)

Saint Michael's Annual Children's Learn-to-Swim Program is back!

Our amazing student-athletes on the Saint Michael's Swimming and Diving teams are proud to offer the Purple Knight community swimming lessons once again. The Learn-to-Swim program is open to children of alumni, faculty, and staff. This six-week program is structured to improve the swimming skills of children to make them safe in and around the water. Classes meet one night per week, either on Wednesdays or Fridays, beginning on Wednesday, March 22 or on Friday, March 24. The cost of the program is \$75 a child. Certificates of completion will be given out at the end of the program. Questions can be directed to swim team captains [Bella Amedio](#), [Nolan Speidel](#), [EmmaJane Tagliaferro](#), [William Sullivan](#), and [Marisa Butzirus](#).



Questions can also be sent to Eileen Hall, Head Coach of Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving and Director of Aquatics, at ehall2@smcvt.edu.



Amy Knight to offer Literacy Series for Purple Knight family members of developing readers

Do you know a young, developing reader? Are you looking for ways to best support them as they navigate "breaking the code?" If you are a parent, grandparent, or family member who wants to help your reader make meaningful progress, we have an opportunity for you! Running on Zoom on February 20, March 6, March 20, and April 3, the

Office for Alumni Engagement is proud to present our Alumni Literacy Series sponsored by Amy Knight, M.Ed. of our Graduate Education Department.

[Sign up for the Alumni Literacy Series for Developing Readers today!](#)

Upcoming Alumni Events

In addition to the events highlighted below, we have plans in the works in New Jersey, San Diego, Worcester, MA, Burlington, and more! Keep an eye on [our events calendar](#) as details are confirmed. Interested in planning an event in your area? Email events@smcvt.edu.

February 20th: Alumni Literacy Series for Developing Readers begins on Zoom. [Sign up for the Literacy Series today!](#)

March 11th: St. Patrick's Day Parade featuring Saint Michael's College in Naples, FL! [RSVP for the parade today!](#)

March 30th: Purple and Gold Day 2023! Interested in planning a P&G social in your area and getting local Purple Knights together? Email events@smcvt.edu. You can also check out the [Alumni Events Calendar](#) on our website for a Purple and Gold location near you!

April 5th: Join us at [Hawk Ridge Winery](#) in Watertown, CT, owned by Jack McHugh '80, for an Admission & IA event. Purple Knights & parents of Purple Knights have the opportunity to share their SMC story with regional high school guidance counselors. Save the date, an invitation will be forthcoming.

Reunion 2023 is June 2-4! All classes ending in 3s and 8s, we can't wait to see you then! [Let us know if you want to be involved in the Reunion Committee for your class!](#)

[Make a Gift](#)

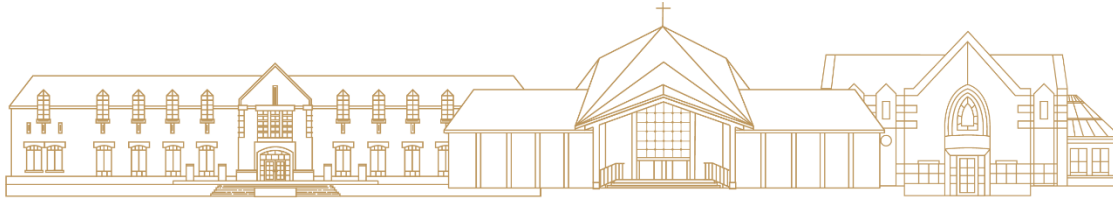
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