

THE BELLES OF SAINT MARY'S

VOLUME XVI, NUMBER ONE



SEPTEMBER, 1993

COLD CUTS CHOOSE COLOR COMBINATION

Campus singing group to reveal true colors in September 29 concert

BY MEGAN HOTZE
Staff Writer

Why are the Cold Cuts such a tradition at Saint Mary's? Cold Cuts are Saint Mary's own wash tub band. They started in the basement of Holt Dorm in 1959. A group of girls gathered around a piano and grabbed anything they could to bang on. These noisy girls sang popular songs of the time and wore overalls, just like the Cold Cuts do today. Year after year, Saint Mary's girls carried on their tradition and made Cold Cuts an integral part of Saint Mary's life.

"It is a lot of hard work, but it is definitely worth it. It is my release of the day, my time to have fun."

Alison Britt, Cold Cut

In the past, there were seven original Cold Cuts who were chosen by the old members after a tryout in the spring. (At Saint Mary's, original members are the first students chosen to carry on a club each year.) Cold Cuts now hold one tryout for freshmen in the spring to pick nine original members for the coming year. The "original nine" adds more members during their sophomore year to complete the group.

Last year's Cold Cuts decided to change the tradition from the "original seven" to the "original nine." The decision to change the number was made to strengthen the original group.

For many years, specific

instruments have been passed down to each group of original members. This year, the tambourine and washboard were added as original instruments. The other members who join the group later can create their own instruments or choose one that has been played in years past.

The 1993-94 Cold Cuts and their instruments are: Camie Prendergast, president (washtub), Margery Knott, secretary/treasurer (maracas), Sandy Calves (piano), Darien Alger (bongos), Ann Green (crazy stick), Rheney Rabon (hotdog), Elisa Esposito, "Little Darlin" (sticks), Susan Taylor (tambourine), Alison Britt, (washboard). Their advisor is Mary Virginia Swain.

The playful nature of their presentations hides the enormous amount of hard work behind the scenes. They have been practicing since the first week of school two hours a night, Sunday through Thursday, to prepare for their debut on September 29th.

"It is a lot of hard work, but it is definitely worth it," says Alison Britt. "It is my release of the day, my time to have fun."

The Cold Cuts also spend time providing fun for others in the community. They perform for nursing homes, hospitals, and civic groups. They already have performances planned at the Rex Hospital Convalescent Center, Dorothea Dix Hospital, and hope to play for some children's groups.

Colors? What will their colors be? The members choose a different color combination for the outfits each year and keep it a secret until the moment the curtain

opens for the first performance. The traditional Cold Cut attire is farmer's overalls, t-shirts and straw hats. Last year's group wore yellow overalls with royal blue t-shirts. Other colors in recent years include pink and green and purple and orange.

Most Saint Mary's students are curious about what the colors will be and many usually try to guess.

Sophomore Kendy Allen says, "I think they will be turquoise and hot pink."

Another sophomore, Elsa Weber, disagrees. "Purple and green."



Cold Cuts Color Countdown - The 1993-94 Cold Cuts are pictured in colorless overalls with their musical instruments in Pittman Auditorium where they rehearse five nights a week. The washtub band will reveal its colors for the year during its first performance in assembly on September 29. From left to right: Alison Britt, Camie Prendergast, Margery Knott, Sandy Calves, Susan Taylor, Ann Green, Rheney Rabon and Elisa Esposito (kneeling). (Photo by Noel Hamlin)

Both girls say they are eagerly anticipating the performance. The suspense will end for everyone during assembly at 3 p.m. on September 29 in Pittman Auditorium.

The Cold Cuts are equally excited about the big show. They believe that their hard work will pay off with an entertaining afternoon for the Saint Mary's community.

"It is a great group this year. We have been working really hard, and I hope everyone enjoys it as much as we do," says Cold Cut President Camie Prendergast.

FOREIGN FRIENDS FROM FAR AWAY

BY KAREN WORK
Staff Writer

Japan, Canada, Gambia, France. Most of us wouldn't believe it, but Saint Mary's has students from all over the world. These students have given up the familiarity of their homeland and the closeness of their family and friends to come and study at Saint Mary's. Most of us get to go home on any given weekend we choose, but students from different countries probably only get to go home twice a year.

"At first I didn't want to go to a small all girls school, but my parents felt that since they were 32 hours away by plane they wanted someone at Saint Mary's watching

over me, I would not be totally on my own," says Karen Work. Many students find it difficult being separated by continents from their parents. Komiko Kawata from Japan said "It's very hard, I can't go home for the weekend. It is too far away so I don't see them very often. Our phone bill is very expensive." Others find it not too bad, "It's an experience! This year I like it but last year I didn't," said Macarena Mon whose parents live in Argentina.

Saint Mary's has set up a club to assist the international students. The Atlas club is made up of sixteen members with Nami Shiraishi as president and Mrs. Georgette Campbell as advisor. The Atlas club helps the

international students to get to know one another, because although they may not be from the same country, they do have a lot in common. The Atlas club also sends out the goody bags at Christmas time to let students know their parents are thinking about them.

The international students are: Ema Correia from Portugal, Shannon Lee D'amour from Canada, Yuko Fujii from Japan, Jenny Jaar from Honduras, Kaoru Koiwa from Japan, Macarena Mon from Canada, Meiko Noda from Japan, Mayumi Okura from Japan, Milla Pentti from Finland, Arabella Renner from Gambia, Nami Shiraishi from Japan, Nicole Steinborn from Germany, Kyoko

Wakamatsu from Japan, Gaelle Widmer from France and Karen Work from Singapore. There may be a large diversity of cultures, but at Saint Mary's they feel at home.

English may be the second language for some of the international students, but at Saint Mary's they still excel because of the individual attention they, like other students, receive from the faculty. The international students are very mature and responsible to be on their own so far away from home and even though they often miss their families a great deal, most would not trade the Saint Mary's experience for anything in the world.