Campolindo Graduate Inducted into SMC Hall of Fame By Jennifer Wake

Since third grade, when Tracy Morris Johnston played for the Lafayette Moraga Youth Association, basketball has been a part of life for her and her family. Johnston, who now serves as the assistant women's basketball coach at Saint Mary's, will be inducted into the Saint Mary's College Hall of Fame on Sunday, April 29 at the Soda Activity Center.

The Hall of Fame was established to recognize individuals whose efforts have enhanced the college's reputation through their excellence; it is a collaborative effort of the Saint Mary's College alumni, Alumni Office, and the Department of Athletics and Recreational Sports. Other inductees this year include Trisha Dean, John Leykam, Ed Lickiss, James Mouton and Cassidy O'Hara. The 1985 women's volleyball team, winners of the NAIA national championship, will also be inducted.

For Johnston, being inducted into the Hall of Fame was an honor. "I think I was very fortunate to have such great coaches and wonderful teammates while at Saint Mary's," she said.

Johnston came to Saint Mary's in 1996, following her older sister Kelly from Campolindo High School to the SMC campus and onto the

court. She quickly made a name for herself, as she was the all-time scoring leader for SMC women's basketball, was the 1996-97 WCC Freshman of the Year and a three-time member of the All-WCC Team.

Johnston says the most exciting moment for her was winning the West Coast Conference Tournament her junior year and receiving an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

"I chose Saint Mary's because I wanted the opportunity to play with my older sister again. I wanted to stay close to home," she said. "Saint Mary's had the perfect balance – small school environment and Division I basketball. It is a beautiful campus surrounded by a very supportive community."

Now a part of the coaching staff, Johnston is driven to instill certain values in her players. "I want them to be fierce competitors that would do anything for their teammates and their coaches; to have pride in what they do and what they represent; and to enjoy the experience and stay connected with the program and the college long after graduation."

Being a former student-athlete at Saint Mary's has proved beneficial. "I know what the classes are like. I know what the people are like. I know how things work at St. Mary's," she said. "Having been a player, I know what our girls are going through. I know how hard it can be and I know how good it can be. I think I can relate to them because I have been there and they know that."

The induction ceremony will begin with a reception at noon followed by the Hall of Fame banquet at 1 p.m. in the Soda Center. Registration is available through the Saint Mary's alumni office at 925-631-4200 (deadline is April 23). Tickets are \$50 per person, \$30 per child



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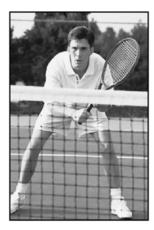
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