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## Down to the Wire

By Caitlin Graveson



Matthew Dellavedova Photo Tod Fierner

Dellavedova had 22 points. Junior guard Stephen Holt contributed 18 and junior forward Beau Levesque added 13 points for SMC.

Saint Mary's men's basketball program has won its share of thrillers this season but could not repeat the magic in the second round of the NCAA tournament. In a match-up against No. 6 Memphis on March 21, the No. 11 Gaels fell 54-52, ending their season 28-7.

Saint Mary's trailed by five with about three seconds remaining when sophomore forward Eividas Petrulis hit a three-pointer. The Gaels forced a Memphis turnover with 1.9 seconds to play. On the in-bound, senior guard Matthew Dellavedova put up a potential game-winning three, but it was long.

Dellavedova hit a game-tying three against USD and a game-winner against BYU this season.

After the game, sophomore forward Brad Waldow, who had a game-high 17 points, spoke of Dellavedova's last game. "He's just a great person like all around," he said. "He taught me how to be like a winner on and off the court and a great role model, great person."

Dellavedova has the school record for most points, three-pointers, assists, and highest free-throw percentage.

Saint Mary's qualified for the NCAA tournament by winning the play-in game. The Gaels were pitted against Middle Tennessee State on March 19. Led by Dellavedova, the Gaels cruised to a comfortable 67-54 win over MTSU.

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