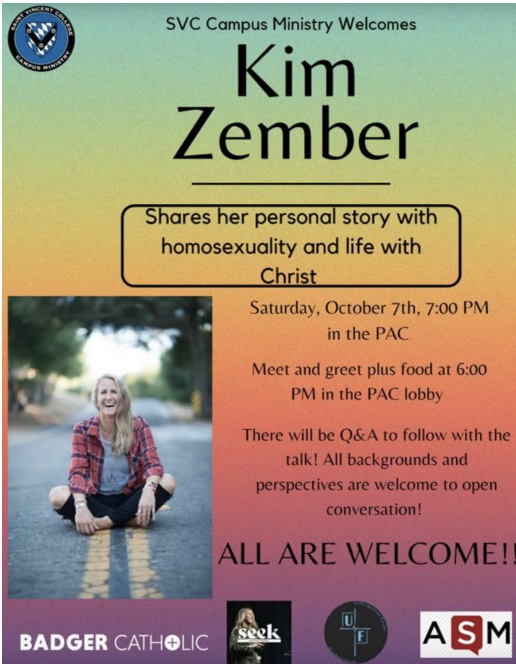


Homosexuality or holiness?

By: Elizabeth Van Pilsum, Arts and Culture Editor



Campus Ministry invited speaker Kim Zember to share her testimony on homosexuality. (SOURCE: CAMPUS MINISTRY INSTAGRAM)

Can one be gay and still with God? This question was at the forefront of a speaker talk hosted by Campus Ministry in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023. The speaker was Kim Zember, a Catholic woman who lived in what she called “the homosexual lifestyle.” Zember shared her experiences with Catholicism, and how she changed her mind about said “lifestyle.” This talk resulted in mixed reactions from students across campus and contributed to the disagreements students have been having for years about the attitude Saint Vincent College (SVC) has demonstrated to the LGBTQ community.

In her talk, Zember explained how, as a child, she associated homosexuality with hell. She prayed that her attraction to women would go away, tried to repress it, but she still experienced the attraction.

She dated women and lived in “the lifestyle”

for years in hopes that no longer being closeted would remove the fearfulness, while she continued attending church. She described the experience as “trying to hold two polar opposite things together” and claimed she knew the way she was living “was not what God had for me”, ultimately, “surrendering to God”.

Zember said that someone could “not be in the lifestyle and still be so far from God,” stressing that all sins are sin. “The opposite of homosexuality is holiness. The opposite of any sin is holiness,” she said.

Zember cited the Catechism of the Catholic Church, which labels, Zember stated, same-sex attraction as disordered desire and says that people with same-sex attraction must be treated with respect. She says that although she struggles with the ‘disordered desire’ teaching, she feels it is not hateful and that the Catechism calls the desire disordered, not the person. Additionally, she said that while many in the church have been hateful towards gay people, the church “does not hate gay people”.

The speaker’s hour-long testimony was followed by an hour of audience questions. Some students were hurt by Zember’s claims of homosexuality being disordered and by the fact that Campus Ministry brought her to campus. A senior student, who wishes to remain anonymous, was one of the students who objected to her coming to campus.

“I was following her argument and story until towards the end of her lecture segment when it seemed to go off the rails a bit,” the anonymous student said. “There were a lot of contradictions, in her argument and examples. She seems to have a lot of religious trauma and guilt surrounding her sexuality based on what she said in the beginning of her lecture.”

Mission Statement

The purposes of the Saint Vincent College Student Government Association are to: act as a liaison between the administration and the student body by representing and being attentive to student concerns and interests; improve the quality of student life; host student activities, both social and academic; and to preserve the College’s commitment to traditional, Benedictine hallmarks and a strong, liberal arts education.

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ARTS AND CULTURE

Student response mixed to Kim Zember's discussion of homosexuality

continued from page 1

One junior student, who wishes to remain anonymous, commended Zember for her transparency, but was upset with the speaker's message. The student had already had a poor experience with people in Campus Ministry and felt that by bringing Zember to campus, Campus Ministry was condoning homophobia the student has faced before.

"Campus Ministry, your true colors have shown," the anonymous student said. "I have only grown closer to God by coming out, but I feel as if this was the nail in the coffin for my time here."

They also felt hurt by SVC for allowing this talk to occur. They felt the talk did not create "an inclusive and affirming environment" and that the speaker was close-minded.

"It's crucial to remember that interpretations of religious teachings can vary widely, and there are many within the LGBTQ community who have found ways to reconcile their identities with their faith. I have," the anonymous student said.

The anonymous student also felt as if LGBTQ students would leave the talk feeling they are a disorder.

Other students felt the talk was less promoting and condoning hatred, and more an open conversation. One junior student, who wishes to remain anonymous, thought Zember's talk promoted dialogue on an important issue from the experiences of a non-theologian.

"She wasn't an expert, she was just here to tell us her story, and she did that. It was good, it wasn't inflammatory, she was very calm, and she had a kind of stillness."

The student recognized that the talk discussed a divisive subject but felt the general response to the talk was unjustly centered on the Church's teachings instead of Zember's experiences.

"I think people need to go with a

different mindset that isn't 'somebody's coming here to fight us'. It's not somebody trying to tell them they need to change their life, it's somebody saying, 'I've been impacted by this.'"

Campus Ministry's goal in hosting this talk was to promote civil conversation on a subject they felt most Catholics have a reputation for avoiding. One Campus Ministry staff member said this talk was aimed at shedding light on Catholic teachings as well as starting a discourse for the benefit of the community.

"We did not enter into this talk with any specific intention of how this event would go, instead we sought to conform to the needs of the community in being heard," the staff member said.

In response to upset campus community members, the staff member explained that Campus Ministry would like for concerns regarding the speaker to be explained to their staff.

"We are always open to having conversation and we want everyone on campus to know that we will never turn anyone away, nor will we condemn anyone," the staff member said. "We hope that any and all who are having negative feelings as an outcome of this event will share with the Campus Ministry staff so that we can learn how to best support them."

Campus Ministry hopes to continue to explore other subjects in the future, although there are no more plans to discuss the subject of sexuality.

While Campus Ministry says they intended to start civil conversation on campus, campus community members are still debating whether it was received that way.



**We are always
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creative
writing.
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Going purple: being aware of domestic violence

By Tanner Adomaitis, Staff Writer

Purple Ribbon Table - TOMORROW!



Stop by our table in **Carey** to help make purple ribbons for the **Blackburn Center** to raise awareness for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October)!

Make 5 ribbons for 0.5 points!

An event held by Alpha Lambda Delta (ALD) on Sept. 20. (SOURCE: SVC ALD INSTAGRAM)

SVC community members can raise awareness right here on campus. There will be various events happening around campus, including weekly tables in the Carey Center on the 18, and 26 of October from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. At these tables, community members can pick up a purple ribbon or flameless purple candle to show support and learn more about preventing domestic violence as well as how to support those who may be experiencing or have experienced it.

On Oct. 19, there will be a Mass of Remembrance at 12:05 p.m. in the Student Chapel to remember and honor those who have lost their lives to domestic violence. Additionally, Oct. 19

is Purple Thursday, where community members are encouraged to wear purple as part of this nationwide day to show support and raise awareness of domestic violence.

On Saturday, Oct. 21, SVC's Women's Ministry is hosting the Steps with Saint Dymphna 5K, a walk-through campus. The SVC Community is invited to join in this free event, which begins at 9 a.m. at the pavilion behind Rooney Hall. Participants will walk the campus to raise awareness for needed resources for the Blackburn Center located in Greensburg, PA, which provides resources, including a hotline to help victims of domestic, sexual, and other gender-based violence and crimes throughout Westmoreland County.

It is free to participate in the Steps with Saint Dymphna; however, if community members cannot attend, they may consider donating clothing, gift cards, and household items to the Blackburn Center to aid in their mission. There will be a collection bin for donations near the starting area of the 5K on the fitness trail.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the creation of the Day of Unity following its first celebration in October 1987 in coincidence with the establishment of the first toll-free national domestic violence hotline. Two years later, in 1989, Congress passed a law designating October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The day continues to be commemorated on the first Monday of October every year.

On this year's Day of Unity, Monday, Oct. 2, around 200 students attended the screening of the documentary *The Bystander Movement* that tells the origin story of one of the most prominent prevention models of gender violence called the bystander approach. The bystander approach was headed by Jackson Katz and colleagues at Northeastern University in the 1990s. For those who still want to view the documentary but were unable to attend the screening, contact Dr. Eileen K. Flinn, Assistant Vice President of Institutional Advancement.

Flinn, a Saint Vincent College (SVC) alum, graduated from SVC with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and received her Juris Doctorate from Duquesne University School of Law in 1998. Dr. Flinn now serves as Saint Vincent's Assistant Legal Counsel, designated Title IX Coordinator, and Principal Designated School Official for the Student and Exchange Visitor Program

(SEVP) in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).

"Raising awareness of domestic violence is essential for prevention, support for victims, legal changes, community involvement, reducing stigma, education, early intervention, breaking the cycle, improving health outcomes, and fulfilling our societal responsibility to address this pressing issue," Dr. Flinn said.

She emphasized that everyone should take an active role in combatting domestic violence. Flinn listed ways such as raising awareness through attending workshops and seminars, taking courses, reading books and articles, watching documentaries and films, engaging in discussions, volunteering, staying informed, supporting awareness campaigns, advocating change, and providing support.

"By engaging in these activities and educating themselves, college students can contribute to increasing awareness and understanding of domestic violence and play a role in preventing and addressing this issue within their communities," Flinn said. "Remember that raising awareness is an ongoing process and change often takes time. By encouraging others to educate themselves about domestic violence, you can contribute to a safer and more informed community that is better equipped to prevent and address it."

NEWS

Stopping America's Slide to Socialism

By: Brianna Saylor, News Editor



Mr. Kevin Hassett spoke on Wednesday, Oct. 4, as part of the McKenna School Center for Political and Economic Thought lecture series. (SOURCE: SAYLOR)

Is America becoming socialist? What is Socialism, and what does it mean to be a socialist? The latest McKenna School speaker attempted to answer these questions, on Wednesday, October 4, at 7:30 p.m. at the Fred Rogers Center. The school hosted its second lecture in partnership with Young America's Foundation as part of a series of lectures sponsored by the Center of Political and Economic Thought.

Mr. Kevin Hassett, former Chairman of the White House Council of Economic Advisers and Distinguished Visiting Fellow of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, spoke on "Stopping America's Slide to Socialism". Hassett served as the 29th Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers for two years beginning in 2017, and Senior Advisor to the President on economic issues related to taxes, trade, substance abuse policy, and deregulation.

Before serving in the White House, Hassett was a prominent economist at the American Enterprise Institute and a senior economist at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. His academic background includes time as an associate professor of economics and finance at Columbia University's Graduate School of Business and a visiting professor at New York University Law School.

He consulted the U.S. Treasury Department and acted as an advisor to several presidential campaigns. Currently, Hassett serves as the Vice President of the Lindsey Group, a visiting distinguished fellow at the Hoover Institution, an economic contributor at CNN, and senior advisor to Capital Matters, a project of National Review.

On Wednesday, Hassett began his talk by briefly discussing his new book

The Drift: Stopping America's Slide to Socialism. He discussed the fundamental concept of socialism based on factors such as the struggle between capital and labor, partisan media coverage, income inequality, and wage growth.

Following Hassett's talk, those in attendance—many of which included visiting alums and current students—were invited to ask Hassett follow-up questions. Richard Pazer, a Saint Vincent College (SVC) graduate, began by asking Hassett to provide a brief definition of socialism.

"Socialism is basically just the idea that the government owns the means of production...or more indirectly, dictating to the means of production, what they can and cannot do," Hassett said. "A socialist policy, for example, would be a confiscatory marginal tax rate, so owning capital does not have much value. A socialist policy would be to plan and essentially tell people what to do, as it was happening right now, for example, in California where they are telling people what exactly the wage for fast food workers should be."

Specifically, he drew attention to the struggle between capital and labor and its relationship to socialism. "When the government steps in front of free enterprise and tells people what to do—that's socialism. But at the same time, you do have to realize there is a reason for government," said Hassett.

Ultimately, Hassett reinforced the idea that in talking about policies that defend citizen freedoms, he felt it was vital that said policies preserve competition for workers because competition for workers is like the guarantee that there will not be abuse by capital towards labor.

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CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

THE EXAMINED LIFE

An Undergraduate Conference in the Liberal Arts

– *listening with the ear of the heart* –

Friday and Saturday,
March 22 & 23, 2024

Saint Vincent College
Latrobe, Pennsylvania

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Kenneth Parker,

Ryan Endowed Chair for Newman Studies, Duquesne University

Submission Deadline: January 1, 2024: examinedlifeSVC@gmail.com

“Listen carefully...and incline the ear of your heart,” says Saint Benedict in his Rule. The monastic order that this saint founded places listening at the heart of its charism, calling us to listen to God, to one another, and especially to those whose voices are most often unheard. In our current age of quick soundbites and social media, listening is arguably becoming harder to do – and it is feeding much of our civil division and decline in civil discourse. Good listening is necessary to overcome the differences that divide us. “Attention is the rarest and purist form of generosity,” said French philosopher Simone Weil, who viewed the high school geometry classes she taught as opportunities to cultivate the habit of attention in her students. This conference aims to explore the theme of listening across disciplines, from the humanities and social sciences to the natural sciences and creative arts.

Presentations may include the following:

- **Academic essay presentations** tailored to 15-20 minutes (7-10 pages double-spaced)
 - Submit a 250-500-word abstract describing the purview of the work and its argument or focus. The complete work must be submitted by **March 1, 2024**.
- **Literary presentations**, including short stories and poetry. **Creative arts**, including music, paintings or drawings, sculpture, photography, etc.
 - Submit some representation of the piece that you would like to have considered.
- **Poster presentations** or other visual representations of research.
 - For poster presentations, submit an image or narrative description of the work.

Please submit a proposal to examinedlifeSVC@gmail.com by **January 1, 2024**.

The conference is free and open to the public. Faculty, mentors, advisors, and family members are welcome to attend. For more information, visit our website:

examinedlifeconference.wordpress.com. Or, contact Dr. Eric Mohr (eric.mohr@stvincent.edu) or Dr. Jeannine Pitas (jeannine.pitas@stvincent.edu).

SPORTS

Football Bearcats Fight for a Bowl Game

By: Jacob Rzempoluch, Sports Editor



SENIOR MAX PISULA TAKES DOWN A CASE WESTERN RUNNER. (SOURCE: WATKINS)

Football is often referred to as “the ultimate team sport.” One star player cannot carry a team to victory; it takes several groups of players with different skills and strengths to win a game. This season, the Saint Vincent College (SVC) football team has shown flashes of potential, with great plays coming from all parts of the team. However, the team has struggled to put together game-winning performances. A little over the halfway point of the season, the team’s record stands at 2-4, with wins against the Allegheny Gators and the Geneva Golden Tornadoes

“If we finish some of these plays we feel like we’ve left on the field, I don’t see why we shouldn’t have an opportunity to play in a bowl game,” said Head Coach Aaron Smetanka. The former Bearcat quarterback has high hopes for the rest of the season, but notes that to win more games this season, the team needs to execute on big opportunities and have a good day across offense, defense, and special teams. “You’re not al-

ways going to get those plays back.”

“The great thing about this team is that it’s not heavily reliant on one single person,” Austin Slye, senior business economics major and quarterback, said. “Everyone has an important role, and everyone doing their assignment has helped propel us to some big wins these past two games.”

In all the Bearcats’ games this season, the defense has stood out as exceptionally talented. Max Pisula, senior communication major, was named President’s Athletic Conference (PAC) defensive player of the week for his performance against Geneva that included 11 tackles and three forced fumbles, a program record. His four forced fumbles for the season are tied for the lead among all divisions of collegiate football, and his eight and a half tackles for loss is fourth best in the PAC.

In response to being recognized with PAC honors, Pisula said that he felt “blessed, but it isn’t that important to me.” Further emphasizing the role of teamwork in Bearcat success, he also said that the team’s biggest strength “is how we are all on the same page and have a brotherhood all about us.”

Wiley Purry, junior business administration major, has also been an important defensive force for the Bearcats, leading the team with 57 tackles, good for second in the PAC. Graduate student Ahmad Shaw, junior communication major Ethan Facey, and senior psychology major Nate Sullivan have also been recognized by coaches or teammates as having an impact on the defense’s success so far.

After two challenging losses to the Case Western Reserve Spartans and the Waynesburg Yellow Jackets, SVC faces the undefeated Grove City Wolverines in a tough away game. To make a bowl game, the Bearcats will need to reverse their luck and play to their absolute

maximum ability. Can the Bearcats make the most of their talent and finish with a winning record and a bowl game appearance?



Notable Campus Updates

- SGA Meetings are open to the public. They occur every Sunday in Luparello, beginning at 8:15 p.m.
- SGA Hall representatives are still wanted for Gerard Hall, Bonaventure Hall, and Wimmer Hall representatives. (email vincent.lombardi@st-vincent.edu if interested)
- The Community Center is open until 7:30 PM for dining all week.
- Soccer plans to have night games, with alumni in attendance. Oct. 24, and 25 are listed via the athletics website, both beginning at 7 p.m.
- The engineering program has received accreditation.

Team Standings

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Team	W	L	T	Streak
Grove City	9	4	1	W4
Westminster	12	2	0	W2
Saint Vincent	9	3	2	W3
Waynesburg	6	5	2	L1
W&J	8	2	4	T1
Franciscan	5	7	1	L1
Geneva	4	7	2	T1
Allegheny	5	9	0	W1
Chatham	2	9	3	L2
Bethany	2	8	3	L3
Thiel	1	11	1	L8

SCHEDULE: @WESTMINSTER 10/18 7 PM, @GROVE CITY 10/21 12 PM, CHATHAM 10/24 7 PM

MEN'S SOCCER

Team	W	L	T	Streak
Geneva	10	4	1	W7
Franciscan	10	4	2	W2
Waynesburg	8	4	1	W1
Chatham	5	8	2	W1
Grove City	4	5	5	L3
W&J	3	6	4	L2
Allegheny	4	9	0	L1
Saint Vincent	6	7	2	L1
Bethany	3	8	3	W1
Thiel	1	10	3	T1
Westminster	3	8	3	L7

SCHEDULE: @GROVE CITY 10/21 4:30 PM, CHATHAM 10/25 7 PM, PAC 10/28-11/4

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Team	W	L	Streak
Allegheny	9	1	W9
Grove City	10	3	W3
Franciscan	8	3	W3
Westminster	9	5	L3
W&J	5	5	L2
Saint Vincent	9	5	L1
Geneva	5	8	W2
Thiel	1	10	L3
Waynesburg	1	9	L6

FOOTBALL

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	7	0	W7
Carnegie M.	6	1	W3
Case Western	5	1	W4
W&J	5	1	W1
Westminster	3	3	L1
Geneva	2	4	W1
Saint Vincent	2	4	L2
Allegheny	2	5	L3
Thiel	2	5	L2
Waynesburg	1	5	W1
Bethany	0	6	L6

SCHEDULE: @GROVE CITY 10/21 1 PM, WESTMINSTER 10/28 1 PM, THIEL 11/4 1 PM

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Team	W	L	Streak
Chatham	12	4	W8
Allegheny	17	7	W3
Bethany	14	5	W3
W&J	10	10	W2
Geneva	9	8	L1
Grove City	16	8	W1
Westminster	12	10	L3
Saint Vincent	8	10	L3
Franciscan	10	9	L1
Waynesburg	8	11	L1
Thiel	2	17	L6

SCHEDULE: GROVE CITY 10/18 7 PM, WAYNESBURG 10/21 2 PM, @W&J 10/25 7 PM

Men's Cross Country

Schedule: @PAC 10/28 11 AM

Results: 12th at Rowan, 10th at Le-high, 1st at Thiel

Women's Cross Country

Schedule: @PAC 10/28 12 PM

Results: 10th at Rowan, 1st at Thiel, 19th at Lock Haven

Men's Golf

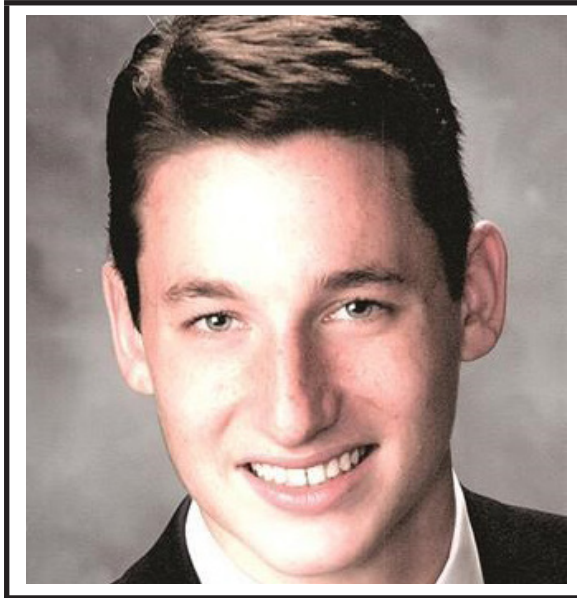
Results: 5th at Westminster, 2nd at La Roche, 1st at Saint Vincent Invitational

*CORRECT AS OF 10/16/23

In Memory of: Dominic Bottino

Reformatted by: Sean Callahan, *Editor-in-Chief*

August 19, 2001 – October 1, 2023



Dominic Alphonse Bottino, 22, of Monongahela, went home to be with his Lord Sunday, October 1, 2023. He was born August 19, 2001, in Monongahela, a son of Anthony J. and Tara Brussalis Bottino, Jr. of Monongahela.

Dominic was a 2020 graduate of Ringgold High School, where he ran cross country and played soccer. He was currently a senior majoring in history at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe.

He was a member of Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish in Monongahela. Dominic was a devout Catholic and always attended Mass, both at home and at Mary Mother of Wisdom Chapel at Saint Vincent College. He was an altar server, participated in campus ministry, and enjoyed going on retreats.

Dominic was a generous, giving, kind, selfless, and God-loving man. He was a son, grandson, and brother, and the most beautiful soul.

He is survived by four siblings, Anthony J. Bottino, III, Kayla Bottino, Alexander Bottino, and his twin brother, Andrew Bottino; paternal grandparents, Anthony and Judith Wall Bottino, Sr. of Monongahela; maternal grandmother, Susan Falkner Brussalis of the North Hills; three aunts, Renee Henrich and husband Shannon of Monongahela, Kelly Naccarato and husband Tony of Virginia, Stacy Adduci and husband, Robert of Ohio; uncle, Chris Brussalis and wife Christina of the North Hills; and numerous cousins.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, William G. Brussalis.

Friends [were] received from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, October 5, in Frye Funeral Home, Inc., 427 West Main Street, Monongahela. Prayers [began] in the funeral home at 9:30 a.m. Friday, October 6, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. in St. Andrew the Apostle. Interment [followed] in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Monongahela.

The family will be organizing a memorial fund in Dominic's name. Contributions may be made to the family or the funeral home. Expressions of sympathy may be made to the family at www.fryefuneralhome.com.

(The Review reformatted but preserved the content of this obituary via [fryefuneralhome.com](http://www.fryefuneralhome.com))

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The Review office is located
next to the Wimmer Bridge.
Office Number:
724-805-2513

Contributions, Comments,
Questions, Advertising:
review@stvincent.edu

Website:
stvincentreview.com

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Editorial Policy

The Review always welcomes input from its readers, including all students, faculty, administrators, Benedictines and any other members of the SVC community. With regards to contributed, non-solicited works, The Review reserves the right to choose to accept or reject any submitted stories or letters to the editor for publication as well as the right to edit said pieces.

Mission

The mission of Saint Vincent College's student-run newspaper, The Review, is to accurately and responsibly report campus, national and international news with integrity, fairness and objectivity. As a college newspaper, we assert that we will report on topics that interest our community, such as sports, popular culture, art & entertainment, politics and campus news. We affirm that each issue of The Review will reflect the diversity of the Saint Vincent College campus with respect for cultures, ethnicities, traditions, beliefs and views.