

POMEROY SPIRIT!



Tribune-Star/Joseph C. Garza

Passenger footage: Joynelis Caminero, a Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College freshman from Puerto Rico, records her teammates' effort as she rides on one of the beds during the SMWC Homecoming Bed Races on Friday at the college. Caminero's team's name was "Mama Teddy's Spaghetti."

Homecoming underway at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College

By LISA TRIGG
TRIBUNE-STAR

When it comes to spirit, the KLAM-AA team captured the week at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College by winning the 2021 Homecoming Cup, solidifying their win during the Friday afternoon bed races on The Avenue.

"I love that this is how my legacy is going to go down at this school," said sophomore Miranda Perkins as she recovered with her five teammates who'd pushed a bed to the fountain and back under a hot early October sun.

The team of KLAMAA - pronounced like llama with a silent K - is a group of friends involved in Campus Ministries.

"When you bring your kids here one day," freshman teammate Ashlyn Hunley said to Perkins, "you can say, 'You see how that trophy says KLAM-AA with a silent K? That was me. Freshman year, I won the homecoming cup.' That's pretty sweet."

The bed race was one of the many campus spirit activities leading up to homecoming weekend.

Pushing the Pomeroy blue-painted beds, outfitted with handles, while a teammate bounced along on a mattress, was no easy task.

"It's a lot farther than you think, and the road is slanted," said sophomore Ariana Hall.

"All the games are so silly, and just winning them, I have so much pride in that," said Perkins, who also won the watermelon-eating contest for her team.

The group also had wins at bingo, and placed second in the trivia contest. Teams also earned points for decorating windows, and taking pictures in their spirit week outfits.



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Go!: Nicole Hageny, associate director of Campus Life at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, starts the final bed race during the Spirit Week event on Friday at the college.

Spirit Week

■ For a list of homecoming events and recaps of Spirit Week activities, go online to www.SMWC.edu.

KLAMAA also created a dance video for TikTok.

Their name KLAMAA is the first initials of their names, including Kiera Cox, Lyric Krause, Ava McHugh and Anna Spillman.

Since some of the team members were playing softball at the time of the bed race, Hall and her sister Alyssia filled in.

Nicole Hageny, associate director of campus life, said the bed race has become a fun way to end Spirit Week. The winning team will be honored at half-time of the men's soccer game Saturday.

Caroline Schlemmer Day and Lindsey Richards were among an alumni

group on campus who watched the races. Both participated a couple of years ago as representatives of the Alumni Board of Directors.

"It's honestly harder than it looks," Day said. "It was a lot of fun though. It's a lot of fun to be back on campus and participate in students with things."

The traditions are a great part of homecoming, she said.

"What's fun about it is bringing about old traditions," Richards said.

"This is something they did generations before us, and if there's anything we have at The Woods, it's a strong connection to our traditions."

When the alumni group competed against the students group, she said with a laugh, it was easy to see who were the student athletes.

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